



## **MKENYA DAIMA STAKEHOLDERS WANT THE END OF THE ELECTION SEASON FOR THE SAKE OF THE ECONOMY AND KENYAN LIVELIHOOD**



Mkenya Daima, is a peace initiative that brings private sector, religious leaders, civil society, media, youth, vision 2030 etc towards peaceful elections and a prosperous Kenya.

We would like to congratulate all Kenyans for adhering to the call for peace during and after elections. We also commend Kenyans for continuing to build the economy, wherein lies our livelihoods.

Elections come and go every 5 years, but Kenya will always remain. There is a lot of good happening in the country that sometimes gets clouded by elections.



The Tourism sector for example, has continued to report consistent growth of tourist numbers all throughout the election season, which coincided with the high season in tourism. Kenya has continued to be the economy to watch in the region and the continent, organs of the state, such as legislature and county governments are in place and Kenyans have continued to co-exist like they have always done outside elections.

We have maintained time and time again the need to respect and support our institutions including those mandated with managing elections. Mkenya Daima stakeholders met with these institutions in the lead up to and during the elections to support and encourage them as they discharged their duties. We have also been consistent in our position that such institutions need to be accorded the necessary space to carry out their functions and obligations in full accordance with the Constitution of Kenya, which is the supreme law of the country.

We have and continue to ask these institutions to ensure that they remain uncompromised and unbiased in their disposition and to only focus on Kenya first as they deliver on their mandates.

Every Kenyan has a right to disagree with decisions of any institution but we ask that they respect and support the development of all institutions and maintain peace in doing so.

We also commend the decision by all key stakeholders across the Political divide to accept and abide with the Supreme Court decision

Business responds to stability and predictability and is looking forward to the end of the election cycle so as to maintain jobs and ensure that the economy is not be affected leading to inflation and high cost of goods and services.

According to the Stanbic-HIS Markit Purchasing Manager's index, the private sector activity slid to 42.0 points down from 48.1 in July citing low money circulation. Last week's erosion of Kshs 130 billion from the Nairobi securities exchange market capitalization in two days of trading, is surely a sign of the business community's fears. While world over the economy slows down during elections, a continued political season leads to increased inflation and thus high cost of basic goods especially due to prolonged decreased private sector activity.

As such, and as is stipulated by the Supreme Court, we ask that the elections be carried out without undue delays or extensions, as prolonged political seasons are costly to the Kenyan economy



Further, as Kenya prepares to go back to the polls, we as Mkenya Daima ask the following:

1. Politicians must respect all institutions involved in the elections without intimidation or harassment.
- 2 That the IEBC, whilst recognizing that no system is perfect, ensures that it makes all corrective measures within the law, that could lead to lack of credibility in the elections.
- 3 We urge all Kenyans to observe restraint, refrain from political intimidation and tribal animosity more so on all social media platforms, so as not to fuel hatred and violence.

- 4 We ask that as politicians hit their campaign trails, that they observe and respect the Rule of Law, endeavor to put their country before self, and refrain from any inflammatory and divisive statements and comments, for the sake of peace and development of this country.
- 5 We further ask that players across the political divide stick to addressing socio-economic issues in their campaigns and present viable visions to the public on how they will tackle issues such as the drought, famine, unemployment and corruption.
- 6 That the Media observe the highest level of professionalism as they conduct their duties, being careful not to fuel divisiveness while remaining factual & truthful in their reporting
- 7 That the National Police Service ensure the security of all Kenyans, and exercise their functions with the highest professionalism, showing restraint during peaceful demonstrations, and firmness with the law breakers and in accordance with the UN Basic Principles on The Use of Force.

Lastly, we would like to urge Kenyans to continue to remain peaceful as they have been, despite the pro longed high contested elections. Let us continue to uphold the constitution of Kenya, in the understanding that Kenya and Kenyans are greater than any individual. We are our brothers' keepers, and we are stronger together than apart.

God bless Kenya!