



INTER-RELIGIOUS COUNCIL *of* KENYA

YOUTH VISION FOR 2022 GENERAL ELECTION AND BEYOND





Introduction

Inter-Religious Council of Kenya with other collaborating partners held Inter-Faith Youth Action Week in Nairobi, Mombasa, Kwale, Bungoma, Uasin Gishu, Marsabit, Isiolo, Tharaka Nithi, Baringo, Narok, Migori and Garissa from 6th to 11th June 2022. The youths identified priority issues captured and consolidated as a Youth Vision Booklet highlighting their aspirations and expectations for the upcoming General Election.

Vision

A united, peaceful, and secure country where we the youth have all the opportunities we need to lead empowered, dignified, happy, healthy, and sustainable lives.

The Youth Vision

The aspirations of Religious Youth from all the major faith communities is captured in this document for strategic engagement with political leaders and parties in the upcoming 2022 General Elections.


As patriotic youths we firmly believe in the inalienable rights of expression, inclusion and participation by the majority population (71%); every youth in national governance processes, regardless of their social standing, political affiliation or religious beliefs as affirmed by the UN Resolution 2250 and our Constitution under article 1(2).

This Youth Vision was informed by more than 2000 youth voices across the country with the aim of promoting peaceful elections by choosing leaders with values.

Problem Statement: Youth Challenges

Whereas Article 10 of the Constitutions stipulates the national values and principles for effective leadership and governance for all public officers, the previous elected leaders in the 12th Parliament were marred with numerous corruption scandals, thievery and lack of stewardship in the debt and cost of living crisis. Similar to the previous elected leaders our nation still lacks servant leadership to guide the people when there are numerous crisis both global and national, both in terms of health and economic issues.

Citizens especially youth who are the majority population and bear the bulk of the burden from poor leadership are forced to bear an inordinate share of the burden through heavy taxes, lack of jobs, the denial of socio-economic rights such as health, water and housing and the absence of social protection.



OUR 5 RESOLUTIONS



ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH AND DRUG ABUSE

NO. 1

We emphasize on the need to declare mental illness a national disaster and to provide psychosocial support, counselling and care for the vulnerable youth.



INSECURITY AND TRIBALISM

NO. 2

We resolve to support security agencies in addressing insecurities issues, promote peace and tolerance before, during and after elections.



ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

NO. 3

Our leaders urgently need to put in place a conducive environment where businesses prioritize employment of young people in their companies and favorable labor laws are enforced.



INCLUSION AND GENDER EQUALITY

NO. 4

The youth need to be included in governance, leadership, vision setting and decision making both at national and county levels. We must be given opportunities to assume leadership positions at all levels, both elective and appointive to implement our resolutions.



EDUCATION

NO. 5

The youth are in need of truly free education, reduced tertiary costs, and market oriented courses at universities and colleges. The need to promote talent and skills for the youth to be economically empowered where sports and art are true livelihoods.