



OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

HON. J.B.N MUTURI, EGH.

ATTORNEY GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA.

LAUNCH OF COUNCIL LEGAL EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-27

19TH APRIL, 2024

THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION,
PROFESSOR COLLINS ODOTE.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION BOARD.

THE AG. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL
EDUCATION, MS JENNIFER GITIRI

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS;

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

GOOD MORNING.

I AM DELIGHTED TO JOIN YOU TODAY DURING THIS AUSPICIOUS
OCCASION OF THE LAUNCH OF THE COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

FOR THE PERIOD OF 2023 TO 2027. I WISH TO CONGRATULATE THE CLE FOR THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE PLAN.

LEGAL EDUCATION IN KENYA HAS EXPERIENCED TREMENDOUS GROWTH OVER THE YEARS AS EVIDENCED BY THE INCREASE OF ACCREDITED LEGAL EDUCATION PROVIDERS AND THE INCREASED UPTAKE OF LEGAL EDUCATION AT CERTIFICATE AND DIPLOMA LEVEL.

I WISH TO EMPHASIZE THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF THE CLE IN REGULATING LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN KENYA. THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS ROLE CANNOT BE OVERSTATED, AS IT DIRECTLY INFLUENCES THE QUALITY OF LEGAL PRACTITIONERS IN KENYA AND, BY EXTENSION, THE INTEGRITY AND TRUST OF OUR NATIONAL LEGAL SYSTEM.

AS WE ACKNOWLEDGE THE PIVOTAL ROLE OF THE CLE, WE MUST ALSO RECOGNIZE THE CHALLENGES THAT LIE AHEAD. THE LANDSCAPE OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IS CONSTANTLY EVOLVING WITH THE EMERGENCE OF NEW SPHERES OF THE LAW. THE COUNCIL MUST THEREFORE ADAPT ITS REGULATORY FRAMEWORK TO KEEP PACE WITH THESE CHANGES TO ENSURE THAT OUR LEGAL EDUCATION SYSTEM REMAINS RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF OUR SOCIETY AS WELL AS THOSE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

LET ME NOW FOCUS MY ATTENTION ON THE STRATEGIC PLAN

STRATEGIC PLANNING SERVES AS AN IMPORTANT TOOL FOR IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF SERVICE DELIVERY. THE PROCESS OF PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, AND

EVALUATION ENABLES ORGANIZATIONS TO LEARN FROM THEIR EXPERIENCES AND CONTINUOUSLY IMPROVE THEIR STRATEGIES AND PROCEDURES. STRATEGIC PLANS ASSIST PUBLIC SECTOR ORGANIZATIONS TO ALIGN STRATEGIES, ACTIVITIES AND BUDGETS WITH NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES, GOALS AND ASPIRATIONS.

IN JUNE 2023, THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ECONOMIC PLANNING PUBLISHED THE REVISED GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF FIFTH GENERATION STRATEGIC PLANS 2023-2027. THE GUIDELINES ARE IN COGNIZANCE OF THE TRANSFORMATIVE GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT ASPIRATIONS AS OUTLINED IN THE BOTTOM-UP ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AGENDA (BETA) OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE KENYA VISION 2030 FOURTH MEDIUM TERM PLAN (MTP IV). I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THIS STRATEGIC PLAN COMPLIES WITH THE REVISED GUIDELINES.

IT IS ALSO IMPORTANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT CLE'S STRATEGIC PLAN RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF DEVELOPING AN INNOVATIVE LEGAL CURRICULUM THAT MEETS THE EVOLVING NEEDS OF OUR SOCIETY AND PREPARES FUTURE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS TO NAVIGATE THE COMPLEXITIES OF THE MODERN WORLD. IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING LANDSCAPE, CHARACTERIZED BY TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS, GLOBALIZATION AND SHIFTING SOCIAL DYNAMICS.

TRADITIONALLY, LEGAL EDUCATION HAS FOCUSED ON IMPARTING KNOWLEDGE OF STATUTES, CASE LAW, PRECEDENTS AND LEGAL PRINCIPLES. WHILE THIS FOUNDATION REMAINS ESSENTIAL, IT IS NO LONGER SUFFICIENT IN TODAY'S DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENT. IN ORDER TO PREPARE STUDENTS ADEQUATELY FOR THE CHALLENGES THEY

WILL FACE AS LEGAL PROFESSIONALS, WE MUST EMBRACE INNOVATION OUR CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS.

