

COHESION TODAY

SEPTEMBER 2025 EDITION

FROM THE CEO



For the NCIC, September was filled with meaningful and impactful activities. On 21st of Sep 2025, we celebrated the International Day of Peace in Kisumu County, under the theme "Act now for a Peaceful world," urging all of to contribute to a world where peace thrives. The event was preceded by an edition of Transgenerational conversations on 18th Sep, a football and golf Tournament in Kisii County, setting the tone for the major commemoration. We also engaged communities in the Informal settlements of Nairobi through a series of the Transgenerational Conversations between 8th and 11th of September.

These dialogues culminated into a broader conversation held at the Kenya Methodist University, Nairobi Campus, affirming the critical role of intergenerational exchange in nurturing understanding, unity and sustainable Peace. On 25th Sep, the Transgenerational Conversations Townhall Forum was held in Busia County, allowing participants to discuss their issues and possible solutions of the same. The forum reflected NCIC's commitment to inclusive, solution-driven dialogue. As we reflect on these milestones, let us remember that Peace work is a shared collection of responsibility. May we continue to lay the foundations of a cohesive and Peaceful Society.



The NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, CBS and Vice President of the University of Nairobi Student Association Purity Mutua during the Transgenerational Conversation Nairobi Edition at KeMU Towers on 11th September,2025



NCIC Director of Research and Knowledge Management Ms Millicent Okatch and participants during a validation study on gender dynamics dangerous speech, radicalization and violent extremism at Ngong Hills hotel on the 28th August,2025

Partners Renew Commitment to Peace Ahead of 2027 Elections

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission, in partnership with the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK), the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), and the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB), has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering peace and unity ahead of the 2027 General Elections through the Tuungane Initiative. The National Cohesion and Integration Commission, in partnership with the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK), the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), and the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB), has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering peace and unity ahead of the 2027 General Elections through the Tuungane Initiative.



The NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, CBS and Rev. Canon Chris Kinyanjui at the NCIC HQ during the NCIC-IRCK-NCCK-KCCB partners meeting held at the NCIC headquarters on 25th Sep,2025.

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission, in partnership with the Inter-Religious Council of Kenya (IRCK), the National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCK), and the Kenya Conference of Catholic Bishops (KCCB), has reaffirmed its commitment to fostering peace and unity ahead of the 2027 General Elections through the Tuungane Initiative.

The renewed commitment followed series engagements this week, beginning with a courtesy call by NCCK General Secretary, Rev. Canon Chris Kinyanjui, to the NCIC Chairman, Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, CBS. The two leaders emphasized the importance of collaborative partnerships among faith institutions and NCIC in strengthening national cohesion. Their meeting set the stage for a consortium partners' meeting held yesterday, bringing together IRCK, NCCK, KCCB, and NCIC under one framework to deliberate on joint peace strategies before, during, and after the 2027 elections. In his opening remarks at the partners' meeting, Rev. Dr. Kobia established the guiding principle of the initiative: the restoration of hope and confidence among Kenyans. "The restoration of hope and the restoration of confidence must be our measurable deliverables. This is not just the duty of government or civil society, but a shared mission that calls for unity and optimism from all of us," said Dr. Kobia. A central theme throughout the deliberations was the call for synergy and strategic alignment. Partners underscored the importance of moving beyond superficial collaboration by harnessing the unique strengths of each organization.

"We must examine who is best placed with what exactly," said Susie Ibutu, a representative of NCCK, noting that effective resource deployment will maximize the impact of the consortium's efforts.

The NCCK General Secretary, Rev. Canon Chris Kinyanjui, urged partners to embrace a holistic approach, observing that political fragmentation is part of wider social and global stresses. "We are living through a hard time as a nation, and the solutions must go beyond politics. We must pool our resources, wisdom, and voices to provide true guidance and practical solutions to Kenyans," he noted. Faith leaders stressed the moral authority of the pulpit in inspiring trust and disseminating messages of hope.

Both NCCK and KCCB leaders emphasized that religious institutions, with their deep reach across communities, must play a central role in creating unity. At the same time, they urged for deliberate inclusion of youth voices, especially Gen Z, describing their energy and creativity as vital for shaping new narratives of stability. The IRCK representative, Mr. Linus Thigai, underscored the role of interfaith collaboration as the glue binding the partnership.



The NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, CBS (centre), Rev. Canon Chris Kinyanjui (seated second from left) and other members of the consortium during the NCIC-IRCK-NCCK-KCCB partners meeting held at the NCIC headquarters on 25 th Sep. 2025.

He cautioned that without a coherent counter-narrative, the initiative risked being weakened by political speculation and mistrust. The consortium, he said, must speak in one voice strong enough to shield its mission from criticism while amplifying the voice of citizens. The meeting further validated the strategic direction of the Tuungane Initiative, emphasizing practical next steps: reframing engagement away from formal "dialogues" to platforms for co-creation. adopting evidence-based programming, conducting hotspot mapping, and establishing a clear implementation framework.

There was consensus that the program must span the pre-election, election, and post-election periods to guarantee lasting impact.

In his closing remarks, Rev. Dr. Kobia urged partners to adopt a dynamic and inclusive approach, leveraging lessons from past initiatives such as the Uwiano Platform. He called for the immediate onboarding of political leaders, security agencies, development partners like UNDP, and even the private sector, noting that peace and business are inseparable. He also highlighted the importance of strong messaging, particularly in an era where artificial intelligence is shaping public narratives. Canon Chris, in his final remarks, reiterated the urgency of practical youth engagement, proposing the formation of a Tuungane Reference Group to coordinate communication and governance structures. He emphasized that creating a conducive environment for young people to co-create solutions will be key to mitigating risks and building trust.

As Kenya approaches the 2027 General Elections, the NCIC and its partners remain steadfast in their mission to restore hope, restore confidence, and ensure peace across all 47 counties. The Tuungane Initiative stands as a united effort to safeguard the nation's cohesion through collaborative leadership, faith-driven guidance, and inclusive strategies that leave no one behind.

Beyond Borders: NCIC's Role in AU-COMESA's Seychelles Election Mission

NCIC led by Commissioner Sam Kona joined a team of election observers from the African Union (AU) and the Common Market for Eastern Southern Africa (COMESA) concluded its mission in the Republic Seychelles, offering a unique perspective on the country's democratic process. This collaborative mission, a hallmark of regional solidarity, was deployed to assess the integrity, transparency, and fairness of the electoral exercise. Accompanying the Commissioner were Commission Secretary/Chief Executive Officer Dr Daniel Mutegi Giti (PhD) and Ms Millicent Okatch Director Research and Knowledge Management. The mission's primary objective was to provide an impartial and comprehensive analysis of the electoral environment, from the pre-election phase all the way through to the declaration of results. Observers engaged with a broad range stakeholders, including the Commission of Seychelles, political parties, civil society organizations, security agencies, and the media. These interactions allowed them to gain a holistic understanding of the political climate, the legal framework governing the elections, and the logistical preparedness for the polls.



Commissioner Sam Kona, joined by NCIC CEO Dr. Daniel Giti (PhD),Ms. Millicent Okatch, Director of Research and Knowledge Management and team during the AU-COMESA election observation training for the upcoming Seychelles election on 27th Sep 2025.



NCIC Commissioner Sam Kona and NCIC CEO Dr. Daniel Giti (PHD) during the AU - COMESA election observation training for the upcoming Seychelles election on 27th Sep, 2025

On election day, the AU-COMESA team fanned out across country. They visited numerous polling stations to observe the voting process firsthand. Their observations included everything from the professionalism of polling officials and the security of electoral materials to the privacy afforded to voters and the overall atmosphere at the polling centers. They were keen to note the presence of party agents and local observers, which further boosted the transparency of the process.

While the mission's final report will provide a detailed account of its findings, the initial assessment was largely positive. The observers noted the peaceful and orderly conduct of the polls, a testament to the political maturity of the Seychellois people. This observation mission underscores the commitment of the AU and COMESA to promoting good governance and democratic values across the continent, reinforcing the idea that a peaceful and fair election in one nation strengthens the entire region.

Kenya Answers the Call: A Nationwide "Act Now for a Peaceful world

In a powerful display of unity and hope, Kenya celebrated the 2025 International Day of Peace under the urgent theme, "Act Now for a Peaceful World." The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) led vibrant, multi-pronged celebrations across the nation, transforming the call for peace from a message into a dynamic movement. In the lead up to the main event of International Day of Peace there were two events; football tournament at Gusii Stadium on Friday 19th Sept, and the Golf for Peace Tournament at Kisii Sports Club on Saturday 20th Sept. The tournament drew 96 golfers from across the region, showcasing sports as a unifying factor, with Christopher Maato clinching the overall winner. The most diverse team was also feted. Youth groups drawn from the region participated in the football tournament. NCIC Commissioner, Dr. **Danvas** Makori uraed communities to embrace diversity and foster belonging despite their political and differences, reinforcing that unity begins with mutual respect and inclusion. The Chief Guest and KGU Honorary Secretary, Mr. Jonathan Marucha encouraged members to let peace be the start of our peaceful nation moving forward. These two events culminated to the main event, held at Kisumu's Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Sports Complex, was a vibrant festival of solidarity. Dignitaries including Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o and NCIC Chair Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia and Hon. Dorcas L. Kedogo, joined hundreds of community members, youth, and leaders. The day was filled with action: a symbolic tree-planting ceremony underscored the deep link between environmental and social stewardship, with 500 seedlings donated by Equity Bank handed over to Amani Club students to nurture.



NCIC Chairman Rev.Samuel Kobia ,Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o during the celebration of the International Day of Peace 2025 at the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Sports Complex on Sunday 21st 2025



NCIC Commissioners Dr. Danvas Makori, Sam Kona and a team from NCIC during the Sports for Peace Golf tournament to mark the International Day of Peace at the Kisii Sports Club on 19th Sep, 2025

This spirit of activism was echoed nationwide. The festivities kicked off on Saturday with a tree-planting drive at Kasagam Secondary School and an energetic "Arts and Sports for Peace" event. On Sunday, a hopeful peace procession flowed from the Kondele Roundabout, culminating in interdenominational prayers that united people of all faiths.

