



COHESION TODAY

ELECTIONS BILA NOMA

July-August 2022 Edition

Elections Bila Noma - Penda Jirani Peace Campaign



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia CBS and Chief Officer, Operations & Strategy of the Standard Group PLC Mr. Benedict Omollo pose for a photo during the launch of the Election Bila Noma Penda Jirani campaign

Following the launch of NCIC's #ElectionsBilaNoma campaign, PendaJirani peace initiative in partnership with the Standard Media Group on 27th June 2022, the Commission set off on a peace sensitization campaign touring Kisumu, Kericho, Nakuru, Meru, and Isiolo Counties. The initiative was aimed at enhancing good neighborliness and evoking the Kenyan spirit of unity and cohesion ahead of the elections.

The said campaign involved influential media personnel, media stations, as well as the NCIC secretariat.

The campaign's major objective was to evoke behavioral change in the public, and to aid in peaceful elections come 9th August. Accompanying the caravan on its course were NCIC Commissioners Sam Kona, Dr. Danvas Makori and Eng. Philip Okundi who stressed on the essence of a peaceful election, saying that the campaign theme resonated well with Kenyans of all walks of life and represented a positive message of change. The caravans' overwhelming reception in all the visited towns reflected Kenyans' desire to remain peaceful, even as heated political campaigns swept through the nation.



NCIC Commissioner Sam Kona urging participants in Kericho County to keep peace during the electioneering period

In Kisumu, the caravan toured parts of Kondele, Nyalenda, Dunga Beach, Nyamasaria, Ahero, Chemelil and Muhoroni. Proceeding to Kericho, the caravan touched parts of Kericho Summit, Molo, Elburgon, Njoro, Railways stage, Barnabass, Ponda Mali, Kaptembwa and main bus stage in Nakuru town. In the Eastern region, the caravan toured Isiolo town, Ngaremara, Maili Saba, and Kina in Isiolo County, and proceeded to areas of Tigania, Igembe, and Imenti in Meru County.

The Penda Jirani peace caravan followed a series of NCIC peace campaigns across the country where the Commission moved to remind Kenyans to resist incitement, manipulation or division by political groups according to their ethnic identities. To a large extent, these campaigns made the 2022 General Elections substantially peaceful.

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Mimi Mkenya Media Forum Engagement

The Commission in partnership with Nation Media Group, European Center for Electoral Support and other state and non-state entities launched an initiative dubbed Mimi Mkenya in an effort to promote peace and national cohesion in the country during the electioneering period and beyond. The initiative, launched with an aim to encourage Kenyans to come together and pay heed to national values and principles, was also aimed at promoting peaceful coexistence in the run-up to the elections.

The partners toured various regions countrywide namely, Western, the Rift Valley, Coastal, North Eastern among others. Some of the areas visited were previously highlighted in the NCIC's hotspot mapping report as violence hotspots. For this cause, the initiative used mainstream media as well as social media such as twitter, Facebook, YouTube and the Nation Television Station to spread peace messages and live record the forums in real time for Kenyans to follow.

During its tour in the coastal region, #MimiMkenya forum took part in Mombasa and Kilifi counties where NTV moderators of the show; Ms. Fridah Mwaka and Mr. Lofty Matambo facilitated form sessions.



Comm'r Sam Kona and other panelists during the Mimi Mkenya town hall forum at Jomvu Mombasa County

The media engagement forum paved way for the residents in the region to share their opinions, concerns and issues affecting the current state of peace in their county. Increased rate of poverty, drugs and substance abuse were key challenges highlighted by the residents, with increased poverty levels resulting to petty crimes by gangs as well as crimes influenced by political inciters.

Drug and substance abuse of cocaine and heroin were observed to be quite rampant in the region as unemployed youth abused drugs as a result of being idle and therefore susceptible to influence political actors to engage in crime. Ownership of land in the Kilifi area was listed as the main problem affecting the residents and stability of peace in the region. Killing of elders too was a major issue; the county commissioner stated the young people murder the elders because of inheritance and belief that they are witches.

NCIC's vice chairperson Ms. Wambui Nyutu, Commissioners Abdul-Aziz Farah, Dr. Danvas Makori and Sam Kona, on intervals represented the Commission in the show as panelists. Alongside them were Mimi Mkenya sponsors and partners including the USAID, HAKI Africa, Human Rights Agenda, Act, Change Transform, ACT and community mobilizers. The panelists took time to encourage the locals to embrace peace and be tolerant to one another tackling issue based questions raised by the residents.



NCIC Comm'r Sam Kona together with Ms. Sabrina Kanini Chairperson Waremba wa Kenya amongst other panelists during the Mimi Mkenya forum

NCIC assured Kenyans that measures by the Commission had been put in place for Kenyans to expose political incitement and report cases of discrimination of any kind to the free SMS toll number to mitigate electoral violence especially during the general elections period. In her remarks, the NCIC Vice Chair, Wambui Nyutu said in Swahili that, "machafuko hutokana na wanasiasa ambao hawakubali Amani. Wananchi ndio wenye mamlaka ya kuamua. Tuchague kiongozi ambaye anaendeleza Amani na kukashifu kiongozi anayekashifu Amani miongoni mwetu."

The audience was also advised by the panel to take advantage of special programs to empower them financially and socially. These programs include rehabilitation programs and TUJITEGEMEE program developed to empower especially the youth and reduce the unemployment, drugs and substance abuse.

Commissioner Abdul-Aziz Farah assured members of the public in the coastal region that the NCIC would endeavor to promote and spread peace and cohesion countrywide and called on the public to be ambassadors and agents of peace in the society and their villages. and spread peace and cohesion countrywide and called on the public to be ambassadors and agents of peace in the society and their villages.

National Election Conference 2022

Following an invitation by the IEBC, the Commission took part in the 2022 National Elections Conference at the KICC in Nairobi. The conference, under the theme, "Moving Kenya Towards a Stronger Democracy," was aimed at critically evaluating the state preparedness among Kenya's key stakeholders to support and conduct the 2022 General Election.

IEBC stressed that the stakeholder engagement is key for them to deliver a free, fair, credible and verifiable election. As mandated by the constitution of Kenya, the NCIC has been continuously engaging with various segments of the government and public in its bid to promote national peace, cohesion and stability in the country. IEBC Chairman, Mr. Wafula Chebukati appealed to the stakeholders to extend their support to enable the IEBC undertake a successful General Election.



NCIC Commission Secretary/CEO Dr. Skitter Ocharo HSC with other delegates following keenly the signing of the presidential peace pledge.

NCIC Commissioners and CEO Dr. Skitter Ocharo, took part in the forum as panelists during the conference to make aware the public of strategies in place by the commission to mitigate electoral violence, including the launch of hatelex and hotspot mapping report and the support by the European Union to establish Pro peace Kenya in the roadmap towards the elections. During the forum, Kenyans visited the NCIC booth and were advised and encouraged Kenyans to come out on the

elections date and vote wisely for leaders of their choice as a way of exercising their democratic right.



Participants led by IEBC Chair Wafula Chebukati pose for a group photo During the National Election Conference

Launch of the Kenya Peace Panel

In the wake of the 2022 General Elections, NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia commissioned a panel of eminent persons called the Kenya Peace Panel (KEPP), who are charged with championing dialogue peace and managing any post-election issues. The main functions of the panel include: fostering locally led solutions to political disputes to avert polarization along ethnic, religious and ideological lines which if unresolved are likely to increase and reinforce political dysfunction and gridlock and heightened risks of political instability; Mediation of politically related conflict at the local, regional and national levels with strategies informed by the local contexts, and facilitating efficient communication between disputing parties, including shuttle diplomacy.

In his remarks, the chairman said that NCIC is fully aware of the risks Kenya faces whenever there is a general election. He added that, “from 2007 to date we have needed various solutions in to deal with electoral disagreements and as such the commission has gathered fifteen members from various fields to join the panel”.

The convener of the panel is Ambassador Francis Muthaura and retired Justice Joyce Aluoch as the co-convener. Other members include Archbishops; Anthony Mueria; Jackson Ole Sapit and Philip Anyolo, as well as peace and reconciliation expert, Bishop Emeritus Stephen Kewasis, and Dr. Vimal Shah, Fatuma Abdikadir and Chancellor Robert Mutula. Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia was appointed as an ex-officio member in the panel.

“We are a group of non-partisan and patriotic Kenyans who are solely concerned with a peaceful transition of power in our country,” Amb. Francis Muthaura stated in a press conference after the elections. He has since appreciated Kenyans, election observers, media and government agencies for conducting themselves peacefully in the electoral process; for responsible media coverage and for taking keen interest in Kenya’s 2022 general election.

The panel has strongly emphasized that the country’s hope rests and relies on the IEBC and their continued integrity during the electioneering period. The panel concluded their press statement by commending the maturity demonstrated by Kenyans for democracy and the desire for lasting peace in the nation after the electioneering period.



Ambassador Francis Muthaura together with other members addressing members of the fourth estate



Election Preparedness

On the 26th July 2022, the Uwiano Platform for Peace Principals held a press conference at the Nairobi Serena Hotel on the state of peace and political decency as the country looked forward to the August General Elections. Commencing the statement, NCIC Chair Reverend Dr. Samuel Kobia noted that since it is a transition election where the country was expected to have a new president, many people had their hopes and dreams hinged on the particular election. He noted that with the rising commodity prices and the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic, together with the tensions caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine, Kenya found herself at the inflection point whereby decisions made could lead her to the Sri Lanka way or rescue her from the edge.



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia addressing the press on the state of peace and political decency

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Celebrating peace along the borders of Nandi-Kakamega and Nandi-Kisumu

Conflicts along the borders of Nandi-Kakamega and Nandi-Kisumu have in the past led to massive destruction of property, loss of lives and displacement of people. Over the past few years, NCIC has partnered with several peace organisations in a bid to restore peace and have sustainable measures to resolve the communities' differences. Over the past few years, NCIC has conducted several sensitization forums with different stakeholders in the three counties. There have been a myriad of peace engagements conducted in different subcounties of Nandi, Kisumu and Kakamega, from sports for peace tournaments, inter and intra dialogue forums with women, youth, elders, barazas, meetings with peace committees of the different counties to peace meetings with the sub-county security teams. The Commission's consistent and tireless engagements have indeed bore fruit and the borders have experienced a state of tranquility for at least the past two years.



Mr. Killian Nyambu and a section of leaders join the Morans in a dance during the peace celebrations at the Nandi-Kakamega border

The peace experienced in these three counties and especially so along the volatile borders was celebrated in July 2022 by NCIC in partnership with ACT! (Act, Change, Transform). The nature of the celebrations,

specifically held along the border of Nandi-Kisumu and Nandi-Kakamega, encompassed several barazas held at different hotspots along the borders. In Nandi-Kisumu, the celebrations targeted areas of Chemilil, Kibigori, Chemursoi and Kopere. The target areas are mainly the hot spots affected by ethnic conflicts at the border.

Those present at the barazas not only included community members and National Government Administration Officers (NGAOs) but also local politicians, incumbent and aspiring. During the celebrations, community members as well as the politicians in attendance committed to maintaining peace in their communities, especially in the run up to the 2022 general elections. They committed to upholding peace by signing of the NCIC's Political Decency and Peace Charter and thus becoming Peace Ambassadors in their regions. During the 5-day celebrations, approximately 400 peace charters were signed and the different communities residing along the two borders were applauded for ensuring there was peace and were urged to continue being agents of pace.

Community members expressed their gratitude to NCIC for consistently being present at the border to promote peaceful coexistence. While introducing the Commission staff present, one woman told Mr. Kilian Nyambu, "We know you, we have seen you here many times" another community member said, "see we even have your t-shirt" while proudly showcasing the NCIC branded t-shirt they wore.



Mr. Kilian Nyambu, Deputy Director, Public Outreach and Engagement Department together with DCC Tinderet Subcounty, Ms. Esther Oyugi congratulating the winning team during the football tournament at Muhoroni Stadium during the Nandi-Kisumu Peace Celebrations

Engaging Isiolo's 'Big Five' for sustainable Peace

Isiolo county is home to the 'big five' communities- Samburu, Turkana, Borana, Somali, and Meru ethnic groups. The county has seen persistent conflicts over resources between these communities while also witnessing regular political conflict between ethnic groups, particularly around elections, resulting from the contest for political control and domination, which occasionally turns violent.

In partnership with Pro-Peace Kenya (European Centre for Electoral Support – ECES), the Commission on July 21st, 2022 held an inter-community dialogue forum with elders and representatives of the five communities at Mulango, Isiolo County. The objective of the forum was to discuss sustainable measures to ensuring peace is found amongst the communities residing in the county during and after the 2022 general elections as well as measures to take to have sustained peace amongst the communities.



Commissioners Dr. Danvas Makori and Sam Kona congratulating the winners of the football tournament during the peace celebrations at Nandi-Kakamega border



Commissioner Hon. Abdulaziz Farah speaking to participants during the intercommunity meeting held in Mulango, Isiolo County

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Apart from elders representing the five communities, in attendance were youth who gave the youth voice to the baraza and also women as well as members of the security team of the county.

The key causes of conflict, as enumerated by the DCC Isiolo County, Mr. Kepha Marube ranged from drought and hunger that is being experienced in the county; theft of animals from each other/different communities in the county; Tribalism – Almost 30 tribes reside in the county and there is a battle to have each community at the forefront and lead during the 2022 general elections; as well as Children of school going age are not in school as most take care of cattle or raid especially the boys.

