



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**REMARKS BY PRINCIPAL SECRETARY – STATE DEPARTMENT FOR
SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SENIOR CITIZEN AFFAIRS MR. JOSEPH
MOTARI MBS DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE NCPWD/USAID DISABILITY
LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS ON 12TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT THE TRADEMARK
HOTEL IN NAIROBI**

Ms. Kimberly Ludwig – USAID Director of Democracy and Governance,

CEO of IEBC Mr. Marjan Hussein Marjan,

Vice Chairperson Commission of Administrative Justice
Commissioner Washington Sati

Nairobi County Woman Representative Ho. Esther Passaris OGW

Hon Senator Catherine Mumma, MP

MP Hon. Timothy Wanyonyi, chairman of Commonwealth
Parliamentarians with Disabilities

Hon. Bishop Koskei, MP

NFDK Chairperson Dr. Kristina Kenyatta and Board of Trustee Prof. Julia Ojiambo,

NCPWD Board Chairperson Mrs. Elizabeth Chesang and Board of Directors,

CEOs and representatives of various organizations

Executive Director Harun Hassan EBS,

Organizations of persons with disabilities,

Distinguished guests,

It gives me great pleasure to be with you today for the launch of the Disability Landscape Analysis touching on the state of disability at the national and county levels. This report, as the CEO has said is a result of lengthy collaboration between the Ministry through the Council and USAID – a partnership which we convened last year in April together with my Cabinet Secretary.

Distinguished guests,

The state of disability in Kenya is always revolving. Gladly, the disability inclusion agenda is progressive, and we rarely, if never,

make any regression. This has put us on top of many of our peers in the continent and beyond. Last year for example, we hosted the National Commission for Persons with Disabilities of the Federal Republic of Nigeria who were on a three-day learning visit in Kenya. However, a lot still needs to be done. This is why this report we are launching today is important in addressing any gaps that need to be filled to ensure that persons with disabilities live fully and freely.

Distinguished guests,

I wish to take this opportunity to appreciate the Council and USAID for this noble idea to generate knowledge on disability issues in Kenya for informed policy and full societal inclusion. At the Ministry, our role on disability issues is on policy and legal reforms. I wish to appreciate that the report also purposed to look into the presence of policies and legislation relating to persons with disabilities. Indeed, there is a lot of work to be done. The report shows that 64 percent of counties surveyed did not have disability mainstreaming policies, while about 55 percent lacked disability legislation. This hinders effective provision of, and access to services for persons with disabilities. I am also aware that there is

also a challenge faced by counties in establishing appropriate disability laws. I call upon the Directorate of Social Development to liaise with the Council of Governors and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities to develop a uniform legislative template which can be easily adopted by all counties and easily adjusted to their unique circumstances.

Distinguished guests,

As the Principal Secretary on social protection, I also took keen interest on the report's findings as far as social protection is concerned. The report indicates that respondents surveyed called

on the need to review the eligibility criteria for the Inua Jamii programme to better meet the needs of the most vulnerable persons with disabilities.

The issue of reviewing the Inua Jamii programme-design so that we have lasting impact is one that is at the core of our work. As directed by His Excellency the President, we carried out a scale-up activity to onboard additional beneficiaries under the Inua Jamii programme. Under the PWSD – CT programme, about 137,000 potential beneficiaries were listed pending onboarding to the payroll. Additionally, we have also shifted the disbursement

frequency from every three months to monthly – eliminating the long wait families used to endure before they received the funds. We have also taken service delivery a notch higher, and integrated the receiving of funds on MPESA. On the issue of MPESA to disburse the monthly stipend, this came as a result of many complaints by our beneficiaries and their caregivers about how the cost of traveling to withdraw the funds from the banks would sometime cost more than the Sh2,000 itself! This is evidence enough that the Government of Kenya listens, and will do all it takes to make things better for persons with disabilities and their caregivers.

Additionally, we are also looking into how we can look deeper into the programme and see ways in which we can redesign the support from household-based to individual-based particularly for households and families with more than one child with child or persons with disabilities requiring 24-hour intensive care. Therefore distinguished guests, it is my hope that the research generated in this report is not the end by itself, but the start of many more documentation to support us in lobbying for additional resources. This is why later this month we will be launching another report by the Council touching on the level of impact the cash transfer programme for persons with severe disabilities has had since its

inception in 2010. I call upon USAID and other partners to support us in rolling out additional research and analyses to enable the Government make informed policy and programmatic decisions.

In conclusion,

On behalf of our Cabinet Secretary Hon. Florence Bore, I also wish to note that we are finalizing the first national disability policy, and will soon be rolling it out for public participation before submission to Cabinet for approval to enable us encapsulate disability inclusion in all spheres of our economy and country.

I also wish to appreciate USAID for recently writing to the Council expressing your unyielding commitment to work with the National Council for Persons with Disabilities in enhancing the lives and opportunities of persons with disabilities, touching on a variety of areas which include coordination and stakeholder engagements like the one we are having today, and harmonizing disability activities in the sector into one steering committee to avoid duplications and instead promote impact. We look forward to more milestones as a result of this partnership. **THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU.**