Beyond Kisumu, the commitment to peace resonated from coast to countryside. In Mandera, the day was commemorated at the Granada Hotel, with NCIC's Director of Peace building, Mr. Liban Guyo, presiding as the Guest of Honour alongside regional security heads. In the scenic Turkwel region, the NCIC Upper Rift Office partnered with local Amani Clubs and peace networks for a celebration at Turkwel George High School, highlighting powerful grassroots efforts. Meanwhile, in Kwale County, the day began with a peaceful procession culminating in a spirited peace football tournament at Ngombeni grounds, where civil society organizations and security agencies traded uniforms for jerseys in a friendly match for cohesion.



Coast Region Principal Programs Officer Mohammed Babaa and Senior Program Officer Hanifa Mohammed during the Celebration of the International Day of Peace 2025 at the Ngombeni Grounds, Kwale County



NCIC Director Peacebuilding and Reconciliation Mr. Liban Guyo during the commemoration of the International Day of Peace 2025 at the Granade Hotel in Mandera on 21st Sep, 2025

Through inter-ethnic dialogues, transgenerational conversations, and the celebration of local champions, Kenyans from all walks of life answered the global call to action, creating a sustainable network of community peacebuilders to ensure the day's energy translates into long-term impact. "Yesterday, we marched, planted, and pledged. Today, the real work continues. Let the energy of this celebration fuel our daily commitment to peace. Let us be the architects of harmony in our communities, the mediators in conflict, and the champions of a more united Kenya. The call to 'Act Now' does not expire it is our permanent charge."

Transgenerational Conversation for better Governance, and Accountability.

Kenya's history is not a monologue from the past; it is a vibrant, ongoing conversation between generations. The idea that "our nation's story cannot be told by one age group alone" came to life during a recent transgenerational dialogue at Kenya Methodist University. The event wasn't just a talk, it was a melting pot of wisdom, energy, and shared dreams for the nation. Speaking at the dialogue, the NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, framed the transgenerational dialogue as a vital convergence of different generations, all united by a common aim: the transformative change of society. He issued a powerful call to action, describing each generation as "The Legend of the earth." His message was that every cohort must rise from relative obscurity to discover its unique mission, fervently pursue it, and, crucially, never betray it. The role of NCIC, he stated, is to create the essential space for a genuine, meaningful, and reproductive generation a generation with something vital to contribute. These dialogues are designed to forge a deeper understanding of how the world ought to be.



NCIC Commissioner Sam Kona during the Transgenerational Conversations Nairobi townhall edition held at KeMU Towers on $11^{\rm th}$ Sep, 2025



NCIC Chairman Rev. Samuel Kobia, CBS addressing university students at the transgenerational Conversations townhall at KeMU Towers

Dr. Kobia passionately encouraged the youth to raise their voices, emphasizing that "dialogue offers the context, perspective, and guidance" needed to navigate the path ahead. "As NCIC, we commit to walking with you," he made a profound commitment. But this partnership, he clarified, requires action. He charged the young people to ensure their commitment is translated into results; to build with intention and to let every conversation lead to a committed step forward.His closing vision was one of collective triumph. "Through this partnership, the youth will not only realize their own dreams but their combined efforts will forge nothing less than a new, prosperous, and economically powerful generation for Kenya," he concluded.

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NCIC Chairman Rev. Samuel Kobia, CBS (fifth from the left),NCIC Commissioner Sam Kona (second from the left), NCIC CEO Dr Daniel Mutegi (PHD) (far right) and Panelists during the Transgenerational Conversations townhall Nairobi edition at KeMU Towers on 11th September,2025



Prof. Kivutha Kibwana ,Fmr.Governor Mkaueni County and Proffessor of Law Daystar University speaking during the Transgenerational Conversations Nairobi Townhall forum at KeMU towers on 11th September,2025

NCIC Commission Secretary, Dr. Daniel Giti, issued a compelling charge to the youth. "Empowerment is moving beyond just skills and equipment, it is true development fueled by great accountability and governance, the young leaders hold the tools not just to participate in Kenya, but to fundamentally reshape it", said Dr. Giti. The National Cohesion and Integration Commission plays a crucial role as a bridge, with its mission to converse with the youth, listen, understand the unique challenges they face, and to collaborate on solutions. It's the timeless wisdom put into practice; a problem shared is indeed a problem half-solved.

Dr. Giti pointed to universities as the crucial catalysts for this change. "These are not merely institutions for earning degrees; they are arenas for personal revolution. It is within these halls that perspectives are challenged, ideas are born, and citizens are forged", remarked Dr. Giti. He left the audience with a powerful, call to action: "In understanding, be a men." This is not a call to gender, but to maturity and resolve. It is an inspiration from NCIC for every Kenyan to lean into complexity, to truly comprehend a problem, and to muster the courage to innovate and build the solutions.

