

WORKING TOGETHER FOR PEACEFUL AND VIOLENCE FREE 2016 GENERAL ELECTIONS

28th January 2016

We the Youth of Uganda, through the Interparty Youth Platform (IYOP), on this 28th Day of January 2016

Being a platform comprising of different Political Parties in Uganda - including Conservative Party (CP), Democratic Party (DP), Forum for Democratic Change (FDC), Justice Forum (JEEMA), National Resistance Movement (NRM), Peoples Progressive Party (PPP) and Uganda People's Congress (UPC)

Conscious of our responsibility and the fact that our Political Parties have majority as Youth

Aware that poverty, lack of jobs and other employment opportunities and general falling standards of living are the major causes of violence in electoral process in Uganda

Cognizant of the fact that our generation as youth form the largest voting bloc in the Country

Taking into consideration the role played by Civil Society, Political Parties, Government, Media, Security Agencies and other stakeholders in determining the path in violence free elections

We resolve to pursue the following position in the interest of our future as youth and our country Uganda:

- 1. We pledge to continue building consensus among young people and youth groups across the political divide and creating awareness on peaceful means of democratic consolidation as part of the fundamental tenet upon which the Interparty Youth Platform (IYOP) was founded.
- 2. We condemn any form of violence and re-affirm our commitment to tolerance and peaceful engagement in the forthcoming and other future elections in Uganda.
- 3. We defy any form of electoral manipulation and re-affirm our interest in freely and fairly participating in processes that help us to truly become masters of our own destiny.
- 4. We call upon different political parties and leaders alike to embrace peace in its totality, shunning all manner of electoral violence verbal, physical, psychological and structural.

- 5. We resolve that we, the young leaders of the different political parties in Uganda, shall pursue discussions on tolerance and engagement with our leaders and engage them on pertinent issues for consolidating democracy in Uganda.
- 6. In the spirit of unity and diversity, we call upon the protection and respect for all Ugandans regardless of their sex, race, gender, age and social status during and after elections.
- 7. We call upon all actors and stakeholders (i.e. the presidential candidates, the police, the Electoral commission, the UPDF, civil society and all citizens) to refrain from making any statements that may seem or imply to propagate violence during and after the elections. In the same vain we call upon every actor to be tolerant as well as adopt dialogue as a means of settling any disputes during and after the elections. We implore all political actors to disband and disassociate themselves from all militia groups and call upon every Ugandan to embrace peace.
- 8. Lastly, we implore the Electoral Commission to exhibit the highest modicum of independence and impartiality to ensure that the elections are conducted in a free and fair manner. We believe this will create the best environment for peace and non-violence to thrive.

FOR GOD AND MY COUNTRY

We the seven political parties pledge to keep peaceful during the 2016 election period

Conservative Party youth league 28/01/2016
Forum for Democratic Change youth league 28 01 2016
Justice Forum Youth League
National Resistance Movement Youth League
People's Progressive Party Youth League
Uganda People's Congress Youth League