

#### REPUBLIC OF KENYA



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# THE PRESIDENCY MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND PLANNING

Fax No.: 343654 Telephone:2 252299

Web: www.devolutionplanning.go.ke
Email: csdevolution.planning@kenya.go.ke

Ref. No: MDP/1/1/133

Office of the Cabinet Secretary P.O. Box 30005 NAIRORI

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015

KENYA

Mr. Jeremiah M. Nyegenye, CBS

Clerk of the Senate P O Box 41842-00100 NAIROBI

Dear Clerk,

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RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF SENATE ON LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE ON ACCESS TO FINANCES BY YOUTH, WOMEN AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES TO EXECUTE TENDERS WON FROM THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF DEVOLUTION AND PLANNING

Reference is made to your letter Ref: No. SEN/SCLASW/CORR/2015 dated September 2015 on the above subject matter and we wish to respond as follows: -

## QUESTION NO. (i)

Whether the Government is aware that the youth, women and persons with disabilities face challenges in executing Government tenders that are won due to lack of collateral required by financial institutions to secure the loans

The Government is aware of the financial challenges faced by Youth, Women and PWDs in executing Government tenders that they win. In this regard the government has taken the following measures to ensure this category group continues bidding and supplying government tenders:

i. The Youth Development Enterprises Fund (YEDF) and the Women Enterprises Fund (WEF) mandates were expanded to offer LPO/LSO financing for Youth, Women and PWDs who have won tenders from the Government. YEDF offers 70% LPO/LSO financing for up to Ksh. 1, 000,000 without collateral while WEF finances 60% of LPO/LSO value of upto Ksh.500, 000 without collateral. The beneficiary is required to provide the original copy of LPO/LSO and the letter of undertaking

from the procuring agency that serves as security. These facilities attract a one off commission of 6.5 %.

Above this minimum financing threshold, Youth, Women and PWDs entrepreneurs who need financing of above Kshs 1 million from Youth Fund or Over Ksh.500,000 from Women Fund will be required to provide collateral in terms of Land Property, Motor vehicle, or Guarantees before they are financed.

- ii. Youth, Women and PWDs entrepreneurs who have Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) certificate are excluded from the requirement of bid bonds and are instead required to fill and sign the Tender Securing Declaration Form with the procuring entity.
- iii. Where delay of payment for works performed is anticipated, the procuring entity may facilitate invoice discounting arrangements with the financial institutions for purposes of advancing credit to the affected enterprises.

## QUESTION NO. (ii)

Provide a comprehensive report on the youth, women and persons with disabilities who have benefitted from Uwezo Fund in all the sub counties

#### **RESPONSE**

Uwezo Fund Oversight Board has received **55,456** applications from groups/Institutions. In the last two Financial Years, out of the **Kshs.5**, **354,400,000** disbursed to the **290** constituencies, the Board has approved **Kshs.4**, **240,400,000** for funding to groups/Institutions that meet the eligibility criteria as provided in the Public Finance management (Uwezo Fund) Regulations, 2014, Section 22 (1). The funds have benefitted **42,801** groups country wide, out of which **26,838** are women groups, **14,986** youth groups and **977** are groups of People living with Disabilities (PWDs) as shown in *Annex 1*. The details of the groups/institutions funded by Uwezo Fund is provided in *Report 1 (Volumes of Constituencies Disbursement Summaries)* 

The total numbers of individuals who have benefitted from the fund are **491,352** comprising of **146,708** youth, **323,310** women and **21,334** persons living with disabilities (PWDs). These are members of groups/Institutions that have accessed Uwezo fund across the constituencies as indicated in *Report 2 (Volumes of Group Information of Uwezo Fund Beneficiaries by Constituencies)*.

Yours sincerely,

ANNE WAIGURU, OGW CABINET SECRETARY

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