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| UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMEMISSION REPORT SUMMARY **Date: 05/31/2017** | | | UNDP logo | |
| Name: Louise Simonsen Aaen, INL Project Manager | | **Tel No. 078 – 133 - 756** | **Travel Authorization #:** Yes (GTL) | |
| **Approved Mission Itinerary:**  Sierra Leone Correctional Service Study Visit with the Kenya Prison Service | | **List of Annexes (if any to this document)**:  1. Detailed Programme of Visit, 2. List of Participants | | |
| (From) Inclusive Travel Dates (To) | | **Key counterpart(s) in each location:** | | |
| 22 – 29 April 2017 |  | Kenya Prison Service (30), Raoul Wallenberg Institute (2), Sierra Leone Correctional Service (9 participants), Ministry of Internal Affairs (1), Human Resource Management Office (1), CSO (1) and US Embassy Freetown (1) | | |
| **Objective(s) of Mission:**  **Main Objective**  The main objective of the field mission was to support the programme of the SLCS throughout the study visit to Nairobi, Kenya and ensure that lessons learned are incorporated within the implementation of the SLCS Project in Sierra Leone.  **Specific Objectives**   1. Strengthened awareness of correctional reforms and best practices from Kenya to support the SLCS in further successful implementation of the project; 2. Strengthened knowledge on UNDP Kenya’s judicial and legal aid projects as well as sharing information on UNDP Sierra Leone’s judicial and correctional projects. | | | | |
| **Background:**  On 1 October 2016 the Sierra Leone Correctional Service (SLCS) with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the US Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) launched their new 27 month project to: (1) Improve institutional capacity of Correctional Facilities in accordance with international human rights standards for inmates and staff, and (2) Strengthen capacity of SLCS staff to improve on the welfare of inmates and ensure the safety and security of society.  In accordance with Action 2.1.2., (Human Rights Audit pilot and South – South study visit), the SLCS, UNDP and with the support of Raoul Wallenberg Institute (RWI) programme in partnership with the Kenya Prison Service (KPS), the project implementation has already commenced with the conduct of the pilot human rights audits in the Freetown Male, Bo Female and Makeni Correctional facilities. The pilot human rights audit was to identify areas of remedial attention and improvement. Additional correctional centres will be identified and similar process replicated in the provinces within the timeframe of the project.  Why choosing Kenya for the South-South exchange study? The KPS has broader experience in implementing correction reforms in Africa. In recent years, KPS implemented correctional reforms, including review of its legislative framework and initiatives taken to improve conditions of detention and staff welfare. These reforms are very similar to those prioritized by the Sierra Leone Government in the Agenda for Prosperity 2013-2018 for the SLCS, with some of these priorities forming part of the project with the SLCS.  Under this specific action, representatives from the SLCS Management and staff together with three members from the Working Group[[1]](#footnote-1) were supported to undertake a study visit with the KPS to learn firsthand of reforms already implemented in Kenya, including human rights, industries and educational programmes. This equally allowed for enhanced knowledge on best practices that could be employed within SLCS.  **See detailed programme of the 22-29 April 2017 study visit attached in Annex 1.**  **Main Findings and conclusions:**   * The Sierra Leone delegation led by the Deputy Director General of Corrections, Mr. Lamboi was received warmly and openly by the Kenyan Prison Service. The delegation visited a good representation of both male, female, young offender as well as different categories of institutions (maximum, medium and minimum security). Detailed information was shared on the industries and the educational programmes as well as general everyday processes and procedures within the facilities. At the same time, this allowed for engagement with the KPS staff at all levels, the inmates and KPS supporting institutions and partners through the stakeholder meeting. The delegation also met the new Principal Secretary for the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Kenya. As a result of the Sierra Leonean delegation visit, this has since