

**MINISTRY OF CO-OPERATIVES AND MICRO,
SMALL & MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (MSMEs)
DEVELOPMENT**

**STATE DEPARTMENT FOR CO-OPERATIVES
USHIRIKA NEWS BULLETIN AUGUST, 2023.**

7TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

- ▶ Cabinet Secretary Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSMEs) Development Hon. Simon Chelugui accompanied by PS State Department for Co-operatives Mr. Patrick Kilemi officially opened 7th Annual Conference 2023 at Cooperatives University Main campus, Karen.
- ▶ The two-day conference themed: "The Role of Social and Solidarity Economy in Sustainable Development, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation." Also present was CCD Mr. David Obonyo, SA Mr. El-Samma Ndegwa, among other high-level delegates who graced the occasion.
- ▶ There are keynote speakers and presentations on topics related to Social finance and climate change mitigation; Role of entrepreneurship in the era of climate change; Role of ICT in climate change, mitigation and adaptation; Role of cooperatives in climate change, mitigation, adaptation, and sustainable development; sustainability, e-commerce, and fintech -the future of business; and mainstreaming climate change, mitigation and adaptation.

Commisioning of New KCC Kiganjo by H.E President William Ruto

- ▶ Milk production will be doubled in the next five years to expand opportunities for farmers. President William Ruto said the Government has put in place a solid plan that will see production increase from 5.2 billion litres to 10 billion litres a year.
- ▶ He argued that milk is one of the highest influencers of income in Kenya, generating at least Sh200 billion a year. He explained that the Government will modernise Kenya Cooperative Creameries plants and install milk coolers countrywide so that more milk can be processed.
- ▶ “We want to fetch more from value-added milk. Our farmers are not thriving because they have been selling raw milk,” he said.

Opening of the Vertical event by Redington

- ▶ State Department for Co-operatives PS Mr. Patrick Kilemi officiated the opening of the Vertical event by Redington held at Raddison Blu Hotel, Nairobi.
- ▶ The event is an industry-specific that brings innovative solutions using cutting-edge technology to decision-makers of business, tech vendors, and start-ups. By embracing ICT, cooperatives should be alive to the inherent threats such as fraud and cybercrime. This calls for continuous review of internal control systems and risk management processes, use of appropriate ICT systems, and adopting robust data protection measures in Sacco operations.
- ▶ The PS reiterated the government commitment to providing a conducive legal environment for digital transformation to thrive in the cooperatives sector.

Cooperative Transformation Strategy workshop, Mombasa County

- ▶ PS Patrick Kilemi joined the 5-day Kenya Cooperative Transformation Strategy workshop, which commenced on 7th August 2023 at Mombasa County.
- ▶ The workshop has been convened with a clear and resounding purpose - to forge a comprehensive pathway towards realizing the vision of a bottom-up economic transformation agenda, aptly referred to as BETA.
- ▶ The BETA strategy, rooted in a bottom-up approach, seeks to harness the power of cooperative initiatives to drive economic growth from the grassroots level, empowering individuals and communities to shape their destinies.
- ▶ “Let us be inspired by the great strides that cooperatives have already achieved in various sectors - from agriculture to finance, housing to transportation, as we delve into the discussions, workshops, and sessions over the coming days.” PS Kilemi

CS Meets Communication and ICT teams from the Ministry and Saga

- ▶ CS Co-operatives and MSMEs Development Hon. Simon Chelugui flanked by PS Co-operatives Mr. Patrick Kilemi held a meeting with the Communication and ICT team for the ministry and SAGAs at the Ministry's Headquarters, Nairobi.
- ▶ The meeting touches on pertinent issues affecting the two departments and SAGAs and forge way forward to provide seamless communication approaches in communicating the Ministry's agendas to both internal and external publics.

Coffee Reforms Meeting

- ▶ Cabinet Secretary for Cooperatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development, Hon Simon Kiprono Chelugui held a meeting at the Ministry's Headquarters on Coffee reforms ahead of Re-opening of National Coffee Exchange tomorrow in Nairobi, Kenya.
- ▶ The CS was accompanied by PS State Department for Co-operatives Mr. Patrick Kilemi, CCD Mr. David Obonyo, among other high-level delegates present.
- ▶ The Nairobi Coffee Exchange which had been closed due to lack of proper transition mechanisms from the coffee marketing agents to licensed farmers Co-operative unions.
- ▶ Following the government directive, the exchange has been opened and bell ringing ceremony is scheduled to take place tomorrow, 15th August 2023. The re-opening of the National Coffee Exchange in Nairobi is a significant step towards promoting fair trade and growth for coffee farmers and the industry as a whole.
- ▶ 11 farmers' co-operative Unions will take part in the trading and auction for the first time in the history of the Nairobi Coffee Exchange.

Re-opening of the Nairobi Coffee Exchange and Auction

- ▶ Deputy President H.E Rigathi Gachagua reopened the Nairobi Coffee Exchange and Auction at Wakulima House. He was accompanied by CS Cooperatives and MSMEs Development Hon. Simon Chelugui, CS Agriculture and Livestock Development Hon. Mithika Linturi, PS State Department for Cooperatives Mr. Patrick Kilemi, PS Cabinet Affairs Mr. Julius Korir, PS Investments Mr. Abubakar Hassan, among other high-level dignitaries who graced the occasion.
- ▶ "Farmers have a voice in determining the price for the coffee for the first time and will know the worth of their coffee." DP Rigathi The move will empower the coffee farmers to have a voice in determining the price of their coffee and quash the cartels.
- ▶ This is one of the outcomes of the Coffee Subsector Reforms Conference held in June this year in Meru led by H.E Rigathi Gachagua.

Workshop for Drafting the Strategic Plan

- ▶ Principal Secretary State Department for Co-operatives Mr. Patrick Kilemi officially opened the workshop for drafting the Strategic Plan for the State Department.
- ▶ The Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP IV) has been completed, and it's time to Fasttrack the strategies to implement the 5-year national development plan. The Strategic Plan is going to be particularly important in specifying the actions that are going to be taken to achieve the development aspirations in the MTP IV.
- ▶ The preparation of the Strategic Plan is fast-tracked to ensure an actionable plan by the end of the first quarter. The MTP IV mainstreams the Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda, where Cooperatives are expected to play a huge supporting role in actualization of the Plan.
- ▶ The PS emphasizes the importance of internal and external partnerships in meeting our responsibilities in the national development agenda. That we must comprehensively identify our partners and the roles they play in the delivery of our mandates.
- ▶ "We must also align the strategic plan to the Cooperative Transformation Strategy that was recently developed to be consistent with the aspirations of the cooperative movement." PS Kilemi.
- ▶ The PS reiterated that we must reflect on what we have already committed ourselves to and identify strategic issues limiting the potential of the State department to perform its role in the next five years and assured his full support for the process.

Tour of Githunguri Dairy & Narok ENSDA Tannery & Leather Factory

- ▶ Principal Secretary State Department for Co-operatives, Hon. Patrick Kilemi hosted fellow colleagues, PS's Hon. Jonathan Mueke Livestock Development, Kello Harsama Crops development, Dr. Idris Dokota ASALs & RD, Ms. Salome Beacco correctional services, Dr. Juma Mukhwana Industry, during a tour of Githunguri Dairy Farmers Cooperatives Society.
- ▶ The Committee appreciated the role played by the dairy value chain in our economy and discussed various measures to increase milk production as envisaged in BETA. The government is committed to providing an enabling environment for the dairy sector to thrive.
- ▶ Earlier, the PS with his other colleagues toured ENSDA Tannery & Leather factory in Narok, a leather value chain. In attendance; Mr. Peter Njuguna, CEO SASRA, among other senior government officials.

PS KILEMI HOST FOREIGN MISSION FROM MALAWI

- ▶ Principal Secretary State Department for Co-operatives Mr Patrick Kilemi hosted a delegation from Malawi on benchmarking activities to his office.
- ▶ The focus of their visit is to gain insights and knowledge from the cooperative sector in Kenya, particularly in the realm of transportation cooperatives. Subsequent to this benchmarking session, the delegation is keen on engaging with a transport SACCO.
- ▶ The delegation is led by PS for MSEs and Cooperatives Mr. Francis Zhuwawo, Director of Road Safety and Services, CEO and Head of Cooperatives development of Malawi Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (MUSCCO), and three senior managers from the Financial Inclusion Entrepreneurship Scaling (FIN) Project.