

CLOSING SPEECH BY HON. JUSTIN B.N. MUTURI,
EGH, CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF PUBLIC
SERVICE AND HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT
DURING THE OFFICIAL CLOSING OF THE
CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR
DIRECTORS/HEADS OF HUMAN RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT ON THE
PILOTING OF STATE PARTIES ASSESSMENT TOOL
(SPAT) IN MOMBASA, KENYA ON 20TH MARCH,
2025

The African Union Technical Experts,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to preside over this official
closing ceremony of the Capacity Building Workshop
for Piloting of State Parties Assessment Tool (SPAT)

being held here at the Kenya School of Government, Mombasa.

Ladies and gentlemen,

As you may be aware, the adoption of the African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration was done during the 16th Ordinary Session of the Heads of States and Government of the African Union (AU) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 31st January, 2011. The Charter became the first legally binding regional Public Service and Administration instrument with effect from 23rd July 2016. The Charter serves to promote and improve quality public service delivery including fighting corruption and generally building a capable state for accelerated development in Africa.

From what you may have learnt from the AU team of experts, the Charter obligates member States to report

on compliance levels to the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration annually through the Ministry responsible for Public Service.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Allow me to flash back and thank Member states of the African Union for previously honoring Kenya with chairmanship of the Sub-Committee on Public Service and Administration within the Specialized Technical Committee (STC) No. 8 of the African Union Commission. The Specialized Technical Committee (STC) No. 8 is responsible for the thematic area of “Public Service, Local Government, Urban Development and Decentralization and Kenya was privileged to be Sub-Committee Chair for the two-year period that ended in November, 2018.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am further delighted to report that, while Kenya was Chair of the Sub-Committee on Public Service and Administration, we were able to successfully deliver on a number of targets within its thematic areas.

First, the successful hosting of the 6th Edition of the APSD in 2017 in Kigali, Rwanda through the combined efforts of the AU Commission for Political Affairs, the Republic of Rwanda and the Africa Public Service Day (APSD) Service Champions;

Secondly, the hosting of the successful development of Guidelines for Reporting on implementation of the African Charter on Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration in Kenya;

Thirdly, the hosting of a Conference of State Parties (CoSP) in Nairobi to adopt the Reporting Guidelines, and promotion of participation of Member States in

the All-Africa Public Sector Innovation Awards (APSIA) ceremony that took place in Morocco in November 2018.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is worth noting that the objectives of this Charter partly resonates with **Article 232** of the Kenyan constitution majorly on promoting the principles and values of public service whose objective is ensuring transparent service delivery, through harmonization of policies and procedures related to Public Service and Administration among Member States.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This capacity building programme was as a result of the resolutions of the Conference of State Parties (COSP III) to the African Charter on the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration held on 10th - 12th December, 2024 at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

in which upon request, African Union Commission (AUC) communicated and agreed to support the Republic of Kenya in the capacity building session on the piloting of the State Parties Assessment Tool (SPAT).

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As the Cabinet Secretary responsible for Public Service in Kenya, I wish to express my gratitude to the AUC for accepting and organizing to support this sensitization training on the use and application of the State Parties Assessment Tool (SPAT) here at the Kenya School of Government, Mombasa.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have noted that a number of member states have already piloted the SPAT, among them; Namibia, Tanzania and South Africa and its therefore necessary

for Kenya to pilot, adopt, fastrack and integrate SPAT into their reporting processes to ensure standardized monitoring, evaluation and reporting to foster comparative learning in strengthening their public service frameworks and subsequent reporting mandates as expected by the Charter.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me also to commend the African Association of Public Administration and Management (AAPAM) for its commitment to support Member States through capacity-building programs which has also encouraged greater collaboration with African Management Development Institutes' Network (AMDIN) to strengthen public service training initiatives. Going forward, I wish to reiterate the need for AUC to refine and digitalize the SPAT tool to streamline its use and increase accessibility across State Parties as well as

strengthening peer learning for effective domestication of the TOOL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

From the insights gained over the week on piloting this SPAT, we need to reflect on the principles of the Charter and recognize that it is not enough to just pilot and adopt the TOOL and these values, but we must live them daily in our work places. We must ensure that these principles become ingrained in the very culture of our public service institutions. We have the opportunity to shape the future of our Nations, and as a Country we are more than capable of achieving the objectives laid out in this Charter. Through cooperation, commitment, and shared values, we will foster the growth of a transparent, accountable, and efficient public service institutions that serve our citizens with dedication and pride.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As we come to the close of this capacity building program, let me reiterate Kenya's commitment not just in words, but in our actions. We shall embody the values of this Charter, working collectively to build a public service that reflects the best of what Africa has to offer. Let us all lead by example and create a future where public service is synonymous with trust, equity and excellence.

And with those few remarks, allow me to declare this sensitization program for the Piloting of the State Parties Assessment Tool (SPAT) officially CLOSED.

THANK YOU and may you have safe journey as you travel back to your duty stations.