

Kenya Cross Cutting Presidential Round Table

by

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1- Background and Context

The Government of Kenya is committed to providing an enabling business environment to enhance private sector growth and competitiveness which is key to the country's goal of becoming a middle income country by 2030 through achieving and sustaining a GDP growth rate of 10% per annum.

Kenya has a robust private sector organized under the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) as an umbrella body to enable structured engagement with government.

At the height of the post-election violence in 2007 which had a detrimental effect on the economy, the private sector, through KEPSA, were instrumental in bringing the warring parties together to start dialogue which resulted in the cessation of violence and the creation of a coalition Government.

Under the Kenya Constitution which was adopted following the 2007 post-election violence, the Government is required to actively engage stakeholders in decision-making. To enable this participation, there was need to create formal engagement structures and partnerships to facilitate the sharing of ideas, information and provide feedback and resources between the Government and its various stakeholders. This was the birth of structured PPD in Kenya.

2- Partnership, Structure and Processes

Current PPD Platforms

- **Presidential Round Table (PRT)** - The President together with his cabinet and various arms of government meet with key private sector players bi-annually to discuss the general economic climate in the country and areas of concern to private sector and government. This is the main PPD platform in the country
- **Ministerial Stakeholders Fora (MSFs)** – These are sectoral bi-monthly PPD platforms where line ministries meet with the various sector boards of KEPSA.



- **Speaker's Round Table Meetings** - this is a forum where the private sector engages parliament to inform law formulation to ensure laws take into account private sector business environment concerns. KEPSA uses this forum to track pending bills and works with the relevant committees to expedite bills that impede investments.
- **Council of Governors' Forum** – this is the Subnational PPD platform where the private sector engages with the Governors of counties. Kenya embraced an ambitious devolution system where most service delivery functions have been devolved to county governments in keeping with the Kenya constitution 2010.

The PPD Process (using the President's Round Table)

The PPD process broadly follows the steps below:

1. Planning meetings with KEPSA and government to identify and put together issues for discussion and recommendations
2. Ministerial Stakeholder Fora to address sector issues
3. Presidential Round Table to address cross cutting policy issues
4. Public announcement of commitments at a press conference
5. Further discussions through MSFs along with tracking the implementation
6. Progress reports on the implementation of commitments
7. Preparation of progress reports and planning for next PRT.

Tracking/Monitoring Implementation of Commitments

The Government is in the process of re-structuring the tracking process. The tracking will be handled by the newly established Presidential Delivery Unit. This will ensure that the government delivers on the commitments within the stated timeframes.

Role of development partners

Development partners provide direct institutional support to KEPSA to strengthen its advocacy role. The support includes financial and technical assistance to the secretariat, technical input into the issues for discussion including analytical pieces and policy notes.

Challenges of PPD

- Poor coordination structures and capacity issues in the public sector impede implementation of commitments. The recently established Presidents Delivery Unit will address this.
- Limited technical capacity within private sector to think through policy issues

3- Results so far

1. Initiation of construction of the Standard Gauge Rail
2. Establishment of the National Electronic Single Window

3. Electronic Government
 - a. Establishment of “Huduma Centres” for service delivery at the county level
 - b. Digitization of companies records
 - c. Digitization land titles which is ongoing
4. Simplification and automation of the tax system
5. Port of Mombasa Reforms – simplification of cargo clearance processes
6. Micros Small Enterprise bill which has helped structure the informal sector and enabled them access government services, finance etc
7. Establishment of the Commercial Division of the High Court to deal with dispute resolution
8. Energy sector reforms leading to a 20% reduction in the cost of energy.
9. Crisis resolution and mitigation – resolution of the 2007 post-election violence & prevention of violence during the 2013 general elections by implementing the “Mkenya Daima” peace campaign .

4- Expected Results

Some of the expected results by end 2017 are:

1. Establishment of Special Economic Zones
2. Finalisation of construction of the Standard Gauge Rail
3. Enactment of key pieces of legislation -company’s law, energy law, insolvency law.
4. Construction of a Greenfield terminal and Jomo Kenyatta International Airport
5. Construction of additional berths at the port of Mombasa

5- Private Sector Growth Component

Some of the above achievements have contributed to significant growth in private sector over the last few years especially benefits brought on by key infrastructure development which has opened up more areas for tourism.

