

IF YOU BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME: ON THE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS OF THE ARMO

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ABSTRACT

For the Asia-Pacific Regional Mediation Organization (hereinafter “ARMO”) to function effectively, administration of internal affairs is of utmost importance. This paper casts light on potential legal issues of systemic concern in the administration of the ARMO. It focuses on two procedural factors, namely decision-making and representation, which is necessary to ensure orderly functioning of ARMO’s internal organs and instruments.

There is room for improvement in the current draft Agreement, such as uncertain role of consensus as well as the difficulty of continuous appointment of government officials. By sophisticating provisions to address these issues, the ARMO could be a viable alternative to solve international disputes in trade and investment in the Asia-Pacific region.

KEYWORDS: *international organization, decision-making, consensus, alternative dispute resolution (ADR), WTO, ACWL*

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