

Talking notes

1. The 2004 Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development issued a National Youth Policy in which it identified major problems, issues and interest of the youth
2. Underemployment, unemployment, a poor education system, inadequate health facilities and deal with needs of the youth limited participation of youth in leadership, lack of leisure communities and juvenile delinquency
3. Those are problems which these seeking office in elections and those in governance are expected to address. The expectation therefore is that youths would be at the heart of elections and governance to push for their interests.
4. The youths of the 60's were in a much better position because politics then was mainly ideological. It was based on the concepts of Marxism, Communism, Capitalism, Social democracy etc. There was a platform upon which debate was conducted as the best alternative for youth problems.
5. Today's politics is substantially different as there is decreased emphasis on ideology. Elections are most commonly made on the basis of individual leader's characteristics, ethnicity, patronage and other effective indentities. Leaders avoid controversial topics for and gravitate towards populism. Ideology is less relevant to the electoral process. As a result youth's role and impact will too be guided by these factors
6. The major reasons for political indifference protests instead of participation, revolt instead of representation acting instead of complaining and violence are
 - (a) Lack of political will on the part of government. The 1994 National Youth Council Act creates a powerful youth movement thru which youths would effectively engage in politics, elections and governance. All youths in a village belong to the village council. There are executive committees at village, parish sub county and district levels. There are 58,000 villages, 7600 parishes 1390 sub counties and 112 districts. Each

