

CURRICULUM VITAE OF AMBASSADOR BETHUEL ABDU KIPLAGAT, MEMBER OF THE PANEL OF EMINENT PERSONS (APR PANEL) OF THE AFRICAN PEER REVIEW MECHANISM (APRM)

Ambassador Bethuel Abdu Kiplagat was born on 28 November 1936 in Kenya. He studied physical sciences at Makerere University and sociology of religion at Sorbonne Universities.

Ambassador Kiplagat served in the Kenyan Foreign Service for thirteen years. He was Kenya's Ambassador to France (1978-1981) and the United Kingdom (1981-1983) and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation of Kenya from 1983 – 1991. He has also served his country in other capacities as a Member of Election Monitoring Committee of the National Council of Churches of Kenya (1997) and has been involved in the ongoing constitutional review process in Kenya.

Ambassador Kiplagat has been closely involved in the conflict resolution efforts on the continent, particularly in Eastern Africa. He facilitated peace talks in Uganda (1985 –86), initiated and facilitated peace talks in Mozambique (1988-1992) and engaged warring parties in Ethiopia in 1988-1992. He has also been a resource person to the IGAD Peace Process for Sudan since 1985 and has been advising Sudanese civil society on conflict resolution.

Ambassador Kiplagat has been active in civil society organizations, having served as a Deputy General Secretary with the National Christian Council of Churches of Kenya and Director of Relief, Rehabilitation and Development Programme of the Sudan Council of Churches in Southern Sudan. He has also chaired the African Medical and Research Foundation (AMREF)) and served on a panel established by the International Peace Academy and the OAU to examine the institutional relationship between the OAU and civil society.

He is currently an independent consultant on peace and conflict resolution, Kenya's Special Envoy in the Somali Peace Process and the Chairman of the IGAD Technical Committee on Somali National Reconciliation Conference. He chairs several organizations such as Kenya Rural Enterprise Programme and Operation Save Innocent Lives, serves on several Boards including that of the Nairobi Stock Exchange, and he is also the Chancellor of Egerton University based in Kenya. Ambassador Kiplagat is currently the Executive Director of African Peace Forum and a Director of Universal Bank in Kenya. He is also engaged in activities aimed at encouraging community-based peace processes in Eastern Africa.