



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND ECONOMIC PLANNING**  
**STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING**

**REMARKS BY**

**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**  
**STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING**  
**MR. BONFACE MAKOKHA**

**DURING THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE AFRICA UNION  
DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILIZATION STRATEGY (DRM) 2025-  
2033 VALIDATION WORKSHOP**

**AT THE  
RADISSON BLU HOTEL  
NAIROBI, KENYA**

**23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2025**

**Your Excellency Representative of the African Union;**

**Your Excellency, Representative of AUDA-NEPAD;**

**Your Excellencies Ambassadors;**

**Representatives of Development Partners;**

**Distinguished Delegates;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

***Good morning, Habari za Asubuhi, Bonjour***

Welcome to Nairobi, the '***Green City in the Sun'*** - a healthy environment to live in.

**Distinguished delegates**, it is my honour to welcome you to Kenya and to this important **Africa Union Domestic Resource Mobilization Strategy**

**(DRM) 2025- 2033 Validation workshop.** I address you this morning both as the Principal Secretary responsible for Economic Planning and as a representative of a country fully committed to shaping and owning Africa's development narrative.

My State Department's core mandate is to coordinate the formulation and implementation of national development policy and planning frameworks, including monitoring and evaluation of progress. We are also charged with integrating and localizing global, continental and regional development agendas, particularly the Agenda 2063, into our national priorities.

Kenya's current development blueprint, the **Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA)**, has been intentionally aligned with the **Africa's Agenda 2063**. This alignment ensures that while we implement Kenya's priorities, we are also advancing the continent's shared aspirations.

### **What has BETA delivered so far?**

In less than two years of BETA implementation, Kenya has made significant strides:

- a) **Agricultural Productivity:** Over 1.5 million farmers have been digitally registered under the fertilizer subsidy programme, resulting in increased access to affordable inputs and higher yields across key food-producing counties.

- b) **Housing and Urban Development:** More than 46,000 affordable housing units are under construction across 25 counties. These projects are creating direct employment for over 110,000 youth and artisans, while regenerating urban areas through development of new public infrastructure.
- c) **Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs):** Through the Hustler Fund, over 22 million Kenyans have accessed affordable credit, amounting to more than KSh.43 billion, empowering informal businesses and stimulating rural enterprise.
- d) **Healthcare Access:** The rollout of the Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) is transforming healthcare delivery, guaranteeing access to essential health services for millions of uninsured Kenyans and reducing out-of-pocket expenditure.

**Ladies and gentlemen,** these are not just mere statistics but a representation of the lives we are transforming and the economic base we are strengthening from the bottom up.

Kenya understands that national success contributes to continental progress. This is why we continue to embed Agenda 2063 targets into our planning and budgeting processes.

In the year 2017, Kenya was the first country to voluntarily submit to a second country review. The outcome of the review necessitated the establishment of the County Peer Review Mechanism (CPRM) which is a multi-agency tool used in not only the promotion and entrenchment of good governance across the

counties, but is also a credible monitoring tool for the implementation of the Medium-Term Plans of the Kenya Vision 2030 and the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs).

Kenya has so far also submitted two national reports on Agenda 2063 implementation, in 2021 and 2023, with a recorded improvement in our performance score from 51% to 61%.

We are now preparing our third national progress report, due for submission in October 2025, with a sharper focus on data, accountability and tangible outcomes.



However, **distinguished delegates**, we must confront an uncomfortable truth: Africa's development agenda is still largely financed externally. Despite policy reforms and growing domestic efforts, many African countries remain far from meeting their financing needs.

As we gather here to validate the **African Union Domestic Resource Mobilization (DRM) Strategy for 2025–2033**, we must acknowledge that self-financing is no longer an option. It is a necessity. If Africa is to own its development, we must own its financing.

Global financial structures are increasingly unresponsive to the realities of the developing world. The recent **Third Financing for Development**

**Conference (FFD3)** and the **Summit of the Future** which both took place in New York have exposed the growing frustration among developing nations over limited access to international development finance.

**Ladies and gentlemen**, while we push for reforms globally, we must also act boldly at home.

This strategy validation workshop is an affirmation that Africa will no longer remain passive. We are collectively designing pragmatic ways to expand our domestic revenue base.

I urge you to ensure this **Domestic Resource Mobilization Strategy** includes:

- a) Tax Policy and Administration Reforms: Broadening the tax base, closing compliance gaps and leveraging digital tools to increase efficiency and transparency.
- b) Public Finance Management Systems: Ensuring that every shilling raised is used efficiently and transparently to build public trust.
- c) Private Sector Engagement: Stimulating private sector growth and unlocking public-private partnerships to co-finance critical infrastructure and social services.
- d) Subnational Resource Mobilization: Tapping into counties and local governments as engines for localized revenue generation.

**Ladies and gentlemen,** it is my appeal that we let the strategy validated here be bold, data-informed and implementation-focused. Let it speak to Africa's unique strengths, challenges and above all, our immense potential.

The future of Africa depends on the choices we make today. Kenya is ready to walk this journey with our continental peers, leveraging what we have, strengthening what we must and pushing for what we deserve.

Africa's transformation is not a distant dream. It is a task at hand. And it starts with our collective resolve to fund and drive our own development.

**In conclusion, distinguished delegates,** I would like to wish you all a successful and thought-provoking validation workshop. May the discussions be insightful, the connections fruitful, and the outcome transformative.

As it is said, ***all work and no play, makes Jack/Jane a dull boy/girl.*** During your free time, as is the tradition, I would encourage you to sample Kenya's beauty, the warmth offered by the Green City in the Sun. I mean....., ***beauty galore*** - the wonderful scenery around, the world's biggest Game Park within a City, The Nairobi National Park, the great museums and orphanages, the Maasai villages etc.

It is now my humble duty and privilege to declare this Validation Workshop officially open.

**I thank you all and once again, karibuni Nairobi Kenya.**

***Asanteni Sana***

***Merci Beaucoup***