



**SPEECH BY CHAIRPERSON, NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT AUTHORITY
DURING A WORKSHOP WITH STAFF OF THE AUTHORITY HELD AT
FLAMINGO HOTEL, MOMBASA ON 21ST JUNE 2018**

Board Members,

Staff National Employment Authority,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It gives me much pleasure to be with you this morning as we hold a consultative meeting with staff of National Employment Authority.

As we are all aware, the Authority was established in April 2016 by an Act of Parliament.

The Act transited the National Employment Bureau (NEB) into NEA.

The Transition Clause (Section 45 of the NEA Act) states that "Upon the commencement of the Act, the functions that were immediately before the commencement of the Act being undertaken by NEB shall be transferred to the Authority"

The section also transferred the property, assets liabilities, power, duties, rules, orders, and staff to NEA

Ladies and gentlemen,

The NEA Board was constituted on 25th November 2016.

It comprises of representatives from the following:



- 1) State Department of Labour
- 2) Public Service Commission
- 3) Federation of Kenya Employers
- 4) Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- 5) Two youths, one man and one woman, nominated by the National Youth Council Ministry of Finance
- 6) The Secretary of the Commission on University Education
- 7) The Secretary to the Kenya Association of Technical Training Institutions
- 8) Chairperson appointed by the Cabinet Secretary

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Authority has the following mandate;

- (a) advise on formulation of employment policies and strategies for national and county governments;
- (b) advise both the national and county governments on any policy matter concerning employment;
- (c) develop methodologies for employment measurement, management and promotion;
- (d) conduct periodic surveys on labour market skills requirements and advice training institutions and job seekers appropriately to ensure that training and skills match the job market requirements;
- (e) monitor implementation of employment policies and programmes;



- (f) facilitate cooperation with the national government, the private sector, the informal sector and foreign governments and institutions to promote and increase access to employment;
- (g) facilitate, continuous training and other activities of Kenyans to improve of their chances of employment and work skills;
- (h) register persons seeking employment;
- (i) maintain an integrated and up-to-date database of all persons seeking employment;
- (j) facilitate the employment and placement of job seekers in formal and informal or any other form of employment, locally and internationally;
- (k) circulate in a timely manner job vacancies advertised to job seekers throughout Kenya through appropriate means including use of social media, internet, and published materials;
- (l) provide counseling to the unemployed and undertake activities to promote employment;
- (m) facilitate the implementation of national policies on employment;
- (n) take necessary steps to encourage equal opportunity employment practices for the benefit of the unemployed; and
- (o) perform such other function as may be assigned to it by any other written law.

Ladies and gentlemen, NEA has since achieved the following milestones



- Developed operationalization Instruments (which are awaiting categorization)
- Developed NEA Strategic Plan
- Developed Draft National Internship Policy and Internship guidelines
- Formulated Framework for Employment Creation Analysis to monitor Employment Creation
- Developed Plan of Action for implementation of National Employment Policy and Strategy
- Developed Curriculum to guide in training domestic workers. The curriculum had a module on pre- departure training for out bound migrant workers.
- Developed Pre-departure training programme for outbound migrants
- Streamlined registration and vetting of private employment agencies
- Facilitated placement of 16,000 jobseekers in employment

Ladies and gentlemen,

This workshop will provide an opportunity for the staff of NEA to be briefed on the progress made in the implementation of these activities:

The Authority is facing some challenges key among them are;

Categorization and Classification of NEA

- The delay in categorization has affected finalization of the operationalization tools and recruitment of staff. The progress of the categorization is however at an advanced stage. The categorization will enable NEA to fully operationalize its mandate by staffing the Authority among other areas.



Staff Shortage

One of the key challenges the Authority is facing is inadequate human resource, financial and infrastructural capacity for it to effectively deliver on its wide mandate.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Authority needs a paradigm shift towards enhancement of employment promotion interventions; increasing access to employment by the youth, minorities and marginalized groups and efficient coordination of related programmes. NEA is mandated with addressing the many underlying challenges facing the country in dealing with unemployment. The Board recognizes these challenges and has proposed intensive capacity building in all its aspects to position the Authority strategically and enable delivery of its mandate.

Ladies and gentlemen, to realize our *objectives* there is need for broad consensus and participation of all staff of the Authority, special guidance from the State Department for Labour and the entire Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, social partners, key stakeholders and the public in general. This will ensure that the Authority delivers on its obligations. I call upon all staff of the Authority to strive towards the realization of the envisaged results. I will lead the process and expect dedication, teamwork and commitment by all staff.

As you will note from our mandate above, we are charged with a heavy responsibility of delivering to Kenyans and especially the youth. We cannot therefore continue to operate like we have done in the past. Each and every one of us is charged with the personal mandate of creating a legacy in their one individual capacity. An individual cannot however deliver on their own and hence need for us to work together as a team



Ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of the Board, I wish to pledge our unreserved support to ensure that the Authority is a success as envisaged and wish you fruitful deliberations

I thank you and wish you all the best during this workshop.