

**REMARKS BY DR JULIUS M. MUIA, EBS ,PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,  
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PLANNING, THE NATIONAL TREASURY  
AND PLANNING DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE MANUFACTURING  
PRIORITY AGENDA (MPA) AND EXPO ON 5<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019, AT  
THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, NAIROBI**

**Chief Guest, Principal Secretary, State Department for Industrialization,  
Ministry of Industry, Trade and Cooperatives**

**Hon. Kanini Kega, Chairperson, Parliamentary Committee on Trade, Industry  
and Cooperatives,**

**Mr. Wanyama Musiambo, Deputy Head of Public Service, Office of the  
President**

**Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation**

**Dr. Geoffrey Mwau, Director General Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs,  
National Treasury and Planning**

**Kenya Association of Manufacturers Board , CEO and members**

**Representatives of National and County Governments, Development  
Partners, Private Sector, Non Governmental Organizations**

**Invited Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen**

**ALL PROTOCOLS OBSERVED**

I am gratified to be with you to participate in the launch of the Manufacturing Priority Agenda (MPA) and Expo 2019. The launch of today's Manufacturing Priority Agenda whose theme is "***Closing the manufacturing gap through the big 4 Agenda for shared Prosperity***" resonates well with Kenya's development Blue Print, "**the Kenya Vision 2030**". The overarching objective of Vision 2030 is to transform Kenya into "***an upper middle-income rapidly industrializing country offering all its citizens a high quality of life in a clean and safe environment***" by the year 2030.

The Vision is being implemented through five-year successive Medium Term Plans (MTPs). We are currently implementing the third MTP whose theme is “***Transforming Lives: Advancing socio-economic development through the “Big Four”***”. The third MTP (MTP III) that covers the period 2018-2022 is the second to be prepared under the devolved system of governance. Like the previous MTPs, it was prepared through a wide consultative process involving all stakeholders, right from the grass root level. It is aligned to the Constitution, Vision 2030 and key policy, legal and institutional requirements of the country. In order to ensure effective tracking of implementation, the State Department for Planning is responsible for preparing and disseminating periodic progress reports on implementation of the “Big Four” initiatives and other MTP III policies, programmes and projects.

**Ladies and Gentlemen:** The priority policies and strategies outlined in “The Big Four” Plan and as prioritized in the Third Medium Term Plan of the Vision 2030 entail: (i) supporting job creation by increasing value addition and raising the manufacturing sector’s share to GDP (ii) focusing on initiatives that guarantee food security and nutrition to all Kenyans; (iii) providing universal health coverage thereby guaranteeing quality and affordable healthcare to all Kenyans; and (iv) supporting construction of at least five hundred thousand (500,000) affordable new houses to Kenyans. Implementation of the policies and programmes under these four pillars is expected to accelerate and sustain inclusive growth, create opportunities for productive jobs, reduce poverty and income inequality and provide a better future for all Kenyans.

**Ladies and Gentlemen:** During the Medium Term Plan period, to further enable achievement of the outlined programmes under “The Big Four” Plan, the Government will continue to implement various policies under the Economic Transformation Agenda. These will be centered on five key pillars namely: (i) creating a conducive business environment; (ii) investing in sectoral transformation; (iii) infrastructure expansion; (iv) investing in quality and accessible social services; and (v) consolidating gains made in

devolution. Significant achievements have been realized on all the five pillars. The Government has also initiated key policies, legal and institutional reforms across all the Big Four sectors. For the manufacturing sector, among other initiatives, the Government has advanced funds to 15 agro-processing projects, is setting up leather and textile plants across the country, and is continuing to promote the “Buy Kenya, Build Kenya” philosophy which will boost the sector’s growth.

**Ladies and Gentlemen:** As highlighted in the Kenya Vision 2030 and the subsequent MTPs, the Government will continue to support job creation by increasing the manufacturing base. Over the next four years – the MTP III period, a number of initiatives will be implemented under the various sub-sectors. The Government will work with industry players to create more jobs for youths and support innovation across the entire value chain – whether in buying new solutions, building their own, or partnering with others to innovate. Principally, the Government will continue to build textile industries and leather parks in various parts of the country, support agro-processing, support production of construction materials, transform the blue economy and re-establish the automobile industry to support job creation. Other important sectors include oil, gas, and mining; iron and steel; and ICT.

**Ladies and Gentlemen:** As the Government transforms the manufacturing sector, new job opportunities that require deeper skills and knowledge will be created. To meet this demand, the Government has heavily invested in Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) in each of the 290 constituencies. The objective is to enhance the quality of TVET graduates to meet the local industrial needs and become internationally competitive.

**Ladies and Gentlemen:** To support the manufacturing sector, the Government will continue to promote provision of financial support and credit to Micro, Small and

Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and increase the number of MSMEs supported through Technology Incubation and Common Manufacturing Facilities.

Finally, **Ladies and Gentlemen**, I wish to thank KAM for inviting us to this important meeting and hope that the content of the reports we are about to launch will contribute towards addressing the pressing social and economic needs of our people. The State Department of Planning is committed to this cause.

**Thank you for your attention and God Bless Kenya.**