



SPEECH BY DR SKITTER W. MBUGUA THE NATIONAL COHESION AND INTEGRATION COMMISSION COMMISSION SECRETARY DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE ROADMAP TOWARDS 2022 GENERAL ELECTIONS ON 10TH DECEMBER 2020 AT THE KENYA SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT NAIROBI.

- ***THE CABINET SECRETARY DR.HON. FRED MATIANGI, PHD, EGH***
- ***EXCELLENCIES DIPLOMATIC HEADS OF MISSIONS***
- ***NCIC CHAIRMAN DR REV SAMUEL KOBIA***
- ***CHAIRPERSONS OF CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSIONS AND INDEPENDENT OFFICES***
- ***NCIC COMMISSIONERS***
- ***NCIC STAFF***
- ***DISTINGUISHED GUESTS***
- ***MEMBERS OF THE FOURTH ESTATE***
- ***LADIES AND GENTLEMEN;***

Good afternoon!

I am pleased to be part of this historical event at the National Cohesion and Integration Commission today. Indeed, the various speakers have said much and as I listened keenly, I noted with much concern the need to have a peaceful Kenya ahead and beyond 2022 general elections. As the Commission Secretary and on behalf of the Commission, I wish to assure you dear Kenyans that we have heard you. A new dawn is indeed here with us. As we move closer to the 2022 General Elections, I wish to commit

that we at the Commission will endeavor to work with you to deliver Violence Free 2022 General Elections. We are moving away from elections marred with violence, deaths, displacement, pain, and loss of property to a peaceful election.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

How will this be done? You ask. Dear Kenyans we have put in place five strategies that will lead us to a peaceful election of 2022. First, we are calling on Kenyans to embrace and build trust amongst ourselves irrespective of our various differences. Trust can be a fragile thing, but it is the foundation on which all relationships are built. We therefore call on the Government to build trust with her citizens to enable us achieve peaceful elections.

Secondly, Kenyans are tired of a culture characterized by violence. We therefore commit to work closely with all the stakeholders to build a free violence culture where dialogue precedes over violence. Indeed as Mahatma Gandhi said an eye for eye will make the world blind, so we call on all Kenyans from all walks of life to embrace dialogue, respect for diversity as well as tolerance.

Thirdly, to our dear distinguished political leaders and by extension all opinion shapers. As stewards and custodians of the many followers in various platforms, we urge you to exercise responsible leadership. As Kenyans and followers we have entrusted you to represent and guard the peace that we have enjoyed over time. It is therefore our humble

appeal at the Commission to call on you to join us in working towards a Violence free elections come 2022.

Fourthly, hate speech has been a thorn in the flesh in both traditional and digital platforms. We call on all Kenyans especially those who perpetrate hate speech to desist from dividing Kenyans along ethnic, religious or even race. As Kenyans, we wish to remain a united harmonious integrated Kenyan society irrespective of our various political affiliations. We therefore extend our invitation to our politicians to join us in working towards violence free 2022 general elections. Nonetheless the Commission, has heightened its monitoring for hate speech and incitement on ethnic lines to ensure that perpetrators face the law. We will not allow our children to continue dying as a result of election related violence.

Finally, I call on all Kenyans to prevent conflicts that may lead to violence. I know you will all agree with me that Prevention is better than cure. We are all better safe than sorry, therefore each one of us irrespective of our position has a role to play in preventing conflicts that might erupt into violence.

Fellow Kenyans, when all these is said and done, we shall go beyond. ***Tutakiuka kama Wakenya*** and we shall change the narrative to ***Uchaguzi bila Noma.***

Thank you and God bless Kenya