

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, KIRINYAGA COUNTY

7th May 2019

**The Editor,
All Newsrooms**

MEDIA STATEMENT ON KIRINYAGA COUNTY BUDGET EXPENDITURE ALLEGATIONS (FY 2017-2018) AND DEMAND FOR AN APOLOGY FROM THE NATIONAL TREASURY AND IMMEDIATE RESIGNATION OF THE IFMIS DIRECTOR

In response to allegations in certain media that the County Government of Kirinyaga purportedly spent money on “State House affairs” in the 2017-2018 financial year, I wish to categorically state that these claims are obviously untrue, unfounded, and intended to grossly mislead the public for malicious purposes.

The correct position is that the county Government in its budget execution followed the proper procedures and generated the correct reports from the IFMIS from the period in question. These official documents are available for inspection and were the basis for all County expenditure duly approved by the Controller of Budget. Anyone with a rudimentary understanding of accounting would know that there cannot be a budget line for the said State House Affairs in the budget execution report at County Level.

The National Treasury in its explanatory statement to all County Executive Committee Members for Finance dated yesterday May

6, 2019- an entire week since this issue was made public in the Senate- (REF: TNT/IFMIS/MIN/048 'A'/42) notes that **“Some counties have been running the wrong report for budget execution by programs and sub-programs leading to wrong descriptions of their programs..... (on IFMIS) “**

This acknowledgement by the National Treasury confirms that it was indeed a misreporting on IFMIS that has affected the budget expenditure reporting in 8 Counties (including Kirinyaga County) that had their expenditure reports generated from IFMIS. This anomaly resulted in budget line codes that belong to the National Government chart of accounts being wrongly attributed to County Government expenditure reports. It did not in way mean there was wrong or “corrupt” expenditure by the County Governments.

By failing to take responsibility for this anomaly in the IFMIS and the consequent public misinformation, the need for public correction and clarification on the same, the National Treasury and Director IFMIS exposed County Executives and County Governments to loss of public trust, humiliation and gross embarrassment.

Given that IFMIS is a financial management system that is provided for in the Constitution of Kenya and prescribed by the National Treasury for use by County and National Governments for the purposes of transparency and accountability in budget reporting and financial management, it is reckless and irresponsible for the said agencies to allow such gross errors to happen.

Furthermore, in failing to proactively clarify the matter in the interest of the public’s right to be informed, one cannot overlook the intention to mislead the public, subvert transparency and accountability in public finance and create political mischief in order to hoodwink Kenyans.

I wish to advise the Director IFMIS and National Treasury officials that Kenyans are watching their conduct. Any attempt to intentionally misuse IFMIS to mislead through disinformation and falsely allocating blame to County Executives thereby exposing them to distracting witch hunts will not be countenanced.

As Governor of one of the Counties affected, I demand an immediate public apology by the National Treasury, the resignation of the Director IFMIS and the issue of a public statement to correct public understanding on this matter. As for the media, the least they can do is to publicize the correct position on this matter with the same vigor they have vilified the affected Counties.

Signed:

**H.E. ANNE WAIGURU E.G.H., O.G.W.
GOVERNOR, KIRINYAGA COUNTY**

ATTACHED DOCUMENT

1. County Government of Kirinyaga Budget Execution Report – FY 2017-2018