



# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF WEST POKOT

**REMARKS BY H.E. HON. SIMON  
KACHAPIN KITALEI, C.B.S., E.G.H.,  
GOVERNOR -  
WEST POKOT COUNTY,**

**DURING THE OFFICIAL HANDING  
OVER OF THE CHAIN OF OFFICE TO  
INCOMING PATRON  
H.E HON. FCPA FERNANDES  
BARASA, OGW.**

**4TH NOVEMBER 2024,  
KAKAMEGA COUNTY**



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***Outgoing Patron,  
Distinguished Guests,  
KICOSCA Members,  
And the Entire Sporting Fraternity,  
Ladies, and Gentlemen,***

Today, I am pleased to join you for the handing over ceremony of the chain of office for the Kenya Inter-County Sports and Cultural Association (KICOSCA) to Hon.

FCPA Fernandes Barasa OGW, Governor of Kakamega County. On behalf of the Council of Governors and as the Chairperson for Gender, Youth, Sports, Culture and Social Services, I extend my sincere congratulations to Governor Barasa on this significant milestone.

As we welcome you as the new Patron of KICOSCA, we look forward to your leadership as we gear up for the 11th Edition of the KICOSCA Games.

These games are more than an opportunity for competition—they represent an important platform for unity, cultural exchange, and regional cooperation, echoing the spirit of devolution that drives our nation forward.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of our outgoing patron, Her Excellency Bishop Kawira Mwangaza. We are grateful for your leadership in advancing KICOSCA's mandate across our counties.



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## **Ladies and gentlemen,**

This event emphasizes the transformative power of sports, especially for our youth. Beyond building physical strength, sports instill core values of discipline, teamwork, and resilience—qualities essential for shaping well-rounded individuals ready to lead Kenya into a thriving future.

Participation in sports has been shown to reduce youth vulnerability, channeling energy away from unproductive activities and fostering a sense of purpose, achievement, and belonging.

Through this, we intend to uplift our youth through structured sports programs and talents that contribute to both our economy and social well-being.

The upcoming games offer an invaluable chance for discovering and nurturing talent, paving way for our youth to excel on both local and international stages.

As chairperson for sports, I am committed to championing programs that not only uplift our young people but also promote strong partnerships between counties for lasting economic and social growth.

We must continue backing initiatives that make sports accessible, inclusive, and transformative for all, channeling this momentum into a powerful, positive force for our communities.



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As we witness the handover of the chain of office, we stand united in our mission to empower the youth, promote inter-county cohesion, and uphold KICOSCA's guiding principles.

Together, we will ensure that the upcoming games are a remarkable and impactful event for every participant and spectator.

Furthermore, we must commit to supporting these events by consistently raising the bar and cultivating a culture that embraces sports at every level.

I extend my heartfelt wishes to our new patron as he steps into this role, and we look forward to many more successes in the years ahead.

Thank you, and may this occasion inspire us to move forward with renewed energy toward a brighter, more unified future for all our counties and for our country.

**Asanteni Sana.**

*H.E. Hon. Simon Kachapin Kitalei, C.B.S., E.G.H.  
Governor - West Pokot County.*

