

The leaders gathered here today represent the Muslim community across the country through the Supreme Council of Kenya of Muslims (SUPKEM and the National Muslim Leaders Forum (NAMLEF).

It is, therefore, a great honour to welcome you all, and the following is our statement following the release of the report of the Building Bridges Initiative by His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta and former Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga;

Ladies and gentlemen, fellow Kenyans;

1. We wish to acknowledge that constitutional reform is both a journey and destination. It is a journey because it involves a negotiated process that comprises steps defined by law and involves different citizen stakeholders who give divergent and competing views representing different interests.
2. And it is a destination because it involves crystallization of the various stakeholder and citizens' views and coming up with a moderated and final consensus to be adopted as a social contract that binds both the governors and the governed;
3. In this regard, we wish to affirm that the Muslim community, through various institutions and Technical Team, has been and continues to be a committed partner in the constitutional reform process under the BBI platform;
4. When the BBI Steering committee was collecting views from various stakeholders, the Muslim community honored the committee's invitation to present our views, which we did diligently through both oral presentation and accompanying memorandum—our views are, therefore, on the record of the BBI committee's deliberations;
5. In our participation in constitutional reforms, we have always been guided by Islamic principles that place high premium on justice, peace and peaceful coexistence and unity of purpose;
6. In this regard, we support all the constitutional reforms that seek to ensure that Kenya remain a united, peaceful, inclusive, equitable and prosperous nation devoid of ethnic antagonism and divisive politics;

7. In the meantime, however, we refrain from commenting on the contents of the just released BBI report because we have already activated and engaged our internal and external consultative processes to carefully study the BBI report with view of coming up with an informed position on this noble process;
8. We, therefore, reiterate that we shall perform our civic duty in order to ensure that the voice of the Muslim community is heard and our contribution enables Kenyans to achieve justice, equality, inclusivity, and equitable sharing of national resources.
9. The Muslim community shall support amendments that truly strengthen the gains we have by adopting the 2010 constitution and shall oppose any amendment that erodes or diminishes the gains already enjoyed by Muslims and fellow Kenyans.

Thank you, and God bless Kenya!

Issued at Nairobi **Jamia Mosque** this **25th** day of **October, 2020**