

REMARKS BY JULIUS M. MUIA, PhD, EBS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND MINISTRY OF PLANNING, DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE ECONOMIC SURVEY 2018 AND ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATION ON 25TH APRIL, 2018 AT KICC, NAIROBI.

Mr. Henry Rotich, EGH – Cabinet Secretary, the National Treasury & Ministry of Planning;

Chief Administrative Secretary, the National Treasury and Ministry of Planning;

Fellow Principal Secretary (ies);

Mr. Zachary Mwangi - Director General, KNBS;

Representatives of Ministries, Departments and Agencies;

Development Partners;

Members of the media fraternity;

KNBS Staff;

Distinguished Guests;

All Protocols Observed;

Good morning,

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the launch of the Economic Survey 2018 Report.

Let me begin by noting that the Economic Survey Report is produced on an annual basis and highlights the performance of various sectors of the economy over a five-year period, with emphasis on the performance of the latest calendar year, in this case 2017. The Report has been prepared by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) and provides statistics that are key to evidence based planning and decision taking by various stakeholders, including governments, development partners and researchers.

Today is also a special day as we are celebrating the attainment of ISO 9001:2015 certification by KNBS. This is a Quality Management System adopted by the Bureau as a commitment to consistently provide products and services that meet stakeholders' requirements. I congratulate the KNBS for this achievement as it is amongst the pioneer National Statistics Offices in Africa to be certified under this standard.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we release the Economic Survey 2018 Report today, I am happy to note that KNBS follows the statistics compilation process anchored on the UN Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics, including the quality dimension. I am aware that KNBS with technical support from the world Bank and Statistics Sweden, among others, have developed data quality frameworks aimed at enhancing the quality of statistics produced and disseminated. Indeed, one dimension of data quality is timeliness. In this regard, I also take cognisance of the fact that the Bureau has generated a data release calendar to ensure that statistics are disseminated on a timely basis. Indeed, the launch of the Economic Survey in April is one of such commitments.

The data contained in the Report is obtained mainly from three sources: censuses, household and establishment based surveys, and administrative data. I am aware that KNBS has established various statistics committees with membership from Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), including counties, that are main sources of administrative data. These committees are sector based, and one of their mandates is to validate administrative data.

Further, as a coordinator of the National Statistical System (NSS), the KNBS is drawing a National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS). This is expected to provide the country with a framework for developing statistical capacity across the NSS. The KNBS is expected to continue strengthening collaboration between users and producers of statistics. This will for sure

create the much needed synergies and also promote the build-up of sustainable statistical capacity in the country. This ultimately enhances the quality of data produced in the country. In this regard, I assure KNBS of the required support in its operations by the State Department for Planning. In particular, the Ministry will fast-track the amendment of the statistics Act, 2006 to align it to the Constitution of Kenya.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

To ensure provision of comprehensive and up-to-date statistical data from surveys and censuses, a number of activities have been lined up by the Bureau. These include: Census of Industrial Production (CIP); survey of importers and exporters; census of commercial farms and greenhouses; Foreign Investment Survey (FIS); and Establishment of a Continuous Household Survey Programme (CHSP). These will provide Poverty and Labour Force Indicators on a quarterly basis; Rebasing of the system of National Accounts; Rebasing of the Consumer Price Index; and the 2019 Population and Housing Census.

At this point, but on a slightly different note, I would like to caution the public to be wary of fraudsters who are purporting to be recruiting personnel for the Census. The recruitment process is yet to commence and when that time comes, KNBS will place an advert in the daily newspapers, in all its 47 county offices and in its website (www.knbs.or.ke).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I conclude, once again, I assure KNBS of the Government's commitment to provide sufficient resources to build and maintain the requisite statistical capacity for implementing relevant statistical programmes and infrastructure.

I extend my special gratitude to the KNBS management and the entire staff who have worked tirelessly to make the production of this document a success. In addition, I thank all the Development Partners for their continued support in the development of statistics in the country. I also thank all

producers and suppliers of statistical information, including households and business for their continued cooperation.

With these remarks, **Ladies and Gentlemen**, I now invite the Cabinet Secretary for The National Treasury and Ministry of Planning, Mr. Henry Rotich to make his remarks and officially launch the Economic Survey 2018 Report.

Thank You