



**PRESS RELEASE**  
***(ED: 17:30 Hrs.)***

**ISSUE NO. 13 of 2024**

**DESPATCH FROM CABINET**

**HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT** has today chaired a Cabinet meeting at State House, Nairobi. The meeting was **preceded by a series of Cabinet Committee meetings** under the stewardship of His Excellency the Deputy President.

**AS THE** final meeting of the calendar year, **Cabinet took stock of the progress made in implementing various flagship programmes** under the **Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA)** and the institutionalization of key reforms aimed at empowering every Kenyan to actively participate in nation-building.

**CABINET OBSERVED** that 2024 had been marked by an improved state of national security, **significant turnaround of key macroeconomic indicators**, a reduction in the cost of living, increased food production, and enhanced agricultural productivity. There was also improved access to universal health coverage, a rise in the number of households with electricity connections, higher tourist arrivals, and a growing number of Kenyans enjoying the dignity of a decent roof over their heads. Additionally, there were **increased opportunities for gainful engagement both at home and abroad**, alongside **Kenya's elevated standing within the community of nations**.



**TO STRENGTHEN** the governance arc and **facilitate the orderly transition of executive authority** between the outgoing and incoming administrations, Cabinet considered and approved the **Assumption of the Office of the President and Transition of Executive Authority Bill, 2024.**

**THIS BILL** addresses inherent gaps in the transition process within the Presidency by establishing a **Transition of Executive Authority Committee.** The Bill expands the scope of transition to include senior ranks of the executive, such as Cabinet Secretaries and Principal Secretaries. The bill also seeks to **repeal the Assumption of the Office of the President Act** and incorporate its provisions into the new, overarching law.

**IN PURSUIT** of the nation's ambitious goal of **Universal Health Coverage,** Cabinet acknowledged the ongoing and transformative changes within Kenya's health sector, particularly through the implementation of **Taifa Care.** To further strengthen maternal care, Cabinet approved the establishment of the **M-Mama emergency transport system,** designed to provide vital services for pregnant women, post-partum women, and newborns (patients) across the country.

**THE M-MAMA** system is an emergency transport service accessible through a 24/7 national toll-free number, ensuring that patients are connected to high-quality healthcare. The system also offers remote triage services and consultations by healthcare professionals, **linking patients to emergency transport through ambulances or community drivers,** who then transport them to appropriate health facilities for care.

**IN RECOGNITION** of the critical role of human resources for health in supporting the success of this healthcare management system, **Cabinet sanctioned the immediate resolution of the**



**ongoing contestation** regarding the applicable remuneration for the **current cohort of Medical Officer Interns, Dental Officer Interns, and Pharmacist Interns.**

**AS PART** of the assessment of the social wellness of the nation, **Cabinet** received a briefing from the Deputy President on the multi-sectoral discussions aimed at **addressing the rising cases of gender-based violence** and the alarming increase in the killings of female victims by male perpetrators, driven by regressive expressions of gender brutality and impunity. In response, Cabinet sanctioned the establishment of a **Multi-Sectoral Working Group** tasked with developing a comprehensive approach to engage society, **identify gaps in law enforcement**, and address the underlying drivers of these heinous acts.

**ON SHIFTING** gears to the **economy and energy security**, the meeting observed that petroleum and petroleum products have remained central drivers of the economy. Cabinet noted that the existing Government-to-Government framework has ensured the **uninterrupted supply of petroleum products across the country**, addressing the challenges previously experienced before this State intervention.

**BUILDING ON** the economies of scale achieved through bulk procurement, **Cabinet considered and approved the expansion of the framework's scope** to include the importation of ancillary petroleum products. These include **Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), Heavy Fuel Oil, and Bitumen**, to be facilitated through a centrally coordinated bulk procurement system or a Government-to-Government arrangement. To actualize this proposal, Cabinet further approved the amendment of the First Schedule of the **Petroleum (Importation) Regulations, 2023**, to incorporate these three essential products.



**AS PART** of the Administration's endeavor to elevate the **Nairobi Metropolitan Area** and **position the nation's capital as a standard-bearer among the world's leading cities**, Cabinet was apprised of the progress in implementing the capital's **Integrated Mass Rapid Transit System**. The meeting noted that key efforts to decongest the city include the rollout of five Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) corridors, seamlessly integrated with the core commuter rail network.

