

Speech by

Sheila M'Mbijjewe

Deputy Governor, Central Bank of Kenya

[*Protocols...Director General*, Chair and deputy Chair, Kenya Music Festival, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Nairobi County Governor – Dr. Evans Kidero, all County Governors present, senior Government officials, organizers, participants, Distinguished guests, Ladies and gentlemen]

It is a great pleasure for me to be here today.

The Central Bank of Kenya is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year. The Bank commenced these celebrations on September 14th, 2015 and will culminate in an epic event to be held on September 14th, 2016. This 50th celebration marks our contributions towards: economic development and growth, celebrates our achievements and repositions us for the future; It has been a very exciting journey.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the Bank is proud to be partnering with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology in sponsoring the 2016 Kenya Music Festival as the Title and Thematic Sponsor with the theme of *Promoting Price Stability, a Sound National Payment System and Vibrant Financial Sector*".

During this music festival we have traversed the country during the regional competitions from Kilifi, Mumias, Nakuru, Chuka, Nanyuki, Kisii, and Makueni. We sampled Kenya's great heritage through music, dance and choral verses. We congratulate all the trainers and students who made this experience so rewarding.

Our 50th anniversary celebrations are premised on the need to enhance connection and engagement with the youth whom we consider to be the pillars for Kenya`s future economic growth and development.

The Bank is aware of the need to enhance its engagements with the public. The sponsorship of the Kenya Music Festivals is just one of the avenues we are employing to create this engagement.

We understand and appreciate the trust given to us by the Kenyan Public. We are mindful of the important mandate that we execute in promoting a stable growing economy for Kenya.

We look forward to a culturally enriching week and the rendition of the CBK@50 song.

We also wish to appreciate the efforts made by the County of Nairobi led by Dr. Evans Kidero for hosting the Kenya Music Festivals.

I once again congratulate all the schools that made it to the national competitions and wish you all the best.

Thank you all!