allowed the KPS several audiences with the new PS raising pertinent issues on the Kenya correctional services (reported by RWI), as he had taken special interest after learning that SL was seeking inspiration from the Kenyan Correctional System. * Overall the SL delegation found it to be a fantastic and a great learning experience and acknowledged this both to the KPS senior management, the US Embassy and UNDP. Major learnings include but are not limited to:   1. The SLCS and its partners learned in early 2016 about the Human Rights Audits and Leadership and Management programme within the Kenya Prison Service and the benefits of the programme. The visit provided ample opportunity for the mission team to witness firsthand the impact of the programme that is now 5 years into implementation by KPS. All senior KPS staff had been trained and certified under the Human Rights and Leadership/Management programme and had gradually taken steps towards full implementation of the Mandela Rules (UN Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (SMR)) within their Correctional Facilities. This for instance included ensuring inmates were all engaged in either education or industries programmes, including those sentenced with very severe crimes, ensuring frequent visits from family members and lawyers, access to sports and leisure activities – all ensuring that the facilities functioned as close to the *‘normalcy principle’* as possible. All contributing factors to prevent recidivism and inmates becoming more violent/criminal during their sentence;  2. Secondary and college level education as well as university degrees were being offered within the institutions (not all – but many institutions). This is a vast difference from the current situation in Sierra Leone. The delegation members noted that this was an issue that should be addressed directly with the Ministry of Education through their own line Ministry, as the institution needs to be able to provide education within the facilities (and for a start at least selected institutions).  3. The comprehensive Industries programme including production of license plates for all Kenyan vehicles, furniture, uniforms as well as prison farms contributing to food security and a varied diet for many institutions. And that a revolving fund had been set-up to sustain the industries. However, the delegation also took note off and questioned the KPS as to why inmates were not receiving remuneration for the labour (Also noted in PWSL report attached in annex 3, as it was raised by inmates during private conversations). The KPS responded that it was being considered further. It is however already part of their existing legislation but not in use.  4. Registration of inmates and data collection. The latter especially through the establishment of the legal, human rights and monitoring department of the KPS. This has taken place within the last 5 years and profoundly enhanced the KPS ability to generate data from their 119 institutions in a systematic manner and also inform allocation of resources both human and financial.  **Recommendations:**   * Very good liaison and contacts was established with the Kenya Prison Service Director General, senior staff as well as midlevel and junior staff. They are open to supporting the SLCS in further implementation of its ongoing reforms. Technical support can be sought at a later project stage, especially for the human rights and monitoring programme, but could also be useful with respect to both the industries and educational programmes. * UNDP to support SLCS in further engaging the MIA on prioritization of key reform issues and follow-up with MDA, including to explore support for enhancing access to education within the Correctional Facilities. * That for future exchange visits that UNDP even further take part in the vetting of participants for South – South exchanges, based on age (close to retirement), gender – and genuine interest in reforms. | | | | |
| Follow up actions:  * Support to SLCS Working Group members’ presentation on the Kenya visit to the remaining WG members. * Ensure that SLCS and WG share best practices / lessons learnt with supporting MDAs and institutions. * Follow up discussion with SLCS management on the selection criteria and vetting of participants for future similar engagements. | | | | **Distribution (copy to):**   1. Huber Parsons, INL Program Officer Washington   2. Annette Nalwoga, Team leader Governance  3. Walter Neba, Rule of Law Programme Specialist |