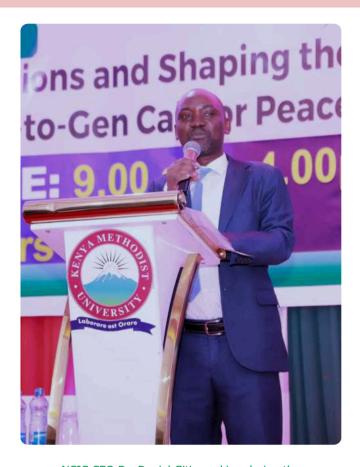
The lesson is clear: Kenya's brightest future will be unlocked not by one generation, but by all generations listening, learning, building and together. The conversation has started. question is, will we all lean in and add our voice?. The transgenerational conversation at KEMU moved from powerful principles to a direct and actionable blueprint for the youth. Building on Dr. Giti's charge for accountability, NCIC Commissioner Hon. Abdulaziz Farah took the stage with a compelling message: "dialogue is not a choice, but a necessity".

"As the people of Kenya, with our beautiful diversity of ethnicity, we have no option but to dialogue and speak," Farah stated. He anchored this imperative in both faith and law, noting, "All our Holy books stress on dialogue, and it is also in our Constitution and statutes. It is our divine and civic duty."

The Commissioner powerfully reminded the youth of a recent national test, the COVID-19 pandemic. He pointed out how it was a moment that demanded the entire education system adapt and change, serving as a stark lesson in resilience and the critical need for flexible thinking in the face of crisis.

This set the stage for the conference's powerful theme: 'United in Diversity, Connecting Generations and Shaping the Future: From experience to action.' This, he explained, is a direct generation to generation call for peace.

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NCIC CEO Dr. Daniel Giti speaking during the Transgenerational Conversations Nairobi Edition held at KeMU towers on $11^{\rm th}$ Sep, 2025

Also by claiming the Political Power, by understanding must be coupled with action. His advice was direct: "If the young want to implement the change they want, then everyone should take a voter's card." But he didn't stop there, issuing a bold call for the youth to not just vote, but to lead: "Take courage and go for big political positions." Finally, he emphasized that critical issues like employment and education require solutions that go "beyond listening and acting." This creating sustainable means systems, innovating new pathways, and implementing policies that truly work. The Commissioner powerfully reminded the youth of a recent national test, the COVID-19 pandemic. He pointed out how it was a moment that demanded the entire education system adapt and change, serving as a stark lesson in resilience and the critical need for flexible thinking in the face of crisis.

The "Transgenerational Corner," he argued, requires peace as its common denominator. For different generations to coexist and collaborate under one national household, they must commit to four pillars: talks, listening, respect, and continuous conversations. But how does this dialogue translate into tangible change? Commissioner Farah offered a clear strategy: By Knowing the Blueprint, he challenged the youth to move beyond complaints and become

youth to move beyond complaints and become experts on the nation's foundational document. "The young should go through the Constitution and identify where reforms are needed," he urged. "We beat the system by understanding the system." The message was a powerful relay handoff. From the wisdom of experience, the baton of actionable knowledge was passed to the energy of youth. The call is clear: Kenya's future will be built on a foundation of dialogue, powered by a deep understanding of its governance structures, and ultimately shaped by the courageous action of its young people stepping into the arena.



University students pose for a photo during the Transgenerational Conversations Nairobi Townhall edition held at KeMU towers on $$11^{\rm th}$$ Sep,2025

Nairobi County: Transgenerational Conversations Take Centre Stage in Informal Settlements



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia addresses the participants of the transgenerational conversations forum held



for structured dialogue between generations to

foster peace and understanding. Speaking at the

forum, NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia

called on the youth to participate constructively in

national discourse. "I want to assure the gathered residents, especially the passionate young GenZ voices, that NCIC has come not to provoke but to listen, we are creating a space of safety, promising that every opinion is welcome without fear of

punishment, so long as it steered clear of hate".



NCIC Commissioner Hon. Abdulaziz Farah addresses the participants of the transgenerational conversations forum held at CFK Hall in Kibra on 10th, September 2025.

NCIC Commissioner Hon. Abdulaziz Farah, addressed the government's urgent need to initiate change for the youth. He emphasized that young people are demanding tangible improvements to their welfare economically, politically, and socially. They are no longer satisfied with promises but want to see results. To meet this demand, the Commissioner proposed a clear solution, to bring all key institutions under one unified recruitment roof. This consolidated system, he argued, would ensure a fair and transparent process where employment is based on merit, guaranteeing that the best candidate is always selected for the job. Assistant County Commissioner Ms. Hellen Manyonyi who represented national government, made a passionate call for civic engagement. She urged residents to actively attend public Barazas and participation forums, reminding them that "the power belongs to the people" and that fulfilling this civic duty is crucial for good governance.



Ms. Hellen Manyonyi, Assistant County Commissioner Speaking during the Transgenerational Conversations in Kawangware on 9th September, 2025

Assistant County Commissioner Ms. Hellen Manyonyi represented national government, passionate call for civic engagement. She urged residents to actively attend public Barazas and participation forums, reminding them that "the power belongs to the people" and that fulfilling this civic duty is crucial for good governance. A GenZ representative, highlighted the deep-seated mistrust that discourages many young people from attending public forums, fueled by a fear that their voices are not taken seriously. She pointed to a prevailing sense that the government does not listen to youth, nor does it implement their ideas, leading to widespread disengagement. She also addressed gender inequality, stressing that women often lack respect and opportunities. She called for greater investment in educating and empowering women, emphasizing that involving women in development matters is essential, as they urgently need more exposure and inclusion. The message echoed was clear, the future won't be given, it must be built with voice, with action, and with an unwavering demand for a seat at the table.



