

We have given you a go ahead: Ndathi to KEMRI

By NJORORGE KABURO

Kirinyaga Governor Joseph Ndathi has expressed the County's readiness to donate land to Kenya Medical Research Institute for construction of a Research Centre.

Speaking to KEMRI Chairman and other commissioners who paid him a courtesy call in his Kutus office, Ndathi said the county was more than ready to welcome the noble project to benefit the locals and provide solutions to their Medical Health needs.

"My Government has prioritized Health matters and therefore by increasing investments on healthcare, we shall be able to stop preventable deaths which may be occurring due to lack or under-resourced healthcare systems and that is why such an institute is welcome," said Ndathi.

Ndathi said following the project's completion, all challenges related to Biotechnological Health Research, examination on prevalence of ailments and other Medicinal and Clinical-related studies and their possible solutions would have been solved once and for all.

The massive Health Research, Biotechnology and Manufacturing Park to be put up in Wamumu area in Mwea Constituency in Kirinyaga County.

Ndathi urged the Institute to involve the local community input and employ youth and women from Kirinyaga when the construction process kicks off.

KEMRI hailed Kirinyaga County Government for awarding the chunk of land measuring 100 acres to the Research Institute to construct the ultra-modern research Center.

“The facility which will kick off anytime from now, and we urge the farmers in this land to clear harvesting their produce as soon as possible,” said the KEMRI boss.

He said once complete, KEMRI Graduate School will offer an opportunity to undergraduate and post graduate students in Biomedical, Social and Behavioral Sciences to pursue studies in the newly built center.

He thanked the residents and leadership of Kirinyaga County for the foresight in choosing to work with the Institute

Kirinyaga County Health Executive Wambu Miano welcomed the initiative saying the programme was long overdue but the stakeholders had lacked sustainable legal framework and deliberate social policy to kick off the program.

“We shall have clearly recorded details about prevalence of different diseases in every hospital and health center will be instrumental in accurately guiding and informing future research programs, pointed out Mr. Wambu.

He expressed the Government’s readiness to partner with development partners to initiate more development Strategies to realize better health for the residents.

“This will be earmarked as a flagship project and my Ministry is set collaborate with KEMRI on areas of Research and Development in order to promote curative measures and improve Health of our people,” added Mr. Wambu.

His Lands and urban Development counterpart Harry Mugo also hailed KEMRI’s initiative for choosing to invest in the County.

“The request for the land by KEMRI was initiated long ago but there had been a few hiccups here and there but they have since been ironed out, and we therefore wish to extend a warm welcome to KEMRI,” he concluded.

Chairman of Wamaumu Community Sammy Kanyuira hailed the initiative and appealed to the community to cooperate with the development partner.

The facility will entail an Administration Office Block, Research Centre for Mental Health, Behavioral Sciences, Communicable and non-Communicable diseases, Medicinal Plants Research, Clinical Research, Biotechnological Research, Parking, a Hospital with Accident and Emergency Unit, Outpatient Clinics, Doctor's room, Nurses room, Outpatient Clinics, Inpatient wards, Theaters, Pharmacy, ICU, Sterilization Unit, Graduate School with Lecture halls, Meeting Rooms and Teaching Labs and a Students' center, Botanical Garden, Manufacturing Facility, Workshops, Recreational Center, Conference Center, Residential areas, Borehole area, Mortuary, Security area among others.



2 KEMRI Board members with Kirinyaga Governor Joseph Ndathi outside Kutus Headquarters when they paid the Governor a courtesy call