



# The Commonwealth Youth Council

## YOUTH CAMPAIGN AGAINST ELECTION VIOLENCE (Y-CAEV)

### CONCEPT PAPER:

#### Background:

According to Human Right Watch, election violence has cost many lives of young people in Nigeria. The 2003 election violence has left at least 100 young people dead and many others injured. European Union observers also reported that at least 300 young people were killed in violence linked to the 2007 elections. Human Right Watch also reported that election violence has been on the rise in Nigeria with high level of casualties, lost of lives and properties in the last general elections in 2011, which almost resulted to a religious and ethnic crisis. The crisis cost lives of some innocent youth service corps members, and it mostly affected the northern states especially Kaduna, Bauchi, Kano and have left more than 800 young people dead. Relief officials estimate that more than 65, 000 people were displaced in the same violence.

Nigerian Youth though the Commonwealth Youth Council are concerned on the rising trend of election violence and the increasing number of lives of young people lost as a result of those violence, and aware of the imminent 2015 Nigerian general elections, youth are determined to curb the future occurrence of election violence in the country, hence the launch of the national campaign titled Y-CAEV - Youth Campaign Against Election Violence.

#### ABOUT Y-CAEV

Y-CAEV stands for Youth Campaign Against Election Violence, it is a campaign launched by the Commonwealth Youth Council (CYC). CYC is the largest and biggest youth-led organization in the world; it is the recognized and official voice for more than 1.2 Billion youth population of the commonwealth. Y-CAEV is a youth-led initiative by youth and for the youth to achieve peaceful elections in Nigeria. The campaign is open for sponsorship from all stakeholders and private philanthropists.

#### AFRICAN Y-CAEV:

Y-CAEV will be extended to all commonwealth nations in Africa. The Nigerian campaign will serve as the pilot campaign, and will be the flag-off campaign for all other commonwealth nations in the continent. The campaign will be flagged off by the Secretary General of the Commonwealth.

Commonwealth Youth Council

Marlborough House Pall Mall, LondonSW1Y 5HX, United Kingdom

Email: [chair@commonwealthyouthcouncil.org](mailto:chair@commonwealthyouthcouncil.org) Website: [www.commonwealthyouthcouncil.org](http://www.commonwealthyouthcouncil.org)

+447867289539, +44 (0) 20 7747 6388, +2348034458189

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## **OBJECTIVE OF Y-CAEV**

Y-CAEV is aim at the following:

1. To achieve zero level of election violence, zero cost of lives and properties.
2. To enlighten young people on the danger of the election violence.
3. To educate young people on the electoral procedures and election complain processes.
4. To train and inculcate the discipline of peace, tolerance and obedience.
5. To coach young people on proper method and best practice of election inspection.
6. To enlighten all election stakeholders e.g. electoral officers, security, political party agents, journalist, observers, etc on the need for harmony and good working relation during elections.
7. To identify the best practice of achieving peaceful elections.

## **Y-CAEV METHODS**

Y-CAEV will use the following method to achieve its objectives:

1. **NATIONAL CONFERENCE:** This conference will serve as the inauguration ceremony of the campaign, Youth leaders will be invited from every state, and all national election stakeholders e.g. INEC, Security personnel, religious groups, political parties, election observes, journalist etc will also be invited. The one day workshop/conference is aim to discuss issues, causes and solution to election violence. It will give room for identifying a uniform promotion campaign for peaceful elections and best conduct for young people in the elections.
2. **STEP DOWN CAMPAIGN:** Youth leaders that attended the National conference will serve as the Election peace Marshals in their respective states. They should be have been well trained at the National conference, and they are expected to organize similar awareness conference/workshop in their states. The Y-CAEV State Marshalls will appoint election for peace soldiers at the state levels and provide them with kits. Similar structure shall be established at all local governments.
3. **MEDIA CAMPAIGN:** Y-CAEV will make use of radio, television, and print media to spread awareness for peace and against election violence. This will be through campaign jingles, drama, etc
4. **PEACEFUL RALLY:** Y-CAEV will make use street rallies in support of peaceful elections, drawing the attention of young people on the need to embrace peace before and after elections. This will give opportunity to share campaign hand bills. Stage dances, music and comedy will be performed to attract people's attention to peaceful elections. Y-CEV Marshalls and foot soldiers will perform peace parade, and fall in line throughout the rally.
5. **MUSICS AND MOVIES FOR PEACEFUL ELECTIONS**
6. **VISIT TO UNIVERSITIES:** Y-CAEV will visit all secondary and tertiary institutions to spread awareness and install secondary schools and university peace Marshalls.

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## Programme of Event

TIMING	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
<b>DAY 1: 29TH January, 2014</b>		
12:00 to 23:00	Arrival of delegates/participants from the 36 states	National Working Committee
<b>DAY 2: 30TH January, 2014</b>		
9:00 to 9:30	All delegates seated	Delegates
9:30 to 10:00	Arrival of special guest	Special Guests
10:00 to 10:10	Muslim and Christian prayers	to be selected
10:10 to 10:30	Welcome address by the Chairman of the Commonwealth Youth Council (CYC)	Ahmed Adamu (CYC Chairman)
10:30 to 11:40	Remarks by the Chairman of the occasion	Engr Muttaqah Rabe (immediate past Executive Secretary of PTDF and former Commissioner of Youth, Katsina State)
11:40 to 12:00	Cultural Dance and Drama	Cultural troops
12:00 to 12:10	Remarks by the Chief Host, Honourable Minister of Youth Development	Hon. Bolaji Abdullahi
12:10 to 12:30	Keynote Address by the Special Guest of Honour	His Excellency, Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, The President and Commander in Chief of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.
12:30 to 12: 50	Remarks and flagging of the Y-CAEV by the Special Guest of Honour, Secretary General of the Commonwealth	Kamalesh Sharma
12:50 to 13:30	Coffee break and prayer	All Participants

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### Programme of Event (continues)

TIMING	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBILITY
13:30 to 15:10	Paper presentations: How to Ensure Free Violent Elections:	
	Topic: The roles of Civil Society Organizations	Mallam Nasir El-Rufai (former FCT Minister)
	Paper presentation on sub-topic: The role of Electoral officers,	INEC Chairman, Professor Attahiru Jega
	Paper presentation on sub-topic: The role of political parties,	Chairman of Conference of Nigerian Political Parties, Alhaji Balarabe Musa
	Paper presentation on sub-topic: The role of Youth	Former Speaker, Nigerian Youth Parliament, Hon. Luke Onofiok, and member, Akwaibom State House of Assembly
	Paper presentation on sub-topic: The role of Security Personnel	Inspector General of Police, Alhaji Muhammed Dahiru Abubakar
	Paper presentation on sub-topic: The role of the Media	President of Nigerian Union of Journalist, Mallam Muhammad Garba
15:10 to 16:00	Interactive session, Questions and Answers	All Participants
16:00 to 16:30	Installation of States Y-CAEV Marshalls	All Participants
16:30 to 16:35	Vote of Thanks	National Working Committee
16:35	Closing prayers	To be selected
<b>DAY 3: 31ST January, 2014</b>		
09:00	Departure	All Participants

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