

Pomp and colour at ORPP Post Poll report launch, stakeholders call for Office strengthening

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) unveiled its 2022 Post Election Evaluation Report on 2nd August 2022. The report is a culmination of a journey towards the development of the report that commenced with internal drafting shortly after the 2022 general election. It was further subjected to a series of ORPP internal reviews, repackaging, stakeholder assessment and its eventual validation held in June, 2023.

Speaking in the well-attended spectacle event at Safari Park Hotel, Nairobi that included representatives of; political parties, state agencies, donor partners, civil and religious outfits amongst, lauded the ORPP's raft of initiatives in the run up, during and after the election stipulated in the report.



Chief Guest, Attorney General Hon. Justin Muturi speaking during the Post Election Evaluation report launch

Chief Guest Hon B.N. Muturi, the Attorney General called for the need to strengthening the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties, anchoring its establishment in the Constitution. He further called for timely enactment of any review of the law to avoid experiences of rush of amendments witnessed in the last election. "I call on relevant state arms to

enhance capacity of the ORPP including its establishment in law and spread across the country", Muturi noted. The AG further called on respect for political parties and their organs. He noted, "We must treat political parties to better 'hygiene' they deserve. It is the right time for political parties to harness the moment and be counted in the progressive agenda and put forth legal reform proposals' also as well as be actively involved in current national political discourse"



Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu address participants during the launch



Registrar of Political Parties (second right), Chief Guest Attorney General (far right) together with invited guests launch the Post Election Evaluation report at Safari Park hotel, Nairobi on 2nd August, 2023

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The Registrar Ann Nderitu while giving an overview of the report called on stakeholders to raise their responsiveness on their citizen engagement initiatives. Some of the key milestones were; legal reforms, Political Parties (membership) Regulations; ICT re- engineering; countrywide sensitization; clearance of independent candidates, partnership with Political Parties Liaison Committee (PPLC) in staging peace caravans; registration of parties; confirmation of coalitions/coalition political parties; training of party agents among others.

Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, Ali A. Surraw formulated the report as an important discourse for everyone including the stakeholders. "It is part of a continuous learning as we look at the review of our programs for better service delivery. We will have an open session and invite feedback to improve our next course of action in the next electioneering cycle," said Ali A. Surraw.

"We commit to working collaboratively in developing Regulations for coalitions/coalition, timely electoral reform, better involvement of Special Interest Groups. All stakeholders need to raise the bar engaging the citizens through respective areas of operations", Nderitu said.

Other speakers appreciated continued partnership with ORPP. "We salute ORPP in developing publications and reports that have improved election administration and management", Joshua Changwony, Uchaguzi Platform convenor. "The Steering Committee of PPLC will continue to partner with ORPP to foster amicable political dialogue. However, there is need to continue to enhance financial capacity including the Political Parties Fund", Christopher Kilonzo, Vice-Chair Steering Committee. The young deserve political stability. We appreciate the collaboration with ORPP we had in the run-up and after the general election such as country-wide sensitization towards a peaceful political environment", National boda-boda Association. "We celebrate the vibrancy and versatility of the constitutional order in Kenya. We are in a good place and a country. We were neutral and stood with Kenyans and institutions managing elections as faith institutions," NCKK Secretary General, Cannon Chris Kinyanjui. "We must for the solidary and shared responsibility for good governance. We must create a society that respects the political rights for the citizens", Hon. John Kagucia, Member of Parliament speaking on behalf of Justice and Legal Affairs Committee.

"The report elicits timely discussions and ways to improve political processes. We need to further the institutionaliza-

tion of political parties and address 'political hygiene as well safeguard interest of party members now over 24 million," ELOG ,National Coordinator, Mulle Musau. "Moving forward, we will synchronize political process including submission of nomination rules and other areas identified in the report amongst political players to improve subsequent elections", Deputy CEO Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) added. "There is need for continuous capacity building for political parties and improve on citizens' engagement to the realization of political enjoyment as guaranteed in the Constitution", Vice Chairperson, Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNHRC)



Assistant Registrar of Political Parties , CPA Florence Birya on her closing remarks during the ceremony

The ORPP appreciated all stakeholders including staff of ORPP led by the Registrar for the synergy, and input through the development of the report.

"Your contributions have a lot of mark to the delivery of milestones we are celebrating today", CPA Florence Birya.

Call for early commencement of programmes for new year as Registrar appreciates staff for work well done in previous year

Departments, units and sections have been called for timely structuring of their programme of activities to ensure effective implementation by the close of the new year. The functional areas have further been called to finalise matters in the last financial year (FY) 2022/23 to set path for ones planned in FY 2023/24.

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This call is reflected in varied requirements circulated accordingly to responsible departments/officers to submit within set timelines last year's departmental annual reports, committee reports, staff appraisals, staff training status reports among others. Guidelines have also been issued towards submission of the FY 2023/24 departmental work plans, staff training projections, drafting of performance contracts among others.

Speaking in a meeting to review Committee reports for last financial year, the Registrar thanked members of staff for their contribution towards attainment of the year ended including policies developed, publications formulated and stakeholders engagements undertaken. "While I acknowledge with gratitude the good work well achieved, I call for more vibrancy and commitment on focus areas in the current year. Automation of processes, being a key area of concentration this year", the Registrar guided. She further called for full adherence of the ORPP's Staff Code of Conduct noting for timely an effective actualization of planned activities. "This Office, which is a model brand, will not tolerate incompetence and mediocrity and any staff with such misdemeanor will firmly be dealt with", the Registrar cautioned.

The Assistant Registrar, CPA Florence Biry, thanked departments, units and sectors for the milestones made particularly in developing raft of policies, checklists and Standard Operating Procedures in the previous year. "I call upon us

all to pick up the remaining policy framework and finalize them to their conclusive end including the final approvals, possibly, by end of 1st quarter as procedure requires", noted Assistant Registrar.



Registrar of Political Parties addresses members of staff during a last FY 2022/23 internal review staff meeting

Staff were further called upon to work collaboratively and innovatively, embracing appropriate consultations for effective service delivery. The FY commences against the backdrop of a number of review of government operations and priorities that all state agencies have been called to align to or comply with. Some of these pertain to automation of government processes and centralization of government payments.

Gains of ORPP initiatives in strengthening political parties for Special Interests Groups' inclusion

By Anastacia Kaberere, Senior Compliance Officer-Capacity Building



Political parties play a key role in shaping the democratic landscape of any nation. In Kenya, the Registrar of Political Parties is mandated in registering, regulating, monitoring, investigating, and supervising political parties to ensure their compliance with the law. Additionally, the Registrar manages the Political Parties' Fund, an essential source of financial support for political parties to attain their purposes within the confines of the Political Parties.

However, Kenya, like many other countries, has faced challenges with the lack of diversity and inclusion within its political parties. To fortify and improve the functioning of political parties, it is imperative to promote greater representation and involvement of youth and women. Some of the benefits of incorporating diversity and inclusion within political parties include the following.

1. **Enhanced Representation:** Youth and women make up a significant portion of the Kenyan population thereby their inclusion in political parties will ensure that their concerns, interests, and aspirations are adequately represented in the decision-making process.

However, Kenya, like many other countries, has faced challenges

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This can lead to policies and initiatives that address the unique challenges faced by these demographics for a more inclusive and equitable society.

2. Fostering Innovation and Progress: Diverse political parties bring together individuals from various backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives. This diversity of thought leads to innovative solutions to societal issues and fosters progress in governance.

3. Strengthening Democracy: Inclusive political parties are essential for building a strong democratic foundation. When all citizens are represented and valued, they are more likely to engage in the democratic process, leading to increased voter turnout and political participation. This, in turn, strengthens the legitimacy and credibility of democratic institutions.

4. Improved Public Perception: Political parties that actively promote diversity and inclusion are viewed more favourably by the public. Such parties demonstrate a commitment to equal representation and are perceived as more responsive to the needs of the people they serve. This can result in increased trust and support from the electorate.

5. Increased Voter Turnout: By empowering youth and women to actively participate in politics, political parties can attract a broader voter base. This, in turn, can lead to increased voter turnout during elections, strengthening the democratic process.

6. Fostering Long-term Party Loyalty: Engaging youth in political parties early on cultivates a sense of loyalty and commitment that can endure for years. Such continuity strengthens party structures and increases its long-term viability.

To promote inclusion for Youth and Women Involvement some of the following:

1. Capacity Building Programs: The Registrar collaborates with partners and other stakeholders in implementing capacity building programs for political parties. These programs focus on leadership development, political training, and advocacy skills specifically tailored for youth and women. Building their capacity empowers them to become effective leaders and advocates within their parties and the political arena.

Affirmative Action: Implementing affirmative action

measures accelerates the inclusion of youth and women within political parties. The Political Parties Act 2011 has put in place measures to ensure representation in party governing bodies and party membership by requiring them to reflect gender balance and inclusion of special interest groups. Further under funds distribution, there's a fifteen percent of fund which is divided proportionately to political parties based on number of candidates from special interest groups elected in the preceding general election.

Expanding the outreach through;

1. Educational Campaigns: The Registrar of Political Parties is keen on expanding the outreach through educational campaigns aimed at raising awareness about the importance of diversity and inclusion within political parties. These campaigns are targeting both party members and the general public, emphasizing the benefits of youth and women participation and dispelling any misconceptions or biases.

Networking and Mentorship: Facilitating networking opportunities and mentorship programs for young and aspiring political leaders is another strategy which will enable women and youth to connect with experienced politicians and gain valuable insights. Mentorship will provide guidance and support, helping youth and women overcome barriers and succeed in the political sphere.

