



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF ICT, INNOVATION AND YOUTH AFFAIRS

**SPEECH BY MR. JEROME OCHIENG, CBS, PRINCIPAL
SECRETARY STATE DEPARTMENT FOR ICT AND INNOVATION
DURING THE CLOSING CEREMONY OF THE INDUCTION COURSE
FOR INTERNS UNDER AJIRA DIGITAL PROGRAMME ON FRIDAY
31ST JANUARY, 2020 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI**

SALUTATION

- 1. Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs Members of staff**
- 2. Ajira Digital Interns**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Afternoon,

1. I am certain that on Monday morning, when I opened this session, many of you did not have a good grasp of the functions of Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs and in particular the Ajira Digital program which you are now going to be the champions this year, and hopefully for your lifetime.

2. I trust and believe that you are eager to go into the field and join us in our transformation journey. The 'Future Works Online', this is our tag line, and we ask you to embrace it, test it and help us train and mentor the youth countrywide to take advantage of the digital ecosystem.

3. Generally, the Government envisages that, the one-year internship programme will equip you with the necessary skills and work-related experience to actualize the Vision 2030 dream of making Kenya a knowledge society.

4. The Ajira Digital Programme will in the long run guide you to leverage on digital jobs for the length of your career, whether or not you choose to pursue formal employment.

5. Leveraging on the internet explosion, the government has created a unique opportunity for many of you to innovate and provide solutions to stem the ever-rising unemployment levels in the country. Growth of linkage platforms for services and goods will provide numerous opportunities to create out-sourced jobs for a large and diverse group of young people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

6. The guidelines for the Ajira Digital Programme Interns are clear on the roles and responsibilities the beneficiaries have at hand.

Among them is being responsible for the programme administration, support and execution of key work-streams strategy to ensure effective and efficient delivery and achievement of goals and objectives of the programme in the regions.

7. As the officers on the ground and the contact persons, you are expected to play the key role of assisting in the implementation and monitoring of the Ministry's programs in the regions.

8. This is to be done in collaboration with the implementing partners who include but not limited to Counties, Constituencies,

Technical Vocational Education and Training Institutions (TVETS), Youth Polytechnics, Universities, the Mastercard Foundation, KEPSA, eMobilis, among other roles as stipulated in your job descriptions.

9. As your supervisors, the respective County and Sub-County Information Officers under whom you are to be attached are urged to ensure that you are well settled and facilitated to perform your duties.

10. The officers will also monitor your performance through mutually set targets, assign working tools, oversee your day to day work performance and appraise you within the existing performance management framework.

Ladies and Gentlemen, In conclusion,

11. Let me congratulate you for winning this chance under the Ajira Digital Programme and remind you that the induction you went through is to empower you to understand the structure of government operations and work ethics. From here, you will be

posted to the counties across the country as ambassadors of this Ministry and the Government at large.

12. And with those few remarks, it is my honor to declare this induction officially closed.

Thank you. God bless you all