

**TALKING POINTS FOR HON. MITHIKA LINTURI, CABINET
SECRETARY FOR AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT
KENYA DURING THE AADFI CONSULTATIVE LUNCHEON AND
AWARDS ON 28TH MAY 2024 IN NAIROBI COUNTY**

Ladies and Gentlemen, Good afternoon.

1. It is a privilege and an honor to be here at this distinguished gathering of the Association of African Development Finance Institutions (AADFI). I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the organizers for their dedication and commitment in hosting this significant event here in Kenya.
2. We gather here today not just to celebrate and recognize the achievements of African DFIs in the past year, but to cast our eyes towards the future, a future that hinges on sustainability and the well-being of our people and our environment. The theme of this year's forum, focusing on introducing new solutions to make the financial industry a powerful force for sustainable industrialization, could not be more timely or pertinent.
3. As we navigate the complexities of the 21st century, it is increasingly clear that the financial industry must evolve to meet the changing

needs of our societies. In Kenya, we have made it a priority to ensure that all Development Financial Institutions, align their business strategies with the development needs of the country, the well-being of our people, and the preservation of our environment. This alignment is not merely a regulatory requirement, it is a moral imperative and a strategic necessity.

4. The role of Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) is pivotal in this transformation. DFIs are uniquely positioned to lead the charge in sustainable development through innovative financial solutions. They have the capacity to drive investments that are not only profitable but also socially and environmentally responsible. I am particularly pleased to note that you highlighted collaborative efforts in crafting a practical road map for African DFIs to access green funds, during the Workshop and General Assembly held yesterday.

5. Access to green funds is a game-changer for sustainable development. It allows us to invest in projects that mitigate climate change, promote renewable energy, enhance sustainable agriculture, and improve water and sanitation infrastructure. By channeling resources into these critical areas, we can create jobs, foster economic growth, and safeguard our natural resources for future generations.

6. To this end, the Kenyan government is committed to supporting DFIs in accessing and effectively utilizing green funds. We are working on establishing frameworks and partnerships that facilitate the flow of these resources. This includes policy reforms, capacity building, and the development of innovative financial instruments tailored to the unique needs of our region.

7. My Ministry, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, is deeply committed to promoting sustainable agricultural practices. We believe that Kenyan DFIs can play a vital role in supporting our efforts by providing financing for initiatives that improve soil health, conserve water, and promote climate-resilient crops.

8. Moreover, we are fostering a conducive environment for private sector participation. The private sector's involvement is crucial for scaling up investments and ensuring the sustainability of green projects. By leveraging the strengths of both public and private sectors, we can achieve a more resilient and inclusive economy.

9. Today, I would like to challenge all of us to think creatively and act boldly. Let us not be confined by traditional models but instead embrace new ideas and technologies that can propel us towards our goals. The future of Africa depends on our ability to adapt and

innovate, to turn challenges into opportunities, and to ensure that no one is left behind in our quest for sustainable development.

10. As I conclude, I want to express my deep appreciation for the efforts and achievements of all the DFIs represented here today. Your work is instrumental in shaping a brighter, more sustainable future for our continent. Let us continue to collaborate, innovate, and lead by example.
11. I join you in celebrating all the awardees being honored today. Congratulations! Your achievements are not just a testament to your commitment to excellence and accountability, they also serve as a benchmark for all AADFI members as they improve and successfully achieve their mandates in Africa and beyond.
12. Together, we can make sustainable industrialization a reality and build a prosperous future for all.

Thank you.