

## A bulletin from Office of the Registrar of Political Parties

June, 2024 Edition

### Audit Committee constituted and inaugurated

The Audit Committee for the Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) is now fully constituted for a tenure of three years, upon the lapse of tenure of the previous Committee that ended on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2024. The new Committee was inaugurated on 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor board-room headquarters, an occasion graced by the Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS.

The 5-member Committee is comprised of nominees from various government agencies. Its members is as follows:

- ◇ Mr. Kyalo Mwangi - Chairperson, from National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC)
- ◇ Mr. Joseph Welimo - Member, the National Treasury representative
- ◇ Mr. Reuben Chirchir - Member nominated by Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC)
- ◇ Ms. Lydia Mokaya - Member, from Office of the Attorney General & Department of Justice
- ◇ Ms. Elizabeth Kiano - Member representing Private sector
- ◇ Ms. Veronicah Muasya - Secretary, the ORPP Head of Internal Audit
- ◇ The ORPP further inducted the Audit Committee members in a matriculation workshop held from 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024. Areas of induction included the provisions of The Public Financial Management Act, 2015 (PFMA) and attendant Regulations as well as operational areas of ORPP.



The ORPP team with the Audit Committee members during the induction workshop in Naivasha on 16<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024. Below, the team during a team building session.

The Audit Committee provides oversight to the Office in execution of its mandate. This is pursuant to section 73(5) of the PFMA that every national government public entity shall establish an Audit Committee whose composition and functions in Regs. 174-182 of the PFMA Regulations.



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

**Graphics & Layout:** Corporate Communication Unit

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The Unit thanks staff that contributed to the making of FY 2023/24 editions.

## PFRD party awarded its provisional registration certificate

A section of officials of the People's Forum for Rebuilding Democracy (PFRD) received a certificate of provisional registration for the party on 4th July, 2024. This was after the party had fulfilled all requirements of the 1st phase of registration under section 5 of the Political Parties Act, 2011.

Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS while awarding the certificate applauded its founding members, urging them to steer the party programmes that advocates for change and transformation while adhering to their party's constitution and Political Parties Code of Conduct.



Registrar of Political Parties (center right), a section of ORPP staff and the People's Forum for Rebuilding Democracy officials on being awarded a provisional registration certificate on 4th July 2024 in the ORPP 4th floor Boardroom, headquarters.

The Assistant Registrar, Registration and Field Services, CPA Florence Biryra encouraged the founders to enhance democracy practices through inclusion programmes as outlined in various party documents.

The founders appreciated the guidance received through the registration process, committing to pursue the next phase to full registration. Also present in the award session were staff from Registration, Compliance, Records and ICT.

## ORPP holds partner discussions with USAID

The ORPP and USAID - US Agency for International Development has continued partnership on various initiatives. To further this, ORPP lead by the Registrar held a consultative meeting on 4th July, 2024 to deliberate on their ORPP-USAID ongoing partnership initiatives with focus on citizens' information sharing and political education.

The Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS during the session expressed gratitude for USAID's continued support including development of training manuals and special interest groups' targeted grassroots sensitizations and a host of stakeholder engagement forums through the ORPP's regional offices.



Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS and section of ORPP staff in discussions with officials of USAID, 4th floor boardroom, headquarters.

"We look forward to further grassroots engagements and capacity building of political parties to improve governance, transparency, and accountability", assured Assistant Registrar, Ali Abdullahi.

Assistant Registrar, CPA Florence Biryra noting the Office commitment to enhance inclusion its processes and programmes in all realms of ORPP mandate.

USAID representatives commended ORPP's initiatives and reaffirmed their commitment to supporting upcoming programmes in line with Office strategic partnership strategic focus.

## IEBC –ORPP Pension Scheme holds Annual Meeting

The Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS graced the IEBC /ORPP Pension Scheme, Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and ORPP being twin Sponsors of the Scheme.

"The ORPP remain committed to supporting excellence in management of the scheme. I commend the Board of trustees for managing the Scheme to its positive growth and continue capacity building for its members for proper future financial planning", said the Registrar. She called on the Pensioners to be concerned of topical national wide discussions and give positive voice as part of their contribution to build and protect ideals of democracy.

*Continue on page 3...*



...from page 2

"I urge the Trustees to adhering to regulatory requirements and align to market dynamics and put in places products and sustainable strategies for diverse needs of the pensioners", Registrar said while appreciating Trustee's sound governance practices.



Members present at the IEBC / ORPP Pension Scheme meeting held on 29th June, 2024 at Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD), Nairobi

The Fund Trustees ,two whom are ORPP's- Kibet Rotich and Beatrice Nderi, assured of prudent and commitment to manage the Scheme in line with legal and governance tenets.

## Diversity and Inclusion Policy for ORPP and parties guide drafted

Parity in representation of youth and gender and progressively other Special Interest Groups is at core of Office diversity and inclusion measures.



An ORPP Technical team drafting of Diversity and Inclusion Policy

To better its Diversity, Inclusion initiatives ,an ORPP Technical Working Group drafted a Diversity and Inclusion Policy. A session for the team with support of UN Women was held, 23rd -27th June,2024.

The Policy contains ORPP's institutional diversity and inclusion strategies .It also offers political parties' guidance on various diversity and inclusion requirements and party -specific measures as required by Constitution, Political Parties Act, 2011 and applicable parties' governance and operational policies.

