



**PRESS STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS- H.E PETER
MUNYA**

22 JANUARY 2016

**Members of the Press,
Citizens of Kenya**

COUNCIL OF GOVERNORS STATEMENT ON THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

The Council of Governors would like to reaffirm its continued support to the fight against corruption and advocates for accountability and transparency of ALL County Governments. This fight spearheaded by the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E Hon Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta, CGH, is supported by all Governors to ensure the realization of Kenya's development goals and the devolution promise.

The Council of Governors is however concerned by recent occurrences and the manipulation of various entities in this struggle against corruption to advance interests not founded on the principles of rule of law, good governance and respect for human rights. The most recent occurrence being the case of the Governor of Muranga County, H.E Mwangi Wa Iria.

On Thursday 21st January 2016, officials of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission raided the home of H.E Mwangi Wa Iria at 4.00am in the morning escorted by 15 armed gun men. They forcefully entered his premises using a search warrant which did not have details as to:

1. the specific offence he committed;
2. the documents they were after; and
3. the areas they were authorized to search as prescribed by the Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Act and the Criminal Procedure Code.

Further, the officers assaulted him and his family, and took their personal effects including all their mobile phones. At the same time, they raided the house of his parents and his close relatives unnecessarily harassing them. The arbitrary confiscation of his property has since crippled his ability to do his legitimate business and discharge the duties of his office. This is an affront to the rule of law and a gross violation of his fundamental Constitutional rights to privacy and dignity more so as the head of the County Government of Murang'a with over 1 million voters.

The Council of Governors wishes to express itself concerning the exercise the statutory powers of search and seizure exercised by the officers of the EACC. This is seen as an attempt to reverse the democratic gains envisioned under the devolved system of government. It is completely malicious, in bad faith and meant not only injure his reputation but also calculated to give his opponents political mileage.

The Council is committed to this fight against corruption but emphasizes that it should be exercised in a manner that protects the dignity and integrity of ALL elected leaders in the undertaking of their mandate.