

STATEMENT BY HON MARTHA KARUA ON BRIBERY ALLEGATIONS

Thank you for coming. As a leader I believe it is my duty to respond to questions raised by citizens, and I am here to discharge my duty of accountability to the public concerning the allegations of Mr. Paul Hopkins's contributions to my presidential campaign.

In our campaign we received numerous individual donations the vast majority from ordinary Kenyans.

We also received some sizable donations from individual contributors and in those instances I would meet and thank the individuals personally. As I indicated Paul Hopkins gave a donation of Ksh.2 million to my campaign. I was informed of his donation and we had a brief meeting where I thanked him for his donation.

The allegation that Hon. Karua or her presidential campaign received a total contribution of Ksh.7.5 million and a car from Hopkins is totally false.

Our campaign had a clean money policy and a strong anti corruption agenda.

As I mentioned I understood the Ksh.2 million to be a personal, not a corporate, donation.

I have never in my tenure as public servant offered or even entertained discussions about influencing any government contracts and or procurement.

It bears mentioning that at no time in my public career have I had responsibility for KRA

I did not and do not have any access to information on KRA's software or other contracts.

The story in the *Independent* is the first I have heard of the KRA documents and contracts and their interest in procuring software. I repeat: ***I never discussed or provided any information regarding KRA or any government contracts to Paul Hopkins or indeed anyone else.***

The story in *The Independent* however does raise valid questions and it is important that we address these as Kenyans.

Beyond the issues surrounding the 'missing' 5.5Million and the car allegedly donated by Mr. Hopkins we need to go further.

In view of clear evidence of illegal activity in Kenya by BAT are Kenyan regulators and authorities investigating BAT activities and their conduct during the 2013 election and beyond?

As Kenyans we should ask who the appointing authority is for KRA.

I have never had responsibility for appointments at KRA.

As Kenyans we need to know what software KRA eventually procured and the process and all the persons involved.

As Kenyans we must ask what was the full extent of BAT donations in the 2013 General Election ***and to which parties or persons as they evidently were an active campaign contributor.***

As Kenyans we need to know when the results of the life style audit of KRA employees ordered by the President will be released to the public.

I would encourage the Serious Fraud Office in the UK to disclose the campaign contributions to all Kenyan politicians and presidential campaigns by BAT

We welcome investigations into BAT's illegal activities in Kenya by both the SFO as well as Kenyan authorities. **I have maintained that I will cooperate with all investigations whether locally or abroad.**

The narrative that the Jubilee Administration is peddling that we are all corrupt is sheer fiction. The silent majority of Kenyans are not corrupt.

I have never taken a bribe and I know I am not alone in that. When I continue to stand up to speak out against corruption I speak for the majority. I was anti-corruption crusader before it was cool.

Martha Karua.