NCIC Vice Chairperson Hon. Dorcas Kedogo alongside other participants during the Transgenerational conversation forum held at Kangemi SocialHall in Kangemi, on 8th September 2025.



NCIC Director Investigations and Compliance Mr. James Wanyande addressing participants during the Transgenerational conversation forum held at Kangemi SocialHall in Kangemi, on 8th September 2025

NCIC Embraces Customer Service Excellence to Enhance National Cohesion

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) is taking a proactive step toward its core mandate of fostering national unity by embracing a comprehensive Customer Service Excellence (CSE) program. Led by Commission Secretary and CEO, Dr. Mutegi Giti (PhD), the commission's leadership and staff participated in a sensitization forum held on 17th September 2025 aimed at transforming service delivery to the public. Speaking at the event, Dr. Giti accentuated the critical nexus between customer service excellence and the commission's mission. "Customer excellence is at the very heart of NCIC's core mandate of facilitating cohesion among Kenyans," he stated. sensitization and the broader CSE program have come at an opportune time for the Commission to not only strengthen its engagement with the public but to also incorporate dignity in service delivery." The CSE initiative is a key government program spearheaded by the Kenya School of Government (KSG) and Huduma Centre. The forum at NCIC government's commitment highlighted the enhancing public service delivery and creating a culture of excellence across all state agencies. The program is designed to be comprehensive, targeting a wide range of public servants from executive leaders to front-office staff. Ms. Susan Chesang, the Head of the Customer Service Excellence Centre at the Kenya School of Government (KSG), challenged the NCIC participants to look beyond the traditional front office and consider every interaction as an opportunity to serve. She underscored that excellent service delivery is not confined to one department-Communication and Customer Service but is a shared responsibility across the entire Commission.



NCIC CEO Dr. Daniel Giti (PhD) addressing participants during a validation study on gender dynamics dangerous speech, radicalization and violent extremism at Ngong Hills hotel on the 28th August,2025

"The program has been tailored to target various groups, including executive leaders, senior managers, front office staff, technical officers, and quality assessors, all with the goal of transforming service delivery in Kenya," she explained.

Ms. Chesang's message was a call to action for the NCIC team to adopt a holistic approach to service, one that permeates every level of the organization and builds trust with the citizens it serves. By focusing on excellence at every touchpoint, the NCIC can better fulfil its role in promoting cohesion.

Mr. Lukas Mwangi, Director at Huduma Centre, echoed these sentiments, urging the participants to fully embrace the principles of CSE. He highlighted key aspects of the program, including fostering a culture of dignity in service delivery, building an institution-wide ethos of excellence, and practicing servant leadership in the public sector.

Drawing on the success of the Huduma Centre model, Mr. Mwangi showcased how one-stop-shop approach revolutionized public service across the country over the past 10 years. He also mentioned the advanced "Huduma Mashinani" which initiative, extends services to arassroots communities, ensuring that even citizens in remote areas can access government services efficiently. "Huduma Centre is a one-stop-shop where public service has been transformed across the country. Beyond the centers, we have Huduma Mashinani, through which we reach out to our esteemed customers at the grassroots level," he said.

He further challenged the NCIC team to view the CSE program as a vital tool for enhancing cohesion among Kenyans. By treating every citizen with respect and dignity, the commission can lead by example and contribute to a more inclusive cohesive society.In her and closina Millicent Okatch, remarks. Ms. Director of Research and Knowledge Management, expressed her gratitude to the KSG and Huduma Centre teams for the insightful session.

She noted that the sensitization, which involved the Commission Secretary Dr D. Mutegi Giti (PhD), Ms. M. Okatch Director Research and Knowledge Management, Mr J. Wanvande Director Investigations Compliance, several Deputy directors, and various heads of departments, was a critical first step. Ms. Okatch urged KSG led by Ms Susan Chesang to provide guidance on the next steps, ensuring that the momentum from the forum translates into tangible improvements in service delivery ultimately, strengthens the commission's ability to foster national cohesion.The adoption of the CSE program by NCIC marks a significant moment in the commission's history, signalling its commitment to not only addressing conflicts but also proactively building a foundation of trust and respect with the Kenyan public. By focusing on excellence in service, the NCIC is poised to become a more effective and impactful institution in its ongoing efforts to unite the nation



Promoting Social Cohesion in Kakuma: Second phase of research unveils perspectives on Peace and Co-existence

The National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), in partnership with the Auschwitz Institute for the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities and the Refugee Consortium of Kenya, concluded its second research phase in Kakuma as part of a broader initiative to foster social cohesion and peaceful coexistence within the region.

The research exercise took place from (Saturday, September 13th, to Thursday, September 18th,2025). During this period, the Commission and its partners employedresearch tools, the Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) and Key Informant Interviews (KIIs), to gather insights and diverse perspectives on peace-related issues affecting Kakuma.



