

## STATEMENT

Kenya and indeed the world is yet again at crosshairs - hanging on the thin thread between peace and war. Over the last One year, we have witnessed unprecedented brutality especially meted out on our youth represented by the Gen Z's. Mothers are still mourning the unnecessary deaths of their children. The latest being the painful and fresh blood of Albert Ojwang spilt by security officers. Even before the nation could come to terms with this cruel death, Police shot yet another young man, Josphat Kariuki at cross rage rendering him brain dead. Not to mention the tens of young girls and boys who have lost their lives since June 2024. The pain is too much for mothers.

While we recognize that the culprits including some senior police officers have been put to account for these atrocities, more needs to be done. Every single one of the officers mentioned must be made to face the full force of the law and justice served on the hurting families without delay.

Even as we mourn and shed tears of pain, as mothers of the nation, we are seized with the reality that our nation urgently requires healing. In this regard, we call for cessation of grandstanding especially by our leaders. Only then shall we begin the journey towards healing our land. We invite all Mothers and indeed all people of goodwill to take time to pray for our nation. Kenya and Kenyans are a God fearing and God loving nation. We call upon the religious community to lead these national prayers. We urge all leaders to exercise restraint in their utterances and guard from issuing inflammatory statements that only fuel discord.

Finally, we urge and plead with H.E the President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander in Chief of the Defense Forces of the Republic of Kenya to reign on all uniformed forces and call them to order and respect to the rule of law. Further, we call on H.E the President to declare a national day of prayers, healing and repentance. Mothers and women of Kenya are ready and willing to stand with all leaders willing to restore peace and calm. On our part, we commit to speak to our children and guide them in the ways of peace when exercising their democratic rights. We remind all Kenyans that indeed, this is the only country we have. Let us guard it jealously.

This is not a call to one section of our society but to all of us who call Kenya our home and a beautiful home it is. May Justice, Peace and plenty be found in our country and within all our borders.

Issued on this day of 25th August by Dr Jeniffer Riria on behalf of Echo Network Africa Foundation (ENAF) and Democracy Trust Fund (DTF).