JOINT PRESS STATEMENT

THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR OF POLITICAL PARTIES AND THE NATIONAL PEACE AND MEDIATION TEAM COMMIT TO WORK TOGETHER FOR PEACEFUL, FAIR AND INCLUSIVE PARTY NOMINATIONS AHEAD OF THE 2027 GENERAL ELECTION

Nairobi, 3rd November 2026

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP) today held a consultative meeting with religious leaders under the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK), the National Peace and Mediation Team and the United Nations Kenya. The meeting reviewed the preparedness of political parties for the General Election scheduled for Tuesday, 10th August 2027, and agreed on ways to work together to safeguard peace and democracy within political parties.

The religious leaders congratulated the Registrar of Political Parties, Mr John Cox Lorionokou, and the Assistant Registrar, Ms Agatha W. Wahome, on their first year in office. They commended the Office for releasing binding timelines for the 2027 electoral cycle early, and for its firm stand that compliance with the law by political parties is not optional.

Both parties noted that Kenya is now in the election period, declared by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) on 20th August 2026. Political parties are finalising the election and nomination rules that will govern party primaries, which must be concluded by 8th May 2027. Both parties recognised that party nominations have, in past elections, been among the earliest and most volatile flashpoints of the electoral cycle. They agreed that preventing conflict at this stage is essential for a credible and peaceful General Election.

Our Shared Commitment

The ORPP, NPMT and IRCK affirm their shared conviction that strong, democratic and inclusive political parties are the foundation of a peaceful nation. The Registrar reaffirmed the Office's commitment to discharge its mandate under the Political Parties Act firmly, transparently and even-handedly, in a way that serves all political parties and all Kenyans.

The religious leaders, for their part, committed to use the moral authority and nationwide reach of the faith community to promote tolerance, integrity and peaceful competition within and between political parties.

To give effect to this commitment, the two institutions have agreed to develop a framework of cooperation. The ORPP, IRCK and the National Peace and Mediation Team will develop a Memorandum of Understanding to guide their joint work through the 2027 electoral cycle, and each institution will name focal persons to coordinate it.

Central to this cooperation will be insider mediation of party disputes. Respected religious leaders from the National Peace and Mediation Team will be available to support dialogue between rival aspirants, factions and party organs, particularly during party primaries and coalition negotiations.

This collaboration will complement, rather than replace, the internal dispute resolution mechanisms of political parties and the Political Parties Disputes Tribunal.

The two institutions will also jointly convene political party leaders and Secretaries-General to commit to peaceful, fair and inclusive nominations, and will explore the participation of religious leaders in the planned activities for the Political Parties Liaison Committees at national and county levels. In addition, IRCK will use places of worship and its county interfaith networks to help citizens understand party membership, single membership and party primaries, and will encourage them to check their membership status with the ORPP.

Finally, the ORPP and IRCK will share information on emerging tensions with the relevant agencies so that early action can be taken, and will jointly encourage political parties to give fair opportunities to women, youth and persons with disabilities in the nomination process.

Our Joint Call

We call upon all political parties to comply fully with the Political Parties Act CAP 7D, Political Parties Code of Conduct, their own constitutions and the binding electoral timelines. In particular, they should conduct nominations that are free, fair and transparent

that follow their certified rules. We urge party leaders and aspirants to reject violence, intimidation, bribery and the hiring of youth for political ends, and to resolve disputes through lawful channels.

We call upon members of the public to verify their party membership through *509# or eCitizen where they can register, join or resign from political parties and to participate in party processes peacefully and responsibly. We urge young people in particular not to allow themselves to be used to cause violence.

The Office of the Registrar of Political Parties, National Peace and Mediation Team and the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya remain committed to working together, and with all stakeholders, so that Kenya goes through the 2027 electoral cycle in peace, unity and respect for the will of the people.

Signed on 3rd November 2026:

Mr John Cox Lorionokou	**Bishop Dr. Geoffrey Njuguna**
Registrar of Political Parties	IRCK/National Peace and Mediation Team

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