



CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE

AT THE END OF THE 2ND HOMA BAY COUNTY INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT CONFERENCE HELD FROM 27TH TO 29TH FEBRUARY, 2024 AT THE TOM MBOYA UNIVERSITY, HOMA BAY COUNTY

PREAMBLE

The County Government of Homa Bay held the **Second Homa Bay International Investment Conference from 27th to 29th February, 2024** at Tom Mboya University, Homa Bay County. The theme of the Conference was “**Unlocking the Bay of Endless Potential.**” The Conference aimed at showcasing the investment potential and opportunities available in diverse sectors within the County and served as a platform for sharing insights and exploring collaborative opportunities to drive economic prosperity. The event was organized by the County Government of Homa Bay with the support of sponsors.

The 2nd Homa Bay International Investment Conference attracted **5,000 delegates** and **potential investors across the various sectors**. The event culminated in the signing of the following **MOUs** between partners and the County Government of Homa Bay:

1. ***Afropal International Limited and Homa Bay County/Migori County: Edible Oil***
2. ***Ento Tech Africa and Homa Bay County Government: Treatment and Management of Waste***
3. ***Yazmark and Homa Bay County: Equipping of 50 bed mother/child hospital***
4. ***Rift Valley Products and Homa Bay County: Build a Cotton Ginnery***
5. ***Manda University Trust and Homa Bay County Government: Build a university***
6. ***Mirror Ethics and Homa Bay County: Attracting Investors***
7. ***Fairdeal Real Estate and Homa Bay County: Build Affordable Housing***
8. ***Reddington and Homa Bay County: Provision of Solar Power***

The following were the **Resolutions and Commitments** from the 2nd Homa Bay Conference 2024:

A. Unlocking Blue Investment: Adopting Investment Initiatives for Homa Bay's Inland Blue Economy and Climate Action

1. The County Government and the National Government shall collaborate to complete the construction of the Homa Bay Pier within four (4) months.

Action: Homa Bay County, The Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs

2. The County Government and National Government shall collaborate to complete the construction and operationalization of the Homa Bay Fish Market within four (4) months.

Action: Homa Bay County, Ministry of Trade and Industrialization

3. The County Government shall enhance collaboration with the private sector to explore markets for Homa Bay County value chains including fish in the local and international markets.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, KNCCI, Fish Farmers Cooperatives

4. The National Government shall undertake desilting of Riwa Special Economic Zone and facilitate electricity connection to operationalize the Industrial Park.

Action: Ministry of Energy and Ministry of Interior and National Government Coordination and Homa Bay County

5. The County Government shall improve infrastructural requirements at the Riwa Special Economic Zone including roads, water and sewerage system to attract investors.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

6. The County Government of Homa Bay shall develop strategies for environmental conservation and management for ecosystem and biodiversity sustenance of the lake.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

B. Trade, Industry, Manufacturing and Enterprise Development

7. The County Government shall reduce the cost of doing business and promote economic empowerment of marginalized groups including

women, youth and persons with disabilities through sourcing for affordable loan facilities for entrepreneurs from special interest groups.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Trade and Industrialization.

8. The County Government shall develop and maintain an updated database of all Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the County to ensure targeted support to formally registered entrepreneurs.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Trade and Industrialization

9. The County Government and the National Government shall collaborate in the full operationalization of the Homa Bay County Aggregation Industrial Park.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay and Private Sector

10. The County Government shall collaborate with the National and County Government in the expansion of the market for locally produced goods in regional markets EAC, COMESA and Continental Free Trade Agreement.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Trade and Industrialization, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

C. Unlocking Homa Bay County: Investing in the rich diversity of culture, nature and sustainable tourism

11. The expansion of Kabunde Airstrip be expedited to accommodate larger aircrafts and more airlines to the County and the western circuit to unlock the County's potential in tourism, trade and investment.

