

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 7, 2023

P4P calls for Peace and Credibility in Bayelsa and Imo States' Governorship Elections.

As the gubernatorial elections in Bayelsa and Imo states in the Niger Delta draw near, set for November 11, 2023, the Partners for Peace in the Niger Delta (P4P) restates its dedication to fostering peace and advocating for credible and violence-free elections in these States. We urge all electorates, participants, encompassing political figures, security forces, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), and the residents of these states, to embrace the ideals of peace, equity, and transparency in this pivotal democratic event.

Elections serve as the bedrock of democracy, and they should be conducted in an atmosphere of peace and inclusivity, enabling the populace to express their views without coercion, violence, or apprehension. P4P emphasizes the following key elements for peaceful and credible elections:

Security: We call on the security agencies in Bayelsa and Imo States to maintain a strong presence to ensure the safety of voters and the security of the electoral process. They must act impartially and professionally, ensuring the safety of all citizens and political actors.

Non-violence: P4P strongly condemns any form of violence, including hate speech, intimidation, and physical altercations, before, during, and after the elections. We urge all political parties and their supporters to eschew violence and promote peaceful coexistence.

Transparency and Accountability: The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) plays a vital role in ensuring the credibility of elections. We call on INEC to be an unbiased umpire, transparent in its operations, and committed to upholding the integrity of the electoral process. Timely and accurate communication of results is crucial to building trust.

Citizen Participation: We encourage citizens in Bayelsa and Imo States to exercise their democratic Right to vote. It is essential for the people to actively participate in the electoral process, choose their leaders, and hold them accountable for their actions.

Conflict Resolution Mechanisms: P4P calls on political parties and candidates to embrace peaceful mechanisms for resolving disputes, rather than resorting to violence or causing unrest.

As P4P continues its efforts to foster peace and stability in the Niger Delta, we stress the importance of ensuring that these elections are conducted in a manner that reflects the will of the people.

In closing, we urge all stakeholders to prioritize the interest of the people and the future prosperity of Bayelsa and Imo States over personal ambitions. The destiny of these States is in the hands of the people, and it is our collective responsibility to ensure that this election is a true reflection of their aspirations.



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