Speaking during the Kipsing meeting, one of the elders from Kipsing said that blame was on the young Morans (Ilkimatu ageset) for the insecurity and lack of peace in the area. The elder told the Deputy County Commissioner (DCC) that the community would reach a point of handing over the thieves to police and requested them not to let them come back until they attain the age of marriage. He asked the government to revisit the issue of KPR and give them more to help police apprehend and punish thieves.



(Standing in uniform) DCC Isiolo, Kepha Marube Participants having a light moment during the baraza.

NCIC Deputy Director, Peacebuilding and Reconciliation Department, Mr. Liban Guyo told the community members that the sole purpose of the meeting was to enhance peace and security and “that peace is only achievable when everyone agrees to talk.” Also In attendance was Commissioner Abdulaziz Farah who stressed on the need to maintain peace. Commissioner Farah reiterated to those in attendance that “there is need to make peace a priority if the people wanted progress and development.”

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From the meeting, it was recommended that a meeting be conducted with Ilkimatu (young morans) and their fathers (the Ilmeoli). The Ilmeoli were asked to spearhead the meeting and ensure that their godsons embrace peace.



Samburu Elders following keenly the deliberations of peace meeting in Kipsing, Isiolo County

NCIC's Voice in the Global Arena: The Nexus between Trust, Social Cohesion and Integration

In line with the Roadmap to a violent-free election dubbed Elections Bila Noma NCIC was invited in Rabat, for the 21st Annual Conference of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohammed VI to address the question of trust in public institutions. The Conference was marked by the organization of a Moroccan Panel on “The New Development Model and Advanced Regionalization”, The Mohammed V University of Rabat, the Communal Council of the City of Rabat, the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (AIEIA), the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa (UCLG Africa) and its African Local Government Academy (ALGA).

The conference, held from July 25 to 29, 2022, at the Faculty of Legal, Economic and Social Sciences of Agdal, was organized under the theme “The implementation and promotion of the Principles of Effective Governance, to leave no one and no place behind”. The main aim of the conference was to highlight and discuss the 11 Principles of Effective Governance for Sustainable Development, designed by the members of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration (UN-CEPA), approved and adopted by the ECOSOC in 2018. Participants, drawn from more than 65 countries, included the IASIA Community and Fraternity, political

leaders, public administration decision-makers, practitioners, academics, PhD students and young researchers, as well as other actors and stakeholders from various disciplines and sectors from all over the world.



NCIC Commission Secretary/CEO, Dr. Skitter Ocharo HSC, keenly following the conference proceedings at the Main Auditorium, Mohammed V University, Agdal, Rabat Morocco

Through a paper authored by NCIC in collaboration with the Kenya School of Government, “trust cements relationships by allowing people to live and work together, feel safe and belong to a group. It is one of the indicators by which one can measure social cohesion in society”. According to NCIC’s CEO Dr. Skitter Ocharo, “concerns over the increasing trust deficit threaten to undermine social cohesion and integration in Kenya, with only approximately two weeks to the General Elections”. On her part, the Senior Corporate Communication Officer Jescah Otieno noted that noted, “Kenyans are deeply distrustful, as they depict a contemporary spirit of suspicion and scepticism towards key government institutions, contributing to increasing public discontent, lack of enthusiasm in engaging in civic duties, and violent conflict”. In the same vein, Dr. Rachel Ngesa of KSG opined that “it behoves us as a country to invest in attitude and behaviour change, as these are the cornerstones of trust in any society”.



NCIC CEO Dr. Skitter Ocharo, Senior Corporate Communication Officer Jescah Otieno engaging participants during the presentation on their paper at the Mohammed V University, Rabat Morocco

The study registers that when levels of trust in established public institutions are high, individuals are likely to articulate their demands and grievances through formal institutions, thereby allowing such institutions to uphold the rule of law and even support conflict management. They also trust public institutions to adopt policy solutions to pressing social problems. However, when citizens have low levels of trust towards each other and public institutions, there is a greater risk of not reaching amicable agreements, and conflict ensues.



NCIC CEO, Dr. Skitter Ocharo HSC presenting the paper on the Nexus of Trust, National Cohesion and Integration at the Mohammed V University, in Rabat, Morocco

Peace Sensitization Forums

Public awareness and education are essential to changing social and cultural norms, which perpetuate harmful practices. Training religious and community leaders who are influential in the society is also necessary to incorporate them in the process of changing cultural beliefs and practices. Women and girls should be supported in their efforts to empower themselves and demand respect for their human rights electioneering period. In addition, all members of society should be made aware of the negative consequences of electoral violence and political intolerance.