NCIC Deputy Director Ms. Jescah Otieno at a training for enumerators for the project promoting social cohesion and peaceful coexistence in Kakuma on 16th Sep,2025



A woman from the host community engaging with the researchers during a research on peace-related issues forum at Kakuma on 16th Sep,2025



Deputy OCPD Mr Kennedy Omondi (centre) pictured with NCIC staff members during a courtesy meeting at Kakuma on 17th Sep.2025



Principal Programs Officer Regina Mutiru engaging with a young man during a research on peace-related issues in Kakuma on $17^{\rm th}$ Sep,2025

This phase of the project aimed to understand the dynamics of relations between the community, predominantly the Turkana people, and the refugee population residing in the camp. The findings reflect a range of experiences, perceptions, and challenges faced by both groups in cohabiting and fostering social harmony. By engaging with community members, leaders, and stakeholders, the research sought to identify opportunities for strengthening social bonds and addressing tensions that could threaten peace and stability in Kakuma. The insights gathered will inform targeted interventions and designed to promote mutual understanding, respect, and peaceful coexistence among the diverse.

NCIC Holds A Consultative Meeting With Communications Authority Of Kenya



Deputy Director Legal Services Mr. Kyalo Mwengi during a consultative meeting with a team from the Communications Authority of Kenya at NCIC headquarters on 23rd Sep, 2025



Acting Assistant Director at Communications Authority of Kenya Peter Ikumilu during a consultative meeting held at the NCIC headquarters on 23rd Sep,2025

On Tuesday, September 23, 2025, the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC), through its legal department, convened a consultative meeting with the Communication Authority of Kenya (CAK) to engage in detailed discussions concerning their ongoing partnership. A key topic on the agenda was the review and potential revision of the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which serves as a foundational document guiding this significant collaboration.

During the meeting, representatives from both organizations underscored the necessity of updating guidelines aimed at preventing the dissemination of undesirable bulk political SMS and harmful content on social media through electronic communication networks. There was a recognition of the urgent need to implement robust guidelines for addressing misinformation and hate speech across various digital platforms, particularly in anticipation of the forthcoming 2027 general elections.

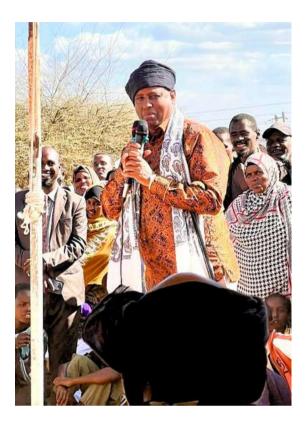
Additionally, the discussions highlighted the significance of identifying further areas for collaboration and addressing emerging issues that may threaten electoral integrity. The participants proposed the development of ioint sensitization campaigns intended to raise awareness about civic responsibilities and encourage peaceful electoral participation.

To support these initiatives, the meeting concluded with a commitment to design coordinated capacitybuildina programs and formulate a strategic implementation plan. This plan is to include a comprehensive work plan and budget. This collaborative effort aims to enhance cohesion and promote a peaceful electoral process as the elections approach.

Celebrating Unity Through Culture and Talent

Movale Police Grounds in Marsabit County transformed into a vibrant crossroads of culture, cuisine, and profound reconciliation from September 18th to 20th, 2025. This was the scene for the Nagayo-Bakalcha Multi-Cultural and Food Festival, a three-day celebration that used the richness of heritage to bridge divides among Moyale's seven diverse communities and cement a fragile but essential foundation for peace. Organized by the State Department of Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) and Regional Development, the festival's mandate was clear: utilize culture as a powerful tool for unity. Participants, including elders, youth, women, and leaders, represented all of Moyale's constituent communities the Borana, Gabra, Burji, Garri, Kona, Sakuye, and Wayu underscoring the event's all-inclusive spirit.

Courtesy visits to local administrators highlighted a persistent theme: the necessity of dialogue and inclusivity, especially for historically marginalized groups like the Kona and Wayu. Assistant County Commissioner Stephen Ogolla reminded participants that peace in Moyale is "fragile but achievable when all communities feel represented" in decision-making. The first two days were a stunning. The grounds became a living museum where traditions unfolded in real-time. Community members offered elaborate reenactments of weddings, curated exhibitions inside traditional houses, and staged powerful performances of music and dance. Each group proudly displayed its unique practices, yet the collective celebration of their shared pastoralist heritage reinforced the powerful message: culture is a bridge, not a barrier.



Marsabit Governor Mr. Mohammed Mahmud Ali addressing the people of Moyale who showed up for the Nagayo - Bakalcha multi-cultural and food festival 2025 in Moyale sub-county on the 20th September, 2025



The Cabinet Secretary for East African Communities the ASLAs and Regional Developments Ms. Beatrice Askul Moeiiii addressing the people of Moyale at the Nagayo - Bakalcha muti-cultural and ood festival 2025 in Moyale Subcounty on the 20th Sep,2025

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Kisumu Forum Bridges Generations in Quest for Peace and Stability

Kenya's national conversation on peace, security, and preventing violent extremism gained significant todav momentum as а high-level, generational dialogue unfolded at the Mama Grace Onyango Social Hall in Kisumu. The event, branded as the Transgenerational Conversation on Peace, Preventing Violent Extremism, Security, and convened over 155 participants, including elders, Gen Z youth, women, persons with disabilities, government officials, civil society leaders, and grassroots actors, all dedicated to redefining peace in their country

The event's timing, iust days before the International Day of Peace, amplified its resonance. For Kisumu, a region often characterized by political protests and ethnic tensions, the gathering served as a powerful declaration of intent toward cohesion. Government officials, including NCIC Chairperson Rev. Dr. Samwel Kobia CBS, Vice Chairperson Hon. Dorcas L. Kedogo, and Kisumu's Deputy Governor Mathews Owili, underscored the urgent need for stability. Deputy Governor Owili emphasized that peace is not just a moral imperative but an economic one, vital for attracting investments and opportunities.

