



MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES & COOPERATIVES
Office of the Cabinet Secretary

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MARCH 10, 2021

MEDIA ADVISORY

CS MUNYA GIVES UPDATES ON COTTON & PYRETHRUM SUB-SECTORS' REVITALIZATION, STATUS OF MAIZE TRANSFER FROM THE EAC PARTNER STATES INTO KENYA AND THE REGULATION OF THE FOOD CROPS.

- WHO: **HON. PETER MUNYA, EGH, CABINET SECRETARY AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK, FISHERIES & CO-OPERATIVES**
- WHAT: **(1) COTTON AND PYRETHRUM REVITALIZATION STRATEGY REPORT & (2) MAIZE TRANSFER FROM THE EAC PARTNER STATES INTO KENYA (3) IRISH POTATO AND FOOD-CROPS REGULATIONS**
- WHEN: **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021**
- WHERE: **PANAFRIC SAROVA HOTEL (SIMBA HALL), NAIROBI 10.00 AM**

The cotton and pyrethrum value chains have been identified by the Government as **critical agricultural crops for supporting the Big Four Agenda (B4A)**. In this regard, **the government appointed a National Steering Committee (NSC) on the Revitalization and Revival of Cotton and Pyrethrum** value chains vide Gazette Notice No. 3375 dated 4th May 2020. The Committee was to review milestones already undertaken in the two value chains with a view **to develop a sustainable strategy and plan of action to ensure an accelerated revitalization and revival process**. The committee shall present their report to the Cabinet Secretary.

Consumer safety and the health of Kenyans is of major priority. Through continuous surveillance and testing of maize from our EAC region, **results indicate high levels of**

aflatoxin beyond the permissible maximum limits. While the Government strives to give Kenyans safe food by addressing the various challenges in the production systems, we equally expect our trading partners to trade in safe maize as per the East African Community Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards that provide the **maximum limit of aflatoxin to be 10 parts per billion**. To date, Tanzania is yet to ratify the EAC SPS protocols and studies on imported maize from the neighboring countries indicate aflatoxin levels as high as 2000 parts per billion.

The Crops Acts (2013) mandates the Cabinet Secretary in charge of agriculture to develop regulations for the various crops value chains. The proposed Irish Potato and Food Crops regulations are aimed regulating the **hitherto unregulated food crops sub sector**, and supporting the development of the subsector through generation of **accurate market information** to guide **planning and investment in the food industry**, providing farmers with **focused production advisory services, improving food standards** for produce that is safe and can trade locally, regionally and internationally.

Members of the press are invited to engage the Cabinet Secretary on these three critical issues.

Journalists will be required to provide Media Accreditation/Identification documentation to facilitate admission into the venue.

Media enquiries to be addressed to:

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