ONE OF CLE'S STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES IS REVIEWING THE GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS FOR REGULATING LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING. LET ME EMPHASIZE AND REITERATE THAT THE REVIEW OF THE GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS IS NOT A MATTER OF PROCEDURAL FORMALITY. THE EXERCISE IS A FUNDAMENTAL ASPECT OF ENSURING THE QUALITY, RELEVANCE AND INCLUSIVITY OF KENYA'S LEGAL EDUCATION SYSTEM.

IT IS NOTABLE THAT CLE HAS RECOGNIZED THE PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIVE ENGAGEMENTS IN THE REGULATION OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN KENYA. IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING WORLD, WHERE LEGAL COMPLEXITIES

ABOUND, COLLABORATION AMONG STAKEHOLDERS IS ESSENTIAL IN ENSURING THE EFFECTIVENESS AND RELEVANCE OF OUR LEGAL EDUCATION SYSTEM. FURTHERMORE, PARTNERSHIPS STRENGTHEN ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY OF LEGAL EDUCATION REGULATION BY FOSTERING OPEN COMMUNICATION AND COOPERATION AMONG STAKEHOLDERS.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO APPRECIATE THAT THE CLE'S STRATEGIC PLAN BEING LAUNCHED TODAY AIMS TO ENSURE INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE CLE. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING OF THE CLE IS NOT MERELY A MATTER OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM; IT SERVES TO EMPOWER THE CLE TO FULFIL ITS MANDATE EFFECTIVELY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

THE CLE'S STRATEGIC PLAN UNVEILED TODAY NOT ONLY OUTLINES CLEAR OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONABLE STRATEGIES; BUT ALSO EMBODIES CLE'S COMMITMENT TO INCLUSIVITY, GOOD GOVERNANCE, INTEGRITY, TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY. IT IS AN EMBODIMENT OF CLE'S VISION, MISSION, VALUES, ASPIRATION AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT AND DEDICATION TO THE ADVANCEMENT OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN KENYA.

I URGE THE CLE TO EMBRACE THE OPPORTUNITIES THAT LIE AHEAD WITH OPTIMISM, DETERMINATION AND A SHARED SENSE OF PURPOSE. WORK WITH UNITY OF PURPOSE IN MIND AND STRIVE TO SOLVE INTERNAL DISPUTES AMICABLY. COMMIT YOURSELVES WHOLEHEARTEDLY TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS STRATEGIC PLAN, LEVERAGING YOUR COLLECTIVE STRENGTHS AND RESOURCES TO REALIZE ITS FULL POTENTIAL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HOLDS A SIGNIFICANT POSITION WITHIN KENYA'S LEGAL SYSTEM. ONE OF ITS FUNDAMENTAL MANDATES IS ADVISING THE GOVERNMENT ON THE REGULATION OF LEGAL EDUCATION IN KENYA PURSUANT TO SECTION 5(1) (F) OF THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ACT.

MY OFFICE HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE CLE TO DEVELOP POLICIES, REGULATIONS, AND STANDARDS THAT GOVERN LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSTITUTIONS, PUPILLAGE AND THE ADMISSION OF ADVOCATES TO THE BAR.

REST ASSURED; MY OFFICE IS COMMITTED TO WORKING HAND IN HAND WITH THE CLE TO ADDRESS ANY OBSTACLES IT MAY ENCOUNTER IN

FULFILLING ITS MANDATE. TOGETHER, WE MUST STRIVE TO UPHOLD THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF LEGAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN KENYA, FOSTERING A NEW GENERATION OF COMPETENT, ETHICAL, AND COMPASSIONATE LEGAL PROFESSIONALS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

AS I CONCLUDE, I WISH TO CONGRATULATE THE CLE ON THE UNVEILING OF THIS EXEMPLARY STRATEGIC PLAN. MAY IT SERVE AS A BEACON OF INSPIRATION AND GUIDE YOU TOWARD A FUTURE FILLED WITH ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES AND UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS.

I LEAVE YOU WITH THE WORDS OF PABLO PICASSO, ***“OUR GOALS CAN ONLY BE REACHED THROUGH A VEHICLE OF PLAN, IN WHICH***

WE MUST FERVENTLY BELIEVE, AND UPON WHICH WE MUST VIGOROUSLY ACT. THERE IS NO OTHER ROUTE TO SUCCESS.”

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS.