

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

### ORPP leadership appears separately before National Assembly and Senate's Justice and Legal Affairs Committees

July, 2024 Edition

The ORPP apex leadership; Registrar and Assistant Registrars appeared before the National Assembly's Justice and Legal Affairs Committee (JLAC) to present on Supplementary estimates No. 1, FY 2024/2025 on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at Parliament Buildings.

The Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu CBS, leading the team, requested for the reinstatement of the budget which had been significantly reduced, noting that adequate budget allocation is critical for the Office fulfilling its mandate.



Some of the JLAC Members during the meeting



Assistant Registrars CPA Florence Biryia, Ali Abdullahi and a section of ORPP team ahead of their presentation to JLAC

On a related matter, on 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2024 the Office appeared before the Senate Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights Committee (JLAHRC) to table its views and position on four (4) Senate Bills under discussions at Senate Chambers, Parliament Buildings. The Bills the Office presented on together with over 10 other stakeholder public and private entities with a focus on The Political Parties (Amendment) Bill, 2024, which were under public participation. Other Bills under the consideration were; The Election offences (Amendment) (No.2) Bill 2024), The County Governments Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2024 and The Elections (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2024.

In reference to Bi-partisan process as outlined in the NADCO report, The Political Parties (Amendment) Bill falls foul of fundamental issues that the Office presented during Bi-partisan sittings that intended to enhance party discipline, fidelity to parties and better governance", submitted the Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS as part of comprehensive memoranda on the Bills under discussion.

The Registrar reiterated and urged the Committee of the need to strengthen the ORPP, while anchoring it in the Constitution as one of the ways of preserving the gains the Office and political parties had made in promoting governance and enhance democratic ideals.



Stakeholders including ORPP and other public and private entities after submitting views on Senate Bills before JLAHR Committee of the Senate

Bomet County Senator, Hillary K. Sigei, who chairs the Committee assured that it will consider the Office submissions for better representation and inclusion in political parties registration and regulation.

Stakeholder present that included Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission(IEBC) ,Attorney General, Political Parties Liaison Committee, National Gender and Equality Commission, NCPD, ELGIA, FIDA were in support of strengthening of ORPP. They acknowledged the ORPP's progress under legal instruments them noting, the milestones under the Registrar's and Assistant Registrars' leadership.



**Registrar and Assistant Registrars , accompanied by a team of staff make submission before the Senate Committee at Senate Chambers**

## ORPP's hold talks with USAID

The Registrar of Political Parties and officials of US Agency for International Development (USAID)held a consultative session, on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024 at Registrar's office as part of ORPP's continued partnership USAID. The deliberations sought to lay strategies to enhance citizens' information sharing with a focus on political education.

Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS, during the session expressed gratitude for USAID's continued support including development of training manuals and Office sensitization of Special Interest Groups' grassroots and a host of

stakeholder engagement forums, some spearheaded by ORPP's regional offices.

"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's commitment in enhancing inclusion on all its processes and programmes as required in pursuit of its mandate.

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



**The Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS (middle), Assistant Registrar's Ali Abdullahi and CPA Florence Biryra with a section of staff and USAID officials after the meeting**



**ORPP team and the USAID in discussions at headquarter, 4<sup>th</sup> floor Boardroom**

## PRFD, the 5<sup>th</sup> in provisionally registered parties list

The People's Forum for Rebuilding Democracy (PFRD) was handed in its certificate of provisional registration by the Registrar on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 after fulfilling the requirements for the 1<sup>st</sup> stage of registration. The party is among the currently six provisionally registered. The others parties in the category are Chama Changamko Kenya (CCK), The We Alliance Party (TWAP), National Economic Development Party (NEDP) and latest registered being Imarisha Uchumi Party (IUP). (see IUP story on page 4)

The Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu, CBS while applauding its founding members, urged them to steer the party programmes to advocate for change and transformation. She further called for adherence to their party's constitution and Political Parties Code of Conduct.

Assistant Registrar, Registration and Field Services, CPA Florence Birya encouraged the founders to enhance democratic practices through rolling out inclusion programmes as outlined in various party documents.

The ORPP team briefed the party officials on the next stage of registration. The requirements include recruitment of required members, with representation of Special Interest Groups, financial accountability, establishment of county offices, constituting the governing bodies, record management in adherence with data protection among others conditions for full registration under section 7 of The Political Parties Act, 2011.

The founders appreciated the guidance received through the registration process right from reservation of party particulars. They committed to pursue the next phase to full registration as soon as possible.



Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS (3<sup>rd</sup> left) Assistant Registrar CPA Florence Birya (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Head of Registration Locha Erukudi (left) hands in the Certificate of provisional registration to The People's Forum for Rebuilding Democracy (PFRD) officials at Registrar's lounge.



The ORPP team briefs The People's Forum for Rebuilding Democracy (PFRD) officials ahead of award of provisional registration in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor boardroom.

## Registrar among lead trainers in Kenya School of Democracy launch

Equipping the youth of diverse representation with governance knowledge, skills and capabilities to serve in leadership across sectors is central to ORPPKenya.

Aligned to this focus and the Office's contribution to shaping progressive youth agenda, Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS led the pack of trainers during the launch and training of the Kenya Democracy School, 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The forum was organised by Netherlands Institute of Democracy (NIMD).

The thematic focus of Registrar's address was on Kenya's Political System and History with a reflection on traditional & colonial governance and turns and gains of political parties establishment over the Kenya's independence.





**The Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS in a training session during the meeting**

The Registrar also educated on the country's multi-party journey including the definitive period during the repeal of Section 2A of previous Constitution and milestones to the enactment of the Political Parties Act of 2011 that sets legal basis of political parties registration and regulatory architecture in today's Constitutional order.



**The Registrar, a section of ORPP team, NIMD officials and participants in a group photo during the training**

Key modules the 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the School's training curriculum were on Leadership, Policy Formulation; Media and Communication; Kenya's Political System and History were presented by various speakers.

The participants in the forum were youth representatives drawn from a section of political parties, higher learning institutions and civil society organizations.

The ORPP participation in the session was coordinated by Partnership and Linkages department.

## **Imarisha Uchumi party, latest provisionally registered**

Imarisha Uchumi Party (IUP) is the latest provisionally registered party after Registrar issued a certificate of provisional registration to a section party officials and members, on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at ORPP headquarters.

"Work through the process of full registration within set timelines and conditions with integrity. This should include obtaining members consent on recruitment as well as upholding cordial relations of incoming officials with founding members", Registrar, Ann Nderitu, CBS guided".

"You must constitute governing body and other organs of the party that have interest of party and members. This will help attain party ideals and constitution including persuading them based on your ideology "Assistant Registrar, CPA Florence Birya, Registrar and Field Services Coordination guided.

Assistant Registrar, Ali Abdullahi as he wished well the party bearing in mind a host of compliance requirements.

A section of staff present led by Direction Compliance, Daniel Kinuthia and Head of Registration Department Locha Erukudi briefed of the party requirements for full registration. These included rights and privileges party at the initial stage, conditions for full registration, ICT obligations, management of records, financial accountability as stipulated in varied provision of the Political Parties Act, 2011.

Founding members present appreciated the guidance of the Office through the rigorous Registration process, commitment to the nuggets given.



**Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS (4<sup>th</sup> right) Assistant Registrars, Ali Abdullahi (3<sup>rd</sup> left) and CPA Florence Birya (4<sup>th</sup> left), Director Compliance, D.N. Kinuthia (2<sup>nd</sup> left), Head of Registration Locha Erukudi (left) grant the Imarisha Uchumi Party (IUP) Certificate of provisional registration at the ORPP offices.**



The ORPP team briefs Imarisha Uchumi Party (IUP) officials during an award session of provisional registration in the 4<sup>th</sup> floor boardroom.

## Over 500 PWDs projected for training ahead of 2027 elections; Registrar projects in a roundtable inclusion discussions

The ORPP was central in facilitating a round-table discussion forum held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 in Nairobi to discuss inclusive initiatives for People with Disabilities. The forum was organized by United Disabled Persons of Kenya (UDPK) and the Commonwealth Disabled People's Forum (CDPF). Key focus of the session was to evaluate the progress and challenges made in implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) in Kenya the different players.

Speaking as a lead panelist, the Registrar of Political Parties, Ann Nderitu CBS, emphasized the need for a comprehensive review of the legal framework to ensure greater inclusion of People Living with Disabilities (PWDs) in governing bodies, and operations of political parties . "We must continuously provide capacity-building initiatives for party officials to advocate for the formation of PWDs caucuses, mobilize them to participate in electoral activities, and promote synergy among stakeholder bodies to realize their political rights," said the Registrar, outlining ORPP's initiatives to enhance the inclusion of PWDs.



Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS engages with some of the participants during the forum

The Registrar while speaking on gaps in enhancing the representation of persons with disabilities in political processes outlined the ORPP's dedication to advocating for the rights of marginalized groups, including persons with disabilities. She highlighted the Constitutional provisions that promotes inclusion of PWDs. She however, decried the existential legal and under representation that continue to fall short of the threshold of the Constitution. She pointed out key proposals to mitigate such shortfalls as contained in ORPP's 2022 Post-Election Evaluation Report and other taskforces. Some of them being legal reform and enhancing affirmative action interventions. Building on marginal gains (increase of number of candidates with disabilities from 60 in 2017 to 127 in the 2022 election was seen necessary).

Stakeholders present also discussed additional measures such as social protection, skills provision, adequate funding, creating PWD-friendly environments and supporting civic education programs to uphold the rights of PWDs in Kenya as per the convention.

The meeting organizers called for government's support in preparation for adoption of a Disability Inclusion Strategy scheduled for discussions during a Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), scheduled for October this year. The forum made crucial steps towards a more inclusive political landscape in Kenya, aligning with the global commitments of the UNCRPD. The ORPP's participation was coordinated by the Resource Center which has also been designated as a disability desk at ORPP.

Contributions by Beatrice Amollo

## Parties forge PPLC's nominee election modalities and elect representatives to the IEBC select panel

The ORPP convened a National Steering Committee Plenary meeting of the Political Parties Liaison Committee (PPLC) on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024 to discuss nomination process of its three-slot nominees to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) Commissioners selection panel. The meeting was supported by Netherlands Democratic Institute (NDI).

The meeting generated heated debate, with political parties representatives having contrasting views on mechanisms of the election.

The ORPP and Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) offered necessary guidance for an accountable and transparent nomination process while emphasizing the need for the best suited representative to the panel.

In the meeting, the parties endorsed their Steering Committee's Secretary, Taabu O. W. Daniels, the only candidate applied for the position. He was declared the bearer to the Secretary's Office.



Registrar and Assistant Registrars clarify on issues raised during the PPLC meeting at Jacaranda Hotel, Westlands



Part of party officials engage during the meeting

## Trio to carry the PPLC flag to IEBC select team

Three elected representatives of the National Political Parties Liaison Committee (PPLC) were elected and declared on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 in a cluster-based voting to sit as representatives of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) Commissioners. The three for three clusters of non-parliamentary, minority and majority elected in a closely contested feat were; James Evans Misati (Non-Parliamentary cluster), Muli Augustus Kyalo (Minority) and Bore Nicodemus Kipchirchir (Majority). The outcome of the election was declared by Machakos County Elections Manager Nelly Ilongo leading her IEBC officials to conduct the exercise.

Other candidates in the race were Gor Lilian Anyango, Kathuri Amos Mugambi (Non-parliamentary cluster); Grignon Koki Muli (Minority cluster) and Wachira Benedict Wandeto (Majority cluster).

The party representatives were lauded for peaceful and transparent elections.



Ms. Ndanyi of Amani National Congress cast her vote for the majority cluster

The National Democracy Institute supported the event. The parties were grouped in clusters based on current constituent parties in each. These are Kenya Kwanza Alliance (18 parties), Azimio la Umoja One Kenya Coalition Party (23) and Non-parliamentary parties (49 parties). A total of 8 candidates vied for the slots with 3 representing non-parliamentary cluster, 2 minority cluster and 2 majority cluster.

"It is my appeal to the declared representatives to put forth the interests of parties while



considering the views of party representatives as they sit in the select panel", urged the Registrar Ann Nderitu, CBS.



Candidates and a section of party officials confer with ORPP and IEBC during the voting day in Kyaka Hotel, Machakos.

Other speakers including Assistant Registrars, Ali Abdullahi and CPA Florence Birya congratulated the winners urging them to amplify the political parties role in promotion of democracy and governance in the ensuing process.



Registrar (2<sup>nd</sup> row) IEBC, NDI officials with party officials during the official announcement of their elections.



Bore Nicodemus Kipchirchir receives his election certificate from IEBC officials.



Muli Augustus Kyalo receives his election certificate from Nelly Ilongo the elections returning officer. His election has since allegedly been contested by his Coalition.



Evans Misati receives his election certificate from IEBC officials.

# PICTURE SPEAK



A section of ORPP staff who visited Osman Isaak share a moment, who is recovering at home following a road accident. Mr. Osman expressed his delight to host the staff on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024.



