



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**THE NATIONAL TREASURY & PLANNING**  
**Office of the Cabinet Secretary**

**PRESS RELEASE**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TREASURY CABINET SECRETARY INSPECTS LAMU PORT**  
**First Vessel is Proposed to Dock on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.**

**MANDA BAY**, 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 – Cabinet Secretary (CS) for the National Treasury & Planning, Hon. (Amb.) Ukur Yatani, on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 conducted an inspection tour of the ongoing construction works at the Port of Lamu.

Alongside his colleague, John Munyes the Cabinet Secretary for Petroleum & Mining, he met the Joint Steering Committee on the operationalization of the Port, who briefed them as follows:

- The Port of Lamu is proposed to receive its marine cargo vessel on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2021, with the docking of the first ship at Berth One.
- Berths Two and Three will be completed by October, 2021, upon which they will also be operationalized.
- KPA has already deployed 70 staff to the port, with an additional 100 staff to be recruited locally from Lamu by the proposed date of opening.
- The necessary operational systems including ICT systems and equipment is now in place to off-load goods from ships.
- KRA has already deployed officers to the Port and all their systems for goods clearance are already in place.
- Incentives relating to fees and charges for using and clearing goods at the Port – as requested by stakeholders - will be *gazetted* for at least a period of one year, in the next few days, to promote usage of the Port by the business and logistics sectors.
- Facilitative agencies such as Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS), Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS) and port health services are ready to start operations at the Port.
- The acquisition of Ship-to-Shore (STS) equipment will be fast-tracked to attract larger vessels to the Port.
- All agreements on the compensation of fishermen affected by the Port's development have been finalized.
- Evacuation of goods from the Port by road have been effectively addressed, with the new road between Lamu and Garsen completed except for a stretch of 4 kms to be completed by the end of May 2021.



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The Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury & Planning, also met with stakeholders whom he assured of the government's commitment to promoting the Port and developing the infrastructure around it.

On their part, stakeholders who included the Kenya Association of Freight Forwarders, Kenya Transport Association as well as Maersk Shipping Lines, Lamu Shipping Ltd. and Express Shipping & Logistics Agency, thanked the government for the progress of the works and assured them of the sector's full support in using the Lamu Port to evacuate cargo.

Also represented in the meeting in Lamu were the Chairs of agencies under the Kenya Transport & Logistics Network and other agencies involved in the operationalization of the Port:

- Mr John Ngumi – Chairman, ICDC
- Gen. (Rtd.) Joseph Kibwana – Chairman, Kenya Ports Authority
- Amb. Francis Muthaura – Chairman, Kenya Revenue Authority
- Mr. Titus Imbui – Chairman, LAPSSET Corridor Devpt. Authority
- Major-Gen. (Rtd.) Pastor Awitti – Chairman, Kenya Railways Corporation
- Eng. Wangai Ndirangu – Chairman, KeNHA

**About the Port of Lamu**

The Port of Lamu is a flagship infrastructure of Kenya's Vision 2030 creating a transport corridor that links South Sudan and Ethiopia to the Indian Ocean while connecting the Kenyan towns of Garissa, Isiolo, Maralal, Lodwar, Lokichoggio and Moyale to a new corridor known as the Lamu Port South Sudan – Ethiopia Transport or LAPSSET corridor, with vast potential for the social and economic development of the northern Kenya.

Construction of the first phase of the Port comprising of three berths started six years ago, on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2015 and is proposed to start operations on 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 with Berth One and Berth Two and Three in October, 2021 completing Phase One.

Subsequent phases will be undertaken by the private sector under a PPP framework and eventually result into 23 berths along its 10 kms shore length, with the capacity to handle cargo traffic of 23.9 million tonnes by 2030.

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