

FOREWORD

Dear Kenyans and the residents of Vihiga County in particular, we have come to a very critical moment in the history of our country; a time to implement the Kenya Constitution 2010; a constitution we all fought so hard to write and enact. It is this constitution that we have entrusted to bring change in the way we are governed and create new devolved political and social institutions. After all the negotiations and pulling in different directions time for action has come; we back to the polls to elect our President, Senators, Governors, Members of Parliament, County Women Representatives and a host of other national and civic leaders.

As we prepare to vote we must remember that we have an obligation to choose leaders who will bring prosperity in tangible and measurable achievements in all economic, social and political sectors. Since independence our challenges have been the same: meeting the basic needs of our citizens, namely access to: food, potable water, health services, education, skills, religious and cultural practices, recreation and self actualization. Access to these basic needs that together from the fundamental human rights has been a mirage to many Kenyans, the People of Vihiga County included. It is for this reason that we ask ourselves to reflect on the quality of leadership we have had since independence. This leadership has let Kenyans down. It is now time we must say no and no to non-progressive leadership. We must go for change; we must elect progressive leaders.

In the 1970s Kenya was at the same level with South Korea, China, India and most other Far East economic tigers, who have attained the middle income country status. You all know where Kenya is; we are still begging for aid from these same countries and seeking heft loans which hopefully our jobless youth and ground children will one day pay. Our mistake or sin is one and simple; we failed to make the right policies and strategies; we made wrong plans and invested wrongly thanks to poor and weak past leadership. Time is now to say no and no to these type of leadership. Time for change is now and the date is March 4, 2013.

Many parties have recently been hurriedly formed, mainly by breaking or re-naming the same old parties that let the country down. Most of these parties have one thing in mind: to grab leadership at whatever cost. Most of these parties have

not seriously reflected on the fate of many Kenyans languishing in poverty due to rampant unemployment. Most of us have confirmed these greed and selfishness as the parties are engaged in forming and dismantling endless and meaningless alliances that they hope will propel them to power so that their tribes can “eat”. They have even shared senior public appointments before they win the elections! It is against this background and God’s revelation that the Progressive Party of Kenya (PPK) was established.

The PPK assures every Kenyan and the People of Vihiga County in Particular a bright future; a future with hope. PPK is the only party with SMART goals and a clear strategy to deliver on these goals. This Manifesto is our commitment to Kenyans on who we are and what we stand and what Kenyans will receive when we assume leadership. Your vote is important; vote for your future; vote for change; vote for PPK. Remember every single vote counts, so come out and vote for Prosperity, vote for PPK on March 4, 2013.

Be wary of the oppressive leadership; they are easy to detect. They will use lots of money to buy and destroy your voter’s cards or buy your vote for so little money so as to continue to impoverish our children. Ignore these shameless wolves in goat’s skin. They plan to buy leadership using the same money they stole from us through corruption, so as to enrich themselves even more. PPK is there to prevent this from happening. We count on your vote!

Finally, we in PPK commit ourselves to Kenyans, and the people of Vihiga County in particular, to deliver the following seven results once elected within the stated time:

1. All residents will access food and potable water by 2023;
2. No resident will live in a dehumanizing shelter (mud built leaking roof or slums) by 2023;
3. All children below 18 years will access free and compulsory primary and secondary school education and training by 2015;
4. All youth will be given employable skills after completing secondary school education: 10% degree education; 20% diploma; 30% craft certificate; and 40% artisan certificate by 2015.
5. All residents will access basic health services by 2018;

6. All residents will have a right to practice their religious, cultural and recreational choices by 2013;
7. All residents will have a right to choose the leaders, governance systems, and self actualization within the confines of the Kenyan Constitution.

PPK has the strategy to deliver these goals. Our strategy is underpinned by “Linking Youth with Employment” through imparting “Employable Skills” and “Creating New Technology-Driven Firms”. In line with Kenyan Vision 2030, PPK will build a strong foundation to support the three Pillars (economic, social and political activities). We need not re-invent the wheel but make it work faster and better.

The PPK foundation for progressive development will enable the pillars to stand firmly. The foundation comprises of:

- A. Entrench knowledge in all production systems; reform education, training, research and innovation systems to be effective and responsive to the needs of the country;
- B. Develop infrastructure for the key drivers of economic activities, including: macro-economic policies and strategies, information and communication infrastructure, research, development and innovation, renewable energy, and environmental conservation.
- C. Reform training systems to produce doers, makers, developers, manufacturers, farmers and producers of things; not just educated people.
- D. Develop infrastructure to support new technology-based manufacturing firms to support economic and social activities in other sectors. Focus or result areas include: telecommunications, electronics, computers, automobiles, machinery, solar energy, biotechnology and space-derived services.

PPK will pursue the economic, social and political activities elaborated in Kenya’s Vision 2030 blue print.

Rev. MOSES E. AKARANGA

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1.0 The Electorate And Leadership

1.1 Community Initiated projects

The community is important in the development of an area. Self –motivation should be encouraged through community initiated projects and participation in self-help schemes. The PPK leadership will enhance and support various social and economic groups of youth and women and facilitate direct links between the various NGO’s and donor agencies with these groups.

1.2 Self –Help projects

Government policy of cost-sharing in education, health, local administration facilities and other activities require that the community be sensitized and mobilized to contribute. To this end, the Constituent Development Funds, do not seem to address the issues for which they were established such as deteriorating education standards, assistance to self-help groups, etc. Almost all of these Constituency Development Funds which were established and received huge sums of money have been totally mismanaged.

The PPK led by Hon. Akaranga will revive and investigate these funds for the benefit of Vihiga County people.

1.3 Promotion of the Human Resources Potential

Our professionals, entrepreneurs, artisans and people in various trades have skills that need to be exploited for the benefit of the community. This human resource potential in Vihiga County has been rendered idle.

The present leadership has continued to source the services of such human resources from outside Vihiga County to work on local public projects such as the District Headquarters, Mudete Tea Factory, Chavakali NCPB, Sabatia Eye Hospital, and various other projects. The PPK leadership will discourage this and instead use the available local human resources. In doing so, we will also

recognize the experience of the retired members of our society to contribute to the development of Vihiga County people.

1.4 Development Committees

The PPK leadership under Hon. Akaranga will review membership to the DDC and other local bodies such as CDF, council of elders, women groups, youth groups, Maragoli cultural festival committee, religious groups, etc, to ensure that they accommodate appropriate local talent, experience and wisdom.

1.5 Freedom of Belief, Expression and Association

The manifesto recognizes individual rights to freedom of belief, expression and association. We intend to accommodate and tolerate views divergent from ours and encourage freedom of association but will also strive to bring together all individuals and groups into one loyal, dynamic and progressive community for the development of Vihiga County.

The current leadership has created classes in our society, poverty, fear and despondency. To this day the elite, teachers, businessmen and the general public live in fear of losing jobs and businesses and there is general and widespread insecurity.

The PPK leadership under Hon. Akaranga will be predicted on a social contract with the electorate and will serve rather than rule the people of Vihiga County.

1.6 Consultation and Interaction

Our leadership concept is to consult and interact with the electorate. The PPK leadership will be accessible and will work through various councils of elders and other grass- root committees to facilitate open discussion forums with the elected leaders on one hand and the Vihiga people on the other.

2.0 Religious Organizations and Development

In Vihiga County the church plays an important role in binding the community together. However, we have not realized the full potential of the church in development. Rev. Moses Akaranga is a “born-again” Christian and an anointed priest of the Pentecostal Assemblies of God (PAG). Having served as Administrator of PAG Kenya, he understands the problems hindering the growth of the church in Vihiga County.

Apart from the all important spiritual nourishment the church offers to the community, we intent to work with the various churches to establish a strong financial base so that they could offer other social services, such as training in various trades, counselling, family planning, family health education, health facilities, early childhood education, adult education, homes for the aged, destitute children and the disabled.

3.0 Development In Education, Social And Economic Infrastructure

We do not wish to over stress the importance of the Vihiga County Development plan prepared by the Government agencies, but wish to affirm our commitment to build on it and make it more relevant to the needs of the community. However, we wish to highlight here projects and activities that were initiated by some of good leaders, who unfortunately have passed on, but which were ignored by the present crop of leaders.

3.1 Education and Training

Through effective representation at country level, in parliament, and in Senate, PPK will support the national in expanding universal primary education to free and compulsory basic education (primary and secondary). We believe that if the amount of tax revenue collected by **KRA** is put to good use, we will remain with enough money to provide free education and other social amenities. If the economy improves and more job opportunities are created, our youth may find it difficult to be absorbed in the expanded economy due to lack of skills. This is because the outgoing leaders completely ignored the training of the Vihiga County youth after formal secondary school education. The PPK leadership under Hon. Akaranga intends to address this issue with seriousness it deserves.

3.2 Transport and communication

Most roads in the constituency are generally poor and are a major constraint to development. Take for example the Majengo - Luanda road, the Majengo - Hamisi Road, the Kaimosi – Muhudu road and many others. The PPK will ensure that all these roads are tarmarked. The PPK will expand fibre optic connectivity to all district headquarters, all health facilities and schools to promote tele- and e-education and well as tele-medicine and e-commerce.

3.3 Administration Facilities

The Vihiga County administration facilities will be well spread in Hamisi, Sabatia, Vihiga, Emuhaya and Luanda. The County Headquarters at Mbale will be expanded and other facilities developed in all district headquarters.

3.4 Health Facilities

The Vihiga County Hospital at Mbale will be upgraded and linked to District Hospitals at Hamisi, Sabatia, Vihiga, Emuhaya and Luanda. Health Centres will be established in the entire County such that no one need walk more than five kilometres to a health facility.

3.5 Energy projects

Rural Electrification programme will be expanded so that all schools and colleges as well as health facilities and markets are connected. At domestic level, PPK will ensure that 50,000 households are connected every year in the County.

3.6 Water supply

The Lunyerere and Kaimosi water supply projects will be rehabilitated and expanded to serve the entire County.

3.7 Markets

Proper markets similar to the one initiated by Hon. Akaranga at Chavakali and now completed through his efforts will be constructed in every district headquarters and at least other four markets in each district.

3.8 Social and cultural Facilities

The Chavakali stadium which was allocated Kshs. 12m by USAID in 1988 has never been completed despite the fact that a feasibility study was undertaken and all contract documents prepared. This aid was withdrawn when it appeared that no active follow – up was made. The site for this project was taken up by the moribund stores for the National Cereals and Produce Board. These stores had never been a priority. The PPK leadership will construct modern stadia in each of the five districts.

The annual Maragoli Cultural Festival will be better organized and given a proper home. Similar cultural and technological functions will be established within the other communities.

3.9 Agriculture and Land use

The County is composed of small-scale farmers growing food crops for household consumption and for sale locally. Coffee and Tea are the two main cash crops. Livestock such as cattle, poultry, sheep and goats are also kept. This farming activity is well supported by the high potential agricultural land.

However, the high population is a major constraint to the development of this sector resulting in declining per capita cropland and food supply. Since about 80% of the population depends on this sector as the only source of income, the PPK under Hon. Akaranga’s leadership will promote intensive crop production and zero-grazing livestock production in order to ensure food security and generate surplus for selling within the constituency. Due to limited supply of arable land, emphasis must be placed on staple food and livestock production.

The Mudete factory requires that the acreage of tea be increased which will impose an enormous burden on an already difficult food situation. We will therefore ensure that the factory benefits the community mainly through

employment of local labour and that the tea farmers benefit adequately. Tea collection, currently poorly managed and with rampant theft of Kilos, will be restructured and well managed.

3.10 Trade and Commerce

We are all aware of the resources wasted through shops in our trading centres that never operate. This arises partly from the absence of basic infrastructure such as roads, power and water and partly because of the weak economic base to support them. There is also the problem of lack of funds and business knowledge. The few shops that are operating well belong to expatriates mainly of Indian and Somali origin. The current leadership has systematically encouraged the low participation of locals in trade.

The PPK leadership will put in place a programme to tackle these problems. An accounting, management and enterprise development centre will be established to fulfil this very important need in the society.

