



COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

16th December 2019

PRESS STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS

Members of the Public,

Members of the Fourth Estate,

The Council of Governors held a Full Council meeting on 13th December 2019 and further a Health Committee meeting today to deliberate on issues that are affecting the operations of the County Governments. Arising from our discussions, we would like to address the public on the following matters;

- 1. As a matter of common interest, the County Governments will urgently move to court over the ruling seeking Governors to step aside when charged on corruption matters as has been witnessed in the cases of Kiambu, Samburu and Nairobi County.**
- 2. On the delay in disbursement of funds by the National Treasury, we acknowledge the order by the High Court that compels the National Treasury and Controller of Budget to unconditionally disburse the equitable share overdue to County Governments. We urge the National Treasury to comply with the order and the law with immediate effect.**

3. The Council lauds the Universal Health Care (UHC) program piloted by the National Government in Kisumu, Machakos, Isiolo and Nyeri Counties. County Governments are excited and looking forward to the full implementation of UHC not only as a legacy of H.E the President but a programme that will improve the wellbeing of the citizens. The Council of Governors supports the implementation of UHC.

Our discussions today reveal successes and challenges in the implementation of the pilot phase of the project. We propose that this should be addressed effectively as we prepare for a National roll out of the UHC agenda. Feedback from the 4 pilot Counties should be taken into account and proper mechanisms should be put in place to ensure value for money. There are only three outstanding issues:

- i. Capacity of KEMSA as a monopoly to satisfy the needs of all the Counties (pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical including equipments)**
- ii. Human resources (recruitment and deployment)**
- iii. Model and timeliness of Funds flow for UHC**

We urge the National Government to expeditiously resolve the above issues to enable the County Governments to sign the IPAs not later than January 2020 as directed by the President.

The Council of Governors also held a consultative meeting today with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the implementation of National Agriculture Rural Inclusive Growth Project and Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project.

The meeting resolved that there shall be Increment of budget ceiling for the Ministry of Agriculture-This allows for more expenditure by the Ministry to be in a position to accommodate County Government's Grant disbursement

- 4. Lastly, we urge all Kenyans to observe the rule of law as they travel to and from their various destinations during this festive season.**

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**H.E. Hon. FCPA Wycliffe Ambetsa Oparanya, EGH, CGJ
CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS**