



**SPEECH OF THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT
FOR PLANNING MR. SAITOTI TOROME ON THE OCCASION OF
THE 1ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ICPD25 HELD ON 27TH JANUARY
2021 AT THE KENYATTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
CENTRE**

The Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury & Planning, Amb. Ukur
Yatani

The Cabinet Secretary, Health, Senator Mutahi Kagwe

The Cabinet Secretary, Education, Prof. George Magoha

The Cabinet Secretary, Labour & Social Protection, Mr. Simon Chelugui

The Cabinet Secretary, Public Service & Gender Prof. Margaret Kobia,

The Cabinet Secretary, ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs, Mr. Joe
Mucheru,

The Chief Administrative Officers Present

The Principal Secretaries Present

The Director General NCPD, Dr. Sheikh Mohamed

The Danish Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Ole Thonkes

The UNFPA Country Representative, Dr. Ademola Olajide

Ladies and Gentlemen

This morning we gather here to take stock of the progress we have made after the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25 held in Kenya in November 2019. I am more convinced than ever before that despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 Pandemic, we have made progress on the promises we made to our citizenry during the Summit.

Chief Guest,

The World came to Nairobi in 2019 after 25 years since the landmark Cairo Conference on Population and Development which culminated in a **Plan of Action** famously known as ICPD PoA. It will be recalled that in Cairo, the wellbeing of human population was put at the center of development. I wish to emphasise that the delegates who convened in Kenya for the Nairobi Summit converged here not only to commemorate 25 years since the first International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), but also to take stock of the progress made since the Cairo conference, validate the relevance of ICPD Programme of Action, and re-commit themselves finish the unfinished business of Cairo.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since the Nairobi Summit on ICPD25, Kenya has made a number of strides to enhance the implementation of the commitments it made at the summit. I wish to mention that the State Department of Planning has taken measures to strengthen the County Planning Departments in each of the 47 counties through reorganization of the departments, provision of more staff and resources. These measures are aimed at ensuring that county and sectoral development plans are in tandem with national plans and policies, are more cost effective and address the priority needs. As we move forward, the national, county, and sectoral development plans will therefore integrate the ICPD25 Kenya Country Commitments.

Chief Guest,

Another important step that has been taken by the State Department for Planning is the integration of indicators for the ICPD25 Kenya Country Commitments into the online National Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation System otherwise known as e-NIMES. This digital platform will enable implementers of the various commitments to upload the implementation progress on a quarterly, bi-annual, or annual basis and produce implementation status reports. Development of annual progress reports, beginning with the 2020-2021 report, will now be much easier and timely.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

One of the commitments made by Kenya at the Nairobi Summit is aimed at enhancing integration of population concerns in development planning and implementation in all sectors. An example of this is the Population Health and Environment (PHE) Programme that is being implemented by the State Department of Planning through NCPD. This programme integrates population and health issues in environment conservation projects and it has proved to be cost effective in promoting good health, sustainable livelihoods and environments in the communities where it is being implemented. It also enhances inter-sectoral collaboration which is a more cost effective approach to implementing development activities. The State Department of Planning will therefore support NCPD in advancing the integration of population concerns in all development activities in harmony with the country commitments.

Chief Guest,

The effective implementation of the ICPD25 Kenya Country Commitments will enable the country to achieve other national, regional and global goals such as Kenya Vision 2030, African Union Agenda 2063, and Sustainable Development Goals. Given the important link between the ICPD25 Commitments and these goals, I would like to urge all the implementers from the different sectors, including civil society organizations and private sector, to work together for the good of the country's population.

Chief Guest,

As I conclude, I note with appreciation that after the National Council for Population and Development was mandated by H.E The President of Republic of Kenya to coordinate the implementation of the 17 commitments, the Council has shown enviable leadership to this effect. I wish to challenge the Council to move a step further in building a sustained momentum of advocacy on the commitments while coordinating and reporting on the implementation of the Country's commitments.

I THANK YOU ALL, AND MAY GOD BLESS YOU