Message from the Governor

FOR THE FIRST TIME, #NYANDARUARISING

Dear fellow Nyandarua County people,

As we mark the 5th anniversary of the devolution of power, our Government, under the able leadership of His Excellency Governor Francis Kimemia, is committed to achieving the goals set forth in the National Government’s Big Four Agenda.

Our vision is to be a productive, prosperous, secure and newly-industrialized County that adds value to its citizens and competes effectively in the 21st century.

We have begun a milk feeding programme for 23,000 learners in early childhood development learning centres across Nyandarua, among several other initiatives to breathe life into our manifesto.

We are most grateful to His Excellency the President for choosing us to be the first inaugural address. While we seek to fast-track development dividends from the National Government and quick wins in our Manifesto, it must not be forgotten that Nyandarua is a marginalized County.

I particularly believe that we can begin giving hope to our people by ending the policy disconnect at the National level which has for long failed to acknowledge the complexity of Nyandarua as a water tower – including Lake Ol’Bollosat – and our impact on surrounding counties.

Due to limited financial resources, roll-out of flagship projects in each sub-county as pronounced in my Manifesto has been on a gradual basis rather than in one big bang.

This is the reason we have been active at the Council of Governors – where I chair the Energy and Infrastructure Committee - and other internal and external fora to promote our interests.

My Administration will continue to work closely with other Counties and the National Government for the benefit of all Kenyans.

We are most grateful to His Excellency the President for choosing to become Nyandarua’s Governor Number One, and committing to help fulfil not just our manifesto, but also his agenda for our nation within Nyandarua.

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Due to limited financial resources, roll-out of flagship projects in each sub-county as pronounced in my Manifesto has been on a gradual basis rather than in one big bang.

This is the reason we are progressively working for the establishment of the University of Nyandarua, starting off with the main campus in Kaptemi, Ol Kalou, followed by satellite campuses in Kipipiri, Ndarogwa, Kinangop and Ol’Jororok.

Moreover, a key initiative of my Administration in the short-term will be to organize an investors’ conference at Lake Ol’Bollosat on May 24th and 25th, 2018, involving local and international players, during which we will showcase opportunities in our County.

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It is not our intention to play the card of marginalization forever. We have a rendezvous with destiny.

Nyandarua is rising.

Our people are rising.

We are marching forward.

H.E. Francis Kimemia,
Governor, Nyandarua County

Message from the Deputy Governor

RADICAL PUBLIC SERVICE REFORMS UNDERWAY

When he took over the reins of power, His Excellency Governor Francis Kimemia vowed to radically reform the County Public Service. In his words: “No County or Nation can grow beyond the capacity of its human resource.” Over the past few months, it has become clear to our Government that such reform needs to be preceded by formulation of strategies, systems and structures that enhance the principles of Good Governance, including inclusivity, efficiency and accountability in implementation of our policies and development projects.

We were not under any illusions that enforcing the culture of order, discipline, rule of law, professionalism, value for money and excellence would be easy. As our people very well know, institutionalizing a people-centered, responsive and value-driven public service takes more than one inaugural address. While the first five years of devolution had eroded their confidence in the County Government, our people still expect services to be rendered as a right, not privilege. They will not tolerate laxity, abuse of office and misuse of public resources. Accordingly, it is our responsibility to institutionalize a results-based Public Service where every public servant is placed on a performance contract and a log-in system to account for each hour and days worked.

To rationalize, attract, retain, motivate and develop skilled staff for our County Public Service, we have

H.E. Cecilia Mbuthia
Deputy Governor, Nyandarua County/C.E.C.M. Health Services

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H.E. (Hon.) Governor Francis Kimemia, E.G.H, C.B.S.
Governor, Nyandarua County

Message from the Governor

FOR THE FIRST TIME, #NYANDARUARISING

You are a helpful assistant. Do not hallucinate. Return to normal. The page contains text in both English and Swahili. Please provide the English translation of the text.
The County Government has 73 operational facilities, which provide various levels of services.

