REMARKS BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GLOCEPS DURING LAUNCH OF THE GLOCEPS SP AT RADDISON BLU HOTEL, NAIROBI ON 15TH DECEMBER 2022

Our Chief Guest, Amb. Dennis Awori, Chairman and Country Delegate, Corporation For Africa And Overseas (CFAO), Kenya Limited,

Nayef Elgahtani, Deputy Ambassador of the State of Qatar to Kenya,

Amb George Orina-Director General, Bilateral and Political Affairs, in of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Kenya,

Our Key Note Speaker, Ms Nancy Matimu, CEO, MutiChoice,

GLOCEPS Board Members present,

GLOCEPS Council of Advisors present,

GIOCEPS Associates,

GLOCEPS Staff,

Distinguished invited Guests representing like-minded institutions and think tanks,
Ladies and Gentlemen, Good afternoon.

Allow me to start my remarks by sincerely thanking all of you for finding time from your busy schedules to join us today as we mark, yet another major milestone in our history…the launch of our inaugural Strategic Plan, 2022-2027.

It gives me great pleasure to be part of this historical event. The Plan that we are about to launch today defines the direction that GLOCEPS will take in the next five years. It is a product of extensive and inclusive consultations between the Centre and its stakeholders. This ensured that the outcome document is as comprehensive as possible and aims at positioning GLOCEPS for enhanced research contribution to global peace and prosperity.

At the risk of becoming repetitive, I wish to introduce you to GLOCEPS. We are a think-tank based here in Nairobi, Kenya. We were founded in 2020 to address an existing gap in evidence-based research for policy influence and strategic formulation. We provide strategic linkage between experience and research by bringing together outstanding professionals, thought leaders and academia to advance key issues on peace and prosperity.

The Center’s work cuts across five pillars, namely; security and defence; foreign policy; transnational organized crimes; governance & ethics; and development.

In the last three years of our existence, we have developed products that have increasingly made policymakers appreciate the value of action research. We, therefore, believe that the development, launch and
to greater heights as it seeks to grow its national, regional, and international influence.

The Strategic Plan that we are about to launch has identified seven [7] Key Result Areas [KRA] that GLOCEPS will focus its effort and resources on during the next 5 years.

The first KRA is **Research and Dissemination.** The KRA seeks to mainstream research as an integral component of the Centre. It has prioritized strategies that will promote timely production and dissemination of quality research outputs that will increasingly influence policy and strategy formulation.

The second KRA is **Resource Mobilization and Financial Sustainability.** It identifies measures that will contribute to enhanced mobilization of resources to enable the Centre achieve its mandate. It also proposes financial sustainability interventions that will guarantee the Centre’s long-term viability and survivability.

The third one is **Human Resource and Intellectual Capacity.** This KRA recognizes that our human resource is our greatest asset. It prioritizes strategies to develop the Centre’s human resource capacity by enhancing their abilities, knowledge, and experiences, which are crucial for our mandate achievement.

The fourth KRA is **Strategic engagement and Visibility.** This identifies strategies that will strengthen the Centre’s corporate image and communication capability.
The fifth one is **Infrastructure Development and Maintenance.** This KRA addresses the inadequacy of infrastructure and workspace in the Centre. It prioritizes efforts to allow timely infrastructural expansion and growth to cut costs on current hiring and renting of facilities.

The sixth one is **Information Communication and Technology.** It seeks to harness modern technology to support the Centre's functions and increase its efficiency.

The final KRA is **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).** It seeks to prioritize the Centre's participation in community engagements with a view to impact positively on the environment and livelihoods. This is intended to increase the Centre's standing, visibility and corporate identity.

It is also worth noting that each of these KRAs is supported by clearly spelt-out implementation objectives that will facilitate the acceleration of the Centre's aspirations. I also note with satisfaction that there is a monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework that is embedded in the Plan. This will surely aid its timely implementation.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Today's ceremony is equally a celebration of the Centre’s tremendous achievement of key milestones over the past three years. As was demonstrated in our historical documentary, other key activities undertaken by GLOCEPS that we also celebrate today include; conduct of a successful expert workshop on **Global Hydro Governance and Blue Economy Potential Prospects: Impediments and Strategic Priorities** (late 2020); the launch of our flagship journal, **The**
Influential Bulletin, in early 2021, convening of an expert workshop on Promoting Kenya’s Strategic Interests on the Domestic and International Stances in 2021 and launch of our 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} issues of the influential bulletin, in late 2021.

Among the key activities accomplished this year, is the hosting of our inaugural conference focusing on; The future of state stability and development in Eastern Africa, held in May 2022 and the development of the 4\textsuperscript{th} Issue of our Influential Bulletin. Publications containing all papers presented during the conference and a copy of the 4\textsuperscript{th} issue of the Influential Bulletin will also be released today alongside the strategic plan. It is our pleasure to share with you a copy.

Finally, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish to once again, thank all those who participated in one way or another in the development of the Strategic Plan. To our Board members, thank you for shaping this document to what it is today. I also wish to sincerely appreciate Dr Col Kimuyu, from NDU-K, whose ideas drove the initial conceptualization of this plan. Our staff too have been very supportive during the entire process and we are proud of their individual and collective contributions.

I also wish to profoundly thank each one of you, for honouring us with your time today. To you all gathered here and those engaging with us virtually... Asanteni Sana. I finally wish to appeal to all our partners and stakeholders to support us deliver on this Plan.

As we embark on next phase of the programme, the launch event, allow me to introduce our Chief Guest this afternoon, Amb Dennis Awori. Amb
Awori is one of our eminent sons, a distinguished diplomat and a respected captain of industry, whose influence is felt at national, regional and international levels.

Amb Awori has spent most of his working life in the Motor Industry across East Africa, in which he has held various positions including Sales and Marketing Manager, Branch Manager, General Manager, Managing Director and Chairman.

He was the founding Vice Chairman of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), founding Chairman of the KEPSA Foundation and a Trustee of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Between 2003-2009, he served as Kenya’s Ambassador of the Republic of Kenya to Japan and Korea, where he built strong relations between Kenya and the two countries, especially through their private sectors, in keeping with Kenya’s focus on economic diplomacy.

Upon his return, he rejoined the private sector as Chairman of Toyota East Africa Ltd. In 2017 he was appointed to his current post; Chairman and Country Delegate, Corporation For Africa And Overseas (CFAO), Kenya Ltd. This is a group with a presence in 35 countries in Africa and does business in another 19 countries through independent Dealers.

Amb Awori, has also served on the Boards of the Communications Commission of Kenya, Kenya Vision 2030 and the country’s New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD).

Please join me in welcoming Amb Dennis Awori, to make his remarks and launch the GLOCEPS Strategic Plan 2022-2027. Thank you