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## International Centre for Policy and Conflict

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Press Statement  
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### *MPs Denigrating People's Constitutional Review Views*

The Members of Parliament attending a constitutional review retreat are confirming to Kenyans to be individualistic political hungry entrepreneurs. It is all about individual petty political interests not national good.

Members of Parliament have shown directly their individual interest with the constitutional review outcome with special focus on getting advantageous position in the 2012 general elections. It is illogical for them to propose all manner of incoherent amendments in the Proposed Constitution but do not want to review downward the preposterous 352 Parliamentary Seats.

It is unfortunate that they are building consensus not based on what Kenyans gave as their demands in their views but inspired to retain parliamentary seat and control of people of Kenya lives. This is unacceptable in constitution making.

International Center for Policy and Conflict (ICPC) warns that it {retreat consensus} has got nothing to do with foresight national interest and aspirations of the people rather safeguarding individual political career. An all-inclusive, human rights-friendly constitution is the demand and aspiration of the people whose rights have been systematically violated.

We are calling for a chance for Kenyans to review the outcome of this retreat; if not, Kenyans must be allowed to vote for the Proposed Constitution drafted by the Committee of Experts. People reserve the right to reject tyranny of the Members of Parliament. Who told them that they would remain MPs for life or that Constitution writing is about them using it to remain in Parliament or in power? MPs cannot impose a Constitution on the people.

ICPC urges that it is important form MPs to put their vision to the country. They should do so directly, knowing that people out there want to be part of the process and will be responding, because in the end the drafting of the constitution must not be the preserve of the 222 Members of Parliament but of the people.

It must be a constitution which they {people} feel they own; a constitution that they know and feel belongs to them. We must therefore draft a constitution that will be fully legitimate, a constitution that will represent the aspirations of people not the political interest of individual politician.

Signed by

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