

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



BARINGO COUNTY GOVERNMENT

H.E. Hon. Stanley KIPTIS

The Governor

Inauguration Speech

21st August, 2017

My Predecessor, The outgoing Governor H.E Hon. Benjamin Cheboi

The Presiding Judge, Hon. Justice Jane Mulwa

Senator Gideon Moi, Members of National Assembly and Members of Baringo County Assembly

The County Commissioner and his National Government team,

The County Government Administration

Invited guests,

Friends,

Ladies and gentlemen;

My fellow citizens, I stand here today humbled and with great gratitude to the almighty God and to the people of Baringo for bestowing upon me the responsibility and noble duty of working towards the transformation of our great county. It is indeed a great privilege to take oath of office to become the second Governor of Baringo County.

Once again, I thank the voters of Baringo for the overwhelming support they gave me. This is indeed your day and your victory to celebrate! The mandate you bestowed on me is to be just but a steward. As our constitution captures clearly, the power belongs to the people! YOU ARE THE PEOPLE!

I thank my entire family for their blessings, all members of my campaign team, and all the people who supported me. After our first attempt in 2013, you kept hope and trust in me to realize this campaign victory, which has led to this momentous occasion.

I thank my Deputy Governor, his family and friends for believing in this dream and walking with us in this journey.

I also wish to express my sincere gratitude the outgoing Governor Benjamin Cheboi, His Deputy Eng. Mathew Tuitoek and his government for their service to our county. It is in no doubt that the people of Baringo will always be grateful to you as the first Governor for successfully setting up the foundations and structures upon which our county has been built. I look forward to continued cooperation and support, especially during this transition period.

From the onset, I take this exceptional moment to pay tribute to our esteemed development partners for your support to the County. We call upon you and more to join in our pursuit for prosperity. We shall walk the journey together. We promise our support.

Ladies and gentlemen; -

My vision is to make Baringo united, empowered, accountable, inclusive and prosperous. We will achieve this and indeed make a significant contribution to Kenya's Vision 2030 by cementing the 7 key pillars in Baringo County's second Integrated Development Plan 2018-2022.

Top on the agenda to realizing our vision is a pragmatic approach in addressing our socio economic issues. This is the surest way if we have to realize efficiency in conducting public affairs particularly in development and execution of our policies, programmes and projects.

My fellow Citizens;

As your leader, we will sit together and have a conversation. United, we will find and understand our challenges; and together we will seek for solutions.

Ladies and gentlemen;

Security both human and food will be a priority in our government. The significance of achieving on these basic indicators has an exceptional bearing on our independence as a people. Security is a key determinant on our economic performance. It is an incentive to investment growth particularly in our ailing tourism sector. We cannot talk of poverty reduction and wealth creation without being food secure.

Food Security MUST be realized by all means practically possible. We have a potential to transform our productive sectors using the appropriate technologies to significantly produce more beyond subsistence. We will concentrate our resources on increasing productivity along the value chain in areas where we have comparative production advantage for sustainable incomes, employment and wealth creation.

Ladies and Gentlemen

On human security, we endeavor for sustainable policies and programmes to remedy the perennial cattle rustling that has claimed many innocent lives and property of our people. We shall embrace social dialogue among our communities while addressing both the socio economic pull and push factors that continue to periodically escalate this menace.

We shall also encourage constructive partnership with the all stakeholders and actors including national government, security and conflict resolution experts, professionals, our citizens, and the leaders of our neighbouring counties.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Access to health care still remains a challenge to many of our citizens and particularly our county. Quality life starts with quality health. To improve our aggregate productivity and production dictates that our human capital remains healthy and energetic.

A significant allocation of our budget goes to provision of health care. Statistics indicate that the top ten killer diseases like malaria, water-borne, lifestyle and Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) can be to a large extent be prevented. As the say goes, prevention is better than cure; my administration focus will be on preventive and promotive health care to achieve sustainability and

in effect re-allocate resources to productive sectors that have a multiplier effect in our economy.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On roads and infrastructure we envisage providing functional infrastructure to support our socio-economic development. We will concentrate primarily on roads that promote investment and production sectors. We will also target infrastructure that will work towards enhancing security and access to social amenities.

In the education sector, we will invest on our children and the youth. They are our future human capital. We will ensure that they access quality, relevant and affordable education that would make them competitive players in the county, national and global economy. Our policy on youth will lean heavily towards talent tapping and skill development. We will enable our young people to not only take advantage of available opportunities in the public and private sector, but also to finance them to venture into entrepreneurship and job creation.

Fellow Citizens,

It is universally said that water is life. The truth is, WATER IS EVERYTHING. Our goal in this regard is to increase sustainable access to clean and affordable water to the residents of Baringo. We will be leveraging on sinking new boreholes and small dams including partnering with development partners and the national government in the establishment of large dams. Already existing

infrastructure such as Kirandich and Chemususu Dams need to be fully exploited. Harnessing of our water resources will also be geared in a major way towards facilitating a shift from rain fed agriculture to irrigated, commercialized farming activities.

We also plan to provide reliable water supply and establish sustainable urban sewerage systems to further modernize and create a conducive business environment in our towns.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

There is need to refocus our development agenda by embracing economic cluster approach to achieve comparative production advantage. As a county we are blessed with diverse resources from minerals, forests, wildlife, relatively huge land with rich fertile soils and varied agro-ecological zones just to mention a few. These resources each require unique technologies which for production. We will leverage on existing partnerships and forge new friendships so that we fast track the realization of our full potential in this regard. With this in mind, we will provide for a practical investment road map guided by a comprehensive resource mobilization policy that will steer the county to new economic heights

Ladies and Gentlemen

We are committed to adopting an innovative, contemporary management and leadership approaches as a principal guide in our organizational structure, performance and institutional

development. This will in effect help us realize efficiency and effectiveness in conducting public affairs particularly in implementation of our policies, programmes and projects.

We will uphold the constitution and the relevant acts of devolution particularly on good governance, prudent financial management, transparency, and accountability. We will be guided by our national values. More specifically, we will ensure inclusivity and participation by all; women, youth, people living with disability, our senior citizens, the vulnerable and minorities in governance; we will ensure equity and fairness in resource allocation; we will fight and eliminate corruption and uphold integrity, diligence, social justice and the rule of law.

Fellow residents of Baringo,

It is my passion and that of my team to see our seven pillar plan vision become a reality. The transformation journey of Baringo for better living has just started. It is a big dream. The journey is long; it needs courage and many sacrifices. But from it, let us purpose that our people and our children's children find satisfaction. With eyes fixed on the horizon and God's grace upon us, I carry forth my commitment to realizing this great vision to our county.

Thank you.

God bless you and God bless our great County of Baringo –

The County of Great Diversity.

Asanteni Sana!

H.E Hon. Stanley K. Kiptis.

Governor

Signed:

Dated: