

SPEECH DELIVERED BY DR. JULIUS MUIA, EBS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR PLANNING, THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND PLANNING, DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE 2019 ECONOMIC SURVEY ON 25TH APRIL 2019, AT KICC NAIROBI

The Chief Guest, Mr. Henry Rotich, Cabinet Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning

Chief Administrative Secretary, The National Treasury and Planning

Fellow Principal Secretary (ies),

KNBS Board Chairman, Mr. Peter Kiguta,

KNBS Board of Directors,

Director General, KNBS, Mr. Zachary Mwangi,

Representatives of Ministries, Counties, Departments, Agencies and Counties,

Representatives of Development Partners,

Members of KNBS Staff,

Distinguished Guests,

Members of the media fraternity;

All Protocols observed,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me take this opportunity to welcome you all to this year's Economic Survey Report launch. I thank you for finding time from your busy schedules this morning to be with us, as we launch the 2019 Economic Survey Report. The publication is prepared annually by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), and it presents the economic performance over the last five years. The statistics provided are a key ingredient in

evidence-based decision making and planning by the Government and various stakeholders

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We are all aware that there are great expectations from the entire Government and Kenyans at large, particularly at this time when the nation is seeking ways to foster growth and development. As the Government continues to offer services to the public, it is prudent to make use of statistics in planning, decision-making and, monitoring and evaluation at both the national and county levels. This therefore calls for the need to have comprehensive and quality data.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The information contained in the Economic Survey document will go a long way in monitoring the Vision 2030 through the Medium-Term Plan (MTP). The Government did launch the MTP III in November 2018, as part of the implementation of the third cycle of Kenya's transformative agenda towards achieving the Vision 2030. In addition, the Big 4 Agenda, which entails boosting of Manufacturing sector, Universal Health Coverage (UHC), Food and Nutrition Security and Affordable housing, requires statistics to monitor and evaluate the progress of implementation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you may be aware, Kenya ratified the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Government, through the state department for planning, developed and launched a Roadmap to implement, monitor and assess achievement of the SDGs in Kenya. We have prioritized 128 indicators for initial reporting on SDGs through a consultative process and we will review this national indicator framework as we strive to increase coverage, once additional data and new methodologies become available.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take note that the Bureau also has an ongoing technical cooperation with Statistics Sweden (SCB) to develop the statistical systems of various sectoral statistics. In the spirit of technical cooperation, the Bureau has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Office of National

Statistics – UK to support Kenya in the provision of technical assistance for the World Bank’s International Comparison Program (ICP) and IMF’s Enhanced Data Dissemination Initiative.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In line with best practices, I am proud to note that the KNBS is also launching its strategic plan to guide its operations over the five-year period. I appeal to all our stakeholders to base future intervention and collaboration programmes with the KNBS on this Strategic Plan.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I conclude, I thank the KNBS staff who have worked hard to make the production of this annual document a success. In addition, I thank all the Development Partners for their continued support in the development of statistics in Kenya. I also thank all producers of statistical information, including industries and businesses in the private sector, for their continued cooperation in provision of quality and timely statistics

With these remarks, I now invite the Cabinet Secretary for The National Treasury and Planning, Mr. Henry Rotich, to make his remarks and officially launch the Economic Survey 2019.