



PRESS STATEMENT

24TH JANUARY 2020

STOP USING BBI TO DIVIDE KENYANS

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission welcomes the coming together of all political leaders to dialogue on the Building Bridges Initiative recommendations in Tononoka Grounds, Mombasa and in the subsequent meetings scheduled to take place in Embu/Meru, Garissa, Eldoret, Suswa, Kiambu and Nairobi counties. The Commission strongly warns participants at BBI rallies against incitement and hate speech. We shall not hesitate to arrest and prosecute the offenders of the law in collaboration with other law enforcement agencies without fear or favor.

The stated overall objective of BBI is to build lasting unity. Therefore, we call upon all Kenyans to adhere to and respect the integrity of BBI by refusing to be incited or to engage in activities that may lead to violence amongst themselves and their patriots.

NCIC has noted that a number of the core challenges identified by the BBI fall squarely within its mandate. Specifically; national

ethos, responsibilities and rights of citizens, ethnic antagonisms, competition and inclusivity.

While Kenya has come a long way in mending the cohesion thread in the country, these specific challenges point to the fact that we are not where we want to be as a nation. This consequently serves as a reminder to the political class that their role should be to create a positive impact on their followers and supporters. They should therefore desist from taking advantage of the BBI process, to incite Kenyans while hyping their own personal agenda. It is indeed our shared responsibility to safeguard the peace that we have continued to enjoy.

We also wish to remind Kenyans that NCIC will continue to offer the voice of reason as well as space for healing, reconciliation, mediation and civic awareness. We assure Kenyans that we shall discharge our mandate without fear or favour. Together we can achieve a peaceful, cohesive, united and integrated Kenyan society.



REV. DR SAMUEL KOBIA

CHAIRMAN

NATIONAL COHESION AND INTEGRATION COMMISSION