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ELECTIONS 1996

**CIVIC EDUCATION
JOINT CO-ORDINATION
UNIT**

**CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR CIVIC EDUCATORS**

Kampala, March 1996

**Compiled by:
Civic Education Joint Coordination Unit
P. O. Box 30154
KAMPALA**

Tel: 244249/244250/242464

Fax: 244251

CIVIC EDUCATION JOINT CO-ORDINATION UNIT

CODE OF CONDUCT

WHEREAS the people of Uganda are committed to building a new constitutional order founded on the principles of unity, peace, equality, democracy, social justice and progress,

AND WHEREAS it is the duty of all citizens of goodwill to promote public awareness of the constitution and the cause of democratic governance,

AND WHEREAS in furtherance of the principles of democracy and good governance four non-governmental organisations, namely the Uganda Joint Christian Council (UJCC), the National Organisations for civic Education (NOCEM), Action for Development (ACFODE) and the Uganda Media Women's Association (UMWA) have agreed to pool their resources together for the purpose of carrying out civic education at the grassroots level in all parishes in Uganda in the run-up to the first Presidential and Parliamentary elections under the new constitution of Uganda, 1995 scheduled to take place early this year, 1996, within the framework of a Memorandum of Understanding signed on October 3, 1995.

AND WHEREAS it is desirable to have a Code of Conduct which shall govern the activities of the volunteers, agents or servants of the above-mentioned organisations in order to facilitate effective realization and attainment of the above goals and objectives:

NOW THEREFORE, this CODE OF CONDUCT, comprising of a 7 point statement of principles governing the work of Civic Educators is made this 16th day of January, 1996 by the Civic Education Joint Co-ordination Unit (CEJOCU) and shall apply to all persons who will be involved in carrying out civic education on behalf of CEJOCU in the run-up to the forth coming General elections.

1.0 STATEMENT OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1.1 The duty of a civic educator is to promote awareness among the population of Uganda in general and the voting population in particular on the need for all citizens of Uganda of voting age to register and vote in the forthcoming Presidential, Parliamentary, civic and local ^{AAA}government elections.
- 1.2 A civic educator is a friend of every voter and will endeavour to provide needed information, insight and advice to every voter on any issue relating to the elections but will not use his or her position as a civic educator to influence any voter or group of voters to vote for any particular candidate or group of candidates or to refrain from voting for any particular candidate or group of candidates.
- 1.3 A civic educator shall endeavour to use every means at his or her disposal to -
- a) encourage every citizen of Uganda of voting age within his or her area of operation to exercise his or her constitutional right to register and vote in the forthcoming Presidential and Parliamentary elections respectively for a candidate of his or her choice;
 - b) Encourage all voters to take keen interest in electoral campaigns and to attend rallies or meetings to be addressed by Presidential and Parliamentary candidates;
 - c) Encourage the voters to study and critically reflect upon policies and programmes advanced by presidential and parliamentary candidates;
 - d) Encourage voters to seek clarification or ask pertinent questions in relation to policies and programmes of the presidential and parliamentary candidates;
 - e) Advise a voter to cast his or her vote after carefully weighing the implications of his or her vote in relation to need to further the cause of good governance and the development of his or her constituency and Uganda as a whole;

- f) Advise voters to abide by laws governing the elections;
 - g) Advise voters to desist from engaging in any act or acts that may lead to a breach of the peace or stir up hatred among the electorate, interfere with or undermine the Constitutional requirement of holding free and fair elections.
- 1.4 A civic educator shall not directly or indirectly express his preference for any candidate or group of candidates in public nor conduct himself or herself in any manner that may invite suspicion or damage public confidence in his or her impartiality and good intentions as a civic educator.
 - 1.5 A civic educator shall not accept to be used either directly or indirectly to propagate any political ideology or to act as an agent or member of a campaign team of any candidate or group of candidates in the run-up to the General elections.
 - 1.6 A civic educator shall be diligent and shall carry out his or her work conscientiously, bearing in mind at all times the need to promote the cause of unity, peace, social justice and good governance in Uganda.
 - 1.7 A civic educator shall endeavour to be just and upright in all matters pertaining to his or her work as a civic educator.

2.0 STATEMENT OF ACCEPTANCE OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- 1.1 I
do hereby accept to serve as a civic educator .
- 1.2 I accept to be bound by the above Statement of principles and any regulations that may be made from time to time by CEJOCU for the purpose of giving effect to the above Statement of principles which I hereby undertake to uphold at all times during my term of service as a civic educator.
- 1.3 I undertake to relinquish my duty as a civic educator if required so to do, for good cause, by the competent authority of CEJOCU.

PERSONAL PROFILE

Name:
Age:
Occupation:
Postal Address:
Area of operation:
Date
Signature

OFFICIAL ENDORSEMENT

The above undertakings were made in my presence at
District on the above - mentioned date, by the said Mr/Mrs/Ms/Dr/Rev.....
Name:
Title:
Signature:

