23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021

The Director of Public Participation, County Government of Kilifi, P.O BOX 519-80108, Kilifi, Kenya.

Dear Sir,

## **RE: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION FORUMS ON BUDGET ESTIMATES FY/2021/2022**

I am writing on behalf of Moving The Goalposts (MTG) following the public notice in the Standard newspaper regarding the cancellation of public participation forums in Kilifi County.

We wish to commend the County Government of Kilifi for its efforts and intentions to ensure that the public is engaged in this process during a very difficult time when we are battling with the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects.

We are, however, concerned that the proposed approach of submitting the memos will not achieve maximum public engagement and participation due to the short notice period as well as the ability of a majority of the public to effectively engage through written submissions. Therefore, as an organisation advancing the rights of women and girls, we wish to request that the County Government of Kilifi provide an effective and conducive environment for women and girls to participate in this process.

For this reason, we are recommending the following adjustments to the postponement notice for the upcoming public participation events on 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021:

- 1. Consideration of a hybrid approach where planned events allow only maximum numbers according to the COVID-19 protocols in the venues.
- 2. Incorporation of virtual engagement (Zoom and Facebook live) during the meetings to enable the wider public to share their views.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. Looking forward to your positive response.

Yours sincerely,

Dorcas Amakobe
Executive Director, MTG

**Cc The County Secretary,**County Government of Kilifi,

**CC The County treasury,**County Government of Kilifi,



County Government of Kilifi,