

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR PATRICK OLE NTUTU'S
STATEMENT DURING ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATIONS AT WILLIAM OLE NTIMAMA STADIUM

18th October 2023

Our Chief Guest, Dr. Wilber K. Ottichilo Governor for Vihiga County,

Prof. Hillary Barchok, Governor for Bomet County,

Archbishop Ole Sapit and the Clergy

Members of Parliament Present,

Isaac Masinde County Commissioner for Narok County, Hon. Davis Dikirr, Speaker of the Narok County Assembly,

Members of the Narok County Assembly,

# Distinguished Guests na Wananchi wote:

## Hamjambo!

Today, we gather here to mark a significant milestone in our journey towards a better and brighter future for our County. It is with great pride and a deep sense of responsibility that I stand before you to celebrate one year in office as the Governor of this great County.

It is indeed the hallmark of democracy and good governance that we constantly report to you our employers – the people of Narok County – on the strides we are making

as a government. Accountability is key to our success and thus this event demonstrates a strong level of commitment to adhere to Constitutional dictates on national values and principles of governance, leadership and integrity, values and principles of public service.

It is for these reasons that my government saw it fit to invite all of you to this 1<sup>st</sup> Accountability Forum. We shall therefore be convening yearly, to ask ourselves whether we kept our promise or not. These accountability forums will also let the public gauge whether the government is

performing optimally, giving value for money and responding to the needs of the communities.

## Ladies and Gentlemen,

Close to one year ago, I stood before you with a vision and a commitment to serve the people of Narok County to the best of my abilities. I came to you with a manifesto for a transformative agenda for the county with a focus on empowerment, equity and equality for shared prosperity. We had a grand game plan, a ten-point agenda for every sector.

Today, as we take stock of our accomplishments, I am proud to say that our efforts have not been in vain; I am delighted to report that we have made significant strides.

I shall therefore run you through our scorecard in every sector:

## 1. Health

My administration has made substantial investments in healthcare. We have increased the number of healthcare facilities, improved their infrastructure, and ensured the availability of essential medical supplies. We are working tirelessly to make quality healthcare accessible to every resident of Narok County, regardless of their socioeconomic status.

The Narok Referral Hospital courtesy of our improved services is recording rapid increase in uptake with better services being realized when the new hospital block will be equipped and running.

In that regard, we have increased essential medicines and medical supplies budget from Sh. 120 million to Sh. 360 million in a year.

We have also been able to construct and finalize 44 Dispensaries/Health Centres, 33 Maternity Wings and 36 staff Units.

We have agreed with the MCAs that we shall in due course embark on equipping and operationalization of these Maternity wings and Dispensaries.

The Ministry of Health, in collaboration with County Governments, intends to actualize the presidential manifesto of Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA) in the spirit of leaving no one behind.

Universal Health Coverage (UHC) ensures that all people have access to the full range of quality health services that they need, when and where they need them, without financial hardship.

Subsequently, **Ladies and Gentlemen**, on 20<sup>th</sup> of this Month, during the Mashujaa Day celebrations, I will be privileged to flag off Community Health Promoters kits that have been donated to Narok County by national government to our 1,638 Community Promoters. I will as well launch the Primary Care Network (PCN) supported by AMREF, for Narok East Sub County.

In addition, the Narok County Department of Health and Sanitation has conducted mapping of Primary Care Network (PCNs) to be established in due course in the remaining seven (7) Sub Counties. The 1,638 Community Health Promoters (CHPs), who have been volunteering to offer services at the community level, will be issued with the corresponding 1,638 kits. For the first time ever in Narok County, these CHPs will start receiving monthly stipends of Ksh 5,000 each to motivate them as they offer services to the community.