Part of staff take time to share words of comfort with colleague Netty Omburo of Procurement department in Rarieda, Siaya County on 20<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Netty expressed gratitude to ORPP staff for being there during the funeral of her late brother, noting “you were an encouragement to us, may God bless you”.



ORPP team in Kivunga village, Kitui County condoling with our brother Josephat Kombo of Accounts section on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

Kombo in his appreciation note to staff said “To everyone who sympathized with us, please accept our sincere appreciation for your expression of love during our period of grief. All the measures you took to comfort us, are highly prized and meant so much to our family. The heartwarming messages, calls, financial and moral support and most importantly, being there for the burial were greatly appreciated.

## Getting informed in Swahili, commemorating Swahili month in July



A publication of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), shared on digital platforms and staff platforms accessible on website. Maswali na majibu ya maswala ya ORPP kwa Kiswahili. Tujifunze na tueleze habari hii kwa wadau wetu”.





Branded reception area of Kitale office



ORPP's Project Implementation team during a hand over meeting in Kitale 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024 in Kitale



Project Manager's team, ORPP team and Contractors during the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor office inspection meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024



A walkway of the newly partitioned and refurbished additional space for headquarter offices, Lion Place Westlands - Nairobi

## Latest reading and a wealth of Resource Centre collection worth imbibing

By Beatrice Amollo



Brené Brown's is a compelling masterpiece on leadership in her book "Dare to Lead: Brave Work. Tough Conversations. Whole Hearts."

She challenges her readers to "rise strong at work," presenting ideas that can transform one's perspective on life and the issues affecting their surroundings. Brown focuses on cultivating brave leaders and fostering a culture of courage within organizations.

While it is a popular resource for leaders in various fields, including business, education, and non-profit organizations, I found it particularly useful for application in my own setting. After all, everyone is a leader in their own space and right, aren't they? This book encourages readers to embrace their humanity and lead with courage and compassion, fostering environments where others can thrive and innovate. To be brave, one must be willing to be vulnerable. Brené Brown's book reinforces the idea, asserting that vulnerability is the cornerstone of building courage. Without vulnerability, there can be no creativity or innovation. To lead effectively, one must embrace vulnerability to build trust and foster genuine connections—*food for thought*.

The ORPP Resource Centre has a wealth of resources besides "Dare to Lead" with over **200,000** titles available on our shelves. The greatest gems often reside in written works, and to discover and enjoy them, one must dig. In this case, digging means scanning through our collection via the revamped Resource Centre portal at [library.orpp.or.ke](http://library.orpp.or.ke).

Apart from the book catalog, this link provides access to thousands of articles covering a wide range of topics—from general knowledge to specific fields such as political science, law, governance, public administration, social sciences, arts, management, history, research, and archaeology. There's something for everyone, and accessing these resources is as simple as stopping by to pick up a book or clicking the link to search and find something to read whenever and wherever.



A screen look of the Resource Centre portal through the ORPP website, accessible via <https://library.orpp.or.ke:7080>

You are most welcome to explore the Resource Centre collection for other interesting reads, to fit into your schedule. Look out for access details sent from [library@orpp.or.ke](mailto:library@orpp.or.ke) in your **official email**.

Check the portal for the latest collection including the following:

- Adaptive Leadership by John Wanguba
- Beyond Capitalism and Socialism in Kenya and Tanzania by Joel D Barkan
- Beyond Politics: A conversation with Kiraitu Murungi by Njeri Rugene
- Ethical Leadership - Creating a Culture of Trust and Responsibility by Carol Banks
- How to Work without losing your Mind
- HR Practice: A Rear view with Salome Gitoho by Salome Gitoho
- Joe Biden - The Life, the Run, and What Matters Now by Evan Osnos
- Making the World Safe for Dictatorship by Alexander Dukalskis
- Mark Zuckerberg: In his own words
- Mau Mau and the Kikuyu by Richard Leakey
- Moody Awori: Riding on a Tiger (Soft Back) Autobiography
- Power of Habit: Smarter, faster, better
- Shattered: Inside Hillary Clinton's Doomed Campaign by Amie Parnes and Jonathan Allen
- The 80/20 Principle: Achieve More with Less
- The Art of People
- The Liberation of Swahili: A handbook for African Nation Building Vol 1 by Abdalla Khalid
- Undaunted: Stories of Freedom in a Shackled Society by Father Gabriel Dolan
- Wars, Guns, and Votes: Democracy in Dangerous Places by Paul Collier.

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