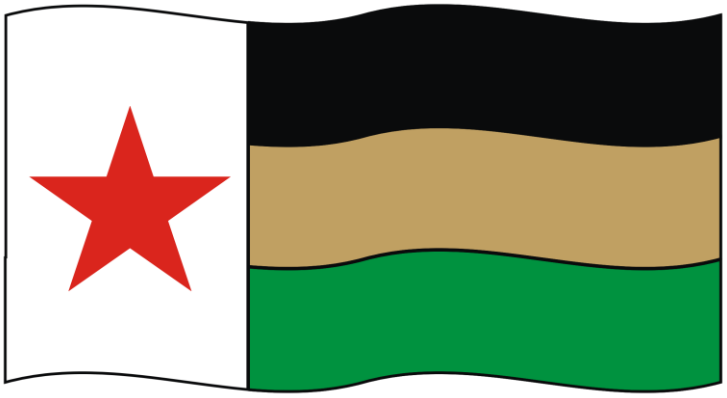
H



Investing in People

Labour Party of Kenya

Who Are We?

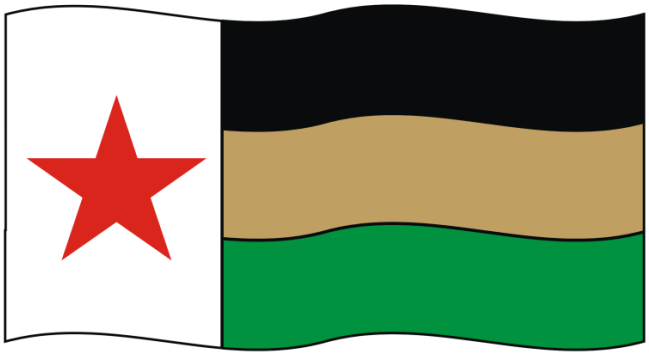
Labour Party of Kenya (LPK)
Lenana 540, Lenana Road | Yaya/ Hurlingham Area
P. O. Box 10456 – 00100 | Nairobi – Kenya

Email: info@labourpartykenya.org

Web: http://www.labourpartykenya.org
Twitter: @labourpartyke | Facebook: labourpartyofkenya

Labour Party of Kenya Youth Congress

LPWC



Investing in People

Labour Party of Kenya

Who Are We?

Who Are We?

LABOUR PARTY OF KENYA INTRODUCTION

1.0 WHO ARE WE?

The Labour party of Kenya was first registered under the Societies Act on 30th March 1998 and later under the **PPA2007**. The party fully complied with the new Political Parties Act. 2011 (**PPA2011)** and has been registered as a Political party, **Registration Certificate No. 3 on the** 29th **March 2012.**

The party is over Sixteen years old since inception and was founded on social democracy as its political ideology, with a major focus on the welfare of workers, gender parity and equal opportunities for all the Kenyan people – to include the disabled people and minority groups, existing harmoniously in a peaceful and just society.

Hon. Prof. Julia Ojiambo is the current National Chairperson of the Labour Party of Kenya.

VISION:

The vision of the party is that of a prosperous Kenyan nation which espouses the principles of democracy, equity, justice, peace and freedom.

MISSION:

Improve the quality of life of Kenyans by promoting people-centered democratic governance thereby ensuring equity, economic and political advancement, social justice, freedom, rule of law, peace and human dignity for sustainable prosperity.

The party has had the opportunity to participate in three General Elections in Kenya that is 2002, 2007 and 2013 General Elections respectively.

It also worth noting that the party has been actively involved in Coalition building in the past three General Elections, that is

- 2002 General elections under National Rainbow Coalition (**NARC)** that saw **H.E President Mwai Kibaki** elected as the third President of the Republic of Kenya.
- 2007 General Elections under **ODM-K Coalition that** saw the Coalition front runner **Hon. Kalonzo Musyoka** appointed the Vice President of the Republic of Kenya.
- The **Political Parties Coalition Forum (PPF)** that saw at least 21 political parties come together to forge a common front in the just concluded General Elections.

