



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



REPUBLIC OF MALAWI

SOCIAL PROTECTION: TRANSFORMING THE SOCIAL ECONOMIC LANDSCAPE FOR WOMEN, GIRLS AND OTHER GROUPS

March 11, 2019 || 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. || Conference Room 1, UNHQ, NY

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction

This side event will share the measures and steps Kenya has taken to address challenges and remove barriers for women and girls' access to social protection in order to ensure gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls. In Kenya, the ultimate goal of social protection is to ensure that all Kenyans live in dignity and are given the opportunity to exploit their capabilities for social and economic development. The Government's current approach to social protection is three pronged namely **social assistance, social Security** and **health Insurance**. The side event will also serve as a platform for sharing best practices with other countries, including the Republic of Malawi, who have similar initiatives thus enriching the discussions.

Guiding Questions

1. How have legislative and policy frameworks on social protection contributed to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (opportunities and lessons learnt)?
2. What is the role of County Government in promoting Social Protection Systems and what are the priorities for future action?
3. How are social protection systems empowering women and girls? What are the lessons learnt?
4. Which actions has the Kenyan private sector taken that demonstrate best practices for conducive workplaces which enable young women to equally participate in employment?
5. What are some opportunities in social security initiatives which promote women and girl's equality and empowerment?

Objectives of the side event:

- Demonstrate the importance of legislative and policy frameworks on social protection in advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls;
- Showcase Kenya's private sector best practice on successful initiatives towards promoting conducive workplaces which have enabled young women to equally participate in employment; and,
- Demonstrate the great and increasing opportunities of social security initiatives which promote women and girl's equality and empowerment.

Panellists:

1. Prof. Margaret Kobia, Ph.D, MGH - Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs
2. Amb. Ukur Yatani - Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
3. Hon. Cecilia Chazama, Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare
4. Dr. Mohammed Kuti - Chairperson, Health Committee, Council of Governors
5. Hon. Johnson Sakaja - Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Labour and Social Protection
6. Gloria Ndekei, Kenya Private Sector Alliance - Better Business Practices (BPP) for children initiative
7. Representative – UNFPA (TBC)

Introduction	Hon. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu – Moderator
Documentary on cash transfers	<i>Principal Secretary - State Department for Gender Affairs</i>
Opening Statement <i>What social protection means to Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment in Kenya</i>	Prof. Margaret Kobia, PH.D, MGH, <i>Cabinet Secretary - Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs-Kenya</i>
Social Protection Policies and empowerment of Communities <i>Kenya’s experience</i>	Amb. Ukur Yatani, <i>Cabinet Secretary - Ministry of Labour & Social Protection</i>
Best practices of social protection systems <i>Lessons from Malawi</i>	Hon. Cecilia Chazama <i>Minister of Gender, Children, Disability and Social Welfare</i>
The role of County Governments in enhancing social protection systems	Governor Dr. Mohamed Kuti <i>Chair - Health Committee – Council of Governors</i>
The role of Senate in accelerating social protection for women and girls	Hon. Johnson Arthur Sakaja Member of Parliament
Public Private Partnerships. <i>Private sector model – Best Business Practices</i>	Gloria Ndekei <i>Kenya Private Sector Alliance</i>
Making social protection integrated and responsive to the needs of vulnerable women and girls including in all settings	Representative (TBC) <i>UNFPA</i>
Open Discussion	
Summary & Closing Statement	Prof. Margaret Kobia, Ph.D, MGH