



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

REMARKS BY

HON FLORENCE BORE

CABINET SECRETARY FOR LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

31ST, OCTOBER 2022

Cabinet Secretary for Cooperatives and MSME, **Simon Chelugui**

Chief Administrative Secretary, Ministry for Labour **Hon Jackson Kalla**

Principal Secretary for Labour **Eng Peter Tum**

Principal Secretary for Social Protection **Mr Nelson Marwa**

DGs/CEOs of various Institutions in the two state departments

HODs from the two state departments

Staff in My Ministry,

Good Afternoon

1. Let me take this opportunity to thank you all for this warm welcome. From the day I was nominated to this docket, I have felt your support, and I believe this will continue going forward.

2. From the very onset, let me thank His Excellency the President for the honour of appointing me to take over the Labour and Social Protection docket.
3. Let me also thank CS Simon Chelugui for the support that you have given me since the day I was proposed to take over this docket of Labour and social protection.
4. I also wish to thank CAS Jackson Kalla, PS Peter Tum and PS Nelson Marwa for all your support, especially when I was preparing for the vetting exercise.

5. Let also thank all the staff in this Ministry and its SAGAs for the support you have given me so far. I am confident that going forward this level of support will go on.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. Since the day I was appointed to this docket, I have been trying to learn as much as I can, to better understand this Ministry and its various Semi-Autonomous Agencies. I will be scheduling meetings starting with the SAGAs and then the various departments so that I can get individualized briefs, starting this week.

7. As I take over, my priority Agenda will be to sort out issues on the plight of Kenyans in the gulf region, unlocking the NSSF Act no 45 of 2013, operationalization of the wages order 2022, implementation of the Children Act, 2022 so that the children of Kenya can enjoy the rights and freedom as envisaged in our constitution.

8. I will also give priority to the implementation of the Community group registration Act 2022, and sourcing for additional funds for Inua Jamii cash transfer programme. In view of this, the departments and SAGAs concerned should prepare briefs on how to start implementing this Agenda.

Ladies and gentlemen,

9. Over the last 15 years, Social Protection sector in Kenya has grown exponentially, with the government currently delivering regular cash transfers to over 2.2 million households including to Kenyans affected by drought.

10. I however note that there are still many vulnerable people in our country who are not covered by any social protection intervention. I pledge to lobby the national assembly and the National treasury to ensure that more funds are allocated for social protection interventions so that we can have more Kenyans, especially older persons and persons with disabilities, benefit from government cash transfers.

11. Even as I prioritize my Agenda for this year, this does not mean that the other Ministerial functions will not be given due attention, on the contrary, all functions in this Ministry will be given equal attention because we have a mandate to deliver.

12. Waziri, the department of social development is in charge of registration of all community groups in this country. And following the enactment of community Groups Registration Act, 2022, we now have regulations and guidelines on community group registration and management processes.

13.As you are aware Waziri, it is through Self Help groups popularly known as ‘chamas’ that majority of people mostly in the rural and the informal settlements are able to save and take up soft loans to kick-start or even expand their businesses.

14.Since we would like our community self-help groups to be beneficiaries of the Hustler fund, I therefore look forward to working closely with your new Ministry especially in the implementation of the MSME (Hustler) fund because my Ministry has a list of all the community registered groups.

15. As you set up the task force to implement the Hustler Fund, kindly consider inviting technical officers from the department of social development, to be part and parcel, so that we can create synergy, through the one Government approach.
16. Similarly, as you set up the task force, also consider inviting technical officer from NSSF, so that as the government implement the hustler Fund, NSSF would like to recruit as many workers in the informal economy to start saving through the Haba Haba product.
17. I will write to you formally requesting you to consider including the Department of Social development and NSSF in the MSME (Hustler) Fund task force.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

18. As I conclude, let me once again thank You CS for the warm reception you accorded me when I first visited this Ministry. Thank you for your offer to be available if and when I need to consult you on an issue.

19. As I continue to interact and learn the functions in this Ministry, let me reiterate that I will ask my office to prepare a schedule for meetings so that each SAGA and department can formally brief me on their mandate, work plans for this financial year, budget and any areas which require my immediate intervention.

20. To all the staff, I am looking forward to fruitful engagement with all of you. My doors will always remain open for any consultation.

21. Finally, let me once again thank His Excellency The President Dr Willian Ruto, for this appointment, I promise to work hard so that together we can fulfil our mandate in Labour and Social Protection.

Thank you and God bless you