



## COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF LAIKIPIA

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### GOVERNOR HOSTS NATIONAL OFFICIALS OF KNCCI

**Nanyuki 24<sup>th</sup> November 24, 2020**.....This morning HE Governor Ndiritu Muriithi had a fruitful discussion with national officials of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry led by the President Mr Richard Ngatia.

The engagement touched on strengthening of the partnership between the two institutions to help in the growth of businesses and the economy in general.

The Governor took the officials through the latest Laikipia county statistical abstract showing them how their members could use it to make critical investment decisions.

He urged the KNCCI to encourage its members to use the refurbished meter-gauge Nairobi-Nanyuki railway line to transport their goods which is cheaper. He said Laikipia was endowed with deposits of important minerals such as iron which the private sector could easily exploit now that the railway line is back.

The Governor urged the private sector to observe the existing laws and regulations while investing to avoid costly corrections in future. He gave the example of the real estate sector where investors ignored physical planning regulations such as making provision for sewer lines, public utility spaces, among others. This is now costing the government heavily as it corrects such mistakes of the past.

“The work of the government is not to block you as an investor but it better to do the right thing from the beginning,” the Governor said.

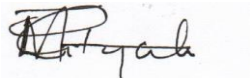
He also clarified on the pending bills pointing out that in line with an advice by the Attorney General, a committee has been picked and gazetted to inspect the pending bills that had been considered as unpayable by several audits.

In its efforts to promote manufacturing, the County Government of Laikipia has designated common manufacturing facilities and industrial parks that can eventually become special economic zones in various urban centres across the county. There are even plans to provide the earmarked area in Rumuruti with cheaper electricity power.

On his part Mr Ngatia said KNCCI was building the capacity of local SMEs to help them see the important of paying taxes to the government. This will broaden the tax base by increasing tax compliance among the KNCCI members.

He said the organization was keen on the partnership with the county government to remove any bottlenecks that normally plague local businesses.

He said KNCCI had received Kshs.300 million to support local production of facemasks. This is a big opportunity for Laikipia SMEs which have been producing 50,000 masks per day.



**Muchiri Gitonga**  
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