The NCIC engaged in a Mulika Wabakaji Awareness Forum on 28th July 2022 at Undugu Social Hall, Mathare in Nairobi sub county. The Campaign launch brought together different Human Rights Defenders organizations both governmental and non-governmental. The campaign sought to raise awareness in Nairobi town and other areas with high prevalence such as Mathare, which represents other an informal settlement with high risks of SBGV prevalence.

On 21st July, 2022 NCIC participated in Kibera Religious and Peace Stakeholders Forum at Rowaland Camp Kenya Scouts Association Hall. The Kibera religious leaders and peace stakeholders sought support from NCIC in convening of a high-level multi stakeholder forum

that brought together key stakeholders in the upcoming elections to sign political decency and peace charters.



Hadija Mohamed, Senior Officer engaging participants in a discussion during a sensitisation forum in Kibera, Nairobi

On 19th July 2022 at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi County NCIC participated in the Launch of Political Education Sourcebook and Other Training Manuals. NCIC CEO Dr. Skitter Ocharo attended the launch. The resource materials meant to equip voters with adequate information to supplement the NCIC Peace sensitization Forums towards countering Electoral Violence and Political Intolerance in the country.

Between 18th and 22nd July 2022 NCIC attended the Nandi-Kakamega Peaceful Co-Existence Anniversary in Nandi County. Conflicts in Nandi and Kakamega, especially along the Nandi-Kakamega border have in the past led to massive destruction of property, loss of lives and displacement of people. In 2019, NCIC partnered with several organizations including KASH to conduct a six-week project that was aimed at enhancing the capacity of local conflict management and peacebuilding structures in Nandi and Kakamega counties to resolve conflict, as well as mitigate future conflicts through intra- and inter- community dialogues. Since then, the said counties have since experienced a state of calm. The anniversary celebrated two years of peaceful coexistence along the border.



Participants keenly following a presentation from NCIC Ms. Sabina

NCIC joined the Kenya National Congress of Pentecostal Churches Peace Forum between 15th -16th July 2022 at Dagoreti Market. The peace festival included presentations from NCIC staff on how they are prepared to counter any form of electoral violence or to prevent the act during and after the general elections, peace sensitization at Dagoreti Market, Dialogues & a peace caravan. Also were the remarks from several religious and local leaders on matters peace and cohesion. The forum helped see how all the institutions can work together to promote peace.

The Political Decency and Accountability Forum held in Nairobi County on Saturday 9th July 2022 at KICC was a culmination of the collaboration between NCIC, Mkenya Daima, Act, Special Olympics, IRCK and ORPP. This Forum brought together a total of three hundred and seventy-nine (379) delegates, (86) political parties, key duty bearers from government institutions (Mr. Wafula Chebukati – Chairperson, IEBC, and Ms. Anne Nderitu – Registrar, ORPP), representatives from civil society organizations, faith-based leaders, and staff from the main mainstream media houses. The main discourse was signing of Political Decency and Peace charters by presidential candidates or their representatives.

NCIC also took part in the launching of PIMAC INTERNATIONAL conducted in the Best Western Plus Hotel, on 3rd August 2022 Nairobi County. The event was a training and sensitization forum whereby many governmental and nongovernmental organizations were brought together to conduct a free and fair election. These organizations included African Union, NCIC and IEBC. The launch was meant to train both local and international observers on how to conduct the observation during election to realize a free and fair election. The forum was able to involve several election observation associations and enlightened them on how to conduct an election observation. The chairperson shared tools to be used by the observers across the country.

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Nakuru Kisumu/Siaya County Women Engagement

With the clock fast ticking to the August 2022 presidential and General elections, the Commission in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has been holding County Engagement forums focused on the areas mapped as Hotspots. Kisumu being among the hotspot areas, the Commission saw the need to engage different county stakeholders with the aim of sensitizing them to maintain peace and cohesion. The sensitization forums, which also covered Siaya County were followed by peace walks and caravans traversing the two border counties. Siaya County, although not among the listed hotspot areas, is usually affected by spillover conflicts from the hotspot area of Kisumu city.



NCIC Director Research Ms. Millicent Okatch Addressing Media during the Kisumu/Siaya County Engagement.

The Kisumu and Siaya County Engagement forums commenced on the 1st of July 2022 to the 6th of July 2022. The forums comprised peace stakeholders who represented each member of the community as a whole (youth, women, men, PWDs), then youth and women separately in different venues. The issues discussed across the different forums were relatively similar. The issues highlighted to be causing electoral violence include the issuance of political handouts that leave locals fighting, non-democratic political processes, unfair party primaries among others.

To mitigate this, the locals felt that oversight Institutions should be active. As for unemployment rates in the country, the participants first applauded the National Government for the Kazi Mtaani initiative which has employed a number of youths who then become unavailable from possible incitement. Drug and substance abuse together

with hopelessness also was considered a major cause of electoral conflicts. In Kisumu and Siaya, the members especially women were concerned by the shift of politics from tribal to clannism. Some people who are even Luo are rejected because they do not come from a particular clan. The members also tackled the issue of IEC materials of members who are not from the region not being accepted. The deputy president's banners were pulled down in Kisumu town. The cosmopolitan areas were considered more hotspots. In the forums, the members agreed to sensitize those that they can reach to vote as not voting makes the leader they do not want to win. The residents of Kisumu and Siaya agreed to work together to enable the country to realize an Elections Bila Noma.



Siaya women peace ambassadors following keenly during the County Engagement

Nakuru Peace Concert

In pomp and color, with Kenyans streaming in from across the country, the long awaited day of the much anticipated peace concert that would bring together stakeholders in the peace sector, as well as popular Kenyan artists rallying Kenyans towards an Election Bila Noma, was finally happening.

Dignitaries led by NCIC Chair Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, NCIC Commissioners Hon. Abdulaziz Farah, Dr. Danvas Makori, Eng. Philip Okund,i and Honourable Dorcas Kedogo, as well as the European Union Ambassador to Kenya H.E. Henriette Geiger, representatives from the Embassy of Denmark, UNDP Kenya members among others were in attendance. Also present were Regional County officials, other government representatives and Civil Society Organizations.

With appearances from the biggest names in Kenya's showbiz, the day was set and ready to go. Sauti sol, Evelyn Wanjiru, Mercy Masika, Triomio, Octopizzo,

DJ Joe Mfalme and Nadia Mukami to name but a few, all took to the stage and wowed their fans with their favorite melodies, with the crowd going crazy and jamming to every song.



NCIC staff led NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia during the Nakuru peace concert

The concert, organized by the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) in partnership with European Centre for Electoral Support ECES, the United Nations, Haki Africa, Nation Media Group and the European Union, among others, was a culmination of the #MimiMkenya peace campaigns characterized by town hall forums across the country and a series of peace caravans across Nakuru county. Prior to the Concert, the Commission, led by the Chair Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia alongside Commissioners had traversed the vast Nakuru county and its environs preaching messages of peace and cohesion, in the final lap of preparations as the country geared up to the August polls.

“Like every other peaceful Kenyan, we want a peaceful election. It is important that the country stays in peace before, during and after elections. Every Kenyan who is eligible to vote should do so in a peaceful manner,” said the NCIC Chair Rev. Kobia in one of the Peace Campaigns.



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia addressing participants during the Nakuru peace concert

The caravan visited parts of Nakuru City, Njoro, Elburgon, Naivasha and Gilgil. The overwhelming reception of the campaign painted a picture of a peaceful people, countrymen and citizens who were ready to defend the peace they had so much worked for.



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia urging participants in Nakuru County to keep peace during the electioneering period

NCIC Chairman Samuel Kobia, while addressing the residents who turned up for the concert, said the Commission was committed to ensuring that peace remained in the country. “We want to join hands and say that as NCIC we know that there is no particular sector, institution, organization and community that can achieve the peace that we want without working together, we know we can make it.

Residents who attended the concert exuded enthusiasm for their quest for peace to dominate, as it gives an enabling environment for prosperity and development. The event ended with the release of peace balloons from the NCIC team to symbolize peace. The performing artists and all partners who collaborated delivered a successful peace concert.

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“Only Love”, Inside Artists’ Call for Peace!

A couple of weeks to the run up to the Kenya’s General Elections, eight artists gathered for an extraordinary recording session and gifted Kenya a masterpiece dubbed “Only Love”, a call for peace in the forthcoming elections.



Kenya’s A-list Artistes at the continental and global level recording the kenya ni moja peace song

In the wake of robust preparations for the August polls, The National Cohesion And Integration Commission put in place objectives geared towards ensuring the process would be peaceful. For this cause, the Commission in partnership with the European Centre of Electoral Support brought together artists from different genres and backgrounds to record a song for peace including; Sauti Sol, Wyre, Evelyn Wanjiru, Mercy Masika, Trio Mio, Size 8, Khaligraph Jones and Samidoh who in one voice reminded Kenyans of the values that form the foundation of our nation.



NCIC Vice Chair Wambui Nyutu recording her peace message for the kenya ni moja peace song

The Commissions’ dream was to not only call for peace but also to highlight the position of music and the creative industry in building a united Kenya. The single remains a number one hit weeks after its release, with the media pushing it across all spaces to reach even larger audiences. Artists involved in the making of Only Love have sparked a legacy for other artists to maintain.

