

UMOJA SUMMIT PARTY

THE MANIFESTO FOR CHANGE, ONE KENYA FOR ALL

Umoja Summit Party recognizes that Kenyans deserve a government that will put them first. This manifesto sets out our agenda for change. It is our contract with the people of Kenya should we be entrusted by the people to govern. And our commitment is simple: we will build One Kenya for All and prioritise the fight against corruption, growing the economy and creating jobs, fixing the perennial food insecurity, securing our borders, and speeding up the delivery of services for all.

Party Vision

The Party's vision is to establish a prosperous, industrialized and modern nation, in which all citizens enjoy social, economic and democratic rights, and live in dignity.

Party Mission Statement

To build a social, democratic state and society in which all Kenyans will have a better life and feel at home as individuals and cultural communities.

USP Values

i. Freedom

Freedom is the hard-won right of all Kenyans. Everyone has the right to express their freedom, mindful that their choices come with responsibilities towards others. This includes the freedom to earn a living and accumulate wealth, live where we want, love who we want, develop our talents and pursue our dreams.

Freedom is the engine of progress that will drive Kenya forward. It inspires our people to be innovative and allows the entrepreneurial spirit to thrive. In an environment of maximum freedom, everyone is empowered to participate in a growing economy and live a dignified life.

People cannot be free without a respectable standard of living, which requires access to education, healthcare and quality basic services. Government must free people from the chains of poverty and the oppression of crime, giving meaning to the Bill of Rights.

ii. Fairness

A fair society is one in which our achievements should be the result of our hard work and efforts, not our birth. Fairness requires equal and plentiful opportunities, and the means

to make the most of them. Fairness cannot be said to exist in a society burdened by large-scale inequality.

All Kenyans deserve a level playing field where opportunities are not concentrated in the hands of the few. A fair society is characterised by openness and an empowering abundance of opportunities, coupled with quality education, jobs, security and affordable healthcare. A fair society cannot exist without a capable, service-oriented and clean government. Individuals are free to flourish as fairness rejects unfair discrimination and exclusion.

iii. Opportunity

Access to opportunity gives life and meaning to our hard-won freedoms and rights. Dignity is strongly linked to being able to work. This requires a growing economy and an educated society. The job of government is to ensure peoples' rights to excellent relevant education, quality healthcare and a functional criminal justice system. Government must also provide social assistance for Kenyans faced with circumstances beyond their control. Poverty and hardship should rob no-one of their opportunities.

When people are deprived of their opportunity to work, their independence and dignity is damaged. This threatens not only them, but also the people that rely on them. People cannot fulfil their potential without a capable state. Government must provide access to electricity, water and sanitation, and reliable public transport. Leaders must never forget they are elected by the people and must be close and accountable to them. Kenyans deserve a government they can trust and that will responsibly spend every cent to create opportunities for all.

iv. Diversity

Kenya is a richly diverse society. Though our people come from different tribes, worship in different ways and have different cultures and customs, we are all unique individuals. Diversity is one of Kenya's greatest assets. As a party, we celebrate diversity and recognise the right of each individual to be who they want to be, free from domination by others.

The value of diversity aligns to the preamble of the Constitution of Kenya which recognizes our ethnic, cultural and religious diversity, and affirms that people should live in peace and unity as one indivisible sovereign nation. It is this commitment that means we will continue to take active steps to promote and advance diversity in our own ranks.

Our Vision for Government

Based on these values, the USP believes that it is the role of the Government to expand the frontiers of opportunity for individuals by ensuring that it fulfils effectively the core functions of a progressive state. Apart from having the monopoly of the legitimate use of force to secure the safety of citizens, it is the role of the state to provide an enabling environment for the private sector to be the engine of economic growth and development. In this we are guided by our fundamental belief in:

- a. the rule of law;
- b. the market-based economy;
- c. protecting and upholding individual rights and freedoms; and
- d. the importance of building a caring, opportunity-rich Kenya

With these beliefs in mind, this manifesto sets out how we would achieve our primary objectives of Creating Economic Growth and Jobs; Unlocking Agriculture; Creating a Health System that Works; Creating a Capable Government; as well as Supporting Devolution.

USP'S 5-POINT PROGRAMME

1. Economic Growth and Jobs

Kenya needs a plan to rescue our economy and create more jobs. More than 10 million Kenyans are without work and more than half the population lives below the poverty line. Youth unemployment is amongst the highest in the world. Businesses, large and small, are closing down while others struggle to survive in a chaotic and uncertain business environment leading to more and more unemployment. This represents a profound injustice and a clear threat to socioeconomic cohesion in our country.

The USP's vision of One Kenya for All is founded on the fundamental belief that there is an urgent need to remedy this manifestly unfair reality to ensure that all Kenyans regardless of their race, gender or geographical context, are able to reach their full potential and in so doing, truly build One Kenya for All.