The party's membership is open to adults above 18 years of age, interested in its principles and values of social justice, workers rights, gender parity and equal opportunities for all Kenyan people.

The party has continued to engage other likeminded political players in finding solutions to issues and challenges facing Kenya.

Who Are We?

2.0 OUR JOURNEY

Since its formation, the labour party of Kenya has been an active player in Kenyan politics.

Labour Party of Kenya was among the coalition parties that brought the famous **NARC** coalition into government under President **Mwai Kibaki** in 2002. Labour Party of Kenya was also involved in yet another coalition arrangement with **ODM-K** in 2007 where Hon. **Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka** was appointed the Vice President of Kenya.

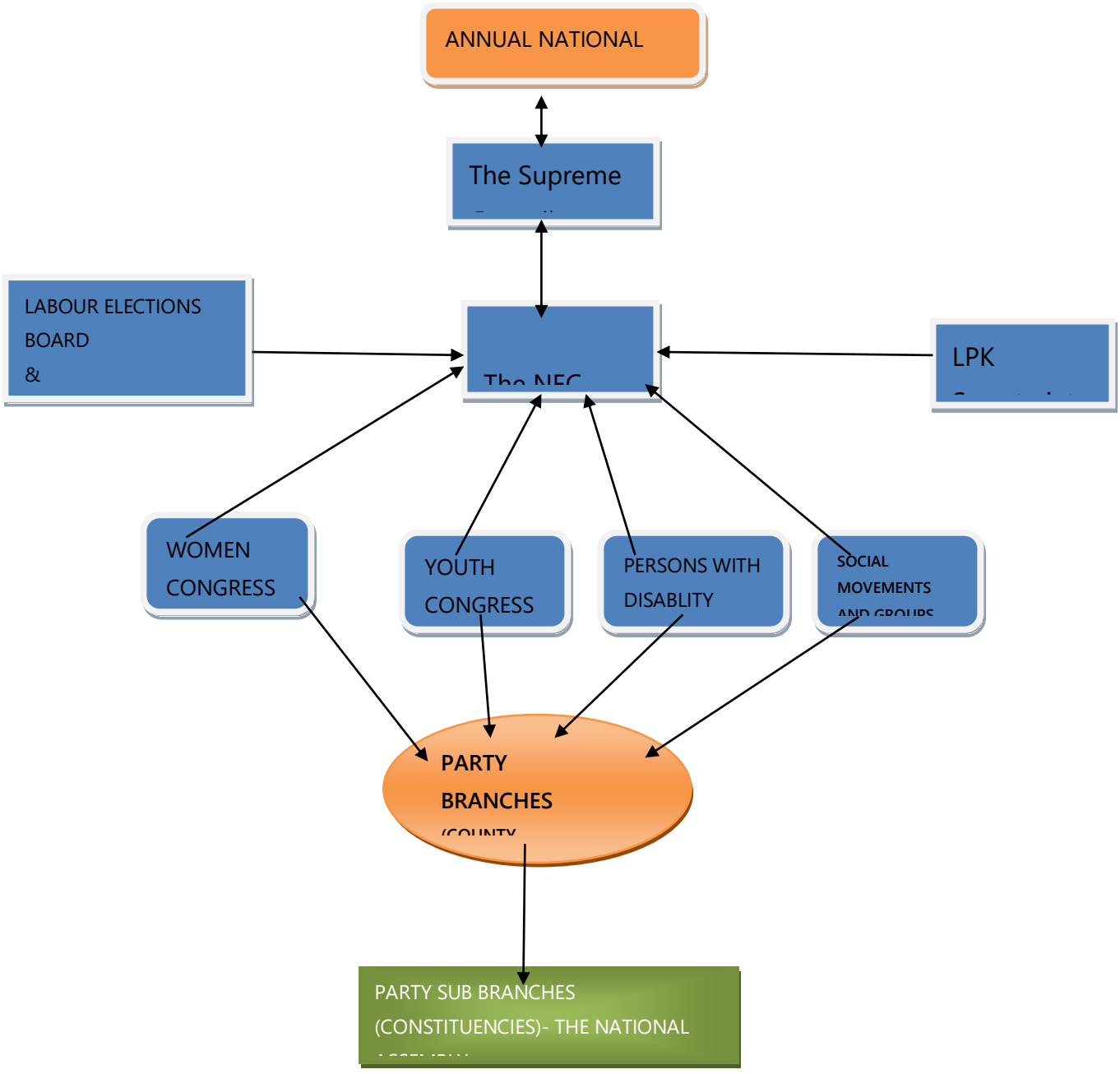
Labour Party's political platform for the past ten years has been that of a **Progressive Reform** agenda. Our motivation as LPK was to see a new constitutional dispensation that propagated democracy in all forms.

