

Remarks by

MR. ABDI A. MOHAMUD, MBS

SECRETARY/CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION DURING
THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE AFRICAN ASSET
RECOVERY PRACTITIONERS FORUM (AARP FORUM) ON
15TH APRIL 2025 AT THE PANARI HOTEL, NAIROBI

- ➤ Hon Seynabou Diakhate Ndiaye, Chairperson, African Union Advisory Board Against Corruption (AUABC);
- Lady Justice Lucy Njuguna, Presiding Judge of the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Division of the High Court of Kenya;
- ▶ Dr Musa Aliyu, Interim Chairperson, African Asset Recovery Practitioners Forum AARP Steering Council;
- ➤ Ms. Kathinka Kurz, Head of Component, GIZ Strengthening Development Finance by Combatting Illicit Financial Flows and Effective Debt Management (SFIFD);
- Heads of Institutions present;
- Directors of EACC and Senior Officials from Partner Agencies;

Ladies and Gentlemen

Good morning!

- 1. It gives me great pleasure to join you this morning for the official opening of this Inaugural Meeting of the African Asset Recovery Practitioners' Forum (AARP-Forum). The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission is honoured to co-host this event with the African Union Advisory Board against Corruption (AUABC).
- 2. The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission is a Constitutional Commission established pursuant to Article 79 of the Constitution of Kenya and section 3 of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission Act, CAP 7H with a mandate to combat corruption and unethical conduct through Law enforcement, Corruption Prevention, Public Education & Awareness and Promotion of Standards and Practices in Ethics and Integrity.

- 3. Kenya is a state party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), United Nations Convention against Organized Crime (UNTOC) and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC). Kenya has also signed various bilateral agreements for repatriation of monies siphoned from Kenya through corruption. The Commission is a member of the informal regional Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network East Africa (ARIN-EA).
- 4. In the last five years the Commission has recovered corruptly acquired and unexplained Assets (cash, moveable and immovable) worth approximately **KES 28 billion (USD 216 Million)** The Commission is further pursuing forfeiture of corruptly acquired assets with an estimated value of **KES 50 billion (USD 382 Million)**.

- 5. The EACC has prioritized Asset recovery as a critical strategy in the fight against corruption intended to remove the benefit of corruption from the perpetrators. Those who engage in corruption should not be allowed to keep their ill-gotten assets.
- 6. This Forum will widen the collaboration network for the respective Anti-Corruption Authorities for effective information sharing, support, mutual assistance for enhanced turnaround time for asset recovery and restitution of corruptly acquired assets for public good.
- 7. I take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of the African Union through the African Union Advisory Board against Corruption (AUABC) with the support of GIZ Global Program on Illicit Financial Flows for co-hosting this Asset Recovery Practioners Forum.

8. As a Commission we feel privileged for the opportunity to co-host this inaugural African Asset Recovery Practioners Forum in which member agencies will sign the declaration of commitment to implement the Common African Position on Asset Recovery. I take this opportunity to invite all eligible members to join the forum with a view to creating a formidable network for asset recovery.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

9. With those remarks, I take this opportunity to officially welcome and thank each one of you for making time to attend and participate in this meeting.

Welcome to Kenya, Karibu Kenya, Karibu Nairobi.

I wish you all a fruitful engagement.

Thank you and God bless us all! Dated this Tuesday, 15TH APRIL 2025

SECRETARY/CEO ETHICS AND ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION