

SPEECH BY THE CABINET SECRETARY, THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING HON. (AMB.) UKUR YATANI ON THE OCCASION OF THE LAUNCH OF ODPP POLICY DOCUMENTS HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER 2021, 10.00 AM AT THE PROSECUTORS' TRAINING INSTITUTE, NAIROBI

H.E. Ms. Henriette Geiger, European Union Ambassador to Kenya;

Mr. Kihara Kariuki, Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya;

Mr. Noordin M. Haji, Director of Public Prosecutions;

Mr. Eric W. Kneedler, Charge d'Affaires, US Embassy Kenya;

Hon. Justice Mr. Smokin Wanjala, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya;

Mr. Nelson Marwa, Principal Secretary, State Department of Social Protection;

Ms. Maniza Zaman, UNICEF Representative in Kenya;

Mr. Hillary Mutyambai, Inspector General of Police;

Mr. George Kinoti, Director of Criminal Investigations;

Mr. Nelson Havi, President of the Law Society of Kenya;

Representatives of Independent Offices and Commissions;

Representatives of Ministries, Departments and Agencies, in the Government of Kenya;

Representatives of Development Partners;

Distinguished Guests

Good morning!

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the honorable DPP for the invitation to attend the launch of the “Prosecutor’s Guide to Children in the Criminal Justice System”; and “the Diploma in Public Prosecution Curriculum.” I wish to further congratulate the DPP and his Team for the amazing work they are doing to transforming the ODPP into an effective and efficient prosecutorial authority through its innovative and transformational interventions in the criminal justice system.

I have taken note of the strides the ODPP has made over the years with growing the organization to the standards that we witness today as we seat here at the Prosecution Training Institute (PTI). This institute is just coming to life and with the launch of the Diploma in Public Prosecution Curriculum, it is expected that PTI will continue to grow in size and influence and transform the criminal justice sector in ways that may transcend the borders of Kenya. This will be transformational.

I pledge to support the ODPP in its vision of transforming the Prosecution Training Institute into a premier institution within the Eastern Africa region offering courses to law enforcement officers, prosecutorial authorities and other criminal justice actors. This vision is well aligned with those of Vision 2030 and Agenda 4 of developing Kenya’s governance structure and its economic and policy influence within the region.

In yet another milestone, the ODPP is launching the Prosecutor’s Guide to Children in the Criminal Justice System, which is cognizant of the special circumstances surrounding children cases and recognition of the

vulnerabilities that children continue to face. Children are our present and future resource and its intentional effort must be made to nurture them if Kenya is to attain its place at the table of developed nations. We cannot achieve this if our children continue to face challenges associated with being in conflict with the law that may impact their potential as builders of our nation.

I urge for continued creative interventions that will reduce the interaction of children with the criminal justice system and the development of programs that may attract children into paths that are more productive to their wellbeing and that of the nation. This may call for more collaboration between different actors in governance to develop home grown solutions to these challenges.

Even as the ODPP continues to develop policies and guidelines and engage with the community towards resolving criminal justice challenges, I urge that we support them in their endeavours and avoid unnecessary competition among State Agencies. It is time to come together and work towards ensuring that we have an effective criminal justice system that is responsive to our needs.

I wish to congratulate the ODPP and all their partners for today's milestones and urge them on towards their continued attainment of their strategic commitments as enshrined in the Excellence Charter.

I thank you.