

press release

All set for the 13th Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon

Nairobi, 22nd October 2015- The city will on Sunday host more than 20,000 runners during the annual Standard Chartered Nairobi Marathon. The National Police Service today released a road closure and traffic diversions schedule ahead of the annual event which is held to raise funds for charity.

Traffic to and out of the city will be mainly diverted to alternative roads as the roads along the designated marathon route will remain closed between 4am and 1pm. The affected roads include sections of Mombasa road, Uhuru Highway, Upper Hill and Forest road. Within the CBD Kenyatta Avenue and sections of Haile Selassie and University Way will remain closed until 11.30am.

Traffic will be routed to industrial area, Jogoo road, Landhies road, Globe Cinema round about, James Gichuru and Mbagathi Way. The roads that will remain closed include Uhuru Highway, Haile Selassie Avenue, Kenyatta Avenue, Harambee Avenue, Mombasa road up to Enterprise Road and part of Lang'ata Road.

“We do not expect a major disruption in the flow of traffic. This being the 13th Standard Chartered Nairobi marathon, we have fully mastered the art of redirecting traffic flow to ensure that Nairobi residents have alternative routes to major installations in the city including hospitals, churches and airports,” said Mr Musyoka Mutungi, deputy Traffic Commandant, Nairobi County. .

Mr Mutungi assured participants and spectators that high level security arrangements have been put in place. “We have always been vigilant to ensure that participants enjoy their experience at the event to the fullest,” he said.

The event organizers have retained the route for the six race categories. The 42KM race which is expected to feature more than 1,000 athletes will be flagged off first at 7am.

Speaking during a press briefing, Peter Gitau, the Chairman of the Local Organizing Committee expressed optimism that the goal of raising KES 30 million this year for the Seeing is Believing initiative will be attained. "We are greatly touched by the overwhelming response towards this event. By close of day yesterday we had already keyed into the system 17,000 entries. Once we finish reconciling the numbers and matching them with race numbers we expect to close at slightly above 20,000," Mr Gitau said.

Proceeds from registration will be channeled to the Seeing is Believing initiative, the Bank's flagship CSR program that focuses on addressing avoidable blindness among children below 15 years. Since the marathon was launched in 2003, more than KES 114 million has been raised with 8,000 children benefitting from corrective surgery.

A total of Kshs 8 million prize money will be up for grabs.

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