



PRESS STATEMENT

6th March 2021

WE CONDEMN THE RISING POLITICAL INTOLERANCE IN THE JUST CONCLUDED BY-ELECTIONS

It is with great concern that we gather here today to deal with the unfortunate events that were witnessed in the just concluded by-elections in some parts of the country. It is sad that the by-elections, which are a democratic right for Kenyans, were marred with incidences of violence and various electoral malpractices. Indeed, leaders abandoned their role to inspire hope and show decorum and took on the role of villain once again. Certainly, a slap on the face of an election official is a slap on the face of all Kenyans. Today we stand here as a nation shamed and in shock as to the depths some of our leaders have sunk.

It is unacceptable that Kenyans were treated to abuse, allegations of voter bribery, violence and an environment full of tensions reminiscent of the period just before the 2007 elections. As a Commission we have not rested because such events, especially in a by-election, cast a menacing shadow over 2022. One does not need to be a prophet to realize that some of our politicians are committed to attaining their desires at the cost of Kenyan lives.

These politicians are merchants of hate and division. As a Commission, we must stop them in their tracks. To this end we have summoned:

1. Hon. Gladys Wanga
2. Hon Millicent Omanga
3. Hon Aisha Jumwa
4. Hon. Feisal Bader
5. Hon. John Waluke
6. Hon. Fred Kapondi
7. Hon. Benjamin Washiali
8. Hon. Charles Were
9. Hon. Chris Wamalwa
10. Hon Cleophas Malala

These summons do not just indicate our intention to investigate and prosecute but rather also indicate the plan of the commission to stop the unethical from occupying office. Consequently, we have written to the EACC to ensure that they seek legal mandates from

our judiciary to remove from office leaders who break the rules in CHAPTER SIX of our constitution. Just the same way civil servants who are indicted on corruption charges have to step away from office, unethical leaders should do the same. We are not just seeking criminal justice, we also want these leaders and others like them to be out of office forthwith.

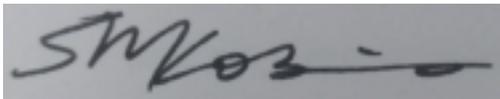
At the same time we have asked the DCI as we investigate these leaders to ensure that they can never attain a certificate of good conduct, As you all know this certificate is required by any leader in order to run for office, without it or cannot vie. In simple terms this Commission, the EACC and the DCI will ensure that anyone who has acted in such a manner is removed from office and further barred from running for any political office.

It is our solemn duty to protect the nation, which is why we have not stopped there. We have also written to the Registrar of Political Parties and have requested that they ask the various political parties to which these politicians belong to initiate their disciplinary mechanisms towards removing them from office.

As a Commission we are taking a multi agency approach in dealing with this vice. We are committed to a violence-free Kenya. As we have promised before we will ensure that there are criminal, political and social consequences to hate and violence.

We are also on the hunt for the goons who frog marched a lady while shouting obscenities. We must be defenders of our women and we cannot allow mob psychology to guide us. We are in short saying goons, hired or not are also on our radar and will be brought to book in short order

Finally, allow me to speak on my own behalf, as the chair of NCIC and as an elder in our country. This is my promise to the purveyors of hate: I will ensure you are in jail and as you wait to go to jail I will put you out of the leadership of this country. You will lose your seat now, and I will ensure that you never run again in this country. This is my mission for the sake of God and country.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'SKobia', is displayed within a grey rectangular box.

Rev Dr. Samuel Kobia

Chairman National Cohesion and Integration Commission