



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND FORESTRY

SPEAKER, THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY,

**DURING THE 48TH GRADUATION CEREMONY OF KENYA FORESTRY
COLLEGE,
LONDIANI, KERICHO COUNTY – 17TH OCTOBER 2025**

OCTOBER, 2025

Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Climate Change and Forestry,
Principal Secretary, State Department for Forestry,
Your Excellency the Governor of Kericho County,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Chairperson and Members of the KFS Board,
Chief Conservator of Forests,
Principal, Kenya Forestry College,
County Commissioner, Kericho County, Distinguished Guests, Parents, Staff, and
Graduands,

Good afternoon.

1. It is a great honour to join you in celebrating the 48th Graduation Ceremony of the Kenya Forestry College. I warmly congratulate the Class of 2025 for their remarkable achievement. Your perseverance and discipline have brought you to this important milestone.
2. I also extend appreciation to your parents, guardians, and lecturers for their tireless support and commitment to nurturing the next generation of forestry professionals.
3. Forestry remains a vital pillar of Kenya's environmental integrity and economic progress. Our forests sustain key ecosystem functions such as water regulation, soil conservation, and carbon sequestration while creating livelihoods and supporting industries such as timber, energy, and tourism.
4. The Government acknowledges that sustainable forest management is not merely an ecological necessity but a driver of economic transformation and social well-being.
5. Under the leadership of **H.E. President Dr. William Samoei Ruto**, the Kenya Kwanza Administration has prioritized forest and landscape restoration as a central pillar of national development.
6. Through the ***National Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Strategy***, the Government targets to increase tree cover to 30% by 2032,

complementing the ongoing 15 Billion Tree Growing Initiative. These efforts aim to reverse land degradation, enhance biodiversity, and build climate resilience.

7. The Government is also reviewing the ***Forest Conservation and Management Act (2016)*** to strengthen forest governance and empower communities through participatory management.
8. I commend the college for expanding its programmes in collaboration with **TVET-CDACC** to include diploma, craft, and artisan courses—broadening opportunities and aligning training with national development needs.
9. The Ministry continues to align forestry programmes with the ***Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA)***, focusing on green jobs, circular economy, and climate resilience.
10. The Government will deepen collaboration with county governments, private sector, community forest associations, and international partners to advance reforestation, promote green value chains such as bamboo and commercial forestry, and strengthen environmental governance.
11. To the graduands, today marks the beginning of your professional journey as custodians of Kenya's forests. You carry the responsibility to lead efforts in restoration, climate adaptation, and sustainable resource management.
12. Be ambassadors of sustainability and innovation wherever you go—whether in public service, private sector, or community initiatives. Your skills are essential to achieving Kenya's vision for a greener and more resilient future.
13. As we celebrate your achievements, let us renew our collective commitment to protect, restore, and sustainably manage our forests for the prosperity of current and future generations.
14. Congratulations once again to all graduands. Go forth with pride, purpose, and passion for service.

Thank you

God bless you all, and God bless the Republic of Kenya.