



COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

29th January, 2021

**Remarks by the incoming
Whip during THE HANDOVER LUNCHEON
AT MOVENPICK HOTEL, 29TH JANUARY, 2021**

**Excellency Governors and Deputy Governors present,
Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Devolution & ASALs,
Hon. Lady Justice Philomena Mwilu, Ag. Chief Justice and the President of the
Supreme Court,
Deputy Ambassador of Denmark to Kenya, H.E Henrik Larsen, representing
the Chairperson, Devolution Donor Working Group,
H.E. Simon Mordue, European Union Ambassador to Kenya,
Mr. Walid Badawi, the UNDP Resident Representative,
Chairpersons of Constitutional Commissions and members, led by Mrs Lyn
Cherop Mengich, the Chairperson of SRC,
Representatives of Independent Offices,
Representatives from the Private Sector,
Other Development Partners present,
Distinguished Guests,**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon!

1. I take this opportunity to thank you my brothers and sisters for electing me as the Whip to serve the Council for the next one year. It is indeed, an honour and privilege to hold this position which is central to the running of the Council of Governors and by extension County Governments.
2. As I take up this position, I commit to work hand in hand with the executive team, the Chairs of the respective committees' and all Council member's to ensure the success of devolution. To this end, I undertake to prioritize the following:-

- i. Strengthening of the Council Committees by engaging the respective Chairpersons to ensure adequate representation in committee meetings relevant sector engagements with the National Government.
- ii. Maintain close collaboration with development partners.
- iii. Advocate for strengthening of regional blocs so as to accelerate economic growth in Counties.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

3. This next phase is unprecedented as we will be dealing with the aftermath of COVID-19, the preparation of the General election and a

possibility of a referendum. However, this will not deter my vision for the Council. I therefore urge my fellow brother's and sister's that irrespective of our political affiliations, let us remain connected to the course.

4. Once again, I wish to thank the Council for entrusting me with this position. To the devolution partners, it is my hope that we will work together in safeguarding devolution.

Thank you and God Bless!