ENGINEERS BOARD OF KENYA

Enhancing Professionalism

Issue 8 - March 2024

Newsletter

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Ministry of Roads and Transport

Kenya VISION 2030

ENGINEERING PARTNERSHIPS CONVENTION | 2024

Hosted By

ENGINEERS BOARD OF KENYA
Enhancing Professionalism

DEDAN KIMATHI UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

THE 5TH ENGINEERING PARTNERSHIPS CONVENTION

Engineering@60: Reflections, Response, Resetting

7th - 10th May 2024

Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Nyeri County

Charges

Virtual
Ksh. 10,000

Physical
Ksh. 50,000

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Ministry of Roads and Transport

Kenya VISION 2030

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In the News, Notice & Reminders...

The Board welcomes registration of participants, exhibitors, innovators and sponsors to the 5th EPC 2024. Engineers are advised to maximise on participating in the upcoming event so as to grow professionally, network, engage and acquire adequate CPD points (20 points).

To register for the EPC 2024 and access more details follow this link: https://t.co/NwCH9yDwTw

Practicing license and Gazette notice: According to the section 32 of the Engineers Act of 2011, an Engineer should only engage in engineering practice if he/she has complied with the requirements of the Act and is issued with a license.

As read in Sec (32) of the Act: "(2) A person applying for a license shall be required to submit in the prescribed manner a certificate of continuing professional development issued by the Board, a statutory declaration confirming that no professional complaint has been made against him and pay a prescribed fee. (3) A licence issued under subsection (1) shall be valid for one year from the 1st of January to the 31st December of that particular year and may, upon expiry, be renewed."

Reference to page 17 of the Act and link:

https://www.ebk.go.ke/resource/engineers-act-43-of-2011

Are you seeking to transition your category from G.E to P.E then C.E? Contact us to assist you. For enquiries and assistance email: info@ebk.go.ke

Do you have a complaint or want to understand the complaint mechanism?

Mechanism: You can officially write a letter to Registrar/CEO, EBK and share as follows:

1. Via a scanned letter on email: complaints@ebk.go.ke
2. Fill a website complaint form from the EBK homepage:
   i. Report Professional Misconduct/Share feedback tab
3. Hand deliver a hard copy to the Engineers Board of Kenya, Fortis Suits, 9th Floor, Upperhill, Nairobi.

From the Registrar's Desk

Welcome to the Eighth issue of the EBK Newsletter. As we step into the last quarter of the financial year, I am pleased to present to you an overview of our recent activities and upcoming programs through this quarterly publication.

One of the highlight events on the EBK calendar is the Engineering Partnership Convention (EPC). This year, we are thrilled to announce that the 5th Engineers Partnerships Convention (EPC) will be held in collaboration with Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Nyeri County. Scheduled to run from 7th to 10th May 2024, this year's convention promises to be a significant gathering with the unveiling of the Innovation Fair.

Under the theme "Engineering @60: Reflections, Response, Resetting," this year's convention holds particular significance as Kenya commemorates 60 years of independence. It provides us with an opportune moment to reflect on our journey, celebrate our achievements, and chart a course for the future. Engineers being key stakeholders in the nation's development, will converge in Nyeri County to deliberate on how we can collectively respond to the evolving challenges and reset our strategies for greater impact.

Reflecting on the successes of the 4th EPC held in Naivasha, Nakuru County, from 14th to 16th June 2023, it is imperative that we take stock of the progress made on the resolutions put forth. We are committed to reinforcing our role in education and innovation, expanding the Graduate Engineers Internship (GEIP) Program, and establishing the Kenya School of Engineering. Furthermore, we are keen on acceding to the Washington Accord to ensure international recognition of our engineering qualifications and will be providing updates on progress made on these aspects as we converge in Nyeri.

Collaboration between government bodies and industry remains paramount in enhancing sector growth and compliance with high standards. This year's convention aims to delve deeper into avenues for mobilizing finances for Infrastructure Projects and manufacturing, as well as exploring opportunities in supply and value chains. We will also discuss policies for affordable housing, water harvesting, agricultural mechanization, and ways to enhance productivity through the Agricultural Value Chain.

In an era of technological advancement, engineers play a crucial role in addressing global challenges. The convention welcomes a diverse audience, including engineers, technologists, professionals, researchers, students, government officials, policymakers, industry leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs.

