

# REPUBLIC OF KENYA



## MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND PETROLEUM

**SPEECH BY THE CABINET SECRETARY, ENERGY AND PETROLEUM HON. CHARLES KETER, MGH DURING THE PRESENTATION OF THE REPORT OF AN INTEGRATED NUCLEAR INFRASTRUCTURE REVIEW OF KENYA'S NUCLEAR POWER PROGRAMME BY THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY ON THURSDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> APRIL 2016 AT THE HOTEL INTERCONTINENTAL, NAIROBI.**

**H.E. Deputy President William Samoei Ruto**

**Deputy Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency Mr. Mikhail Chudakov**

**Members of the Energy Committees of the National Assembly and Senate**

**The Board of Directors of the Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board**

**Chief Executive Officers Present**

**Distinguished guests**

**Ladies and Gentlemen:**

First and foremost, let me take this opportunity to thank H.E. the Deputy President for having found time off his busy schedule to join us this morning. I also take the opportunity to warmly welcome the Deputy Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Mikhail Chudakov and his team. Karibuni Kenya!

### **Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Today marks a crucial step in our long journey towards nuclear electricity generation in Kenya. This comprehensive evaluation by the International Atomic Energy Agency provides us with a perfect platform to reflect on the progress made and to address the challenges faced in the past few years during which the nuclear power programme has been undertaken in Kenya.

The Ministry of Energy and Petroleum is fully committed to the success of Kenya's nuclear power programme, which will significantly add to our efforts for ensuring generation of affordable, reliable and clean electricity for all Kenyans. We must therefore harness our collective efforts for this aspiration to be realized. Even as we develop sources of energy such as hydro, geothermal, coal, wind and solar – it goes without saying that nuclear technology for electricity generation will play a significant role as we progress towards attainment of the projects and programmes under the Kenya Vision 2030 blueprint.

### **Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen**

Since its inception in 2012, The Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board has made significant strides. For example, thanks to efforts by the Board, Kenyan students are receiving training at graduate level in nuclear power engineering as far afield as South Korea and the USA, with more educational opportunities in the pipeline. The Ministry of Energy and Petroleum will continue to support the Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board in such endeavours.

Without a doubt, we as a Ministry are charged with the onerous task of ensuring the energy resources required for Kenya's future prosperity and industrialization are realized. It is for this reason that the Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board remains an important aspect of the bigger power development plan being implemented through the Ministry. This is even more so, considering the ever-growing demand energy in the country.

### **Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen**

As we move further in the Nuclear Power Programme being undertaken in the country, the Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board is expanding its scope of activities with the financial requirements for the Board rising. To effectively address this need, the Ministry is working closely with all relevant arms of Government to ensure that the Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board receives adequate funding that is required in the setting up of a successful nuclear power programme.

In conclusion, let me reiterate the Ministry's unwavering support and encouragement for the nuclear power programme. To the Deputy Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, Mr. Mikhail Chudakov, please relay our best wishes to the team in Vienna as well as the message of our commitment to implement the recommendations in your report.

To Your Excellency Deputy President William Samoei Ruto, your presence here is testimony to the seriousness the Government of Kenya attaches to energy matters in general, and nuclear electricity generation in particular.

We know we can count on you, your Excellency, as a strong supporter and ambassador for nuclear energy in Kenya. We look forward to facilitating the Kenya Nuclear Electricity Board as it continues on this exciting journey under the guidance of a reputed international body such as the International Atomic Energy Agency.

Thank you.