THE ROLE OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN
PROMOTING DIPLOMACY IN KENYA: CASE OF AFRICA PEACE
FORUM

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This study broadly examines NGOs as non state actors in diplomacy. It examines in general NGOs activities and diplomacy in Kenya both pre and post independence and narrows down to contributions of NGO activities to diplomacy in Kenya. The study seeks to justify the need for more study on NGOs and how they contribute towards advancing the interests of the country abroad. In its investigations it focuses on Africa Peace Forum (APFO), an NGO that deals with peace initiatives in Kenya, as a case study. The study revolves around two objectives and a hypothesis which were satisfactorily met. The study was able to examine the role of NGO in enhancing diplomacy by examining the activities of APFO and also Kenya Independent Schools Association (KISA), an NGO providing support to basic education endeavours in Kenya. A few other NGOs were also examined in the process of data collection. The case study was able to evaluate the role of APFO as mentioned in its second objective by examining APFOs activities and achievements and the methods it uses to partake its duties. From the findings of the study, it is clear that the hypothesis too, was met. Having thoroughly examined NGO activities and achievements it was evident that NGOs engage tools of diplomacy in the conduct of their activities which in essence are all embedded in issues addressing the interests of the country. Last but not the least, it is clear that there is need for more study and documentation on the role of NGOs in promoting diplomacy in Kenya.