

OPENING REMARKS BY JULIUS MUIA, PhD, CBS, THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY/NATIONAL TREASURY DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE FY2021/22 AND THE MEDIUM-TERM BUDGET PREPARATION PROCESS, 11th SEPTEMBER, 2020

Cabinet Secretary/National Treasury and Planning;

Cabinet Secretaries present;

Chairperson Budget and Appropriations Committee;

Chief Administrative Secretaries present;

Principal Secretaries and Accounting Officers;

Development Partners;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

1. Good morning. I wish to welcome and to thank you all for finding time to participate in this very important event in our budget calendar.
2. Today, we officially launch the FY 2021/22 and the medium term budget making process virtually due to the abnormal circumstances we are currently facing. This process will be spearheaded by the Sector Working Groups.
3. The Sector Working Groups are consultative fora that provide a platform for formulation and prioritization of budget proposals by all MDAs.
4. As we launch this process, I wish to note that public participation and involvement of stakeholders in the budget making process is a core requirement of the Constitution and PFM Act 2012. In the advent of the COVID-19 restrictions it is my hope that the Sector Working Groups will ensure that they involve all their stakeholders in the development of their Sector priorities and

document the stakeholder engagement as required by Treasury Circular No. 16/2020

Ladies and Gentlemen;

5. I wish to emphasize that resources are limited while at the same time, the Government is confronted with significant expenditure demands including financing the Post-COVID-19 Economic Stimulus programme and the ‘Big Four’ Plan. This calls for proper prioritization to ensure that we focus on critical expenditures with the highest positive impact on the well-being of Kenyans.
6. In developing the draft budget proposals for the FY 2021/22 and the Medium Term, the Sector Working Groups are expected to review their sector budget performance for the past three years. This review should inform decisions on sector priorities for the ensuing period while taking into account the available resources. The MDAs are expected to finalize this activity as indicated in the National Treasury’s circular guiding this process.
7. Finally, I wish to highlight that the budget preparation process is guided by strict legal timelines. Consequently, all the participants are expected to ensure that these timelines are adhered to. I therefore urge Sector Chairpersons and Accounting Officers to give this process personal attention.
8. With those remarks, it is now my humble duty to invite the Chairperson Budget and Appropriations Committee of the National Assembly **Hon. Kanini Kega** to make his remarks.

Thank You