



Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government
Directorate of National Cohesion and Values



NATIONAL VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE

National Values and Principles of Governance are the fundamental beliefs of our nation, guiding the choices, actions and behaviour of all Kenyans.

BECAUSE
KENYANS HAVE
RIGHTS AND
RESPONSIBILITIES

Our Values, Our Heritage, Our Destiny



Why the Promotion of National Values & Principles of Governance?



Promotion of the National Values and Principles of Governance will achieve the necessary socio-cultural, economic and political transformation that is key to the timely realization of the country's development agenda

What are the National Values and Principles of Governance?

Article 10 of the Constitution outlines the following as the National Values and Principles of Governance:

- 1) **Patriotism** - Loyalty to, love for, pride in my country.
- 2) **National unity** - working together in harmony for the realization of common goals.
- 3) **Sharing and devolution of power** - A system in which resources and power are distributed between and among the national and county level governments.
- 4) **The rule of law** - Adherence to the law by all persons.
- 5) **Democracy and participation of the people** - Active involvement of people in decision making on matters that affect them.
- 6) **Human dignity** - respect and ethical treatment for every human being.
- 7) **Equity** - The quality of being reasonable, fair, impartial and just in all decisions and actions.
- 8) **Social justice** - fair provision and access to essential services, opportunities, and privileges within a society.
- 9) **Inclusiveness** - Affording all persons an opportunity to participate in community activities that affect their lives.
- 10) **Equality** - Treatment of everyone with the same measure irrespective of their status such as gender, religion, social class, tribe or race.
- 11) **Human rights** - They are the basic rights and freedoms that are entitled to every person.
- 12) **Non-discrimination** - Treatment of people without bias irrespective of their diversities.
- 13) **Protection of the marginalized** - Safeguarding the interests of the disadvantaged.
- 14) **Good governance** - Having systems and structures through which the exercise of power and authority can be controlled or held to account.
- 15) **Integrity** - Consistently doing what is right regardless of the circumstances.

- 16) **Transparency and accountability** - Transparency is openness and sharing of timely and accurate information. Accountability is taking responsibility for one's actions and decisions.
- 17) **Sustainable development** - A pattern of resource use that aims to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

What are the benefits of National Values & Principles of Governance?

- National values create a strong sense of belonging, pride and national identity.
- National values promote harmonious coexistence among diverse groups in society.
- The values contribute to effective representation and development of virtuous leadership.
- The values lead to equitable allocation of resources and opportunities at national and county levels reducing socio-economic inequalities.
- The values promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all.
- The values enhance promotion of open, accountable and participatory management of public resources.
- The values guarantee availability of resources and opportunities for future generations.



Uraia
Kenya's National Civic Education Programme

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