

**SPEECH BY HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN O. NYAGARAMA
GOVERNOR, NYAMIRA COUNTY**



**DURING A CIDP MEETING HELD WITH HONOURABLE MEMBERS OF THE
COUNTY ASSEMBLY, COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND
MEMBERS OF THE NYAMIRA COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD.**

ON FEBRUARY MARCH 15, 2018

AT SIMBA LODGE, NAIVASHA

Good morning ladies and gentlemen, I hope that all of you had a nice travel.

First, I wish to recognize and appreciate the Speaker Hon Moffat Teya and his team of honourable members from the County Assembly of Nyamira for the good work that they have done in raising the profile of our Assembly among our people as a house that conducts in business efficiently and effectively.

Second, I humbly thank my County Executive Committee members and various officials for the effort they put into the service of the people of Nyamira County. My officers are tough people. At least no one has resigned due to the high demands of their jobs.

Third, I offer my appreciation to our donors and development partners for supporting our activities. Special mention goes to Ahadi , Kenya School of Government and the Kenya Devolution Support Programme among others. I am happy to announce that in the last couple of months, we have secured over Sh200 million in grants from various organizations.

I also wish to thank the organizers of this event for choosing this great venue at the heart of Naivasha.

As you are aware this lodge is named after one of the most famous wild animals, a lion. This is an animal that denotes great strength, power and majesty. Despite such prowess, it's also an animal that two or three Maasai morans do chase away from its kill with a simple wooden club.

Lions are some of the most destructive animals. In the jungle, lions fight fiercely and kill each other to take control of their territory.

When it comes to success, tiny ants provide better examples than the powerful lions. Despite having tiny brains, in some ways, ants are smarter than most people. They not only work hard in an organized way, but also prepare for the future.

Ants work as a team. Ants trust one another. Ants are partners. Ants are diligent and focused. Apart from various inventions such as farming, war strategies and etc, ants also run the largest organization in the planet.

Why do I have to start with the analogy of the ants?

Today, we are holding a gathering of MCAs, senior officials of the Executive and members of the Nyamira County Public Service Board as we discuss several issues but key of them the 2018-2022 County Integrated Development Plan(CIDP).

This document borrows from the governor's and members of county assembly campaign manifestos and views from stakeholders and members of the public.

Kindly give a huge clap for this meeting.

By coming together to discuss on how to develop our county is part of the leadership lessons that ants offer human being.

I am sure that most of you have faced questions from residents of our dear county on what steps we have taken to initiate development projects.

For us politicians, that day of reckoning has arrived, and the time to take charge of our future is here. Now, this is the time to act bold and wisely- to not only achieve our campaign pledges but to also build a foundation for lasting prosperity. Now this is the time to jumpstart job creation, distribute bursaries to learners, invest in areas like healthcare, open more roads and etc.

All these plans depend on various documents but key among them is the CIDP, the instrument which will outline our development agenda for five years.

I am happy that most of you have taken time to participate in public participation and to even write memoranda to the team that has been working on the CIDP.

I will get quickly into important issues that have brought us here today.

1. I will start with the 2018-2022 CIDP and related county plans.

We need to move faster in developing the Spatial Plan for ten years for infrastructural location and distribution in the county. Further, we need to scale up preparation of sector plans.

2. As we set up the 2018-2022 CIDP, we have to link it with the 5-year Departmental Strategic Plans, the Annual Development Plan (ADP), the County Fiscal Strategy Paper, the Annual Budget Plan and other Annual work plans.
3. We are establishing Nyamira municipality with the support of various stakeholders among them the Kenya Urban Support Programme that has promised a grant of Sh115 million every financial year till 2022. We need to develop an implementation framework to make it a reality.
4. We need to fasten policy and bills formulation so as to smoothen the budget making process and instruments of planning, implementation and monitoring and evaluation mechanisms.
5. We need a review of the County Performance Management and Accountability Framework Policy 2014 so that it includes learning experiences and challenges, caters for new and emerging trends and takes into consideration donor-friendly liaison coordination.
6. We need to develop a County Service Charter which is important for public to get real time services. Every department also needs to develop its own Service Charter.

As a result of all the above, we need to work harder and plan better in the 2018-2022 CIDP plan , a document which I hope that once it's ready, will present a vision for Nyamira County- as a blueprint for the next five years.

From the reports I have received, the honourable members of the County Assembly have been very active in this process. They have an intention of presenting a joint memorandum for consideration in the CIDP report.

I expect that my officers will evaluate and act on the actionable issues raised by contributions made by the MCAs, who represent their people.

As the executive, we do commit:

1. To cooperate with the County Assembly, national government and other agencies in various development endeavours.
2. To adhere to the budget making process and cycle so as to make improvements in the absorption rates.
3. To cooperate in submitting reports and documents to the County Assembly so as to enable them to carry out their oversight role.
4. To ensure that our officers respect and adhere to performance contracts and other appraisals.
5. To be a willing partner with the County Assembly of Nyamira.

We are focussed on delivering my government's BIG FOUR agenda-achieving universal healthcare, achieving food security, readily access to clean water and improved infrastructure.

As I conclude, in words and deeds, we are showing our County that a new era of engagement has begun. **To all of us here, we are called to govern.**

It's a tremendous burden, but also a great privilege. For in our hands lies the ability to shape our county for good or for ill.

We have to always remember that we are servants and not kings and queens.

Every day when I go to the office, I know that I am blessed. I accept the challenge of working every day because I realize I am not just representing John Obiero Nyagarama. But I am representing my sons and daughters. I am representing my family. I am representing the people of Nyamira and Kenyans at large.

This is the challenge I give to all of you. To work not just for yourselves but for the greater good of mankind. That whatever huge or small our responsibilities might be, we work as hard as that street sweeper described by US black rights activist Martin Luther King Jr who “should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.”

Thank you and May God bless you abundantly.

H.E JOHN NYAGARAMA

GOVERNOR, NYAMIRA COUNTY.