

COMMUNIQUE AT THE END OF THE 5TH ANNUAL COUNTY EXECUTIVES CONFERENCE HELD ON 3RD - 5TH DECEMBER, 2018.

On 3rd -5th December, 2018, County Executive Committees Members (CECMs), County Secretaries, County Attorneys, representatives of National Government, Development Partners, Civil Society Organizations and Private Sector convened at Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) Nairobi to reflect on the gains and challenges in delivering the promise of devolution as a build up to the 6th Annual Devolution Conference to be held in March, 2019 in Kirinyaga County.

The CEC Conference made the following observations and recommendations in line with the theme of conference "**Deliver. Transform. Measure.**" with a clarion call of remaining accountable":

FINANCE

- 1. THAT There is need to relook into the constitution provision on the criteria for allocation of equitable share of revenues to the counties. The current provision of the last audited and approved accounts by the National Assembly is not equitable to the counties due to backlog of un-approved accounts. (Action: Senate & CoG)
- 2. THAT there is need for harmonization of counties' taxes, fees, charges and levies through legislation to create an enabling environment for investment. (Action: National Treasury, Senate, CoG & County Governments)
- 3. **THAT** CRA should fast track the development of a new revenue sharing formula among counties as provided for by the Constitution to enable inclusion of service delivery needs that have been ignored in the current formula. (Action: CRA, Senate, CoG)
- 4. **THAT** the National Treasury should in consultation with County Governments' fast-track the amendments to the existing PPP legislations to include county governments as contracting authorities. (Action: NT, Senate, CoG, County Governments)

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- 5. **THAT** the County Governments' should fast-track payment of the existing pending bills. (Action: County Governments', Controller of Budget, CoG & Senate)
- 6. **THAT** the Senate should provide leadership during the process of allocation of recurrent expenditure ceilings to both the County assemblies and county executives to support allocation of resources towards development. (**Action: Senate, CoG, CECs & CAF**)
- 7. **THAT** County Governments should integrate principles of gender responsive budgeting in the County plans and budgets for effective delivery of services (Action: CGs, CoG, DPs)

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

8. **THAT** the National Government will provide capacity building to County Governments in implementation of Performance Management

(Action: COG, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, Public Service Performance Management Unit, County Governments)

9. **THAT** County Governments need to prioritize implementation of Performance Management as a tool for enhancing service delivery at the County Level

(Action: COG, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, Public Service Performance Management Unit, County Governments)

10. **THAT** both levels of Government will strive to address the emerging Human Resource challenges to enhance service delivery

(Action: COG, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs, Public Service Performance Management Unit, County Governments)

HEALTH

- 11. **THAT** County government needs to reorganize financing of the health care system by having separate finance streams for level 4&5 hospital and pooling of funds for PHC. (Action: CGs, NT, MoH, CoG, Senate)
- 12. **THAT** the National and County Governments' need to prioritize funding towards achievement of the universal health care coverage (UHC). (Action: MoH, NT, CGs, CoG)

- 13. **THAT** County governments need to refocus and invest in preventive measures more than curative measure. (Action: CoG, CGs)
- 14. **THAT** County government needs to address the existing human resource issues on all cadres of the health workers and create lasting mechanisms to handle the HR issues. (Action: CGs, CoG, NT, Senate)
- 15. **THAT** National government to provide training funds for the health workers that County governments' health workers can benefit. (Action: MoH, NT, CoG, CGs)
- 16. **THAT** Mandera County success story to be showcased in the next Annual Devolution conference as part of highlighting the theme "Deliver. Transform. Measure. (Action: Mandera county)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- 17. **THAT** County government shall be guided by research in identifying the beneficiaries of the affordable housing program.
 - (Action: County Governments, COG, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development)
- 18. **THAT** there is need for engagement of all stakeholders including National Housing Commission in the financing of the housing program
 - (Action: County Governments, COG, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development)
- 19. **THAT** County governments should leverage on the market opportunities for the locally available materials for affordable Housing.
 - (Action: County Governments, COG, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development)
- 20. **THAT** there is need for disclosure by the National Government on how the housing programme is financed and how the County Government will benefit.
 - (Action: County Governments, COG, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development)

21. **THAT** County Governments will commit to partner with relevant institutions to reduce the long bureaucracies in the approval processes and ensure integration of all the processes.

(Action: County Governments, COG, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development)

22. THAT Ministry of Lands and National Land Commission to fast track acquisition of legal documents for County land set aside for Affordable housing (Action: County Governments, COG, Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development, National Lands Commission)

TRADE (MANUFACTURING & BLUE ECONOMY)

- 23. **THAT** there is need to establish an intergovernmental forum for both national and county governments on trade.
- 24. **THAT** There is need to enhance the availability and accessibility of information by county governments through establishment and operationalization of one stop shops. (Action: **CGs**)
- 25. **THAT** County government should establish joint loans facilities to ensure sustainability of County investments **and** develop a structure to support SMEs, Women Groups and Youth Groups with start-ups to access both local and international markets. **(Action: CGs, NT)**
- 26. **THAT** County government shall learn from each other on the best practices in the different sectors through benchmarking exercises on locally available solutions that can be domesticated for the niche of each county. **(Action: CGs)**
- 27. **THAT** County government should partner with National government, private sector and non-state actors to support vocational training through provision of resources and creation of awareness about its importance in blue economies. (Action: CGs, CSOs, NG & private Sector)

AGRICULTURE

- 28. **THAT** County government shall support the establishment of community based irrigation schemes to cover at least 3000 acres per county. (Action: CGs)
- 29. **THAT** Government (**CGs & NG**) and Development partners agreed to pursue extension models such as farmer call centers and use of ICT applications. (**Action: DPs, NG & CGs**)
- 30. **THAT** County government to enhance small scale farmers' participation in agriculture through the development of centers of Excellence. (Action: CGs)

- 31. **THAT** County and National government to support the remodeling of the subsidy programs to improve efficiency. (Action: NG, CGs)
- 32. **THAT** County governments to have creative youth targeted messages to enhance a mindset change of the youth towards agriculture
- 33. **THAT** County government creates provision for innovative financial products that respond to farmer's needs
- 34. THAT County government need to create automated systems for taxes and agricultural

Lastly, we confirm that Devolution is on course, and affirm that we shall continue gathering more momentum to see that our Counties flourish in the way Kenyans envisaged when they voted for a new Constitution in 2010.

SIGNED

Date: 5/12/18

Chairperson CECMs Caucus

Alle: \$12/18.

Vice Chairperson CECMs Caucus Date: 5/12/17

Secretary
CECMs Caucus

Witnessed By

Date: 5/12/12

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Date: