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PRESS RELEASE

Government must take measures for youth to benefit from the *Kazi Mtaani* programme aimed at cushioning them from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Nairobi, May 7, 2020 The Youth Congress welcomes Government's plan to roll out a programme aimed at cushioning jobless youth with daily income in the face of the Covid-19 pandemic. Most important, we urge the Government to put in place strong measures to guard the project against mismanagement, corruption and politics.

It is encouraging to learn that Government through the State Department has planned to launch a project dubbed *Kazi Mtaani* that is to be rolled out in 23 informal settlements countrywide in phases to provide more than 26,000 youths immediate job opportunities. It is expected that thousands of jobless youths living in informal settlements would benefit from the programme aimed at cushioning them from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

In Nairobi, 10,600 youths living in Mathare, Kibera, Mukuru and Korogocho slums have been enlisted in the first phase of the programme. According to Housing PS Charles Hinga, youths would earn a daily wage for duties such as access paths and 'street' cleaning, fumigation and disinfection, garbage collection, bush clearance and unclogging drainage, among others.

This is a welcome opportunity especially in such hard and uncertain times. We urge the Government and other stakeholders to ensure that adequate measures are taken to realize the objectives of the project and benefit the youth.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raphael Obonyo', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Raphael Obonyo,

**Convener
The Youth Congress**