

African Indigenous Institutions and Contemporary Global Security

H.O. Kaya¹ and S.E. Kale²

¹*University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*

²*Africa Programme, University for Peace, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

KEYWORDS Transnational Terrorism. Peacebuilding. Culture. Domestic Circumstances. African Indigenous Communication Systems

ABSTRACT This is an examination of secondary sources to interrogate the role of African indigenous institutions in contemporary global security concerns. The paper advances the argument that contrary to colonial historical testimonies, pre-colonial African societies had developed their own indigenous institutions for conflict transformation, peace-building and security within and across cultures. Colonialism marginalized these indigenous institutions in the process of setting up new administrative structures to make their governance and economic exploitation easier. African cultural groups were forced into cohesive institutions which destroyed the roots of traditional governance and security. The marginalization of indigenous institutions still continues in the contemporary search for sustainable global peace and security against transnational terrorism. The paper recommends the development of a strong hybrid derived from interface of indigenous and modern institutions for peace-building and security.