# Annex 1 – Programme

**Sierra Leone Correctional Service Study Visit with Kenya Prison Service**

**Programme**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Dates** | **Time** | **Activity** | **Logistics** | **UNDSS Security Advisory** |
| Sat 22/04/2017 | 3.40 pm | * Departure Freetown / Lungi | * Seabird Boat Services (12 pm departure) | UNDSS TRIP done for all passengers by INL PM Louise Simonsen Aaen |
| Sun 23/04/17 | 5.40am  11am | * Arrival JKIA * Check-in hotel * Free time | * Airport transport – Pickup arranged with Town Lodge Hotel * Individual check-in – UNDP DSA shall be utilized for payment of the hotel rooms. | On Sunday 23 April 2017, one of the political parties will be conducting nominations in Nairobi – and UNDSS Kenya is kindly advising the SLCS delegation team to limit their movements within Nairobi this day. Consult the hotel reception for shopping / amenities in near proximity to the hotel |
| Mon 24/04/17 | 8:30am  9:00am  10:00am | * Pick-up * Welcome from Commissioner General/Deputy * General Presentation on KPS * Directorate of Legal Affairs & Human Rights * Departmental Human Rights Committee * Human Rights Office * Mandela Rules Law Review * Cooperation between RWI and KPS including ACP * Directorate of Industries * Committee on Prison Employment Policy | * Lunch will be provided by KPS | Observe and respect all security protocol as advised by UNDSS Kenya – see separate briefing note. |
| Tue 25/04/17 | 8:00am | * Kamiti Command * Kamiti Main: Kenya's equivalent of Pademba Road, that contains large Industries section and other good Mandela Rules practices * PM: Kamiti Medium/Large farming section * Optional: Youth Corrective Training Centre and/or Kamae Girls Borstal | * Pick-up at the hotel 8 am. Transportation will be provided to/fro Kamiti in approximately 2hrs * Lunch will be provided by KPS | Observe and respect all security protocol as advised by UNDSS Kenya – see separate briefing note. |
| Wed 26/04/17 | 8:00am | * Pick-up * Naivasha Command: All day * Naivasha Max: Opportunity to visit the Industries including printing and other non- industry of non-programming particularly the educational sector and also learned from good practices. * Optional: Naivasha Medium and/or Women Prisons if time | * Pick-up at the hotel 8 am. * Approximately 4hrs to and fro * Lunch will be provided by KPS | Observe and respect all security protocol as advised by UNDSS Kenya – see separate briefing note. |
| Thu 27/04/17 | 8:00am  1:00 pm | * Pick-up * Courtesy call to Principal Secretary i/c Corrections * Nairobi West Prison: Lower security alternative to Kamiti Main, various programmes and good practices * Langata Women Prison: Where all Nairobi region female prisoners and remands, as well as all life/death sentenced females in Kenya, are held * 1 PM: * LUNCH – Commencement of the Stakeholder meeting * Prisons and Justice Reform - Stakeholder meeting * Participants: * Sierra Leone delegation * KNCHR, RODI Kenya, Faraja, NCAJ, KPAS, ICJ, APP, Kituo, UNDP, UNODC, INL and RWI * Permanent Secretary | * Pick-up at the hotel 8 am. * PC MIA office within close range of hotel * Transportation approximately 3hrs to and fro * Meeting and Lunch at XXXX (to be arranged by UNDP Kenya) | Observe and respect all security protocol as advised by UNDSS Kenya – see separate briefing note. |
| Fri 28/04/17 | 8:00am | * Pick-up * Wrap-up/debriefing at Prisons HQ * Closing of the week - lunch with KPS courtesy of the SLCS / UNDP * PM: Free time | * No transport required * Lunch: SLCS to host thank-you lunch at XXX for the delegation and key stakeholders involved in the visit (UNDP Kenya will support with arrangement of venue and lunch) | Observe and respect all security protocol as advised by UNDSS Kenya – see separate briefing note. |
| Sat 29/04/17 | 5.30 am | * Departure JKIA – flight departs 8.30 | * Early Airport transfers | Please check all belongings are safe to avoid leaving anything behind. |
| Sat 29/04/17 | 2.40 | * Arrival Freetown, Sierra Leone |  |  |

# Annex 2 – List of Participants

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **UNIT** | **RANK/Position/Institution** | **NAME** |
| 1 | Deputy Director General SLCS | Joseph Lamboi (Team leader) |
| 2 | Director Human Resource SLCS | Dennis Harman |
| 3 | Assistant Director of Corrections | Salimatu Kohyee Kamara (Ms) |
| 4 | Chief Superintendent of Corrections | Idrissa Mansaray |
| 5 | Superintendent of Corrections | Alimamy Tommy Bangura |
| 6 | Assistant Superintendent of Corrections | Momodu Sillah |
| 7 | Assistant Superintendent of Corrections | David Dauda Kamara |
| 8 | Chief Officer | Magdalene Jenny Sesay (Ms) |
| 9 | Principal Officer | Alimatu Conteh (Ms) |
| 10 | HRMO / WG member | Andrew Sorie |
| 11 | MIA/ WG member | Ann-Marie Sidique (Ms) |
| 12 | Prison Watch / WG member | Mambu Feika |
| 13 | US Embassy / Political Officer | Gregory Maggio |
| 14 | UNDP / INL Project Manager | Louise Simonsen Aaen (Ms) |

# Annex 3 – Draft Report for the SLCS Working Group Review of legislation by Prison Watch (delegation member)

**TABLE OF CONTENT**

**MEMBERSHIP OF DELEGATION AND GENDER AGGREGATION**

**PURPOSE OF VISIT**

**MEETINGS**

* meeting with the Kenyan commissioner general team
* Meeting with the Kenyan principal secretary.

