



Dear Hon. Ukur Yatani Kanacho  
Cabinet Secretary  
National Treasury and Planning  
Treasury Building  
HARAMBEE AVENUE.

Dear Sir

## **RE: DOMESTICATION OF THE GREAT RECOVERY PLAN IN KENYA**

Since the year 2000, the global community has fashioned an International development framework for cooperation among stakeholders. It started with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) from 2000 to 2015 a period which recorded the greatest reduction of poverty in modern history. From 2016, the world has rallied around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which seek to balance human progress and conservation of the planet. The Agenda 2030 has been domesticated in Kenya and implementation began well and remarkable progress in some targets was being made until 2020 when COVID 19 struck. The effects of COVID 19 and the mitigation measures employed by Government have already led to some erosion of gains made and the pandemic has become a clutch to human efforts and progress towards development. Kenya like most countries requires a programmatic and people centered Great Recovery into the future.

Our world is now at a turning point. More people are sliding back to poverty and the effects of climate change are being worsened by COVID 19. We have more children out of school and the gender inequality has expanded during the Covid 19. The life of people on the planet is NOT likely to turn out to be “*the future we want*” if we continue with business as usual. We therefore need to transform the existing system that is no longer fit for purpose, and this time it will require the commitment of all stakeholders.

The **SDGs Kenya Forum** network together with hundreds of civil society partners around the world, urge you to come together with other leaders in this Decisive Decade to lead a transformative effort – to uphold universal principles of care and cooperation, human rights and gender equality; support a zero-carbon economy and green jobs; and ensure we crack the converging crises of COVID-19, injustice, climate change and nature loss.

In this regard, we are calling for you to forge a **Great Recovery Plan** with action in three key areas, to power a future that is healthy, green and just.

We are calling for specific action in the following areas:

## 1/ HEALTHY

**Vaccines for All** – To end the vaccine crisis apartheid we call for a ‘vaccines for all global roadmap’. The poorest citizens and countries must have the same rights and access to immunization as the richest so that we reach at least 60% of people across all countries by the end of 2021 and a vaccine for all who need one by the end of 2022; we call for an immediate temporary waiver of intellectual property protections on all Covid-19 technologies and demand that the vaccine know-how is shared as soon as possible to drive down the cost and scale up production in all continents as part of an emergency plan for universal coverage.

**Universal Healthcare** – We believe that access to healthcare is a basic human right. We call on you to ensure everyone has access to free, public, high-quality health care including maternal, adolescent and child care, and we also call for support to address mental health, improve nutrition, tackle obesity, and promote wellbeing. Invest in millions of new doctors, nurses and other health workers to make this a reality, with better pay and conditions for those working on the front lines.

**Healthy Food Systems** – We call for an end to famines, hunger and malnutrition with a well-resourced humanitarian system and regenerative food systems that will help improve nutrition and fight obesity while also providing farmers with a fair share of the value they create.

## 2/ GREEN

**A Healthy Planet** – It is essential that all countries proceed to implement the Paris Agreement goal to limit mean global temperature rise to 1.5C by committing to science-based targets and a net zero emissions economy by 2050 with ambitious climate action plans in place in each country that demonstrate immediate action. Protect the ecosystems on which all life depends by strengthening international environmental law and reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.

**An End to Fossil Fuels** – All governments, development partners, donors and investors must end financing of coal in 2021. We call for a shift in funding towards clean and green R&D, to deliver solutions that provide quality jobs and power the future ethically and sustainably. We call for recovery packages to dramatically accelerate the transition to a zero carbon economy by setting common minimum floors, transparency and robust principles for green recovery spending, including do-no-harm principles and ecosystem restoration objectives.

**No-one Left Behind** – Deliver on climate finance promises, including the \$100bn annual floor set out in the Paris Agreement and commit to unlocking the liquidity necessary to ensure all countries, including those most in need, can respond to

systemic environmental and social challenges. Commit to directing at least 50% of total climate finance, bilateral and multilateral investment, toward adaptation and resilience.

3/ JUST

**Forge a New Social Contract** – Keep your promise to end poverty with a new deal that delivers social protection for all and protects workers' rights, while tackling threats posed by historic injustice, including racism, patriarchy, inequality and colonialism. Ensure financial support reaches those who most need it, by prioritizing funds for women, disadvantaged minorities, young people, persons with disabilities, migrants and other most affected groups.

**Protect Civil Rights** – Ensure rights are guaranteed, close the digital divide and protect democracy, privacy and larger freedoms; including the rights of campaigners to speak out, as well as the rights of workers to organize collectively and bargain for improvements in pay and conditions to reshape the future of work.

**Design Fair Economic Systems** – Drop the debt and not the aid, ensure recovery packages deliver a fairer, safer, greener and healthier future for all funded by trillions of dollars in additional international financing, including equitable allocation of new Special Drawing Rights, debt restructuring, better aid and far more support from multilateral development banks. Ensure everyone plays their part by taxing companies and individuals fairly, and incentivizing positive social and environmental performance throughout the economy to strengthen corporate accountability and create a regenerative and circular economy.

As the country begins to heal from the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic, the Government of Kenya has been presented with a historic opportunity to lead a Great Recovery for all, to uphold the Paris Climate Agreement by halving global emissions by 2030 while the attainment of the 17 Global Goals for Sustainable Development remains on track even as they endeavor to leave no one behind. Whereas Government is expected to lead in policies, planning and funding recovery efforts, communities and volunteers are stepping up their efforts to ensure vital food, medical supplies and basic provisions are delivered. They are also providing the needed care to the affected and building resilience at the lower levels.

The purpose of this call is to enable you to direct ministries, department, counties and agencies to prioritize the Great Recovery Plan in their budgeting proposals to ensure that the Government of Kenya leads the recovery and also complements the heavy responsibility being born by communities and grassroot organizations.

Yours Faithfully

**Florence Syevuo**  
**Coordinator, SDGs Kenya Forum**