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## PRESS RELEASE

# POLL SHOWS RUTO LEADS PRESIDENTIAL RACE AS CAMPAIGNS ENTER HOME STRAIGHT

UDA Presidential candidate William Ruto is running ahead of his main challenger Raila Odinga of the Azimio La Umoja-One Kenya by six percentage points in the front runner race, according to opinion poll results released today.

With just three weeks remaining to the August 9 General Election, the latest opinion poll by Intel Research Solutions (IRS) shows Dr Ruto's popularity standing at 50.5 per cent while that of Mr Odinga is at 44.2 per cent.

It means that Dr Ruto will be declared President of Kenya in the first round, if elections were to be held today.

Releasing the results at Sarova Panafric Hotel today, IRS Chief Executive Officer Karen Mwangi said Dr Ruto enjoys 25 per voter support in at least 24 counties. This is a requirement for anyone to be declared President of Kenya, in addition to hitting the 50 + 1 vote benchmark. The poll shows that Dr Ruto will garner 25 per cent of the votes in **43** counties while Mr Odinga will do so in **34** counties.

"As they say, 24 hours is a long time in politics so the remaining three weeks will be decisive for the front runners," Ms Mwangi said.

According to the poll, Mr Odinga's highest popularity is in his traditional Luo Nyanza base where he enjoys **83.2** per cent of the vote compared to Dr Ruto's **12.4** per cent.

On the other hand, Dr Ruto's highest popularity is in his base of Central Rift Valley where he is rated at **81.8 per cent** compared with Mr Raila's **14.3** per cent.

The survey shows that Dr Ruto has maintained his support in the Mt Kenya East and West regions frustrating the spirited attempt by the Azimio La Umoja – One Kenya push to make inroads in the area. In Mt Kenya East counties of Meru, Tharaka Nithi and Embu, the poll shows, Dr Ruto enjoys a popularity of **72.4** per cent compared to Mr Raila's **22.6** per cent.

In Mt Kenya West, Dr Ruto is winning with **70.9%** of the vote compared with Mr Odinga who polled at **23.1** per cent.

Mr Raila is winning the Nairobi City County where he polled 52 per cent ahead of Dr Ruto whose popularity stands at **40.7 per cent**.



The poll also shows Dr Ruto making inroads in traditional bases of Mr Odinga including Coast region where he polled **40.2 per cent** compared to Mr Raila's **54.6 per cent**. In Western, Dr Ruto polled **40.6 per cent** while Mr Raila is at **53.7 per cent**.

The poll was conducted for between July 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, through electronic (database SMS Broadcasting).

Respondents were adults aged above 18 years and who said they were Registered voters. A national random sample was drawn from a data base of registered voters across the country.

*Ms Mwangi said there was a likelihood that the popularity of each of the candidates might change after the July 19 Deputy Presidential Debate.*

Additionally, she said, the Presidential Debate expected to take place on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 may also impact on the perceptions of voters, especially the 2.3 per cent of undecided voters.

She said the firm will conduct another poll to be released by the end of July 2022, a few days to the General Election.