



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT, INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSING  
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

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Remarks by  
**Prof. Paul Maringa Mwangi,**  
Principal Secretary for Public Works  
during the  
**Official Inauguration of the Board of the National Construction Authority**  
on  
**Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018**  
**7.00 a.m**  
**At the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Nairobi.**

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**The Board of Directors**, National Construction Authority

**The Ag. Executive Director, National Construction Authority**, Eng. Maurice Akech;

**Management and Staff**, National Construction Authority;

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**Good Morning;**

The construction industry is undoubtedly one of the most vibrant pillars of our economy as a country. **The industry has been accelerating at a rapid pace**, and this can be attributed in part due to major infrastructural projects as well as residential and mixed use developments.

Our market is consistently outperforming others in the region, and this has attracted a large number of investors. Literally everywhere you look there is an active construction site, and **the potential is enormous.**

According to last year's Economic Survey by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics, the **global economy** was fueled by a conducive macroeconomic environment, improved labour markets and accommodative financial conditions while the **sub-Saharan market's positive growth was driven by favourable commodity prices, improved global financing conditions, and reduced inflationary pressures.** Locally, the construction industry may have experienced a slight slowdown, but is poised to take off again in the wake of massive infrastactural projects such as the **dualling of Ngong Road**, phase two

of the **expansion of Mombasa Port** and the affordable housing projects amongst others.

The industry, of course, is not without its challenges. **Funding remains critical**, and we have seen the considerable effort my counterpart in Housing Charles Hinga has been putting in towards **the realization of affordable housing**. We continue to grapple with a lack of capacity and skilled labour, slow uptake of technology and non-compliance with statutory regulations.

That said, the last five years have seen considerable change in the industry, and that is largely in part due to the strong presence of the National Construction Authority, NCA. **The Authority has become synonymous with quality assurance**, symbolized by the infamous red 'X'. Far from a symbol of fear, it now represents

an empathy for the community, showing that **we as government care about lives and livelihood.**

Regulation is no mean feat. It relies on stakeholder buy in, inter-agency cooperation and a strong team to steer the ship. Today, it gives me great pleasure to welcome the new steering team at NCA. Being on the Board of one of the biggest and most impactful organizations in the country is a privilege. You have been given **a chance to write history**, and the policies that you enact will have **an impact for generations to come.**

The Authority has been mandated to oversee the construction industry and streamline its development. It will be relying on you for guidance and support in order to realize that mandate.

A developed industry means **quality construction, well thought out cities, an infrastructural network connecting the entire country, and enough skilled labour, locally sourced**, to build it all. This is not a dream, but a destination to a journey on which we are well on our way.

I have utmost faith that the new Board is the right team

Ladies and gentlemen, welcome to **the first day of the rest of your lives.**

Thank you.

