



**ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT-(FOURTH SESSION)**

**THE SENATE**

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR ON THE FOURTH ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE ON DEVOLVED GOVERNMENT IN KENYA**

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**Honourable Senators,**

As you are aware, the Devolution Conference has, since 2013, been organized on an annual basis, bringing together all implementers of devolved governance to celebrate the gains that have been made, and identify challenges that can be addressed collaboratively amongst stakeholders, for the welfare of our country.

The participants at the Annual Devolution Conference comprise, but not limited to, representatives from both levels of government, independent commissions, academia, policy practitioners, civil society organizations, the donor community, international organizations and the media. Participants at the conference get an opportunity to deliberate on the successes of the devolved system of governance and how to take advantage of the emerging opportunities presented by devolution.

The First Annual Devolution Conference was held in Kwale County in April 2014, the Second in Kisumu in April 2015, the Third in Meru County in April 2016, and the Fourth, is set to be held in Narok County from 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2017.

**Honourable Senators,**

The proposed theme of the Fourth Devolution Conference will be **'Devolution – Transforming Lives: Tell Your Story!'**

A total of 10 thematic areas have been selected to guide deliberations. These are-

1. **Health:** Ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being in a devolved system of Governance.
2. **Agriculture:** Agricultural transformation for food, security, rural development and wealth creation.
3. **Infrastructure, Roads and Energy:** Promoting accelerated investment and access to markets.
4. **Natural Resource Management:** The potential and opportunities for natural resource management within a devolution context.
5. **Education, Gender, Youth, Sports, Culture and Social Services:** Equality and inclusivity for sustainable development at the County Level
6. **Urban Planning, Lands and Housing:** Building resilient and climate smart cities for growth and sustainable development.
7. **Trade and Cooperatives:** Promoting economic diversification through an enabled business environment.
8. **Elections:** Preparedness for seamless transition.
9. **Media Perspectives on Devolution for Development:**
10. **Corruption:** Facing corruption as a drawback to the development agenda.

The theme and topics selected for discussion during the Fourth Devolution Conference go to the core of the mandate of the Senate as set out at Article 94 and 96 of the Constitution. In this regard, Senators are hereby invited to attend and participate in this Conference.

Additional information on the arrangements for this event will be provided through the office of the Clerk. Senators intending to participate in the Conference are requested to give their confirmation in writing to the office of the Clerk, for planning purposes.

I thank you!

**HON. SEN. DAVID EKWEE ETHURO, EBS**  
**SPEAKER OF THE SENATE**

**October 13, 2016**