



MZALENDO

PRESS RELEASE

Mzalendo re-launches with detailed MP profiles, searchable Hansard, scorecards and much more

Nairobi, 8th February 2012 – Today, a new www.mzalendo.com with detailed Members of Parliament (MP) profiles, a searchable Hansard, scorecards and vital statistics of most counties and constituencies was unveiled to the public and political actors at the iHub, Nairobi's innovation hub.

Conrad Akunga, one of the Mzalendo co-founders says "For the first time, since independence Kenyans can scrutinise their MPs speeches in Parliament as documented in the Hansard. Mzalendo does not make any commentary on the Hansard but, presents it in a user friendly, searchable format and makes the entries available under every Member of Parliament's (MPs) profile. Kenya's constitution gives power to the people and we are glad to be in a position to make this possible to Kenyans by providing information to hold their leaders accountable."

"We have also created three MP scorecards to allow citizens to make value judgements about MPs performance based on their accessibility, their Hansard appearances and Constituency Development Fund (CDF) spending. To make a difference in Kenya, we had to create context relevant score cards, since parliamentary attendance and voting records are often inaccessible" says Akunga. According to Mzalendo data so far, only, 47 current MPs are on Facebook, 20 on twitter and 19 have websites.

Accessibility is based upon the different contact and communication means we have on the site for MP like telephone numbers, email address, websites, facebook and twitter. MPs contactability rating will improve whenever they provide us with more information to update our records. Hansard appearances are taken from the official Hansard record for the last six months of 2011. CDF spending performance is based upon the social audit reports carried out by the [National Taxpayers Association](#). Citizens will also have at hand some general vital statistics about their constituencies like population and details of CDF funded projects. Information on the number of registered voters, health facilities and educational performance will be added soon.

Any Kenyan can access the website through their computer or mobile phone and find out information about their MP or constituency by simply clicking or keying in the name. The website easily loads and fits to the screen of which ever internet device one may use. As more and more Kenyans are using technology to track issues of importance to them Mzalendo hopes to be a useful resource providing factual information for citizens online and offline political engagements.

For more information please contact:

Jessica Musila, 0714 391812, Jessica@mysociety.org,

For general enquiries email about the site, email: info@mzalendo.com