Labour party participated greatly in the formulation of the Bomas Draft and consequently in the 2005 referendum to defeat the Wako Draft that was being sneaked in, in pretext of the Bomas draft.

August 2010 saw a new dawn in Kenya when the New **CONSTITUTION** was promulgated. It is worth noting that great gains in terms of social justice, human rights, devolution, gender parity and representation were achieved.

In the legislative front, Labour party has immensely contributed to enactment of laws governing the Cotton Industry, Nutrition, Public Procurement procedures and Gender parity and affirmative action.

3.0 PARTY STRUCTURE



Who Are We?

3.1 THE NEC

3.2 THE SUPREME COUNCIL

3.3 THE SECRETARIAT

3.1 THE YOUTH CONGRESS

Today in Kenya, the youth represent about 65% of the Kenya's population. A bulk of the youth population is unskilled and jobless despite competing high school and tertiary education.

The Labour Party of Kenya has a special interest in developing youth in Kenya and hence the deliberate focus and attention to include youth in the LPK party structure.

The LPK youth Congress is today a very vibrant structure within the Labour party of Kenya, providing a conduit through which to nature political leadership that is ideological thinking and issue based.

The youth congress is spread out in at least 30 counties and is involved in various programs both at national level and within the counties. The programs include, sports outreach activities, candidates identification among the youths, outreach programs targeting the poor and marginalized people in the community, civic and political education, building social networks with youths across the globe etc.

The biggest challenge however is the lack of finances to be able to facilitate programs on a regular and continuous basis. The youth Congress is currently seeking partnerships with interested organizations or persons in order to reach out more often with a sole purpose of making a positive difference in the society.

4.0 THE WOMEN CONGRESS

The increased focus on gender and development debate has been an important development of the last three decades. The global realization that failure to pay close attention to the differentiated positions of women and men in society (resource allocation, rights and opportunities) in formulating policies and designing projects can have adverse impact on development outcomes.

It is from this premise that the labour party of Kenya, in its structural composition has a special focus and emphasis on women issues through the women's congress.

The women congress is an arm/structure within the labour party that is primarily designed to look into matters /issues within society or communities that impact on women and offer solutions/proposals on how to best tackle them.

The Labour Party women congress is involved in the following activities:

- Women Empowerment Programs
- Legislative advocacy of women's rights
- Pushing of women Agendas
- Gender Mainstreaming
- Political and Civic Education.

The Labour Party Women Congress has developed proposals on outreach programs, and is currently seeking partnerships to actualize some of this program, the immediate ones being female candidate's identification and Civic education in the rural areas.

5.0 THE MARGINALIZED GROUPS AND DISABLED PERSONS

The Labour Party of Kenya recognizes and appreciates the fact that we are not all born equal and hence access to certain opportunities may not be possible. The party has given space within its structure, representation of persons who are marginalized in society for various reasons.

LPK has put a special emphasis on persons with disabilities through the disability congress and is currently working on outreach programs within the congress, to be able to give disabled and marginalized groups a political platform to air out their views.

