

# PRESS RELEASE



United Nations Development Programme

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## **CHAGUA AMANI, ZUIA NOMA\***

*Kiswahili for "Choose Peace, Stop Chaos/Violence"*

### **Launch of the Peaceful Elections in Kenya Campaign On International Peace Day, 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Kenya and Partnership for Peace (PFP) is launching the Peaceful Elections' Campaign on the UN International Day of Peace at Uhuru Park. The day is also one of National Prayers, to be presided over by the all the religious leaders of Kenya. **The opening ceremony commences at 9.30 am and the proceedings (inter-religious prayers, signing of peace charters, lighting of the peace-torch nationwide, concerts, etc) culminate at approximately 3 pm on the 21<sup>st</sup> September 2007.** This auspicious occasion will be attended by His Excellency Hon. Mwai Kibaki, EGH, President and Commander- in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kenya, who will give a keynote address.

Other dignitaries and leaders expected at this function are: members of the cabinet; members of parliament (MPs); representatives of all the various political parties; religious leaders and faith-based organisations; civil society organisations, women organisations, youth groups and the general public.

The Campaign is an initiative of the PFP, a network of stakeholders whose aim is to galvanise the country towards non-violence and peace, especially during the forthcoming elections for 2007. The PFP brings together eminent persons, the private sector, politicians, the youth, journalists, religious leaders, faith-based organisations, women groups, international development organisations and representatives of government, in an effort to collectively and creatively seek solutions to political violence and conflict that often characterises national elections. UNDP Kenya attaches great importance on the mitigation of political violence and the promotion of peace in Kenya. UNDP is thus an active partner of PFP and continues to lend its financial and technical support for effective implementation of peace programmes, including the National Peace Campaign.

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