



## NEW VISION KENYA – THE PEOPLE’S MOVEMENT

### BACKGROUND

New Vision Kenya (NVK) started as an idea in early 2007, building upon several reform endeavours long before witnessed in Kenya. The idea resulted in a mailing list created after a series of email volleys on 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2007, with 4 initial founding members. The idea was further fortified during an Annual Congress of the Kenya Community Abroad (KCA) held in Delaware, USA, in July 2007. Because the general elections were around the corner, the members at the time considering that only a short time was left before the elections resolved to participate or observe the elections as individuals (with no common NVK position), with agreement to regroup after the elections which was done.

### OUR VISION

A just, free, prosperous, and equitable Kenya

### OUR MISSION

To rebuild a Kenya based on socio-economic justice, rule of law, peace and equity.

### THE IDEOLOGY

NVK subscribes to social-democratic values.

### OUR CORE VALUES

Integrity, transparency/openness, humility, incorruptibility, selflessness, tolerance, uprightness, temperance, wisdom, non-violence/dialogue, conciliation, consensus building/teamwork, and consistency.

### THE CARDINAL PRINCIPLES:-

New Vision Kenya:-

1. Rejects personalization of politics; and rather requires all politics to be predicated on national interest; it is premised on politics of principle rather than searching for power to dominate, plunder and eat!
2. Seeks the institutionalization of political parties in the true sense of political parties, such parties would compete on alternative ideas of development rather than rhetoric and platitudes;
3. Stands for zero tolerance on matters corruption no matter the perpetrator, in other words, there should and MUST never be any sacred cows; you are found guilty of corruption, you pay the price; you are suspected of corruption you are investigated, exonerated or found guilty through a transparent process;
4. Is based on justice, fairness and equity (note the term equity) for all Kenyans no matter their stations in life;
5. Celebrates diversity and rejects tribalism, nepotism and cronyism; it is based on exploiting the strength that comes with the diversity of our people and natural resources and for the benefit of all Kenyans;
6. Is founded on reason over passion, i.e. logic over emotion and sound and structured approach to national challenges;
7. Is based on thinking globally, regionally and nationally and acting locally;
8. Espouses Public Accountability in all endeavours;
9. Is driven by the need to make our country Kenya, a great nation! We could become first a regional giant, a continental powerhouse and a global tiger!
10. Seeks economic justice for all and leadership accountability

## STRUCTURE OF NEW VISION KENYA

NVK was registered as Trust Foundation in Kenya in October, 2009. Currently, it operates as a Think-Tank/Movement. The dual identity should change in due course when the two get registered separately, with distinct leadership and structure, but a common umbilical cord.

Steps towards attainment of the goals and vision set are being guided by a comprehensive Roadmap adopted in December, 2009 at Elmentaita II. Out of the Roadmap has been extracted an Annual (2010) Action Plan, currently being implemented. The Movement is run and managed by an Interim Executive Committee ('Exec'). The Exec also coordinates the implementation of the Action Plan.

The Roadmap stipulates that NVK would have a 4-pronged structure: **Think-Tank, Movement, NGO/Community Development, and Political Party or Coalition of Parties**. As per the Roadmap, the

The 4-pronged approach allows not only synergy, but also flexibility. Some of our members have said: "I just want to be in the Think-Tank", or "I am not interested in politics, only community development". This structure allows for the requisite flexibility, while at the same time creating synergy. Many have also told us if you talk politics to people on an empty stomach (without addressing their immediate empowerment/development concerns), you are building castles on sand. In the same vein, the experience of the African National Congress (ANC), and the US Democratic Party, among others confirm the importance of loose alliance between Political Formations with Think-Tanks and Movements.

### NEW VISION KENYA'S FOUR PILLARS

As a strategy to achieve the goals set, four pillars have been identified:-

1. **Youth** – remember the 30:70 rule! 30% minimum gender/women is common to most Political Formations. What is perhaps unique to NVK is the 70% minimum requirement for the youth (35 years and below) participation. They shall be so represented not only in membership and activities, but also leadership and decision-making structures.
2. **Civil Society** – including CSO's, CBO's, clergy/religious groups, labour movement, professional associations, academia, business & trade associations, etc, this group is seen to be critical to the attainment of set goals. Besides, NVK does not believe in reinventing the wheel, and instead proffers leveraging existing mechanisms and structures. It may decide, for instance, to enter into formal cooperation with existing like-minded NGO's, for instance, subject to signing an agreed Partnership Protocol, bearing in mind our Fundamentals (*vision, mission, core values, cardinal principles, and ideology*) as irreducible minimums.
3. **Diaspora** – an important group that, according to Government official records ploughs about US\$ 1 billion into the national economy every year (way above what any single donor gives), yet treated as 'second-rate' citizens. NVK will work with other Diaspora organizations to ensure the Kenyan Diaspora reclaim their space in the national agenda.
4. **Innovation** – this is the unusual 'pillar'. Generally taken to mean 'Doing things differently, in a new way'. For example, rather than relying on 'tribes' as a basis for politicking, we shall celebrate ethnic diversities, but be guided by unity of purpose and nationhood that has brought us this far as a people. Secondly, whereas traditional socio-political formations rely on a few people bank-rolling their programs, NVK will instead rely on large number of members, making only modest and small contributions for its programs. Besides, NVK will rely heavily on new and emerging communications technologies, including but not limited to Internet, Face Book, Twitter, and other Social Networks, FM/Vernacular Radios, SMS, M-Pesa/Zap Zap, etc for effective and efficient management and program execution.

To be part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century's Kenya, join the Think-Tank/Movement by visiting <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NVK-Magezi> or sending an email to: [NVK-Magezi-subscribe@yahoo.com](mailto:NVK-Magezi-subscribe@yahoo.com).