



MAU FORESTS COMPLEX

Government's response

A presentation by the Interim Coordinating Secretariat

November 2009



Government's response: *overview*

1. Problem identification

26 May 2008 **Meeting and presentation on the Mau Forests Complex with major Government stakeholders**
Including Prime Minister, Ministers for Forestry and Wildlife, Water and Irrigation, Lands, Permanent Secretaries, relevant heads of Departments and Services, and Members of Parliament from the Mau Complex area.

27 May 2008 **Flights over the Mau Forests Complex with major Government stakeholders**
Including Prime Minister, Ministers for Forestry and Wildlife, Water and Irrigation, Lands, Provincial Commissioner (Rift Valley), relevant heads of Departments and Services, and Members of Parliament. Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources flew on 7 May 2008.

15 July 2008 **KICC Conference on the Mau Forests Complex**
Attended by the Prime Minister and ten Cabinet Ministers as well as over 300 people representing all major stakeholders, including communities and private sector.

The Conference endorsed the establishment of a Task Force.



Government's response: *overview*

2. Assessment and consensus building on recommendations

- 23 July 2008* **Launch of the multi-stakeholder Task Force on the Conservation of the Mau Forests Complex**
- 21 March 2009* **Final report of the Mau Task Force presented to the Government**
- Dec. 2008-
June 2009* **Four meetings between Government and MPs from the Mau area to build consensus**
- 30 July 2009* **Cabinet approved the report of the Mau Task Force**
- 15 Sep. 2009* **Parliament adopted the report of the Mau Task Force**

3. Recommendations implementation

- 4 Sep. 2009* **Launch of the Interim Coordinating Secretariat**



Task Force's objectives

To formulate recommendations to the Government for:

- An effective management structure to stop any further degradation in the Mau Forest Complex;
- Providing for the relocation for the people residing in the forests;
- The restoration of all degraded forests and critical water catchment areas in the Mau Forest Complex;
- Mobilizing resources to implement the above mentioned objectives and secure the sustainability of the entire ecosystem.



Task Force's principles

- **Participatory-based:** multi-stakeholder membership, including Government, affected communities, private sector and NGOs.
- **Consensus-based:** agreement reached at committee level before being presented at Task Force level. Two consensus-building workshops focusing on key findings and recommendations.
- **Based on facts:** over 200 kg of official Government records collected, keyed in database and analysed.
- **Based on science:** 3 assessment studies commissioned, involving teams of experts from NMK, Moi University and legal advisers.



Interim Coordinating Secretariat

Secretariat's objectives

- To coordinate the implementation of the recommendations of the Mau Task Force. The implementation to be carried out by the relevant Ministries and stakeholders.
- To develop the framework for long-term measures to restore and sustainably manage the Mau Forests Complex and other water towers.

Secretariat's term

- A period not exceeding 2 years

Secretariat's main focus areas

- Resettlement
- Management
- Restoration
- Resources mobilization



Interim Coordinating Secretariat

Secretariat's overall structure



Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee's objectives

- To review the progress made by the Interim Coordinating Secretariat;
- To provide guidance to the Interim Coordinating Secretariat, in particular on policy matter; and,
- To help secure the full support of the Government, in particular in terms of human and financial resources.



Interim Coordinating Secretariat

Secretariat's Composition

- **Members:** senior officials from the relevant Ministries
 - Forestry and Wildlife;
 - Lands;
 - Environment and Mineral Resources;
 - Water and Irrigation;
 - Regional Development Authorities.
- **Technical Advisers:** from academia, international organizations, non-governmental organizations
- **Experts:** called to help address specific issues
 - Forestry and Wildlife;
 - Special Programmes;
 - National Security and Intelligence Service
 - Attorney-General Office.



Secretariat's activity update

Overall coordination

- Development of a work programme for the rehabilitation of the Mau Forests Complex.
- Coordination meetings:
 - With the President, the Prime Minister and the National Security Advisory Council to discuss the phased approach for the repossession of forest land;
 - With Ministers to discuss specific issues pertaining to their portfolios;
 - With Permanent Secretaries from the most relevant Ministries on a one-to-one basis to discuss the work programme and immediate interventions.
- Coordination and planning workshops for field officers
 - Nakuru, 22 September 2009;
 - Nakuru, 22 October 2009;
 - Nakuru, 10 November 2009.



Secretariat's activity update

Resource mobilization

- *Strategic Partners Consultative Forum* held at UNEP on 9 September. The Forum will meet once or twice a year;
- Development of three project documents with two development partners (European union, USAID);
- Development of a fully-fledged project document with support from three UNEP consultants;
- Engagement with other development partners.

Communication and Outreach

- Breakfast briefing with media houses' editors, Nairobi, 19 October 2009;
- Breakfast briefing with media houses' journalists, Nakuru, 23 October 2009;
- Development and dissemination of FAQs.



Secretariat's activity update

Conservation and enforcement

- Joint Enforcement Unit (JEU) in place since 28 July 2008:
 - o Comprised 182 rangers from KWS, KFS, AP, NCC;
 - o Coordinated by KWS and supported by an aircraft;
 - o Focused in the southern part of the Mau Forests Complex.
- Illegal activities already reduced by an estimated 60% - 70% in the southern part of the Mau.
- In line with the Task Force recommendation, the Joint Enforcement Unit needs to secure the entire Mau Forests Complex. In order to do so, the Joint Enforcement Unit needs an additional 250 rangers.



Interim Coordinating Secretariat

Secretariat's activity update

Conservation and enforcement – achievements July 08 – August 09

	Impounded	Destroyed
Timber (posts, beams)	33,672	2,102
Charcoal (bags)	7,836	31,061
Charcoal (kilns)	-	185
	Arrested	
Suspects	598	
Lorries	Over 50	



Secretariat's activity update

Rehabilitation of forests and critical water catchments

- Title Deeds Surrender Offices established in the 8 districts of the Mau region and in Ardhi House, Nairobi;
- Notice for surrendering title deeds published in the media;
- 21 title deeds surrendered.



Interim Coordinating Secretariat

Secretariat's activity update

Rehabilitation of forests and critical water catchments

- Preparation for the repossession of forestland in five phases
- Phases and II are being implemented:

Forest area / Forest block	Status	Area [Ha]
Phase I: Forestland excised but unparceled or unoccupied		
Likia Extension / Eastern Mau	Excised but vacated	530
LR 25148 / Eastern Mau	Excised but not parceled	1,050
Mariashoni / Eastern Mau	Excised but not parceled	2,950
Phase II: Encroachment in gazetted forest reserves (no title deeds issued)		
South Western Mau	Gazetted Forest Reserve	19,000