

ORPP calls for its Constitutional establishment on submission to the Bipartisan national team

The ORPP made a comprehensive submission to the National Dialogue Committee at the Bomas of Kenya on 28th September 2023 following the invitation to present a memorandum on the issues under its mandate.



ORPP officials presenting its memoranda to the National Dialogue Committee at the Bomas of Kenya

Some of the thematic areas in its presentation were on electoral justice, implementation of the two-third gender rule, fidelity to political parties/coalitions and the law on multiparty democracy. The presentation was led by Registrar of Political Parties Ann Nderitu, Assistant Registrar Ali A. Surraw, CPA Florence Biryia and who were accompanied by a section of ORPP officers.

In its presentation, the Office proposed measures of strengthening its capacity to fulfill its mandate of registering and regulating political parties in Kenya. It also advocated for constitutional provi-

sions to safeguard the funding of political parties through Political Parties Fund.

“We call for the rightful disbursement of the Political Parties' Fund to qualifying Political parties which will enable them to implement their approved work plans. The ORPP fully supports the view that Political Parties ought to be funded by the state”, noted Registrar.

Another proposal was to obligate political parties to observe and subscribe to a Code of Conduct set out in the first schedule to the PPA Act in order to promote good governance and eradicate political malpractices among other proposals.

The ORPP gave assurance to continue working with relevant stakeholders in providing a structured framework for registration and administering political parties' fund of how the proposal will be implemented as the dialogue team is set to embrace the issues presented through public participation.

Registrar appears before Public Accounts Committee



Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu CBS (in blue) appearing before Public Accounts Committee financial statement audits on 2nd October, 2023 at Parliament

Registrar of Political Parties and a team drawn from Finance, Accounts, Internal Audit and Legal departments, appeared on 2nd October, before the National Assembly's Public Accounts Committee (PAC) at Parliament Buildings to respond to queries on Office financial statements, FY21/22. The PAC lauded ORPP for receiving an unqualified/positive opinion in the year under review.

The Registrar of Political Parties Ann Nderitu responded to queries raised by the PAC members. She noted the Office's commitment to carrying out its financial undertaking and reporting in conformance with the Public Finance Management Act 2012 (PFM), attendant Regulations, and reporting standards.

Political Parties officials get sensitized on good governance

The Office sensitized; Chairpersons, Secretary Generals, Treasurers, Organizing Secretaries and other political parties' officials, 20th to 22nd September 2023.

Some of the training topics were on legal framework; data protection measures; good governance practices; governance and policy role of various party organs on dispute resolution mechanisms and ensuring compliance to laid laws and Regulations.

The meeting was part of ORPP's continuous capacity building and engagement with political parties to actualize the purpose for establishment including their obligation to promote democracy and citizens' enjoyment of political rights.



Registrar of Political Parties addresses participants during the forum

A section of ORPP team undergoes training on IFMIS new modules

The National Treasury developed a costing tool in the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) Hyperion Budgeting System and rolled out a training programme on the various elements of the costing tool. The training took place in Nakuru from the 28th August to 1st September 2023, where the ORPP which falls under the Governance, Justice, Law and Order Sector was slotted for training.

The training targeted officers drawn from the Finance, Planning and Human Resources Departments. The objective of

the training was to equip the officers with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively cost activities, projects and programmes, ensuring effective prioritization, informed decision-making and guidelines in computing the budget baseline.

The ORPP nominated for the training 3 members of staff, Kevin Yatich, Abdirahiman Hussein and Elizabeth Wakesho who are responsible in the actual data computation and data capture in the Hyperion Budgeting System. The Officers were comprehensively trained on the costing tools that will facilitate in computing the ORPP's Budget Baseline to facilitate Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) rollover, development of Budget Review and Outlook Paper, Budget Policy Statement and the Final budget Estimates.

The training was organized on against the background of effective and efficient utilization of resources while prioritizing and accommodating programmes within the available resources.

Story contributed by the team

The Audit Committee scrutinizes Office FY 2022/23 financials

The Audit Committee convened by the Accounts and Internal Audit departments, had a sitting session on 24th to 29th September, 2023 to review ORPP Financial Statements, FY 2022/23. The review was an external quality assurance to the financial statements before submitted to the relevant government agencies.

The ORPP has been credited for upholding financial reporting standards, ORPP has been the awarded the Financial Reporting Wards (FiRE) awards in the past three consequent years. The financial statements had been prepared in line with current PSASB (Public Sector Accounting Standards Board of Kenya) guidelines, aligned to International Public Sector Accounting Standards.



ORPP joins the rest of the corporate world in commemorating Customer Service Week

The Office had a reflection with staff members to lay strategies to improve ORPP customer experience at the boardroom headquarters on 4th October, 2023. Similar commemorations were held in Kisumu, Eldoret and Isiolo regional offices. (see pictorials on pg 7.)

"We are glad to meet together in such a forum as we collectively evaluate customer service experience and chart bet-



Assistant Registrar of Political Parties' Ali A. Surraw remarks to staff during commemoration of Customer Service week at the boardroom headquarters on 4th October, 2023

ter approaches based on service gaps identified", said a staffer.

"Excellence in customer service is a philosophy within ORPP. As we renew our commitment to serve and offer high standards of service, we must be empathetic to our customers and find ways of improving our processes ", said Assistant Reg. Ali A. Surraw.

"Part of our values and culture is to serve professionally. We must refocus this year to exceed customer expectations as outlined in our service delivery charter, standards of operations and other commitments in varied instruments of service for ORPP. **I thank all stakeholders including political parties for their support and the engagement we had in our course of the Office regulatory role**", said Registrar Ann Nderitu while presiding

over commemorations.

New ride for the Office unveiled and dedicated in prayer

Dedication and commissioning of newly acquired Office bus was presided over by ACK St. Marks, Westlands, Archbishop Joshua Omungo on 25th September, 2023 at the ORPP headquarters.

"It is our tradition as Office to always seek God's guidance and direction", said Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu while speaking at the prayer session. "God has privileged all of you to serve at ORPP. Be the person who takes initiative and work as unto God, putting the best effort", said Arch. Bishop Joshua Omungo of ACK St.Marks ,Westlands presiding over the session.



Arch. Bishop Joshua Omungo presides a session of dedication for the newly acquired bus at ORPP headquarters on 25th September, 2023

The new bus will facilitate ORPP operations including its grassroots services across the country.

ORPP returns to Nairobi Trade Fair, showcases its services

Nairobi ASK Show goers got to experience first-hand ORPP services, Office establishment, mandate and political education during the International Trade Fair that took place from 25th September to 1st October 2023 at Jamuhuri Grounds Nairobi County. The exhibition provided an opportunity for the office to showcase its milestones and innovation aligned to this year's theme of 'Promoting Innovation and Technology in Agriculture and Trade'. Participants appreciated ORPP for its efficient service delivery.



ORPP team demonstrates to the Registrar at the ORPP stand

During her visit at the ORPP exhibition stand, the Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu noted ORPP participation as one of its commitments to reach out to stakeholders and gain feedback to improve service delivery. She appreciated the staff representatives for their ambassadorial role of creating awareness of the office's existence and mandate.

Legal reform takes shape as ORPP draws amendments roadmap and proposals

ORPP internal legal and electoral reform session from 31st to 3rd September 2023 to identify, and consolidate proposals towards necessary amendments to Political Parties

Act, 2011. The session also deliberated on and drafting consequential Regulations such as the use of appropriate technology in processing political parties' data and records.



Assistant Registrar, CPA Florence Birya (third left) pose for a group photo with ORPP legal and electoral reform committee.

The process spearheaded by the Legal Unit with the support of representatives from other departments aimed at forging practical measures and mitigation to strengthen its regulatory role. Among other insights for reform are lessons contained in ORPP's recently launched Post Election Evaluation report and stakeholder feedback received in varied processes in the previous election cycle.

Commemorations of the International Day of Democracy, as ORPP holds candid discussions with varsity student leaders

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) marked this year's International Day of Democracy in collaboration with the Universities and Colleges Students' Peace Association (UCSPA) on 15th September 2023 at the Technical University of Kenya Nairobi City County.

The event provided a platform for the young scholars to get mentored by a select young elected leaders present and give their perspectives of the country's journey of country's democracy in line with the UN declared theme; Empowering the next generation.

Continue page 5...

Besides the address and insights from invited guests, ORPP and host of speakers, the session provided student-led conversation on the topics ; Mindset shift; translating participation into youth leadership and Digital space for youth empowerment. Discussions placed premium on the practical avenues of youth participation in political and larger spectrum of leadership, a critical crux to the growth of country's democracy.

While speaking as one of the lead speakers during the forum, Assistant Registrar CPA Florence Biryia lauded the engagement, terming it as one of the many ORPP deliberate effort in creating much the nexus between practicing leaders with the youth. She noted such for a, are some of the ways of shifting mindset for the youth. **"The ORPP is desirous of creating platforms like this for the youth and other Special Interest Groups to exercise and enjoy their political rights and larger safeguarding of our democracy"**, said the Asst. Registrar.

She further outlined youth responsive initiatives the ORPP had set up such as digital platforms for a raft of services; legal reform to infuse technology use, targeted capacity building that had placed the Office at the centre of promoting democracy. The Assistant Registrar pointed out issues such as lack of mentorship, knowledge gaps, political interference, fear as some of the fore challenges that befall the young people from fully taking up political leadership. **"We encourage you to join political parties and strategically participate fully in their activities as a platform towards your leadership aspirations and voicing out youth-specific issues"**, added CPA Florence Biryia.



Assistant Registrar CPA Florence Biryia gestures as she gave her address during the commemoration of the International Day of Democracy at the Technical University of Kenya (TUK), CBD Nairobi.

The keynote speaker Hon. Cynthia Muge County Women Member of the National Assembly, Nandi called the participants to use their competitive advantage of their numbers and other tools such as social media to advocate their agenda. At the same, she applauded the youth for progressive participation in political activities including in the 2022 General Election, to which their number was a determinant.

"It is our delight to partner with ORPP in such an important engagement. Youth deserve and need more of this. We will foster such partnerships to reach out more youth across the country", appreciated Allan Chacha, the CEO of UCSPAK.

Panels that included a section of ORPP technical officers, student leaders and youth in varied leadership positions pointed of the opportunity in digital space in propagating progressive discussions and information exchange to the growth and positioning of Kenya's democratic gain.

The event was moderated by Beatrice Nderi, ORPP's Head of Partnership and linkages who was also the lead organizer.

ORPP explores new frontiers in its partnership endeavor

Hanns Seidel Foundation, Resident Representative, Kenya and Ethiopia Daniel Seiberling held a meeting with the Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu and Assistant Registrar Mr. Ali Surraw. Ways to re-position political parties based on ideological standpoints and formulating effective party mechanisms to enhance the country's democratic space were among the issues centered on the discussions.



Hanns Seidel resident representative Daniel Sieberling (left) discuss with Registrar of Political Parties and Assistant registrar of Political Parties Ali Surraw (seated) at registrar's office

The HFS team appreciated political parties in Kenya through ORPP for instating party structures and inclusive sensitization programs.

In related matter; UN Women representatives called on Registrar, Ann Nderitu. Discussions were on joint programming between two institutions on thematic-based evaluated programming to bolster women's participation in political processes



UN Women representative sign in a visitors book during a courtesy call at the Registrar's office on 4th October, 2023

ORPP formulates its mid-term budget

The Medium-Term Budget preparation section for FY 2024/25 - 2026/27 by heads of departments, units and sections on 12th September, developed the budget by relevant



Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, CPA Florence Birya speaking during the opening session of the workshop



financial management law and national and ORPP policy directives. "In formulating the budgets, you must have realistic and justifiable projections and aligned to current government priorities", Assistant Registrar, CPA Florence Birya said at the opening of the session. She also called on sessional heads to develop the budgets, linking the MTEF process to subsequent institutional budgets as well as taking care of obtaining budgeting uncertainties.

The process is guided by CS National Treasury and Economic Planning Guidelines for Preparation of the MTEF budget issued in early August to government agencies. The focus in MTEF by the agencies is geared towards economic turn-around and inclusive growth in 5 economic areas.

Highlights of Customer Service Week



Registrar of Political Parties receives flowers from ORPP Customer desk officers, Ms Damaris Mwaniki and Brenda Nduta during the Customer Service Week on 4th October, 2023 at ORPP headquarters



Registrar of Political Parties with staff, cuts a cake to share with members of the staff during the Customer Service Week celebra-



The Uasin Gishu Regional office joined in the celebration of Customer Service Week with the participation of various stakeholders, including the ICT unit from the headquarter.



ORPP Customer service team gifts ASK St Mark's Archbishop, Joshua Omungo as part of the Customer Service Week commemoration



Reaching out to neighbors. Part of Customer Service commemorations were held at ORPP Kisumu office, where the team engaged and shared customer service experiences with neighboring institutions. Kenya National Commission on Human Rights Ministry of Interior and National Administration.



The Isiolo Regional Office celebrate the customer services week with neighbouring offices and other key stakeholders among them including NGEK, KRA, CEC Gender and youth affairs, one representative from CSO and team from Huduma centre.

REGIONAL NEWS

Mombasa regional Office relocates to Jubilee arcade

The ORPP convened through its Mombasa office, a Stakeholders' meeting, to inaugurate and dedicate the relocation of Mombasa County Office to Jubilee Arcade, 2nd Moi Avenue from Palii House, on 29th September 2023. Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu during the forum applauded team Mombasa for its grassroots engagement efforts including its targeted political education activities to diverse groups in the larger Coastal Region.

"We urge our staff in the region with the support of the stakeholders to continue holding similar engagements up to the grassroots as one of way of educating and platforms to discuss with citizens their political rights and political-related issues that are specific to them", said the Registrar while outlining critical milestones the Office has realized in recent past.



Registrar of Political Parties and Stakeholder officials during the official opening of Mombasa regional office relocation at Jubilee Arcade

Speaking in the forum, Assistant Registrar CPA Florence Birya urged political parties representatives present to enhance their program reach to ensure citizenry democratic rights are realized. While appreciating stakeholders for support to ORPP engagements, Mombasa's Coordinator, Ezekiel Obonyo outlined the need for Office commitment to

bolster and broaden collaboration amongst partners. In the meeting was Mombasa County Government Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).

Regional Fora

In other news, ORPP Mombasa office on 19th September, in support with Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) county-based officials led sensitization of a section of Special drawn from Taita Taveta County in a Dialogue Forum in Voi. Similar dialogue fora were conducted by Kisumu, Eldoret and Isiolo based teams in Kisumu, Eldoret and Wajir respectively.



Participants of target group from coast region follow proceedings of the forum

Coming up ...

Tuesday 10th October, 2023, Liberia will go to General Election, where current President George Weah will run for second term.

Uasin Gishu regional office joins in county Commissioners tree planting and peace walk


ORPP Eldoret-based team on 20th September, donated seedlings and joined Uasin gichu County Commissioner's office in a tree planting drive at Kapseret forest. The team was also part of "Walk for peace" procession in Kisumu Ndogo, Huruma, Jerusalem and Mwanzo wards within Eldoret as part of Commissioner's-led commemorations for the International Day for Peace.




Participants march to commemorate "walk for peace" procession.



ORPP Uasin Gichu regional office staff Silas Lukale assist in tree planting exercise



New-look ORPP website







Our newly redesigned website is now easier to navigate, faster & more intuitive with best services

Experience the ORPP website anywhere you are

- ✓ Interactive feedback platforms
- ✓ Special Interest Groups responsive features
- ✓ Advanced search for political parties

- ✓ Diversified multi media content
- ✓ Repackaged content

For feedback, please contact us on;

 info@orpp.or.ke
   [@ORPPKenya](https://twitter.com/ORPPKenya)
www.orpp.or.ke 

Newly redesigned ORPP website

**Editorial Advisor: Registrar of Political Parties,
Ann N. Nderitu, CBS**

**Graphics & Layout: Corporate Communication
Unit**