As we anticipate the upcoming convention, I extend my gratitude to all the partners, sponsors, exhibitors and stakeholders who have come on board for their unwavering support.

Eng. Margaret Ogai
Registrar/CEO
Engineers Board of Kenya

EBK to Host the 5th Engineering Partnerships Convention (EPC) 2024 in Nyeri County

The upcoming 5th Engineering Partnerships Convention (EPC) 2024 promises to be a transformative event with the introduction of the Innovation Fair shaping the course of engineering in Kenya for the future. This year's theme "Engineering @60: Reflections, Response, Resetting." The convention aims to celebrate past achievements while charting a path for future innovation and excellence.

The convention aims to showcase Kenya's engineering innovations, spotlighting the nation's ingenuity in developing cutting-edge solutions, products, and projects. Secondly, it will reflect on the past 60 years' accomplishments, celebrating engineers' contributions to Kenya's development.

While recognizing current global challenges, the convention will explore engineer's role in addressing these issues, innovating solutions for a better tomorrow. Additionally, it will reset the engineering field's trajectory, ensuring continued relevance and resilience.

The convention aims to foster collaboration and networking among professionals, innovators, researchers, policymakers, academia, and organizations. It is our belief that the innovation fair will encourage Business-to-Business (B2B) interactions by showcasing innovations and frontier technologies from exhibitors, targeting participation from over 100 public and private institutions.

Attendees can expect a diverse range of activities including plenary sessions, workshops, technical discussions, and panel discussions designed to enrich professional development and promote lifelong learning. Engineers participating in the convention will earn 20 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points, enhancing their credentials.

Partners & Sponsors

The Unveiling of a New Era

The Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) is set to launch its 4th Strategic Plan. This strategic roadmap ushers a new strategic direction for the Board embodying its commitment to excellence and service. At the heart of this plan are a redefined vision, mission, and core values.

The newly articulated vision, “Safe and sustainable engineering infrastructure,” encapsulates EBK’s aspiration to foster infrastructure that not only meets stringent safety standards but also embodies principles of sustainability, ensuring a legacy of resilience and longevity for future generations.

Complementing this vision is the mission to “ensure the production of globally competitive engineers and quality engineering services through regulation, capacity building, and enforcing compliance with set engineering standards to meet the current and future needs of society.” This mission underscores EBK’s role in nurturing engineers capable of contributing effectively to national development while upholding the highest professional standards.

Embedded within EBK’s ethos are its core values, succinctly captured in the acronym “ICARE” - Integrity, Customer-centric, Excellence, Respect, and Accountability. These values serve as guiding principles, shaping EBK’s interactions with stakeholders and underpinning its commitment to ethical conduct and service excellence.

Forging Bonds: EBK & KTDA Pave the Way for Collaboration

To enhance collaborations with the Tea industry, a team from the Engineering Board of Kenya (EBK), led by Registrar/CEO Eng. Margaret Ogai, visited the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) headquarters. They met with CEO Wilson Muthaura to discuss partnership opportunities, particularly regarding EBK’s Graduate Engineer Internship Program (GEIP).

During the meeting, Eng. Ogai thanked KTDA for supporting GEIP interns from Cohorts 1 and 2 and explored ways to enhance the collaboration. They discussed expanding GEIP placements within KTDA’s management trainee program to nurture engineering talent and strengthen ties between academia and industry.

The EBK team also engaged with KTDA’s technical experts to exchange ideas on professional development. They visited KTDA’s innovation hub, TEMEC, where they witnessed the organization’s innovative practices firsthand.

Board Attends Semi Conductor Technologies Event

The Registrar/CEO – EBK, Eng. Margaret Ogai, the Registrar/CEO of EBK visited the Semi-Conductor Technologies Limited (STL) facility at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) in support of Africa's Silicon Savanna journey. The visit provided an exclusive opportunity to witness remarkable advancements and innovations in Kenya's technology industry.

STL, a unit under DeKUT and sponsored by the US Embassy, is a pioneer of transformative solutions addressing African continent needs for a resilient future. During the visit, Ambassador Meg Whitman, the US Ambassador to Kenya, engaged with DeKUT representatives, STL partners, and stakeholders to explore collaboration avenues focused on building a sustainable technology ecosystem.

Strengthening Compliance: A Journey Towards Excellence

The Compliance department of the Board organized a workshop aimed at enhancing its compliance and enforcement standards. Chaired by Eng. Johnstone Matu the workshop emphasized the crucial role of regulations in fulfilling EBK's mission while ensuring strict adherence to the established legal framework.

With the guidance of Registrar/CEO Eng. Margaret Ogai, the workshop unveiled a comprehensive compliance framework, emphasizing transparency and diligence to bolster public trust in EBK's initiatives. She highlighted the workshop's focus on refining systems, enhancing efficiency, and upholding due process while emphasizing the importance of compliance mechanisms for transparency and public trust.

Drawing insights from Tanzania and Nigeria, EBK engaged in benchmarking exercises to identify best practices. Participants explored various objectives aimed at strengthening EBK's compliance ecosystem, including enhancing understanding of the framework and legal perspectives, fostering local engagement, and optimizing tool utilization.

World Engineers Day: Engineers Mentored at Strathmore University

Strathmore University hosted a gathering focused on "Engineering Education for the 5th Industrial Revolution," bringing together academics, industry experts, and emerging engineers. The discussions centered on preparing the next generation of engineers for the complexities of this revolution, emphasizing societal needs, ethics, and lifelong learning.

Representing the Board were Board Member Eng. Prof. Silvester Abuodha and Registrar/CEO Eng. Margaret Ogai. Eng. Abuodha emphasized interdisciplinary collaboration and the importance of integrating engineering, design, and sustainability. The Registrar highlighted on the proactive role of engineers in anticipating problems and stressed the importance of understanding societal needs and ethical considerations.

Notable attendees included Eng. Prof. Cleophas Maende, Eng. Naresh Mehta, Eng. Nickson Bukachi from EPRA, Eng. Albert Mugo, Eng. Martin Nzomo, among other representatives from the Engineering Deans & Principals Council.

Exploring Opportunities For Engineering Services Under AfCFTA

The Engineering Board of Kenya (EBK) and the Association of Consulting Engineers of Kenya (ACEK) organized a four-day training workshop on "Opportunities for Engineering Services under AfCFTA." Facilitated by Mr. Ramesh Chaitoo, a globally acclaimed international trade policy consultant, the workshop aimed at exploring the potential for engineering services within the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Stakeholders from the government, private sector, and non-state actors participated, gaining insights into AfCFTA's implications for trade in engineering services. EBK's Registrar Eng. Margaret Ogai, highlighted the board's role in overseeing engineering services and promoting Kenyan engineers' participation in international markets.

ACEK shared insights into the growth of the Kenyan engineering sector, driven by infrastructure development and technological advancements. Participants learned about trade in services rules and AfCFTA provisions, facilitating strategic planning for market access.

The workshop drew lessons from various jurisdictions, including Jamaica, Indonesia, Namibia, Palestine, Bangladesh, and the Caribbean, illuminating new horizons for Kenyan engineers.

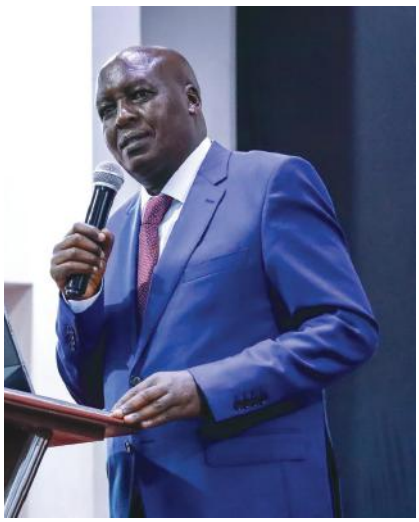
World Engineering Day Celebration

On March 4th, 2024, EBK in collaboration with the IEK celebrated World Engineering Day along with engineers globally, honoring their significant contributions to society.

Under the global theme "Engineering Solutions for a Sustainable World," the event held at Daystar University received Eng. Joseph Mbugua, the PS State Department for Roads, as the guest of honor. In his address, Eng. Mbugua urged engineers to innovate solutions to address Kenya's challenges, emphasizing their pivotal role in advancing the nation's economy and contributing to the government's BETA agenda.

Highlighting the government's ambitious agenda to transform Kenya into a middle-income economy by 2030, Eng. Mbugua stressed the importance of engineers in driving this vision forward.