## Registrar and Assistant Registrar dedicate session with Wajir County youth and Assembly leadership

The Registrar Ann Nderitu,CBS and Assistant Registrar Ali Abdullahi held discussions with the leadership of County Assembly of Wajir led by Hon. Speaker Abdille Yusuf on 21st June, 2024 at Wajir County courtesy of coordination of ORPP's Garissa office Ifrah Issak. Prior to the meeting, the team held capacity building sessions with youth in the County held on 20th June, 2024 in Wajir Town.

"We are committed and delighted to partner with Wajir county for members deeper understanding of working and processes of political parties including coalitions. We want strengthen the Assembly's entire leadership including focused sensitization of Special interest groups like women, PwDs and caucus- engagement we had already commenced", said the Registrar.

"We are committed to strengthen better involvement of members in their parties and services to the people," noted Ali Abdullahi



Registrar Ann Nderitu, Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, Ali Abdullahi in traditional regalia and ORPP Garissa officers, Ifrah Issak and Muhtar joins a section of Wajir County Assembly Women Caucus in a traditional gig as a curtain raiser to a youth engagement forum held at the Grand Oasis Hotel on 20th June 2024.

...continue from page 3

"I'm delighted for the progress the Assembly has been in promoting active political participation making Wajir one of the most vibrant counties in the region", noted Ifrah Isaaq, the Garissa County Coordinator who also oversee Wajir and Mandera counties.

"We are focused to enact over 30 pieces legislations in the tenure of the house and equip members with skills and expertise to effectively delivery services and transform the country", noted Speaker, Hon Abdille Yusuf.



Leaders of County Assembly for Wajir in a discussion with Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu and Assistant Registrar of Political Parties, Ali Abdullahi at the Speaker's office, Wajir Town

Leaders of the Assembly appreciated the impactful capacity building efforts of members, recently held for its women Caucus, calling for more engagements and regular consultations for the whole Assembly.

The Registrar outlined some of the ICT and legal reforms including improving political parties' nomination for fair and just processes.

### Highlights of the Wajir youth forum

Reaching out to youth across the country is key to ORPP governance sensitization programmes. The Office engaged and educated the youth on raft of inclusion and party governance led by Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS in Wajir Town on 20th June, 2024.

"The engagement is part of ORPP governance empowerment initiatives for the youth and other special interest groups to support their leadership and contribution to the country, the Registrar said.

"The Office is keen in making the youth, being the age of the majority, make conscious political decisions that is key in socio-economic development in Kenya. You must come out to join parties, vying for position and support your own as a structured youth movement, which is a bit disjointed. You must do this positively without violence and respecting right of others", said Registrar.

The Registrar also outlined political parties Special Interest Groups (SIGs) inclusion registration and compliance requirements for the youth. She also advised on various strategies including legal and policy interventions, structured engagement and collaboration amongst youth as well as positive behaviors change as ways to improve youth involvement.



Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu , ARPP Ali Surraw and Garissa's office Coordinator Ifrah Isaaq share a moment during the forum

"Utilize your energy as youth in Wajir and across the country while positively and innovatively taking advantage of pro youth, country's policies for productive development of the county and country", noted Ali Abdullahi, Assistant Registrar, while calling for youth to shun from social vices.

The forum was held with support of Wajir County Speaker and Women Caucus, who ORPP has collaborated with. Other agencies present were National Cohesion and Integration Commission, National Commission for Human Rights. Youth drawn from various political parties and Wajir county's youth Association appreciated the engagement, terming it an eye opener to better conscious participation in governance and party processes. The event coordinated by ORPP Garissa County office had also panels discussion facilities by ORPP and public institutions reps who engaged the youth on raft of issues raised.



## Registrar hold talks with the Auditor General

The Registrar of Political Parties, Dr Ann Nderitu, CBS, held fruitful discussions with the Auditor General, FCPA Nancy Gathungu on 18th June 2024 at the Auditor General's Office, 3rd Floor, Anniversary Towers, University Way.

Discussions centered on ways to enhance accountability in management of political parties finances from various sources including monies allocated through the Political Parties Fund. The two also deliberated on collaborative capacity building of political parties by the ORPP and Auditor General Office to improve parties' future audits.

They underscored the critical role political parties play in promoting democracy and governance in a multi-party setting like Kenya.



Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS share a moment with the Auditor General, FCPA Nancy Gathungu after a courtesy call on 18th June, 2024

## A number of proposed parties receive guidance in their registration bid

The Registration department held a series of meetings with various proposed political parties to guide them on the requirements and gaps to address in their provisional registration pursuit.

Some of the parties that presented ideology statements on 19th and 26th June were The Future Party (TFP), Economic Liberation Alliance Party (ELAP) and National Transformation Party (NTP).

The parties were guided accordingly on areas of improvement. A further meeting was held with The We Alliance Party (TWAP) on 1st July 2024 with the interim officials to discuss the party compliance and transition efforts to full registration.



Registrar Ann Nderitu with a section of Registration department officers guides interim officials of The Future Party (TFP)

## ORPP witnesses unveiling of a party Disability League

Kitui office on 20th June, 2024 represented the Registrar at the Launch of the Maendeleo Chap Chap Disability League, held at the Party's headquarter, Lavington Nairobi.

The occasion was attended Maendeleo Chap Chap party's Secretary General, Wilfred Nyamu, several nominated leaders from the Lower Eastern Region among other officials.



Kitui-based Coordinator Ms Hope Nandwa (standing right) with the Party's Disability league members after the launch

The initiative aims to promote inclusivity and support for individuals with disabilities, highlighting the party's commitment to equal opportunities. The event received generous sponsorship from the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), underscoring the collaborative effort to empower and integrate disabled persons into the community and political processes. (Brief and photos courtesy of H. Nandwa, Kitui Office)