



PRESS STATEMENT

Members of the Media and my fellow Kenyans,

The campaign season 2022, has come to an end. The period ended with the leading presidential candidates declaring that they want peace and extending olive branches to each other. This kind of spirit is what we need to maintain as we go out to vote. We must remember the 2007/08 post-election violence and avoid the pitfalls that led us there.

Which is why we are grateful that all the presidential candidates have signed the NCIC's Political Decency and Peace charter. This means that all political parties and presidential candidates are committed to the cause of peace and we remind them that this commitment should persist even after the act of voting, tallying and the eventual declaration of a winner.

We must also commend many Kenyans for being peaceful and civil throughout the campaign period and we urge them to continue to be so as we vote and tally. We must avoid those who would want to use this moment to incite us towards any form of violence or retribution.

We must allow the IEBC to do their job well and professionally. If there is a failure of any kind, we must allow the courts to also do their jobs. There is no reason whatsoever that any politician should cause you, the average Kenyan to take up any form of violence or hate speech to cure any political squabble.

We call on the Kenyan voters to listen to and comply with the instructions of IEBC on how to conduct themselves regarding the elections. Let us cooperate with the official instructions of the IEBC to ensure that the election process is completed well and transparently.

We also highly welcome the various observer missions, which are here to observe the Kenyan election. It is our honor to host you and we are also humbled that you would take your time to come and join us in this all important exercise.

Having said that, the NCIC is fully aware of the risks Kenya faces whenever we go through elections. From 2007 to date we have needed various solutions to deal with electoral disagreements and as such the NCIC through its “Elections Bila Noma” identified the need to create a panel of eminent persons who would be charged with championing dialogue peace and managing any post-election issues. Gathered from the various fields the NCIC has identified and appointed the following as members of the Kenya Eminent Panel for Peace (KEPP):

1 Amb. Francis Muthaura	Convenor
2 Justice (Rtd) Joyce Aluoch	Co-Convenor
3 Lt Gen (Rtd) Daniel Opande	Mediation Expert
4 Lt Gen (Rtd) Lazarus Sumbeiywo	Mediation Expert
5 Nerima Wako	Youth Leader
6 Sheikh Hamad Kassim	Faith Leader
7 Fatuma Abdikadir	Expert in Sports for Peace Faith
8 Archbishop Anthony Muheria	Faith Leader
9 Dr. Vimal Shah	Corporate leader
10 Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit	Faith leader
11 Archbishop Phillip Anyolo	Faith leader
12 Catherine Musakali	Governance expert
13 Chancellor Robert Mutula	Public engagement expert
14 Bishop Emeritus Stephen Kewasis	Peace/Reconciliation expert
15 Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia	Ex- Officio Member

The roles will include:

- 1) Facilitating dialogue and mediation between disputing parties to reduce hostilities and ensure that the political transition is not turbulent while promoting consensus building;
- 2) 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;
- 3) Mediation of politically related conflict at the local, regional and national levels with strategies informed by the local contexts;
- 4) Mobilizing the political class, their supporters, institutions and Kenyans in general to respect and uphold the rule of law and diffuse political tension;
- 5) Facilitating efficient communication between disputing parties, including Shuttle Diplomacy;
- 6) Establishing the facts of the dispute, understand the interests, positions, and motives of the conflicting parties and facilitate negotiations for common position with interest for the well-being of the citizens of Kenya; and
- 7) Managing expectations of both the winners and losers of the elections. This recognizes that both winners and losers have expectations that will be respectively bloated or frustrated. They will look to ways of reconciling the expectations with the post-election realities. This will include ensuring the winner is magnanimous in his victory and the loser to be dignified in his loss.

Through these efforts the NCIC hopes to guarantee an “Election Bila Noma”. We urge all Kenyans to once again commit to peace and remain calm throughout this electioneering process.

REV. DR. SAMUEL KOBIA

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Kobia', written in a cursive style.

CHAIRMAN

NATIONAL COHESION AND INTEGRATION COMMISSION

8TH AUGUST, 2022