

30th July 2021

Call for Applications

Framework to guide Political Parties in infusing Human Rights ideals in their Political and Electoral Processes.

Introduction

The Centre for Multi-Party Democracy, (CMD-Kenya) is inviting applications from qualified consultants to facilitate meetings with the IEBC, ORPP, KNCHR and representatives of major political parties and to develop a framework to guide political parties in infusing human rights ideals in the operations of their political and electoral processes.

CMD-Kenya is a political parties-based membership organization whose mandate is to enhance multiparty democracy and strengthen the institutional capacity of political parties in Kenya through policy influence and capacity building. The organization provides a platform for political parties, political actors and policy makers to engage in dialogue and cooperate in strengthening multiparty democracy.

Context

The complexity of the Kenyan elections requires a range of early interventions targeting government institutions, political and civic actors while incorporating lessons from previous elections. Exactly a year from now, the country will be going into the next general elections, and already there is heightened political tension throughout the country.

Looking back at history, Kenya has over time experience heightened tension, chaos and violence during the general electioneering periods. This has in turn resulted in people being displaced from their areas of residency due to fear of violence erupting during this period. In some places, the chaos and violence experienced resulted in people sustaining injuries while in extreme situations some lives were lost. In addition, over time reports have shown an increase in Sexual and Gender Based Violence (GBV) perpetrated against persons from the marginalized groups.

Despite the robust provision of the bill of rights in the Constitution including the right to political participation, sexual and gender-based violence remains a recurrent feature of elections in Kenya. This violates the human rights and fundamental freedoms, and in itself constitutes to discrimination against the above-mentioned groups as it prevents their fair participation in elections and all other electoral processes.

While Kenya has strengthened its institutional and legislative frameworks, these have not led to strengthened prevention of and more effective responses to sexual and gender-based violence during the last elections. In particular, political parties have not instituted internal mechanisms for addressing challenges touching on sexual and gender-based violence during party primaries and general elections. According to the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR, 2018), the political parties' blatant

non-adherence to electoral laws, code of conduct and party rules point to a worrying trend of lawlessness and disregard to democratic ideals and good governance which negates the gains made in protecting human rights. In an already polarized and highly charged election environment, the above threatens the rule of law and perpetuates a culture of impunity.

The Consultancy

In light of the above, the consultant will facilitate a series of virtual meetings to support dialogue between senior duty bearers from political parties and various state and nonstate agencies to reflect on human rights violations in previous elections especially on gender-based violence and to provide proposals on how to deter their recurrence . In addition, the consultant will assess the political parties' structures in Kenya so as to develop a framework to guide political parties in infusing human rights ideals in their political and electoral processes.

Scope

The consultancy will entail the following:

1. Facilitating six virtual meetings with stakeholders drawn from various sectors in the political and human rights field, to reflect on human rights violations in previous elections as documented by State and Nonstate Human Rights Agencies and to come up with proposals on how to deter their recurrence.
2. Conducting desktop study to assess the political parties' structures in Kenya.
3. Developing a framework to guide political parties in infusing human rights ideals in their political and electoral processes.
4. Facilitate meetings with the relevant stakeholders and taking them through the developed framework.
5. Finalizing and submitting to CMD-Kenya the final report and all relevant materials used during the development of the framework.

Qualifications

1. Post- graduate qualification in Political Science, Human Rights, Law or any other related field.
2. A minimum of 5 years' experience in Human Rights and or Public Policy work
3. Experience working with political parties and understanding political parties' landscape

4. Evidence undertaking similar work.

Assignment Duration

The consultancy will be conducted for a single phase of ten working days.

Application Process

Interested and qualified candidates should send their application (Technical and Financial proposals) to the CMD-Kenya Secretariat via info@imd-cmd.co.ke or deliver them at CMD-Kenya Offices located at 6th Floor International House Nairobi, on or before noon **6th August 2021**.