



PeaceNet - Kenya

POST ELECTIONS UPDATES

Stop Violence!
18th January 2008
Issue No 6



A Post Electoral Violence Response Initiative project, 2008

Introduction

Dear Partners ,

The Elections Violence Response Initiative (EVRI - 1) was launched on 29th December 2007 at PeaceNet Secretariat in Nairobi by peacebuilding partners to address the violence and wanton destruction of property that erupted after the announcement of the 2007 presidential, parliamentary and civic elections. This publication aims at informing partners of unfolding events and mobilizing stakeholders for interventions.

- ◆ Fracas erupted in various parts of the country on the first and second of the three days mass action called by the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) as from 16th - 18th January 2008. Ugly incidents were reported in various parts of the country and several deaths and injuries recorded. The incidents are categorized within the regions. Today, 18th January 2008 is the 3rd consecutive day of mass action.

Interventions

- ◆ EVRI - 1 is now holding meetings every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at PeaceNet - Kenya to address the crisis facing the country. The meetings have so far harmonized various initiatives aimed at peacebuilding and reconciling the country. In an effort to harness and strengthen the response initiatives, proposals have been outlined and structured in five thematic need areas which include youth, media / messaging, counseling, community initiatives and women.
- ◆ Some of PeaceNet led interventions that have been undertaken include community dialogues in North Rift, Central Rift, Nyanza, Coast, South Rift, and in Mukuru. A fact finding mission of the internally displaced persons who have returned to Central Kenya to their relatives from the Rift Valley has also been undertaken at Kirigiti and Kirathimo in Kiambu. According to the District Officer, about 1,240 persons have returned and hosted by relatives and friends.

North Rift

- ◆ Police shot in the air on Thursday January 17th 2008 to disperse crowds of demonstrators in Eldoret town and adjacent areas. The protestors were carrying twigs and placards and chanting praising slogans to Hon Raila Odinga paralyzing business and blocking Kakamega - Eldoret and Iten - Eldoret roads for the better part of Thursday 17th 2008. Staff from Eldoret Referral Hospital were caught unaware when teargas canisters landed in the hospital.
- ◆ Two people were killed in Kisawai area of Saboti when fighting broke between two communities living in the area.

Western

- ◆ Thirty four schools are still closed in Western for fear of escalation of violence. PeaceNet has also held community dialogue in Western.

Nairobi

- ◆ Violence erupted in most parts of Nairobi's Eastlands estates on 16th and 17th January 2008 when police dispersed demonstrators. Rowdy youth threw stones at motorists along outer road. Three (3) people reported dead between 16th and 18th 2008 within the last two days as a result of the skirmishes in Kariobangi between demonstrators and armed police while in Mathare a child was shot dead during the melee. In Kibera, five (5) people have died in the last two days as a result of protests witnessed.
- ◆ One person was found cut by pangas on the morning of (Friday 18 January 2008) at Sunflower.
- ◆ In Kibera, a community dialogue meeting will be convened on Monday 21st January 2008.

Contacts:

Email: peacenet@peacenetkenya.org

Tel: 2725270 / 1, 2053797

Hotline: 0711 830 300

PeaceNet SMS Center: 0738452422

Hotline: 0711 830 300

Kindly forward any urgent information to the

Peace and Development Network

P o Box 49806 - 00100

Nairobi



Nyanza

- ◆ Tension very high in Kisumu after 2nd day of demonstrations on Wednesday 17th January 2008. There were cases of Shooting and two deaths were recorded. However Friday 18th January 2008 was rather peaceful only youths who barricaded the Kisumu - Busia Road with youths harassing people using the road.

Central Rift

- ◆ The National Council for Churches in Kenya together with other stakeholders from the region met on Wednesday 16th January 2008 at Waterbuck Hotel in Nakuru and deliberated on various will bring on board organizations working in peacebuilding to discuss the situation of the region.
- ◆ Center for Conflict Resolution (CCR) donated 43 bags of maize to Kenya Red Cross in Nakuru as an intervention to the Internally Displaced persons within Nakuru or the displaced persons within Nakuru.
- ◆ Three (3) people killed in Molo Nyakinyua while houses have been burnt in Murinduko and Kamwaura areas on 16th January 2008.

EVRI forum has registered a website for purposes of sharing information and updates on Peacebuilding and interventions.

Kindly send any information to: morten@peacenetkenya.org. For uploading

Visit the website at: www.peaceinkenya.net.

South Rift

- ◆ Protestors took to the streets of Narok town on 17th January 2008 to voice their concerns. Several people were injured when confrontation between the police and demonstrators took place in the afternoon of Thursday. One person was killed and one house burnt down at 2.00 a.m, Friday morning and roads and business remained closed better part of Friday morning.
- ◆ There is need for health and medical attention to the internally displaced persons camping at mulot. Report indicate that a child succumbed to pneumonia on Thursday 17th January 2008.
- ◆ Security for the displaced persons camping at various areas in South Rift after people displaced and camping at Narok were attacked on 14th January 2008.

Coast

- ◆ It is alleged that youths are organizing themselves in forests within Msabweni to cause havoc.
- ◆ Violence rocked coast province as police dispersed protesters in Mombasa and its environs on 17th January 2008.

North Eastern

- ◆ Muslim faithful have been called to preach peace and pray for the country in North Eastern.
- ◆ Although there are no large scale post election violent incidents, there are cases of violence outbursts as a result of the December 2007 presidential, parliamentary and civic elections. The concern now is the escalation of these outbursts taking clan dimensions. It is opportune time for healing and reconciliation to fore stall inter-clan strife.

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