



**KENYA'S STATEMENT AT THE IAEA MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON
NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY: ADDRESSING CURRENT AND
EMERGING DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES**

28TH TO 30TH NOVEMBER 2018.

VIENNA, AUSTRIA.

DELIVERED BY HON. CHARLES KETER, EGH, CABINET SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF ENERGY

ON

28th NOVEMBER, 2018

**Our Conference Co-Chairs,
Excellences,
Mr. Yukiya Amano, Director General, IAEA,
Distinguished Delegates,
All Protocols observed**

Conference Presidents,

I am honored to deliver this statement on behalf of the Government of Kenya at this IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology: Addressing Current and Emerging Development Challenges.

Conference Co-Chairs,

I Congratulate the Co-Chairs for coordinating discussions that facilitated the Programme and Declaration. Indeed, you can count on my delegation's full support.

Conference Co-Chairs,

The Kenya Government has identified four priority areas from its development plan, Vision 2030, to spur the country's growth and development, dubbed the Big 4 Agenda. They are: Universal Healthcare, Food Security, Manufacturing and Affordable Housing. Energy is key driver of these priority areas. Kenya Government recognizes that nuclear technology will significantly contribute to the realization of the Big 4 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. In this respect, we look forward to enhanced collaboration with the Agency with a view to facilitating the attainment of our priorities.

Conference Co-Chairs,

Kenya continues to benefit from IAEA programmes through Technical Cooperation (TC) projects that promote peaceful uses of nuclear science and technology. The current Country Programme Framework (CPF) for 2017-2022 identifies eight priority areas namely; Food and Agriculture,

Human health, Water resources management, Environment, Industrial applications, Sustainable energy development, capacity building and Strengthening national radiation safety and nuclear security. These areas are indeed aligned to our national development priorities and attainment of SDGs.

Conference Co-Chairs,

Kenya aims to achieve universal access to electricity by 2020. To this end, the Government of Kenya has factored in nuclear technology for electricity generation in the energy mix. The Government has enacted and will complete the necessary legislations, the regulatory framework and infrastructure to support development of nuclear energy for peaceful use. To this end, technical research including on grid and site studies, reactor technology assessment and the industrial involvement assessment are on-going. Capacity building to raise public awareness to demystify nuclear technology and power programme is actively being undertaken.

Kenya appreciates the assistance from the Agency in building a safe and sustainable nuclear power programme.

Conference Co-Chairs,

In the health sector, we are grateful that the Agency has partnered with the Government to expand the cancer treatment programme to include Moi Referral Hospital. This will ease the burden on Kenyatta National Hospital while covering the rural areas in the Rift Valley and beyond.

The Government is also working with Agency to expand radiotherapy services to the Coast Provincial General Referral Hospital in Mombasa, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital in Kisumu and Nyeri Provincial Hospital.

In this context, support towards equipping the specific Hospitals and capacity building, especially in diagnosis and treatment of cancer is crucial and highly needed.

Conference Co-Chairs,

Regarding agriculture, training on nuclear techniques in Agriculture through the Technical Cooperation Programme has assisted in the development of irrigation schemes and testing of insect resistant crop varieties that have been developed through use of biotechnology. In Animal production, efforts have focused on breeding new varieties of fodder to address feed challenges in the beef and milk production chains as well as ensuring that the eliminated diseases like Tsetse flies cease to reoccur.

Conference Co-Chairs,

The Institute of Nuclear Science & Technology at the University of Nairobi, is the focal point for teaching and training on peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology in the country. The Agency supports personnel training in all sectors highlighted here above through Technical Cooperation and related African Regional Framework Assistance (AFRA) projects.

Kenya Bureau of Standards, in partnership with the IAEA, has established a Radiotracer laboratory to develop our national capability in this field. I extend our gratitude to the Agency for granting Kenya two projects in the areas of Secondary Standard's Dosimetry and Establishment of Systems for Education, Training, Qualification and Certification for Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) in collaboration with the Institute of Nuclear Science and Technology.

The Kenya Bureau of Standards also offers Non-Destructive Testing services to companies in the country and in the region.

Conference Co-Chairs,

In conclusion, Kenya appreciates the partnership and consistent support from the Agency towards peaceful use of nuclear science and technology. We thank the donors for their invaluable contribution towards expanding and promoting nuclear science and technology for development. In this context, we underline the need for us all to pull together and ensure that there are adequate,

sustainable and predictable resources for the Technical Cooperation Programme. We also believe that the Ministerial conference should be held regularly to provide the necessary political and policy guidance on the future of atoms for peace. Kenya looks forward to a stronger partnership and commits to support the IAEA in achieving its mandate.

Conference Co-Chairs,

Finally, I wish the IAEA Ministerial Conference on Nuclear Science and Technology: Addressing Current and Emerging Development Challenges success in all its deliberations.

Thank You