Eng. Erastus Mwongera, Chairman of the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK), highlighted the board's strategic objectives aimed at supporting and increasing engineer registrations, ensuring compliance, and elevating education standards to maintain excellence in the built environment. He emphasized that these efforts are crucial steps towards fostering a sustainable world.



Collaboration with the Council of Engineering Deans & Principals

In a bid to advance engineering education in Kenya, the Board convened a workshop with the Council of Engineering Deans and Principals. With a focus on upholding the highest standards of academic excellence.

A significant agenda was the review of accreditation standards and degree program nomenclature by the Commission for University Education (CUE). This review aimed to ensure alignment with global standards and best practices. Additionally, discussions centered on charting a strategic roadmap for bridging postgraduate diploma courses and addressing deficiencies in the registration of Bachelor of Technology students.

During the opening address, Chairman Eng. Erastus Mwongera highlighted the importance of establishing a unified accreditation and licensing mechanism. This mechanism, steered by CUE with mandatory participation of relevant professional bodies, is an outcome of previous engagements with key stakeholders.

Eng. Prof. Silvester Abuodha, Chair of the Academic Qualifications Committee, provided insights into EBK's ongoing efforts to accede to the Washington Accord. This initiative reflects EBK's commitment to aligning engineering programs with global standards and best practices.

The Registrar reiterated EBK's dedication to addressing critical issues in engineering education, highlighting the importance of collaborations with CUE and the Council of Deans.

Total Energies Courtesy Visit

The EBK Registrar/CEO, Eng. Margaret Ogai, had a courtesy meeting with Mr. Martin Mutuma, HR Director of Total Energies, accompanied by Engineers Wilfred Arende and Alex Ndalila. The purpose of the meeting was to explore potential areas of partnership aimed at fostering the growth and competitiveness of Kenyan engineers in the oil & gas sector. During the discussion, several key areas of collaboration were identified.

The development of tailored programs designed to assist graduate engineers in their journey towards becoming professional engineers. This initiative aims to enhance the skills and competencies of young engineers, preparing them for successful careers in the industry. Total Energies expressed interest in actively participating in the Board's Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities.

Total Energies will also be collaborating and participating in this year's Engineering Partnerships Convention (EPC) 2024. Their involvement in the convention is expected to foster collaboration, networking, and knowledge sharing among industry stakeholders, furthering the collective growth and development of the engineering sector.

Pictorial

The Board was able to engage with its clients, stakeholders and members of the public by participating in various public forums, conferences and trade fairs. The purpose of this initiative is to shed more light on the Boards mandate, functions and services which are geared towards the empowerment of Engineers and protection of the public.

World Engineers Day March 4th 2024

Nyeri County Visit

DeKUT Visit

Team Building

KETRACO Courtesy Call

AAK Courtesy Call

Institution of Civil Engineers Courtesy Call

Total Energies Courtesy Call

International Womens Day - Women in Engineering and Technology Awards

International Womens Day - Women in Engineering and Technology Awards

International Womens Day - Women in Engineering and Technology Awards

International Womens Day - Women in Engineering and Technology Awards

International Womens Day - Women in Engineering and Technology Awards

Registration Workshop

Road Safety Workshop

CSR: Cerelbral Palsy

IEK Presidential Dinner

Kenyatta University Hosts Career Week

The Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) participated in the 2024 Career Week Exhibition at Kenyatta University, Nairobi. Organized by the Directorate of Career Development and Mentoring Programmes (CDMP) in collaboration with the Kenyatta University Students' Association (KUSA), this year's theme was "Leveraging Technology and Entrepreneurship for an evolving job market."

The week-long program held in January, 2024 provided students with an interactive platform to explore, learn, and connect with professionals across various industries. Speakers at the event highlighted Career Week's significance in bridging the gap between students and the industry, stressing the importance of industry engagement and excellence.

EBK utilized the forum to engage with the students, particularly those in the field of engineering, showcasing its mandate and services in engineering practice.

Road Safety: Road Agencies Converge in Naivasha

The Road Safety Mainstreaming Committee of the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK) recently participated in a week-long training session alongside six other agencies in the road sector. The participating agencies included KENHA, KeRRA, KURA, KRB, and KETREB.

Chimwaga Mongo, Secretary Administration, inaugurated the event, which was organized and hosted by the State Department of Roads bringing together over 56 participants.

Led by facilitators from the National Transport and Safety Authority (NTSA), the training focused on the significance of road crash risk factors, policy implementation, and road safety monitoring. It provided valuable insights and knowledge aimed at enhancing road safety practices and interventions across the participating agencies.

Empowering Graduate Engineers Through Training Workshops

In a concerted effort to support Graduate Engineers, the Engineering Board of Kenya (EBK) recently organized a series of training workshops tailored to guide graduate engineers in preparing for professional examination reports where atleast 140 were trained. These workshops, held between January 22nd to January 27th, February 12th to February 16th, and March 11th to March 15th, aimed to facilitate a smooth transition to professional engineers and enhance competence within the profession.

During the workshops, EBK Chairman, Eng. Mwongera, commended participants for their dedication to this transformative journey, emphasizing the pivotal role of their transition in upholding competence, integrity, and excellence in the engineering profession. Over 50 graduate engineers from various organizations, including KeNHA, the Parliamentary Service Commission, the National Construction Authority, Waterfund, and the Geothermal Development Company, attended the workshops.

Board Member, Eng. Benjamin Maingi, highlighted EBK's efforts to streamline the transition process and encouraged participants to leverage the platform for continuous learning. EBK Registrar/CEO Eng. Margaret Ogai reiterated the Board's commitment to efficient registration, aiming for a processing time of 3-4 months.

Eng. Mwongera further commended approximately 30 graduate engineers from Kenya Pipeline for their commitment to transitioning to professional

engineers during the February workshop. He stressed the need for more professionals across diverse sectors to drive national development. Eng. Ogai echoed this sentiment, affirming EBK's dedication to serving Kenya through safe and sustainable engineering practices.

Lastly, a week-long workshop catered to around 60 graduates from the Graduate Engineers Internship Program (GEIP) Cohort 3. Eng. Erastus Mwongera outlined EBK's strategies to address the shortage of practicing professional engineers, aiming to enhance global competitiveness among Kenyan professionals. Eng. Ogai expressed gratitude to the participants for their interest in professional registration, encouraging them to embrace competitiveness and offer innovative solutions for the country's challenges.

The training workshops are inclusive, welcoming both organizations and individuals, showcasing EBK's unwavering dedication to empowering graduate engineers. These workshops stand as a testament to EBK's commitment to fostering a skilled cadre of professional engineers, ready to propel Kenya's engineering sector into the future. The Board commends the agencies for supporting their staff towards their growth and transition in engineering.

Microsoft ADC Meeting

The Engineers Board of Kenya had the honor of being hosted by Microsoft Africa Development Center (ADC) Kenya, Managing Director, Catherine Muraga. Led by the Registrar/CEO, Eng. Margaret Ogai, the meeting discussed various avenues of collaboration, particularly focusing on initiatives to enhance skills and equip young engineers for the future.

This collaboration aligns with EBK's ongoing efforts to accede to the Washington Accord, aiming to foster the development of globally competitive engineers.

IEK Presidents' Dinner

During the quarterly Presidents' Dinner hosted by the Institution of Engineers of Kenya (IEK), PS Eng. Joseph Mbugua commended IEK for launching the infrastructure report card and appreciated the Engineers Board of Kenya's (EBK) support towards it. He assured that the government will carefully interrogate the report and the recommendations thereof.

EBK Chairman, Eng. Erastus Mwongera emphasized the Boards collaboration with IEK for engineering advancement. Highlighting joint efforts with IEK such as the infrastructure scorecard and compliance regulations, he stressed on the importance of partnerships with governmental bodies and universities for the betterment of the profession.

The Registrar Eng. Margaret Ogai, urged graduate engineers with more than 3 years' experience submit their documents, as measures to expedite the registration process is in place. She affirmed that the Board is on track to achieve its target of 500 No professional engineers. She further committed that EBK will continue to provide support to hasten the delivery of practicing licenses.

Staff Ignite Flare at Annual Team Building

In the pursuit of organizational excellence and effective service delivery, the Board conducted a staff retreat in February 2024 for an engaging program aimed at fostering collaboration, enhancing performance, and nurturing a culture of excellence.

