



MED SCOPE



MWAI KIBAKI REFERRAL HOSPITAL'S HISTORIC HANDOVER

Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital has officially entered a new chapter in its history following the successful handover ceremony held on 2nd July 2026 that marked its transition from an annex of

Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH) to an autonomous National Referral Hospital. The landmark event brought together senior government officials, healthcare leaders, Members of Parliament, county representatives, development partners, healthcare workers, and members of the public to celebrate a milestone expected to transform specialized healthcare delivery in Kenya. The ceremony underscored the Government of Kenya's commitment to strengthening the country's referral health system, expanding access to specialized healthcare services, and



KNH Board, MKRH Board and PS Dr. Ouma Oluga, OGW, during the ceremonial cake cutting

Inside the Issue

Page 01

From Annex To National Excellence

Page 05

Transforming Healthcare Through Technology

Page 06

MKRH Board Pays Courtesy Call to Nyeri Governor

Page 07

MKRH Takes Healthcare To The Community

Page 09

Positive Comments

Page 10

Picture Show



A Historic Milestone in Kenya's Healthcare System

Presiding over the ceremony, Health Cabinet Secretary Dr. Ouma Oluga, OGW described the operationalization of Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital as an independent National Referral Hospital as a historic achievement in Kenya's healthcare transformation. He noted that the hospital's new autonomous status will significantly improve access to specialized and referral healthcare services for residents of Nyeri County, the Mt. Kenya region, and neighbouring counties, reducing the need for patients to travel long distances to access advanced treatment. The Cabinet Secretary emphasized that the transition aligns with the Government's broader vision of delivering quality, affordable, equitable, and accessible healthcare for all Kenyans under Universal Health Coverage. As part of the ceremony, Dr. Oluga officially launched the Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital Strategic Plan 2025–2030, which sets out the institution's roadmap for strengthening specialized clinical services, expanding

medical education and research, promoting innovation, enhancing institutional excellence, and ensuring sustainable growth. He also commended the ongoing construction of the Mwai Kibaki Tower, describing it as a transformative investment that will significantly increase the hospital's capacity in specialized treatment, diagnostics, critical care, teaching, and research.

KNH Celebrates a Successful Transition

Chairperson of the Kenyatta National Hospital Board of Directors, Dr. Abbas Gullet, described the transition as a proud and historic milestone not only for Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital but also for Kenyatta National Hospital. He noted that the achievement reflects years of deliberate planning, investment, and institution-building that have established strong governance systems, expanded infrastructure, and laid a solid operational foundation for the hospital. Dr. Gullet emphasized that the transition marks

the beginning of a stronger partnership rather than the end of one. He reaffirmed KNH's commitment to sharing institutional experience, technical expertise, and specialist collaboration to strengthen Kenya's referral healthcare system.



New Board Commits to Excellence

Receiving the instruments of authority during the formal handover, Board Chair General (Rtd.) Robert Kibochi expressed gratitude to the Government of Kenya and the Ministry of Health for the confidence placed in the inaugural Board.

He described the occasion as a defining milestone in Kenya's healthcare transformation and pledged that the Board would provide strategic leadership anchored on integrity, accountability, transparency, efficiency, and prudent stewardship of public resources. General Kibochi acknowledged the foundational role played by Kenyatta National Hospital in establishing the hospital's governance systems and clinical services and thanked its leadership for guiding the institution through its formative years.

He outlined the Board's key priorities, including strengthening governance, expanding specialized clinical services, investing in modern medical technologies, promoting research and innovation, and developing a highly skilled healthcare workforce.

He reaffirmed the Board's commitment to patient-

centred care, emphasizing that every strategic decision would focus on improving the quality, safety, accessibility, and affordability of healthcare services.

General Kibochi also recognized healthcare workers as the hospital's greatest asset and pledged to foster an enabling environment that supports professionalism, continuous learning, and excellence. Paying tribute to the late President Mwai Kibaki, he said the institution bearing his name should embody his legacy of visionary leadership, integrity, discipline, prudent management of public resources, and commitment to national development.

Strong Support from National and County Leaders

Leaders from Nyeri County and the Mt. Kenya region welcomed the hospital's elevation to National Referral Hospital status, describing it as a transformative investment in healthcare. Othaya Member of Parliament Wainaina Wambugu applauded the Government and the Ministry of Health for successfully



delivering the transition and reaffirmed his commitment to supporting the hospital through advocacy, resource mobilization, and collaboration with both national and county governments.





