



REMARKS BY THE Ag. CHAIR KENYA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO DURING THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 3RD KENYA NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2018 AT JOMO KENYATTA SPORTS GROUND, KISUMU COUNTY

Chief Guest representing His Excellency the President, Hon. Uhuru M. Kenyatta,
Amb. Dr. Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Education,
Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Sports and Heritage, Hon. Rashid E. Mohamed,
Cabinet Secretaries Present,
Chief Administrative Secretaries present,
Excellencies Ambassadors and Members of the Diplomatic Corps,
Hon. Prof. Anyang Nyong'o, Governor Kisumu County,
Hon. Governors present,

Hon. Members of the Senate present,

Hon. Members of the National Assembly present,

KNATCOM Board members present,

Senior Government Officials present,

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to join you during this opening ceremony of the 3rd Kenya National Commission for UNESCO (KNATCOM) National Cultural celebrations. As the Board of KNATCOM we wish to thank Kisumu County government for accepting to host this event. In addition, I wish to thank the

secretariat of KNATCOM led by the Secretary General for their tireless efforts in promotion of peace and national cohesion through culture and other UNESCO programmes. This event is a clear testimony of KNATCOM's commitment to the promotion of culture in pursuit of Kenyan identity and pride.

As you are aware, this event is meant to create a forum for stakeholders drawn from different parts of the country to showcase their rich and diverse culture through performances and exhibitions. We are committed to work with all Counties in the future to organize similar events across the Country. This being a biennial event, I call upon Counties interested in hosting the next event in the year 2020 to liaise with the Secretary General and CEO of KNATCOM to express their

interest. We wish to thank the Government of Kenya, the Cabinet Secretaries of Ministry of Education and Ministry of Sports and Heritage for the support they continue to provide to KNATCOM.

As the Board of the Commission, we will continue to support initiatives that document, promote and preserve culture. This can be achieved through concerted efforts and synergies from both the public and private sector as we strive to promote peace through culture.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take this opportunity, on behalf of the Board of Kenya National Commission for UNESCO, to thank the National and County governments for the support given towards the preparations for these celebrations, our guests for gracing this opening ceremony and all the participants for taking their time to join us. We look forward to continued engagement and collaboration as we strive to preserve our culture for posterity.

Thank you and God bless you.