



**OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL
NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE
NAIROBI – KENYA**

**REMARKS BY POLICE SPOKESPERSON ON POLICE PERFORMANCE
DURING THE 2022 GENERAL ELECTION DELIVERED DURING THE
LAUNCH OF KNCHR POST ELECTION REPORT**

Distinguished Guests,

All Protocols Observed,

Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good Morning.

I am deeply honored with this invitation to join you during today's reflections on the recently concluded 2022 General Election.

On this score, allow me to share the following thoughts capturing the National Police Service performance in a nutshell.

General election is a very crucial and defining moment on the calendar of any government. This is the singular opportunity that citizens get an opportunity to determine their collective future and national aspirations. And this is through electing leaders of their choice who'll shape their lives through policy choices.

As the National Police Service, we're always pleased to be part of this auspicious process. Not just from the fringes but being at the center of it all!

And 2022 wasn't an exception.

As a security, and law and order institution, we commenced our journey for the 2022 election immediately after the 2017 elections. This time around, we took the process more seriously, arising from the tumultuous past elections in a row. And we purposed to do it different this time around and get it right.

So what did we do different this time around?

In response, we put in place a mechanism mandated to chaperone the election security provision. At the helm of it was a senior police officer with mandate to play a liaison role between the Service and IEBC, including other critical electoral stakeholders and partners. It is this liaison role that gave us a seat at the table of critical decision making, enabling us to gain insights on key issues that not only informed but also enriched our internal planning.

Secondly, we audited our performance from the past election, gaining insights, and learning lessons from where we did well, and where we might have failed. We picked the best lessons, and incorporated them into our operational doctrine.

Thirdly and more importantly, we put in place a robust planning process bringing together key policing elements from within the Service and coupled with from our security sector partners. We broke our silos and simply approached electoral security planning as one national agenda. Through this, we leveraged on our respective comparative advantages, shared resources, and continuously compared notes as we progressed. This indeed was the game changer in the turnaround.

Fourthly, we developed related policy guidance documents in good time to support the process. Through our liaison office, we worked jointly with IEBC and developed robust training guidance for all levels of our practitioners purposely to empower them to better perform.

At the core of the training guidance was a deliberate focus on democratic, human rights based and responsive policing paradigm. Officers across the country were taken through all aspects of theoretic and practical electoral security provision, working through extensive simulations. Of great interest was use of force requirements. From our learnings from past elections'

experiences, this was one stubborn risk area responsible for bad policing outcomes that we had to get right.

Once armed with the basic requisites, we as a Service through our senior leadership further continuously engaged the IEBC leadership through high level policy interactions, constantly assuring them of our full cooperation and support to enable them deliver on their mandate.

And to ensure that we succeeded, for the first time ever, we mobilized the largest deployment of about 150,000 strong force of officers. These included auxiliary support from partner agencies like Kenya Prisons, KWS, NYS, Kenya Forest, and NPR who graciously donated their time and resources to make the elections a success. We applaud them for their generosity.

As a Service with a wider outreach, we went further to support the process with logistics as necessary.

Ladies and Gentlemen, all these are a testament of NPS' valued partnership in the electoral process.

Therefore, did we deliver on our mandate?

Yes! We did attain our main objective. And this was simply to support IEBC deliver a free and fair election through provision of a secure environment. We ensured that peace prevailed. We populated all areas with adequate security pre, at and post-election. We took measures to ensure volatile and high-risk areas were proactively secured to reassure communities. We worked either alone or with peace partners such as NCIC and others through UWAINO platform to preach valuable peace. And this initiative paid great dividends as reflected in the peaceful election outcome.

And with this positive outcome, we're glad that observers, our partners and the general public took note and appreciated our contribution. As recent as during the inauguration of the 5th President of the Republic of Kenya, attended by H.E Mama Samia Suluhu, president of Tanzania, she noted as follows during her speech: "... Kama iko zawadi wakenya walipea Jumua ya Afrika Mashariki, ni Amani."

And Ladies and Gentlemen, we're pleased to have been part of this "gift" of a peaceful election!

Thank You.

BRUNO ISOHI SHIOSO, OGW
DIRECTOR CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS/SPOKESPERSON
NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE.
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