6.0 POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT LOCALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY

LPK AS AN ENTITY

(i). COMPLIANCE WITH THE POLITICAL PARTIES ACT

With the enactment of the new constitution in August 2010, it became mandatory that political parties had to comply with the requirements of the new Political Parties Act 2011. Labour Party of Kenya ensured its compliance with the new Political Parties Act 2011 in order to remain a legally registered political party in Kenya as evidenced by the issuance of certificate no. 3 by the Registrar of Political Parties on 4th April 2012.

The party managed to register over one thousand members in at least thirty counties across the country and has set up functional branch offices in the respective counties.

The party is now in the process of enhancing its membership recruitment across the counties in order to ensure that all LPK candidates in the upcoming General Elections are able to get party members to endorse them and ensure the party gets representation in both the county and national assembly.

(ii).LABOUR PARTY BRANCH OFFICES

Since being a warded with a certificate of full registration, LPK embarked on a countrywide branch

opening exercise with four main objectives.

- Popularize the party within the counties through grass root support
- Ensure Membership recruitment and retention at both county and constituency levels.
- Candidate Identification exercise
- Peaceful elections

The party managed to visit five counties within the last quarter of 2012 and realized very positive responses. The party looks forward to reaching out to more counties in the next three Months, subject to funds availability. The past five visits have cost the party an estimated Ksh. 850,000. Fundraising mechanisms are already in place to an attempt to raise funds to facilitate party programs, as the party's survival politically hinges on the political programs outreach schedule.

During the rollout activity of opening party branch offices, the party was able to realize a lot of positives from the activity. For instance:

OUTCOMES

(i). Party Visibility

A lot of people in the neighborhoods where the LPK party offices were setup did take notice of the party as an existing political entity.

(ii). Acquisition of New Membership –

There was an increase of party membership in each of the counties by at least 20 to 30 percent.

(iii). Membership Retention

The existing party membership has gained more faith and belief in the party as an alternative progressive voice seeking to offer Kenya alternative leadership this is as a result of the political activities witnessed by the membership at grass root.

(iv). New Party Candidates-

As a result of party mobilization within the five counties, the party was able to generate interest from aspiring/contesting candidates in the upcoming general elections.

The greatest challenge for the party to be able to reach out more is the financial resource needed. All the above listed outputs greatly depend on financial inputs.

(iii). POLITICAL PARTIES FORUM - PPF

Focused on the need to foster National cohesion and integration hence promoting peace across the country and appreciating the fact that a united front of likeminded political parties is the sure way to offering Kenyans an alternative and progressive form of leadership, Labour party of Kenya is affiliated

to a forum of more than fifteen political parties known as the POLITICAL PARTIES FORUM. LPK is the leader party within the PPF.

The Political Parties Forum brings together more than fifteen political parties initially registered in Kenya under the Political Parties Act of 2007 and now registered under PPA 2011. The principles of engagement among members of PPF are founded on,

(a) Trust
(b) Equality
(c) Transparency
(d) Honesty
(e) Respect
(f) Democracy
(g) Fair play
(h) Inclusivity

The political parties within PPF all subscribe to Social Democracy as their ideology, hence have continued to engage with each other in order to develop a common front in:

(i). Establishing a people driven new political dispensation.
(ii). Socio economic empowerment of the Kenyan citizenry
(iii). Facilitation and capacity building among women and youth groups.
(iv). Civic awareness on political issues.
(v). Agitating and lobbying for rights of marginalized and special interest groups

PPF is currently in the process of forming itself into a coalition arrangement which is in compliant with schedule 3 of the PPA 2011 in preparation for the upcoming General Elections.
The National Democratic Institute has played a pivotal role in facilitating the Coalition process.

(iv). LABOUR PARTY IN COLLABORATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETIES ORGANISATIONS

In August 2011 Labour party of Kenya was among five political parties invited by a social movement known as **G47** to engage on pertinent issues affecting Kenyans and provide a way forward in resolving the leadership challenges through alternative and dynamic leadership.

G47 is an initiative started by Kenyans locally and in the Diaspora, to drive a positive political change in Kenya across the 47 counties. The G47 movement has taken root across the country and enjoys a lot of following from the grassroots from Kenyans of various walks of life. Some of the active members of G47 are Bunge la Mwananchi, NGO Council, UNGA Revolution, LPK party, SAFINA party, SABA SABA ASILI, Restore and Rebuild Kenya, NPPK, Kenya Diaspora Alliance, prominent personalities among others.

G47 is now in the process of holding a national consultative forum bringing together over one thousand people per county across the 47 counties of Kenya with the sole purpose of forming a potent ***THIRD FORCE*** that will aim and realizing the much needed ***POSITIVE CHANGE*** that has eluded Kenyans for a long time.

G47 Movement is in the process of selecting a viable political vehicle among the registered member political parties.

(v). LABOUR PARTY CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION AND TRAINING

Through a partnership program(Leadership and Campaign Strategy) sponsored by **National Democratic Institute** The Labour Party of Kenya was able to send at least one hundred and **sixty five(165)** candidates to receive training in preparation for the 2013 General Elections.

The various positions contested by various party candidates is as follows,

LABOUR PARTY OF KENYA CANDIDATES WHO CONTESTED 2013 GE

NO.	**POSTION CONTESTING**	**NUMBER OF CANDIDATES**
1	PRESIDENT	1
2	SENATOR	3
3	WOMEN REPRESENTATIVE	5
4	MEMBER OF NATIONALY ASSEMBLY	25
5	GOVERNOR	3
6	WARD REPRESENTAIVE	128

The knowledge gained by LPK candidates has been worthwhile, ranging from

- Leadership skills
- Campaign strategies
- Communication skills
- Electoral code of conduct
- Understanding the Electoral Act
- Political Parties Act and the demand on candidates

This preparation has given the party an opportunity to have candidates who are well prepared mentally to face the election tasks ahead and are more informed while focusing on the upcoming general elections.

Labour Party of Kenya has also subsequently fielded candidates in various by elections that have taken place since the last General Election.

(vi). INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

The Labour Party of Kenya is the only political party from Kenya affiliated to the Socialist International. **Socialist International** (the biggest political organization globally), bringing together political parties that subscribe to social democracy as their political ideology and hence enjoys global recognition among all the social democratic institutions across the world.

The Labour Party of Kenya was in attendance at the last SI Congress in Cape Town SouthAfrica in late August 2012 and contributed immensely to the discussions on, "The Emergence of a new spirit of Internationalism across the world."

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL WOMEN CONGRESS

The Labour Party of Kenya has had the privilege of participating in the SI Women Congresses twice, that is in Athens Greece late last year and this year in Cape Town South Africa.

In both conferences issues in relation to global empowerment of women with emphasis of encouraging women participation in politics were key topic discussions and representatives from the Labour Party Women Congress did make key contributions to the discussions.

Forums such as the SI women congress do present worthwhile platforms to engage and exchange ideas and experiences from different parts of the globe, but more importantly it is the networks formed from such forums that count in helping form lasting and beneficial partnerships.

THE AFRICAN WOMEN ACADEMY – LPK WOMEN CONGRESS

In June last year, the Labour Party of Kenya, courtesy of the West minister Foundation, received an invitation to attend the launch of the African Women's Academy in Dare salaam, Tanzania, that had been slated for August the same year.

Labour party of Kenya is happy to note that its initial input on how the Academy would be conceptualized was adopted by the members present and consequently the LPK Women's' Congress was elected to host the Secretariat. A follow up meeting in Maputo in February this year (2012) developed a constitution for the Academy with considerable inputs from the women's congress.

Labour Party of Kenya shall be in the forefront always in ensuring the voice of women across the continent is heard through representation, advocacy and affirmative action. The women's' academy is a project that Labour party will work tirelessly to ensure that it is indeed a reality.