Formal Handover Completed

The official handover process was led by James Ntabo, who presented the transition report detailing the hospital's progress in governance, infrastructure, clinical services, staffing, financial management, equipment, and operational systems. He confirmed that all institutional assets, financial records, contracts, inventories, and governance documents had been verified and

formally transferred to the incoming Board and management. The ceremony concluded with the formal signing of the handover documentation and the transfer of the instruments of authority to the new Board, officially marking the commencement of Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital's operations as an independent National Referral Hospital.

Looking Ahead

The transition marks the



beginning of a new era for Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital as it assumes a central role in Kenya's referral healthcare system.

Guided by its Strategic Plan 2025–2030, the hospital is poised to expand specialized healthcare services, strengthen medical education and research, embrace innovation, and enhance patient-centred care while building strong partnerships with Kenyatta National Hospital, county

governments, academic institutions, development partners, and the private sector.

As Kenya continues to strengthen its healthcare system, Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital is expected to emerge as a leading centre of excellence in specialized healthcare, medical training, research, and innovation, serving the people of Nyeri, the Mt. Kenya region, and the nation for generations to come.





Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital (MKRH) hosted a high-level delegation from Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) on 10th July 2026 in a strategic engagement aimed at strengthening collaboration in research, innovation, training and technology-driven healthcare solutions.

The DeKUT delegation was led by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eddy Owaga, and was received by the Hospital's Acting Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Peter Mũirũri. The meeting brought together senior leadership from both institutions to explore opportunities for partnership that will enhance healthcare delivery while promoting research and innovation. Guided by MKRH's motto, "Your Health, Our Commitment,"



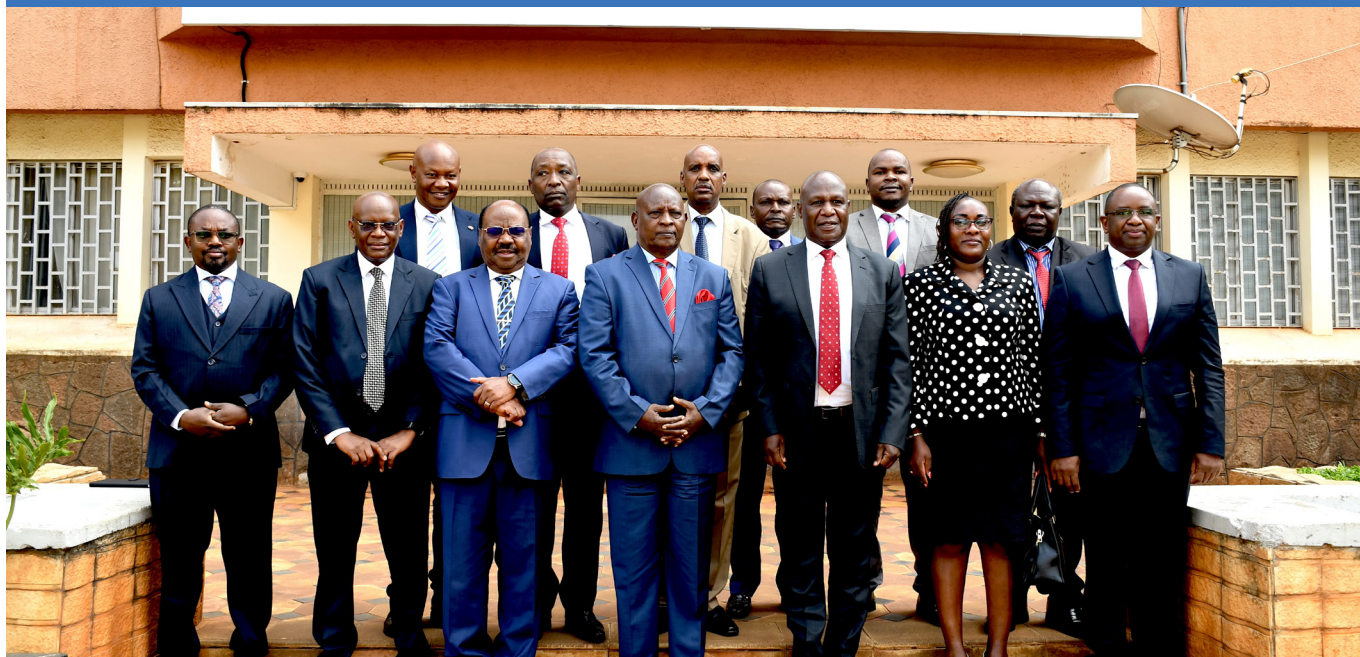
and DeKUT's vision of "Better Life through Technology," the two institutions held extensive discussions on establishing sustainable frameworks for collaboration. Key areas of focus included joint research initiatives, healthcare innovation, technology integration in clinical practice, capacity building, student training and the development of solutions that address emerging healthcare challenges. The engagement featured a

