

**REMARKS BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT
FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING, MR. JAMES MUHATI, DURING THE
VISIT TO NCPD FRIDAY, DECEMBER, 9TH 2022**

**Director General, National Council for Population and Development
(NCPD);**

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

NCPD Staff;

I am delighted to visit the NCPD headquarters and especially to learn more about the mandate of NCPD. Indeed, promotion and coordination of population and development activities is at the core of the achievement of the Kenya Vision 2030.

From the presentation here today, it is apparent that NCPD is the sole focal point for leadership and guidance in population and development issues in the country. This unique responsibility calls upon all of us to strategically position to efferently and effectively deliver on the NCPD functions that have been outlined here today.

Let me appreciate the NCPD key achievements that, in my opinion, lay a strong foundation, to realize the NCPD vision of quality population for Kenya. That said, and now that you have embarked on developing the NCPD Strategic Plan for the 2023- 2028 planning period, means that we must interrogate the strategic focus areas that resonate with your vision, mission and the set mandate.

In doing so, I take it that you will work with all stakeholders and especially to maintain a strategic focus, mobilize resources and to ensure successful execution of the identified strategic priorities.

Even so, Director General, I take cognizance that there are challenges that must be surmounted in the course of delivering the NCPD mandate. I also know that you are equal to the task. In this regard, let me register my commitment to support NCPD in all ways possible. However, take note that we must remain in consultative engagement to achieve the NCPD overall goal and inevitable the aspirations of the Kenyan people in matters population and development.

To conclude, Ladies and Gentlemen, let me thank you for the warm welcome and the comprehensive briefing. I already feel that we are on the same page on what must get done. Let us do it.

Finally there are strategic issues that have been raised in regard to the Centre of Excellence; the NCPD Bill ; the Draft Population Policy; funding for NCPD; and last but not least the ICPD25 Kenya Country commitments. Once again, let me state that with a driven consultative stakeholder engagement, we shall come forth with the right strategic solutions.

Thank you.