NIMD'S DIALOGUE APPROACH



NIMD AS A TRUSTWORTHY
THIRD PARTY



BREAKING CYCLES
OF DISTRUST



CREATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT



IDENTIFYING SHARED INTERESTS



FORMULATING AND SUPPORTING SHARED INITIATIVES

OUR WORK IN UGANDA

ANATOMY OF AN NIMD DIALOGUE PROCESS

NIMD believes that democracy starts with dialogue. By building trust and bringing parties to an inclusive 'noisy table', NIMD has acted as a trusted partner in democratization in several countries. Although national context influences how we structure and facilitate dialogue, our five-step trustbuilding model lies at the core of our work. This is the approach we took when working on inclusive dialogue with Ugandan politicians through the Interparty Organization for Dialogue (IPOD).

The platform has been active for ten years, bringing political parties together as equals for open interparty discussions. In what can be a tense political environment, IPOD has helped the parties work together and resolve disputes in areas such as electoral reform and party funding rules.

One such dispute was about a piece of legislation named the Public Order Management Act 2013, also known as POMA.

The issue was how authorities interpreted the legislation. Within the text of POMA, a passage stated that political groups must notify the police in regard to upcoming events and activities. Two conflicting interpretations came from this; some said it mandated simply notifying the police, while others said it meant police permission is required for parties' activities to go ahead. Many in Uganda's political opposition feared the latter interpretation could give the police sweeping powers to break up their rallies and other legitimate activities.

The next pages illustrate how through dialogue facilitated by IPOD, parties were able to work on an equal footing to identify, devise and propose solutions for the issues around POMA.



NIMD's Uganda Country Representative > Frank Rusa (left) with party leaders, including President Yoweri Museveni, at the Second Leaders' Summit in May 2019.

 Ugandan Prime Minister Dr. Ruhakana Rugunda (centre left) with NIMD's Uganda Country Representative Frank Rusa (centre right) and senior Ugandan officials during the POMA review.



Secretaries General from all five of > Uganda's parliamentary parties, along with the Attorney General and several other senior government ministers, meeting in Kampala in 2019.



ANATOMY OF A DIALOGUE PROCESS: NIMD'S WORK IN UGANDA

Between 2017 and 2019, the IPOD platform managed to bring Uganda's parliamentary parties from holding opposing views to presenting a unified position on the contentious Public Order Management Act (POMA). This is how it happened.







2009

Dialogue (IPOD) officially founded.



SEP 2018: IPOD CHAIR ROTATES AND JEEMA REJOINS.

Uganda's ruling NRM party hands the IPOD Chair position to the Uganda People's Congress and the JEEMA party rejoins IPOD after winning a parliamentary seat.



NOV 2018: PARTIES MEET TO SET DIALOGUE AGENDA

Ugandan Prime Minister Dr. The Ugandan Law Society acts



MAR 2019: ATTORNEY GENERAL WEIGHS IN ON POMA CONTROVERSY

The Attorney General declares that POMA only requires parties to notify police about their upcoming rallies, rather than seek written IPOD parties, opening democratic



APR 2019: POMA CONSULTATIONS BEGIN

The Attorney General ruling paves the way for IPOD to facilitate interparty cross-party regulations were jointly drafted to clarify POMA.



DEC 2018: FIRST IPOD LEADERS' SUMMIT

The leaders of IPOD's member ever IPOD Leaders' Summit. During the party leaders' dialogue. Order management Act (POMA)



MAY 2019: SECOND LEADERS'

IPOD consultations at the second Leaders' Summit. They commit to regular interparty dialogue with the government and consultations with the National Security Council.



SUMMIT



The POMA regulations formulated by IPOD party representatives and the Attorney General have been forwarded to the National Security Council. IPOD parties are expected to host a third Leaders' Summit in 2020, and IPOD has also offered to host dialogue regarding ongoing legal cases on POMA.



AUG 2017: IPOD DIALOGUE MANDATE RENEWED FOR 2017-2020

The IPOD MoU is signed by



OCT 2017: IPOD EXPOSES ITS MEMBERS TO A DIALOGUE IN ACTION

NIMD facilitates a peer-learning where NIMD's partner Zimbabwe multiparty dialogue platform. The Ugandan delegation was inspired and given renewed faith in the power of dialogue as a tool for



NOV 2018: IPOD BEGINS BRINGING PARTIES TOGETHER

meetings with IPOD party leaders, Summit. The final meeting, with NRM Chair and Ugandan President



IDENTIFYING SHARED INTERESTS



BREAKING CYCLES OF DISTRUST

