

Remarks by Hon. Ambassador Ukur Yatani, EGH Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury & Planning

High Level Investment Forum 27th July, 2021.

Mansion House, London.

- Your Excellency, the President of the Republic of Kenya, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta,
- Rt. Hon Prime Minister of the UK, Boris Johnson,
- Distinguished Guests,
- Ladies and Gentlemen

I am delighted to be part of this important gathering where we share Kenya's role and future as a strategic economic and financial hub for Africa.

I note that, despite the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic globally, Kenya endured and came out as a resilient economy. This was partly supported by stable macro-economic environment, its strong external position, disciplined fiscal stance, prudent debt management coupled with sustained interventions and efforts to promote private sector-led economic growth.



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This sound economic governance principles have enabled Kenya enjoy low inflation rates and a stable currency supported by a healthy foreign exchange reserve re-enforced by a strengthened bilateral and multilateral partners' relationship.

Excellences,

Kenya's 'Economic Transformation Agenda' with impressive annual growth average of 5.6% in the last 8 years. This has lately been catalysed by sustained investments in President Kenyatta's '**Big Four Agenda'** which focuses on developments of: **Food and nutritional security; Access to universal Health care, Affordable Housing** and **Manufacturing**. The economy, despite shrinking to **0.6%** last year due to effects of covid-19, has shown strong signs of healthy recovery for 2021.

The Government remains committed to pursuing targeted fiscal and macroeconomic policies that will enable realizations of the objectives of the Big Four Agenda.

Your Excellences,

In our pursuit of international partnerships; investment promotion, especially in the area of the **'Big Four Agenda'** remains a key strategy for our Government. In this regard, we wish to reaffirm that Kenya remains open to friendly and sustainable business partnerships, especially



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with the United Kingdom, with whom it has had a long and fruitful development relationship.

We are particularly keen to strengthen our engagements with investors in the UK under the newly revitalized Public Private Partnership model. The reforms; from shortened processing time to simple and friendly investments procedures without compromising governance, has made the unit responsive to the private sector.

Additionally, we have made great strides in the establishment of the Nairobi International Financial Centre in recognition of our capital's standing as a distinguished financial hub on the African continent. We are keen to partner with you and learn from the City of London as a global financial centre.

Kenya remains proud of its strong innovation culture especially in the ICT, from giving the world the first mobile money platform, M-Pesa as well as being a leader in other innovations in FinTech, thereby continuing to attract global ICT giants.

The current over 86% of installed energy in Kenya being green, from geothermal, hydro and wind portends immense investment opportunities in the sector and we invite you to explore this space.



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Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I conclude, I wish to reiterate that given the huge and diverse investment options abound in Kenya, timing is not only right but now, and believe that you'll take advantage and invest in Kenya. In this regard, I give full assurance of the Kenya's National Treasury and its agencies commitments to deliver solutions and outcomes that will deliver value to investors and citizens of our two countries.

It's now my single honour and privilege to invite His Excellency, the president of the Republic of Kenya, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta to address us.

Your Excellence!