#### 2. Education

With regards to education, we have taken major steps to uplift our schools and empower our children. We have embarked on an ambitious project to construct new classrooms for ECDE, equip our ECDE teachers with modern teaching tools, and improve the quality of education throughout the County. In total, my administration has constructed 298 classrooms, including a model ECDE centre at Olololunga Ward and a vocational training centre at Olokurto. We have also been able to

construct 5 administration blocks, 4 dining halls, 3 laboratories, 19 dormitories,

1 multipurpose hall, 34 staff houses and 31 washrooms. These classrooms will be fully equipped with tables and chairs for our young learners

To support needy families through our bursary kitty, we disbursed over Kshs. 400 million benefitting about 40,000 students in Secondary Schools and Tertiary Institutions. Critical to note at this juncture that this is the first time ever Narok County has given such an amount to bursaries.

### 3. Roads

commitment to infrastructure development is Our unwavering. We have initiated road construction and maintenance projects that connect our communities and foster economic growth. Thus far, we have been able to cover a total of 1,675 kilometers of roads. These efforts have not only improved transportation within the County but have also enhanced access to markets and created job opportunities for our people. We have acquired road construction machinery worth Sh1.48 billion to facilitate the opening up of roads and routine maintenance. In this stadium today, the diverse equipment are with us as you can see behind the tent and will launch the machinery today.

## 4. Environment

In line with our commitment to environmental conservation, we have launched several interventions to protect our precious ecosystems. We understand the importance of preserving our natural heritage for future generations. My government working with various

stakeholders is undertaking measures that include tree planting, grassroot sensitization among others.

The allocation of 3% of our budget to environment and climate change speaks to our commitment. We have also established critical climate committees, conducted County wide risk assessment and developed critical policy documents.

#### 5. Tourism

## Ladies and Gentlemen

Our commitment to tourism and the conservation of the Mara ecosystem has yielded remarkable results over the past year. We have worked tirelessly in collaboration with all stakeholders, including local communities, wildlife organizations, and the private sector, to ensure the sustainable management and preservation of this precious ecosystem.

Through our collective efforts, we have witnessed a significant increase in tourism revenue, benefiting both our local communities and the environment. The revitalization of the Mara region has been a key focus of my administration, with the construction of new roads and the implementation of comprehensive management plans.

The Maasai Mara National Reserve Management Plan and the Greater Mara Ecosystem Management Plans were finalized, approved, passed by the County Assembly and gazetted by the Ministry of Tourism – all within the first six months in office. These management plans, once implemented will not only enhance the visitor experience but also protect the natural beauty and biodiversity of the Mara.

Moreover, our County hosted the inaugural Maa Cultural Week that attracted national and international attention. The event enabled us to not only showcase our rich culture and traditions but also reminded us to not only preserve it but also transfer the traditional knowledge and practices to our younger generation.

The event was a great sensation that significantly marketed our County as a leading tourism destination.

# 6. Agriculture

My administration has facilitated growth of the agricultural sector by distributing 638,000 - 50kg bags of assorted subsidized fertilizers, administering 10 million doses of assorted vaccines and dipped 3 million heads of livestock. We have also enhanced marketing and value addition of produce and livestock by constructing 9 livestock markets and sale yards, 12 cattle dips.

The National Government has offered 750 million towards the construction of a KCC milk plant at our recently launched Industrial Park. we will soon launch the construction of a KCC milk plant at our recently launched industrial park. My government will as well construct a Morden abattoir Limanet Industrial Grounds. These two will enable our farmers grow their income and greatly improve their lives.

## 7. Revenue Growth and Investment in Development

Our revenue collection grew from Sh1.3 billion to Sh3.1 billion in one year. Through our concerted efforts of tightening loopholes and zero tolerance to corruption, we have been ranked as Third County countrywide for own source revenue and second on improved revenue collection.

To enhance revenue collection through the digitization of our payment systems, I am pleased to announce the official launch of the Narok County Revenue Bank, the first of its kind. This will serve as a one-stop shop for all county payments, improving efficiency and service delivery to our people.

