



## **JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE OCCASION OF A STATE VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY DR. EMMERSON DAMBUDZO MNANGAGWA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE, TO THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA.**

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1. At the invitation of **His Excellency Hon. Uhuru KENYATTA**, President of the Republic of Kenya, **His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo MNANGAGWA**, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, paid a State Visit to Kenya from **8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**. **President MNANGAGWA** led a high-level delegation from Zimbabwe, which included the Minister in charge of Foreign Affairs and International Trade and senior government officials.
2. President **KENYATTA** was accompanied by Cabinet Secretaries in charge of: Foreign Affairs; Defence; Sports, Culture and Heritage; ICT and Youth Affairs; Public Service and Gender, Agriculture, and the Attorney General. The delegation also included senior government officials.
3. The State Visit was preceded by the **third session** of the Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation (JPCC) which was held from **5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**.
4. President Kenyatta and President Mnangagwa held high-level talks in Nairobi on **9<sup>th</sup> March, 2022**. The discussions focused on bilateral, regional, and international issues of mutual interest and concern. These discussions were held in a friendly atmosphere, during which, the two Presidents recalled the deep historical bonds of friendship that had been forged between the two countries over many years since the fight for independence.
5. The two Heads of State reaffirmed their commitment to continue developing bilateral cooperation, including trade and investment, education, health, and agriculture, to meet their respective National Development Agendas, 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa Union's Agenda 2063.
6. To further strengthen the existing bilateral cooperation, the two Presidents presided over the signing of the following Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs):
  - i. MoU on Political and Diplomatic Consultations;
  - ii. MoU on the Promotion of Women Empowerment and Community Development;

- iii. MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Youth Affairs;
  - iv. MoU on the Promotion of Cooperatives;
  - v. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Tourism and Wildlife management;
  - vi. MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Sport and Recreation; and
  - vii. MoU regarding Cooperation and Assistance in the Field of Civil Aircraft Accidents and Serious Incidents Investigation.
7. The two Leaders also noted that there were ongoing discussions to conclude bilateral instruments in other areas. Specifically, they directed the Ministers responsible for Transport to expedite negotiations on the review of the Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA), in readiness for signing by **28<sup>th</sup> April, 2022**.
  8. Kenya and Zimbabwe operate on a visa free regime, and to further enhance the ease of movement of people between the two countries, the two Leaders agreed that the duration of the visitor's passes issued at the points of entry for their respective countries would be on a reciprocal basis for a duration of 90 days and renewable for a similar period.
  9. President Mnangagwa expressed appreciation to President Kenyatta and the Government of Kenya, for granting citizenship to members of the Shona Community who have been resident in Kenya since 1960, noting that this gesture had etched in the annals of history, the strong fraternal bonds between the peoples of the two countries.
  10. On the promotion of trade and economic cooperation, the two Presidents committed their respective governments to the elimination of tariff and non-tariff trade barriers in compliance with international trade principles and laws, to increase the bilateral trade volumes. In this regard, they directed the Ministers responsible for Agriculture and Trade to explore modalities for enhancing trade between the two countries, including by exploiting the opportunities presented under the AfCFTA and COMESA Treaties to which both countries are State Parties. They also encouraged the private sector to explore and benefit from the pro-business policies adopted by both countries.
  11. On health matters, the two Presidents discussed the latest developments around the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They called for global cooperation and concerted action on vaccine supply and access. They also agreed to work closely to combat the spread of COVID-19 virus and other pandemic diseases in the two countries and in Africa in general.

12. President Mnangagwa informed that to meet requirements for dealing with the Covid 19 pandemic, Zimbabwe had developed national capacity to produce medical oxygen, and was currently producing 50 metric tonnes per day against a local demand of 150 metric tonnes per month. In the spirit of African solidarity and friendship between the two countries, President Mnangagwa donated to Kenya, 100 metric tonnes of medical oxygen.
13. With regards to the security situation in Africa, the two Leaders underscored the need to maintain peace, security, and stability within the continent. They affirmed commitment to uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, and to reject unconstitutional changes of government as well as interference in domestic political processes of African countries by external forces.
14. The two Leaders affirmed the principled positions of their respective countries in rejecting the imposition of unilateral coercive measures on African Countries. In this regard, President Kenyatta reaffirmed Kenya's full support to the African position that the illegal sanctions imposed on Zimbabwe should be unconditionally lifted forthwith as they are an impediment to the implementation of Zimbabwe's National Development Agenda. President Mnangagwa expressed appreciation to Kenya for this gesture of solidarity and friendship.
15. In addition, President Kenyatta noted the application by Zimbabwe to rejoin the Commonwealth and reiterated Kenya's firm support for Zimbabwe's application.
16. On the international front, the Leaders underscored the need for continuing consultations to build partnerships in multilateral fora to ensure the agenda of the South is prioritised. They emphasized the need for the reform of the United Nations and other multilateral organizations to make them more representative, accountable, effective, and responsive to the geopolitical realities.
17. With regards to Climate Change and Global Environmental Governance, the two leaders affirmed their commitment to the Paris Agreement and other Multilateral Environment Agreements (MEAs) and called on all State Parties to honor their obligations on the sustainable management of natural resources and ecosystems. To this end, President Mnangagwa congratulated Kenya for successfully hosting the 5th Session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA 5.2) held in Nairobi from **28<sup>th</sup> February-2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2022**, which adopted fourteen (14) resolutions aimed at strengthening actions for nature to achieve the SDGs, including the resolution on the development of a legally binding global instrument to end plastic pollution by 2024.
18. President Mnangagwa further congratulated Kenya for successfully hosting the UNEP at 50 celebrations and affirmed Zimbabwe's support to Kenya for hosting

the headquarters of UNEP and UN-Habitat, making Nairobi the only United Nations Headquarters in the global south.

19. The two Leaders affirmed their commitment to continue supporting each other's candidatures at the continental and international levels. In this regard, Kenya expressed its appreciation to Zimbabwe for supporting Kenya's election to the UN Security Council as a non-permanent Member. Zimbabwe on the other hand expressed its appreciation for Kenya's support for Zimbabwe's election to the African Union Peace and Security Council.
20. With regards to international sports governance, the two Presidents expressed concern about FIFA's decision to suspend international football activities in the two countries. They called for reforms and urged FIFA to work with Governments, who are critical stakeholders in the nurturing and promotion of football activities. The two Leaders also advocated the incorporation of National Laws into national football federations governance, to ensure transparency, eliminate corruption and promote the growth of football in the Continent.
21. At the conclusion of the State Visit, President Mnangagwa expressed profound gratitude and appreciation to President Kenyatta, the Government, and the people of the Republic of Kenya for the warm reception and generous hospitality extended to him and to his delegation.
22. As a testimony to the existing warm and cordial relations, President Mnangagwa extended an invitation to President Kenyatta to undertake a State Visit to Zimbabwe, and also to be the Guest of Honour at the official opening of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair in Zimbabwe from **27<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> April, 2022**.
23. His Excellency Hon. Uhuru KENYATTA accepted the invitation, and thanked His Excellency Dr. Emmerson Dambudzo MNANGAGWA for undertaking the State Visit to the Republic of Kenya.

**Issued** at Nairobi in the Republic of Kenya on this 10<sup>th</sup> **Day of March, 2022.**

**Amb. Raychelle Omamo, SC, EGH**  
**CABINET SECRETARY FOR**  
**FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE**  
**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**Dr. Fredrick M. M. Shava**  
**MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS**  
**AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE OF**  
**THE REPUBLIC OF ZIMBABWE**