The Registrar, set the tone for the retreat, emphasizing the importance of value addition, commitment, and accountability in public service. Key topics such as customer service sensitization, data protection, diversity management, agility, and problem-solving were addressed, further equipping staff with the skills and knowledge needed to excel in their roles.

A highlight of the retreat was the gala dinner, where staff were recognized and celebrated for their outstanding achievements. Awards were presented for team effort, leadership qualities, best dressed, best sports team, and punctuality, fostering a sense of camaraderie and appreciation within the EBK family.

The retreat culminated in two exciting excursions to Gede Ruins in Kilifi County and Fort Jesus in Mombasa town, providing participants with an opportunity to explore the rich cultural heritage of the region while bonding with colleagues in a relaxed setting.

CSR: World Cerebral Palsy Day

The Board commemorated World Cerebral Palsy Day by supporting the Diani CP Caregivers Support Group in Kwale County. The event on March 2, 2024, aimed to rally support for establishing a special school for children with cerebral palsy. The initiative received backing from various stakeholders, including the Kwale County Government, local celebrities like Mr. Eric Omondi, religious leaders, NGOs, and well-wishers.

Madam Barke Rashid, representing the support group, expressed deep gratitude to the Board for its consistent support, acknowledging their selflessness in improving the lives of children and families facing cerebral palsy and other disabilities. She emphasized the positive impact of the Board's ongoing commitment on community well-being and empowerment.

Safety and Compliance: Miradi Explosion

The Board acted swiftly and decisively by establishing an Enquiry Committee in response to the regrettable explosion in Embakasi, Nairobi County, on February 1st, 2024. The committee had a diverse and specialized team, including a Mechanical Engineer, an expert from the oil and gas industry, a Chemical and Process Engineer, and an Accredited checker who is a Professional Engineer in Civil and Structural engineering. The committees mandate was to conduct a comprehensive investigation and review process regarding the incident. Their focus included the evaluation of standards, submitted drawing designs, and the professional qualifications of the engineers involved, all in accordance with the provisions outlined in Section 7 of the Engineers Act, 2011.

The Board also proactively collaborated with EPRA to establish a Multi-Agency committee, engaging key stakeholders such as the DCI, Nairobi County, NEMA, Public Works, and the National Disaster Management Unit. This comprehensive approach underscores the gravity and complexity of the case, requiring a blend of scientific and legal expertise for the ongoing investigations and inquiries.

The Board remains committed to ensuring a thorough, transparent, and impartial assessment of the situation. These efforts are vital not only to uphold engineering standards but also to prioritize public safety.

In the Spotlight: Recognizing Dedication and Excellence

Meet Mr. Edward Ongeri, a distinguished Office Assistant at the Engineers Board of Kenya (EBK), whose unwavering commitment and exemplary work ethic have made him a golden asset to the organization.

Joining EBK in 2018 after a long and illustrious career at the Ministry of Road, where he became part of the Civil Service in 1983, Mr. Ongeri joined the board having gathered an extensive wealth of experience and dedication to his role.

During his tenure at EBK, "Mzee" as he is fondly referred to by colleagues, has consistently demonstrated punctuality, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to excellence. He is known for being the first to arrive at the office and the last to leave, showcasing his strong work ethic and dedication to his responsibilities.

Mzee's dedication extends beyond regular office hours, as he willingly makes himself available to work on weekends when needed. Despite the additional demands on his time, he approaches these tasks without complaint, further underscoring his dedication to his role at EBK.

So, what is success to Mr. Ongeri when asked? He believes that success is not handed on a silver platter. Instead, it requires patience, hard work, humility, and respect for one's seniors. His advice serves as a guiding light for emerging young leaders and aspiring professionals in the government.

As EBK celebrates Mr. Ongeri's invaluable contributions, we acknowledge his role as a beacon of professionalism and dedication within our organization. His commitment to excellence sets a commendable example for all staff members to emulate.

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Eng. Margaret Ogai, CE

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ENGINEERS BOARD OF KENYA
Enhancing Professionalism

OUR VISION

Safe and sustainable engineering infrastructure.

OUR MISSION

To ensure production of globally competitive engineers and quality engineering services through regulation, capacity building and enforcing compliance with set engineering standards to meet the current and future needs of society.

OUR VALUES

- Integrity
- Customer-Centric
- Accountability
- Respect
- Excellence

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