

REPORT OF THE INTRODUCTORY ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE COMMISSION AND POLITICAL PARTIES

Meeting Held on Friday, 26th September 2025 at Maanzoni Lodge

The meeting commenced with a word of prayer led by the IEBC corporate team. The Master of Ceremony was Commissioner **Ann Nderitu**.

This engagement brought together **IEBC Commissioners**, the **Registrar of Political Parties (ORPP)**, and members of the **Political Parties Liaison Committee (PPLC)**.

The primary objective was to introduce the new IEBC Chairperson and Commissioners and to strengthen collaboration with political parties ahead of upcoming electoral activities.

Opening Remarks

The newly appointed IEBC Chairperson, **Mr. Erastus Edung Etheke**, expressed gratitude for the warm welcome. He shared that he had left his previous role abroad to serve his country in this national duty.

Mr. Etheke pledged to:

- Uphold **transparency and integrity** in all electoral processes, including ensuring an audited and accountable election process.
- Support efforts to secure adequate **funding** to enable eligible voters to register and exercise their democratic rights.
- Facilitate the formation of **joint committees** within two weeks to work with the Commission on preparations for upcoming by-elections and the 2027 General Election.

He highlighted the immediate priority of organizing by-elections scheduled for **27th November 2025** in some counties, noting the current budgetary constraints. He assured members that IEBC is engaging the **National Treasury** and **Parliament** to secure the necessary resources.

Key Issues Discussed

1. Training & Technology:

- Partners will undergo training on new technologies, including **IVR systems** and **tablet-based registration**, to enhance voter registration at county levels.

2. Legal Reforms:

- The Chairperson emphasized the need for **urgent legal reforms** to address gaps in the Commission's mandate and operations.

3. Voter Registration Launch:

- The PPLC was invited to the official launch of **mass voter registration** in Kajiado on **Monday, 29th September 2025**.

4. Memorandum of Understanding:

- Plans are underway to develop a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** between IEBC and political parties to promote collaboration and service delivery.

Contributions from Stakeholders

- **IEBC Commissioners** individually reaffirmed their commitment to serving the people and bringing their diverse expertise to the Commission.
- The **Registrar of Political Parties** assured stakeholders of her office's dedication to protecting personal data and supporting the registration of new political parties.
- The **PPLC Chairperson** appreciated the IEBC for a well-organized and open engagement, noting the commissioners' professionalism and willingness to listen.

The IEBC Chairperson further urged the PPLC to assist in curbing **electoral violence** and **irregularities** during by-elections and the 2027 General Election. He remarked that the interaction had provided the Commission with a **clearer and more positive understanding of the PPLC**, different from earlier perceptions.

Conclusion

The meeting ended on a high note with a **group photo** featuring the IEBC Chairperson, Commissioners, ORPP, and PPLC members.

Participants agreed that the engagement marked the **revival of a collaborative “tripartite” relationship** among IEBC, ORPP, and political parties—a partnership critical for credible and peaceful elections.

Report prepared by:
Harrison Kamau Gitagia

Organizing Secretary