**CONDUCTED TOUR**

* Kenya Prison HQ **Day 1 – 24th April 2017**
* Nairobi West Medium prison facility **Day 2 – 25th April 2017**
* **KPS TRAINING COLLEGE**
* Kamiti Maximum and medium detention facilities, the KPS far,
* Kamae girl’s Borstal institution.
* Langata Female Maximum Prison

**LESSONS LEARNT/BEST PRACTICES WORTH CONSIDERING.**

* The Kenyan Prison Service Capacity and Detention Population and Classification.
* The Kenya Prison Administration
* Prison work as a source of national pride rather than left over for jobless folks.
* Training and Recruitment Into The KPS
* The KPS Training And Recruitment Process I
* Promotions Of Staff
* Security
* Contribution Of The Kenyan Prison Service To National Development
* Agriculture And Animal Husbandry
* Correction And Rehabilitation Programmes
* Formal Education
* Writing Skills
* Vocational Skills Training.
* Technical Skills Training.
* Sniffer Dog Demonstration.
* KPS and Climate Change

**MEMBERSHIP OF DELEGATION AND GENDER AGGREGATION**

Membership consisted of delegation of 14 (9 males and 5 females) representing the following institutions:

1. Correctional Service 9 Representatives
2. UNDP 1 Representative
3. US Embassy 1 Representative
4. GoSL 2 Representatives
5. CSO 1 Representative

The delegation was headed by Mr. Joseph Lamboi Deputy Director of Sierra Leone Correctional Service.

**PURPOSE OF VISIT**,

Delegation arrived in Nairobi Kenya on the 23rd April 2017 for a 5-day study visit with the Kenyan Prison Services with a bid to share knowledge and experience on international best practices on correctional reforms.

This visit was very ***timely as it came at a time Sierra Leone is currently in the process of reviewing its constitution and The Sierra Leone Correctional Rules and Correctional Act so as to bring it in line with International Best Practices***. The main purpose of this visit was to ***bench mark countries that are in advance stage of correctional institutional transformation so as to be able to learn from their experiences in the application of international and national best practices.***

**MEETINGS**

The delegation was opportune to meet with the Commissioner General and his Directorates staff and the Principal Secretary (Permanent Secretary) of the Ministry of Interior responsible for supervision of the Prison and the police**.**

**MEETING WITH THE KENYAN COMMISSIONER GENERAL’S TEAM**

This took place in two folds. First there was a pre - meeting between the Head of Delegation and The Commissioner General of the Kenyan Prison Service (KPS) which was later followed by a general meeting between the KPS and the Sierra Leone delegation.

The Kenyan Commissioner General welcomed the delegation to Kenya. In his remarks, he gave a brief overview of the KPS organogram and explained the mandate, vision and mission of the institution.

The Commissioner remarked that he was happy that KPS was identified by the SLCS for bench marking. He hoped that in some point in time in the future, he could also visit SL to see progress so far made and also to learn from the SLCS.

He ended by inviting his directorate staff to address the delegation on what they do. From their presentation, it was clear that they are not working for him but working with him. The Delegation was hugely impressed not only with the HQ facilities and services but with the belief that strong and dedicated leadership is at the core of the success of the KPS. The message sent from this meeting could be summarized in the following words. **DEDICATION, QUALITY STAFFING AND A STRONG SENSE OF DIRECTION AND PURPOSE**.

**MEETING WITH THE KENYAN PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

The Principal Secretary in Kenya is called permanent Secretary in Sierra Leone. Meeting initially was rescheduled. The delegation was received by the Principal Secretary and he gave note of assurance to the delegation of his cooperation and assistance where necessary. He however revealed that he was new to his current post as he has just been transferred from the Ministry of Youth and sports.

I however noted that the Principal Secretary was without his phone throughout the entire meeting with delegation he only entered the meeting with a pen and paper (***personal observation***).

**CONDUCTED TOUR**

The delegation was privileged to participate in a guided tour to the following:

1. Kenya Prison HQ **and Show room 24th April 2017,**
2. Nairobi West Medium prison facility **Day 2 – 25th April 2017,**
3. KPS training college.
4. Kamiti Maximum and medium detention facilities,
5. The KPS farm,
6. Kamae girl’s borstal institution.
7. Langata female Maximum prisons.

All visits followed the same protocols. At each institution, the delegation was given a ***“ROYAL TREATMENT”*** in the words of Louise Aaen the UNDP INL Project Manager. Food was in abundance and each visit has been carefully planned and executed with such professionalism that can only be as a result of a very well organized institutional system rather than an event.

