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NEA

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Employers' Annual Conference 2022 held in Mombasa



The National Employment Authority (NEA) took part in this years **Employers' Annual Conference** hosted by the Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) between 3rd – 4th March 2022 at the Sarova Whitesands Hotel, Mombasa .

The conference was guided by the theme, **"Adapting to the Changing Labour Market".** This conference aimed at highlighting the changes in the labour market and discussing how Labour Market players (Social Partners) and other stakeholders can effectively acclimatize for recovery, growth and sustainability at the local, regional and continental level.



The panel discussions were interactive and informative and brought together high level panellists and experts to explore the topics related to:- Labour Migration for Africa's Prosperity, Business Opportunities in the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement, the role of TVET in Strengthening Industry Performance, Supporting Gender Equality and Women Advancement in the Changing Labour Market as well as Advancing the Abidjan Declaration 2019 in the face of the pandemic and strategies for enterprise responsiveness in the changing Labour Market.

In his opening remarks, the Cabinet Secretary for Labour Hon Simon Chelugui underscored the importance of adapting to new technologies and in the current labour market. The CS urged employers to work with trade unions and collaborate in Africa to expand opportunities while remaining focused on labour issues. Hon. Chelugui also reiterated on the government's commitment to enhance safe labour migration in the labour markets **"our government has prioritised a number of activities including; finaliza-**

tion of the policy on Labour Migration management; development and signing of Bilateral Labour Agreements with all our key destination countries; deploying additional Labour attachés, and also establishment of a Kenya Migrants welfare fund" he said.



On her part, Ms. Edith Okoki Ag. Director General (NEA) unpacked through a panel discussion, Kenya's preparedness in managing labour migration issues as well as promoting productivity and effective protection of migrant workers including their wellbeing in the countries of destination.

She emphasized on the measures put in place to enhance safe labour migration practices within the labour migration cycle including; pre-departure phase, travel and transit phase, working abroad as well as return and re-integration program. She underscocred **the importance of complying with international standards and laws that secure migrants' rights, developing evidence-based policies through a "whole-of-government" approach and facilitating safe, orderly and dignified Labour migration among other key issues.**

This year's conference was attended by government representatives, representatives of the International community, partners in Africa, trade unions, employers representatives for Africa, Kenya Federation of Jua Kali, AfCFTA Secretariat, Ghana Employers Association, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC), and industry captains among others.

Fostering Ethical Recruitment Practices through capacity Building



In a bid to enhance capacity to monitor and regulate foreign recruitment by Private Recruitment Agencies (PRAs) as well as ensure the alignment with International best practices and initiatives, A Training of Trainers (ToT) session on the Oversight Mechanism (O/M) and Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) was conducted between 2nd and 3rd March 2022 at Kempiski Hotel, Nairobi. The training was led by the National Employment Authority (NEA) and the Ministry of Labour in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM)

While making his remarks on day 1 of the training , Mr. Joseph Njue, Ag. Director, Labour Migration at the National Employment Authority (NEA) underscored the importance of the training , as it sought to protect prospective migrant workers during the recruitment process. **"It is imperative that all stakeholders in the recruitment process promote the upholding of ethical recruitment practices, including labour recruiters, governments, and employers in order to ensure that the fundamental human, labour and social rights of migrant workers are duly protected,"** Njue said.

The trainings included open discussions and presentations in which various issues were explored. They touched on Mechanisms put in place by NEA to address Labour Migration challenges and Trafficking in Persons, Unethical Recruitment Practices in the migration cycle, Highlights of NEA Policies, Regulations, Guidelines and Procedures as well as the Visual Structure of the Oversight and Community Feedback Mechanisms among others.

These engagements follows several important developments. On 23rd July 2021, Hon. Simon K. Chelugui, the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Labour successfully launched the Multi-Stakeholder Technical Committee that was established to operationalize and roll out the Oversight Mechanism and Community Feedback Mechanism in Kenya. This recruitment Oversight Mechanism and Community Feedback Mechanism is being implemented by the Government of Kenya through the State department of Labour and the National Employment Authority (NEA with support from the International Organization for Migration (IOM) . It's main role will be to monitor the Kenyan recruitment industry as a whole and identify Private Recruitment Agencies and Sub-Agents that are non-compliant and thus continuing to expose migrants to the risks of modern slavery. The Community Feedback Mechanism will provide a platform for communities to report suspected human trafficking cases or Private Recruitment Agencies operating unethically.

OUR VISION

"Employment opportunities for all

OUR MISSION

"To formulate and implement employment policies and programmes for creation of sustainable employment for all Kenyans

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