Only Love continues to inspire Kenyans to remain peaceful and will continue to represent the coming together of Kenyans to create change for a better nation. Efforts such as these will ensure that Kenyans always remain conscious of their spirit of oneness and never again resort to violence as a way of solving conflicts.

NCIC in the Media

During the electioneering period, NCIC Commissioners and staff have been up and alert sensitizing citizens to maintain peace and tranquility as they chose their leaders. The Commission utilized Citizen TV, NTV, KTN, K24TV, and radio stations to spread the message of peace. On spice FM, Dr. Danvas Makori urged Kenyans to remain peaceful during the electioneering period. He thanked local administration officers and County Commissioners for the efforts they are putting to see that every corner of the territory remains calm.

Rev. Dr. SAMUEL KOBIA
CHAIRMAN, NATIONAL COHESION & INTEGRATION COMMISSION (NCIC)
TUESDAY 2ND AUGUST | 8 AM
PROMOTING PEACE AND SAFETY DURING & AFTER
2022 ELECTION
the Situation room
LIVESTREAM: www.spicem.com YouTube | [SpiceFM](#) | [LIVE](#) | [SpiceFM K](#)
NAIROBI 94.4 • NAKURU 96.0 • NYERI 90.9 • KISUMU 102.5 • MALINDI 97.7 • MOMBASA 87.9 • ELDORET 96.7

On the 15th August 2022, Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia during a press conference just before IEBC announced the President elect urged Kenyans to accept Results Bila Noma just as they had an Elections Bila Noma. He reminded Kenyans that that they all have a responsibility to maintain peace in the Country. He thanked the international partners who have supported Kenya

during the period to necessitate Elections Bila Noma. He also emphasized and commented every leader who are seeking legal redress without inciting others into chaos. Commissioner Wambui Nyutu, the NCIC Vice chairperson on an interview at Citizen TV commented IEBC for putting the results on the public such that every leader could tally for themselves, together with the media houses as that shows transparency and that our democracy as a country has grown. While at NTV discussing the aftermath of elections, the Vice chair noted that violence has moved from the streets to the social media especially the pseudo accounts. She alluded the successful elections to the county engagements forums involving youth, women, religious leaders and even opinion leaders, the peace caravans, roadshows that the Commission carried out in many parts of the country. She also urged Kenyans to trust Institutions to ensure that the leaders in those positions deliver.

#zinga
 Tuesday 26th July, 2022
 Time: 8:00am - 9:00am
Mshikamano Wakati Wa Uchaguzi

Commissioner Philip Okundi
 National Cohesion and Intergration
 Commission - NCIC

Hosts:
**Mwajuma Choji &
 Rashid Mwamkondo**

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 NRB 92.9 | ELD88.6 | NYERI 87.6 | MBS 100.8 | KISUMU 104.5 | NKR 104.1

Commissioner Sam Kona on KTN and Spice FM applauded the presidential candidates for coming out to address Kenyans, urging them to maintain peace even before the election results were announced. He noted that helped many supporters remain calm during the long anxious period of waiting for Election results. He also praised Kenyans for going beyond the identity of tribes and casting the vote in peace. He praised the political coalitions as all of them had members from every community and called out for unity in the country. NCIC's Director Research and Knowledge Management, Ms. Millicent Okatch while at K24 TV praised the state whereby leaders from different political coalitions are now willing to collaborate for the greater good of the nations.

Kenya's Moment of Mature Democracy!

The just-concluded General Elections in Kenya painted a disparate image from previous elections, shocking the world and shaking off the 'violence hotbed' tag. In line with NCIC's Roadmap to a Violence-Free election dubbed 'Elections Bila Noma', Kenyans were back to business as usual barely a week after elections and the announcement of presidential results. In a country where elections have historically been viewed within a prism of chaos and violence, Kenya sure went above and beyond in setting pace for the region's election processes where peace during the polls would be the new norm.



A section of NCIC election observers pose for a group photo during the just-concluded August 2022 election

The active participation of Kenyans on 9th August 2022, in exercising their democratic right at the ballot and overseeing an historic moment for the country was truly plausible. With most contestants conceding defeat as early as the voting day, peace prevailed in all regions allowing a good environment for counting and tallying of results.

Although the announcement of the presidential results was peaceful, it witnessed a minor hiccup at the national tallying center where differences between officers from the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), as well as political actors from both sides caused a slight stir, over transparency of the displayed result. The case is currently at the Supreme Court of Kenya, with the case expected to be concluded and determined on the 5th September 2022.

By and large, Kenyans demonstrated that democracy has matured and that #ElectionsBilaNoma is an achievable dream, a triumph for the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, as well as a win for Kenyans at large.