**LESSONS LEARNT AND BEST PRACTICES WORTH CONSIDERING**

Lessons learnt have been discussed under the following headings:

* Change of name vs. function.
* The Kenyan prison service capacity and detention population and classification,
* The Kenya prison administration.
* Prison work as a source of national pride rather than left over for jobless folks or relatives,
* Kenyan Prison Enterprise.
* Training and recruitment into the KPS.
* The KPS training and recruitment processes.
* Security.
* Contribution of the Kenyan prison service to national development.
* Agriculture and animal husbandry.
* Correction and rehabilitation programmes.
* Formal education.
* Writing skills.
* Vocational skills training.
* Technical skills training.
* Sniffer dog demonstration.
* KPS and climate change

**CHANGE OF NAME VS. FUNCTION**

If the name we give our institutions proves a point, then logically one would ask the rationale of a correctional institution like Sierra Leone going to bench mark a prison institution. One would have expected SLCS bench marking another correctional institution.

However, one of the lessons learnt from the Kenyan visit is the fact that an institution does not become what we call it by name only. It requires more than just a change of name. It has to do with a ***CLEAR MISSION, VISION AND DEDICATION*** and **HONEST AND HARDWORKING MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP**.

This is what we saw in Kenya. **Dedication, Clear vision and mission and a national direction and the KPS is part of the country’s national direction not just an isolated institution that is important when they hold high profile inmates.**

**THE KENYAN PRISON SERVICE CAPACITY AND DETENTION POPULATION AND CLASSIFICATION**

On the issue of classification, one key lesson learnt is that classification is not only in name or done based on legal status (Convicted, Remand and Trial). It is based on security risk posed by inmates.

The KPS have based their classification largely based on security risk. Out of 119 Kenyan Penal Institutions, there are nine (9) maximum prisons. Persons sentenced to 10 years and above are sent to the maximum security prisons.

There are 46 Medium prison facilities inmates sentenced between 5 to 10 years are sent to medium prison facilities. There are 64 open prison facilities for inmates sentenced between 1-5 years. Four (4) institutions for youthful offenders (3 males and 1 female) have been set aside for juveniles.

The Youthful institutions are all under the supervision of KPS and one Ministry rather separated between two ministries as it currently the case in the Sierra Leonean context.

At the time of visit, there were 54,000 inmates detained in penal institutions across Kenya of which 31,000 were convicted and 19,000 were held on remand. It recorded 257 children under the age of 4 years whose parents have been incarcerated.

At the time of visit, the staff strength of the KPS was reported at XX, the exact figure was never provided.

**THE KENYA PRISON ADMINISTION**

KPS is an institution with a clear visible and visible mission. {**Vision:** A correctional service of excellence in Africa and beyond. Little wonder why they are attracting study visits from African States whom they were supposed to take inspiration from).

**Our mission**: to contain offenders in human, safe conditions in order to facilitate responsive administration of justice, rehabilitation, social integration and community protection}. This is evidenced by the establishment of Human and Legal Directorate and the visible display of inmates rights and responsibilities in very conspicuous places in all prison detentions visited by delegation.

The vision, mission aims and aspiration of the KPS is further reflected in the establishment of directorates departments. There are 10 directorates which consist of the following:

1. Directorate of operations planning and development
2. Directorate of Health Services.
3. Accounts and Administration Directorate.
4. Directorate of Corrections and rehabilitations.
5. Directorate of Legal Affairs and Human Rights.
6. Directorate of training.
7. Inspections and Complaints.
8. Gender, Sports and NGOs.
9. Research and Statistics
10. Prison Enterprise.

Though still a prison by name, yet they have established department of corrections and rehabilitation and Legal and Human rights Affairs.

The KPS operates a dual system of administrative management. Management consists of both uniformed and Un-uniformed staff (civilian). The uniformed staff are not employed in menial or insignificant position but are appointed to directorate positions. For the Admin Directorate, Directorate of Corrections and, Rehabilitation, Human Resources department, Accounts, Admin and Department of finance are all manned by civilians. The Civilian Staff and Un-uniformed Staff work very conveniently with clear role sets no seeming signs of tension at all.

The KPS remains very much part of the Kenyan Civil Service.

The current leadership of the KPS started as a trained police officer. The head of administration does not necessarily mean you must be a career prison officer.