Action: Ministry of Roads & Transportation, County Government of Homa Bay

12. The County Government of Homa Bay to prioritize construction and rehabilitation of roads within the county to stimulate tourism and investment.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Roads and Transportation

13. The County Government shall collaborate with the Ministry of Tourism in mapping, packaging and marketing of tourism products within Homa Bay County, and in implementation of the Western Tourism circuit.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife

14. The County Government shall work with the private sector to encourage investment in the hotel industry within the County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, and the private sector

D. Cultivating Sustainability: A Blueprint for Advancing Agriculture in Homa Bay County towards Food Security, Industrialization and Economic Development

15. The County Government of Homa Bay and the National Government shall collaborate to enhance agricultural productivity and investments in the identified value chains.

Action: Homa Bay County, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs

16. The County Government of Homa Bay shall finalize registration of farmers and distribution of certified seedlings to cotton farmers within the county to enhance productivity and direct income to farmers in line with the county's objective of being the leading cotton plant producers in the country.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Agriculture, farmers and farmers' cooperatives/ organizations

17. The County Government of Homa Bay shall collaborate with the National Government on the Kenya Integrated Agriculture Management Information System (KAIMIS) in planning and managing the Agricultural service delivery in the County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay and National Government

18. The County Government shall collaborate with the National Government in the enhancements of seedlings propagation and distribution of certified seedlings to enhance Agricultural productivity.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay and Ministry of Agriculture,

19. The County Government of Homa Bay and the National Government shall collaborate in the development of oil palm production within the County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay and Ministry of Agriculture

E. Financing Infrastructural developments at the Subnational Level

20. The county government shall collaborate with the County Pensions Fund (CPF) in the construction of a modern county headquarters.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay and County Pensions Fund

21. The National Government, County Government and the private sector shall partner in the implementation of the affordable housing project in the County, targeting the construction of a further 5,000 housing units in Homa Bay County.

Action: Ministry of Housing and Public Works, County Government of Homa Bay and the Private Sector

F. Skills development and the Digital Economy

22. The county Government of Homa Bay shall carry out labour market assessments to understand the skills needed by the youth within the County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

23. The County Government shall collaborate and develop strategies for enhanced youth empowerment interventions.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

24. The County Government shall collaborate with Vocational Training Center to enhance digital literacy and skills for local workforce development.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

G. Affirmative Action and Entrepreneurship

25. The County Government shall collaborate with sector partners to address the plight of Persons with Disabilities within the County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

H. Health

26. The County Government shall collaborate with the National Government in implementation of health laws that promote achievement of universal healthcare for all at affordable rates to all Kenyans.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay; Ministry of Health

27. The County shall strengthen its Health Information Management System to monitor and improve health outcomes.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Health

28. The County Government of Homa Bay shall prioritize reproductive, maternal, newborn, child, and adolescent health services by addressing barriers.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Health

29. The County Government of Homa Bay shall place more emphasis on promoting preventive care, early diagnosis, and timely treatment to improve health outcomes.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

30. The County Government shall establish a County Ethical Review Board to ensure adherence to ethical standards in healthcare research

Action: County Government of Homa Bay, Ministry of Health

I. Lake Region Economic Bloc: Unlocking the potential of collaborative networks

31. The member counties shall take advantage of the economies of scale and shared resources presented by the Lake Region Economic Bloc in order to grow the economy of the counties and improve the livelihood of the people.

Action: LREB Members

J: Water, Sanitation, Environment And Climate Change.

32. The County Government of Homa Bay shall ensure the establishment of a conducive policy and legislative environment on water, sanitation and Climate Change.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

33. The County Government of Homa Bay will establish strategic partnerships with sector players on the adequate provision of water and sanitation services withing Homa Bay County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

34. The County Government of Homa Bay will prioritize strategies aimed at mitigating on the effects of Climate Change withing Homa Bay County.

Action: County Government of Homa Bay

To actualize these resolutions, the county shall collaborate with relevant stakeholders through both financial and technical expertise.

SIGNED BY:

H.E GLADYS WANGA, EGH

GOVERNOR HOMA BAY COUNTY

WITNESSED BY:

**H.E PROF. PETER ANYANG' NYONG'O
GOVERNOR KISUMU COUNTY,
CHAIR LREB.**

WITNESSED BY:

**MS. TERESIAH MBAIKA
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR DEVOLUTION.**