



## COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

26<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### **PRESS STATEMENT ON PREPAREDNESS OF COUNTIES ON COVID-19**

The Council of Governors has today held an extra Ordinary Council meeting to deliberate on the ongoing pandemic.

First and foremost we thank the President for the measures he has put in place towards addressing the current crisis and to assure Kenyans that we can and we will beat the virus.

We are glad to inform all Kenyans that Counties are making tremendous efforts in all sectors to ensure that we adequately respond to the virus and to ensure the safety of all people.

In today's meeting we have agreed as the Council of Governors as follows:-

#### **1. Salary Cuts**

In line with the Presidential initiative to offer a voluntary reduction of salaries of senior ranks of the National Executive, we have also taken a step to mirror the efforts of the President and agreed on a reduction as follows:-

- i. Governors and Deputy Governors – 30%
- ii. County Executive Committee Members – 20%
- iii. Chief Officers and Job Group S – 15 %
- iv. County Directors AND Job Group R – 10%

We have also resolved that other cadres are welcome to voluntarily contribute whatever percentage that they deem fit. We also call upon the County Assemblies to follow suit and agree on a figure as this is for the benefit of our people.

## **2. Funds Flow for Salary Cuts**

We have agreed as the Council, that the money emanating from the pay cuts will be channeled through the special purpose account at the County level. The National Government and Development Partners are welcome to contribute to this account.

## **3. PPE Kits**

We note with concern that the PPE kits that are being distributed in Counties are of low quality and not able to protect health workers in their line of duty. We therefore call upon KEMSA and KEBS to ensure the kits are of good quality.

We further note that most Counties have not received the PPE Kits from KEMSA despite follow up from the Council. We urge the National Government to fast-track the distribution of these kits.

## **4. Other Support**

In order to caution citizens during this period, we have agreed as follows:-

- i. KPLC to consider subsidizing power tariffs for the next three (3) months and not to disconnect power

- ii. Water companies to suspend disconnection of water for the next three (3) months
- iii. Slum dwellers, Vulnerable groups and the urban poor to be supplied with free water

We want to assure Kenyans that County Governments are taking every measure to ensure including channeling resources towards addressing this pandemic. In addition, we urge Kenyans to remain vigilant and to take the necessary precaution.



**H. E. Hon. FCPA Wycliffe Ambetsa Oparanya, EGH, CGJ**  
**Chairman, Council of Governors**