



Your G2B trading partner

**KENYA TRADE NETWORK AGENCY (KENTRADE)**  
*Simplifying Trade Processes for Kenya's Competitiveness*

**REMARKS BY MR. AMOS WANGORA, ACTING CEO OF KENTRADE, AT  
THE KENYA TRADENET SYSTEM - DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE HELD  
AT HOTEL INTER CONTINENTAL NAIROBI ON OCTOBER 14, 2015**

---

- Salutations
- Ladies and Gentlemen
- Good morning!

Let me first thank each and every one of you for sparing your time to join us today to deliberate on implementation of the National Electronic Single Window System, which in Kenya we have branded as the Kenya TradeNet System. In a special way I want to thank the World Bank Group through Mr. Mupelwa Sichilima for supporting this particular event and also Media Council of Kenya through their CEO Dr. Haroun Mwangi for agreeing to partner with us in this initiative to ensure that information on the Kenya TradeNet System is correctly disseminated.

When we first organized a forum with the Media Council in Naivasha in July 2013, we were gearing towards the Go – Live of the System. In fact this is the fourth event that we are organizing in partnership with the Media Council. But today we can now reflect on the achievements and challenges as we endeavor to transform our country's cargo clearance processes through implementation of the online portal, the Kenya TradeNet System. Implementation of Single Window Systems is now a global best practice in trade facilitation.

I also wish to thank the distinguished panelists who are professionals in the field of Trade Logistics and have been key to the implementation of the Kenya TradeNet System and also our Partner Government Agencies... represented here, the private sector stakeholders such as KIFWA, Shippers Council of Eastern Africa and many others present here today.

Ladies and Gentlemen, this event could not have come at a better time especially for us at KenTrade considering that it is 2 years since Kenya TradeNet System went live. We therefore feel that it is critical that we

have such events to update stakeholders on developments with regards to the implementation. I must add however that unlike previous similar forums, this one is more significant given its scope, engagement model and diverse nature of participants.

For the benefit of those who are engaging with us for the first time, allow me to briefly talk about our mandate.....Kenya Trade Network Agency commonly called KenTrade is a State Agency under the National Treasury established in 2011. Our key objective is to simplify trade process in Kenya by the establishment, implementation and management of the Kenya TradeNet System and to facilitate trade.

The genesis of the implementation of the Kenya TradeNet System was a realization by the Government about 10 years ago, that the cargo clearing processes at various border points in the country faced a number of problems that were compromising the country's ability to maximize on the benefits to be accrued from International Trade. Secondly, was the importance of International Trade as a powerful vehicle for wealth and employment creation. So as a result of the above, the Project was identified as one of the projects of Kenya's Vision 2030 under the Economic Pillar.

More importantly, as traders we know that Kenya (Port of Mombasa) is a major link between land-locked neighboring countries and the rest of the world in maritime transport. Uganda for example, relies heavily on the Port of Mombasa; about 80 per cent of its imports pass through the port. The bulk of Rwanda's exports of coffee, tea, tin and ore and its imports of consumer goods, machinery, food and fuel also go through the Kenyan port. Burundi and the Democratic republic of Congo are also heavily reliant on the port, especially for fuel imports. Tanzania-bound imports and Sudan to some extent also account of total transit traffic. Others include Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and Malawi hence the need for making the Port as efficient as possible in order to serve this vast hinterland.

During the official launch of the Kenya TradeNet System in May last year, you may recall that H.E President Kenyatta alluded to the fact that International Trade in Kenya was cumbersome and involved submission of large volumes of information and documents to Government authorities to comply with import, export and transit-related regulatory requirements.

Implementation of the Kenya TradeNet System therefore is intended to simplify International trade logistics and contribute in addressing the challenges. Since the Go – Live in October 2013, we have made significant progress, experienced and addressed challenges which I believe we will be discussing in details shortly.

As I conclude, let me say the implementation of Single Window System has become a global agenda as stated by the the World Trade Organization, Trade Facilitation Agreement Article 10 which encourages member countries to implement SWS. In Africa, the concept is being promoted by African Alliance for e-Commerce (AACE) which is a grouping of member countries implementing the Single Window System in Africa.

Finally, I request all KenTrade staff here today to stand up for introductions.

Once again I take the opportunity to thank each and every one of you, for the enormous support without which we would not have come this far and for honoring our invitation.

Last but not least, I wish to acknowledge all those who were involved in the organization of this event, the joint team from the World Bank Group, the Media Council of Kenya, the KenTrade team and the event Moderator, Wallace Kantai.

I thank you all

**Amos Wangora**

**OCTOBER 14, 2015**

