

## **PS TALKING NOTES ON THE DISSEMINATION OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> APRM COUNTRY REVIEW REPORT**

### **Good morning Ladies and Gentlemen**

I welcome and thank you all for accepting our invitation to this dissemination forum for the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) Country Review Report.

APRM's primary purpose for conducting country reviews is to promote good governance and improved public service delivery performance. It is for this reason that the Mechanism was established in 2003 as a self-monitoring and mutually agreed governance instrument. It focuses on governance in four thematic areas, Democratic and Political Governance, Economic Governance and Management, Corporate Governance and Socio-Economic Development.

The Mechanism not only plays the critical role of monitoring implementation of the African Union's Agenda 2063 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) but it also tracks implementation of the governance components Kenya's Vision 2030.

Kenya acceded to the APRM at its inception in 2003. It was the third African state to conduct the base review report in 2006 and became the first Member State to pioneer the second generation review process in 2016.

The preparation of the Second Self-Assessment started with a visit by a Support Mission in the Country, whose main objective was to sensitize the stakeholders on the second review, assess the level of the country preparedness and get the Memorandum of Understanding on Technical Assessment and Review Visit signed. The signing of the MOU on the 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 by His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta and Professor Al Amin Abu Manga (the Head of the Kenya Review process), paved the way for the second review mission.

The Country Review Mission was composed of independent African experts, senior staff from the Continental Secretariat as well as

representative of APRM Strategic Partners, selected for their competence and expertise in the four thematic areas of APRM review. The Country Review Team held consultations with a wide range of stakeholders (representative of women, youth, farmers, persons with disabilities, civil society actors, religious groups, county commission officials as well as county government officers) across all the 47 counties of Kenya.

The review team also met top national government officials and heads of independent commissions, the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, the representatives of major political parties, the Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya and his team, leaders of the Kenyan private sector, and the UN Group operating in Kenya who provided primary information and data on governance and socio-economic development in Kenya.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

The process outlined above culminated in the peer review of our President, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta. Certain findings and recommendations were made by the Country Review Mission as well as the Heads of State and Government participating in the APRM. These are contained in the Country Review Report that will be presented today. In the report, there are also commitments made by the President requiring implementation by both levels of government. This is partly why my Team will also be talking to you about the County Peer Review Mechanism (CPRM) implementation of which has received endorsement from top leadership at both National and County government levels.

In addition, and to further underscore government's commitment to the APRM process, it is instructive that during the public launch of the Country Review Report, the President, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta announced that Kenya will be submitting to a targeted review before the end of his term in office. This targeted review will focus mainly on the Big 4 sectors plus other crosscutting issues that were identified as challenges in the report that we are disseminating today. In this regard, the State Department for Planning will continue lending the Secretariat all the necessary support to ensure that the President's governance agenda, in the context of the APRM, is fully achieved.

This dissemination exercise, therefore, not only sensitizes citizens about the findings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> CRR but also offers opportunities for participating in the successful implementation of the recommendations. To this end, we are hopeful that you will actively participate in the County Peer Review processes to ensure fruitful democratic dialogues with your county government, for improved service delivery.

**THANK YOU.**