



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF HOMA BAY

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



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NOTES FOR

H.E. HON. GLADYS NYASUNA WANGA, CBS

GOVERNOR, HOMA BAY COUNTY

DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE CASHLESS REVENUE COLLECTION

IN HOMA BAY COUNTY

ON

5th OCTOBER 2022

Salutations.....

1. For about three weeks, our county has been on a tax holiday following an **Executive Order** from my office, to give us time to re-strategize, so that we can engage in meaningful revenue collection that can be helpful to our people.
2. The **Taskforce on Revenue Administration** that I set on **September 12th, this month**, to help us identify the challenges affecting our revenue mobilization has finally reported back.
3. I am glad to announce that we are now ready to fully roll out our revenue collection activities, under a more organized and better structured system. Our resolve to go **CASHLESS** on all our revenue collections will begin from tomorrow.
4. It is gratifying to note that the taskforce has put in place **remedial measures** that will reverse the past trend of substantial revenue pilferage within the shortest possible time, with **the possibility of significant positive results** being posted immediately. It is against this backdrop that I wish to make the following announcements:

a) Revenue Initiatives:

As a closure to the recently granted tax holiday, revenue collection will resume tomorrow, **Wednesday 5th October 2022**. Further all payments shall be made through **a cashless system via Paybill no. 0434343 or Code number *603#**.

Arising from centralization of Revenue collection, all revenue shall be banked in one account number **1140763555** at **KCB Bank Homa bay Branch**. Further, we plan to close a number of the old accounts and establish new signatories as a means of ensuring prudence in management of our revenue accounts. **Proceeds from the County's rental properties will be banked in**

the revenue account with immediate effect. Further, to ensure optimization of revenue collection, **Valuation roll** will be amended in readiness for the new rates before **January 2023**.

To decisively deal with the long outstanding dues from leasehold properties, I hereby declare **a one-off waiver of Interest** on leasehold land to encourage expeditious settlement of outstanding payments.

As a means of enhancing revenue collection, all revenue officers will be given **targets** and there will be corresponding performance-based rewards and sanctions. In short it will be business unusual.

- b) Administrative Measures:** To ensure effective and efficient stewardship of the **revenue collection** and **accounting process**, I have commenced the process of establishing a **Revenue Board** to provide strategic oversight in revenue collection, as provided for under the **Public Finance Management Act (2012)** and the **PFM County Regulations**. This will ensure greater focus over revenue administration.

In addition, **Internal Audit Committee** will be put in place to mitigate revenue leakage risks. Plans are also underway to **restructure ICT department** to make it functional and responsive to our rapidly changing needs.

Moving forward, we shall also be streamlining our **liquor licensing** processes recognising that it is one of our major revenue streams.

I have also stopped forthwith **Sub-County Administrators** and **Enforcement officers** from collecting any kind of revenue. Collection of revenue shall be done by **revenue department only**. Further, **Revenue Officers** will be required to keep database of all actual and potential taxpayers within their respective Jurisdictions.

Issues of **governance regarding the administration** of our **revenue** will be key. We want to work with the public to ensure we operate in a **corruption free environment**. We shall be circulating a **toll-free number** where the citizens can report **corruption incidences** and cases of **irregularities** involving public officers.

- c) **Customer Service:** We are committed to providing **quality services to our customers to reciprocate their revenue contribution efforts**. Indeed, we have come up with measures to enhance customer experience including: establishing a One-stop- Shop (**Osuru Center**) for collection of structured revenue (rent, rates, permits, licenses etc.) within Town Sub County; instituting high level outreach programme targeting our top tax payers and having engagement programme with leaders of **Boda Boda Associations** to streamline revenue collection.

Further, plans are underway to form a committee that will sit on a weekly basis in order to expedite **approval of building plans**. The committee will consist of department of Public works, Physical Planning and Public Health.

- d) **Human Resource Matters:** We have commenced in earnest, adoption of a new revenue administration structure which will streamline authority, responsibility, and accountability relationships. Redeployment and reassignment of duties among staff will take place in tandem with operationalization of the new structure.

We had instructed all our revenue officers to assemble here at Kabunde today for assignment of duties. Those who will fail to turn up will be deemed to have absconded duty and will be subjected to appropriate disciplinary action.

All the revenue staff will be given lapel tags and uniforms for ease of identification. To ensure professionalism and

competence in discharging their mandate, they will undergo training from 04/10/2022.

- e) **Enforcement:** All to facilitate enforcement of revenue statutes, the County Government will table pending Bills / By laws related to revenue in the County Assembly for consideration.

In addition, to ensure **leasehold properties** do not lie idle, my government will Issue notice of repossession of **undeveloped plots**. We are not going to allow individuals to hold on valuable land for prestige

- 3) I remain committed to ensuring that the living standards of residents of the County improves, and this will only be possible with enhancement of our revenue base. We will be prudent in management of public resources for our people to derive Value for Money entrusted with us.
- 4) Let me thank the **Taskforce** led by the chair **Mr Polycarp Okombo** who could not join us here today and all the teams that worked with them, **for the exemplary delivery** of the task we put before them. We now know our potential; my administration will endeavor to deliver on the promise and to increase on our **OWN SOURCE REVENUE** basket.
- 5) In conclusion, let me announce that the **Taskforce Report** will be made **available to the public** and also shared with other **relevant agencies** including our **County Assembly** for their further inputs and necessary action where applicable.

**Her Excellency Hon Gladys Wanga CBS.
Governor**