



PRESS STATEMENT BY NARC KENYA LEADERSHIP

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

INCREASED INSECURITY

Narc Kenya is deeply concerned about continued security lapses in our country especially the recent massacre of police officers in Kapedo as well as the loss of civilians' lives. We empathize with the affected families and call upon the government to review its strategy of securing the Nation which appears to have gone terribly wrong judging by the repeated incidents of insecurity around the country.

While we acknowledge and support the government's efforts to track down the aggressors who senselessly attacked and killed at Kapedo, security operations must be conducted in a humane manner and strictly within the law. Media reports and images of a trail of destruction of property and alleged indiscriminate harassment of residents of Kapedo and other areas are unacceptable and should cease forthwith.

Our disciplined forces must move away from the culture of violent treatment of suspects who offer no resistance to arrest which amounts to cruel and degrading treatment and does not win them friends among the public.

It is the responsibility of the Executive to ensure that the rights and freedoms of citizens are not violated in the name of hunting down criminals. Such actions of aggression against innocent civilians are counterproductive as they unnecessarily alienate the population whose support for the law enforcement agencies is needed to combat crime. Further, criminals should be brought to book without appearing to be collectively punishing the whole community.

Disarmament should be extended to all areas where unauthorized arms are known to be harboured, and should not be selectively applied.

The government must go beyond hunting down the culprits and look into the root causes of these perennial criminal acts which we believe are largely contributed to by poverty and years of marginalization leading to glaring inequalities within our Nation. We call upon the government to consider enhanced allocation to the equalization fund in order to accelerate development in the affected areas and indeed in all marginalized areas where these disturbing incidents are recurrent.

Last but not least, the government must move with speed to settle boundary disputes among neighboring communities and must enforce the law without appearing to favour and/or shield political players who are suspect in fanning ethnic animosity among neighbours.

SECRETARY GENERAL

NARC KENYA PARTY

Date: 12th November, 2014.