



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MINISTRY OF WATER, SANITATION AND IRRIGATION**

**Talking Points by Sicily K. Kariuki (Mrs), EGH, Cabinet Secretary, for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation; during the Launch of National Water Harvesting & Storage Authority's Strategic Plan 2022/2027 On 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 At The Authority's Auditorium**

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**Chairperson of NWHSA**

**Chairpersons of various Water Sector Institutions**

**Board of Directors**

**Development Partners present**

**Representatives from Government Ministries, Departments and Agencies**

**Distinguished Guests**

**Members of Staff**

**Ladies and Gentlemen**

- It gives me great pleasure to join you this morning for the official launch of the National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority Strategic Plan 2022/2027.
- The launch of the Strategic Plan has come at the backdrop of the continuing water sector reforms that are geared towards streamlining operations in the water sector to ensure progressive realization of aspiration of article 43 (1) (b) (c) and (d) of the constitution on the provision of reasonable standards of sanitation, adequate food of acceptable quality and clean safe water in adequate quantities respectively.

- As a sector, we have a target of 80% water coverage in the country by the end of the year 2022 from the current level estimated at 70%, Sewerage from the current level of 28% to 40% by 2022 and adequate food security to ensure we meet the set targets since you are all aware that water is life, sanitation is dignity and irrigation is food security.
- The water sector plays a key role in the achievement of the Big Four Agenda. For us to attain food security, affordable housing, universal health care, manufacturing and Job creation we must ensure that sufficient water, sanitation and irrigation infrastructure are developed.
- Further, we play a key role in the **attainment of the Vision 2030** which is geared achievement of;

- Improved water and sanitation services in both rural and urban areas beyond the present levels
- Promotion of agricultural productivity in the areas under irrigation from 140,000 to 300,000 hectares.
- Improved the standards of the country's overall water resource management, storage and harvesting capability

### **Water Harvesting & Storage Regulations**

- This institution was established among others to undertake on behalf of the National Government, the development of national public water works for water resources storage and flood control.

- I am pleased to inform you that the water harvesting and storage regulations are now in place. In addition, the water harvesting and storage strategy is at the final stage in the cabinet. The Sessional Paper No. 1 on the National Water Policy has also been approved by Parliament to guide the entire water sector.
- The Regulations shall apply to and govern policies, plans, programs, activities and discharge of mandate of the national government, county governments as well as the Water Storage Authority each in the execution of their respective mandates.
- I therefore urge you to ensure full implementation of the water harvesting and storage regulations.

- The regulations have emphasized on Rain Water Harvesting. It provides that any building which is used for residential, institutional facilities, offices, manufacturing or commercial establishments shall have its roof adequately guttered for catching rain water or may have a ground catchment for the purposes of harvesting rainwater.

### **NWWSA'S STRATEGIC PLAN 2022/2027**

- The Plan, that we launch today, defines the direction that the Authority will take in the next five years especially on the implementation of its core mandate.

- It is pleasing to note that NWHSA involved stakeholders in the development of its Strategic Plan, taking into consideration the concerns of interested parties and ensuring that the process is in line with the letter and spirit of our constitution on public participation.
- It is gratifying to note that NWHSA through this Strategic Plan aims to increase water storage in the country by 148.6 million cubic meters by the year 2027.
- This will go a long way not only in increasing access to safe water but protecting and saving lives and property from the effects of floods and drought.



- The Strategic Plan we are launching today is based on five key Strategic Objectives.
- Each Strategic Objective has clearly spelt out strategies and activities whose full implementation will increase water storage capacity by 148.6 million cubic meters (Mm<sup>3</sup>).
- I am therefore optimistic that the Plan will play a critical role in the realization of our Mission **“To contribute to national development by promoting and supporting integrated water resource management to enhance water availability and accessibility.”**

## **CONCLUSION**

To improve efficiency and effectiveness in service delivery, the government introduced the Results Based Management program in 2004. This programme entails deepening results-based management strategies in order to meet citizens' expectations. The Ministry has just finalized the fourth wave RRI which has seen many projects being fast tracked to completion.

It is on this premise that I urge the Authority to continue adopting RRI to ensure full implementation of the Plan so as to improve its service delivery. In the same spirit, I urge all of us in the water sector to fast track the implementation of projects and ensure timely delivery. I urge the Board of NWHSA and the various

Sector Agencies to ensure nurturing and mentoring of the human capital. The realization of this plan will depend on the diversity and inclusion of people from different backgrounds and cultures to offer more innovation and create ideas, attraction for top talent for increased productivity through a happy workforce. NWHSA must develop a happy work force.

Finally, I would like to thank His Excellency the President for his continued support to the sector. I also thank all our stakeholders, our development partners and County Governments for their support as we all work towards a common mission **“To ensure water resources availability and accessibility by all.”**

I wish to thank the Board of Directors and Management NWHSA and all stakeholders who participated and contributed immensely in the development of the Plan. I call on the Board of Directors to play its part of ensuring management delivers on this Plan.

With those remarks, it is now my pleasure to declare this Plan officially launched.

Thank you!

**SICILY K. KARIUKI (MRS), EGH  
CABINET SECRETARY**