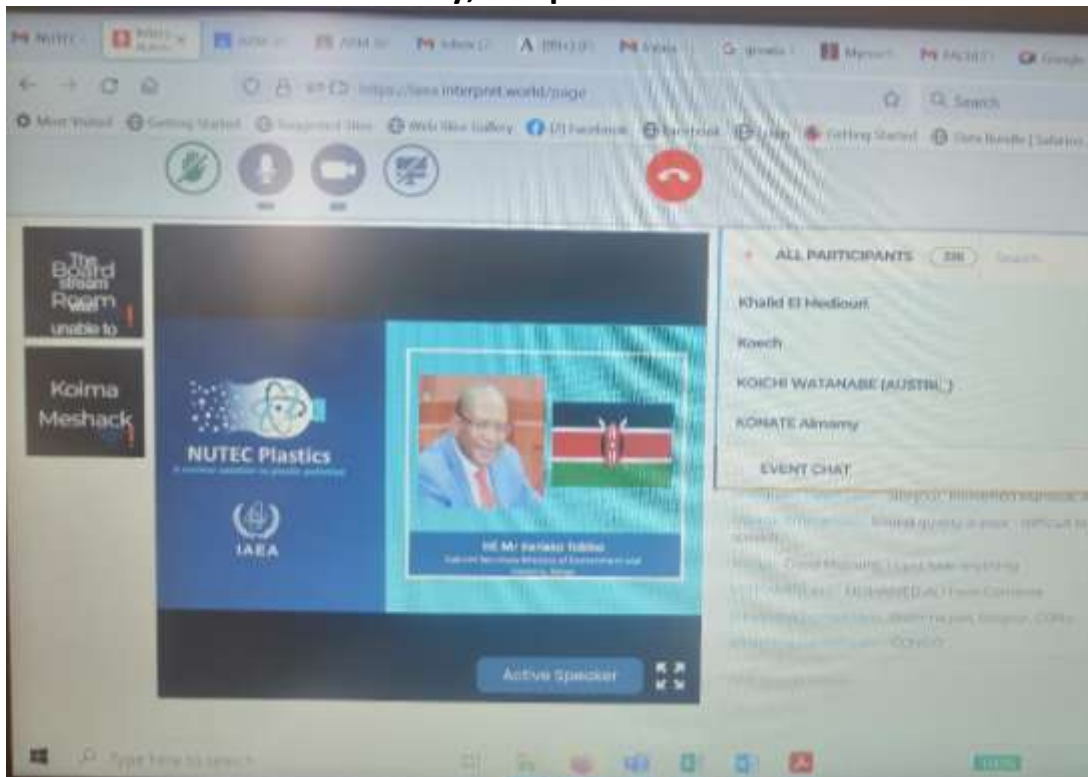


**NUTEC PLASTICS: NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR CONTROLLING PLASTIC POLLUTION ROUNDTABLE FOR AFRICAN REGION**  
**Thursday, 2 September 2021.**



**Dr. Oscar Koech** from the University of Nairobi (UoN), Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology (LARMAT) participated in the NUTEC Plastics: Nuclear Technology for Controlling Plastic Pollution Roundtable for African Region, on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021. The meeting was organized by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Division for Africa, Department of Technical Cooperation, Vienna, Austria. **Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, the Director (IAEA)**, was the host for the African nation's participants, represented by the country representative ministers and delegates. Kenya was represented by **HE Mr. Keriako Tobiko**, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Kenya.

The round table discussion identified the need for concerted efforts in managing the menace of plastic waste across Africa. It was also noted that the ecosystems and livelihoods production systems (both aquatic and terrestrial) are more affected by plastic waste disposal. From the Horn of Africa, it is also noted that plastics have affected livestock production systems, with significant losses reported due to health complications after ingestion. Still also, contaminated water and grazing fields risk the lives of animals that are the main livelihood options to millions of pastoral communities. Something of concern, projections show with the current trends, the oceans and other water bodies will have more plastic wastes than fish by 2050! This call for all actors to work together and apply technologies that could resolve and reduce the challenges posed within the ecosystems.