NCIC Chairperson Dr. Kobia assured participants that their input would directly influence national frameworks, stating, "Policy begins here your voices are already shaping it." The commitment to action was set by the promise of an implementing committee that would utilize the forum's recommendations.



The youth of Kisumu City during the Kisumu edition of the Transgenerational conversations held at Mama Grace Onyango Social Centre on the 18th September, 2025

The commitment to action was set by the promise of an implementing committee that would utilize the forum's recommendations. The conversation was not confined to the hall. KBC Channel 1 broadcasted the discussions live nationwide, while the hashtag #AmaniKwaGround trended widely on social media. Citizens from across Kenya joined the digital debate, discussing crucial issues like femicide prevention and the urgent need to rebuild intergenerational trust.



NCIC Commissioner Eng. Philip Okundi, EBS,HSC with panelists during the Kisumu edition of the transgenerational conversations held at Mama Grace Onyango Social Centre on the 18th September,2025

Activist Jovian Zuena's impassioned call to end delivered through art particularly resonated, generating significant ripple effects online. Despite the general success of the dialogue, the forum highlighted areas improvement. Time constraints were noted, and youth participants voiced calls for more equal representation on panels. Additionally, women's groups strongly advocated for greater integration of gender-sensitive approaches in peacebuilding policies. These critiques, however, were interpreted by organizers as a sign of progress: a strong demand for more such inclusive spaces. The event served as a critical reminder that peacebuilding must involve everyone, from boda riders to business leaders, and cannot be outsourced solely to politicians or security agencies. Kisumu city story stands as a living example of resilience, demonstrating that even in places scarred by division, genuine dialogue can spark healing and shape a community's destiny.

COAST REGION COHESION TODAY

NCIC Drives Tolerance Initiative to Quell Security Threats in Madogo.



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, CBS responding to questions during the Kisumu edition of the transgenerational conversations held at Mama Grace
Onyango Social Centre on the 18th September 2025

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NCIC Vice Chairperson Hon. Dorcas Kedogo during the Nairobi edition of the Transgenerational conversations held at Kangemi Social Hall on the 8th

Kisumu city story stands as a living example of resilience, demonstrating that even in places scarred by division, genuine dialogue can spark healing and shape a community's destiny.

Kenya's national conversation on peace, security, and preventing violent extremism gained significant momentum today as a highlevel, multi-generational dialogue unfolded at the Mama Grace Onyango Social Hall in event, The branded as the Kisumu. Transgenerational Conversation on Peace, Security, and Preventing Violent Extremism, convened over 155 participants, including elders, Gen Z youth, women, persons with disabilities, government officials, civil society leaders, and grassroots actors, all dedicated to redefining peace in their country. The event's timing, just days before the International Day of Peace, amplified its resonance. For Kisumu, region often characterized by political protests and ethnic tensions, the gathering served as a powerful declaration of intent cohesion. Government toward officials, including NCIC Chairperson Rev. Dr. Samwel Kobia CBS, Vice Chairperson Hon. Dorcas L. and Kisumu's Deputy Governor Mathews Owili, underscored the urgent need stability. Deputy Governor emphasized that peace is not just a moral imperative but an economic one, vilageo17 attracting investments and opportunities.

Consultative Meeting Reinforces Security Measures Amidst Isiolo Political Tensions

The Isiolo Regional Office recently hosted a consultative meeting with a delegation from the Head Office led by Madam CIP Rebecca Joan, who is in charge of Security, and Ms. Elizabeth Wainana, Senior Administrative Officer. The engagement provided a platform for open discussions on key issues affecting staff and operations within the region.

During the meeting, the teams deliberated on matters of security with a focus on ensuring the safety of officers working in Isiolo and its surrounding areas. They visited the County Police Commandants and the Peace Cop in charge, who gave a detailed briefing on the prevailing security situation in Isiolo.



Senior Administrative Officer Ms. Elizabeth Wainaina , Principal Programs Officer Upper Eastern Francis Merinyi , Madam CIP Rebecca Joan and a member of the Police Cop during a consultative meeting at Isiolo on the 26th August,2025



Senior Administrative Officer Ms. Elizabeth Wainaina , Principal Programs Officer Upper Eastern Francis Merinyi and Madam CIP Rebecca Joan after a visit to the County Commandants and the Peace Cop offices at Isiolo on the 26th August, 2025

The ongoing political tension in the county was a major concern due to the recent impeachment attempt by Members of the County Assembly (MCAs). The security agencies assured the delegation of continued monitoring and proactive measures to safeguard peace and stability in the region.

