REMARKS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL, KENYA NATIONAL BUREAU OF STATISTICS MR. MACDONALD G. OBUDHO, MBS DURING THE OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF THE NATIONAL INFORMATION PLATFORM FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION (NIPFN) PROJECT AND THE PRODUCTS ON 19TH APRIL, 2021

Chief Guest, CAS, The National Treasury& Planning

Principal Secretaries;

KNBS & KIPPRA Board Members;

Executive Director, KIPPRA

Senior Government Representatives

EU Head of Delegation, Kenya

Representative Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

Representatives of Development Partners

Representatives of Non-Government Organizations

All other Nutrition Partners

Staff

Distinguished Guests;

All protocols observed


**Ladies and gentlemen;**

Good morning

It is a pleasure to participate in the launch of the National Information Platform for Food Security and Nutrition (NIPFN) and the products. This project aims at strengthening information systems for nutrition and food security to prevent malnutrition and its consequences. It is a country-owned and country-led initiative funded by the European Union (EU), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).

The project is being implemented by the government of Kenya through Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and Kenya Institute of Public Policy

Research and Analysis (KIPPRA) in collaboration with all the relevant sectors with interest in Food Security and nutrition.

**Ladies and gentlemen;**

For a successful project, the availability of data and information is key. This calls for the strengthening of National Statistical System (NSS) to respond to the unprecedented increases in demand for quality data. I take note that there is still a lot of data generated by various sectors including nutrition and food security sensitive sectors that haven't been put into good use.

In order to improve on the quality of data, the Bureau has finalized the formulation of Kenya Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) to be launched in the next few days. The strategy promotes effective coordination between data producers and users thereby enhancing and ensuring the relevancy, efficiency and timeliness in dissemination of data.

The Bureau is also in the process of creating the new household master sample frame from 2019 Population and Housing Census to enable the generation of reliable data at national, rural/urban and at county level. Our commitment as an organization is to continue enhancing sampling frames for use in generation of reliable data to inform policy decisions.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

In the short time the project has been in operation, it has reviewed the existing information management systems. This is in line with the NIPFN's approach that capitalizes on the use of existing data to inform relevant food security and nutrition policies. The effectiveness of this approach lies in gathering fragmented data from various relevant sectors and organizing it into a single platform that users can easily access for various decision-making needs. Towards this, the following key milestones have been realized:

- Mapping of data sources of interest to NIPFN, data systems and institutions and a landscape report generated.
- Generated a landscape report

- established the data quality, utilization and gaps that exist.
- Developed principles for sharing and using the acquired data
- Performed quantitative analysis on already existing data and generated four reports which we are launching today
- Reviewed food security and Nutrition policies and programmes in the country and developed a report
- Generated initial set of policy questions
- Developed communication strategy for the project

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

The project has generated four technical reports that will be launched and disseminated to stakeholders today. These reports are: -

1. **An analysis on Nutritional Anthropometric trends in Kenya**
   - This report seeks to examine the anthropometric trends of children under five years of age for the period 1993 to 2015 and predict prevalence for 2025 and 2030 based on observed trends.

2. **An analysis of the national progress and household characteristics associated with stunting.**
   - This report looks at some basic and underlying determinants of malnutrition at household level such as wealth quintiles; poverty indicators; shocks; parental education; sanitation and working patterns of the mother. It also examines the relationship between stunting and demographic indicators such as area of residence, sex of the child, age of the child and household size.

3. **The food security situation during COVID-19 pandemic wave 1 and 2**
   - This report presents the availability of selected food items, changes in food prices, market accessibility, coping mechanism and prevalence of food insecurity using Food and Agriculture

Organization framework during the COVID 19 pandemic period using the survey data on Socio-economic Impact of COVID19 on Household conducted by KNBS.

4. Review of Food Security and Nutrition polices in Kenya

- This report presents the review of 48 policies, 14 legislative and 7 regulatory frameworks on food security and nutrition using the UNICEF (1990) conceptual framework on food security and nutrition.

**Ladies and gentlemen,**

Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for creating time to join us in this occasion as we move forward together towards attaining our agenda of strengthening national capacity to manage and analyze information and data from all sectors that have an influence on nutrition and food security.

On behalf of KNBS, I welcome you to this project launch.

*"I hope that through this launch of the Platform we will ALL start looking at food security and nutrition differently and in an innovative way."*

**Thank You**