

JULY- SEPTMEBER 2024
ISSUE NO. 039
E-NEWSLETTER

DIPLOMACY

A Publication of The State Department for Foreign Affairs





Vision

*A peaceful,
prosperous, and
globally competitive
Kenya”.*

Mission

To pursue, project, promote, and protect Kenya's interests and image globally through innovative diplomacy, and contribute towards a just, peaceful and equitable world.

DID YOU KNOW (PUBLIC INFORMATION)

The State Department oversees the management of 66 fully fledged Missions with multiple accreditations, 4 Consulates-General, 2 Missions in Nairobi, 1 Liaison office, and 31 Honorary Consuls spread across the globe.

The State Department also serves ninety-three (93) resident Foreign Diplomatic Missions, and thirty-six (36) non-resident Diplomatic Missions; Forty-eight (48) UN Agencies and one hundred and thirteen (113) Inter-Governmental and International Organizations hosted in Kenya.

Article 12 of 2021 (Cap 185 E) Laws of Kenya outline the Functions of the Foreign Service to include:

- Be responsible for the development and management of Kenya's foreign policy;
- Conduct and coordinate the international relations and cooperation of the Republic at bilateral, regional and multilateral levels;
- Enhance protection of Kenya's sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- Enhance national, regional and international peace, security and stability;
- Protect, promote and project national interests globally;
- Establish and maintain good relations between the Republic and other countries, and international organizations;
- Manage the Republic's Missions;
- Serve and promote the legitimate interests of Kenyans living abroad;
- Administer diplomatic privileges and immunities;
- Administer all foreign representations in the Republic;
- Be the primary interface between the Republic and foreign states and international organizations or entities;
- Facilitate negotiation and conclusion of international treaties and agreements in consultation with relevant ministries;
- Maintain custody of ratified international treaties and agreements;
- Facilitate the integration of Kenya's foreign policy in national security;
- Coordinate, monitor and report on the implementation of the Republic's international obligations;
- Coordinate and provide protocol services to designated foreign and national dignitaries as prescribed;
- Provide consular services as prescribed;
- Coordinate relevant agencies in emergency evacuation of distressed Kenyans abroad; and
- Perform any other function as may be necessary for the discharge of its mandate as prescribed by any written law.

Editorial Board/ Chair of Editorial Committee,
Dr. Musalia Mudavadi,
EGH, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs

Secretary/ Managing Editor,
Dr. Korir A. Sing'Oei,
Principal Secretary, State Department for Foreign Affairs.

Editorial Board
Amb. L. Kiruthu, M. Okoth, H. Abdishakur, A. Mujivane, G. Omondi, M. Yego, P. Mwangi, I. Kimeu

Editorial Secretary, I. Agum.

Contributing writers:
Amb. J.Maikara, Amb. G.Orina, P.Mwangi, I.Agum, K.Githinji, G.Moturi, W.Aluoch, D.Makena, N.Kipruto,

Photography
A.Kuria, W.Lumbasi, R.Lungatso

Table of Contents

Kenya Participates at the 79th United Nations General Assembly, 2024 <i>By Amb. J.K.Maikara and I.Kimeu...</i>	7
Kenya Launches African Union Commission Candidacy <i>By K. Githinji.....</i>	13
Kenya Participates in ASEAN's 57th Anniversary Celebration <i>By N. Kipruto.....</i>	15
Kenya - Namibia Inaugural Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation <i>By I. Kimeu.....</i>	17
<u>Kenya's Diplomatic Journey: Reflections- a legacy of Peace Diplomacy</u> <i>By P. Mwangi.....</i>	19
<u>Kenya-China Relations Deepened at 2024 FOCAC Summit: A Milestone for Infrastructure, Trade, and Economic Cooperation</u> <i>By G. Moturi.....</i>	22
<u>EAC Ministers' Retreat on Enhancing EAC Regional Integration, Peace and Security</u> <i>By P. Mwangi.....</i>	29
<u>EASF Training and Verification of the Pledged Capabilities concludes</u> <i>By I.Agum and R. Lungatso.....</i>	31
<u>South Sudan President Commends Progress in Tumaini Peace Initiative, Civil Society Leaders Pledge Support</u> <i>By I. Kimeu.....</i>	32
<u>Kenya Participates in the 3rd Voice of the Global South Summit</u> <i>By D. Makena.....</i>	35
<u>Africa to Develop and Implement Strategies that will expand Regional and International Trade</u> <i>By W. Aluoch and I. Kimeu.....</i>	37
<u>Mudavadi Gazettes New Foreign Service Academy Board</u> <i>By K. Githinji.....</i>	38
<u>Strengthening Kenya and Haiti Diplomatic Relations</u> <i>By K. Githinji, N. Kipruto and D. Makena.....</i>	40
<u>Kenya Feted in Ethiopia</u> <i>by. Amb. G.M Orina.....</i>	46
<u>Sports- Kenya Dominates Africa, Shatters Records at the Olympic Games in Paris</u> <i>By P. Mwangi.....</i>	50

F rom the Desk of the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs



H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs

It is with great honor that I introduce this edition, highlighting the Ministry's critical role in public diplomacy—a cornerstone of our nation's foreign policy. As communication grows increasingly complex due to the proliferation of digital platforms and the rising demand for transparency,

engaging effectively with the public has become an essential tool for communicating the government's policies, programs, and achievements.

The Kenyan Constitution, under Article 35 (1a), guarantees every citizen the right to access information held by the state. Article 35 (3) mandates the state to publish and publicize any important information affecting the nation. Furthermore, Article 232 (1) requires public officers to uphold transparency and provide the public with timely and accurate information about government policies. These constitutional provisions affirm the government's duty to foster an informed citizenry, ensuring both domestic and global audiences are aware of Kenya's diplomatic efforts and achievements.

In an era of rapid digital communication, the rise of misinformation, disinformation, propaganda, and fake news presents a significant challenge to governance and democracy. While the public's demand for accountability is legitimate, government efforts can easily be drowned out by this 'noise.' This reality underscores the need for continuous public engagement through available platforms. It therefore necessitates the government to leverage on communication strategies that enable it to speak with its citizens on all its regional and global partnerships and engagements.

In the last quarter, Kenya has taken part in various discourses regionally and at a global level including but not limited to the 79th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), the 9th Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), the 9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD 9), and the East African Community (EAC) Affairs whose interconnectedness impacts on Kenya socio-economic developments. Further, by capitalizing on our leadership in peacekeeping, our rich cultural heritage, and our commitment to sustainable development, we continue to project a positive image of Kenya's growing influence on the international stage. Whether through cultural exchanges, active participation in global forums, or championing peace initiatives, Kenya remains a beacon of stability, innovation, and diplomacy within Africa and beyond.

Kenya's initiatives in the Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti and the Tumaini Peace Initiative for South Sudan, demonstrate Kenya's enduring commitment to peace and security. Additionally, our active engagement in organizations like the African Union, the East African Community, and the United Nations solidifies our position as a leader in diplomacy and multilateralism.

As we move forward, Kenya's Public Diplomacy will remain a vital instrument in advancing our foreign policy objectives, ensuring that we continue to be a strong voice for peace, cooperation, and sustainable development.

Thank you.



From the desk of the Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs



Dr. Korir A. Sing'Oei, Principal Secretary, State Department for Foreign Affairs

It is my distinct honour to present this 39th edition of the Diplomacy Newsletter; a platform that highlights Kenya's diplomatic strides quarterly.

This edition highlights some of the milestones including but not limited to, Dr. Raila Odinga EGH official African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson

candidature launch; Kenya's engagement at the 9th Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC); the Tokyo Investment Conference for Africa Development (TICAD-9) and the 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 79) as Kenya continues to build partnerships that enhance the country's national development goals.

Kenya's role in the search for global peace and security cannot be ignored, this issue speaks to the various initiatives for South Sudan and Haiti. Other Ministerial engagements include the on-going review of Kenya's Foreign Policy and the constitution of the Foreign Service Academy Board. This edition also provides insights into how Kenya leverages its soft power through the arts, culture, and sports so as to strengthen Kenya's global presence and foster deeper connections with other nations.

It is my sincere hope that you will appreciate the articles in this edition which illustrate the Ministry's engagement in pursuit of Kenya's national interests on the international sphere. Arguably, through this publication, Kenya continues to inform and educate its citizens on matters foreign policy.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in Kenya's foreign policy. I look forward to our knowledge-sharing endeavors that advance Kenya's interests in contributing to a more peaceful, prosperous, and interconnected world.

Pleasant readings



Kenya Participates at the 79th United Nations General Assembly, 2024 *By Amb. J.K.Maikara and I.Kimeu*



President H.E. Dr. William Ruto delivering Kenya's National Statement at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, 26th September 2024.