NCIC Strengthens its Early Warning and Early Response Capability

By Guyo Liban, Deputy Director Peacebuilding & Reconciliation

Early Warning and Early Response is considered one of the pillars of conflict prevention. The objective of early warning is to detect the signs of conflict in due time in order to initiate preventive measures (early response or early actions). Early warning focuses on systematic data collection, analysis and/or formulation, including risk assessment in order to take early action. Early action refers to preventive action or early response to reduce or avoid manifest conflicts. This refers to any initiative that occurs in the latent stages of a perceived potential conflict with the aim of conflict resolution and transformation.

“The ultimate goal of early warning is not to predict conflicts, but rather to facilitate their prevention by the concerned parties. Early warning actors should try, not only to become better at prediction but also good at early action. An early mechanism without adequate and timely response is an exercise in futility” explained Mr. Liban

In the run up to the August 2022 General Election, NCIC recruited, trained and deployed Cohesion monitors across the 47 counties of Kenya. Some counties have more than one Cohesion monitor due to their diversity, geographical size and risk of political violence as guided by NCIC hotspot mapping report of April 2022. In total, the Commission has 69 Cohesion Monitors.

The monitors’ roles and responsibilities include but not limited to:

- Feeding the Commission with information to enable establishment of measures to encourage cohesion and prevention of violence in the period before, during and after election.
- Attend public forums in bid to gather information relate to hate speech and political incitement
- Informs the Commission of weekly conducted peace and security forums in their county of jurisdiction
- Carry out surveillance on early warning signs of conflict and report the same to the headquarter for action.

Situation Room

The NCIC with the gracious financial and technical support by European Centre for Electoral Support (ECES) under the PROPEACE KENYA PROJECT has established and equipped state of the art “Situation Room and MMU” with personnel and equipment both hardware and software. The software will be used for mining of dynamic data on social media platforms for hate speech, ethnic contempt, vilification of others and ethnic incitement. This is informed by the fact that 80% of hate speech offences investigated or referred to Commission are committed through social media platform particularly the Facebook.



Situation room-based Cohesion Monitors

The situation room hosts Cohesion Monitors and Media Monitors. Cohesion Monitors receive data from field based cohesion monitors including regional coordinators. Data sieved, analyzed and disseminated to various actors for appropriate and timely action.

Media monitoring is the activity of monitoring the output of the print, online and broadcast media. It is based on analyzing a diverse range of media platforms in order to identify trends that can be used for a variety of reasons such as current affairs, opinion polls, and socio-political issues. The MMU has four main compartment set up that runs on a 24-hour operational cycle. The main interface of the service is for real-time monitor's use.



The Media Monitors at work

The Situation Room has monitoring screens that display video live output as well as the sections of radio output signals. It has an all-round internet Wi-Fi connection to all computers and phones configured for monitoring. The Wi-Fi connection can accommodate 150 devices.



Media monitor explaining how visual data is displayed on the monitoring screen



Commissioners Hon. Dorcas Kedogo and Hon. Abdulaziz Farah among staff and local residents of Nakuru County during the peace caravan walk



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia (center) alongside Commissioners Hon. Abdulaziz Farah and Hon. Dorcas Kedogo during the courtesy call to the Rift Valley Regional Commissioner Mr. Mohammed A. Maalim.

INTERVIEW
31.08.2022
7AM - 8AM

MORNING FIX

LIBAN GUYO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, PEACEBUILDING AND RECONCILIATION

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DEPUTY DIRECTOR EDUCATION NCIC, PUBLIC OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

TUESDAY
2ND
AUGUST
2022
8:00AM - 9:00AM

TOPIC: UTANGAMANO WA TAIFA

NATIONAL COHESION AND INTEGRATION COMMISSION



NCIC Chairman Rev Dr. Samuel Kobia (left) and Rift Valley Regional Commissioner Mohammed Maalim (right) alongside NCIC Commissioners Danvas Makori, Abdulaziz Farah and Dorcas Kedogo flag off the NCIC peace caravan ahead of the ElectionsBilaNoma peace concert in Nakuru.



NCIC officials and members of the public take part in the Elections bila noma peace walk in Nakuru ahead of the peace concert on 30 July 2022



NCIC Comm'r Dr Danvas Makori leads artists and participants in releasing of peace balloons to symbolise peace flow across the country, during the ElectionsBilaNoma peace concert in Nakuru on 30 July 2022



NCIC Director Research Ms. Millicent Okatch and Deputy Director Communications Ms. Olive Metet during the ElectionsBilaNoma peace concert in Nakuru on 30 July 2022



NCIC Officials take part in the Elections bila noma peace on 30 July 2022 In Nakuru Athletics sports club