



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT'S ADVISOR
ON WOMEN RIGHTS

Speech by
Hon. Harriette Chiggai, the President's Advisor on Women Rights
during the Closing Ceremony of the Inaugural
Women in Procurement and Supply Chain Conference 2024 on
Friday, 5th April 2024,
Lake Naivasha Resort

Salutations

Amb. Nancy , my colleague and one woman I admire

- The Board Chair, KISM, Mr. John Karani,
- Council Members, KISM
- My Staff and those of KISM, and
- Our Super Women in here - distinguished supply chain Professionals and Suppliers

my elevator pitch ...

The servant for women and girls

1. The ability to learn is the most important quality a leader can have
2. You are never too small to make a difference
3. Passion is energy , if you have no passion you are as good as dead
4. Do what you feel is right in you heart because you shall be criticized anyway

5. Harriette Tabman, my all time favorite, was the first black American woman to lead a major military operation. She said (I freed a thousand slaves ,I could have freed a thousand more if they only knew they were slaves) . Do you know who you are ?
- 6.
7. Name Harriette is a girls name of French Origin english origin means estate ruler, bible meaning is home ruler,have you checked your name ...my motivation stems from the death of my mother i do everything in excellence in her owner and that where i derive my passion strength and vision
8. my rallying call do you and be comfortable in your skin, while at it be respectful .. enjoy your job

Good afternoon Everyone!

1. The last three days have been exceptional! They have been a whirlwind of acquiring and sharing knowledge, creating powerful connections, and affirming our renewed sense of purpose. Through this, we have collectively taken gigantic steps towards a more gender inclusive sector.
2. Since Wednesday, we have heard encouraging words and been challenged by senior Government officials and phenomenal Facilitators to stand out and be bold in our thoughts and dealings. We have heard inspiring stories from trailblazing women who have shattered glass ceilings and re-shaped the landscape of the supply chain. But we cannot forget the level of engagement we witnessed.

3. We have delved into critical topics like sustainable practices, emerging technologies, financing, and the ever-important pursuit of diversity and inclusion within the sector. We now know the gaps, areas of improvement and opportunities where we as women must pay attention. This is a must call to all the women in the supply chain to position themselves to thrive.
4. This Conference has sharpened our skills and built our capacity to identify where we can source funding and how to scale our businesses. We have been reminded that technology is pivotal in excelling in this field. Not forgetting to bring along another woman.
5. Ladies, the knowledge you have gained here is not just for these Conference halls. It is a toolkit you will carry back to your institutions and businesses. Be ready to implement it, to challenge the status quo, and to drive positive change in your work space and society at large. The road ahead is not going to be easy, but we must pull up and show up.
6. We have heard of the power of collaboration. So treasure the connections you have made here, they are invaluable. Stay in touch, share ideas, and support each other's journeys. As women in the supply chain, you are now truly stronger together.
7. The government within the Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda plan has put women at the center of the economic growth pattern. This calls for a number of policy shifts that provide a transformative and friendlier environment for women's empowerment.

- Gender sensitive procurement policy that leaves no one behind
- Gender sensitive budgeting
- Formulation of a Menopause Policy
- Establishment of creche in all institutions

8. The biggest headache now is how to scale the numbers and increase women bankability which stands at 2%. I believe that all of us leave here today richer with knowledge and I count on you to help me help the government to help and scale women . You are the voices we need . Next year let us double the number,

9. I have heard your requests to my office and that of the President. As I said at the onset of the conference, I am your servant. I commit to act on them. Let the resolutions of this conference be binding to all of us.

10. My challenge to you today is, do not let the momentum stop here. Be the change you want to see. Advocate for yourselves and for other women in the field. Mentor, sponsor, and uplift one another. Let us continue to break down barriers and rewrite the narrative of what it means to be a leader in this industry. On that note, why don't you create an association of women in procurement and supply chain management to keep you all in check for the commitments we have made in this conference.

11. It is our collective challenge today, to take up this leadership mantle and use the knowledge learnt to create awareness and educate women who are out there. It is our responsibility in this

room, to trickle-down this information and empower our fellow women at the workplace, market and village level.

12. We leave this Conference empowered, equipped and ready to make a real difference. As you head back to your respective roles, remember the inspiration you found here. Thank you for being a part of this incredible journey. Let us go out there and make a lasting impact!
13. Last but not least, I take this opportunity to thank our partners who have been part of this momentous journey we started, which is now a reality. The Kenya Institute of Supplies Management has gone over and beyond to help us succeed. Our other partners and donors have been exceptional, thank you!
14. I desire to make this conference an annual event. This will allow us to regularly take stock of how far we have journeyed after implementing the resolutions of this Conference. Together with KISM, we challenge ourselves
15. I challenge KISM that the 2nd conference should be bigger and better and the planning starts now.
- 16.
17. As we close this inspiring Conference, I can't help but feel a surge of energy and optimism for the good outcomes.

18. It is now my profound pleasure to declare this phenomenal and remarkable inaugural Women in Procurement & Supply Chain Conference 2024 officially closed.

Thank you.

**Hon. Harriette Chiggai,
President's Advisor on Women Rights**