

REMARKS BY THE AG INSPECTOR GENERAL MR. NOOR GABOW, CBS, OGW AS READ BY THE POLICE SPOKESPERSON DURING THE LAUNCH OF THE LEGAL FREEDOM CLINIC ON 12 OCTOBER 2022 AT AGA KHAN WALK.

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The Hon Chief Justice,  
H.E the Governor – Nairobi,  
The Executive Director Amnesty International – Kenya,  
Chairpersons/Heads Constitutional/Independent Offices,  
Chairperson Law Society of Kenya,  
Paralegal Society of Kenya,  
All Protocols Observed,  
Ladies and Gentlemen.

*Good morning,*

We are gathered here this morning for the launch of the legal freedom clinic, which in itself is an auspicious occasion where we as partners in the human rights space all converge and affirm the rights, freedoms and liberties of the people. During this occasion, we shall equally participate in the celebrations marking ten (10) years of Amnesty International - Kenya's mission to promote and protect the freedoms and rights of all Kenyans regardless of their background or identity.

As the National Police Service, we are therefore pleased to be part of this celebration. And not out of privilege but as a right. As police, and unbeknown to many, we are and remain on the frontline, and not sidelines, standing for the rights, freedoms and liberties of all citizens. This is out of a mandate not of our own making, but as bestowed by the constitution. Indeed, as it is, the first and singular duty of any police agency is to protect lives and property.

Therefore, from this constitutional expectation, we can therefore proudly say that as police, we are the big brother offering human rights protections. We are the thin-blue-line standing between good and bad, ensuring that the majority enjoy their freedoms and are not preyed upon and disadvantaged by the evils of society. And whilst exercising this mandate, we work very closely and collaboratively with partners, including but not limited to all of you gathered here this morning.

I would therefore like to acknowledge you all, taking this opportunity to assure all Kenyans and you as partners that as a Service, we continue to stand on the frontline of protecting all Kenyans, just like Amnesty International – Kenya's mission: "... *regardless of their background and identity.*" We passionately share in this mission and will continue to work towards closer partnerships with all human rights crusaders to realize it.

And further, on our part as a Service, we are reforming our service provision orientation to realign it with the expectation of those who we police. We remain open for mutual and fruitful engagement and friendship with all to share and also learn on how to serve better. And at the core of our police mission, as we strive to be responsive to the needs of the public, we aim to be "... *professional and people-centred through community partnership and upholding rule of law for a safe and secure society.*" This is the bare minimum path we are trodding along, now, and moving forward; and it is a journey we intend to accomplish to enable us to reach our desired destination.

With this few remarks, we thank you for the invitation and continued partnerships.

NOOR GABOW, CBS, OGW  
ACTING INSPECTOR GENERAL  
NATIONAL POLICE SERVICE.