



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Promoting the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) in Political Processes in Zambia.

[Lusaka, September 29, 2023]- Today the Center for Young Leaders in Africa (CYLA) Zambia in partnership with the Southern African Development Community Youth Network (SADCYN) launches a groundbreaking initiative in Zambia with the aim of strengthening democracy, promoting fair elections, and enhancing good governance practices in the country. The project, titled "Promoting the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG) in Political Processes in Zambia," represents a significant step towards ensuring that Zambia's political landscape aligns with international standards and principles of democracy.

The ACDEG is a continental framework adopted by the African Union to advance democratic governance, uphold human rights, and promote the rule of law. Zambia, as a signatory to the ACDEG, is committed to its principles and we have embarked on this project in partnership with our stakeholders to ensure its effective implementation.

With the support of Democracy Works Foundation (DWF), the Charter Project Africa and in partnership with the European Union, this initiative aims to raise awareness, understanding, and adherence to the principles outlined in the ACDEG within the context of *Zambian* leadership structures.

Key objectives of the project include:

1. Increase awareness and understanding to facilitate dialogue on the ACDEG and its principles among electoral stakeholders.
2. To increase citizens' knowledge of their rights and responsibilities during the electoral cycle, through information dissemination on media platforms.

To achieve these objectives, the collaborative effort between the CYLA-Zambia and SADCYN will involve CYLA network members, political parties, the media, selected local councils/ councilors, and communities, and will be implemented over a period of 9 months with regular progress updates and milestones shared with the public. It is expected to have a far-reaching impact on Zambia's political landscape, ultimately contributing to a more vibrant and inclusive democracy in the country.

We believe that promoting the ACDEG in political processes in Zambia represents a significant milestone in our journey towards building a stronger, more inclusive democracy, and by aligning our electoral processes with

international standards, we are fostering a brighter future where the voice of every citizen matters.

About Center for Young Leaders in Africa (CYLA) Zambia:

CYLA Zambia is a non-governmental organization that champions the inclusion and representation of young people in political parties and decision-making spaces at all levels. Our vision is to see a Zambia in which empowered young political leaders, advance social transformation, peaceful coexistence, and the consolidation of multiparty democracy.

To achieve our vision, we advocate, educate, and inspire young people to effect national and regional sustainable development, through our programs. For more information, please visit www.cylazambia.org.

About Southern African Development Community Youth Network:

SADCYN is an independent non-governmental, non-profit social organization that works with youth networks in good governance advocacy and youth and women empowerment in Water Energy and Food (WEF) security as well as environment and climate change. Our vision is to be a network of young experts in governance and WEF-Nexus. To achieve our vision, we provide capacity building to women and youth in reviewing and analyzing national WEF and governance policies to understand their implications on social and economic development. We are committed to engaging young people and women in the promotion, domestication, and interpretation of all relevant, treaties, development agendas, and protocols which Zambia is a signatory. For more information, please visit www.facebook.com/sadc youth network.

For more information and media inquiries, please contact:

Ms. Lydia Doroba

Program Assistant

Center for Young Leaders in Africa

lydia@cylazambia.org

+26 0764000100

Plot no. 1304, House no. 2, Ibex Hill, Off Lake Road, Lusaka, Zambia

10101

www.cylazambia.org