

**REMARKS BY H.E AMB HUSSEIN DADO, DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE REPORT ‘SECURING THE COUNTIES: OPTIONS FOR SECURITY AFTER DEVOLUTION IN KENYA’**

*Government Representatives,  
Civil Society actors,  
Distinguished Guests,*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I am truly honored to be here today, and most importantly, I am honored to be in a forum that seeks to discuss matters of security noting that currently, our country’s security is under serious threat. I take this opportunity to first stand in solidarity with our fellow Kenyans who have lost their loved ones in the recent Mandera attacks. We at the Council of Governors send heartfelt condolences to the families affected by this heinous tragedy and demand for the quick arrest and prosecution of the criminals responsible for the attacks. I would also like to send condolences to all the families that have been affected, directly or indirectly, by recent acts of terror experienced in the country. Clearly, the launch of this report is timely.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I would like to point out that the role of County Governments in security cannot be ignored. In this new constitutional dispensation, the National Government has its exclusive functions and the County Governments have their own functions. However, on security matters, the Council of Governors is convicted that the duty of securing the country from external and internal enemies lies with both the National Government and the County Governments. The two levels must collaborate and streamline their efforts if the war against insecurity is to be successfully won.

Through the National Police Service Act, County Governments have been mandated to set up County Policing Authorities. We believe that these security apparatuses will be extremely useful in the fight against insecurity in the country. The guidelines to operationalize these Authorities lie with the Attorney-General’s Office, whom we hope shall gazette the guidelines at the earliest. These Authorities will be instrumental in gathering of intelligence and advising on distribution of policing manpower at the county level.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I note with deep concern the emerging threats against our country, among others youth radicalization and terrorism, and pray that all security actors at the national and county level will come together and find permanent solutions to the same. The Council of Governors

believes that our security concerns will be adequately addressed when there is collaboration between the National Government and the County Governments to address the following: adequate allocation of resources to the policing and intelligence units; proper training for security personnel; proper communication channels for intelligence; and coordination of efforts from the Executive, Legislature all the way to the Judiciary at both the national and county level.

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*

I applaud the efforts of the Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies for developing this policy report before us today. This report will assist counties to identify opportunities for addressing their security concerns. I hope that this report will also inform all security actors on the potential areas for partnership between the two levels of government.

Thank you.