A comprehensive PPD impact assessment is planned.

Biographies of Authors:

CAROLE KARIUKI, MBS, CEO, Kenya Private Sector Alliance

Carole Kariuki holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics and Sociology from The University of Nairobi and a Masters' Degree in Public Administration and International Affairs from Bowling Green State University in Ohio, USA. She has also done several courses on advocacy as well as Private Sector Development.

She serves in the National Council of Administrative Justice for Kenya, Board member at Center for Corporate Governance, Advisory Board of School of Economics, Nairobi University, and Board Member at the Centre for International Arbitration, Chair of the Recruitment Committee for Intergovernmental Relations Team and member of the Parastatals Reforms Taskforce.

She is a member of the Rotary Club of Langata, American Chamber of Commerce in Kenya, Kenya Institute of Management and Institute of Directors. She is a member of the Emerging Leaders Foundation Board and first Senior Fellow at ISOKO which is an institute that promotes private enterprise in Africa.

Carole has received numerous awards including Moran of the Burning Spear 2012, Top 40 under 40 in 2011 and 2012, Growing sustainable business initiative by UNDP 2006, UN Global Compact in 2006, ILO women entrepreneurship Development 2011. East Africa Healthcare Federation for creating business opportunities in Healthcare in East Africa. She was granted a distinguished 2014 Global Growth Award for Advocacy by Amadeus Institute, Morocco

AGATHA JUMA, CEO Kenya Tourism Federation

She is the CEO of Kenya Tourism Federation which is the umbrella body for the private sector in tourism charged with advocacy for a conducive business environment for the sector. She has been at the helm of the influential tourism lobby for the last 6 years. She has over 15 years experience in the tourism and travel sector.

She was instrumental in the setting up of the East African Tourism Platform which brings together the private sector umbrella bodies in the 5 EAC partner states which is being hosted/incubated at KTF offices.

She is a marketer by training and holds a postgraduate diploma from the Chartered Institute of Marketing. She recently completed a program on Private sector growth from Swedish Institute for Public Administration (SIPU) and a degree in Management from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa.



She is a director with the East African Business Council – EABC and active at the Kenya Private Sector Alliance where she represents tourism interests on a number of engagements and sits in several committees at the Ministry in charge of Tourism representing private sector interests.

She is on the advisory committee of the Global Tourism and Travel Partnership – Kenya. She is also a member of Sema Toastmasters which is part of Toastmasters International – a club where members develop their communication, public speaking and leadership skills and area in which she has a deep interest and where she coaches and mentors.

SARAH OCHIENG, Private Sector Development Specialist, World Bank Group

Ms Sarah Ochieng is a Private Sector Development Specialist, Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice, World Bank Group with a focus on Special Economic Zones, Agribusiness (commodities trade and finance and value chain analysis) and Public Private Dialogue.

Ms Ochieng has over 17 years' experience in Sub-Saharan Africa and Australasia in international development, public policy development and analysis, private sector development including spearheading business environment reforms, agricultural commodities trade and finance and value chains analysis, special economic zones, designing and managing PPD platforms.

Prior to joining the World Bank Group Sarah served as a Private Sector Advisor in the Office of the Prime Minister, Kenya and oversaw the acceleration of the transformation of private sector facing institutions to improve service delivery to private sector and the coordination of PPD.

Prior to that Ms Ochieng worked in various project and programme management and policy advisory roles on economic development over several years in Queensland Government, Australia until 2008.

She holds a Master of Science in Biochemistry, a Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Project Management and is studying towards a Master of Governance and Public Policy. She holds numerous certificates in leadership, management and public policy development and analysis. She is a member of numerous professional affiliations and has served on many taskforces, working committees and boards over the years.

Away from work, she enjoys and critics fashion, loves adventure travel, music, theatre, hiking, mountaineering and anything the great outdoors has to offer.