

May 26, 2025

To whom it may concern,

Letter of Recommendation for Nick Mathenge

It is with great pleasure and full confidence that I recommend Nick Mathenge, a remarkable young leader and outstanding contributor to the Centre for Multiparty Democracy–Kenya (CMD-Kenya) and our flagship initiative, the People Dialogue Festival (PDF).

Nick's journey with CMD-Kenya began while he was still in Form Two, attending the PDF as a participant. Over the years, he progressed to become a panelist and, by 2025, took on the role of coordinator for the **Ni Sisi Ni Sasa** village, a dynamic space dedicated to high school students. His consistency, leadership, and deep commitment made this natural progression.

As a tech and youth engagement volunteer, Nick led critical innovations including the development of our website infrastructure, a digital booth booking system, and participant registration tools. His contributions greatly enhanced the efficiency of the festival, which hosts over 13,000 attendees.

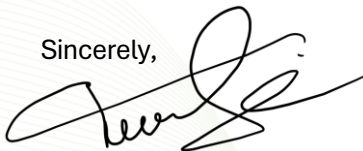
Nick also curated and facilitated impactful sessions for more than 600 students on topics such as civic education, gender equality, mental health, AI, and accountability. These conversations empowered youth to think critically and engage meaningfully in shaping their communities.

Moreover, he integrated his own youth-led initiative, the Furaha Initiative, into the festival, bringing mentorship, school supplies, and leadership training to hundreds of students. His ability to connect systems thinking with grassroots action is rare and deeply inspiring.

Nick exemplifies authentic leadership. He combines technical skills with emotional intelligence, and has earned the respect of peers, senior leaders, and young participants alike. In a time when civic engagement is often superficial, Nick is genuinely committed to building a better, more inclusive society.

I wholeheartedly recommend him for admission to your institution. He will not only thrive academically, but will contribute meaningfully to your community and beyond. Please feel free to contact me for any further information.

Sincerely,



Frankline Mukwanja
Executive Director