

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND ECONOMIC PLANNING STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING

**OPENING REMARKS BY MR. JAMES MUHATI, CBS, PRINCIPAL
SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING, DURING
THE WORKSHOP FOR VALIDATION OF CORE INDICATORS AND
COSTING FRAMEWORK OF THE AFRICA AGENDA 2063 SECOND TEN-
YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN, ON 18TH DECEMBER, 2023 AT RADISSON
BLU HOTEL, NAIROBI**

**Your Excellency, Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson,
African Union Commission**

**Your Excellency, Ms Nardos Bekele-Thomas, Chief Executive Officer,
Africa Union Development Agency-NEPAD**

Representatives of Development Partners,

Government Officials,

**Distinguished Participants,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good Morning

1. I am delighted to join you at the Agenda 2063 Validation Workshop whose objective is to validate the proposed core indicators of the Second Ten Year Implementation Plan, the draft costing framework, the draft guidelines for the on-online portal and the Roadmap for the operationalization of the Agenda 2063.
2. I take this opportunity to welcome participants from outside Kenya and exclusively appreciate respective Governments for honouring the Africa Union Commission and AUDA-NEPAD invitation to participate in this very important validation workshop.
3. It is notable that, the Africa Agenda 2063 is aimed at eradicating poverty and improving standards of living across the African continent. This is what has

informed the need to accelerate implementation for the African Continent to be better in the shortest period possible.

4. Subsequently, there is therefore need to speed up the tracking of implementation of the Africa Agenda 2063 whilst not losing traction of the vision of Africa's great leaders. It is important to identify any implementation challenges and put in place appropriate corrective measures to address the divergences to guarantee success.
5. The evaluation of the First Ten-Year Implementation Plan (FTYIP) of Agenda 2063 highlighted some lessons that will be important going forward. These include among others, key lessons regarding:

- a) **Leadership:** Strong and transformative leadership is required to champion Agenda 2063 implementation. The leadership should span continental, regional, national and sub-national levels and should be anchored on and supported by explicit policies and management decisions.
- b) **Communication and Awareness:** Effective implementation of Agenda 2063 calls for active participation of a critical mass of stakeholders. In this regard, continuous communication and advocacy among various multi-stakeholder groups is necessary to raise public awareness on Agenda 2063.
- c) **Design and Implementation Considerations:** The African Continent development landscape is dynamic, prone to political

instability, and socio-economic challenges which include internal and external shocks and disruptions such as pandemics, global security threats, climate change, financial crises and exchange rate volatility. Accordingly, the plans should incorporate resilience and sustainable measures as integral components of the implementation architecture.

- d) **Costing and Financing:** Agenda 2063 Ten-Year Implementation Plans should be costed as a solid basis for resource mobilisation and enhancing allocative efficiency of financial resources embodied in the Plan.
- e) **Reporting:** Periodic reporting is important in providing the implementation progress of Agenda 2063. There is need therefore to ensure credible reporting and this calls for urgent capacity

enhancements in public data infrastructure, statistics, data management and analysis at all levels.

Ladies and Gentlemen

6. Many countries have made commendable progress in the implementation of the Agenda 2063. This is attributed to the continued guidance by the AUC on Member States' domestication and integration of the ideals of the Agenda into National Development Plans.

7. On its part, Kenya has integrated the aspiration of the Agenda 2063 and that of the Country's Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV). Through this framework,

the traction of the implementation of the two plans and their monitoring will be eased.

8. Kenya has also submitted to the AU, the Africa Union Special Project Country Report in 2022 and the Second Country Progress Report in October 2023. The country rating has improved from 59% to 61% occasioned by improvements in Aspiration 1 and 2.

Excellencies,

9. I wish to echo the words of the **Deputy Chairperson** of the African Union Commission, **Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa**, who reiterated during the AU meeting of the Executive Council and the Ministers in charge of Finance and Planning in Kigali, that the First Ten-year Implementation Plan of the Agenda

2063 presented a period for convergence to focus the Continent for a common purpose. This is true to the extent that most countries were learning to understand the Agenda which is now appreciated across the continent.

10. The Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan of the Agenda 2063 presents a period for accelerating the implementation of the Agenda. How then is the process accelerated? This is the question this workshop seeks to answer.

11. Accelerating the speed of the implementation of Agenda 2063, will require: strong and transformative leadership; effective communication and awareness; appropriate design and implementation considerations; proper costing and financing and enhanced data quality for periodic reporting.

12. In addition, it is a prerequisite for the continent to galvanize political support which is pivotal in aligning Member States' National Plans with the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan. This is in line with the Executive Council and Ministers in Charge of Finance and Planning meeting in Kigali, on pursuing modalities for harmonizing the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) in a ***Two Agenda One Plan***.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

13. Allow me also to take cognizance of the Ministers' resolve during the Kigali retreat, to have Africa prioritize the Africa food sufficiency through improvement of agricultural production; security; and the fight on cyber-crime.

14. I wish to reiterate the need for Africa to be self-sufficient in provision of food to her populace; co-existing in peace with each other and opening up boundaries to facilitate implementation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); and to support AfCFTA through a common payment platform and harmonized communication system. Equally Africa requires effective approach to manage cyber-crime with urgency as it has become a menace on social platforms and to the financial sector.
15. Kenya appreciates the AU aspirations towards alleviating poverty and achieving shared prosperity with improved living standards of our people. As a Continent, we need to build synergies capable of catalysing the Continent towards a positive growth trajectory during the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan.

Dear Participants,

16.As we settle down to interrogate the identified core indicators, I invite everyone to also focus on areas that may need reporting on, and whose data is available. Kenya has identified ***investment as a percentage to GDP*** as an item that needs to be captured in the template under Aspiration 1, Goal 4.

17.In Conclusion, The Kenyan Government appreciates the African Union Commission's decision to grant Kenya an opportunity to host this workshop as well as the many retreats, workshops and meetings held in the Country on Agenda 2063.

18. As it is said, all work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy, during your free time sample Kenya's beauty. I mean the wonderful scenery around, reminding you of the world's biggest Game Park within a City, The Nairobi National Park.

19. I wish you fruitful deliberations guided by the desire to make Africa Great and a wonderful stay in the City in the Sun.

20. It is now my humble honour to declare this Workshop Official Open.

THANK YOU
ASANTENI SANA