

PRESS STATEMENT FROM MEETING BETWEEN CS AMB. RAYCHELLE OMAMO AND SWEDISH MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION, MR PER OLSSON FRIDH

- 1. The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign **Affairs Amb. Raychelle Omamo**, SC, **EGH**, and Minister for International Development Co-operation of the Kingdom of Sweden, **H.E. Olsson Fridh**, held fruitful discussions today at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs offices in Nairobi.
- 2. The two Ministers reaffirmed the excellent and long-standing ties existing between Sweden and Kenya, both at bilateral and multilateral levels.

BILATERAL COOPERATION

- 3. Kenya and Sweden have many shared priorities, especially in the area of trade and investment, gender, agriculture, water and sanitation, urban development, health, energy, environment, climate, oceans and global equitable access to vaccines.
- 4. The Swedish Minister announced that the Swedish Government has recently adopted a new development strategy for Kenya for the period 2021-2025 and intends to continue working with Kenya on issues concerning gender equality, climate change and other environment related strategies, urban development as well as democracy and human rights.
- 5. The Ministers agreed to establish a joint Technical and Economic Cooperation with a view to enhance bilateral trade and investments between the two countries and to implement development cooperation in a more structured way. They also agreed on the need for increased exchanges at various levels as a catalyst to deepening relations between the two countries.

REGIONAL SITUATION

6. The Ministers discussed the current situation in the region and the refugee situation and agreed to encourage dialogue amongst parties in conflict given Kenya's important role in the region as a promoter of peace and security, and globally through its seat on the UN Security Council.

MULTILATERAL COOPERATION

- 7. The Ministers also discussed global as well as multilateral affairs and pledged to maintain the close relationship in the multilateral arena so as to most effectively manage global challenges and opportunities.
- **8.** The Ministers agreed that 2022 was an important year as it will be 50 years since UNEP was established in Nairobi. Kenya's hosting of the UN's environmental hub was greatly appreciated. Sweden and Kenya would work together to ensure that the planned events in Nairobi (UNEP@50) as well as in Stockholm (Stockholm+50) would be successful.

MINISTRY OF FOREIN AFFAIRS

NAIROBI
25TH MAY 2021