

ORPP, IEBC team up in a country-wide registration of candidates

The Office dispersed its teams across the country to join the Independent and Electoral Boundaries Commission (IEBC) for a joint registration of candidates of various elective positions from 29th May to 3rd June, 2022.



Lesuuda Naisula receives registration certificate from IEBC officials in one of the registration centers.

Staff members were grouped in over 15 clusters for different and oversee the ORPP County and Constituency Monitors whose presence was in all constituencies. A section of staff were also stationed at the Bomas of Kenya, the designated centre for the registration of presidential candidates. The exercise was part of IEBC role in Article 88 (4f) of the Con-

stitution, where the Commission is responsible for registration of candidates for election. Teams involved were briefed and taken through exercise's tool and expectations in a virtual meeting prior to the exercise on 27th May, 2022. In the briefing, Assistant Registrar CPA Florence Birya termed the participation of ORPP in the exercise, critical stage at this phase of electoral period while calling for thoroughness and cooperation between ORPP staff, monitors and stakeholders involved.

"We expect you to facilitate the registration process and be present at county and constituency IEBC centres since have a collaborative and consultative working arrangement with IEBC to achieve a successful electoral process. You are expected to facilitate the Returning Officer in verifying the membership status of political party and independent aspirants together with their proposers and seconders in your areas of jurisdiction," said CPA Florence Birya in a virtual meeting.

Preceding the exercise, ICT department also undertook a hand-on training

for each of the region's, monitors on the use of to the online web-based system (IPPMS), publicly available on website; <https://ippms.orpp.or.ke> besides the USSD mobile code, (*509 #).

Monitors were reminded of ORPP scope of work during the exercise. "The ORPP's mandate is to confirm the membership status of the candidates, proposers and seconders as anchored in section 34 (f) of the Political Parties Act, 2011 that empowers the Office to ensure and verify that no person is a member of more than one political party and notify the Commission of its findings", guided Locha Erukudi, Manager, Registration in the pre-exercise briefing.

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Registrar, Ann Nderitu (right) follow proceedings of registration process at the Bomas of Kenya

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A call center already established at ORPP headquarters to the election period to complement existing Office telephone lines, was activated in the period as a reporting centre for inquiries and source of prompt interventions including challenges that teams may have encountered. The centre was operated through the period.

On registration, it sets off official campaign period that runs from 30th May to 6th August, 2022. Calls have been prevalent for promotion of peace and harmony amongst party and independent candidates. “I call on political parties to hold their candidates responsible as well as those running as independent candidates to ensure peace at the homestretch

to the general election”, Registrar of Parties, Ann Nderitu urged during a National Cohesion and Integration Commission electoral violence hotspot report launch on June. The parties and candidates are required to abide by the Electoral Code of Conduct, Political Parties Code of Conduct and other stipulated laws. Timelines issued by IEBC for registration had been delineated to various elective positions between 29th May 2022 and 7th June 2022 at the close of the exercise of candidates namely; David Mwaure Waihiga (Agano party), Prof. George Wajackoyah (Roots party), Raila Odinga (Azimio Coalition Political Party) and William Ruto (United Democratic Alliance-UDA).

Article originated by Silas Ketter

ORPP among global delegates in Africities summit as Kenya showcases her finesse

The 9th Edition of the Africities Summit was held in Kisumu on 17th to the 21st May 2022 at the Mamboleo Show Grounds at which Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) was participated as represented Ms. Lucy Kemunto, the Kisumu County Coordinator. Kenya was at its best in the summit, earning accolades in some of globally-acknowledged milestones such as devolution model, youth in leadership and technology.



A panel discussion session underway during the summit

The summit aimed at strengthening the role of local and regional governments in the development of the continent and to help build the integration and unity of Africa from its territories.

Running under theme, “The Role of Intermediary Cities of Africa in the Implementation of Agenda 2030 of the United Nations and the African Union Agenda 2063.”, delegates interrogated varied topics of interest. Some of the topics for discussion included industrialization in African intermediary cities; role of pension funds in advancing infrastructure development in Africa; The devolution journey as per Kenyan experience; Young leadership and inclusive safe sustainable intermediary cities among others.

These discussions were premised upon Sustainable development goal no. 11 – sustainable cities and communities, which seeks to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable and the need to address challenges that hamper the realization of UN’s 2063 Agenda.

H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta officially opened the forum. In his remarks, he called on the delegates and leaders to unanimously push to develop an African blueprint to guide growth in urban cities.

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The Africities summit was termed some of the demonstrable means that continued to place Kenya on the world map as a country with a lot of investment opportunities. “ The fruitful deliberations that have been are important to discuss strategies that will go a long way in revitalizing sustainable growth of intermediary cities. You can all attest that Kisumu and other cities and towns have the best investment opportunities in this part of Africa,” noted Kisumu County Governor, Prof Anyang’ Nyong’o.

Africities is the United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) of Africa’s flagship pan-African event that is held every three years in one of the five regions of Africa. It is a platform for dialogue on decentralization and local govern-

ance that brings together every three years, African ministers; mayors, leaders and elected officials of local and regional governments; civil society organizations; traditional authorities; representatives of the African diaspora; economic actors; experts, researchers and academics; financial institutions; and development partners.

This year’s hosted in the country, attended by high profile delegates and African leaders including President Uhuru Kenyatta, Joaquim Chissano, former President of Mozambique, Danny Faure, former President of Seychelles and various Royal Majesties representing the traditional authorities of Africa.

Article originated by Lucy Kemunto

Grassroot scribes benefit from ORPP-Media Council sensitization fora

The Office of the Registrar on invitation of the Media Council of Kenya (MCK), joined in sensitization fora for local-based journalists in Siaya and Kisii Siaya counties held on 14th and 19th May, 2022 respectively.

Participants that included media practitioners in the region, deliberated on a raft of obligations for responsible journalism ahead of the August 2022 general election.

ent stages in electoral cycle; provisions as contained in the amendments to the Political Parties Act, 2011 among other topical matters.



A section of participants listen in during the MCK journalist training forum at Ufanisi Holtel in Kisii County

speech and conflict sensitive reporting during elections; debunking misinformation; covering of electoral opinion polls and journalists role and skill in moderating live broadcasts.



Participants in a group photo after the forum at Candela Hotel in Siaya County.



Lucy Kemunto, ORPP Kisumu County Coordinator making a presentation during the MCK Journalists training forum in Siaya

“A journalist is obliged to conduct proper research on issues and consult relevant electoral players before reporting especially at this critical time where a mere statement may elicit chaos among the electorates” noted Lucy Kemunto, who represented the Office in the forums.

Some of areas presented for the Office related to; mandate and functions; role of ORPP and political parties at differ-

Journalists and media practitioners were also guided on other topics pertaining to; ethical reporting; hate

Institutions that complemented MCK and its accredited trainers in the sensitizations were; Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC).

OTHER ORPP MOMENTS OF THE MONTH IN BRIEF

Comrades critical in promoting peace in polls; Registrar to students students outfit

The Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, urged this on 9th May, 2022 during Universities and Colleges Students' Peace Association of Kenya - UCSPAK capacity building workshop for Voter Education Trainers at the Kenya School of Government. She advised present student leaders drawn from different Universities, Colleges and TVETS to be members of political parties so as to prime themselves in opportunities of influence to shape good governance "Student leaders have the responsibility to nurture others for sustainable leadership", Registrar informed.

The aim of the forum was to enhance student's electoral knowledge and equip them with capabilities to actively participate at varied electoral activities. The two-day training forum being conducted by Independent Electoral and Boundaries was officially opened by Amb. Simon Nakubukwesi P.S State Department for University Education and Research, Ministry of Education.



Participants during the forum at KeSOG, Kabete on 9th May 2022.

Scribes, ORPP sign pact, commit responsible reporting

ORPP signed a pact with Kenya Editors Guild and Kenya Union of Journalist on 12th May, 2022 to structure collaboration on mutual areas. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) will encompass joint capacity building initiatives, dissemination of information between ORPP and involved associations of media.

"This MoU will act as a common working arrangement among partners in demystifying information on various electoral processes while providing timely clarity on topical issues, noted the Registrar of Parties, Ann Nderitu in her address. " ORPP appreciates the support accorded to its undertaking by media and good work done. Notably, we celebrate the media for highlighting the issues of Special Interest Groups involved in political arena", noted the Registrar. She further acknowledged political parties especially in conduct of credible party nominations recently concluded. "There has been much reduced chaos demonstrated by reduced appeal cases filed at PPDT, which have reduced from 306 in last general election to about 115 cases in this year's", appreciated Ann Nderitu while calling media to equitably profile all political parties. In his remarks, Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, Ali A. Surraw, assured ORPP's media support and called observance of applicable Code of Practices. "Senior and experienced media practitioners like you should nurture the budding colleagues to have full grasp of issues especially during election period", added Assistant Registrar CPA Florence Biryia.