comprehensive boardroom plenary session led by the Acting Director of Clinical Services, Dr. Soita, who highlighted the hospital's specialized services, ongoing transformation agenda and the critical role of strategic partnerships in advancing patient-centred care. The discussions underscored the importance of leveraging the strengths of academia and healthcare institutions to develop evidence-based, technology-enabled solutions

that improve patient outcomes.

This strategic engagement marks another important milestone in MKRH's journey towards becoming a leading centre for quality multispecialty healthcare, research, training and innovation. By fostering partnerships with institutions of higher learning such as DeKUT, the hospital continues to strengthen its capacity to deliver innovative, evidence-based healthcare solutions. As both institutions move forward with implementing the agreed resolutions, the partnership promises to transform clinical challenges into technological milestones, creating lasting impact for patients, healthcare professionals and the broader community.

MKRH BOARD PAYS COURTESY CALL TO NYERI GOVERNOR



The Board of Directors of Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital (MKRH) paid a courtesy call to H.E. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga, EGH, Governor of Nyeri County, on 9th July 2026 marking the Board's first official engagement with the County Government following the hospital's transition into an autonomous national referral hospital.

The delegation, led by Board Chairperson Gen. (Retd.) Robert Kibochi, held fruitful discussions with the Governor aimed at strengthening collaboration in the delivery of quality, accessible and specialized healthcare services for the people of Nyeri County and the wider Central Kenya region.

A key highlight of the meeting was the presentation of the Hospital's 2025–2030

Strategic Plan by the Board Chairperson. The strategic blueprint



outlines MKRH's vision for institutional growth and transformation, with a strong focus on expanding specialized clinical services, modernizing infrastructure and positioning the hospital as a leading referral and teaching institution. The meeting explored several strategic areas of partnership, including enhanced utilization of the hospital's advanced diagnostic services, the establishment of

Centres of Excellence for the management of non-communicable diseases, joint medical outreach programmes, provision of specialist medical services, strengthened emergency medical response systems and collaborative capacity-building initiatives for

healthcare workers. He noted that through continued partnership, the two institutions will be better positioned to improve healthcare outcomes, expand access to specialized services and respond more effectively to the

evolving health needs of residents across Nyeri County and the Central Kenya region.

The courtesy call reaffirmed the shared commitment of Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital and the County Government of Nyeri to fostering strategic partnerships that promote quality, patient-centred and sustainable healthcare. As the hospital continues to implement its strategic vision, such collaborations will play a pivotal role in strengthening health systems and ensuring better health outcomes for the communities it serves.





MKRH TAKES HEALTHCARE TO THE COMMUNITY

Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital (MKRH) reaffirmed its commitment to community health promotion by participating in the Unaitas Sacco Othaya Branch Member Information Day (MID) held on 8th July 2026 at Othaya Approved Grounds.

The event brought together members of the business community, farmers and other stakeholders, providing an ideal platform for the hospital to extend preventive healthcare services beyond its walls. Through its participation, MKRH demonstrated the importance of partnerships in promoting healthier communities while increasing public awareness of available healthcare services.

The hospital's multidisciplinary team offered blood pressure screening, blood sugar testing, psychological counselling and nutrition counselling, enabling members of the public to access essential preventive healthcare services at no cost. Participants also received health education on healthy lifestyles, mental well-being and the importance of regular medical check-ups for the early detection and management of non-communicable diseases.

Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital extends its sincere appreciation to Unaitas Sacco – Othaya Branch for the opportunity to partner in this impactful initiative. As the hospital continues to strengthen community outreach programmes and strategic partnerships, it remains

dedicated to delivering quality, compassionate and patient-centered healthcare in line with its motto: Your Health, Our Commitment.



NEW



MWAI KIBAKI
REFERRAL HOSPITAL

OPG SERVICES

— NOW AVAILABLE —

OPG (Orthopantomogram)

-  Panoramic view of your teeth, jaws & facial structures
-  Accurate diagnosis for better treatment planning
-  Quick, safe & comfortable procedure

**Better Imaging. Better Diagnosis.
Better Care.**

— YOUR HEALTH, OUR COMMITMENT —



 Mwai Kibaki
Referral Hospital

 mwaikibaki_hosp

 @mwaik

POSITIVE COMMENTS

Steve Drennan

Well done Mwai Kibaki Referral.. I listened to Nurse Nancy as part of the AQUIRE Quality Improvement initiative you rolled out to prevent pressure injuries. Very impressive ownership. Please congratulate her, Arjo are Happy to support you



Elizabeth Justus

Wow father Michael great job may God bless you 🙏 never be tired to what you are doing

Caro Muriithi

Congrats, regards to doc Shadrach from Renal unit, a carer in n committed always used to be there for my late daddy

Shiroh Mwas

Doctor Evans, felix wengine cjuu majina na dereva wa ambulance may God bless you all

See translation

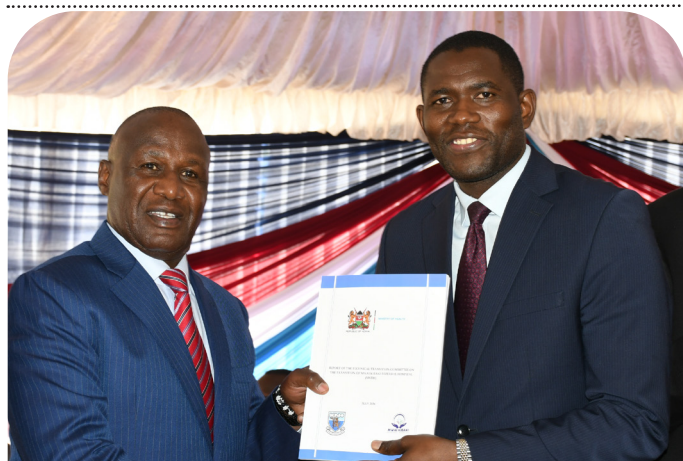
Thank you for your feedback



MKRH Ag. CEO Dr Peter Muiruri (Centre) and DEKUT DVC (Academic Affairs & Research), Prof. Eddy Owaga, (Second from left) with members of both institutions during strategic collaboration visit.



MKRH Board Chair Gen. (Rtd) Robert Kibochi with Governor H.E. Mwalimu Mutahi Kahiga along side MKRH Ag. CEO Dr. Peter Muiruri during courtesy visit at the Governors office.



PS. Dr. Ouma Oluga, OGW with MKRH Board Chair General (Rtd.) Robert Kibochi during the Handover Ceremony held at MKRH

A helping hand...



EDITORS NOTE:

What does it take to build a stronger healthcare system? It begins with a shared vision, bold leadership and meaningful partnerships. This edition captures a defining chapter in the journey of Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital as we celebrate the successful transition into an autonomous State Corporation and the collaborations shaping our future.

As Helen Keller once said, "Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much." Through partnerships, innovation and a commitment to excellence, we are laying the foundation for a healthier tomorrow.

Ms. Susan Wakiuru
Head, Corporate Communication
Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital



To contribute or report to any newsworthy items, please contact the editorial team, or the Marketing & communication department

CORPORATE COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT

Editorial team:

Susan Wakiuru
Abigael Lunani
Chris Mwit
Wilfred Maina
Damaris Maina

Stories by:

Chris Mwit
Damaris Maina
Susan Wakiuru
Abigael Lunani

Design by:

Chris Mwit

Photos:

Chris Mwit
Wilfred Maina



Mwai Kibaki Referral Hospital

Address: 541- 10106 Othaya Nyeri, Kenya
Phone: +254 110 597701/ +254 769 472434
Email: corporateaffairs@mkrh.go.ke

www.mkrh.go.ke