

STATEMENT BY AMB. JEAN KIMANI, MBS, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE, KENYA PERMANENT MISSION TO UN-HABITAT DURING THE REVIEW OF THE KENYA HABITAT COUNTRY PROGRAMME (HCPD)

UN Resident Coordinator in Kenya, Dr. Stephen Jackson

Director Regional Office for Africa, UN-Habitat, Mr. Oumar Sylla

Ms. Jane Mwangi, Director Housing, Department for Housing

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentleman,

1. It is my pleasure to join you today for this review process of the Habitat Country Programme Document (HCPD) 2018-2021. I take this opportunity to express the appreciation of the Government of Kenya to UN-Habitat for the partnership between the government and UN-Habitat extended on this project since its inception. As you are aware the 2018-2021 was the third strategic plan and an instrument in the realization of Kenya's objectives as outlined in Vision 2030 and aims at enhancing effective service delivery and sustainable urban development at national and county levels. I note that the focus of the projects has been elaborate; improved land Management and sustainable Planned Human Settlements, Improved Access to quality urban basic services and infrastructure, Improved Access to quality and affordable Housing and sustainable slum upgrading and prevention. There are 55 projects which are at different stages of development with a number of them having been completed.
2. The expiry of HCPD 2018-2021 in December 2021 has created the need for the formulation of a new country programme that will guide future

engagement between UN-Habitat and the Government of Kenya this which will be responsive to our national objectives, regional and global aspirations incorporating the Africa Agenda 2063, the New Urban Agenda, Vision 2030 and Kenya's Medium Term Plans.

3. Kenya has witnessed rapid rate of urbanization since independence in 1963. It is estimated that by 2030 urban areas will account for 54% of the population. Against the rapid urban growth, the country has registered increased pressure to meet the needs of the growing urban populations. Challenges include poor infrastructure, services and inadequate housing.
4. At the global level, the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015 prioritizes sustainable urban development through SDG 11. The Habitat III Conference held in Quito, Ecuador also adopted the New Urban Agenda to guide countries to achieve sustainable urban development. I wish to recall that Kenya actively contributed to the adoption of the Common African Position for Habitat III and the New Urban Agenda and developed a Popular Version of the New Urban Agenda together with an Implementation Framework in efforts towards a more inclusive and sustainable future.
5. The new HCPD will be a means through which the Government with support from UN-Habitat will ensure that primary and secondary towns in Kenya become socially inclusive drivers for economic growth and transformation. The Programme should also be a platform for mobilizing the public, the private and non-governmental actors and development partners to contribute to sustainable urban development in Kenya.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. As we review the progress in the implementation of the HCPD, it is important that we reflect on the future and analyze the emerging issues. There is a need to prioritize the key mandates of the country taking into consideration our National Strategies including the Vision 2030 and the Big 4 Agenda and build on what the HCPD has achieved within these strategies.
7. As I conclude, let's take advantage of these two days to engage proactively in reviewing the implementation and provide recommendations for further improvement in the realization of the aspirations set out in the HCPD. I am optimistic that the review meeting will identify gaps in the program of work and provide guidance in the formulation of the new document.
8. The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-HABITAT) will endeavor to promote multilateral engagement by fostering collaborative actions towards sustainable and inclusive cities especially through the Tripartite meetings. We are looking forward to more cooperation and collaboration will from all of you.

Thank you.
