



**WELCOME REMARKS OF THE VICE CHAIRMAN OF
NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE,
MR. BOB KARINA,
DURING THE ASEA 2014 MEDIA LAUNCH,
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014**

Mr. Eddy Njoroge, Chairman, Nairobi Securities Exchange;

Mr. Kitili Mbathi, Managing Director, CfC Stanbic Holdings;

Mr. James Mworira, Chief Executive Officer, Centum Investment Company;

Ms. Laila Macharia, Vice Chair, Kenya Private Sector Alliance;

Mr. Onchi Maiko, Regional Head Investment Banking, KCB Group;

Mr. Raj Shah, Head, Investment Banking, East Africa, Barclays Africa;

The Members of the Board of the Nairobi Securities Exchange present;

Distinguished Guests;

Members of the Media;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Good Morning.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Management of the Nairobi Securities Exchange, let me welcome you all to the Exchange for the media launch of the African Securities Exchanges Association (ASEA) 2014 Conference. We thank you, for taking time off your busy schedules to join us, as we give you a taste of November's Conference, through our pre-conference summit.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

The African Securities Exchanges Association (ASEA) which was established in Nairobi in 1993, is an Association of twenty three (23) African Securities Exchanges serving twenty seven (27) African States. The Vision of ASEA is to enable African Securities Exchanges to be key drivers of the economic and societal transformation of Africa by 2025. Each year, a member of ASEA hosts the annual flagship conference.

The annual ASEA Conference brings together experienced executives from member Exchanges in Africa and investors from the US, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, to reflect on the fundamental role of the Capital Markets in harnessing Africa's growth potential.

In 2013, the conference was hosted by the Abidjan Stock Exchange in Abidjan, the economic capital of Côte d'Ivoire. The conference theme was ***Africa: From promises to achievements, the key role of capital markets'***. The conference was well attended by African and international investors, policy makers, Central Bank governors, economic observers, and journalists. The Chief Guest was Mr. Daniel Kablan Duncan, the Prime Minister of Côte d'Ivoire. Ecobank Transnational Incorporated, the leading pan-African bank with operations in 36 countries across the continent, more than any other bank in the world - was the official sponsor of the conference. Other sponsors were the Ivorian National Treasury, the African Export Import Bank, Bank of Africa, and Africinvest, a leading private equity investor committed to investing in growing African SMEs.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

The Nairobi Securities Exchange is a founder member of ASEA and we also host the Secretariat. The Nairobi Securities Exchange last hosted the ASEA Conference in 2004, at the KICC, during our 50th anniversary. We are therefore delighted to host the 18th edition of the ASEA annual conference this year as it coincides with our 60th anniversary (Diamond Jubilee). The conference will be held in Diani on the South Coast of Kenya, at the Leisure Lodge and Golf Resort from 23rd to 25th of November 2014.

The theme of this year's conference is, "***Africa on the Rise: Strengthening the Capital Markets Ecosystem to Fuel Economic Growth***".

We want to highlight how African exchanges are developing new products such as Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITS), Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) and derivatives to support Africa's growth.

We believe that the 18th ASEA Conference is a perfect opportunity for Kenya to showcase what we are doing as a market to position ourselves as the gateway to East and Central Africa. It also provides a very good opportunity to showcase to investors from Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas, how our listed companies can be used as a proxy for investment in Kenya and the wider East Africa region.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of NSE, I invite you all to partner with us as sponsors and delegates of this year's ASEA 2014 Conference. I would especially like to invite all our listed companies to sign up for the Investor Meetings which will take place on the sidelines of the Conference.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Echoing the speech of our President Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta, delivered to us during the Listing of the Nairobi Securities Exchange on September 9, 2014, "*Do not let your country down: mine is to ask you to showcase Nairobi as the financial services hub of East and Central Africa; and to make the case for Kenya to your compatriots.*"

It is now my pleasure to invite our moderator, Mr. Larry Madowo to introduce and invite our panelists on stage.

BOB KARINA
VICE CHAIRMAN
NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE