

## ORPP unveils four new offices to enhance grassroots service delivery and engagement

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) has established five additional offices in line with Article 6(3) of the Constitution. The new offices seek to ensure services are convenient and within reach of citizens in respective regions.

The Office launch featured invited guests and stakeholders including national government officials, county officials and representatives of non-state groups. The inaugurated offices were in four counties of; Garissa (27th February), Malindi (20th February), Laikipia (1st March) and Bungoma (12th March) county.

The Registrar and the Assistant Registrars also held pre-discussions with the county leadership of each counties in courtesy calls prior each of the launch. Key outcome to the discussions was fostering of partnership with counties in political education and mechanisms for prompt consultations on matters regarding political parties particularly those that affect the conduct of business in County Assemblies. The top county leadership assured their unwavering support to ORPP in liaison with its the county offices.

"We must celebrate our democracy by way of supporting political leaders and other leaders despite varied opinions. This must be the norm for this region and beyond as an ideal way of exercising political tolerance", the Registrar appealed while in Nyahururu. "To the young people, you must fight our battles and count the battles and impact you have made for the country. We can only move forward with change and democracy. You should not be an accessory for



Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS, Dr (h.c) leads in the launch of ORPP Nyahururu office, located at GF Plaza, Nyahururu town-



Nyahururu-based Regional Coordinator, Charles Njagi gives his remarks during the Nyahururu office launch

The launch was presided over by the Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, (Dr.), CBS and graced by other guests including top county political parties' officials as well as a segment of Special Interests Groups (SIGs) from diverse groups. In each occasion, the Registrar gave key addresses with focus on active participation in political parties by all citizens, need for respect to political opinion in society, responsible role of party officials in executing party duties, call for strict adherence of the Political Parties' Code of Conduct. Stakeholders speaking in the events, had accolades of ORPP's milestones and were full of appreciation for setting up county offices that would efficiently offer services at the grassroots.

any kind of political expediency such as being used for political violence", Ann Nderitu cautioned.

"Our online platforms accord citizens convenience to digitally access and enjoy services at all locations", briefed the Registrar. "I want to assure you that this office is ready to service you regardless of your background", observed Charles Njagi, Laikipia/Nyandarua County Coordinator.

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In Garissa region, The Registrar highlighted raft of legal reform proposals including on parties membership to coalitions, nominations and use of technology. She also highlighted Office's digital reforms, measures to develop parties' ideology guidelines and data protection guidelines in the management of party records and data that ORPP is keen for parties to make reference to.

She appealed to all present to support women and give them a chance to attain their aspirations especially in political pursuit.

"A recent report on Multi-Sectoral Working Group has laid apparent on proposals towards attaining 2/3 gender as Constitutionally required. I celebrate Garissa for leading in giving Special Interest Leadership opportunity to serve despite cultural and societal belief", said the Registrar.

The call for the youth was to bring forth their voices as such



Registrar of Political Parties, Assistant Registrars and Garissa County Officials inaugurate the ORPP Garissa county office at the Office of the Auditor General, North Eastern.

would influence policy and future of next generation", appealed Nderitu.

### Malindi regional office launch

The Malindi sett of the launch series on 20th February, 2024 with the Registrar and Assistant Registrars leading invited guests and stakeholders to inaugurate and dedicate Malindi County Office located at Malindi Complex, Malindi Town in Kilifi county.

Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu during the forum applauded team ORPP's Malindi team for its grassroots

engagement efforts especially on laying ground for targeted political education activities to diverse groups in the larger Coastal Region.



L: Registrar of Political Parties, Assistant Registrars and stakeholders sign a visitors book. R: The same cut a cake to celebrate the launch of Malindi office.

The event was graced by Deputy Governor Kilifi County, Hon Florah Mbetsa.

"In the complexities of modern politics, I applaud ORPP's endeavor to ensure principles of democracy and promise including transparency, accountability and openness. Kilifi county is committed to collaborating and supporting ORPP through the established Malindi office to better these milestones and serve the Kilifi county and the region at large." said," Hon Flora Mbetsa Chibule Deputy Governor Kilifi County.



Kilifi Deputy Governor, Hon. Florah Mbetsa gives her speech during the Malindi county office launch event.

