



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION'S AWARD
WINNING POLICY ON FAMILY PROMOTION AND
PROTECTION

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION'S AWARD WINNING POLICY ON FAMILY PROMOTION AND PROTECTION

Nairobi, Saturday, February 22, 2020... Kenya, through the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection has won the International Federation for Family Development (IFFD) 2020 Awards.

The family is very important in the development of a country in both the social, economic and political aspects. However, the basis of founding of a family is hardly given enough attention that it deserves. Therefore, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection developed a policy dubbed the National Policy on Family Promotion and Protection that provides a coherent and comprehensive framework for the implementation and monitoring of policy and programs to ensure that the protection and support of the family is ingrained in them.

The Government of Kenya recognizes that the family is owed protection by society and the State as indicated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the African Charter on Human and nurturing and protecting the wellbeing of the family and affirms that the family is entitled to enjoy the recognition and protection of the State.

During the 58th Session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD) held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York last week, Kenya's effort was recognized for aligning Kenya's Draft National Policy on Family Promotion and Protection (NFP&PP) with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), drafting an Action Policy Implementation Plan and subsequent engagements in arriving at the National Policy on Family Promotion and Protection. Subsequently, Kenya was awarded the IFFD 2020 Award which was received by Deputy Director for Social Development Ms. Risper Maroko, the leader of the Kenyan Delegation, at the 75th session of the Commission for Social Development at the International Federation for Family Development (IFFD) at the UN Headquarters in New York.

In her address at the 78th session of the CSocD, Ms. Risper said, "The Policy is the first since independence that speaks to the family as a unit. The Family Policy is built around the recognition of the family as a fundamental social unit, with the Vision of 'Happy and stable families for a strong society.'"

"The Policy is founded on the key guiding principles of stable marriages, responsible parenting, family diversity, family resilience, community participation, human rights and strong partnerships. The overall goal of the policy is to provide

an environment that recognizes and facilitates family well-being, and empowers families to participate in the socio-economic development of the country," she added.

The 58th session of CSocD was attended by various stakeholders in an effort to support the progressive realization of the right to adequate, safe and affordable housing for every family and prevent homelessness. It highlighted national, sub-national, and local strategies to tackle challenges as shortage of affordable housing; investment speculation in housing; unplanned and rapid urbanization, unemployment, family breakdown and lack of social protection systems.

In line with the theme of the day of the Award, **"Our first home: Adequate housing and family formation"**, the policy addressed family formation and housing in the thematic areas on marriage, parenting, family education, family health, vulnerability and social protection and family safety and security.

The Ministry in collaboration with Strathmore University, Council of Governors, the Judiciary, Interreligious Council of Kenya (IRCK), African Inland Church (AIC) Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) Hindu Council of Kenya (HCK) Kenya Christian Professionals Forum (KCPF), National Agency for Campaign Against Grug Abuse (NACADA) and the United Nations Development for Economic and Social Affairs among other stakeholders worked in the development process of the National Policy on Family Promotion and Protection.

Ms Risper Maroko, was accompanied by an Asst. Director in the Social Assistance Unit, SAU, Mr. Mac Botongore, Jacinta Mwendu and Joyce Mugure both from Department of Social Development among others.

Mr. Joseph Mwangi

Head/Public Communications Unit