

TAC VALIDATION MEETING FOR THE STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK OF ENGAGEMENT FOR THE PRESIDENT ON TAC.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the time has come to harness our efforts towards a better country for our adolescents and children.

A lot of work has been done by the technical teams in this room to develop a strategic framework document that we are going to look at today. Their efforts will not go unnoticed and I do take this time to appreciate the work and efforts that they have put in place to draft this document.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Teenage pregnancies, Adolescents well-being and Child protection are matters that are not new to us. A lot has been done, is being done and will be done by various Ministries, Departments, agencies and partners to curb this vices. Yet, the problem still lingers on affecting 15% of our teenagers with violation of our children increasingly getting gruesome at every single day.

Our concerted efforts today, will cater to approximately 41% of the population in our country. Surely, that is a population that cannot be ignored if we are looking to reap the demographic dividends of the country in harnessing it's economic growth. A country's economic growth is as good as its youthful population.

As we sit here today to validate the strategy that will be led by His Excellency the President and the First Lady of the Republic of Kenya, let us take advantage of this diamond opportunity to re-imagine, to evaluate and strategize a new era for our children. The opportunity that this campaign presents in having a National Champion at the highest level of leadership in this country cannot be understated nor its impact ignored. This will be an issue based campaign that should address root causes of the vices on adolescents and children. Hence dubbed a "social behavior change and prevention measures campaign". Looking at the key priority areas of the strategic document, we expect to come out of here with solid actions that will cause the turn of the wheel towards a safe and secure child, a healthy nation that caters to the needs of children and adolescents and an enabling environment for them to live a viable future.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today I believe the discussions that will lead us there will happen in this room and the answers are in this room. Let us validate this document with precision looking inwards as part of the community and outwards as part of the solution.

Thank You.