Kenya's attendance in the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2024 demonstrated its active involvement in global diplomacy and multilateralism. The assembly, themed "Peace, Prosperity, and Sustainability," offered Kenya with an opportunity to promote its national priorities, regional leadership, and dedication to global concerns such as climate change, peacekeeping, and sustainable development.

Key Highlights of Kenya's Engagement:

In a strong address to the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, the President emphasized the critical need for global cooperation to address a wide range of pressing issues. He praised the session's theme, "Unity in diversity for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for everyone everywhere," which reflects the UN's core ideals.

Global Security Concerns: The President emphasized the fragile situation of international security, citing increasing crises from Gaza to Ukraine and the resurgence of great power rivalries. He bemoaned the growing emphasis on separation over togetherness, warning that such polarization jeopardizes the promise of the UN Charter. He urged member states to foster dialogue and collaboration rather than unilateralism, which has led to a resurgence in nuclear weapons proliferation and reduced multilateral efficacy.



Kenya's Commitment to Peace: The President underlined Kenya's unshakeable commitment to world peace and security, highlighting the country's role in conflict resolution and peacekeeping operations, particularly in Somalia and Haiti. He emphasized Kenya's leadership role in the Multinational Security assistance Mission in Haiti, as well as the importance of ongoing international assistance and funding for these essential missions.

Call for Reform in Global Institutions: The President spent a considerable portion of his speech emphasizing the need for reform in the UN Security Council, which he regarded as outmoded and unrepresentative, particularly given Africa's demographic significance. He advocated for a more inclusive and accountable international security framework to better address current concerns.

Economic and Environmental Challenges: The President painted a grim picture of the current status of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), claiming that progress has stagnated due to escalating conflicts and the effects of climate change. He emphasized the need of equitable international financial systems in assisting developing countries, calling for debt reduction and increasing investment in renewable energy, particularly in Africa. The President warned of the catastrophic effects of climate change and urged strong international collaboration to address environmental challenges. He emphasized the importance of creating a global plastics pact to prevent pollution and safeguard ecosystems.

The President advocated for a new vision of international cooperation that promotes human dignity, equity, and inclusion. He underlined the importance of joint effort in addressing global challenges, ensuring that development is shared by all nations and communities. The President's speech emphasized a commitment to a more equitable and robust global framework, reflecting the UN's basic principles.

Kenya Joins Global Coalition to Combat Plastic Pollution at UN General Assembly: Kenya has become the 66th country to join the High Ambition Coalition, which is dedicated to eliminating plastic pollution worldwide. Kenya's inclusion in the organization originates from its dedication to environmental sustainability, which recognizes the crucial need of eliminating plastic pollution for present and future generations. The President emphasized the dual threat that plastic waste provides to both the environment and the economy, while noting that plastic pollution supports various industries and creates jobs.



The High Ambition Coalition argues for a complete and circular approach to plastic waste management, calling for immediate action and successful interventions across the plastics lifecycle, from design and production to consumption and disposal. A recent letter signed by coalition members emphasized the importance of effective, legally binding global rules to reduce the negative economic, social, cultural, and environmental effects of plastic pollution, particularly in developing countries, least developed countries, and small island developing states.

President Dr. William Ruto during the Global Plastic Pollution Instrument side event on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.



Dr. William Ruto, President of Kenya, delivered a critical address at the **Summit of the Future's Interactive Dialogue on Transforming Global Governance and Turbocharging the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**, highlighting the severe challenges confronting the global economy and the implications for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

During the Summit, it was announced that the 2024 Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development (FfD4) had identified a coming sustainable development crisis, principally caused by financing constraints that affect both the SDGs and climate action. The President noted that the approaching 4th International Conference on Financing for growth may be the final opportunity to enact the dramatic adjustments required to reorient growth trajectories toward the 2030 goal. He emphasized the importance of closing finance gaps, bridging institutional divides, and restoring trust in multilateralism, pointing out that the current multilateral system fails to adequately address these complex difficulties.

The Kenyan President condemned the present global architecture as unproductive, encouraging countries to explore innovative, domestic solutions to pressing concerns. Structural and financial constraints, such as inadequate fiscal capacity, mounting debt, unjust credit rating systems, and disparities in interest rates, were identified as important barriers, particularly for low-income countries. The President also emphasized the unjust global financial system's role in exacerbating economic crises



and increasing inequalities, noting that development financing had failed to meet the urgent needs of developing countries, thereby contributing to a growing divide that resembled "development apartheid." The President called for urgent reforms to bridge the financial divide between nations and expressed Kenya's support for the UN Secretary-General's proposed USD 500 billion SDG Stimulus package to support long-term financing for sustainable development and reforming international financing structures.

The forum noted that the **stagnation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda** had resulted with only 15% of the SDGs remaining on track, The President warned that without urgent reforms, the growing finance gap could lead to a stark sustainable development divide, leaving millions vulnerable. The President asserted that inclusive development remained a priority for development and illustrated with Kenya's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda, which focuses on including marginalized and vulnerable populations, particularly youth and women. The President urged global leaders to unite in taking bold, unprecedented steps to reform international financial institutions warning that delays in action could jeopardize sustainable development ambitions globally.

Bilateral and Multilateral Meetings:

Kenya's attendance at the 79th UNGA cemented its status as a vital advocate for Africa's interests on the global arena, as well as reinforcing its commitment to multilateralism and collaborative action in tackling the world's most serious issues. Kenya participated in a number of bilateral and multilateral meetings with

other member states and international organizations, with the primary goal of extending economic relationships, strengthening security cooperation, and exploring new areas of collaboration in technology, education, and healthcare.

Joint Commission for Cooperation with Algeria: Following a meeting with



Prime Cabinet Secretary H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi leading Kenya- Algeria bilateral meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria H.E. Ahmed Attaf, 22nd September, 2024.



Ahmed Attaf, Algeria's Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad, Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi expressed optimism for the inaugural session of the JCC, which will take place in Kenya. He emphasized the importance of this agreement in developing a strategic cooperation framework that will benefit both nations. The Prime Cabinet Secretary reiterated the need for the two countries to work together to strengthen bilateral cooperation as aligned to AfCFTA. He invited Algerian investors to explore the significant opportunities within Kenya, describing the country as a commercial hub for East and Central Africa, with access to a market of approximately 400 million people.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary also thanked Algeria for its generous donation of 16,000 metric tonnes of fertilizer and congratulated the country on its recent election as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the term 2024-2025. He reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to the African Union's Agenda 2063 and asked Algeria to support former Prime Minister Raila Odinga's candidacy for Chairperson of the African Union Commission, emphasizing Dr. Odinga's leadership skills and advocacy for African unity, infrastructure development, youth empowerment, and gender equality. Kenya and Algeria have historically worked together on a variety of international topics, including peacekeeping, security, and climate change.

US-Kenya Business and Investment Breakfast: The President attended a joint US-Kenya Business and Investment Breakfast aimed at enhancing economic partnerships between the two countries. The President highlighted Kenya's robust business environment, characterized by

innovative policies and a skilled workforce and urged American investors to consider the emerging opportunities within Kenya, which serves as a gateway to the African market.

President William Ruto Engages with Ford Foundation President Darren Walker at the UN General Assembly: The discussions focused on Kenya's commitment to democratic governance, the rule of law, and human rights protection, as well as the need to protect African democracy from disinformation and the misuse of digital platforms for non-democratic purposes. Kenya was commended for its significant advocacy for improving global economic governance, combating climate change, and regulating technology. The Ford Foundation has made major investments in Kenya's development over the last 60 years, with negotiations underway to upgrade the institution's Host Country Agreement to create a strong framework that matches with their common goals.

President William Ruto meets U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken on the sidelines where their meeting reinforced the two countries' strategic partnership, particularly following President Ruto's recent state visit to the United States, which marked 60 years of official Kenya-U.S.-Kenya partnership; a bond founded on shared values, deep cooperation, and a common vision for the future. Kenya and the United States of America continue to enjoy cordial and developing relations based on the Strategic Partnership of 2018. The alliance includes collaboration in peacekeeping, security, education, trade, investment, and energy, among other areas. This framework makes it easier to hold the Bilateral Strategic Dialogue, which aims to strengthen and deepen relations in five (5) key areas: economic prosperity, trade, and investment;





President H.E. Dr. William Ruto leads the Kenyan delegation during talks with US Secretary of State Secretary

defense cooperation; democracy, governance, and civilian security; multilateral and regional issues; and health cooperation.

During the discussions, Kenya expressed concern about the African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA)'s impending expiration in 2025 and urged the conclusion and signing of the Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership. In order to sustain its profits, Kenya has requested that Congress consider extending the period of AGOA.

Kenya, a major non-NATO ally, is slated to get further US aid to help modernize its National Police Service, with a focus on staff and training development. Kenya and the United States will also launch a strategic discussion on artificial intelligence, which will be a significant step toward stabilizing regional peace and security. The recent visit to Kenya by US Secretary of Defense Llyod Austin in September 2023 led in the signing of the US-Kenya Defense Agreement, which aims to improve counterterrorism efforts and

combat violent extremism in the East African region.

Kenya acknowledges the U.S. sponsored United Nations Resolution 2699 (2023) that authorised the deployment of a Multinational Security Support Mission (MSS) to Haiti and remains committed to lead the MSS Mission to its fruition. Kenya's value preposition of MSS mission is backed by an impressive record of participation in Peace Support Operations across the globe including; Sierra Leone, East Timor, Kosovo Macedonia, South Sudan and Democratic Republic of Congo etc. In accordance with the legal provisions, the government has dispatched a group of 382 police officers to Haiti, with another 600 police officers currently completing training for deployment to MSS in Haiti.

Enhancing Kenya - Morocco Bilateral Cooperation Where the Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi met with his Moroccan counterpart, Nasser Bourita, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation, and Moroccan

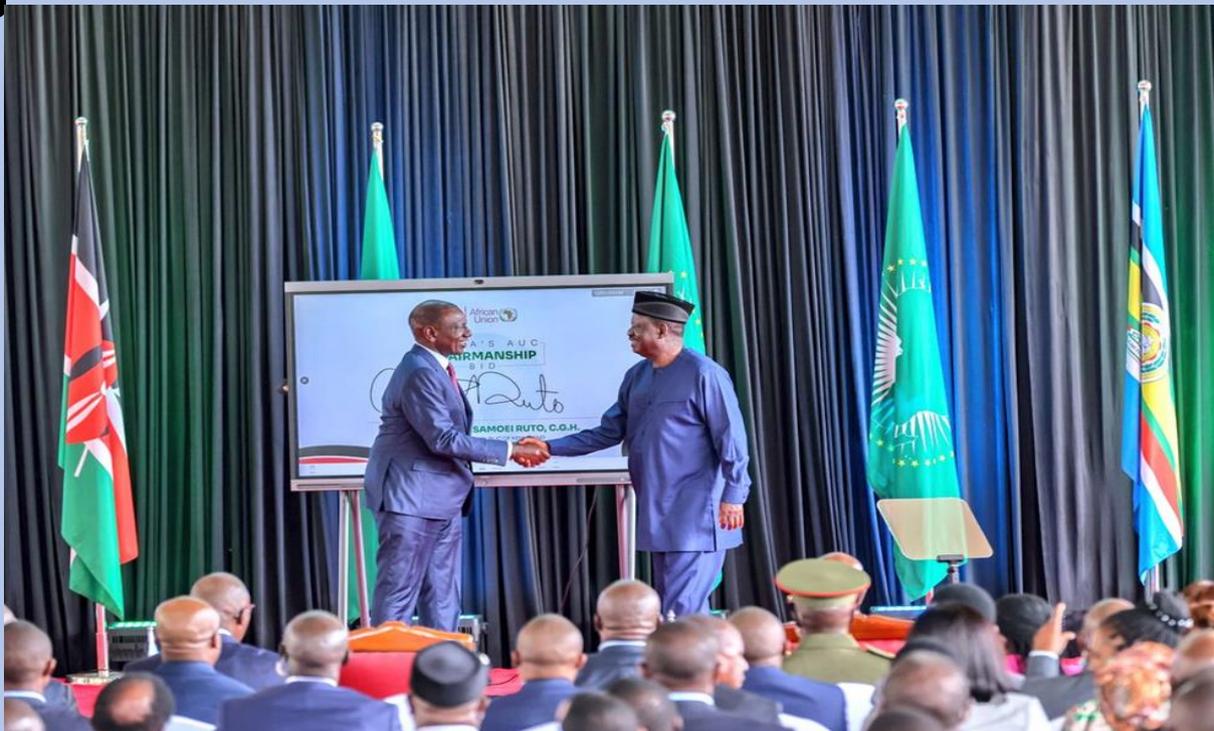


Expatriates. The meeting focused on enhancing bilateral cooperation, trade, and mutual development between the two countries. Morocco confirmed readiness to supply fertilizer to Kenya to boost food security in the country. Kenya advocated for the candidature of Dr. Raila Odinga for the position of African Union Commission Chairperson in the upcoming February elections.

UN Futures Lab and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) where the Principal Secretary participated in a side event at the Summit of the Future ahead of the 79th Session of UNGA themed, “Futures Thinking and Strategic Foresight to Safeguard Future Generations” which sought to address the transformative

power of future thinking and foresight, emphasizing the impacts of foresight’s capacity to influence policies and strategic planning in driving organizational change, strengthening governance, and fostering inclusive multilateralism. Alongside other panelists, Kenya reiterated the significance of investing in future long-term solutions while involving relevant actors in decision-making processes to cultivate a sense of ownership for a sustainable future. Other discussants included the Kingdom of Spain, Republic of Chile, and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).

Kenya Launches African Union Commission Candidacy *By K. Githinji*

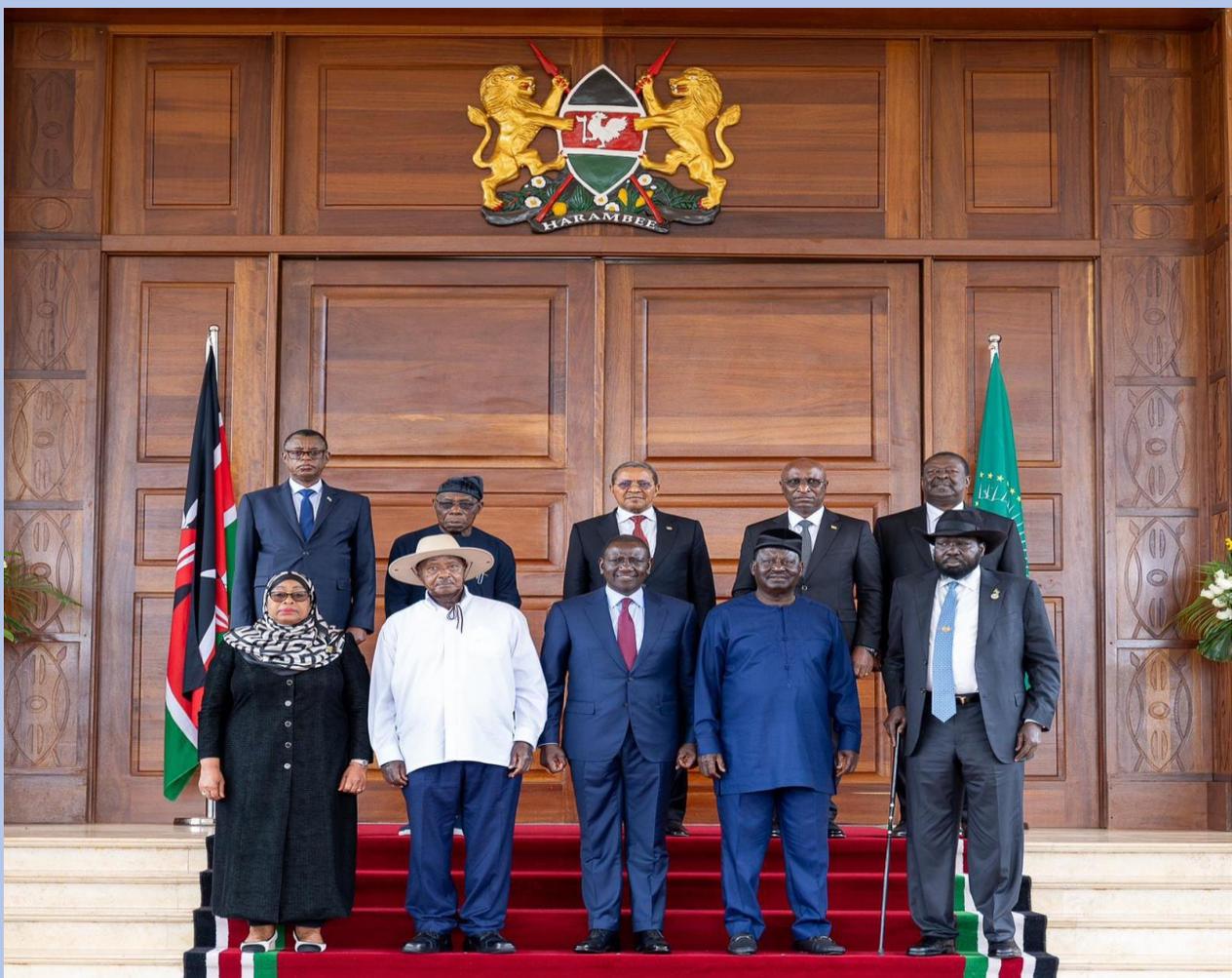


President H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH and Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga during the launch of Hon. Raila's Candidature for the African Union Commission Chairmanship at State House.



On 27th August, 2024 Kenya formally announced, that the former Prime Minister, Dr. Raila Odinga would be vying for the position of Chairperson of the African Union Commission (AUC). President William Ruto presided over the event that was marked by robust endorsement by East African Partner States reflecting the broad regional and continental support for Dr. Odinga's bid.

The formal announcement was witnessed by among others, the Chairperson of the East African Community, President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, Presidents Samia Suluhu of Tanzania, and Salva Kiir of South Sudan. Former presidents including Dr. Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania and Mr. Olusegun Obasanjo of Nigeria were in attendance.



President William Ruto (middle), H.E Musalia Mudavadi and Hon. Raila Odinga join Presidents and Former presidents who had graced the occasion.

The candidate's Pan-African credentials and dedication to regional and continental integration and progress were underscored by the leaders. President Ruto highlighted Dr. Odinga's profound comprehension of global and African affairs while exhibiting a wealth of knowledge and experience. His courage to champion Africa's interests on the regional and global platforms were recognised as dedication towards



establishing a strong foundation for Africa's transformation. President Museveni cited Dr. Odinga's extensive experience and long-standing involvement in Africa's struggles as reasons why he remained ideal for the position. President Salva Kiir who is also the current Chair of the East Africa Community described Dr. Odinga as a steadfast Pan-Africanist with President Suluhu expressing her total confidence in Dr. Odinga's ability to convert the assembly's vision into tangible results.

On his part, Dr. Odinga committed, if elected to transforming the African Union into a people-centered organization. This would be achieved through collaboration with all leaders to ensure that the vision and priorities of the Community were aligned. The former Prime Minister and African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development committed to critically analyze existing reform proposals, build the capacity of the African Union Commission (AUC), advocate for the abolition of visa requirements within African countries, combat trade barriers, and ensure that the continent benefitted from its vast natural resources.

"With your assistance, I will have the opportunity to serve Africa, the cradle of humanity. My heart is prepared and my hands are steady. I was created in East Africa for Africa," Dr. Odinga declared. The AUC elections will be conducted in February 2025.

Kenya Participates in ASEAN's 57th Anniversary Celebration *By N. Kipruto*



Amb. Eliphas Barine (Centre) poses with ASEAN Committee in Nairobi (ACN) Ambassadors during the 57th Anniversary Celebrations held on 7th August, 2024 at the Royal Thai Embassy in Nairobi.



The 57th anniversary of Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was held at the Royal Thai Embassy in Nairobi on August 7, 2024 hosted by Her Excellency Ms. Morakot Janemathukorn, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Kenya and Chair of the ASEAN Committee in Nairobi. Ambassador Eliphaz Barine, Director-General Political and Diplomatic Affairs, represented Dr. Korir Sing'Oei, Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

Dr. Sing'Oei thanked Ambassador Janemathukorn for organizing and hosting the commemorative celebrations reiterating the cordial relations between Kenya and the Southeast Asian Nations. He underscored the importance of regional blocs in promoting integration, peace, and security through trade and investment in various sectors.

Dr. Sing'Oei further called for reformation within the global financial architecture in order to liberate resources for climate change, digital inclusion, and equity, especially in the global south. He encouraged ASEAN entrepreneurs to invest in Kenya. He noted that Kenya as an active member of the East African Community believed in regional economic communities as facilitators for multilateralism, peace, and security and was keen to borrow best practices from ASEAN.

Ambassador Janemathukorn highlighted the role of the ASEAN Committee in Nairobi (ACN) especially in integrating ASEAN's identity in Kenya through cultural events noting that an ASEAN Cultural Festival was slated for November 2024.

ASEAN Day is observed yearly on August 8 to commemorate ASEAN's foundation. The Bangkok Declaration, signed on August 8, 1967, founded ASEAN as a regional organization to promote economic growth, political stability, and social improvement in its member states. ASEAN comprises Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei, Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar, and Cambodia.

The 57th anniversary of ASEAN was attended by High Commissioners, Permanent Representatives of the UN Office in Nairobi, UNEP, HABITAT, and International Organizations, members of the Diplomatic Corp as well as students from the Department of Peace and International Security of Daystar University.



Kenya - Namibia Inaugural Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation *By I. Kimeu*



The Prime Cabinet Secretary, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi held bilateral discussions with H.E. Nangolo Mbumba, President of the Republic of Namibia, and H.E. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, Vice President, during an official two-day visit to Namibia.

In a significant diplomatic move to strengthen Kenya-Namibia bilateral relations and cooperation, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, paid an official visit to Namibia on September 9th and 10th, 2024, at the invitation of Hon. Dr. Peya Mushelenga, Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of the Republic of Namibia.

During his visit, the Prime Cabinet Secretary held key bilateral conversations with Namibian President, His Excellency President Nangolo Mbumba and Vice President His Excellency Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah.

The discussions focused on political and diplomatic consultations, as well as a review of the inaugural Joint Permanent Commission of Cooperation (JPCC) conducted in 2018, which demonstrated the two countries' commitment to developing ties.

Dr. Mudavadi thanked Namibia for hosting the 1st Kenya-Namibia Joint Commission for Cooperation's Mid-Term Review (MTR), emphasizing the platform's importance in strengthening relations in the areas of health, trade and investment, security, agriculture, the blue economy, and education.

President Mbumba emphasized Kenya and Namibia's historical ties, which stem from their respective liberation fights and post-independence developments. He recognized the importance of high-level contacts between the two countries, underlining their close and cordial connections.



One major topic of deliberation was Kenya's candidacy for the African Union Commission chairperson position, with President Mbumba acknowledging Kenya's former Prime Minister Dr. Raila Odinga as a qualified candidate.

Dr. Mudavadi also met with the Namibian Vice President His Excellency Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah to discuss the two nations' historic relations as well as the need to strengthen economic and investment ties. It was emphasized that Namibia's MTR was a priority for following-up on commitments made during the last Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation. The Vice President also emphasized Namibia's efforts to address unemployment, healthcare, and education, with a particular emphasis on youth participation in the electoral process. Prime Cabinet Secretary Mudavadi echoed the significance of youth involvement and the need to follow up on the issues raised during bilateral meetings.

Furthermore, political and diplomatic consultations conducted on September 10, 2024, underlined the commitment to strengthen bilateral relations and collaboration, as indicated by the approval of the Mid-Term Review of the Joint Permanent Commission for collaboration's Inaugural Session. Both sides emphasized the need of maintaining regular diplomatic and political talks to monitor the progress and implementation of agreements made by the Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation and other bilateral fora.

The discussions also underscored trade's critical role as a catalyst for economic growth and development, with a shared commitment to mobilize public and private sector institutions to leverage pro-business policies and strengthen bilateral connections.

The visit by the Prime Cabinet Secretary demonstrates Kenya and Namibia's commitment to establishing mutually beneficial relations and represents a significant step toward stronger cooperation, solidarity, and friendship between the two countries.



Kenya's Diplomatic Journey: Reflections- a legacy of Peace Diplomacy *By P. Mwangi*

As Kenya embarks on the review of its Foreign Policy first published in 2014 it is essential to reflect on the journey thus far. By revisiting key milestones and examining lessons learned, Kenya can



PS Korir Sing'Oei addresses the colloquium on the review of Kenya's Foreign Policy (2014)

strategically chart a path forward, ensuring its foreign policy remains relevant in an increasingly dynamic global landscape.

Kenya, an anchor state strategically located in the Horn of Africa Region, has positioned itself as a key player in regional and global affairs. Since independence in 1963, Kenya's Foreign Policy and diplomatic efforts continue to evolve, reflecting both its national interests and broader global trends.

As Kenya takes stock of its diplomatic history spanning six decades, it is important to self-introspect through the prism of the five interrelated pillars: Peace Diplomacy, Economic Diplomacy, Diaspora Diplomacy, Environmental Diplomacy, and Cultural Diplomacy. In this edition, we touch on the Peace and Security elements.

Kenya has been a strong advocate for peace at the continental and international levels. It has actively participated in IGAD, the East African Community (EAC), and the African Union (AU) and United Nations (UN) to address regional, continental and global instability, with the highest moment being marked by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Presidency from 2021 to 2022. During its tenure, Kenya advocated for greater African representation in peace and security discussions and was instrumental in shaping



resolutions on conflict situations in Africa, such as those in Libya, Ethiopia, and the Sahel.

Kenya has been a key player in peace diplomacy since its independence in 1963, leveraging its strategic location, political stability, and diplomatic resources to foster peace and stability in Africa and beyond, with the most recent engagement being the UN-backed Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission in Haiti. Kenya has also been a major supporter of the UN peacekeeping efforts, with the earliest contributions dating back to 1979, with the first military engagement was contribution of an observer group for the UN Iran-Iraq Military Observer Group (UNIIMOG) from 1988-1990. Subsequent contributions include the UN Transition Assistant Group (UNTAG) in Namibia, the UN Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Croatia, the two UN Missions in Liberia (UNOMIL and UNMIL), among others.

Other important achievements include mediation in regional crises, with Somalia, Sudan, and South Sudan being particularly noteworthy. The country has been heavily active in Somalia's peace process. Kenya has provided troops to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), which is working to restore peace and combat extremist groups such as Al-Shabaab. The country also hosted Somalia peace talks in Nairobi, which resulted in the formation of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in the early 2000s, as well as Ethiopia-Tigray peace talks in late 2022 between the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which marked a significant step toward ending the conflict in Ethiopia's Tigray Region.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, Kenya, through the late President Daniel Arap Moi, played a vital role in mediating peace talks in Burundi, helping to sign the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in 2000, which was critical in ending the civil conflict. Kenya, was instrumental in mediating the Sudanese



PCS Dr. Musalia Mudavadi at the colloquium on the review of Kenya's Foreign Policy (2014) attended by over 150 experts, representatives of various state departments and senior staff from the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs



conflict, which resulted in the 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). This deal established South Sudan's independence in 2011. Kenya's efforts to facilitate peace talks between the two countries have been ongoing, particularly throughout subsequent conflicts within South Sudan. Kenya has also helped to pacify the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) through diplomatic involvement, as the country has been embroiled in a long-running conflict with different factions. Kenya is currently leading the Tumaini Initiative, a peace campaign aiming at restoring peace and stability in South Sudan at a time when the region is still grappling with the consequences of long-running hostilities.

As a host to thousands of refugees from conflict-ridden nations like Somalia, South Sudan, and Ethiopia, Kenya has played a significant role in offering humanitarian support. The country hosts Dadaab and Kakuma refugee camps, some of the largest in the world, showing its commitment to regional peace and stability through humanitarian action.

While Kenya's peace diplomacy has been impactful, there are challenges and areas for improvement. For instance, despite successful mediation efforts, the ongoing instability in the region indicates the complexities of achieving lasting peace. The country's contribution to peace diplomacy remains a cornerstone of its foreign policy, showcasing its leadership and commitment to peace and security in Africa.

In the next edition, we will delve and explore Kenya's milestones in Economic Diplomacy, examining how the country has leveraged economic relations to advance its national interests.



Kenya-China Relations Deepened at 2024 FOCAC Summit: A Milestone for Infrastructure, Trade, and Economic Cooperation *By G. Moturi*



President H.E. Dr. William Ruto arrives in Beijing China for the FOCAC summit

The August 2024 9th Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Summit in China marked a pivotal moment in Kenya's deepening relationship with China, underscoring the strategic importance of bilateral cooperation. With 53 African leaders in attendance, the Summit provided an opportunity for nations to strengthen their diplomatic and economic ties with China and with other African countries.

The summit, which was held on 4th to 6th September 2024, culminated in the adoption of the FOCAC-Beijing Action Plan (2025-27), which outlines a comprehensive roadmap for future cooperation. The Action Plan covers vital sectors such as trade, infrastructure, health, agriculture, green development, and security which are sectors crucial to Kenya's own development goals that align with the Country's priorities and its Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda.

During the trip, President William Ruto held bilateral talks with H.E. Xi Jinping, President of The People's Republic of China further solidifying Kenya's position as a critical partner for China in Africa. The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to deepening the two Nation's cooperation.





President Dr. William Ruto addressing a high-level meeting during FOCAC Summit in Beijing, China.

Among the significant outcomes from the FOCAC Summit include China's agreement to grant Kenya's agricultural produce greater access to the Chinese market, an important boost for Kenyan farmers and traders. Infrastructure development remained a focal point of discussions, with plans to expand Kenya's Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and other key infrastructure projects, such as the Rironi-Mau Summit-Malaba dual carriageway. These projects are expected to further enhance Kenya's role as a transport and logistics hub in Eastern Africa. Also on transport, the construction of 15 rural roads through a 2 billion Renminbi (RMB) Credit facility agreement with China Development Bank will further promote rural connectivity, create jobs, and improve market access for Kenyan farmers and traders. This project aligns with Kenya's Vision 2030 goals, ensuring that economic growth is inclusive and benefits underserved communities.

The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the China-Africa Development Fund focusing on fostering public-private partnerships (PPP) to drive national development projects will enhance China's investment presence in Kenya. Plans are underway to establish a regional CAD Fund office in Nairobi thereby expanding the scope of collaboration across infrastructure, manufacturing, and trade.

Kenya's formal membership in the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is expected to bolster the country's infrastructure development agenda.

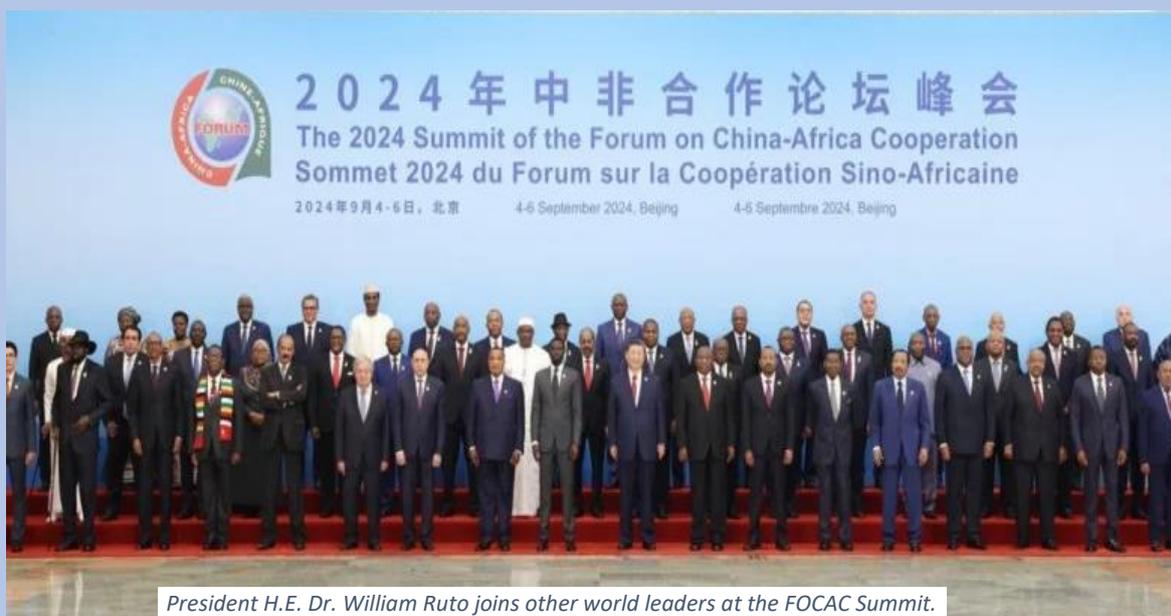
By joining the AIIB, Kenya will have the opportunity to access concessional financing for critical infrastructure projects, as well as climate change initiatives, regional cooperation, and technology-driven programs. This partnership will also offer significant assistance to Kenya's Vision 2030 goals, which emphasize inclusive and sustainable growth.



President Ruto co-chaired the Summit's High-Quality Belt and Road Cooperation session with China's Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang, underscoring the BRI's transformative impact on Africa. Kenya's Standard Gauge Railway has improved connectivity and economic integration. Kenya's President underscored the BRI's influence on infrastructure, trade, and investment across the continent observing that these accomplishments and the Trans-Africa Highway Network make Kenya an important logistical and commercial hub.

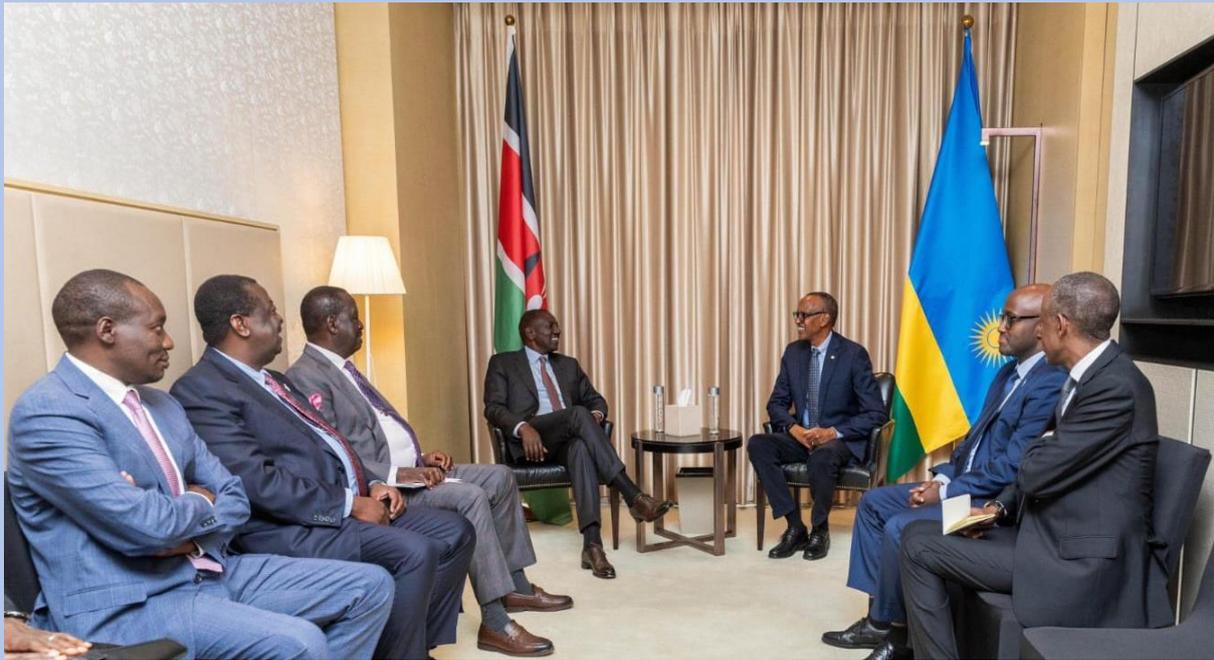
The 46,455 kilometers Trans-African Highways is envisioned by the African Union and executed with the collaboration of multiple nations and will transverse through Cairo to Dakar, 8,636 km; Dakar to N'Djamena 4,496 km; N'Djamena to Djibouti 4,219 km; Dakar to Lagos 4,010 km; Lagos to Mombasa 6,259 km; Beira to Lobito 3,523 km; Algiers to Lagos 4,504 km; Tripoli to Windhoek, potentially extending to Cape Town 10,808 km and Cairo through Gaborone to Pretoria/Cape Town 10,228 km. The transport network will facilitate socio-economic growth, promote inter-regional trade, and foster a sense of shared destiny among African nations thereby creating regional economic hubs, stimulating local economies and in turn creating job opportunities.

In his address, President Ruto urged China to deepen its cooperation with Africa by enhancing concessional funding and supporting reforms in the international financial system. He called on China to advocate for increased contributions by multilateral development banks, such as the International Development Association, to provide low-interest financing for African nations. Furthermore, he pressed for restructuring Africa's debt with longer grace periods and extended loan terms, which he argued would help address the financial disparities that disadvantage the Global South. These steps, according to President Ruto, are crucial for fostering sustainable economic development in Africa. President Ruto also called for reforms within the African Union to strengthen Africa's collective voice in global decision-making and support long-term growth.



President H.E. Dr. William Ruto joins other world leaders at the FOCAC Summit.





President William Ruto at a high-level meeting with Rwanda President H.E Paul Kagame in Beijing, China. President Ruto was accompanied by Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga.

On the fringes of the FOCAC Summit, President Ruto held bilateral discussions with various African leaders where he articulated Kenya's regional interests while calling for the strengthening of regional ties and cooperation in areas of security, trade, investment and climate action. During the bilateral meetings, he advocated support of Kenya's candidature for the position of the African Union Commission chairperson. President Ruto met with Presidents Paul Kagame of Rwanda, Umaro Sissoco Embalò of Guinea-Bissau; Faure Essozimna Gnassingbé of Togo, Assimi Goïta of Mali, Mahamat Idriss Deby of Chad, Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia and Hassan Sheikh Mohamud of Somalia. Former Prime Minister Raila Odinga has been endorsed as the Eastern Africa's candidate to the position.

During the FOCAC Summit sideline meetings, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Foreign Affairs Minister, advocated for additional financial and technical support from China. Dr. Mudavadi's contribution at the China-Africa Entrepreneurs Conference highlighted Kenya's potential to partner in sectors such as infrastructure, ICT, agriculture, and manufacturing, areas critical to Kenya's Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda. By focusing on industrial growth and e-mobility, these initiatives aim to modernize Kenya's economy, promote job creation, and advance the country's technological capabilities.

Dr. Mudavadi also emphasized Kenya's strategic position as Eastern Africa's financial, logistics, and technology hub during his talks with Chinese investors. These discussions, which focused on Kenya's favorable investment climate and access to key markets like the East African Community, the United States, and the European Union, underscored the mutual benefits of deepening trade relations between the two nations.

The 2024 FOCAC Summit not only showcased Kenya's strong diplomatic and economic ties with China but also laid the groundwork for future collaborations that will propel Kenya's development agenda. Through infrastructure, trade, and technology partnerships, Kenya and China are moving towards a people-centered, mutually beneficial relationship that promises transformative growth for both nations.



Germany honors Kenya to Co-host the Annual Citizen's Festival *By K. Githinji*



Kenya took center stage at Bürgerfest to celebrate not just the cultural showcase but also the deep, enduring partnership based on shared values and principles. This event emphasized the two countries shared history and ongoing collaboration, while also providing Kenya with many opportunities for strengthening ties, and exploring new avenues of cooperation with Germany and beyond. It also emphasizes Kenya's expanding involvement in global diplomacy.

From September 13th to 14th, 2024, Kenya became the first non-European nation to participate in Germany's Annual Citizen's Festival, "Bürgerfest," in Berlin. The event, themed, "Pamoja – Stronger Together," offered Kenya a distinctive opportunity to exhibit its extensive cultural heritage to a broad European audience. This invitation



recognized Kenya and its increasing global influence and dedication to cultivating international partnerships.



President H.E. Dr. William Ruto at the Germany's Annual Citizen's Festival, "Bürgerfest," in Berlin, 14th September, 2024.

Kenya and Germany have maintained robust partnerships in critical sectors, including but not limited to economic partnership, digital collaboration, climate action, renewable energy, skills development, labor, and peace and security, since 1963. The Bürgerfest will provide a valuable platform for the development of trade, investment, tourism, cultural exchange, and people-to-people connections between the two countries.

Germany has been a critical partner in Kenya's growth and development, providing critical support in sectors such as infrastructure, healthcare, renewable energy, and vocational training. Since 2011, Germany has provided development assistance to Kenya totaling Ksh. 24.08 billion (EUR 227 million). This partnership, which is based on the principles of shared prosperity and equality, has also established Germany as a prominent foreign investor in Kenya. Currently, more than 100 German companies have invested close to Ksh. 150 billion in Kenya. The regional hub for Germany's main trade promotion agency, AHK, and the largest global office of the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) are both located in Nairobi.

Economic diplomacy is being employed by the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs to cultivate business and investment opportunities to strengthen its relationship



with Germany. While endeavouring to establish Kenya as a top investment destination, the Ministry is consistently fostering sustainable partnerships to stimulate economic growth. This is achieved by facilitating high-level meetings, trade missions, and bilateral discussions between the two countries, as well as engaging German business leaders. The economic partnership between Kenya and Germany will clearly be brought to the fore during the festival.



Prime Cabinet Secretary Dr. Musalia Mudavadi follows proceedings at Germany's Annual Citizen's Festival, "Bürgerfest" in Berlin alongside Rt. Hon Raila Odinga, Cabinet Secretary Alfred Mutua, Principal Secretary for Diaspora Affairs Ms. Roseline Njogu.

Cultural exchange remains a critical component of the existing relationship between Kenya and Germany, and it transcends formal diplomacy. The Goethe-Institute in Nairobi has been promoting German culture since 1963, and through it, Kenyan artists have continued to acquire global recognition, thereby nurturing a creative dialogue between the two nations. The film *Nairobi Half-Life* (2012), a collaboration between a Kenyan director and a German producer, is an example of how the Nairobi International Film Festival has exhibited German filmmakers in East Africa.

Education has also been another critical area of collaboration. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) continues to facilitate the pursuit of higher education in Germany for thousands of Kenyan students. These students return with valuable expertise that facilitates Kenya's expansion in academia, industry, and public service.



Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, Germany was one of Kenya's most significant European source markets, with more than 200,000 German tourists visiting the country annually. The tourism industry in Kenya has been significantly bolstered by German travelers and tour operators. Recognizing this, the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife is in the process of finalizing an extensive partnership with German investors with a bid to increase Kenya's appeal to German tourism. This encompasses the creation of niche tourism products for the German market.

Schloss Bellevue, the official residence of the German Presidency, hosts the Annual Citizen's Festival to commemorate the philanthropic efforts of German nationals and to celebrate cultural diversity. The German Presidency selects a partner country each year to exhibit their culture at the Citizen's Festival. The first day of the event is witnessed by approximately 5,000 invited guests, including the Federal President with the second day open to the public and attracting over 13,000 visitors. This festival takes place as part of signature events to mark 60th anniversary of Kenya-German relations.

EAC Ministers' Retreat on Enhancing EAC Regional Integration, Peace and Security *By P. Mwangi*



Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, at the Retreat of East African Community (EAC) Affairs and Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Zanzibar, Tanzania.



Kenya's Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, attended the Retreat of East African Community (EAC) Affairs and Ministers of Foreign Affairs in Zanzibar, Tanzania, from July 6 to 8, 2024.

The Ministerial Retreat discussed regional challenges, security cooperation, Partner State ties, and the integration agenda to promote long-term peace, security cooperation, and integration. During the opening session, Dr. Mudavadi pledged to improve EAC integration observing that Kenya believed it contributed to the accelerated growth for all partner states.

"I commend the Custom Union Protocol, Common Market Protocol, and Monetary Union Protocol for driving EAC economic growth. The Protocols have improved intra-EAC commerce, but they can be expanded." Dr. Mudavadi stated.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary also lauded peace, stability, defense protocols and regional security cooperation as vital drivers for a secure and peaceful EAC region.

"Kenya's belief that Cooperation in multiple areas, as envisaged by the EAC Treaty is for the common benefits of all partner states, Kenya has benefited from the common approach as have all other partner states." said the PCS.

Dr. Mudavadi reiterated the Treaty establishing the EAC and its Protocols required partner states to promote peace, stability, and good neighborliness. Kenya's commitment to regional peace and security remained crucial for economic growth and EAC inhabitants' well-being, he said.

Mrs. Veronica Nduva, EAC Secretary General, confirmed the Ministerial Retreat would provide guidance on future efforts aimed at promoting sustainable development, shared prosperity, and stability in the region. She further stressed that cooperation and discussion remained the anchors upon which the region would solve its peace and security issues. Partner States were urged to work together to boost regional security, resolve conflicts, and promote peace in the Community.

Deng Alor Kuol, Chairperson of the EAC Council of Ministers and Minister for East African Community Affairs of South Sudan, and January Yusuf Makamba, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation of Tanzania, also attended.



EASF Training and Verification of the Pledged Capabilities concludes *By I. Agum and R. Lungatso*



Participants of the Integrated Mission Administration Course (IMAC) under the East Africa Standby Force (EASF) pose for a group photo. The course was undertaken in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 19th to 30th August, 2024.

In a significant step toward enhancing regional peacekeeping capabilities, three Kenyan officers drawn from the Kenya Defence Forces, National Police and Ministry for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, were part of a cohort of 26 government officials from 10 Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) member states who recently completed the Integrated Mission Administration Course (IMAC) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The two-week intensive program in August 2024, aimed to provide a comprehensive understanding of effective planning and execution in various operational contexts for peace support operations within the United Nations and African Union.

Key objectives of the IMAC training included developing strategies for administrative and financial support, air and maritime operations, and logistics within the framework of the African Standby Force (ASF) command structure.

This initiative marked a vital step in strengthening the region's capacity for effective peacekeeping and conflict resolution within the AU's Peace and Security Architecture.

Participants hailed from Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, and Uganda, reflecting the regional commitment to collaborative peacekeeping efforts. The curriculum covered eight broad learning outcomes, including an overview of the African Standby Force, mission administration processes, and simulation exercises to improve practical skills in peace support operations.

Meanwhile, the Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) Secretariat successfully conducted the Verification of the Pledged Capabilities Exercise for the Kenyan civilian experts. Forty-Four civilian experts, trained by the EASF and partner institutions, and enrolled in the



EASF database participated in the September 2024 exercise. This is the first time that the exercise is being conducted in Kenya. The Director-General of the Foreign Service Academy, Ambassador Paul K. Ndungu, thanked the Secretariat for organizing the verification exercise and assured of Kenya's commitment to the EASF cause.

The verification team was led by the Director of the EASF, Brigadier (Rtd) Paul Njema and the Force Commander, Brigadier General Getachew Ali. Also

present were representatives from the African Union and the Kenya Defence Forces.

The Eastern African Standby Force is part of the African peace and security architecture established as a regional mechanism for conflict prevention, management and resolution in the Eastern Africa Region as authorised by the EASF Assembly and mandated by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

South Sudan President Commends Progress in Tumaini Peace Initiative, Civil Society Leaders Pledge Support *By I. Kimeu*



President of South Sudan H.E. Salva Kiir receiving an update from the Tumaini Peace Initiative Mediation team.

President Salva Kiir of South Sudan has commended the Kenyan-led peace efforts for their significant efforts towards restoring peace and stability in South Sudan. The President made the remarks while attending the endorsement of former Kenyan Prime Minister, Dr. Raila Odinga a candidate for the African Union Commission Chairperson. President Kiir underscored the importance of peace and stability in the promotion of economic recovery and development in South Sudan and the broader region.



The South Sudanese President used the opportunity to interact with stakeholders participating in the Tumaini peace process who include representatives from the government, opposition, civil society organizations, and faith-based organizations.

General Lazarus Sumbeiywo, the Chief Mediator of the peace talks, described President Kiir's involvement as a "historically significant gesture" that invigorated the peace process. He emphasized that the negotiations needed to be guided by a collective commitment to peace and national unity. These sentiments were echoed by Lual Deng Marach, spokesperson for the South Sudan Opposition Alliance, who underscored that 'President Kiir's decision to meet and hold talks with opposition leaders and civil society representatives underscores his strong interest in promoting peace above all else. This action inspires optimism for a new era of stability and prosperity in South Sudan.'

The Tumaini initiative has so far concluded negotiations on nine protocols, the majority of which aim at resolving perennial conflicts while also establishing stable institutions to protect the people of South Sudan. On 2nd September, 2024, the civil society of Kenya issued a statement expressing their unwavering support for the Tumaini Initiative and commended President Kiir's leadership. The statement acknowledged the initiative's significance towards the restoration of peace, stability and hope in South Sudan.

"We commend the leadership of President Salva Kiir for initiating this peace process, and we applaud the South Sudan Opposition leaders for agreeing to pursue peace through negotiations. We also acknowledge the significant contribution made by Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of Kenya, in hosting and facilitating this process. We urge him to continue his support and extend an invitation to the international community to collaborate in the pursuit of the Tumaini Initiative's success," the statement indicated.



Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Sing'Oei witnesses the signing of three Protocols: on Humanitarian Access, Permanent Ceasefire, and Guarantors to the Mediation process on 15th July 2024.

The significance of this peace process was underscored by Kenyan civil society representatives, who recalled Kenya's historical role in South Sudan's journey toward independence including the signing of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) and subsequent mediation efforts that culminated in the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS). The Kenyan Civil Society remains optimistic and urges all South Sudanese leaders to prioritize the needs of their people and make the requisite compromises and sacrifices for sustainable



peace. The Kenyan Civil Society further pledged to share extended its support to their South Sudanese counterparts, acknowledging their dedication to peace by sharing their experiences and expertise in negotiations, constitution-making, and democratic governance as the young nation continues its journey of state and nation-building.

These initiatives continue to give hope for progress in the peace process, highlighting the determination of all parties engaged and the international community's commitment in paving the way for long-term peace and reconciliation in South Sudan. Kenya acknowledges that instability in South Sudan has far-reaching consequences for East Africa and the Horn of Africa Region and there is urgent need to peacefully complete the South Sudan transition process and restore peace for the citizens of South Sudan.

In December 2023, the Kenyan government approved President Salva Kiir's of South Sudan request to negotiate with opposition leaders in the diaspora who had refused to sign the 2018 R-ARCSS agreement. The Tumaini Initiative mediation efforts led by Lt. Gen. Lazaro Sumbeiywo (Rtd) and Ambassador Dr. Mohamed Ali Guyo, started on April 29, 2024. The mediation talks brought together notable opposition leaders, including Gen. Pagan Amum, Gen. Paul Malong, Gen. Stephen Buoy Rolnyang, and Gen. Mario Loku, as well as the Reconstituted Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGONU) led by Amb. Albino Mathom.



President H.E. Dr. William Ruto receiving a briefing on the progress of Tumaini Mediation Consensus from the South Sudan delegation in State House Nairobi on 6th August 2024.