3.11 Youth as Future Leaders

Youth are the potential human resource base for the development of any country. We will strive to increase training and job opportunities and encourage and support youth groups to develop their own business ideas and in particular will support credit schemes to assist them. In recognition of the vital role of the youth in the development process, the PPK administration led by Hon. Akaranga will source funds from development partners and get into collaborative arrangements with well wishers to initiate various income generating ventures to provide employment opportunities for the youth of the constituency to help alleviate poverty levels.

3.12 Women and the Disabled

Discrimination against women and the disabled people is retrogressive. Women play a dominant role in the development of Vihiga County in general and in food production in particular. We will press for equal opportunities in education, administrative roles and economic activities for women and the disabled.

3.13 Children

The rights of the child are enshrined in our constitution. We will uphold these rights to ensure that the children in Vihiga County are provided for adequately.

3.14 Harambee

Harambee is a voluntary development concept that must be encouraged. We pride ourselves as being one of the first communities in the country to start Harambee secondary schools like Senende and Chavakali. This spirit has been killed through mismanagement of the funds so collected. We will continue to support Harambee as a means of development but will ensure that the contributions are made out of free will and that the funds so collected are audited and used for purposes for which they were meant.

4.0 Administration

4.1 Local Administration

The performance of Vihiga Municipal Council and Vihiga County Council leaves a lot to be desired. Employees are not paid regularly, council property is disposed of irregularly, street lighting is not maintained, public toilets and sewerage have never been provided and funds for various projects are unaccounted for. The PPK leadership will work closely with these councils to identify sources of funds and revenue and streamline the management of council affairs.

4.2 Provincial Administration

We are aware that chiefs and their assistants play an important role in public order and security. However, we are also aware that there have been complains that some of these Chiefs abuse their offices. In some cases the Chiefs and their Assistants serve the interests of the sitting MP rather than those of the community. The PPK will support the Chiefs but in a re-organized manner such that their roles do not conflict with that of the elected leaders. We will ensure that these public servants respect the dignity and rights of the community.

4.3 Additional Constituencies and Districts

It is true that the Hamisi and Sabatia electorate were denied additional constituencies when the current leadership refused to give support and even in one case influenced the barring of public views to the Electoral Commission. The PPK leadership will press for sub-division of Hamisi and Sabatia constituencies in

order to benefit more from the central government resources. Hon. Akaranga has what it takes to achieve this feat, having successfully established the new districts in the County.

5.0 Disaster Fund

Various calamities continue to bedevil our community. These is for instance the mining tragedies that continue to claim lives of our people, the destruction of schools by stormy weather, road accidents and aids that render children destitute and dangers posed by wildlife as in the case of the three people who were mauled by a leopard. The PPK leadership will establish a disaster fund from which the community will provide for victims of these calamities. We will also organize training programme in disaster preparedness and management for Vihiga County community leaders.

6.0 Natural Resources

Preservation of our environment is absolutely critical for the survival of basic life support systems such as water, soil, air, plant and animal life. The total destruction of the Maragoli forest and partial destruction of the Kaimosi forest during the current leadership has been so extensive that it poses a danger to a virtual extinction of our rich environment. Our leadership will appeal to the government to stop this plundering that benefits only a few privileged individuals. The PPK will ensure that at least 10% of Vihiga County is under indigenous forest cover.

7.0 Participation in County Assembly, Parliament and Senate

PPK intends to aggressively initiate positive debates in county assembly, parliament and Senate on matters that will improve the political, social and economic well being of the people of Vihiga County and the country as a whole. The life of those elected on PPK leadership in these August houses will be **proactive** and not **reactive**.

CONCLUSION

The projects outlined above are a priority from long a list of activities desirable for the prosperity of Vihiga County. The task ahead of us is by no means easy but with your cooperation we will succeed. Our ultimate goal is to achieve

“ALTERNATIVE LEADERSHIP” in order to implement the objectives and goals herein stipulated. We are aware that some of the weak parties without vision will pour a lot of money in the County. This money has been stolen from us, the tax payers, and therefore belongs to us. We are, therefore, encouraging the electorate to take it but **VOTE FOR PPK.**

MAY THE ALMIGHTY GOD IN HIS INFINITY BLESS YOU ALL