**PRISON WORK AS A SOURCE OF NATIONAL PRIDE RATHER THAN LEFT OVER FOR JOBLESS FOLKS**

One obvious reality that quickly dawns on any visitor at first sight is that prison service is a source of national pride. The team was impressed by the Kenya Prison HQ which is housed in a multi-story building exclusively owned and used by the KPS.

The KPS job is not a last option job. It is a very professional job which caters for its own staff with high professional qualifications rather than an institution for unemployable youths on a job waiting list. The recruitment process into the Kenya Prison Service is very key in ensuring that prison work is a source of national pride.

The KPS Training College represents the pride of the KPS. It is indeed a training college which does not only provide training or academic and professional education for Kenya Prison Officers but also provides further educational opportunities at whatever level. It is indeed a truly training institution. The KPS training school represents the pride of the Kenyan Government and people.

In terms of training, the KPS provides two tier training. 1st tier of training is for recruits and the 2nd tier is at cadet level. All recruits go through a mandatory 9 months training which was initially 3 months but which has been expanded due to reforms and reviews in of training content and infrastructure. Cadet Officers go through a 13 months training period.

All prison officers are trained at the KPS College. The college is headed by a Commandant to the rank of a senior deputy Commissioner of prisons.

**TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT INTO THE KPS**

The KPS is not an institution for left over for jobless folks. It is an institution with a self-functioning system capable of training it members not only for prison work but also with a capacity to prepare it staff for further academic and professional development.

**THE KPS TRAINING AND RECRUITMENT PROCESS**

The KPS has an enviable training complex both in expanse and facility. It is no mistake it is called the Kenyan Prison Training College. The delegation visited the computer room which was equipped with more than 50 computers all in useful conduction. The Training school also has the internet room connected to internet.

Besides the training of recruits and cadet officers, the College also offers other development courses and tailor-made courses for staff. The college also offers training for international staff. The KPS has conducted training for Southern Sudan correctional personnel in 2017.

All recruitments are advertised publically through the Ministry of Interior and of National Government and recruitments is done in all sub counties. Applications for recruitment are either done online or through the presentation of hard copies of their document to the HQ.

Two types of recruitments are done:the recruitment for non-professional and recruitment for professionals. For non-professionals the recruitment criteria is as follows

* KCSE minimum grade D –
* Age 18 – 28 yr for specialist
* 18 – 30 yrs for degree holder.
* Height 5ft – 4’
* medically fit
* No criminal record.
* Females must not be pregnant on or during recruitment.
* For cadet staff and other professionals interviews are held in Nairobi after short listing.

Professional recruitment requires professional expertise like lawyers, Medical doctor etc.

Training programmes are divided into two:

1. Professionals Units
2. Academic Units.

Professional trainings are conducted in open field and classrooms and academic trainings by combination of the Kenyatta University and qualified prison officers from the KPs. For all academic training programmes, successful participants are certified by the Kenyatta University with approval of the University Senate. They are awarded with certificates, diploma and postgraduate degrees based on performance.

Officers with academic qualifications can enter tailored programmes. The KPS training College ensures that the curricular is renewed in collaboration with the Kenyatta University. Joining the KPS provides the opportunities for more academic accomplishment through the KPS training college.

**SECURITY**

The KPS is a very strategic national security partner. It works in close collaboration with the Kenya Police and Kenya National Defence Forces. The delegation learnt that KPS and the police usually undertake joint training sessions. KPS are responsible for their own security. Weaponry is a very crucial part of their training. The KPS could be called upon by the state at any time for security functions. The delegation could observe prison officers carrying guns.

**CONTRIBUTION OF THE KENYAN PRISON SERVICE TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

KPS is a key partner in national development. It is one of the major producers rather than serving as a development waste and consumer. In actual words, KPS could be described as an industry with planned programmes and activities aimed at human resource and national development.

All prisons visited had functional industries which engage inmates not only as consumers but as producers of goods and services. The Contribution of the KPS could be seen in the following sectors:

**AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL HUSBANDRY**

The KPS work goes beyond management of prisons. They are key contributor to the national agricultural production. The delegation was privileged to visit the KPS farm at Kamiti. The KPS owes and 1,700 acres of farm land of which only 700 acre is utilized.

The delegation was taken on a conducted tour of the KPS dairy farm, Piggery, horse breeding, vegetable gardens. Delegation also observed that rabbits, poultry are also bred by the KPS.

**CORRECTION AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMMES**

In all institutions visited, the delegation could observe rehabilitation programmes designed for inmates. Rehabilitation programmed observed ranged from formal education, vocational training and university/tertiary programmes.

