

TALKING POINTS BY SICILY K. KARIUKI (MRS), CBS, CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, YOUTH AND GENDER AFFAIRS DURING TUJIAJIRI GENERATION GRADUATION CEREMONY AT KICC, NAIROBI ON 29TH JULY, 2016

Your Excellency, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defense Forces

Cabinet Colleagues present

Senior Government Officials present

Development and Private Sectors Partners,

Parents & Graduands,

Ladies and Gentlemen

Your Excellency

Kenya is a **youthful nation** with young people making up 35.4% of its population.

Your Government has put the Youth at the Centre of its National agenda. This is in recognition of the **demographic dividend of investing in** social and economic empowerment interventions that will address skills, employment and social challenges facing young people e.g. Unemployment.

Your Excellency this agenda is translated through your Government's transformative agenda, an agenda which is responsive to the needs of the youth of this Country.

Your Excellency.

The Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs is entrusted to deliver the youth empowerment agenda on behalf of your Government through the various policies, attendant strategies and interventions.

Some of these interventions include the Affirmative Funds (Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDF), Uwezo Fund), the NYS 5 Point Vision and the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO).

Your Excellency

We recognize that our efforts as Government alone is not enough and it is for this reason that we will continue to work closely and in partnership with the development and private Sectors.

I am pleased to note that to-date we have established solid partnership with World Bank through the Kenya Youth Employment and Opportunities Project (KYEOP), KCB through 2jiajiri, Mckinsey, Generation Initiatives and the Master Card through CAPYEI.

By extension this has deepened our engagement with the Kenya Private Sector including Toyota Kenya Corporation, Tuskys, Naivas, Nakumatt, Mabati Rolling Mills, East Africa Portland Cement, BIDCO Refineries among others.

Your Excellency,

These efforts will reinforce the focus in addressing employability and entrepreneurial skills and lead to improving youth employability.

I congratulate the grandaunds here today, for being selected to benefit from the McKinsey Generation and the KCB 2Tujiajiri programme and for completing their training and internships.

The Ministry undertake to continue offering support and availing technical support to ensure the Generation and 2Tujiajiri Initiative and other similar efforts succeed

It is now my pleasure and duty to invite Your **Excellency** to address the gathering and present certificates to the graduands.