

## NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL PRESS RELEASE

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The National Executive Committee of the National Youth Council would like to reiterate our call for peaceful elections in Uganda within scheduled for 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020. As you are all aware, our country operates under a multi-party dispensation and one of the tenets of such political structuring is the requirement of tolerance for different political shades and respect for dissenting opinions to anyone's political party or interests.

Today, as the National Youth Council, we have launched the ***Votes-Not-Violence*** mode of participation for youth across the country. This initiative is aimed at utilizing our structures in every village, parish, sub-county and district to undertake a peer-to-peer approach among youth that encourages the exercising of youth rights to vote while adhering our responsibility as citizens to maintain peace in our country.

The National Youth Council structure has 640,455 newly elected youth leaders across the country and we shall push this message through our youth leaders to reach out to fellow youth using a community based voluntary approach.

We want to thank political parties that have put special emphasis on youth as a major demographic in our country. The NRM party for instance responded to our initial press conference by developing a youth Edition of the NRM manifesto and we believe such acts by political parties go a long way in creating trust from youth in political parties plans for development, which in our opinion should be the basis of casting votes in preference of one candidate over the other.

Conclusively, we look forward to a post-election peaceful and developing Uganda where youth can look to their futures with optimism and expanded opportunities Jobs, Education, Skills and talent development, Health-and others areas of youth interest.

We urge all youth across the country to participate peacefully and live peaceably within your communities in the upcoming elections.

For God and our country

Jacob Eyeru  
Chairperson, National Youth Council