Speech by Gabriel Negatu, Director, East Africa Regional Resource Centre of the African Development Bank Group at the Grant Agreement Signing Ceremony of the Expanding Branded Toilet Entrepreneurship for Improved Sustainable Sanitation in Poor Neighbourhoods of Nairobi Project held on September 17, 2014 at EARC Offices, Nairobi

The CEO, Athi Water Services Board, Eng. Milgo

Distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the African Development Bank Group, I am delighted to address you on this important occasion of signing the Grant agreement for the “Expanding Branded Toilet Entrepreneurship for Improved Sustainable Sanitation in poor neighbourhoods of Nairobi” Project funded by the African Water Facility through the African Development Bank.

The Project grant amounts to 731,400 Euros from AWF resources. The project is aimed at addressing the acute problems with the provision of sanitation services of the urban poor in the informal settlements of Mukuru Kwa Reuben, Mukuru Kwa Njenga and Viwandani in Nairobi. The project will be scaling up franchised management approaches of innovative branded sanitation technologies to informal settlements. The technology and service model adopted for the project was pioneered by the private social enterprise “Sanergy” who was selected as the strategic partner for implementing this project.

The project will have four components to be implemented in 36 months and these are (1) to develop franchise entrepreneurs and create employment in the sanitation value chain, (2) upscale value chain logistics (3) treatment
capacity and revenue from safe re-use improved and (3) project and knowledge management.

The beneficiaries of the proposed project will be an estimated 100,000 people in the informal settlements of Nairobi. The project will complement the ongoing Bank financed Nairobi sewerage improvement project and contribute to the overall improvement in sanitation and public health within Nairobi.

In conclusion, I will like to seize this opportunity to emphasise the efficient and timely implementation of this project and also say how much we appreciate the excellent relations between the Bank and Kenya. I wish to assure you that the Bank Group will continue to support the Government's efforts to bring about sustainable development in Kenya.

Thank you.