

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY MR. SAITOTI TOROME, C.B.S,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND
PLANNING, DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE KENYA
STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF STATISTICS ON
21ST APRIL 2021.**

**Director General, KNBS,
The Chief Executive Officer of the Council of Governors,
Heads of Institutions,
Representatives from various Ministries, Departments and Agencies at
National and County levels,
Representatives of Development Partners,
All Protocols observed,**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Morning

- It is with great pleasure that to join you today in the launch of the Kenya Strategy for the Development of Statistics (KSDS). This is a best practice in strategic planning for production and management of statistics.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- I take cognizance of the importance of statistics in design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of various development programmes at national and county levels as well as in the private sector. The government, through the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics coordinates the National Statistical System (NSS) to ensure quality statistics is produced to underpin national and sub-national development initiatives. One means of achieving effective coordination of the NSS is the development and

implementation of the Kenya Strategy for Development of Statistics (KSDS).

Ladies and Gentlemen

- The KSDS is a comprehensive framework with a main goal of mainstreaming statistics into the national policy and planning process. The Strategy is anchored into the 3rd Medium Term Plan (MTP III) of the Kenya's Vision 2030 and the priority areas under the Big 4 transformation Agenda. The overall strategic theme of the KSDS is "Providing high quality disaggregated statistics to support

sustainable development”, and this points out the commitment to ensure the availability of data for reporting and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Ladies and Gentlemen

- In addition to the SDGs, Kenya has also subscribed to other continental and regional undertakings and commitments such as the East African Community and Agenda 2063 of the African Union. Tracking the country’s achievements towards realization of the targets therein has resulted in increased demand for high quality

data for monitoring and evaluation. KSDS is aligned to the global, continental, regional and national statistical strategies to ensure harmonization of statistics.

Ladies and gentlemen

- In the four years' implementation for the KSDS, focus will be on ensuring an effective National Statistical System; Enhancing data Quality; Strengthening Infrastructure for statistical production; and Intensifying statistical advocacy in the country. The Strategy outlines the activities to be carried out to achieve the strategic objectives within the estimated budget. Notably, the KSDS process and product is a collaborative venture and its implementation; monitoring and evaluation; and review requires the contribution of data producers and other stakeholders of the data ecosystem.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- The total cost for the KSDS is estimated at KSh 12.1 billion, equivalent to USD 121 million. As we are all aware, the government faces budgetary constraints in implementing many of the planned programmes and initiatives across all sectors of the economy. It is however expected that the KSDS activities having been already anchored in the sector strategic plans (SSPs) of the Ministries, Departments, Agencies and County Governments will be funded at the statistics sector level. Moreover, the SSPs can guide resource mobilization to ensure that the gaps are bridged.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- As I conclude, I would like to point out the expected achievements from this course. With the implementation of the KSDS, we expect improvement of statistics for monitoring of development agendas nationally, regionally and globally. It will also enable and facilitate closer collaboration between producers of statistics which will have a positive impact on the quality of statistics produced in the NSS. I would also like to point out the need for a cabinet memo to support a policy direction for establishment of statistics units in all data producing institutions in the government.

- Finally, I wish to express my gratitude to all stakeholders for their invaluable contribution and continued support in this process and call upon all interested parties to embrace this noble approach. I now want to declare the KSDS officially launched.

Thank you and God Bless