

MEMORANDUM

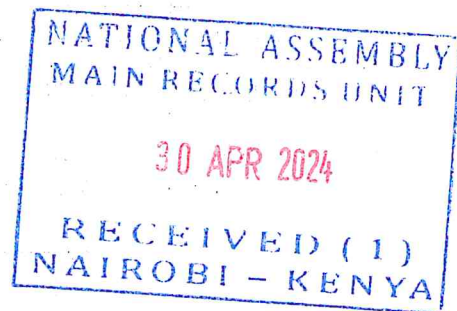
**REGARDING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT (NCPD) BILL
(NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 72 OF 2023)**

**PRESENTED TO THE CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

By

Youth Led and Youth Serving Organisations.

30TH APRIL 2024



The National Council for Population and Development (NCPD) is a state corporation charged with the responsibility of coordinating the implementation of population and development activities being carried out by various stakeholders in Kenya. It is the focal point on all matters relating to Population and Development Policies and Programmes in the Country.

Under the legal Notice No. 120 of 29 October 2004, NCPD has the following mandate;

1. Research and analyze population issues and develop policies relating to population.
2. Provide leadership and mobilize support for population programmes, including coordination and implementation by different organizations.
3. Assess the impact of population programmes and make recommendations arising from such assessments.
4. Identify and advise on population issues that may not be adequately or appropriately dealt with by the government.
5. Create public awareness on population and development issues in Kenya.
6. Undertake viable advocacy activities aimed at achieving support on certain population concerns.

As a result, NCPD's existence has ensured **quality lives** for the people of Kenya, noting that;

- NCPD efforts have seen family planning (F.P) use increase from 39% in 2003 to 61% in 2022. Additionally, F.P programming has witnessed a transition from about 8 children on average for women of reproductive age in 1978 to about 3 children in 2022 (KDHS, 2022).
- The age at first marriage by age 18 for females has declined from 42% of the female population between 25 and 49 years in 1993 to 25% in the same age group in 2022, while that of males has remained constant at 4% over the same comparison period (KDHS, 2022).
- Deaths of children below the age of five years have improved from 125 to 41 deaths per 1000 children below age five between 1989 and 2022, respectively.
- Deaths of children below the age of one year have also improved by more than a half, from 70 to 32 deaths per 1000 children below the age of one year between 1989 and 2022, respectively.
- These aspects ensure improved quality upbringing of children regarding their health, education and social support (housing, clothing, and food).
- It is worth noting that the transition from primary school to secondary school is now at 87.8%, with the completion rates at 78.6% (KNBS, 2023). Many more Kenyan youth are transiting to tertiary education, fostering growth, reducing poverty and boosting shared prosperity.

These statistics are a testimony to an improvement in the quality of lives for Kenyans, especially the youth, who form 75% of the country's population. This would not have been possible without the consistent advisory, policy briefs and public education that NCPD as an organisation has been spearheaded over the years.

In the public education space, NCPD has worked with the National Government administrative units to enhance public education through stakeholder meetings and public barazas; participate in exhibitions and shows offering education to the public through Information, Education and Communication (I.E.C) materials and availing their officers to dialogue with the public.

Through programme coordination by spearheading the development of policies on population, coordinating all population-related activities and programmes. This has been done through stakeholder meetings that bring together Government and Civil Society Organization (International Non-Governmental Organisations, National Non-Governmental Organisations, Community Based Organizations, Youth led organizations, Faith Based Organizations)

NCPD has not only coordinated the development and implementation of the International Conference on Population Development (ICDP25) Kenya Country Commitments but has also spearheaded the Family Planning Commitments 2020 and now 2030. These commitments are made at the global level and further adopted at the national level, placing Kenya on the global platform.

The coordination of these commitments requires resource mobilization, and commitment to monitoring, evaluation and reporting while also supporting organisations in documenting the progress, which NCPD plays a critical role in.

We, young people in all our diversity representing youth-led and youth-serving organisations networks, and initiatives from across the republic of Kenya, submit this memorandum in support of the existence of the National Council for Population and Development and ask that it be anchored in Law by an Act of Parliament to continue playing their role in ensuring the quality of lives for the people of Kenya.

Below are a few recommendations on the bill as suggested by the undersigned organizations and institutions.

ANNEX 1: RECOMMENDATIONS

<u>PART I: PRELIMINARY</u>		
<u>Section</u>	<u>Extract</u>	<u>Recommendation</u>
Section 2	“Population Programme means interventions and projects addressing reproduction, mortality and migration”	Add... and other issues that relate to population.
<u>PART II: ESTABLISHMENT, COMPOSITION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE COUNCIL</u>		
Section 6	The council shall...	On the roles indicated, we suggest the addition of the below. - Coordinate adoption of international commitments and declarations relating to population, health and development.
Section 7	The management of the council shall vest in a board which shall consist of...	The civil society organisations have and continue to play a significant role in supporting the realization of population and development

		<p>goals in the country. The organization's expertise and diverse representation is therefore important to the council.</p> <p>Secondly, Kenya has a bulging population of young people who are majorly affected by policies, programs or interventions around population and development. They equally remain indispensable in harnessing the demographic dividend.</p> <p>We therefore recommend the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Addition of Civil Society Representation on the board. - Addition of youth representatives on the board.

ANNEX 2: ENDORSEMENTS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organisation/designation</u>	<u>County Of Operation</u>
Ramwaka Nyadzuwa	SRHR Alliance	National
Doris Kathia	Raise Your Voice CBO	Nairobi & Kiambu
Leah Wanjiru	NairoBits Trust	National
	EAC Pamoja for SRHR	Regional
Dollarman Natse	Centre for the Study of Adolescence	National
Alvin Mwangi	Youth Empowerment Movement Kenya (YEM Kenya)	Nairobi, Kiambu, Kajiado
Glory Kathambi	FP2030 youth focal point	National
Elvis Mwinyi	Impact 4 Youth Kenya	Mombasa and Kilifi
Angellah praygod	Her Narrative	Mombasa
Alfred Abuka	Dream Achievers Youth Organization	National
Melvine Ouyo	Hope for Kenya Slum Adolescents Initiative	Nairobi, Kisumu, Mombasa, and Uasin Gishu
Daniel W Ngahu	Jamii kwanza youth organization	Mombasa
Susan Sindani	National PHE Youth Coalition	Nationwide
Irene Mayende	Rising Dada CBO	Nationwide
Joel Omiyo	Right Here, Right Now	National

Eliud Stephen	Jijenge Youth Organization	Kisumu, Nairobi, Mombasa
Dennis M Kaburu	Gifted Community Center	Nairobi
Farida Atieno	Farida Girls Foundation	Nationwide
Margaret Njenga	Population Services Kenya (PS Kenya)	National
Dambalash Ermiyas Males	Inclusive for Change CBO.	Nairobi
Shila Ukumbini Salim	Youth for Sustainable Development	Kilifi