

REMARKS BY THE GENERAL MANAGER, RESEARCH, TRAINING AND
CAPACITY BUILDING, NATIONAL CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY

ENG. MAURICE AKECH

DURING THE ACORCE PARTNERS BREAKFAST AT THE SAROVA PANAFRIC
HOTEL

TUESDAY, 9TH MAY 2017

The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure and Urban Development (State
Department of Housing and Urban Development) Arch. Aidah Munano,

Heads of Departments, Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development

The Chairman, National Construction Authority, Steven Oundo, OGW

The Board of Directors, National Construction Authority

The Executive Director, National Construction Authority, Dr. Arch. Daniel Manduku

Chief Executive Officers, Valued partners, all distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen

Good Morning.

We are delighted to have you here this morning to participate in the Annual Construction Research Conference & Exhibition sponsors and partners breakfast meeting. Thank you for coming. That many of you have set a side their busy schedule to be with us here this morning serves to remind us just how important construction industry is to us.

National Construction Authority is mandated to oversee the construction industry and coordinate its development. As a regulatory institution one of the key functions that is central to the mandate is undertaking or commissioning research into any matter related to construction industry and disseminate its findings. This critical role cannot be easily achieved without your collaboration and support. Our task is to bring you together to make this possible and our mission is to provide a platform to do research and disseminate findings for the growth and development of the industry.

As a researcher, I can tell you easily the crux of the issue when it comes to research gaps, and this cuts across many industries, not just construction. We refer to them as the 6 M's: Money, Materials, Methods, Machines, Manpower and Market.

Money because we lack heavy investment not just into construction projects, but also into the research required to innovate. Materials because we can no longer rely on the conventional, we need that which can adapt with the

times and makes for more resilient construction. Methods because we just don't build like we used to; there is more pressure than ever before to build not just faster, but more efficiently and sustainably.

Machines are the technology that drives construction, and we need them to forge ahead, and of course there is no doing away with labour: construction is one of the largest employers globally. And finally, if we don't have a market and a demand for construction projects, we can't really continue to build.

This year's theme is related to Method and Money: we are ***harnessing the potential of the legal and institutional framework for inclusive and sustainable growth in the construction industry***. This year, we seek to examine governance and politics in construction, the impact of laws, regulations, policies and taxes, management of socio-cultural and ethical challenges, effective dispute resolution mechanisms, innovative and emerging financing models, management of environmental impacts and construction management: synergy between national and county governments.

During ACoRCE 2017 which will be held on 1st to 3rd of November 2017 at KICC, we are expecting no less than 1200 local and international delegates to attend the conference and over 10,000 visitors at the exhibition where more than 200 exhibitors are expected. One of the new additions this year is the Investment Hub, where we will feature major agencies that facilitate investment in Kenya, for the first time in a very long time under one roof.

This event will provide a means of accessing and networking with a wide range of audiences such as decision makers in business, government entities, consumers and many more stakeholders of interest. It will also create

heightened visibility for sponsors, exhibitors and presenters due to positive publicity through exposure during the event.

In a nutshell, there is something for everyone as we count on your collaboration and support. Let us work together to make this 3rd event the biggest and best ACoRCE yet.

And before I hand over to David Mathu who will make a presentation that outlines the main agenda of the occasion, I want to say once more that you are welcome and are honored to have you with us today as you are all key stakeholders in the construction industry. It's a pleasure to see many of you here.

Thank you.