**TO BRING** the nation closer to realizing this vision, **Cabinet approved the development of BRT Core Line 3**. This project will encompass transport infrastructure development, traffic management, fare collection, and operations. Core Line 3 will run from Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) to Dandora, passing through Ngong Road, Haile Selassie Avenue, Racecourse Road, Outer Ring Road, Ngara, Pangani Junction, Juja Road, Outer Ring Road Junction, and Koma Rock Road.

**IN LINE** with the nation's commitment to sustainable development, **Core Line 3 will serve as a green corridor** further elevating the credentials of the city. Once completed, the line is poised to transport approximately 357,000 passengers daily on weekdays and 14,000 per direction during peak hours. As part of the corridor's operational framework, **only 18-meter electric buses will ply the 13 Km route**.

**TO FURTHER** strengthen Kenya's leadership in climate adaptation and its position **as a hub for multicultural diplomacy**, Cabinet approved the hosting of the regional offices of the **Global Center on Adaptation (GCA) in Nairobi**. GCA works to promote global cooperation and collaboration on adaptation, bringing together governments, international



organizations, the private sector, civil society, and other stakeholders to work towards climate adaptation goals.

**UPON THE** accession of the host country agreement, GCA will establish its **regional office in Nairobi, with coverage extending across Africa**. The establishment of the regional office will strengthen the ongoing partnerships with the Government of Kenya, including a **framework with the University of Nairobi** to provide an investment roadmap for climate-resilient infrastructure.

**AFFIRMING KENYA'S** growing appeal as a destination of choice for foreign tourists, the meeting noted that, driven by the nation's groundbreaking introduction of Visa-Free entry, Kenya is on track to meet its ambitious target of welcoming 5 million tourists by 2027.

**IT IS** projected that at **least 2.5 million tourists will visit in 2024, a significant increase from 2.09 million in 2023**. The previous year saw a 35.4% rise in arrivals from 2022, an indication that tourist numbers are **poised to grow by a record 1 million visitors over the span of two years**.

**TO FURTHER** enhance Kenya's competitiveness, **Cabinet sanctioned a review and strengthening of the Electronic Travel Authorization (ETA) System**, in response to various concerns from stakeholders.

**TO REPOSITION** our institutions of higher learning to better drive knowledge management, fuel innovation, and create limitless possibilities for individuals and our shared national progress, **Cabinet approved a transformation strategy for the nation's oldest university**—the University of Nairobi. The eight-point plan seeks to leverage the University's rich heritage to **build**



**global partnerships that strengthen academic and research performance**, benefiting both the University as well as other institutions of higher learning in Kenya.

**IN LINE** with the Government's commitment to promoting Intra-Africa Trade and facilitating the development of trade-related infrastructure, **Cabinet has considered and approved** Kenya's accession to the instrument establishing **Fund for Export Development in Africa (FEDA)**. **FEDA**, a subsidiary of the African Development Bank. FEDA was established to implement the Bank's equity investment program, which focuses on promoting intra-Africa trade, export development, and industrialization.

**TO STRENGTHEN** Kenya's global alliances as a means of safeguarding the nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity, Cabinet has considered and approved **Defence Cooperation Agreements** between the Republic of Kenya and the following nations:

- The Republic of Ghana;
- The French Republic; and
- The Republic of Turkey.

**THESE AGREEMENTS** establish areas of cooperation in the field of defence, with a scope that includes military training and education, the defence industry, as well as the exchange of personnel for professional development and mutual visits.

**IN CONCLUDING** the day's meeting, the nation's foremost policy organ **ratified the security plan for the festive season** as prepared by the **National Security Council Committee (NSCC)** and **urged all Kenyans to exercise caution and drive**



**safely.** Cabinet conveys its heartfelt well-wishes and blessings to the nation for a **Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2025.**

**CABINET AND** its Committees will proceed on End of Year Recess commencing on **Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2024**, and will kick off the **2025 Cabinet calendar** with the inaugural Cabinet Committee meeting on **Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.**

**CABINET OFFICE**  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2024