

**TALKING NOTES FOR MRS. SICILY KARIUKI, CBS, CABINET SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, YOUTH AND GENDER AFFAIRS AT HURUMA
GROUNDS WHILE PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE VICTIMS OF HURUMA TRAGEDY
ON 10TH MAY, 2016.**

**County Commissioner,
Hon. Rachel Shebesh, County Women Representative,
Hon. Sophia Abdi Noor, Chairperson, NGAAF,
Mrs. Zeinab W. Hussein, PS, Gender Affairs,
My fellow Kenyans,**

I am here today to join you and the rest of Kenyans in paying tribute to all those who were affected by the Huruma tragedy.

As a country we have lost lives, a number of our people are in hospitals, so many have lost property and have been displaced by the tragedy. A number of children have also been orphaned at a very tender age and we need to join hands and pray for each of the families affected.

This moment is one of the most painful experiences for this Country and County.

As we pay tribute to all those who are affected by this disaster, we note that whenever such a disaster occurs, it is women, youth, children, disabled persons and the elderly who bear the greatest brunt.

When such a tragedy occurs, it is encouraging to see different stakeholders and individuals come together to work and assist one another. Several agencies, groups and individuals have come together to assist in the search and rescue operations during this period.

This team spirit has led to a very fruitful exercise with several individuals rescued. Several injured citizens were able to get opportunities for medical care and other forms of assistance.

The National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) endeavours to empower and support these groups, more so in the face of disasters. Through this Fund, I am here today to release a total of Ksh. 5 million to facilitate the immediate needs of those affected by this tragedy.

These funds are given as follows:

Resettlement (Payment of rental deposit and 1 st month's rent)	Ksh. 1,980,000
Funeral assistance	Ksh. 600,000
Education continuity (Purchase of uniform, books etc)	Ksh. 990,000
Provision of basic items (For the displaced families living along the river and support teams [food and clean water])	Ksh. 1,230,000
Contingency	Ksh. 200,000

Fellow Kenyans,

What we have given is only a drop in the ocean, but we hope that it will go a long way in supporting the community and families to begin to heal and rebuild their lives.

As I conclude, I take this opportunity to give special thanks to Kenya Red Cross, National Disaster Management, the Police, the National Youth Service, the community around and everybody who played any role in trying to rescue the lives of the Kenyans who were trapped in the building.

May God bless you all.

Thank you.