

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
CHIEF OF STAFF AND HEAD OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE

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Ref. No **OP/CAB 6/2**
.....
and date

13 September, 2023
....., 20.....

Hon. Solicitor General

All Principal Secretaries/Accounting Officers

All Chairpersons of State Corporations

All Chief Executive Officers of State Corporations

**RE: CONSULTATIVE ENGAGEMENT FORUM TO BE HELD ON THURSDAY,
21 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT THE KENYA SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT**

This Office has scheduled a Consultative Forum that will be held on **Thursday, 21st September 2023**, at the **Kenya School of Government from 8:30 am** concerning the following:

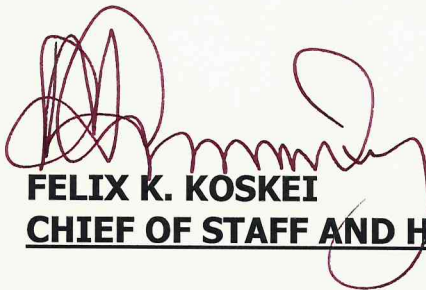
- i. Implementation of the Zero Fault Audit Regime for the Financial Year 2023/2024;
- ii. Launch of the Public Service Exemplary Leaders - Stellar Performance Awards Scheme (PSEL-SPAS);
- iii. The Extent of the Visibility of Regulatory Authorities in Kenya as Key Agents of the Change outlined in the Kenya Kwanza Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda;

The forum is expected to align this Administration's aspirations and expectations with your respective roles, and deliver with clarity, the performance standards that you will be expected to drive. All the above referenced Officers will be required to attend the first session in the morning. In the second Session to be held in the afternoon, only the above referenced Officers who superintend the Regulatory Authorities/Agencies will be required to attend to assess performance and secure interventions and strategies towards ensuring the optimal performance of such entities..

Thus, in light of the importance of the above stated agenda, your personal attendance, including that of the Chairpersons of Audit Committees and Heads of Internal Audit within your respective portfolios as indicated above is imperative.

Enclosed herewith is the Concept Note for the said consultative forum for your information.

Prior registration to attend this event will be required, the details of which will be available on the Meetings Link on the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service's Website at www.headofpublicservice.go.ke from Tuesday, 19 September, 2023.



FELIX K. KOSKEI
CHIEF OF STAFF AND HEAD OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Copy to: The Hon. Attorney-General
All Cabinet Secretaries
Chief of Staff, Office of the Deputy President
Chief of Staff, Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary
Secretary/CEO, State Corporations Advisory Committee
Ag. Inspector General (Corporations)

CONCEPT NOTE

MEETING WITH THE CHIEF OF STAFF AND HEAD OF PUBLIC SERVICE ON THURSDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER, 2023 AT KENYA SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT CONCERNING:

- i. Implementation of the Zero Fault Audit Regime for the Financial Year 2023/2024;**
- ii. Launch of the Public Service Exemplary Leaders - Stellar Performance Awards Scheme (PSEL-SPAS);**
- iii. The Extent of the Visibility of Regulatory Authorities in Kenya as Key Agents of the Change outlined in the Kenya Kwanza Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda;**

Background

The referenced meeting has been called by the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service (COS&HOPS) to *inform, sensitise and educate* the various Officials concerned with the execution and delivery of the referenced items that are expounded below:-

- i. Implementation of the Zero Fault Audit Regime for the Financial Year 2023/2024;**

In his Circular issued to ALL MDAs and dated 25 July, 2023, COS&HOPS stated that,

Audit queries and issues form the basis, or lay the basis, for vices that undermine the objectives of government to be a responsive, responsible, efficient and effective custodian and manager of public resources. In fact, the conditions that promote corruption and its disastrous effects are formented through the failure to avoid audit queries and/or close them off, and worse repeat the same mistakes.

The above statement was buttressed by the results of a Survey that was conducted amongst MDAs and revealed the following three key things, that:

- i. less than 30% of audit issues arising from the Audit Reports of FY2021/22 and 2022/23 have been fully addressed;
- ii. the Types of Audit Queries arising from the aforesaid Auditor General's reports were avoidable in the first place and recurred in many cases;
- iii. entities that had (completely Unqualified) Audit Reports for the FY2021/22 most often had Clean Reports for the following Financial Year 2022/23.

In response to the above, COS&HOPS articulated His Excellency the President's wish for this Financial Year 2023/24 to set an enduring example of the possibility for government to work efficiently and effectively in accordance with all accounting and auditing standards. Thus the Launch of the Zero Fault Audit Financial Year 2023/24.

Through the referenced meeting with the concerned duty bearers, COS&HOPS intends to canvas the key issues, components and attendant action points of the Zero Fault Audit Financial Year 2023/2024 in order to ensure a clearer understanding, uniformity in response and best results.

ii. Launch of the Public Service Exemplary Leaders - Stellar Performance Awards Scheme (PSEL-SPAS);

It is the Kenya Kwanza Administration’s intention to transform the public service into a highly performing, efficient and effective entity towards the provision of quality service delivery to all citizens. As part of various initiatives aimed at motivating the leadership of MDAs to perform their duties to the highest standards so as to achieve the stated vision, the Presidency wishes to launch the Public Service Exemplary Leaders - Stellar Performance Awards Scheme (PSEL-SPAS) whose criteria is curated from key parameters required of MDAs in Kenya’s Public Service Sector. **During the referenced Meeting, the PSEL-SPAS Awards will be launched including the criteria for selecting the winning Principal Secretary(s) and Chief Executive Officer(s) who comprise the top leadership of State Departments and Agencies respectively. Indeed the rewards for the winning leader(s) and their entire Teams will also be unveiled. The race towards winning across the bands of this prestigious award scheme shall commence then.**

iii. The Extent of the Visibility of Regulatory Authorities in Kenya as Key Agents of the Change outlined in the Kenya Kwanza Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda;

The Revised Executive Order No. 1 of 2023 provides for 122 Regulatory Authorities and Agencies spread across 38 State Departments. Although the said Authorities and Agencies are established under various legal instruments, the bottom line is that they essentially set norms and standards and superintend the implementing agencies to ensure adherence to the norms, standards and behavior expected. Naturally, this makes Regulatory Authorities and Agencies to be key agents for the change required to achieve the Vision of the Kenya Kwanza Administration for a better Kenya as espoused through its Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda. **In furtherance of raising the capacity of these entities to carry out their role effectively, COS&HOPS recently carried out a study of the nature and status of performance of the regulatory authorities and agencies in Kenya. In this regard, an analysis of the results of the Study will be disseminated during the referenced Meeting in addition to COS&HOPS giving direction on the course of action his Office will take to ensure optimal performance by all Regulatory Authorities and Agencies forthwith.**

.....The End.....