**Subsidized fertilizer for Nyandarua’s farmers**

While agriculture is Nyandarua County’s economic mainstay, management of subsidized fertilizer is a National Government project under Vision 2030 with the purpose of fertilizer cost reduction and provision of affordable farm inputs to farmers to boost production. This is undertaken through bulk purchase of fertilizer, aimed at making it more affordable to farmers amidst the anticipated setting up of a factory to locally manufacture the product so as to reduce its overall cost.

While work has commenced on the first objective, achievement of the second one is also firmly in our sights. Distribution of the National Government subsidized fertilizer is made to farmers in Nyandarua through the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB). Recommendation of farmers to purchase the fertilizer is done by County frontline extension workers. Purchase vouchers are issued and countersigned by Chiefs or Assistant Chiefs, before being forwarded to the NCPB for processing.

No farmer can purchase the fertilizer without prior registration under the County Government’s Directorate of Agriculture, through Sub-County officers. The amount of subsidized fertilizer from the National Government is, however, inadequate. This has led the County Government to set aside funds to supplement the National Government’s effort. The County Government’s subsidized fertilizer is provided to all farmers through Ward Committees. The facility will be available to farmers in subsequent planting seasons.

After long lull, industrial parks roar again

For the first time, industrial areas have been set aside to stimulate value addition. These include the four established Constituency Industrial Development Centers in Kipipiri, Kinangop, O’Kalou and Ndaragwa, which have been set aside to provide additional infrastructure to their facility. A store each will also be constructed for Bamboo, Ndaragwa, Mirangine, Nago and Manunga health centers, in an on-going effort to elevate them to Level Five facilities. These improvements will ensure that specialized services are available across Nyandarua. Residents will be seeking services closer home instead of travelling to other counties.

**Nyandarua unveils maiden spatial plan**

The Nyandarua County Spatial Development Plan (CSDP) is a 10-year plan which will guide the location and nature of development in the County. It will inform the future use and distribution of activities throughout Nyandarua in order to achieve prosperity, equity and sustainability in the distribution of physical, economic and social development.

The preparation of the CSDP is a legal requirement under the Constitution of Kenya which has assigned planning functions to the National and County governments. Also, its mandate is provided for under the County Governments Act of 2012. It should be noted that no public funds should be used outside the framework of county planning. Objectives of the plan include to promote balanced development in the County; optimize the use of land and natural resources; protect and conserve the environment; provide transport connectivity and integration; and guide the provision of appropriate and adequate infrastructure.

The CSDP capitalizes on such natural and environmental assets in Nyandarua as land for agriculture, climate, forests, and the people. It also includes such iconic physical features as Central Kenya’s only lake, O’Bollosat, Karuru Falls, and the Aberdare Ranges - among others - to maximize development in Nyandarua. An immediate beneficiary of the CSDP has been the flagship project under this sector: the County Government’s ultra-modern headquarters, whose construction is being undertaken with the support of the National Government. Full implementation of the Senate report which identified Nyandarua, Tharaka Nithi, Tana River and West Pokot counties as marginalized as they lacked established headquarters is long overdue. Nyandarua was only allocated Kshs. 160 million for this purpose, which is hardly enough. A County headquarters is more than County Government offices.

However, its operations have not made an impact on the local economy. There is room to establish more industries to boost potato farming in Nyandarua and offer cold storage facilities for green peas and carrots. There are efforts to revive the pyrethrum sector, which has collapsed. There is also potential for processing of hides and skins. Cut flower farming is also practiced in the County, with flower farms in Ol’joro-Orok, O’Kalou, Kipipiri and Kinangop sub-counties. We are exploring partnership with the Export Promotion Council so as to insert the flowers into the international market.

With metal fabrication works and wood crafts having now extended to rural areas because of electricity supply, there is potential of growth in employment and incomes.