### Note

Bungoma launch, 12th March, 2024 detailed coverage in the next edition



## Zimbabwe delegates on a study visit to ORPP

The Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS hosted and held discussions with the representatives from Zimbabwe Institute, Zimbabwe Political Parties Dialogue and representatives from the Ministry of Youth Zimbabwe on 14th February, 2024 at ORPP headquarters.

Central to the deliberations was areas of collaboration between the two institutions to promote youth inclusion in the political processes. "We are delighted to have ORPP as your destination for learning particularly having to implement impactful youth programmes in political parties", appreciated the head of the delegation.



**A group photo of ORPP team and Zimbabwe delegate on 14th February, 2024 in the ORPP boardroom headquarters.**

"It is in such mutual engagements, that this Office continues to support other countries in the region and beyond to entrench their democracy and good governance. We have done this for several countries in the continent", said the Registrar.

"The Office has been involved in empowerment programmes to upscale inclusion including the youth in political leadership", Ali Abdullahi, Assistant Registrar underscored.

Assistant Registrar, CPA Florence Biryia outlined various measures that the Office had and planned to take to ensure youth inclusion such as partnership and collaborative initiatives with youth groups/associations and higher education institutions. She also highlighted provisions in the Political Parties Act, 2011 that designates a portion of the Political Parties Fund that funded political parties are required to be utilized as a minimum in the promotion of youth activities in political parties.

Other interventions of the ORPP highlighted were on capacity building and legal reform that are responsive to youth and other Special Interests Groups (SIGs) aspirations.

The delegation had useful lessons from Kenyan political parties regulatory model contextual to the country's youth role for a thriving democracy among other issues of mutual gain.

The meeting was facilitated by a section of senior ORPP officers with coordination of Partnership and Linkages department. The delegation was courtesy of Centre For Multi-party Democracy Kenya.

## Scheme members sensitized insight on pension matters

Members' education day for IEBC Pension Scheme members, which has membership of both ORPP and Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) staff were sensitized on varied topics in a series of forums across the country. On 21st to 23rd February, 2024 in Kakamega Golf Hotel, members in Kakamega, Vihiga, Bungoma and Busia counties convened for the forum to set off clustered sensitizations. Subsequently, others were held in clustered regions to reach the scheme members across the country. The forum conducted by Trustees and service providers sought to update members on a raft of pension matters in line with applicable laws and the Scheme's Trust Deed. Such fora were held between the 12th and 27th of February in clustered counties for varied dates, held in Mombasa, Machakos, Meru, Njeri, Nakuru, Eldoret, Kakamega, Kisumu and Nairobi.



**Registrar addresses IEBC Scheme members in Kakamega.**

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In her address, the Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS appreciated the members for their contribution to the Scheme. "I am proud to see tremendous growth of the Scheme since its inception, I appreciate the initiative of the Fund which is to take care of the pension members", applauded the Registrar.

"We want to update you on the new products of the Scheme and engage on the status of the Scheme", said Trustee Chairman, Mr. Joseph Ayatta. Areas of sensitization on the Scheme related to its background, administration, Fund management among others. The ORPP training was led by representatives of ORPP in the Scheme, Leonard Rotich and Beatrice Muthoni.

### The Registrar joins Technical team in unveiling the gender report to Cabinet Secretary

The Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS, Dr (h.c), joined other members of the Multi-Sectoral Working Group towards realisation of 2/3 gender principle earlier on 23rd February 2024 in its presentation of Task Force report to State Department of Gender, Hon. Aisha Jumwa Katana and ministry team.



Registrar of Political Parties (seated second left) pose for a group photo with Multi-Sectoral Working Group members during the presentation of the report to Hon. Aisha Jumwa at the State Department of Gender

The report included legislative proposals to realize this important principle of the Constitution. The CS would further present the report to Parliament to kick-start necessary legislative process. The team was appointed by the CS in August, 2023.

### Registrar joins CMD in commemorating 20 years of its existence

On the evening of March 4th 2024, the Office Registrar of Political Parties was part stakeholders and partners that witnessed the Centre Multi-party Democracy (CMD) 20th anniversary celebrations in Serena hotel, Nairobi. The Centre was commemorating its milestones in advocacy for political pluralism, civic engagement and democratic governance.

"I am honored to be present today to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Centre for Multiparty Democracy-Kenya (CMD-Kenya) since its inception. This marks a significant milestone as CMD-Kenya has remained true to its vision of promoting and strengthening multiparty democracy in our nation. I want to assure you of the unwavering commitment of the ORPP to continue strengthening this collaboration as we fulfill our mandate of Registering, Regulating political parties, and administering the Political Parties Fund," said Registrar of Political Parties Ann Nderitu.



The Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS makes her address at the 20th anniversary of Centre for Multi-party Democracy Kenya in Nairobi

CMD-Kenya was established in March 2004 as way to respond to the necessity for being a platform that could champion the principles of multiparty democracy and ensure that the voices of the people were heard clearly.

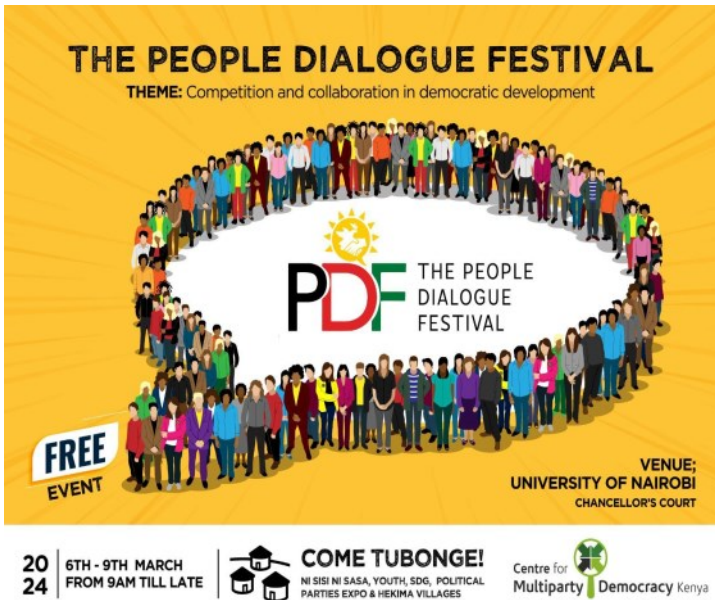
The Centre also convenes, annually, the Peoples Dialogue Festival (PDF) to encourage national dialogue on leadership and good governance.

The ORPP has been a constant corporate partner and participant in PDF, providing expert key note persons, panelist as well as exhibiting during the fair (see page this year ORPP participation on 5...)



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This year, the People Dialogue Festival was held from 6th-9th March, 2024 at the University of Nairobi. The ORPP lead was among the key lead institutions in the Festival's 'Political Dialogue Village'. The year's theme was **"the legal framework governing the regulation of political parties and their governance structures"**.



## ORPP top leadership pays courtesy visits to County Officials during pre- launch of county offices

Prior to the launch of new offices (covered earlier), the ORPP apex leadership visited various county officials to discuss areas of collaboration and support. In the meeting, the county officials assured their support to ORPP grassroots engagements in liaison with the respective Office Coordinators. "We are delighted as our discussion has unlocked bothering matter of coalitions in our Assemblies." Said Garissa Speaker.



During Malindi ORPP office launch, the Registrar of Political Parties Ann Nderitu, CBS and Assistant Registrars Ali Abdullahi and CPA Florence Biryra held discussions with Kilifi County Assembly Hon Teddy Mwambire at the Speaker's office.



Registrar of Political Parties (third), Assistant Registrars; Ali Surraw (second left) and CPA Florence Biryra (left) pose for a group photo with Officials of Garissa Governor's office during a courtesy visit.

In Laikipia County, the Registrar of Political Parties ,Ann Nderitu,CBS and Assistant Registrars-CPA Florence Biryra and Ali Surraw paid courtesy to H.E. Joshua Irungu, Laikipia County Governor at his office in Nyahururu town.



Registrar of Political Parties (third), Assistant Registrars; Ali Abdullahi (second left) and CPA Florence Biryra in discussions with Laikipia Governor H.E J. Irungu and part of his team at Governor's satellite office in Nyahururu town.

"My legacy is to dignify women and indeed all citizens Laikipia County by putting up state of art health facilities as well as provisions of clean water, ensure food security and a host of other facilities. I am glad that ORPP have brought services through Nyahururu offices", briefed H.E Joshua Irungu,E.G.H. during a courtesy call.

Left: Registrar of Political Parties (third), Assistant Registrars; Ali Surraw (second left) and CPA Florence Biryra (left), Malindi based Marjorie Okeyo with the Speaker of County Assembly of Kilifi (3rd left) after their courtesy call at Speaker Chambers in Malindi town.

## ORPP's county offices round

### County-based officers undertake stakeholders mapping to boost ORPP stakeholders' pool

Lower Eastern region-Kitui office participated in the community sports dialogue forum hosted by Siasa Place at Thua Stadium, Chuluni ward, Kitui East Constituency. The Kitui-based Coordinator Hope Nandwa while addressing participants of the youth sports day outlined the ORPP's strategic focus and ways of enhancing partnerships and collabora-

tion through civic education. Topical issues under deliberations were on; rights of a members for political parties; ORPP's mechanisms in management of parties' membership, criteria for political parties funding and technology advancements made by ORPP among others. The community members appreciated ORPP presence at the grass-

roots level. In other regions team members were involved in "meet the stakeholder" visits while undertaking comprehensive stakeholder mapping across the counties in their pursuit. The Officers of the newly established Offices were heavily involved in preparations and hosting of launch events at their yards.



Lower Eastern Coordinator, Hope Nandwa engages with youth during the community sports dialogue forum organized by Siasa Place on 16th February, 2024 in Kitui



Photo courtesy of regional officers

Hope Nandwa pose for a group photo with some of the participants



Bungoma based Coordinator, Willy Sigei with Mr. Michael Wamanda, a Ford Kenya party official in Bungoma at the party's office. This was part of stakeholder mapping of political parties' County offices in the region on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024.



Kisumu-based, Ezekiel Obonyo while on stakeholder mapping exercise base and visitations of county political county offices on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Inset the Coordinator paying a courtesy call on the newly appointed Kisumu County Commissioner Mr. Benson Lepar-morijo. He introduced the Office to the new Administrator and held discussions on possible areas of collaborations and support.



## County engagements continued



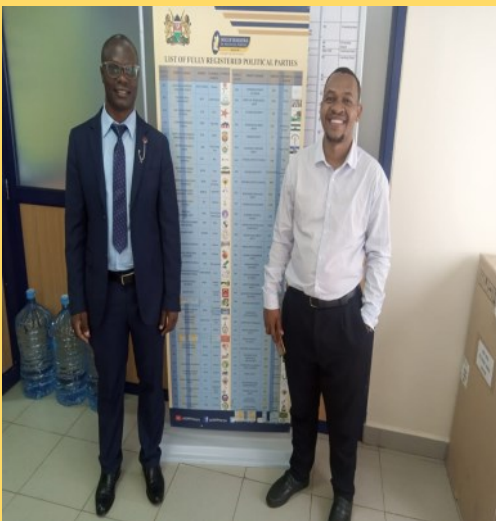
Following the appointment with the Speaker of the County Assembly of Laikipia, Nyahururu-based, Charles Njagi Office paid a courtesy visit to his office in Nanyuki Chambers on February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024. Here, after engaging with the Speaker's staff on behalf of the Speaker. In the visit, he secured the Speaker's slot as part of guests during the Nyahururu office launch.



On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February, Kitale-based Coordinator, Mary Wacuka paid a courtesy call to Mr. Edward Shibanda, Chair of Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops in Trans Nzoia and West Pokot Counties at his office in Mary Immaculate Cathedral church. The two discussed issues around mandate of ORPP areas of collaboration with a focus on measure of sharing information on hot spot areas



Nyeri-based Coordinator Lucy Kemunto joins ORPP headquarter team lead by HR department in a retreat to validate the Career Progression Guidelines and Training Needs Analysis. The Retreat was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024 in Naivasha. During the workshop, the team reviewed varied documents that are a critical reference in the management of Human Resource Management practices including on recruitment, promotion, career development and staff training.



Uasin Gishu based received , Hassan Maloba with a party officials, Mr. Albert Wanjeru after being served on the process of registration of political parties at ORPP Eldoret office.

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