



CENTRAL BANK OF KENYA

**GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY
NATIONAL POLICE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

Remarks by Dr. Patrick Njoroge

Governor, Central Bank of Kenya

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

Ngong Township, Kajiado County

As prepared for delivery

Your Excellency; Distinguished Guests:

Today we are witnessing a milestone in the unlikely relationship between the National Police and the Central Bank. It is much more than a friendship—of the 1,681 staff at the Central Bank, 325 are police officers, all united in the vision of a World-Class Modern Central Bank. These officers are expected to be exemplary in their discipline and professionalism, and I confirm, Your Excellency, that they continue to meet that standard. As an example, the first Police officers in the history of the National Police Service to conquer Mt. Kilimanjaro were two CBK women officers in June 2018, Corporal Linda Kathambi and Police Constable Evelyne Kasyoki. They continue to make us proud.

Your Excellency, in keeping with the blossoming collaboration, the immediate objective is to build in this space where lions once roamed, a Leadership Academy for the National Police. This will be a significant milestone for them, also because there is a real need to build leaders in the Police force. According to a proverb, “*An army of sheep led by a lion can defeat an army of lions led by a sheep.*”

Your Excellency, this project has brought together Kenyan expertise and will source material locally. Of the total project cost of about Ksh.1 billion, you will be pleased to know that the local content is more than 90 percent! About 35 percent of the project cost is labor, all local. The value of imports is less than 9 percent, and 56 percent is local material. I would add that we have gone out of our way to source

stones from quarries in Kajiado County, tiles from the neighboring counties, etc. Additionally, the facility is designed to be eco-friendly, for instance, a water recycling plant will lead to more efficient use of fresh water.

Unfortunately the label “Built in Kenya” is not yet synonymous with “Built well in Kenya” and quality concerns have bedeviled our competitiveness in the global arena. Your Excellency, we want to change that narrative—*tujivunie ujuzi wetu*—and all involved in this project are out to prove that we can do it! The project is to be completed by December 30, 2021, within budget, and without compromising quality or workmanship. I am sure the IG and I will be delighted to welcome you back to open the World-Class facility on Monday, January 3, 2022.

Your Excellency, this project will allow us to achieve another important objective, of building adequate accommodation for the CBK Police officers in Nairobi. I am pleased to announce that we have finalized plans for a modern gated-community in the Industrial Area with 210 units. This will solve permanently a long-standing problem, of providing suitable living quarters for our officers and their families.

Before I finish, I want to thank all those that have worked hard to bring us to this point. While these are many, I want to single out Cabinet Secretary Matiang’i and the former IG Joseph Boinett for starting the ball rolling, IG Mutyambai who has been enthusiastic in his support, the DIG, the National Lands Commission (NLC), the Chair of the National Police Service Commission, and of course the CBK Board. Your Excellency, I also remember your pointed questions about both these projects at various times, and I want to thank you most sincerely for your support in making this day a reality.

Thank you very much, and it is now my pleasure to hand back to you, *Bwana IG!*