The Labour Party Women Congress hope to utilize the WAFA opportunity fully in exposing as many women as possible within the country to political education that will assist them gain the knowhow of how to engage in political processes both at voter and candidature level. The women congress also seeks to develop a strong team of trainers through WAFA to facilitate political education activities within the party structure.

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF THE SOCIALIST YOUTH – LPK YOUTH CONGRESS

The International Union Of Socialist Youth (IUSY), is an organization bringing together youth leagues and youth congresses of social/liberal democratic parties, to share a common ideology in advancing the Youth agenda across the globe.

LPK is happy to note that the Labour Party of Kenya Youth Congress is also in the process of being admitted as full members to the International Union of Socialist Youth. Through engagement with IUSY, the Labour Party Youth Congress has attended seminars and workshops on "social democracy in Africa and gender equality" at the world festival in Vienna Austria, in late August 2011 and in early February 2011, in Dare salaam, Tanzania.

In late November, 2012 the Labour Party Youth Congress will once again be participating in an IUSY organized Africa Youth Congress to discuss issues related to, democracy, corruption, social justice, social security systems, youth unemployment, education, xenophobia, climate change and sustainable development, African Youth Charter and to develop their practical skills together.

The Labour Party Youth Congress has gained a lot of valuable experience and knowledge in understanding instituting of social democracy in various countries across the globe and the active role the youth can play in actualizing social democracy within the society.

The Labour Party Youth Congress has also learnt how to strengthen its internal structures and more so its secretariat in order to organize youth political agendas and programs geared towards enhancing youth participation I political processes. However the biggest challenge that remains is on funding

LABOUR PARTY ELECTION PREPAREDNESS

As the First General Election under the new constitution fast approaches, it is worth noting that Labour party has made every effort notwithstanding the tough economic challenges it faces to keep abreast with the Election calendar and prepare in time in order to meet the statutory deadlines set out in law.

The following are the measures LPK has put in place in terms of Election preparedness.

1. MAPPING OF CANDIDATES SEGREGATION OF THE LIST

Since early last year Labour party of Kenya embarked on a candidates identification exercise in the counties. The party has been able to identify potential candidates in at least five key counties that the party has mapped out. The identification process did take into account a SWOT analysis of the candidates and vital information such as the party membership spread, estimated potential voters and geographical size and location of the electoral units

2. POLICY FRAME WORK (MANIFESTO)

The party has also developed its campaign platform document know as the "Party Manifesto". The document addresses the key issues that the party stands for going into the election and is as follows:

Health Care:
Ensuring access to quality Health care for all Kenyans more so maternal healthcare which still remains a major challenge across the country.

Education:
Work towards removing classification of education (private and public schools) and ensuring all Kenyan children have access to quality education regardless of their socio-economic background

Labour Policy:
To reform Labour laws in all sectors of the economy in order to ensure that the rights of workers are respected and their efforts are rewarded accordingly.

Food Insecurity:
Work towards developing and implementing a food policy strategy that will ensure that the country does not suffer from food insecurity and consequently an unhealthy nation.

Social Security:
To develop a social security structure for the country that will ensure that the country caters for the needs of the less fortunate in society hence providing an opportunity for every Kenyan.

Constitution Implementation:
To focus on the continuous Constitution implementation process and the respect and adherence to the constitution.

3. PARTY DOCUMENTATION

LPK has for the last two years kept on revising its party documentation in order to ensure that the party documentation is in tandem with the country's constitution and more importantly the party's vision, mission and focus remain continuously known among its membership and the general public.

The party documentation is as follows:

- **The Party Constitution**
- **The Members Guide Book**
- **Party Nomination Rules**
- **Party's Strategic Plan**
- **Party Manifesto**
- **Publications on Workers Movement**

4. LABOUR PARTY CANDIDATES TRAINING

While the candidates' identification process has been on, the party also took time to organize for training of candidates bearing in mind the massive electoral reforms that had taken place and the need to educate members and general public on the electoral requirements and statutory mandates.

