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Africa and the Challenges of the Twenty First Century
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إفريقيا وتحديات القرن الواحد والعشرين

**Oil and the Post-Amnesty Programme (PAP):
What Prospects for Sustainable Development and Peace in the Niger Delta?**

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This paper explores the political economy of oil-related conflict and the prospects for peace and development in Nigeria's oil-rich Nigeria Delta region. Its central focus is the Post-Amnesty Programme launched in 2009 following the decision of some insurgent militia leaders in the Niger Delta to drop their weapons in exchange for peace with Nigeria's federal government. The paper addresses the following questions: What is politics of PAP and how has it been shaped by the political economy of oil and the oil-dependent nature of the Nigerian state? Is the PAP participatory and reflect the interests of the people of the region, and can it go far enough to address the roots of the grievances and festering violence in the region? Whose interests does it serve, and what will its impact be on development and peace in the region and beyond. It also interrogates the assumptions that the 'post-amnesty programme' in the Niger Delta, is synonymous with the concept of 'post-conflict' peace-building. This includes an analysis of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) components. Of relevance are the analysis of the skills training and acquisition programmes for ex-militants, and the continuous episodic outbursts of violence within and outside the region since late 2009. The conclusion examines the prospects for transcending the current 'no war, no peace' situation, and proffers radical options for sustainable development and peace in the Niger Delta.