

## Support For MSMEs In Kenya

Nairobi

4/5/2021

The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Alliance of Kenya team lead by their chairman, Ben Mutahi and their CEO, Sammy Karanja today paid a courtesy call on the Chief Administrative Secretary, National Treasury and Planning, Eric Simiyu Wafukho in his office. The other leader who accompanied them included Joseph Macharia, Michael Kinyua and Susan Boyo. The Alliance leaders, on behalf of the more than 2.2m MSMEs under the Alliance and 7.2 m MSMEs as a whole, expressed their appreciation to the President for taking personal lead in granting 2 amnesties during the 2017-2019 period amounting to more than Kshs 7bn (KPA Kshs 2bn, Customs Kshs 5bn, Shipping lines Kshs 220m). Further, they were grateful for government efforts in cushioning the MSMEs during the covid-19 pandemic containment measures. This included the reduction in Turnover tax in 2020 from 3% to 1%. The recent launch of Nairobi Deconsolidation Centre as an inland custom bonded warehouse under the partnership between KRA and Kenya Railways will go a long way in supporting the MSMEs.

The leaders presented a memorandum to the Chief Administrative Secretary on how to strengthen partnerships between government and MSMEs in the days ahead. Some of the issues discussed during the meeting include the need to protect Kenyans MSMEs against unfair business practices, increasing the ease of doing business, fast-tracking pending bills payments once audits are completed, reducing turn-around times on government processes, integrating technology in business processes and facilitating access to credit through such schemes as Credit Guarantee Scheme being rolled out by the Government.

Ends.