



Republic of Kenya and The Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership at Seton Hall University Partner to Foster Servant Leadership

New Agreement Allows the Government of Kenya to Enhance the Practice of Servant Leadership Throughout its Public Service

(South Orange, New Jersey – May 1, 2023) The Greenleaf Center for Servant Leadership at Seton Hall University (the Center) and the Republic of Kenya (GOK) are proud to announce a partnership to facilitate the introduction to Servant Leadership to a class of top government officials operating throughout ministries of the Republic of Kenya. Known as Principal Secretaries and Accounting Officers, participants will experience a four-week workshop series addressing the fundamentals and practice of the philosophy of Servant Leadership. Seminar content will include opportunities to apply theoretical Servant Leadership constructs within the context of the Kenyan governmental ministry experience. This partnership is made possible through the generous funding of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

The series was launched on April 27th, with official greetings provided by the Honorable Mercy Kiiru Wanjau, Secretary to the Cabinet, on behalf of the Honorable Felix Koskei, Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service, Executive Office of the President. Ms. Mandisa Mashologu, Deputy Resident Representative of the UNDP, provided remarks on behalf of Mr. Anthony Ngororano, Resident Representative of the UNDP.

The workshop series allows for interactive discussions that lead to engagement in deep reflection on one's approach to managing and supporting others. Participants will review and reflect upon the seminal writings of Robert K. Greenleaf, within the context of the modern workplace and the nuance and challenges associated with functioning in a large governmental structure. Mr. Greenleaf is considered the founder of the modern movement of Servant Leadership as a result of the 1970 publication of his essay, *The Servant as Leader*. This seminal work provided a new perspective for management science by reframing the entire approach of what was understood as leadership; namely, that the focus of all leaders should not be on positional authority, but on first seeking to serve.

"It is a great honor for us as UNDP Kenya to be partnering with this grand vision of a bottom-up transformational economic agenda that the Government of Kenya has through the Head of Public Service. And to the Greenleaf Center, it is really a pleasure for us to be able to support the Government of Kenya with your esteemed institution. The Principal Secretaries will be connecting for knowledge, engaging time in continuous learning and putting the people of Kenya at the center of our work," said Ms. Mandisa Mashologu of the UNDP.

"This training is organized as part of a series for capacity building sessions designed to enhance the capacity and capabilities of top government officials to deliver on the government's agenda. Starting the capacity building session with Servant Leadership is not by chance. His Excellency, President William Ruto's vision of the Public Service is a service that is highly performing, citizen centric, efficient, effective, and agile. This focus and accountability to the citizens is premised on strong leadership with a commitment, the knowledge, the skills, and attitudes to put people first," stated the Honorable Mercy Wanjau.

“On behalf of the Greenleaf Center, it is my pleasure and honor to join with Kenya’s Principal Secretaries and Accounting Officers on a new journey encompassing a philosophy of placing the primary emphasis on the well-being of others. We are deeply grateful to the UNDP to have the opportunity to support His Excellency, President William Ruto’s commitment to strengthen the capacity of government officials to meet the highest priority needs of the citizens of Kenya,” stated Reginald Lewis, the Center’s Executive Director.

About the Greenleaf Center: Established in 1964 by its namesake, Robert K. Greenleaf, the Greenleaf Center is a non-profit organization working to promote the awareness, understanding and practice of servant leadership. Through his seminal 1970 essay, *The Servant as Leader*, Greenleaf launched the modern movement of Servant Leadership, challenging the traditional hierarchical approach to leadership by placing the primary emphasis on the well-being of others. Since 2019, the Center has been housed on the South Orange, New Jersey campus of Seton Hall University. Greenleaf maintains its independence and 501(c)(3) status, while benefiting from the University’s rich tradition of service and preparing students to be leaders in a global society. The Center’s signature programs include the Greenleaf Online Academy, Greenleaf Research Scholars, the *Coffee With Webinar Series*, Next Generation Initiative and Robert K. Greenleaf Public Policy Lecture. More information is available at www.greenleaf.org.

About UNDP

UNDP is the leading United Nations organization fighting to end the injustice of poverty, inequality, and climate change. Working with a broad network of experts and partners in 170 countries, the organization helps nations to build integrated, lasting solutions for people and the planet. UNDP has been operating in Kenya since 1966. Learn more at www.undp.org or follow at @UNDP.

About Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service - Kenya

The Office of the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service is responsible for managing operations, coordinating policies and supervising staff in the Executive Office of the President. The office also handles communication with ministries, state departments and agencies regarding the daily operations of the Kenyan government. Learn more at www.headofpublicservice.go.ke.

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