



MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

SPEECH BY MADAM REBECCA MIANO, EGH, CABINET SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY DURING THE
UNVEILING OF THE KARIBU BUSINESS SUPPORT CENTRE (KSBC)
BUNGOMA REGIONAL CENTRE OF FRIDAY MAY 31ST 2024.

The Governor Bungoma County, Excellency Kenneth Lusaka,
Deputy Governor, Janepher Mbatiany,
Bungoma Senator, Wakoli Wafula,
Principal Secretaries present,
Members of National Assembly present,
County Executive Committee Members,
Members of County Assembly,
Heads of State Corporations,
Private Sector players present,
Development partners here with us,
Ministry Staff
Distinguished Guests
Ladies and Gentlemen;

Good morning and welcome to this momentous occasion.

- 1) On April the 15th of 2024, my Ministry—the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry—officially launched the **Karibu Business Support Centre**—simply abbreviated as KBSC—a one-stop-shop business support initiative aimed at easing the onboarding of parties interested in investing, trading and manufacturing in Kenya.
- 2) Just as I stated during the launch, KBSC comprises of a physical walk-in **Centre** situated at the Ministry headquarters in Nairobi, an online KBSC portal and a network of KBSC regional centres to be established across the nation.

- 3) It is against that backdrop that we converge here today to unveil KBSC Bungoma Regional Centre borne of a partnership between the Ministry and County Government of Bungoma.
- 4) In line with the Kenya Kwanza Government's economic transformation Agenda, the opening of this regional centre confirms our commitment to making business processes more accessible to Kenyans.
- 5) For Kenya to thrive economically, we believe that every county requires tools and resources needed to attract investment, support local enterprise and create jobs. The KBSC county network initiative aims at driving economic growth in our counties.
- 6) At this centre, we will provide support for a comprehensive array of government services under one roof and offered closest to the residents of Bungoma County.
- 7) Gone now are the days the people of Bungoma would need to travel all the way to Nairobi to seek manufacturing, investments and trade related services.
- 8) To our manufacturers, this Centre will streamline the process of obtaining necessary approvals, reduce bureaucratic red tape, and facilitate as well as shorten the path from production to market.
- 9) To our traders, it will offer a centralised hub from where to readily access critical information, support services and resources required to navigate the complexities of commerce.
- 10) And to our investors, the Centre will serve as the focal point for the exploration of opportunities, dissemination of expert advice, liaison and establishment of partnerships within our counties.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 11) The establishment of this Centre would not have been possible without the single-minded support and collaboration of various stakeholders.

- 12) Allow me, therefore, to extend my heartfelt appreciation to the County Government of Bungoma through Governor Kenneth Lusaka for embracing this initiative and availing for us space to set up this Centre.
- 13) I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to my Ministry officials and SAGAs who have worked tirelessly to make this Centre a reality.
- 14) To our dedicated staff at the Karibu Business Support Centre, your dedication and hard work are the foundation upon which this initiative stands.
- 15) And to our esteemed partners in the private sector, thank you for your continued trust and investment in our counties.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

- 16) As we unveil KBSC in Bungoma today, we are not merely opening an office; rather we are unveiling new possibilities, new opportunities and a brighter future for all.
- 17) Let this Centre be a symbol of our shared aspirations and a testament to what we can achieve when we work together towards a common goal.
- 18) I therefore encourage all the residents of Bungoma County and the larger Western region to take full advantage of the services offered by the Centre and the KBSC online portal.
- 19) Together, let us unlock the immense potential within our counties and build a future of shared prosperity and sustainable development.
- 20) It is my pleasure to officially unveil the Karibu Business Support Centre Bungoma Regional Centre.

Thank you all!