# 8. Physical and Land-Use Planning

Within the first six months upon assuming office, my administration finalised the development of the Narok County Physical and Land Use Development Plan, a blueprint providing a long-term perspective and framework for the development of the County. The Physical and landuse plan is a fundamental aspect of urban and rural development, and it will play a pivotal role in shaping the

future of this county. We have also carried out planning, surveying, regularization and titling of 10 urban centres, finalized the demarcation, surveying and beaconing and ultimately issuance of about 5,000 title deeds.

### 9. Water

One of the key promises I made in my manifesto to the people of Narok is to work within our development budget to provide clean water to our people. When I assumed office, the water supply in Narok Town was at 1.8 million liters a day and our water coverage as per WASREB Impact

report 2021/2022 was at 47%. Since then, my government has taken several measures to increase the water supply. We initiated repairs on pumps that were in disrepair and integrated new water sources into the system. Our water coverage has now risen to 75% from the previous 47%. We also have plans underway to rehabilitate and expand our water treatment plants.

In addition to what we are doing in Narok Town, these efforts have been rolled out countywide. In our CIDP for 2022/2023, we have sunk 38 boreholes across the County

and equipped them. Further, we have constructed 14 water pans, finalized 22 water reticulation and protected 10 water springs. In Suswa, where the need for water is most pressing, we have connected 250 households to clean water through the Dry Port-Suswa Water project, one of the largest water projects in the County. These efforts aimed at providing water to our people will not stop, and we are committed to this endeavor.

## Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have also ensured that my government is all inclusive. My appointments to public office reflects the face and orientation of our County. I have to the furthest extent accommodated the wide and diverse interests of the majority, the minority and special interest groups. To promote the needs of persons living with disability (PwDs), my administration shall review the Narok County Persons Living with Disabilities Act for robust implementation of rights of persons living with disability. More particularly the Act will establish a more structured method of administration and data collection to determine needs of PwDs including the creation of a disability centre.

I want to express my gratitude to the leaders of this County for embracing the inclusive and participatory approach to development and working closely with me in delivering our promise to Mwananchi. Working with the Members of the County Assembly (MCAs), we adopted and implemented the Sh100 million per ward initiative, which has seen my government distribute resources equally across the County to meet ward-specific needs—development and critical recurrent projects.

It is worth noting that the role of the MCAs in the conceptualization and monitoring of the projects over the last year was commendable. What we have achieved together is a testament that great things happen when people come together. As from 24th of this month, I will therefore return to the grassroots to commission all these projects that are already complete.

Despite these successes, I ask all public servants to pull up their socks. We must surpass the milestones of this year when we come back to report to the people next year. All members of my team must be ready to sacrifice and exceed expectation. In this regard, all CECs and COs have signed Performance Contracts for their respective portfolios. These performance contracts will help to improve service delivery, efficiency and effectiveness in public service. The contracts have clear indicators and targets for every signatory. The results for every individual shall be critically evaluated on a yearly basis and whoever shall have not met the targets set shall leave office and pave way for others to work for wananchi. We mean business and every public officer must devote their best skills and take the mandate given to them very seriously. I expect that the performance contracts be cascaded to all employees in the County Government.

We have taken significant steps to enhance transparency and accountability in our governance. We have introduced measures to ensure that public resources are utilized for the common good. I must also warn that I shall not tolerate any form of corruption and theft of public funds in my government. Whoever shall misuse government equipment or cause any loss of tax payer's money shall not only be fired but shall face the full force of the law.

Finally, **Ladies and gentlemen**, this one-year anniversary is not just a celebration of our accomplishments but also a reaffirmation of our dedication to the people of Narok County. As we move forward, let this milestone remind us that there is no limit to what we can achieve when we work together with a shared vision. I am grateful for your trust, support, and the hard work of our entire team, and I look forward to the continued progress, growth, and prosperity that lies ahead for Narok County.

Thank You and May God Bless You All.

# H.E PATRICK KETURET OLE NTUTU GOVERNOR, NAROK COUNTY 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2023