



## THE JUDICIARY

**REMARKS BY THE HON. THE ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, LADY JUSTICE PHILOMENA  
MBETE MWILU, MGH DURING THE COUNCIL OF  
GOVERNORS FAREWELL LUNCHEON FOR THE HON. THE  
CHIEF JUSTICE (RTD.) DAVID KENANI MARAGA, EGH**

**13<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021  
WESTLANDS, NAIROBI**

***The Honourable the Chief Justice Emeritus Mr. David Kenani Maraga  
EGH,  
Chair of the Council of Governors, His Excellency Dr. Wycliffe Ambetsa  
Oparanya EGH,  
Your Excellencies, Governors here present,  
Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Devolution and ASALs,  
Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, EGH,  
Chairperson, Commission on Revenue Allocation, Dr. Jane Kiringai,  
Chairperson, Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission, Archbishop (Rtd.)  
Eliud Wabukala EBS,  
The Hon. Solicitor General, Mr. Kennedy Ogeto EBS,  
The President of the Law Society of Kenya, Mr. Nelson Havi,  
Members of the Diplomatic Corps,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,***

Good afternoon,

Over the past few days, Kenyans from all walks of life and jurists both local and international, have joined us at the Judiciary in paying tribute to our immediate Chief Justice Emeritus David Kenani Maraga. It is testament to the high esteem in which he is held, and the genuine recognition of his

contribution to the law and governance in Kenya, that so many have taken pause to pay homage to His Lordship at the end of his exemplary tenure on the Bench and as Chief Justice.

That the Council of Governors and such a distinguished audience of leaders and state officials deemed it fit to deliberately appreciate the former Chief Justice at this

luncheon further underlines his standing and the high regard in which he is held across public service.

Importantly, it also speaks to the mutually beneficial relationship between the Judiciary and other state organs that the Chief Justice Emeritus did so much to deepen during his tenure. I too value and appreciate the support that the Council of Governors and County Governments continue to provide

the Judiciary and the National Council on the Administration of Justice towards improving access to justice for all Kenyans. We must strengthen the relationship between our institutions and reinforce the Judiciary's wider constitutional and administrative mandate to enhance and strengthen devolution.

As passionately pursued by My Lord the Chief Justice Emeritus, we will continue to engage on the provision of land and

resources for the establishment of courts, decentralisation of Judiciary services, and enhancement of access to justice for Kenyans at county level; we will continue to deepen our avenues of cooperation through the NCAJ-CoG forum; we will continue to partner in developing administrative solutions at our courts and tribunals that prioritise and support devolved governance; and we will continue to enhance our

jurisprudence including through collaborations with the Judiciary Training Institute.

These are all areas that the Chief Justice Emeritus focused on in his strategic blueprint for the Judiciary, SJT, and, as I said on Monday, these are the very areas we will continue to improve and consolidate in order to further secure and expand his impressive legacy at the Judiciary.



I thank you all for inviting me to join you in paying homage to my brother and friend, His Lordship the Chief Justice Emeritus. As we celebrate his contribution to public service, his commitment to his oath of office, to promoting and protecting the independence and integrity of the Judiciary, and his fidelity to the Constitution may these also serve as an example to us all.

Thank you Chief Justice Maraga.

God Bless You and God Bless the people of Kenya under whose delegated sovereignty we are privileged to serve.

Hon. Lady Justice Philomena Mbete Mwilu, MGH

**Acting Chief Justice of the Republic of Kenya**