

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



**THE PRESIDENCY
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, YOUTH AND GENDER AFFAIRS
STATE DEPARTMENT OF GENDER AFFAIRS**

**TALKING NOTES FOR MWANAMAKA MABUKI, CBS, PRINCIPAL
SECRETARY FOR GENDER AFFAIRS DURING THE NATIONAL
CONSULTATIVE FORUM ON THE MEDIUM TERM PLAN (III) GENDER
CHAPTER HELD ON FRIDAY 14TH JULY 2017**

**The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender
Affairs, Sicily Kariuki**

Eminent Women Present,

Distinguished members of the Academia and the Civil Society,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning.

I wish to take this opportunity to welcome you all to the Medium Term Plan (MTP III) national consultative forum on the Gender Chapter which is being held today for all our key stakeholders to engage them on the final outcome of the document that will define

the roadmap of the gender agenda in the country for the next five years.

I also acknowledge that there are those amongst us here today that we have walked together on this journey of developing the draft MTP III document that is being presented for discussion in this forum today. I wish to thank you for your valuable contributions that have shaped the document and I urge you to look at the document with a critical eye so that as we consult and deliberate, we may enrich and validate our plans for the Gender, Youth and Vulnerable Groups chapter.

As you are aware, Kenya's Vision 2030 Blue print aspires to propel the country at the middle-income and industrialized nation by the year 2030. The Vision 2030 is implemented through five-year successive Medium Term Plans (MTP) which are the strategic plans to achieve the vision. The 2nd MTP (2013 – 2017 ended on June 30th, 2017 and paved way for the preparation of the 3rd MTP. We are here to discuss the gender chapter so that it can be finalized and be incorporated into the main document.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The 3rd MTP preparation as early as March this year and the work was distributed among 24 working groups representing different sectors by formulating policies, programs and projects for incorporation in the Third MTP. The preparation involved engagement of various stakeholders in the Sector including the County Governments, the

Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), the Council of Governors and the National Gender and Equality Commission among others whom I may not have mentioned but whose support I acknowledge.

It is due to the contribution of these key stakeholders that we are here today as the Gender Chapter Stakeholders for consultation on the main issues that were incorporated in this document and the roadmap for its implementation so that together, we may own the process.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Gender, Youth and Vulnerable Groups sector is very critical in these Medium Term Plans since it seeks to address the plight of the vulnerable and marginalized groups in society. In the past, these groups have been unable to utilize their full potential in socio-economic development and other areas of their life.

These are the groups we believe should be uplifted from the marginalization and discrimination in order to improve themselves socio-economically and thereby propel this country to greater heights of development.

Women and the Youth comprise a great percentage of the Country's population and therefore hold the backbone of our economic output and growth. Gender inequalities have however held us back in realising the great potential they hold for this country. The MTP III seeks to eliminate all these inequalities and by training

them on how to effectively utilize affirmative action funds and other initiatives put in place to empower them economically.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As I conclude, I wish to give special thanks to UN Women for their great support in this exercise from the beginning to the end as our key Development partner.

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is now my humble pleasure to invite the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs to now address you.

Thank you and May God Bless you.