



MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS CREATIVE ECONOMY
& SPORTS
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY

PRESS RELEASE (FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

KENYA CLINCHES OVERALL TOP POSITION AT THE WORLD CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS, TALLAHASSEE 2026 - FLORIDA, USA

I wish to extend my warmest congratulations to **Team Kenya** for an exceptional and commanding performance at the **World Cross Country Championships, Tallahassee 2026**, in Florida, USA, where our athletes once again demonstrated why Kenya remains the undisputed global powerhouse in distance running.

Through sheer grit, discipline, and teamwork, Team Kenya finished in **Overall Position One out of 15 participating countries**, securing a total of **seven (9) medals** and emerging as the best-performing nation at the championships. Team Kenya delivered an impressive haul of nine (9) medals - two individual Gold medals and one Team Gold, one individual Silver, alongside three Team Silver medals, and two individual Bronze medals.

In the **Under-20 Men's 8km race**, Kenya delivered a breathtaking and historic clean sweep of the podium. Frankline Kibet powered to Gold in a superb time of 23:18, followed closely by Emmanuel Kiprono, who claimed Silver in 23:20, while Andrew Kiptoo Kiptoo sealed the podium sweep with Bronze in 23:28. This outstanding performance, coupled with the strong showing by the **Under-20 women's team**, earned Kenya Team Gold and Silver respectively, emphatically showcasing the depth, strength, and promise of our junior pipeline.

In the **Senior Women's 10km race**, Agnes Ngetich rose to the occasion with a world-class performance, clinching Gold in a commanding time of 31:28 and reaffirming Kenya's dominance in women's distance running. The women's

team further delivered a strong collective effort to secure Silver in the Team standings with 39 points.

Kenya's men also stood tall in the **Senior Men's 10km race**, where Daniel Ebenyo battled valiantly to claim Bronze in a record time of 28:45, while the senior men's team combined strength and consistency to secure Silver in the Team rankings with 34 points.

While we proudly celebrate our medalists, I also commend every Kenyan athlete who competed with courage and determination on this global stage. Every stride taken, every challenge faced, and every finish fought for carried the pride and spirit of our nation. Even beyond the podium, you represented Kenya with honor and resilience.

This outstanding achievement reaffirms Kenya's reputation as the home of champions and underscores the importance of ongoing sustained investment in sports development, athlete welfare, and talent development championed by **H.E. President William Ruto**. The Government is committed to creating a strong and supportive environment where athletes can succeed, from grassroots to elite levels. By continuously investing in training centers, sports academies, skill development, and improved welfare systems, the government is establishing a solid base for future champions while protecting those who already represent us with distinction.

On behalf of the Government and the people of Kenya, I congratulate our athletes, coaches, Athletics Kenya, the technical and medical teams, and all stakeholders whose dedication made this triumph possible. You have once again inspired the nation and uplifted our standing on the world stage.

Congratulations, Team Kenya. You have made the county proud.

HON. SALIM MVURYA, EGH,

CABINET SECRETARY

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