



## NATIONAL WATER HARVESTING & STORAGE AUTHORITY

*Hifadhi Maji, Boresha Maisha*

**TALKING POINTS BY CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF NATIONAL WATER HARVESTING AND STORAGE AUTHORITY; MAJ. GEN (Rtd.) ANDREW IKENYE, DURING A BOARD AND MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP AT ENGLISH POINT MARINA, MOMBASA ON 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2021.**

**The Cabinet Secretary  
Board of Directors  
And Management**

- Good morning, we are pleased and honored to have our Cabinet Secretary grace this occasion today. Madam Cabinet Secretary, I want to sincerely thank you for creating time for us given your tight schedule. Karibu sana to this workshop.
- We started the retreat well on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021, and we have had fruitful discussions that will help us come up with concrete strategies and proposals to move the Authority forward.
- Eng. Alima who is one of our directors representing the PS at the Ministry was with us on the first day and he represented the Ministry well.
- The main purpose of the retreat was to induct me on the operations of the Authority. Presentations from various departments were made, challenges experienced identified and the way forward to be given at the end the retreat.
- The Board Committee chairpersons also made overview presentations with regards to their functions hence I can confidently say I have learnt a lot regarding the Authority and this retreat was not in vain. I will keep learning more as I interact with both management and the Board.
- We thank the Ministry for your support through your leadership Madam CS, and we acknowledge the good rapport that now exists between the Ministry and the Authority. We do not take that for granted.
- We would like this good relationship to continue and get even stronger because essentially you are our parent and therefore the need for a good parent-child relationship is paramount.

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE RETREAT

- The workshop gave management and the Board of Directors through their Board Committee Chairpersons an opportunity to brief me on the operations of the Authority.
- We also had an opportunity to interrogate the challenges we face as an Authority so as to chart a way forward and implement some proposals once we get back to the office.

### Some of our achievements include:

1. Better management of financial resources that has resulted in partial settlement of historical pending bills especially court related fees and fines. This has also reduced the frequency of visits to the Authority by auctioneers to attach assets;
2. Improved morale of employees through acquisition of staff working tools, capacity building through training and continuous professional development, settlement of salaries arrears resulting from recommendations by Salaries & Remuneration Commission and better handling of staff welfare issues among others;
3. Streamlining and automation of various management processes to restore order, integrity and branding with a view of changing the corporate image of the Authority. Some of the measures include introduction of biometric & security surveillance systems for improved staff management, revamped website and use of social media to enhance positive image of the Authority. The Authority is currently working on ISO certification by end of third quarter;
4. Improved contract management of projects that has resulted to timely completion of projects, resolution of projects management disputes, decreased cases of procurement malpractices. A case in point include a record completion time Water for Schools program for FY2020/21;
5. Revival of stalled projects from previous regimes such as Umaa dam in Kitui and Badasa dam in Marsabit. Various stalled boreholes have also been completed.
6. Calmness and stability in the management of the Authority resulting improved mandate discharge and services to the public.
7. The approval of Human Resource instruments by SCAC. This will enable the Authority to finalize the transition process (NWCPC to NWHSA) and resolve various staffing issues which have been outstanding for a long time.

The Authority continues to face some challenges and appeals for support from the Ministry to resolve the following:

- We request for additional funding for flood control projects to cover more areas affected by flooding in the country. Currently, the Authority concentrates on limited areas due to financial constraints.
- The Authority has huge historical pending bills arising from pension dues, on-lent loans on projects managed by other water sectors agencies and on-going projects with inadequate funding.

As I conclude Madam CS, I want to assure you that as the Board through my leadership, we are committed to ensuring we uphold Good Corporate Governance. I have particularly emphasized on this from the time I joined the Authority and will not tire in ensuring we do the right thing and work as a team.

The management on the other hand has assured us that they will do their part while we support each other and focus on our main mandate of ensuring we provide water to the public and mitigate against the effects of flood control.

It is now my pleasure to welcome you Waziri to give your remarks. Karibu Madam CS!

**Maj. Gen. (Rtd) Andrew K. Ikenye, CBS,  
Chairman of the Board  
Mombasa, 9<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.**