

# STATEMENT BY H.E GOVERNOR PATRICK KETURET OLE NTUTU, DURING THE SIGNING OF THE VILLAGE DELINEATION BILL, 2024 INTO LAW

**30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2025** 

The Speaker of the County Assembly, Hon. Davis Dikirr, Honorable Members of the County Assembly, Staff, Members of the Fourth Estate,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Today marks a defining moment in the governance of Narok County.

1. With the signing of the Village Delineation Bill into law, we reaffirm our commitment to devolution, good governance, and effective service delivery to our people. This Act is a testament to our strong dedication to ensuring that governance reaches the grassroots, as envisioned in the Constitution of Kenya.

- 2. At the outset, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the County Assembly for their diligent efforts in the passage of this legislation. Under the exemplary leadership of the Honorable Speaker, Hon. Davis Dikirr, the Assembly has demonstrated steadfast commitment to enacting laws that transform the lives of our people.
- **3.** A special note of gratitude goes to Hon. Mark Makut, Chairperson of the Labor and Social Welfare Committee, for his commendable leadership in steering this Bill through the

legislative process. His unwavering efforts, together with those of his committee members, ensured that the Bill underwent rigorous scrutiny, public participation, and necessary amendments, making it a law that truly reflects the aspirations of our people.

**4.** I also wish to commend the department of Administration, Coordination of Decentralization and Disaster Management led by Hon. Josephine Ng`eno for steering the development of this legislation.

### Ladies and Gentlemen,

5. The enactment of this law aligns with Article 176(1) and (2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which mandates counties to establish decentralized units for effective service delivery. The primary objective of this Act is to delineate and establish village units in Narok County, thereby furthering the decentralization of functions and enhancing service provision by our county government.

- 6. My administration has prioritized the implementation of this law to bring governance closer to the people. This transformative step will address existing gaps and ensure that services are delivered equitably and efficiently to every corner of our county.
- 7. Following Cabinet approval, the Bill was submitted to the Assembly on 30th October 2024. The Bill has benefitted from extensive consultations and discussions through the entire legislative cycle with views of all stakeholders incorporated.

This has enabled the Committee to incorporate the necessary amendments into the Bill.

8. During the public participation process, key constitutional and social variables were taken into account, including population size, geographical features, community interests, historical, economic, and cultural ties, as well as means of communication. As a most equitable method, the number of village units were determined based on the population density model akin to that adopted by the Commission on Revenue Allocation in determining ceilings for counties. Our model considered an aggregate of 80% population and 20% geographical area, with necessary moderation to reflect the above mentioned variables.

9. In accordance with this law, each village unit will have a Village Administrator appointed by the County Public Service Board. These administrators will play a critical role in ensuring that governance at the grassroots is well-coordinated and effective.

10. Furthermore, we will place Village Administrators on government payroll. I would like to reassure the public that the establishment of the 202 village units and the recruitment of incoming staff align with our wage bill management framework. Therefore, I urge all eligible individuals to prepare to apply for these positions.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 11. The enactment of this law is a landmark achievement in our pursuit of an inclusive, participatory, and efficient governance framework. It is a bold step toward ensuring that every resident of Narok County benefits from the principles of devolution as enshrined in our Constitution.
- 12. In this regard, I hereby direct that the Bill be published as an Act in the Kenya Gazette immediately to pave way for

the relevant department to immediately finalize the mapping of village units so that the recruitment process can commence.

- 13. At this juncture, Let me thank the Narok County Public Service Board for expediting the development and finalization of the scheme of service and career progression guidelines for these positions.
- 14. As we move towards the implementation phase, I urge all stakeholders—including our County Assembly,

administrative officers, and the residents of Narok County to collaborate in realizing the full potential of this legislation. Together, we will transform service delivery and governance, ensuring that no one is left behind.

15. I wish to address the matter of recruitment, which we have been announcing for some time, particularly concerning health workers and the forthcoming village administrators. I assure you that this process will be conducted with the highest

level of integrity, free from corruption, and that recruitment will be equitably distributed across all wards. This commitment extends to the recruitment of rangers, which is scheduled to take place soon.

16. It is important to note that my administration has expressed the intention to recruit 200 medical personnel, 120 Rangers and 30 cadets. I wish to emphasize that these employment opportunities shall be distributed equitably across all wards.

17. From the very outset of my administration, I have taken and will continue to take a firm stance against corruption. There is absolutely no room for corrupt practices in this government. We must all uphold the rule of law. Public service is a duty to the people who elected us, not an opportunity to serve personal interests.

### **On Security Matters, Ladies and Gentlemen**

- 18. The violence that we witnessed in Ang'ata Barikoi on Monday this week, involving the police, and that regrettably led to injury, loss of six lives and damage to property was quite unfortunate.
- 19. It is deeply regrettable that longstanding land disputes have escalated to such a tragic outcome, particularly at a time

when we were nearing the resolution of the conflict between the Angata and Moyoi adjudication sections, a process I have personally supervised for the past one and a half years.

**20.** I visited the area on Monday evening and let me take this chance to inform the residents of Ang'ata Barikoi that I have formally engaged the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) to ensure that a thorough investigation is

conducted and that those responsible are held accountable in accordance with the law.

- **21.** In the meantime, the County Government of Narok will meet all funeral expenses for the deceased and will also cover the medical costs for those injured during the incident.
- 22. On Tuesday next week, Narok county will host the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Dr. William Ruto

for a development of our county. In this regard, we yesterday held a consultative meeting, as Narok county leadership, to streamline processes as we await the arrival of the President.

23. As Narok leadership, we remain united in our commitment to working with the National government and all partners in delivering impactful projects that uplift the lives of our people.

- 24. I am calling upon all of us to come out in large numbers and welcome the President even as we engage in meaningful conversations on development projects, programs and initiatives that will shape the overal growth and economic development of our county.
- 25. Once again, I extend my deepest gratitude to all who played a role in making this law a reality. Your dedication and commitment have paved the way for a governance system that is responsive, effective, and truly people-centered.

## May God bless you all, and may God bless Narok County.

#### H.E. PATRICK KETURET OLE NTUTU GOVERNOR-NAROK COUNTY GOVERNMENT