



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Office of the Cabinet Secretary

Telephone: Nairobi 020 3318581
Email: cs@education.go.ke
Website: www.education.go.ke

When replying please quote

Jogoo House "B"
Harambee Avenue
P.O. Box 30040 - 00100
Nairobi, KENYA.

Ref: MOE.HQS.3/12

15th October, 2018

Dr. John Muraguri

Secretary/Chief Executive Officer,
Kenya Universities and Colleges Central
Placement Services (KUCCPS)

NAIROBI

Dear Dr. Muraguri,

**REF: AFFIRMATIVE ACTION IN PLACEMENT OF TEACHER TRAINEES
FROM KENYA'S MARGINALIZED COUNTIES**

All the indicators of school participation i.e. access, enrollment, retention, completion achievement and transition in the 14 nomadic Counties are far below the National average. Fifteen years after the introduction of Free Primary Education (FPE), the Net Enrolment Rate (NER) in Mandera is 22.6%, Wajir 25.9%, Marsabit 63.7% and Tana River 63.8% while the National average is 84.6% (MOE, EMIS, 2014). The situation is worse at the secondary school level. While the NER at the national level is 47.5%, Turkana's NER is 8.6%, Mandera, 7.2% and Marsabit and Samburu, 12.7% and 15.7% respectively.

According to the 2009 Census, literacy is very low in the Nomadic regions with female literacy below 10 percent in Mandera, Turkana and Wajir counties but as high as 90 percent in Uasin Gishu and Nairobi Counties.

One of the major barriers in the delivery of quality basic education to the Nomadic communities is acute shortage of trained teachers from the local nomadic communities.

Teacher trainees from

The mobility of nomadic communities, hardships associated with Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs), and shortage of teachers with nomadic background makes recruitment, deployment and retention of teachers in these areas very difficult. The heightened insecurity in the areas has further exacerbated the situation.

Since 2013, a total of 3,024 teachers fled from the Counties of Mandera, Wajir and Garissa leading to disruption of learning in all the schools in the region. The cumulative effect of the mass exodus of teachers has been severe shortage of teachers and poor quality of education in the region.

Free and compulsory basic education is recognized as a constitutional right for every child in Kenya. This right however cannot be guaranteed under the prevailing circumstances in the 14 nomadic counties of Kenya.

Section 28 of the Basic Education Act states mandates the Cabinet Secretary for Education to implement the right of every child to free and compulsory Basic Education. Further, Article 56 of the Constitution empowers the state to put in place affirmative action programs designed to ensure that minorities and marginalized groups are provided with special opportunities in educational and economic fields while article 10 lists non-discrimination and protection of marginalized as an integral part of the national values and principles of governance.

In the spirit of these provisions of the law and following the Kenya National Qualification Framework Regulations, the entry grades to primary teacher training and Diploma teachers training for prospective teacher trainees from the Nomadic counties of Kenya is hereby **lowered from the date of this letter until otherwise advised**. The Counties have been identified as areas occupied by Nomadic communities in the Policy framework for Nomadic Education in Kenya (2009) as: Turkana, Samburu, Wajir, Marsabit, Isiolo, Mandera, Garissa, Lamu, Tana River, West Pokot, Homa Bay (Suba and Mbita Sub Counties only), Narok (Narok South, North and West and East Sub-counties), Baringo (Baringo North, Marigat, Tiaty East, East Pokot Sub-Counties) and Kajiado (Mashuru, Loitokitok, Kajiado west and Kajiado central Sub-counties). The Counties of Kwale, Kilifi and Taita Taveta which have been identified as marginalized in the 2011, Commission for Revenue Allocation (CRA) policy will also benefit from the affirmative action of placing teachers in our teacher training colleges.

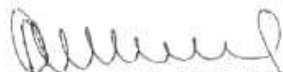
Teacher trainees from these counties will now be admitted as follows:

1. Primary teachers training colleges will admit at mean grade of D+(plus) in 2018. The mean score will be revised to C-(minus) from 2019 when the colleges start offering Diploma in primary Education;
2. Diploma teacher training colleges will admit from the above counties with a mean score of C- (minus) with C-minus and above in the two teaching subjects;
3. Only candidates who sat their KCSE from 2006 are eligible.

Kindly ensure that the students from the above Counties who have shown interest in training as teachers and who meet the new criteria are admitted to teacher training colleges from this year (2018).

Please bring the contents of this letter to the attention of all Principals of Teachers Training Colleges.

Yours *sincerely*,



AMB. (DR.) AMINA C. MOHAMED, EGH, CAV
CABINET SECRETARY

Copy to: **Dr. Belio Kipsang, CBS**
Principal Secretary
State Department for Early Learning and Basic Education
NAIROBI

Dr. Nancy Macharia, CBS
Secretary/CEO
Teachers Service Commission
NAIROBI