



## **Draft**

**Statement by Mwanamaka A. Mabruki  
Principal Secretary, State Department of Devolution  
During launch of the Common Programme Framework for  
Ending Drought Emergencies in Kenya - KICC, Nairobi**

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

**Cabinet Secretaries,**

**Governors,**

**Heads of Mission,**

**Colleagues,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

I am delighted to welcome you all to the launch of the Common Programme Framework for Ending Drought Emergencies in Kenya, or EDE in short. I believe that your presence illustrates the importance you attach to finding a lasting solutions to drought emergencies. I am grateful for the support which so many of you have shown to the development of this Framework, and for your commitment to actualise the interventions.

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

The EDE initiative reflects an important policy shift by the Government in its approach to drought-related disasters in Kenya. I will illustrate this with four examples.

First, our efforts in the past were primarily reactive, and often late, however with the EDE, we now aspire to act quickly and

appropriately and thus avoid the heavy human and financial costs of emergencies.

Second, the Government recognises that drought emergencies are a failure of development, and therefore that it is through better sustainable development measures, and not humanitarian relief measures, that drought emergencies will eventually be ended. This is why the Common Programme Framework puts so much emphasis on security, infrastructure, health and education, for without these foundations, sustainable and resilient livelihoods are unattainable.

Third, as a country, we used to rely on sector-based donor-funded projects to manage drought risks and impacts. But now we have a permanent institution – the National Drought Management Authority – to provide leadership and coordination of our multi-sectoral efforts across government and to serve a focal point for our partners. I would like to commend the efforts of the Authority in leading the EDE process and bringing us to where we are today.

Finally, the Government is fully aware of the regional dimensions of drought risk, and therefore the importance of fulfilling our obligations under IGAD's Drought Disaster Resilience and Sustainability Initiative. We thus work very closely with other IGAD member states to ensure cross border issues, that affect drought management are addressed.

These are all important shifts in the Government's thinking and practice, based on lessons we have learned in the past, but driven by our desire to do things differently in future.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

The EDE initiative has evolved since its first articulation at the 2011 Summit of Heads of State and Government in Nairobi. During the Summit, it was resolved that all member states

immediately develop and start implementing strategies that would enable them end drought emergencies. Kenya accomplished this and the Strategy. In this light, our first achievement was to secure the approval of the Cabinet for the EDE country strategy in 2012.

However, we wanted to ensure that these commitments were also embedded in the national development plan, and for this reason we prepared a sector plan as part of the Kenya Vision 2030 Second Medium Term Plan, or MTP II. Thus, EDE is now officially recognised as one of the 'foundations for national transformation' within the MTP II, which His Excellency the President launched in October 2013.

It is important to note that the MTP II was finalised before the County Governments were in place. Today, with devolution and establishment of full-fledged county governments, we will continuously work on the alignment, harmonization and integration of key parts of the EDE framework into the relevant county development planning and implementation processes.

Moreover, the EDE being a shared function between the national and county Governments, we realised that we needed to put in place a mechanism to ensure coordinated delivery of the EDE results not just by the two levels of government but also by our partners as well. For these two reasons we initiated the Common Programme Framework which is being launched today.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

What do we mean by 'common programming'? This is a programming that is properly coordinated and aligned, where activities of every agency, both government agencies and non-state partners, can be clearly seen to contribute to an agreed and shared set of results. We also want to see interventions

which reinforce each other. No-one should be working in isolation. Every agency has its particular strengths and interests, so we want to see programmes which maximise those synergies and ensure better results for citizens on the ground.

I am aware that the process of developing the Common Programme Framework has been intensive and long, and I am grateful for the contributions from so many of you. Each pillar of the Framework was developed by a multi-stakeholder group, chaired by the relevant government sector and co-chaired by a development partner. So far, we have also held three rounds of discussions with the County Governments, a consultative meeting with the private sector, and numerous bilateral meetings with different actors. The documents were officially endorsed by the relevant Principal Secretaries at their meeting in February 2015, and following this launch I will be working with my counterparts to ensure that the EDE commitments are integrated within the relevant sector plans and budgets.

I am therefore confident that the document before us today represents the sum total of our collective commitment to more resilient livelihoods for those living in drought-affected parts of Kenya.

### **Ladies and Gentlemen**

I have discussed the shift in policy which the EDE represents, and I have explained what we mean by common programming. I would like to close by summarising what we intend to achieve through the EDE initiative.

In 2012 the Government made a commitment to end drought emergencies within ten years. How will we know that we have achieved this?

- First, we expect to see a significant reduction in the use of emergency-related food aid,

- Second, a fall in the number of children who are stunted.
- Third, we want to see an end to the vast losses of livestock during drought; between 2008 and 2011 the livestock sector suffered 72% of total drought-related damages and losses.
- Fourth and finally, we want to see Kenya managing drought episodes without recourse to international emergency appeals.

We will still require international support for different purposes, but we request that this be provided through the established mechanisms which are planned, predictable and closely linked to the EDE framework, such as the drought contingency fund, adaptation finance, social protection, and risk insurance mechanisms, such as African Risk Capacity.

With these measures in place, it is my hope that we will see an end to the human suffering that is still far too common among dryland communities of Kenya. It is also my hope that we will have your sustained support as we embark on delivering the results set out in the Common Programme Framework we are launching today.

Mwanamaka A. Mabruki

4<sup>th</sup> November 2015