



THE CO-OPERATIVE UNIVERSITY OF KENYA

NATIONAL VALUES AND PRINCIPLES OF GOVERNANCE {ARTICLE 10(1&2) OF THE CONSTITUTION}

INTRODUCTION

Article 10(1) National Values and Principles of Governance bind all state organs, state officers, public officers and all persons whenever any of them: (a) applies or interprets the Constitution; (b) enacts, applies or interprets any law; or (c) makes or implements public policy decisions.

Article 10(2) highlights the following National Values and Principles of Governance:

- (a) Patriotism, National Unity, Sharing and Devolution of power, The rule of law, Democracy, Participation of the people;
- (b) Human dignity, Equity, Social justice, Inclusiveness, Equality, Human rights, Non-discrimination, Protection of the marginalized;
- (c) Good governance, Integrity, Transparency, Accountability; and
- (d) Sustainable development.

1. Patriotism (Uzalendo)

- Love, loyalty and devotion shown to one's country.
- As Kenyans we should love our motherland by paying taxes, protecting our national resources, working hard to build Kenya.
- Proud of our brand Kenya and protecting its identity and character.

2. National Unity (Umoja wa kitaifa)

- Unity is the deliberate decision to work with others in pursuit of national interests.
- It is a choice to work as a team in tackling the challenges Kenyans face as a nation. **“One Kenya, One People, One Destiny”**.
- It is an intentional decision to allow what binds us together to take priority over what sets us apart.

3. Sharing and Devolution of Power (ugavi na ugatuzi wa mamlaka)

- Devolution is the decentralization of **political power, financial** (fiscal), administrative and service delivery as per **Article 174** of the Constitution.
- It combines self and shared governance at the county and national levels.



4. Rule of Law (Utawala wa Sheria)

- A legal maxim which states that no person is above the law, and no one can be punished by the law except for a breach of the law.
- We must all observe the law for an orderly society.
- Rule of law is adhered to when individuals, persons, and government submit to obey, and be regulated by law.

5. Democracy and Participation of the People (Demokrasia na Ushirika wa Watu)

Article 1 of the Constitution states that all sovereign power is vested on the people of Kenya. Kenyans exercise it through contesting for elective offices, registering to vote, being informed on issues and policies, scrutinizing candidates and political parties, maintaining peace during elections, debating issues, attending community or civic meetings for sensitization, being members of private, public and voluntary organizations, paying taxes, protesting and petitioning the government.

6. Human dignity (Hadhi ya Binadamu)

- Dignity signifies that a human being or group is entitled to sense of self-respect and self-worth, physical and psychological, integrity and empowerment.
- Every person has inherent dignity and the right to have that dignity respected and protected according to Article 28 of the Constitution

7. Equity (Usawa)

- The quality of being **fair** and **impartial**.
- Equity is a concept derived from social justice. It represents a belief that there are some things which people should have, that there are basic needs that should be fulfilled, that burdens and rewards should not be spread too divergently across the community, and that policy should be directed with impartiality, fairness and justice towards these ends.

8. Social Justice (Haki ya Jamii)

- It's the fairness in the service delivery, distribution of wealth, opportunities, and privileges within a society by the Government. "**Huduma Bora Ni Haki Yako**".
- Its the way in which human rights are manifested in the everyday lives of people at every level of society.

9. Inclusiveness (Uhusishwaji)

- Inclusiveness is the quality of including all sections of society such as gender, ethnic, class, religious, race, geographical, disability or even generational differences.
- It evokes a sense of belonging, feeling respected and valued for who one is.



10. Equality (Ulingano)

- The state of being equal, especially in status, rights, or opportunities e.g. right to life, security, voting, free speech, access to education, information, health care and other social securities.
- It includes equal rights under the law, such as security, voting, freedom of speech, access to education, health care and other social securities.

11. Human Rights (Haki za Binadamu)

- These are inherent entitlements to human beings. They are universal & inalienable as they belong all
- They include the **political and civil**: rights to life, freedom of expression;
- **Social and economic** rights: rights to health, housing, free from hunger, social security, education, the right to development and self-determination; and
- Group or solidarity rights: clean environment and peace.

12. Non-discrimination (Kutobagua)

Fair and unprejudiced treatment of different categories of people notwithstanding their diversity such as gender, ethnic, class, religious, race, geographical, disability or even generational differences.

13. Protection of the marginalized (Kulinda Kundi Lililotelekezwa)

- Marginalization is a process through which a minority or sub-group is excluded by the Government or other larger groups and its rights ignored. National Cohesion and Integration Act No. 12 of 2008 outlaws marginalisation.
- Equalisation Fund (Article 204), YEF, Uwezo Funds, AGPO are some of the key initiatives in Kenya to address the issue.

14. Good Governance (Utawala Bora)

- It's the process by which decisions are made through consultation and implemented to ensure appropriate management of public resources and affairs.
- Regular general elections in Kenya are a strategy to promote good governance.
- The process of collective decision-making and the implementation of those decisions.

15. Integrity (Uadilifu)

- Integrity is the qualifications of being honest and having strong moral principles; moral uprightness. It is generally a personal choice to hold oneself to consistent moral and ethical standards.
- The honesty and truthfulness of one's actions in regard to the motivation for one's actions.



- It's a strict adherence to a moral code, reflected in transparency, honesty and complete harmony in what one thinks, says, and does.

16. Transparency and Accountability (Uwazi na Uwajibikaji)

- **Transparency** is openness or lack of “**hidden agendas**”.
- Its is operating in clarity such a way that it is easy for others to see what actions are performed.
- **Accountability** is the assumption of responsibility to Kenyans for actions taken; about being able to explain, clarify and justify actions.

17. Sustainable Development (Maendeleo ya Kudumu)

- This is the process towards economic development that is conducted without depletion of natural resources.
- It's mindful of the environment through afforestation, re- afforestation, control of population increase, recycling, reduction of water consumption, reduction on the use of electricity and use of rechargeable batteries

CONCLUSION

- It is the responsibility of all individuals, families, communities, Counties and the entire nation to promote national values and principles of governance