Labour Party of Kenya has managed to organized a serious of meetings internally, to keep the

candidates and the membership informed of the electoral laws and the constitutional requirement in the run-up to the elections. The party has also been working in consultation with the National Democratic Institute, to provide in-house training to potential LPK candidates through using professional trainers and instructors.

5. POLITICAL STRATEGY

With the past General Election behind us now, LPK is now strategizing on how best to engage politically for the next five years and beyond. The key strategic issues that LPK seeks to look into in its Strategic Plan are as follows:

a) Alliances
b) Profiling of candidates
c) Media engagement
d) Campaign strategy focusing on the poor and marginalized
e) Peaceful and unifying party
f) Ensuring we have a voter turnout to ensure party receives funding and remains relevant after the next General Elections
g) Capacity of Back office Staff
h) Facilities at the Party Secretariat
i) Party Visibility
j) Establishing general ideological awareness.
k) Lack of Capacity to actively engage in Politics.
l) Resource mobilization
m) Profiling Labour Issues
n) Strengthen women and youth congresses
o) Increase level of elected party representation in the county Assemblies
p) Have elected party representation in the Parliament (National Assembly & Senate)
q) International and Local solidarity
r) Party Publication
s) Engendering of women and youth into party politics
t) Communication Strategy
u) Pro- Policy engagement

CHALLENGES FACED

i. HUMAN RESOURCE

Due to the lack financial resource it is quite difficult for the party to attract the correct technical staff needed to address the technical issues with its Secretariat.

ii. EQUIPMENT

Some of the Party activities do need proper equipment in order to enable the party have any major impact. For instances for the party Secretariat to effectively co-ordinate party activities at all levels it is very important for the Secretariat to be properly equipped with all the necessary equipment eg. Computers, printers, projectors, laptops, mobile phones, internet connectivity etc.

iii. FINANCIAL RESOURCE-

Money is very important aspect of politics in most third world countries. The influence of money especially during electioneering cycles cannot be ignored. Most Political parties that have any major impact on the ground do so through massive rollout of financial resources. The Labour Party of Kenya has no tangible capital base from which to mobilize political activities and solely depends on the committed membership and the little finances from the Political parties fund to be able to reach, hence the challenge of remaining continuously visible and relevant in Kenyan politics

CHALLENGES TO DEMOCRACY IN KENY

Kenya parliament passes draconian media laws

Nairobi, December 5, 2013--Kenya's National Assembly today passed contentious anti-press legislation, the Kenya Information and Communication (Amendment) Act and the Media Council Act, which will effectively silence critical reporting through a new government-controlled regulator and the threat of hefty fines.

Disregard for rule of law, ego wars a threat to democracy

Judiciary 'concerned' over disregard for court orders, The Judiciary has raised concern over increased disregard for court orders.

POLITICAL PARTIES FUNDING

POLITICAL parties that failed to get at least five per cent of the votes cast in last year's general election have lost a court case challenging the formula adopted in sharing state funding.

Kenyans to blame for giving birth to rogue Parliament

These days our National Assembly appears to specialise on springing annoying surprises every new dawn. When they are not fighting unhelpful battles with the Senate, they are passing bills that go against letter and spirit of the Constitution.

WAYFORWARD

1. To develop Stronger partnerships with the Westminster Foundation in enhancing joint programs aimed at capacity building and empowerment.

2. Support LPK candidates to win the seats

Contacting US

Labour Party of Kenya Youth Congress
Labour Party of Kenya (LPK)
Lenana 540, Lenana Road
Yaya/ Hurlingham Area

P. O. Box 10456 – 00100
Nairobi – Kenya

Email: info@labourpartykenya.org
Web: http://www.labourpartykenya.org
Twitter: @labourpartyke
Facebook: lpkyouths