There are too many families in our country who do not have a single breadwinner. Every person who is able to work should be able to access employment opportunities and support themselves and their families. But this is not our economic reality. We believe our plan for Economic Growth and Change can put us on the right track to achieving the goal of good work for all Kenyans and, in the short-term, ensure that there is a job in every household.

Our plan for Economic Growth and Jobs, contains the following core elements:

- ✓ Expanding access and improving higher education and training.

- ✓ Unleashing and supporting small business.
- ✓ Stimulating trade and investment promotion.
- ✓ Transport: getting Kenyans and their produce moving easily to the markets.
- ✓ Unlocking agriculture.
- ✓ Improving and broadening sources of energy to power industries.

2. Unlocking Agriculture

Agriculture is a vital sector in the Kenyan economy. A thriving agriculture sector is also vital to ensure Kenya's food security. The USP government will transform the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors to ensure food for all. We believe, this will guarantee farmers, livestock-keepers and fisher-folk of decent incomes. It will enhance equity and provide productive employment while the country industrialises, develops the service sector and broaden job opportunities.

We commit to;

- ✓ Fund research and development, in partnership with higher education institutions, to drive innovation in the agriculture sector that can boost job-creating economic growth.
- ✓ Compiling a detailed resilience plan to respond to the most urgent impacts of climate change with a view to minimise the shocks and stressors experienced by the agricultural sector and rural communities.
- ✓ Investing in water infrastructure, including large dams and bulk water reticulation, in line with our climate change resilience plan, to ensure that those communities suffering from protracted drought have the resources they need to continue agricultural production.
- ✓ Subsidise farm inputs to ensure increased yield.
- ✓ Enhance free extension services in different sectors.
- ✓ Partner with different spheres of government to make technology available to farmers which can boost agricultural output and business efficiency.

3. Creating a Health System that Works

As with education, Kenya has two types of healthcare. First-rate private healthcare and inadequate and sometimes even dangerous public healthcare. Currently, the majority of Kenyans cannot afford private healthcare and are sometimes failed by public sector health which is facing numerous serious challenges.

The first step to fixing our poor public health system is to address challenges in terms of primary healthcare, in other words, to make our clinics work and build more where needed.

We commit to;

- ✓ Establish institutions for developing specialized health professionals and incentives for retaining their services locally.
- ✓ Embark on a programme of revitalising public healthcare facilities, with a significant portion of the resources dedicated to improving and updating infrastructure and technology at primary healthcare facilities.
- ✓ Revisit the equitable share allocation to make sure that there is enough money in the counties to build enough hospitals/clinics where there is most demand and adequately equip them with medical supplies.
- ✓ Invest in specialised services, such as treatment for cancer, and ensure such services are available at different levels.
- ✓ Provide quality maternal health care to needy women and those in remote and marginalised regions, at subsidized rates.
- ✓ Train more doctors, nurses and other health personnel and improve their terms and conditions of service.

4. Creating a Capable Government

The government in Kenya serves factional interests and not the hopes, needs and aspirations of the common citizen. Through continuous mismanagement the government has become bloated, inefficient and corrupt. In addition, our hard-won constitutional freedoms, which are the bedrock of our democracy, have never been under more threat.

The USP in national government will strengthen accountability, transparency and the rule of law as well as the supremacy of the Constitution. We will build a lean, efficient and capable state that will be resilient enough to respond to internal and external shocks, root out corruption, secure our borders, ensure the safety and security of all citizens, protect our environment, defend our national interests, and ensure that we are a responsible actor in foreign affairs.

Our plan for creating the capable state contains the following core elements:

- ✓ Protecting and promoting justice and constitutionalism.
- ✓ Eliminating corruption and state capture.
- ✓ Ensuring all Kenyans are safe and secure.
- ✓ Streamlining government and maximising delivery.

- ✓ Foreign policy: balancing national interest with a rights-based agenda.
- ✓ Preserving the environment.

5. Supporting Devolution

Devolution in Kenya is the pillar of the constitution and seeks to bring government closer to the people with county governments at the centre of dispersing political power and economic resources to Kenyans at the grassroots.

We believe in devolution because through it there will be enhanced;

- i. Equitable distribution of resources across the country especially to regions that have been marginalized for decades.
- ii. Management of governance and public service to the smallest units of the counties.
- iii. Timely and efficient delivery of public services such as health care, education and infrastructure.
- iv. Allowing Kenyans to take charge of their development initiatives from the grass root levels through prioritizing of their needs.
- v. Avoiding political tensions at the national level by devolving leadership to the countryside.

We are also alive to the fact that devolution without resources is an empty shell. In addressing resource mobilisation and financing, our government will operate on the principle of funds must follow and match functions.

We commit to;

- ✓ Fully support and facilitate the devolution process and respect the county governments.
- ✓ Enhance synergy within and between the two levels of government.
- ✓ Support counties to establish structures and mechanisms to allow for local flexibility and responsiveness to inhibit corruption manifestation in the public service delivery.