CLOSING REMARKS BY DR. BONFACE MAKOKHA, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING, AT AFRICA CAPITAL WEEK 2026, ARGYLE GRAND HOTEL, NAIROBI, TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER 2026

Distinguished Heads of Delegation,

Key Government Officials Present,

Regulatory Authorities and Policymakers,

Captains of Industry,

Development Partners,

Investors,

Stakeholders,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

1. As we conclude the inaugural Africa Capital Week 2026, I thank you for the quality of our discussions, the depth of ideas shared and the partnerships forged. We came to Nairobi around one central question: how do we mobilise and deploy capital at scale to finance Africa's transformation?

2. I acknowledge the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs; the National Treasury; Capital Markets Authority; Kenya Vision 2030 Delivery Secretariat; our investment and financial institutions; African securities exchanges; development partners; the private sector; and all institutions whose partnership made this inaugural forum possible.

3. Africa Capital Week has elevated capital-market development from a financial-sector conversation to a continental development imperative. **Economic sovereignty is ultimately about choice:** the capacity to mobilise our own resources, finance our priorities and engage global capital from a position of confidence.

4. Nairobi has established a clear proposition. **Africa has capital. Africa has opportunity. Africa has talent. Our task is to connect them.** The constraint is not merely scarcity of money. It is fragmented markets, inadequate project preparation, regulatory barriers and the persistent disconnect between savings and productive investment.

5. For economic planning, this is fundamental. A development priority is not automatically an investible asset. We must convert our plans into credible projects, our projects into bankable assets, and our investments into measurable improvements in productivity, employment and household welfare. Government cannot finance everything. But Government can make much more of Africa financeable.

6. The Nairobi Declaration gives this agenda practical expression. We have committed to stronger regulatory cooperation; greater interconnection of African securities exchanges; an Africa Bankable Projects Pipeline; mobilisation of pension and institutional capital towards a Pan-African Infrastructure Fund; and stronger integration of capital markets into the implementation of Agenda 2063.

7. We have also made an important connection with AfCFTA. A continental market for capital must support a continental market for goods and services. African savings must increasingly be able to finance African infrastructure, African enterprises and African value chains across borders. Trade integration without financial integration is incomplete integration.

8. But capital ultimately rests on confidence. Investors require predictable policy, credible institutions, transparent markets and risks that can be properly understood and priced. Our success will therefore not be measured by the declarations we make, but by capital mobilised, enterprises financed, projects delivered, markets deepened and jobs created. That is why our commitment to review progress every six months matters.

9. We have agreed that Africa Capital Week will become an annual continental platform, with Lagos hosting the next edition from 6th to 10th September 2027. When we meet in Lagos, we should not return with the same diagnosis. We should return with results: reforms implemented, markets connected, projects made bankable and capital deployed. Lagos must be an accountability moment for the commitments made in Nairobi.

10. Ladies and Gentlemen, Nairobi is the starting point. Africa is the destination. Let us move from fragmentation to integration; from potential to investment; from announcements to deployment; and from dependency towards greater economic sovereignty.

11. Africa has capital. Africa has opportunity. Africa has talent.

Let us connect them — and put that capital to work for Africa.

12. I thank all our delegates, speakers, investors, project sponsors, partners and members of the Secretariat.

13. I wish you productive project and market engagements over the coming days, and safe travels thereafter.

14. With those remarks, it is my honour to declare this session of the inaugural Africa Capital Week 2026 officially closed.

Thank you. Asanteni sana.