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties' leads Kenya's efforts towards ensuring not only compliance with the law but also taken deliberate efforts in supporting political parties and targeted special interest groups to active participation. These efforts result to these groups become more engaged, the overall political environment will become more inclusive, responsive, and effective in addressing the needs of all Kenyan citizens. Ultimately, diversity and inclusion, particularly through greater involvement of youth and women, in a collaborative approach will buttress democratic thrift in Kenya.

A more diverse and inclusive political landscape brings a range of benefits, including enhanced representation, innovation, and a stronger democracy. Educational campaigns, affirmative action, capacity building programs, and networking opportunities are essential tools that are been used to empower youth and women within political parties.

The Bulletin team appreciates this contribution. Staff are still encouraged to submit contributions to the Bulletin as per guideline issued on 18th July 2023 via memo to staff.



INTERNAL MEMO

TO: All staff
Thro': Registrar of Political Parties
FROM: Corporate Communication Unit
DATE: 18th July, 2023



SUBJECT: STAFF CONTRIBUTION TO ORPP BULLETIN

The above subject matter refers.

The ORPP bulletin had a good run since its inception for over five (5) years. The publication published every month, is internally produced is intended to cover ORPP's and stakeholders' happenings, feature articles on topical issues, and other relevant nuggets.

To broaden the coverage on topical areas and on the advice of the Registrar who is also the Editorial Advisor, staff are called on to contribute to the bulletin through topical feature articles; news articles including from the regional offices, relevant artistic/creative compositions and nuggets. Topical issues may relate to issues of political parties' governance; dispute resolution, advocacy; promotion of democracy; political parties ideologies; use of technology; news paradigms for service delivery; research outputs among others. In the contributions, staff are reminded to make necessary attributes to the works of others that may be referenced. Appropriate author acknowledgment (through by-lines) will be made to every contribution considered for publication.

Staff can contribute as individuals, groups, or as a department. The articles, except other forms of contribution cited herein, should be as concise as possible within 300 to 500 words in a Word document, arial narrow (12) so as to reach Communication Unit through email Corporatecommunication@orpp.or.ke on or before date 25th of every month. The submissions will be subjected to editorial preparation to fit ORPP standards before internal and/or external publications through Office official communication platforms.

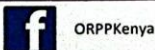
This Unit appreciates your continued support and cooperation.


For: **Mutethia Mberia**
Corporate Communication Unit

*Noted
18/7/2023*

Copy to: Assistant Registrar of Political Parties - Regulation and Compliance

Assistant Registrar of Political Parties – Registration and Field Services Coordination



ORPP supports Mathare-based community peace dialogue

The ORPP has called for peaceful co-existence of Mathare, Huruma area residents and all communities in a forum held on 30th July 2023. Participants were sensitized on causes of conflict, conflict prevention, and conflict resolution mechanisms.



Ms. Beatrice Nderi sensitizing participants of the Community Peace Dialogue forum in Huruma Mathare area

ing cohesion. ORPP outlined measures taken to enhance peace which were holding dialogue grassroots forums, holding peaceful caravans in hotspot areas capacity building of political party officials among others. “The ORPP has made every effort to ensure there is a peaceful political environment including being a member of the Uwiano Platform for Peace and also regulating political parties involved in violence incitement in accordance with the law” added ORPP representative Beatrice Nderi.

Caleb Ouma who is a drug reformist stated the various reasons which contribute to violence in society among them joblessness among the youth, tribalism, illiteracy, and political incitement among others. ‘Many youths have been the victims of political violence and are abandoned thereafter, it is high time we educate them on the importance of peace and cohesion.’ added Caleb.

Other facilitators called on the organizers to conduct more community dialogue forums in order to enhance civic education on the importance of peace and conflict management. The participants appreciated ORPP’s financial support of the program and promised to enhance collaboration on upcoming future programs.

The training objective was to engage the community-based leaders on ways of maintaining peace, security, and build-

PICTURE SPEAK



Left; The Registrar of Political Parties Ann Nderitu gave an analysis of ORPP’s involvement in the 2022 General Election as outlined in the recently launched Post Election Evaluation Report during a TV interview on Citizen TV on Friday 4th August 2023.



Right; Sensitization of 48 political parties that qualified for the allocation of the Political Parties Fund on the commencement of FY 2023/2024.

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Editorial Advisor: Ann Nderitu, CBS Registrar of Political Parties

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Highlights of the Post Election Evaluation Report launch



Registrar of Political Parties (far right) and Chief Guest Attorney General (third) launch Post Election Evaluation report



ORPP customer service, Brenda Nduta (left) and Partners and linkages, Beatrice Nderi (right) pose for a photo with Journalist Nimrod Taabu



Registrar of Political Parties together with invited guests have breakfast at the VIP lounge.



Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu (second right) Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, Ali A. Surraw (left) and CPA, Florence Birya (right) pose for a photo with Attorney General, Hon. Justin Muturi.



Spoken artist Kwalanda C entertaining guests.



ORPP staff members pose for a group photo with Chief Guest Attorney General, Hon. Justin Muturi