



Global Diaspora Development Foundation *One Voice Consortium*

5961 Hilltop Trail Drive, New Albany, OH 43054

www.globalddfoundation.com and www.onevoiceconsortium.org

OVC 2022 Planning Meeting minutes

1/29/2022

Meeting called to order at 2:07 PM EST by Dr. Peter Ndiang'ui

Attendees

Dr. Robert Chiuri, Dr. Peter Ndiang'ui, Cllr Elizabeth Kangethe, Eunice Menja, Rose Oginga, Stephen Ngugi, Grace Muchiru, Lucy McKenzie, Dr. Maina Mutonya, Mirriam Omala Gauvin, Dr. Muteti, Patrick Nganga, Kevin Machine, Dr. Joseph Okello, Serah Munyiri, Rev Prof. Lucas Njenga, David Mutua, Daniel, Lilly Richards, Rose, Maryam, Lawrence Muraya, Karen Muigai, Fiona Njororai, Sylvester Makobi, Jacob Ongaki.

David Koech (Education & Diaspora Attache- Kenya Embassy as observer).

Apologies noted; Ralph Kilundu, Maryanne Goetz; Dr. Ben Koissaba; Kevin, Antony Kamnao; Bob Mwiti; Sam Wairegi; Ephraim Gitonga, Dr. Jeremiah Okari, Angela Mate, Ben Kibwato and others.



Scribe and Rapporteur

Fiona Njororai

- Agenda:** Opening Prayer or Exhortation (2 minutes).
Welcome and Introductions by Prof Ndiang'ui (5 minutes)
Introduction of Global Organizing Secretary (2 minutes)
OVC President brief remarks and highlights (10 minutes)
Sectoral Plans for 2022 (Ongoing and Planned) 3 minutes each sector
- Education & Research
 - Socio-Economic Empowerment
 - Health & Social Welfare
 - Technology & Communication
 - Youth & Charitable
 - Gender Affairs and Outreach
 - International & Culture
 - Governance Sector
 - Calendar of activities and meetings of the year 2022 (10 minutes)
 - Open Forum & QA (15 minutes)
 - Meeting Resolutions (15 minutes)
 - AOB
 - Vote of Thanks
-

Old Business

- Acknowledgement & Approval of 2021 accomplishments by Dr. Chiuri

New Business

- Introductions
 - Chairman updates
 - Sector Updates
 - Open floor discussion (Diaspora Voting)
 - Closing Remarks
-

- Dr. Ndiang'ui
 1. Introductions
- Mirriam Gauvin: Global Organizing Secretary
 1. End of March activity-Wanawake na Maji to visit Wakanda-Proximity Point, Mombasa Kenya.
 2. Will share activities scheduled for the year.



- **Dr Chiuri : OVC President**

1. Acknowledgement of OVC progress and growth.
2. Recognition of everyone and the achievements in different sectors (Education, Health, Technology, Socio-Economic, Gender, Youth, Culture and Governance).
3. Recognition of OVC as an umbrella org working closely with IEBC for diaspora voting.
4. PLO Lumumba tour recap.
5. Diaspora Hall of fame awards-Recognition of African identity and culture (3 awards).
6. New Partnerships:

a)Africa and Caribbean trade council in Pennsylvania

b)Collaboration with Swahili cultural institute on Swahili as language of Africa's Diaspora.

c) US department of commerce- Minority Business Development Agency

7. Reminder: Election year in Kenya

- **Sector updates**

1. (Dr. Peter Ndiang'ui) **Education/Empowerment Sector:**

- a) Students coming to Florida Gulf Coast University through OVC. Students will have the ability to work while they study. Subjects covered: Science, English and Mathematics.
- b) Trying to identify universities that allow for favorable in-state fees.

- 2. (Rev Prof. Lucas Njenga) Socio Economic Sector:**

- a) Proximity Point Wakanda launch contributions

www.proximitypoint.city

- b) Deed Institute www.deedinstitute.org
- c) Supporting young people who come to the US
- d) City of return in Mombasa will represent collaborative effort of diaspora remittances
- e) One Voice Consortium Secretariat has been allocated a plot to build its headquarters in Wakanda-Proximity City Malindi Kenya. (Chairman informed via email).
- f) Diaspora engagement and investments in Kenya
- g) July 1st to 4th groundbreaking ceremony
- h) Kenya Airways partnership- Allocation of 3 aircrafts. Early registration and reservations.Direct flight to Mombasa.
- i) Involvement with the World Bank /Kenya youth employability program. Entering 2nd cycle. Proposal: Diaspora can work with the govt to create more employment opportunities and give people opportunities to invest.
- j) Economic strategy-How to expand and give people more opportunities, leveraging credit worthiness



3. (Dr Lucy McKenzie) Health Sector:

- a) Product for diaspora (Diaspo Care). Download the app and register. Will enable people to get care.

https://healthcare-financing.diaspocare.com/portals/supporter_signup?refferal_code=

17n13o

i) Rose Oginga additional points on Diaspocare/Ihopee Medical missions.
Advocacy for utilization of Diaspocare to enable people to get medication

- b) Managing misappropriation of funds. Diaspo care will allow us to pay directly.
- c) Amref as a resource
- d) Education on NHIF

4. (Fiona Njororai) Youth Sector:

- a) Focusing on Youth League organization and strategizing

(Maryam Murbe- Charitable Activities):

- b) Assembling of solar units for homes and neighboring areas (Maasai Mara and Machakos).
- c) Partnering with organizations to share autism resources

5. (Lilly Richards) Gender Affairs Sector:

- a) KWITU: Investments in land and businesses in line with vision 2030.
- b) Gender based violence issues (KWITU Safe Haven).

(Karen Muigai- Safe Haven):

- c) Helped a lot of women in DV since 2017.
- d) Have different chapters to support women.
- e) Working with the police.
- f) Planning to build a shelter for women who need a safe place.

6. (Kevin Machine) Swahili Cultural Institute:

- a) Swahili will be recognized globally.
- b) Swahili Cultural event

7. (Dr Okello) KCFA: Kenya Christian Fellowship Association



- a) Plan for the retreat center in North Carolina
- b) Conference July 1st to 4th. May be virtual this year.

8. (Sarah Munyiri: Epad and Jambolist):

- a) Website management
- b) Jambolist: One Stop shop for Diaspora business and resources

www.jambolist.com

9. (Cllr Kangethe- Beacon of Hope) Governance Sector:

- a) Been doing alot pertaining to elections. Consultations, meeting with IEBC, mapping, community preparedness.
- b) Planning for people to be observers (training and certifications).
- c) Involvement in free, fair and transparent elections.
- d) Beacon of Hope engagement.

(Dr Eunice Menja- KASP):

- e) Election tension: Planning to be ahead of that.
- f) Influencing and advocating for peace as OVC.
- g) Committee will begin sending peace messages in different languages.
- h) Voter Empowerment.
- i) Using different platforms to spread a message of peace.
- j) (Cllr Kangethe) Think of before the 9th, on the 9th and after the 9th.

(Dr Peter Ndiangui):

- h) Constant communication with commissioners and other officials
- i) 12 point proposal submitted by OVC. Justus Nyang'aya arriving in Newyork.
- j) 3 important requests:
 - i. More locations for polling stations and registration centers
 - ii. Voter Identification (ID)
 - iii. Partnerships for election monitoring

Governance open floor discussion:

1. Dr. Muteti :Feedback on registration experience. Registration with ID would mean going back to the local ward in Kenya.



2. Cllr Kangethe: Ability to travel around for Huduma number but claiming to have challenges of voter registration.
3. Kevin M: Limitations that prevent people from being able to register. Add everything to QR Code.
4. Karen: Too expensive. Question: Embassy came to Dallas to register for new ID, why can't they do the same for voter registration?
5. Lilly R: Diaspora vote exclusion. We need to be able to vote from anywhere and have our voice heard.
6. Eunice M: They possess Machinery and equipment to help with registration.
7. Prof Lucas: Not impossible for the law to change. What we need is a powerful lobbying strategy. Mail in votes (Post in ballots).
8. Rose O: We want to be participants. Need to pressure them to do the right thing.
9. Patrick N: Because of time we have to limit our demands. Encourage people to vote in the current locations that exist.
10. Stephen N: IEBC needs to go to where people are located.

10. (Dr. Robert Chiuri) **Closing Remarks:**

- a) Meeting with officials with promises of diaspora voting with easy access to ensure free and fair.
- b) IEBC Mapping/ Concerns raised in the 12 point proposal.
- c) Lack of response from proposal which is disappointing.
- d) THREE bare minimum requirements-ID (Passports change, ID does not change); Expanding registration centers and Extending voter registration period by ONE more month
- e) Meeting with Commissioner Nyang'aya to continue to advocate for free and fair elections.
- f) Contacting media and parliamentarians to keep pushing this matter.
- g) Passing a message that we care about our country and civic education is important to ensure that Kenyans elect good leaders.

Closing additional points: Dr. Muteti: Farming in Kenya.

Closing Prayer: Cllr Elizabeth Kang'ethe

Next Meeting

To be announced.

Next Meeting Agenda Items- Sector Meetings will be as per each Committee and circulated to the members at least two weeks in advance.

- OVC Executive Leadership Quarterly Meetings Schedule- Saturday April 2nd 2.00pm EST; Saturday July 2nd 2.00pm; Saturday September 24th 2.00pm and Saturday December 3rd 2.00pm



Meeting Adjourned at 4:37 PM EST

Reviewed and Signed by Dr. Robert W. Chiuri; President Global Diaspora One Voice Consortium

Jan 31st 2022

