



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE AND GENDER
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE

REMARKS BY MARY W. KIMONYE (MRS.), MBS, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE, DURING THE SENSITIZATION OF HEADS OF DEPARTMENT/UNIT AND THEIR DEPUTIES ON PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ON MONDAY, 5TH OCTOBER, 2020 AT KENYA SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT, KABETE CAMPUS AT 8.30 AM

**Heads of Department/Unit,
Representatives from the Kenya School of Government,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Let me formally welcome all of you present here today for this two day training session. That all of you have taken the time to be here serves as a reminder to us all just how important our work is.

For those who are AIE holders, you play a significant role in the Ministry's financial and accounting process. We also depend on our officers to help us assess the quality, validity, authenticity and usefulness of the approvals we receive, as we strive to fulfill our mandate.

The overall goal of this training is to upgrade knowledge and skills we already have to better streamline the financial management process. One of the key activities of the training will focus on the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) guidelines and a linkage between Strategic Plan, Work Planning and Budget.

This training is intended to:

1. Equip you with the knowledge on the best practices of the PFM principles required to steer the State Department to realize our core mandate.
2. Provide you with knowledge on strategic prioritization of expenditures for programmes and projects to achieve allocative efficiency in your respective budgets.
3. To ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the PFM Act, Regulations and Procedures.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This training has been designed to be interactive to provide skills, encourage participation and exchange information. Additionally, let me take this opportunity to emphasise on the importance for each one of us to take time to read and acquaint themselves with the Ministry's Strategic Plan and the Public Financial Management Act (PFM) to give you a broader picture of what is key in the exercising of your mandates. Compliance with the PFM Act is particularly important and the reverse of not acquainting with this Act only leads officers to problems which could have been easily avoided in the first instance.

In the space of Resource Based Management, all officers should work together to ensure that processes are seamless as well as timely executed. I like to think the rhetoric justice delayed, is justice denied can be paraphrased to service delivery delayed is service delivery denied. It is important for us all to be literate with PFM regulations and all other Acts that equip us with the knowledge we need to serve diligently and honestly.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As you are aware, the Constitution of Kenya and the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA), 2012 gives the National Treasury the mandate to promote transparency, effective management and accountability with regard to public finances. The Accounting Officers represent the National Treasury in making sure that finances allocated to their respective MDAs are utilized in accordance with the PFM Act 2012 and subsequent regulations that supplement the law. These include Treasury circulars that guide the Accounting Officers on effective financial management of the allocated resources.

Every financial year, Accounting Officers appoint officers in each Department who are given Authority to Incur Expenditures for a period of one year. Some of you have been appointed and require to be inducted in linkage between Strategic Plans; Work Plans; Budgets and Programme Outputs; Budget Planning and Preparation Process; Procurement Planning and Process and Overview of Accounting Process and Principles of Internal Audit and Audit Procedures. It is for this reason, we are gathered here today.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

One of the greatest challenges facing MDAs in the Country is pressure from Departments' for ever increasing demand for expenditure without regard to the plans and budgets that have been done for that particular fiscal year. In this regard, the National Treasury has been undertaking PFM reforms geared towards making our budget more responsive to the need of MDAs that is geared towards growth and development of the Nation.

In the State Department, we are committed to ensure that planning, budgeting and budget execution are done in accordance to the law. You will be part of the team that will transform this process by providing inputs during planning, budget preparation and participate fully during budget execution. You will therefore be expected to provide that technical input in the budget process in order to provide a budget that is aligned to our aspirations as a State Department and in line with the prevailing Government Agenda.

As you exercise your mandates, it is necessary to remember that the Government is keen on transparent transactions within the Public Service. You will be expected to perform your duties with professionalism and diligence as provided for in different regulations, Code of Ethics and service Charter.

Finally, I sincerely hope that the discussions in the workshop and the information shared can be applied effectively in your role as HODs and AIE holders. With these few remarks, I declare the training officially opened.

May you have a productive and successful training.

Thank you