

**STATEMENT BY MR. SAITOTI TOROME, CBS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,  
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING, DURING THE OFFICIAL CLOSING  
CEREMONY OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> KENYA NATIONAL MONITORING AND  
EVALUATION WEEK/CONFERENCE ON 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2022**

**Your Excellency Sospeter Ojaamong, Governor, Busia County;**

**Hon. Member of Parliament, Tanzania**

**Mr. Mathew Babwoya Buya County Executive Committee Member  
Finance and Economic Planning, Tana River County**

**Economic Planning Secretary, State Department for Planning;**

**Development Partners' Representatives present;**

**International and Regional Delegates;**

**Members of Academia;**

**Representatives from Private Sector and Civil Society Organizations;**

**Public Servants;**

**Distinguished Resource Persons and Session Chairs;**

**Members of the Media Fraternity;**

**All those following this conference virtually;**

**Distinguished Guests;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Good morning!**

- It gives me great pleasure to officiate over this closing session of the 10<sup>th</sup> Kenya National M&E week whose theme was "***The Kenya National M&E Week @10: Celebrating Progress, Consolidating Gains and Exploring New Opportunities for M&E in The Public Sector***". I am particularly pleased to be part of the celebration of a decade of M&E Weeks.

- I am well informed that you have had very informative five days, having interacted with M&E professionals and practitioners from within and beyond our borders. The Conference brought together diverse groups and provided an opportunity to many who interacted with experienced professionals during the week. The virtual platform attracted a wider range of participants who otherwise would not have participated.

- I also understand that the sessions, both in plenary and break out rooms, were vibrant; facilitators delivered their presentations and actively engaged with participants as expected. Your contributions and engagements with facilitators during the sessions created a better understanding of the new approaches to Monitoring and Evaluation. Thank you for actively participating in the various panel discussions,

plenary presentations, breakout sessions and the online interaction platform.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

- I believe we have been able to accomplish the objectives of the week which included: Taking stock of the decade in implementing the NIMES – identifying successes, opportunities and areas of strengthening; Providing a platform for the Governments (Regional, National and

Counties), development partners and other stakeholders to share knowledge on M&E approaches, practices, lessons and experiences; Sharing experiences and results of M&E practices in the Public Sector over the last decade; Exploring emerging M&E practices and their adoption over time; Enhancing understanding on the use and role of M&E in strengthening development outcomes; and Review of the use of technology in enhancing efficiency in M&E.

- I take note of the fact that the implementation of the Kenya Vision 2030 is eight and half years to go. As we develop the Fourth Medium Term Plan for the Kenya Vision 2030, I take cognizance of the key role that M&E plays in accelerating the country's development Agenda through implementation of the various outcomes of M&E. This conference has been critical to learning how best we can undertake M&E and use M&E information to re-programme our development



policies. As such, it is important that the knowledge gained is put into good use for the good of our country and the entire continent.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

- Monitoring and Evaluation has been an important management tool in the country's public sector. It is for this reason that there are concerted efforts to strengthen M&E systems at both national and county levels of government. Notably, sustaining the Annual Monitoring and Evaluation

Week has contributed greatly towards strengthening of M&E systems in the public sector. In addition, the Government has endeavored to continuously build M&E capacity in the country through training, provision of technical support and development of relevant guidelines including the just launched Kenya Evaluation Guidelines and M&E Norms and Standards for the Public Sector.

- These tools are important in institutionalizing M&E function in the public sector, standardizing the practice of M&E; and ensuring a credible M&E exercise and quality reporting of results. I therefore urge each one of you to make use of these documents which are easily accessible on the State Department for Planning Website and the revamped Monitoring and Evaluation Directorate Website.

## **Ladies and Gentlemen**

- This being our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of hosting the Kenya National M&E week, I would like to acknowledge continued support from our partners in the last nine years; notably, the UN family, the World Bank, African Development Bank, and Twende Mbele. I also appreciate the National and County Governments of Kisumu, Mombasa and Nairobi where the event has been held in the past; the facilitators and panelists for their

willingness to share experiences and knowledge in M&E; and all our participants over the years.

- Finally, I wish to single out our partners who have supported the hosting of this celebratory 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of the Kenya M&E Week; our SAGAs (VDS, NCPD and NG-CDF); UNICEF; USAID; Kisumu County Government and Kisumu County Commissioner; and all the facilitators. Planning team led by MED thank you so much.

- With those few remarks, it is now my duty and pleasure to declare the 10<sup>th</sup> M&E week officially closed.

**Thank You and God Bless You**