

**TALKING NOTES FOR THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE
DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, DR. JULIUS MUIA, DURING THE
MEDIA BRIEFING ON THE PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE 2019 KENYA POPULATION AND HOUSING CENSUS**

**The Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning
The Chairman, KNBS Board,
The Director General, KNBS
Senior Government Officials,
Representatives from other institutions/organizations,
Members of the Fourth Estate,
Distinguished Guests,**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I also take this opportunity to welcome you to this media briefing that is meant to appraise you on the progress made towards implementation of the 2019 census. The census is a key source of statistical information necessary for formulation and implementation of government policies. We take cognisance of the enormity of the exercise and therefore the need to continuously update you on the progress.

We cannot overemphasize the importance of census in providing data for evidence-based decision making and assessment of realisation of development programmes. Overall, our long-term development agenda is derived from the Vision 2030 that seeks to propel the country to a middle-income economy and provide high quality of life to all citizens. As we implement the third Medium Term Plan (MTP III), I am delighted to note that data emanating from the census will help us monitor progress towards achieving the Vision.

The 2019 census comes at a time when we are implementing the Big four agenda which covers the period 2018-2022. The census has a comprehensive housing module that will provide information on the stock of housing and the amenities available therein. It will also provide data on health of the population, population structure and distribution. In addition, it will also provide information on the labour force and agricultural indicators. Information from the census will therefore provide the requisite benchmark for all the components of the agenda, i.e. Manufacturing, Housing, Universal Health care and Food Security.

Ladies and Gentlemen

Kenya ratified the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has therefore committed to achieve several milestones going forward. The census is designed to provide statistical information that that will help assess the progress made in the realisation of the goals. It will also assist in bridging of existing gaps as far as SDGs are concerned.

As we continue implementing the devolved system of government as stipulated in the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, the census data will be used to evaluate the progress made. In addition, the results of the census will form a key input into the budget allocation to the devolved units.

We assure you that everything is being done to ensure that the data collected in the 2019 Population and Housing Census, will be of high quality.

I thank you for taking the time to participate in this media briefing and look forward to regular engagement as we continue with the implementation of the census activities. I call upon you to report issues of census correctly and when in doubt seek clarification from the Bureau. We request you to be our ambassadors and champions for the census.

I now wish to invite the Cabinet Secretary to give his remarks.