The consultative meeting underscored the commitment, reinforcing the role of multi-agency cooperation in addressing emerging challenges and maintaining peace in Isiolo County.

Building Peace Together: Community Policing in Nakuru East

On 24th September 2025, the Central Rift Region office of the National Cohesion and Integration Commission joined partners in Nakuru East Sub County for a pivotal training program aimed at strengthening community-based peace and security structures. The session brought together Nyumba Kumi coordinators, village elders, community policing representatives, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), NGAO officials, and security actors. Representing the Commission was Mr. Benson Kuyo, Program Officer for the Central Rift Region. The training, organized Midrift Hurinet and Reinvent Kenya collaboration with the Nakuru East Deputy County Commissioner, focused on empowering grassroots leaders to enhance cohesion, security, and conflict resolution under the Nyumba Kumi initiative. Participants from Bondeni, Kivumbini, Afraha, Langa Langa, and Baharini engaged deeply with issues of accountability, ethical service, and the principles of citizen-centered policing.





Nyumba Kumi coordinators, village elders, community policing representatives, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), NGAO officials, and security actors during a training session held on 24th Sep ,2025

Importantly, the forum reinforced that community policing is not merely the duty of uniformed officers but a shared social contract that thrives when all actors formal and informal embrace responsibility. Nyumba Kumi, emphasized, is not a vigilante force, a business enterprise, or a spying unit, but rather a platform of accountability built on trust, confidentiality, and service to the people. Speaking during the session, Mr. Benson Kuyo underscored the importance of grassroots leadership in fostering unity and peace. "Sustainable peace cannot be imposed from above; it must be cultivated at the grassroots where communities live, work, and interact daily " he said. The discussions culminated in the development of action plans that highlighted the need to elect leaders of integrity, integrate social services into peacebuilding, strengthen communication channels between citizens and security agencies, and vet boda boda operators to curb infiltration by criminal elements. These measures demonstrated the recognition that true peace is built on systems rooted in trust and credibility.

The call for transparency, quick responses from security agencies, and closer collaboration with government departments showcased a growing best practice, effective community policing must be responsive and anchored in mutual respect. By repositioning community members as agents of accountability, the training redefined the security narrative from being state-driven to people-owned. In this model, elders, youth, leaders, and officers work together to dismantle illicit practices, promote justice, and nurture peace. NCIC remains steadfast in supporting such initiatives that strengthen unity, foster accountability, and create the foundation for a peaceful and cohesive Kenya.

COHESION TODAY

From Protests to Policy: The Promise of Transgenerational Dialogue.



NCIC Chairman Rev. Dr. Samuel Kobia, CBS and Mr. Obat Masira CEO Mama Grace Onyango Social Hall pictured taking part in an interview with KBC during the transgenerational conversations Kisumu edition on 18th Sep, 2025

Kenya today stands at a crossroads. Across our towns and cities, young people have taken to the streets in protest calling out the weight of unemployment, the rising cost of living, and the frustrations of a system they feel has failed to listen to them. Their discontent is not born of apathy, but of deep engagement; it is a statement that they care about the country's future and demand to be heard. Yet, behind the chants and placards lies a painful disconnect. Many in older generations struggle to understand the anger of our youth, often dismissing it as reckless or disruptive. In turn, young people feel alienated by leaders and elders who appear out of touch with their struggles. This widening generational divide threatens not just political stability, but the very fabric of cohesion and peace in our nation.

At the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, we recognize this tension as both a challenge and an opportunity. Through the Transgenerational Dialogue Initiative, we have sought to create safe spaces where Kenya's elders and youth can sit together not as adversaries, but as partners in shaping the future. The initiative is founded on a simple yet powerful truth, that peace cannot be imposed; it must be co-created, across generations.

In these dialogues, young people are speaking candidly about the pressures they face joblessness, exclusion, and the daily indignities of feeling unheard. Elders, on their part, bring the wisdom of lived experience, reminding us of past struggles that shaped the Kenya we have today. Where once there was tension, the conversations are revealing common ground: a shared love for country, a longing for justice, and the dream of a Kenya where opportunity does not depend on your community, or how old you are. We know dialogue alone will not solve unemployment, nor will it erase systemic inequality overnight. But dialogue is the beginning of trust. It is the first step in healing the mistrust that fuels protests, the bridge between frustration and understanding. Through these engagements, we are witnessing young leaders emerging, elders opening their ears, and communities beginning to re-imagine a peaceful, cohesive Kenya.

As NCIC, our role is to nurture this bridge to ensure that grievances find expression not in violence, but in dialogue and collective solutions. Kenya's youth are not a threat to peace. They are the heartbeat of our nations tomorrow. To ignore them is to imperil our cohesion. To listen and walk with them is to secure lasting peace.

The protests of today are a wake-up call. The dialogues of today are a promise. Together, across generations, we can transform discontent into progress, mistrust into partnership, and unrest into a more just and cohesive Kenya.

PERSPECTIVES



International



DAY OF PEACE

September 21, 2025



Jaramogi Oginga Odinga **Sports Complex**



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Act Now For A Peaceful World



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