**FORMAL EDUCATION**

Inmates of all ages were observed taking classes. In some instances, trained and qualified inmates were engaged as teaching instructors. Classes offered ranged from primary school, secondary, tertiary and university.

At Naivasha, Kamiti and Langata, the delegation visited inmates attending class. The Kenya tertiary/university programmes ranged from certificates, diploma, first degree, MBA/MA and PhD. The delegation learnt that the KPS have supported inmates to graduate with law, business degrees and certificates and diplomas in various disciplines.

In the Langata Female Prison, female inmates were observed while being trained on website design.

**WRITING SKILLS**

In Naivasha, one inmate during his time in detention had written books which he could sell to the public and to members of the delegation.

**VOCATIONAL SKILLS TRAINING**

KPS is an integral part of national development rather than just an institution for locking up people who are considered a risk to society. The team learnt that the KPS participation is not only limited to locking up and releasing inmates to court but as a contributor to the gross domestic national product. This has been made evident through industrialization of the prison institutions. This was evident in all Prison institutions visited during the conducted tour.

The team witnessed:

1. High quality chairs and carpentry products manufactured by the Kenyan prison service.
2. All vehicle number plates in Kenya were designed and produced by inmates in the Kenya prisons. The team could witness inmates in action designing and producing vehicle number plates.

All chairs in the Kenya Parliament were manufactured in the Kenya Prison Services. The Kenyan Prison service is highly industrialized with the capacity not only to produce quality carpentry products but other high quality products that could be exported to other countries.

In Langata female maximum prisons, members of delegation were able to purchase products ranging from ladies bags, bead work products and many other vocational products exclusively designed by female inmates. Delegation was served food and confectioneries prepared by inmates who had learnt skills in catering service whilst in detention.

In Langata female prison the delegation observed that inmates responsible for cooking were secluded from the rest with a special sleeping accommodation in the kitchen apartment.

In Nairobi West, Kamiti and Langata delegation were entertained by the music bands in prison by inmates. in Naivasha, delegation bought music audio CDs done exclusively by inmates with their photos on the CD Covers.

**TECHNICAL SKILLS TRAINING**

Inmates were engaged in vocational ranging from metal work, number plate design and production of pots, local coal fuel production and carpentry and various other technical industries

**OTHER SKILLS**

Female Inmates in Langata female maximum prison were observed in Yoga training and modeling.

**SNIFFER DOG DEMONSTRATION**

In Naivasha, the delegation observed trained security sniffer dogs used to compliment security and to detect contra-band.

**KPS AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Members of the delegation participated in tree planting. At every prison institution, members from the delegation were asked to plant trees as symbol of the fight against climate change.

**CONCERNS**

However, from private chat with inmates, one question that they all raised concerns on was what they are getting back. One inmate remarked that being an inmate is like a property.

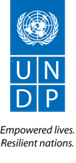
In Kenya, our prison system seems to gain the admiration from other countries in Africa, Yes we have something to be proud of, we have made significant stride in the prison sector. They can show you staff because they have stuff to show you. But the truth however is that we are just slaves being exploited by the Kenya Government.

With all these industries and financial benefit, the Government and the Prison administration will always keep us in permanent servitude. This is modern slavery perpetrated by our own people for economic and commercial gains.

**INMATES SERVING LIFE SENTENCE**

In the Kenyan jurisdiction, when an inmate is sentenced to life imprisonment, it means his/her entire life to be spent in prison as opposed to Sierra Leone inmates sentenced to life imprisonment directed by the court is calculated to be 10 years with a remission of five years. But where a death sentence is commuted to life then the Kenyan case applies. However, what is the point of rehabilitating an inmate who is going to die anyway whilst in detention?

It was observed that there are a lot of inmates who are on life imprisonment. In a private conversation with an inmate, he told me “what do you expect? These programmes need cheap energy and it comes from us and not just cheap energy - but cheap and free energy and that is where we come in.

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*This project is supported by UNDP with the generous funding from the U.S. Department of State*

1. The Working Group was established by the Sub-Committee of SL Correctional Council (and is supported under this Project by UNDP) to review the SL Correctional legislation and make recommendations for improvement. Specific tasks include the review of the SL Correctional Service Act and develop SL Correctional Rules as stipulated in the SL Correctional Act of 2014. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)