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Strategic ORPP-media engagement was appreciated. "We had a long standing engagement and support from ORPP from inception. This agreement only strengthens this", noted Erick Oduor, the Kenya Union of Journalist Secretary General. Kenya Editors Guild President ,Churchill Otieno noting the signing will raise the quality of media reporting and thus upscaling dissemination of verifiable election-bound information to Kenyans while preserving the independence of ORPP and that of media.

Present in the forum were ORPP senior staff, Political Reporters Association of Kenya, Association of Media Broadcasters and Kenya Correspondents Association.



Registrar of Political Parties (middle) and a section of Kenya Editors Guild members pose for a photo after the signing of MoU on 12th May 2022.

Dialogue Committee convenes to appraise electoral preparedness

Deliberations during 2022 general election preparedness workshop held on 13th May, pitting ORPP Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and Political Parties Liaison Committee of Kenya to discuss affray of electoral processes. The Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu speaking during the meeting, appreciated the regular consultations that have been amongst the triplite parties resulting to synergy in execution of respective mandate of the three in electoral process. "The principal function of the Political Parties Liaison Committee is to provide a platform for dialogue between the Registrar, Commission and political parties" reads Section 38 (3) of the Political Parties Act.

The CEO of IEBC, Marjan Hussein outlined the Commission's commitment in delivering transparent and credible general election. Verification of voter register and management of candidates registration system were featured as the main issues in the discussions.



Left; Assistant Registrar, Mr Ali A. Surraw and (Right) ; Registrar, Ann Nderitu speaking during the convened IEBC election preparedness workshop on 13th May, 2022.

PICTURE SPEAK



David Mwaura Waihiga of Agano party gets cleared by IEBC to run as president. (Photo courtesy)



ORPP team engage participants at Meru ASK national show that happened 1st—4th June, 2022 at Meru showgrounds. The Office scooped various awards.



Raila Odinga of Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition gets cleared by IEBC to run as president. (Photo courtesy)



Participants at the 9th edition of Africities held at Mamboleo showground, Kisumu on 17th -21st May 2022.



William Ruto of UDA gets cleared by IEBC to run as president



Loseria Tukei (left), Joy Onyango (middle) and Beatrice Nderi (right) represent ORPP after a requiem mass in honor of the late Ms Alice Gathoni Ndirangu who was at the time of her demise the Secretary General at Agano Party.

Sensitization of Political Parties Communication Officers

ORPP held a sensitization forum of communication officers drawn from registered political parties on May 16th. The focus was on strategic communication role for sustainable and impactful party institutions. Facilitators included; Media Council of Kenya, Meta and Chairperson, Association of Professional Broadcasters. Over 70 communication practitioners participated.



Global Election Observers study visit to ORPP

The ORPP hosted global election observers mission on 17th May. The host, Registrar, Ann Nderitu lead discussions with International Republican Institute (IRI) and National Democratic Institute (NDI), spearheading the study visit. The meeting was part of Pre- Election Assessment Mission (PEAM), a joint assessment initiative towards the 9th August 2022 general election.



A section of IRI and NDI officials pose for a photo at ORPP headquarters on 17th May 2022.

The guests were led by Ms Jean Mensa, Chairperson Electoral Commission Of Ghana, Lahai James from National Elections watch Sierra Leone, Ms Nicole Rowsell, Acting Vice-President National Democratic Institute, Ms Jenai Cox, Africa Regional Deputy Director International Republican Institute.

Also guiding the deliberations on ORPP's preparedness on its role to the general election were Assistant Registrars-Ali A.Surraw, CPA Florence Biryra and a section of ORPP senior officers.

Audit Committee forum

The ORPP with support of ELGIA convened an Audit Committee discussion from 16th to 20th May, 2022 to develop its Strategic Plan, operational Charter, key documents in enhancing good governance, risk management and appropriate controls. In the forum ,the Office also formulated Internal Audit Unit's strategic plan and charter to enhance its internal audit function.



Assistant Registrar, Ali A. Surraw speaking at the Audit Committee forum

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The end!