



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**OPENING REMARKS BY SAITOTI TOROME, CBS,
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR
PLANNING DURING THE DIRECTORS OF PLANNING
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD ON 10TH AUGUST 2021.**

**The Principal Secretary, National Treasury,
The Economic Planning Secretary;
The Economic Planning Advisor;**

**Directors of Planning present;
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

Good Morning!

- It gives me great pleasure to join you this morning for this Directors of Planning virtual meeting. This meeting provides a platform to promote interaction between the State Department for Planning, the Central Planning and Project Monitoring Units (CPPMUs), and the National Government County Planning Offices as well as to brief you on current national planning initiatives. In addition, it also provides an opportunity to receive feedback on matters relating to National and Sectoral Development Planning from MDAs and Counties.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- As you are aware, we have convened this meeting at a time when the country is dealing with the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Clearly, we must take cognizance that the Country is operating under an unprecedented socio-economic environment owing to the multiple shocks that this pandemic and other emerging issues have presented.
- We must accept that the economy must strive to withstand the massive pressure exerted by the prevailing internal and external shocks. As planners we must embrace the business unusual mode of conducting the national planning function.
- I wish to reiterate that since we are at the tail end of the third MTP, it is important to have a strategic moment of reflection, assess the progress we have made to date as we

embark on the process of developing the fourth MTP of the Kenya Vision 2030. Notably, the fourth MTP will build on the achievements of the third MTP and take into account emerging issues and lessons learnt over the implementation period.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- I am happy to note that the State Department for Planning developed a POST COVID-19 Economic Recovery Strategy (PC-ERS) which seeks to revitalize and restore the economy to the desired growth trajectory. The strategy is the culmination of a critical review of our existing programmes and policies.
- As Directors of Planning, it is our responsibility to ensure that we plan effectively and steer the country towards achieving the aspirations of the Kenya Vision 2030. I also

want to challenge you to begin figuring out what planning scenarios may be considered beyond the Kenya Vision 2030.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- It is my hope that this meeting will allow us share valuable knowledge and experiences towards improving roles and responsibilities in effectively undertaking our planning function in our respective MDAs. I wish to emphasize that the State Department for Planning shall endeavor to continue organizing these forums with the purpose of escalating benefits that come with team work and address the challenges encountered by CPPMUs. I challenge you to hold candid discussions and to provide feedback that will inform the strengthening of the National and Sectoral Development planning function.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- The Ministries, Departments and Agencies are required to put in place supporting mechanism including fast-tracking necessary legislations/policies identified in the draft Economic Recovery Strategy and MTP III; strengthen monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects to inform policy and planning; and actively engage stakeholders in identification of policies, programmes and projects for the Fourth MTP 2023-2027 sector plans to ensure priority needs of the citizen is addressed.
- On the other hand, the National Treasury and Planning through the State Department for Planning will continue supporting you in building capacity on Monitoring and Evaluation as well as enhancing strong collaboration in

national development planning processes, and provide support to county governments development planning.

Ladies and Gentlemen

- As I conclude, let me thank you all for finding time to participate in this important meeting. This meeting acts as a catalyst to push you to new heights of commitment on delivering on National and Sectoral Development Planning. Let me also reiterate that the State Department will also endeavor to convene the Annual CPPMU Forum at the earliest opportune time.
- I look forward to the resolutions and recommendations that will be made during today's meeting. I am confident that the meeting will set a stage for vigorous deliberations on the way forward and future forums.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU