

STATEMENT BY THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, KENYA DURING THE 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY SCENARIO BY 2050 LAUNCH EVENT

September 3, 2020

By: Edwin N. Omwenga, The principle Renewable Energy Officer, Renewable Energy Directorate

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Energy is critical to the realization of Kenya's Vision 2030 which seeks to transform Kenya into a newly industrializing middle-income country providing a high quality of life to its entire citizenry. Further, the Government's "Big 4 Agenda" comprising of Food and Nutrition, Security, Manufacturing, Affordable Housing and Healthcare, unveiled by the President in 2017, is dependent on provision of adequate and competitively-priced energy. Consequently, the government has over the last few years embarked on an ambitious journey to provide access to competitively-priced, reliable, quality, safe, and sustainable energy. Tremendous achievement in scaling up connectivity was made in recent years with the access rate rising from 32% in 2014 to 75% in 2018 (both from grid and off-grid options). This has been achieved through interventions by the government in collaboration with development partners. These interventions include, Last Mile Connectivity Programme, electrification of all public primary schools, Global Partnership of Output Based Aid (GPOBA) and the Rural Electrification Programme, among others, which the Ministry implemented through KPLC and REA.

As you are aware the government has an ambitious plan of achieving universal access to electricity by the year 2022. In addition, if we are to achieve SDG goal No. 7 (which is to ensure access to affordable reliable, sustainable and modern energy) and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in our environment, much higher levels of ambition is required in regard to renewable energy in terms of how we generate and use electricity.

An important aspect of the of the project that feeds in to the national energy priorities include Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Long-term low Emission Development Strategies (LEDS) to the Paris Agreement, as well as national activities to implement SDG7 (clean energy), including the Sustainable Energy for All strategies.

Meaningful participation by civil society organizations (CSOs) in the energy sector is widely recognized as being essential and beneficial to the process; they can act as trusted intermediaries between government, the private sector, and energy users on the ground, as well as having expertise in designing and delivering energy services, particularly for poor and vulnerable groups.

Ratan Tata Quote: **"If you want to walk fast, walk alone. But if you want to walk far, walk together."**
Let us talk the talk and walk the walk together.

It is therefore with great pleasure that I present the EAST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AND CLIMATE ACTION PLAN FOR 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY SCENARIO IN KENYA BY 2050

Thank you Very Much