The mediation process was officially launched on May 9, 2024, in State House Nairobi with Presidents William Ruto of Kenya and Salva Kiir in attendance. The mediation process sought to promote constructive dialogue and negotiation among the warring parties while acknowledging the need to finding a long-term solution to the conflict in South Sudan.

A Declaration of Commitment to the Tumaini (Hope) Initiative for the South Sudan Peace Process was signed on May 16, 2024, demonstrating the parties' resolve to engage in peaceful discourse and abandon bloodshed. On July 15, 2024, the parties and stakeholders affirmed their positions and willingness to implement six protocols, including those addressing humanitarian access, trust and confidence-building measures, ceasefire and security arrangements, communal conflicts, armed civilians, and the role



of guarantors. Three further protocols have been prepared, covering justice system reforms, the permanent constitution-making process, and economic recovery initiatives.

On August 1, 2024, Chief Mediator Lt. General Lazaro Sumbeiywo (Rtd) met with the African Union Panel of the Wise, marking an important milestone in the mediation process. The forum stressed the importance of inclusive discussion and international cooperation in addressing the core causes of violence and promoting long-term peace and development in South Sudan.

The Mediation team have met with the South Sudanese Presidency, which includes President Salva Kiir, First Vice President Dr. Riek Machar, and other Vice Presidents. This was their first joint session in almost two years. During the discussion, the team firmly supported the Tumaini Consensus and requested the First Vice President to recall his delegates to Nairobi to conclude the peace talks. During the meeting President Kiir expressed strong support for the project and commitment to achieving long-term peace. Separate discussions with President Kiir and Vice President Dr. Machar addressed individual concerns; Dr. Machar expressed reservations about the agreement's implementation under Kenyan leadership, while other government members were generally supportive with minor changes.

The South Sudanese opposition leaders led by General Pagan met with President William Ruto on August 6, 2024, to brief him on the status of the Tumaini mediation compromise. They also met with the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi. These high-level mediation negotiations have focused on crucial topics such as power-sharing arrangements, security sector reform, transitional justice, and ex-combatants' reintegration.

Kenya Participates in the 3rd Voice of the Global South Summit *By D. Makena*

The 3rd Voice of the Global South Summit held virtually on 17 August 2024 brought together Ministers and government representatives from 123 nations from the Global South where they shared their perspectives and priorities across a whole range of issues.

The Summit themed *'Global South and Global Governance,'* offered a unique opportunity for the participants to deliberate on the



Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs



concerns, interests, and priorities that affect the developing countries while exchanging ideas and solutions, and most importantly, unite in one voice and purpose in actualizing our shared goals.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi represented Kenya at the forum. Dr. Mudavadi noted that the summit came at a critical moment within the global multilateral systems, a time when the member countries have been calling for practical solutions to the broader challenges impacting the Global South including conflicts, global warming and natural disasters.

"The Summit offers a unique opportunity to deliberate on the concerns, interests and priorities that affect the

developing countries, exchange ideas and solutions and most importantly, unite in one voice and purpose in actualising our shared goals," Mudavadi said.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary further urged the Global South to remain awake to its geopolitical challenges particularly in the context of the Russia - Ukraine conflict and the ongoing crisis in West Asia, pointing out their far-reaching impacts, including soaring prices of fuel food and fertilizers, which disproportionately affect developing Nations. He called for precise action points that would address the existing challenges, and translate the discussions to practical objectives, leading to sustainable solutions to enhance inclusive and equitable global political and financial governance.

Further, Dr. Mudavadi noted that there was need for the Global South to closely focus on the emerging threat of weaponization of cyber technology to foment violence and upheaval as recently experienced in a number of countries globally. The Prime Cabinet Secretary applauded India, the summit's host, and all the participating countries for acknowledging and prioritizing the concerns of developing countries in addressing global challenges and reiterated Kenya's unwavering commitment and collaboration towards the noble goal.

The Summit was chaired by Dr. S. Jaishankar, Minister for External Affairs of India. Some of the countries represented in attendance included; Antigua and Barbuda's, Kingdom of Bahrain, Colombia, Brazil, Nigeria, Comoros, Granada, Guyana, Jamaica, Guatemala, Peru, Sao Tome and Principe, Syria, Türkiye, Egypt, North Macedonia, South Africa and Equatorial Guinea.



Africa to Develop and Implement Strategies that will expand Regional and International Trade *By W. Aluoch and I. Kimeu*



The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH delivers his address at TICAD 9 Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo Japan on 25th August, 2024

Kenya has thanked Japan for its support towards African infrastructure development and cooperation in improving socioeconomic activities across the continent. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs, emphasized Japan's close collaboration with Africa in a speech delivered at the August, 2024 Tokyo Investment Conference for Africa Development (TICAD-9) ministerial meeting.

Dr. Mudavadi, who also serves as Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, emphasized the importance of trade and investment in generating economic growth and reducing poverty in Africa. He urged African governments to establish and implement measures to strengthen regional and international trade networks. The Prime Cabinet Secretary emphasized the necessity of investing in skill development as well as creating a conducive legislative and regulatory environment to enable effective private sector engagement and technological advancement.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary acknowledged the achievement of the Africa-Japan alliance and pushed African countries to expand trade and investment cooperation with Japan mentioning that Africa and Japan had a huge opportunity to expand their mutual trade and investment. He noted that trade between

Africa and Japan was reasonably balanced. In 2023, Africa's exports to Japan were worth USD 8.28 billion, while imports from Japan were worth USD 10.27 billion, resulting in a USD 1.98 billion imbalance.

Dr. Mudavadi identified Kenya as a key recipient of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) and emphasized the growing presence of Japanese companies in Kenya, with roughly 120 already operating there. It was noted that Kenya has emerged as a popular location for global Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), with an estimated USD 759 million in FDI in 2022, accounting for 20% of the East African Community's total FDI. The meeting was further informed that collaboration between Japanese companies and Kenyan start-ups acted as a powerful catalyst for mutual growth, strengthening ties through joint ventures, technology transfer, and business initiatives that had the potential to extend to Eastern Africa and beyond.



The Prime Cabinet Secretary further urged for a rethinking of TICAD's goals, notably the inclusion of African concerns in international cooperation agendas. He called for the incorporation of African concerns into the global agenda, with a focus on job creation, agricultural development, commerce, digital transformation, and other critical sectors for equitable progress. He further advocated for additional finance and technological integration in agriculture to improve climate resilience, emphasizing the necessity of tackling youth and women's issues from a South-South perspective.

Dr. Mudavadi urged for a rethinking of the global financial architecture to stimulate tighter collaboration between Africa and Japan within the TICAD framework. He pointed out that, despite accounting for 18% of the global population, Africa's contribution to global trade was significantly less than 3%. He urged the African countries to create a cohesive start-up environment that would allow entrepreneurs to take their ideas from the local to regional and global levels.

Kenya commended the private sector's contribution to sustainable development and emphasized the power of innovation and technology, like as artificial intelligence and robotics, to build a more sustainable and inclusive future. Continuous partnership between Africa and Japan to strengthen the United Nations and its functions, particularly Security Council reform was encouraged with calls for Japan and the African Union to play a critical role in harmonizing international reform attempts.

Mudavadi Gazettes New Foreign Service Academy Board *By K. Githinji*

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, has appointed a new Foreign Service Academy Council. In a Kenya gazette notice dated August 8, 2024, the PCS nominated Dr. Patrick Maluki, Beatrice Kituyi, and Dr. Kenneth Wyne Mutuma to the Foreign Service Academy Council for three years effective August 9, 2024.

The Gazette notification states that Dr. Patrick Maluki, a Masinde Muliro University (2013) Doctor of Philology graduate of Peace and Conflict Studies, will chair the Council. He has a Bachelor of Education (Arts) from Moi University (1990) and a Master of Arts in International Studies from Jawaharal Nehru University of India (1996). Dr. Maluki also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Mass Communication (University of Nairobi, 2002).

Ms. Beatrice Kituyi, a former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Labour (2008–2013) is an Advocate of the High Court and graduate of the University of London, (Master of Sciences in Public Policy and Management, 2011).

Dr. Kenneth Mutuma, holds a PhD and Masters of Law from the University of Cape Town (2013 and 2007), and a Bachelor of Laws (Hons) from Liverpool University. He also holds a Bachelor of Architectural Studies from Nairobi University. He is also Senior Lecturer at the University of Nairobi.



Dr. Korir Sing'oei, Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, confirmed the appointments as being in compliance with Foreign Service Act 2021 which require the Academy to be administered by a Council of seven persons whose membership includes representations from the Principal Secretaries for Foreign Affairs and the National Treasury; the Public Service Commission, and the Director-General of the Academy.

The Foreign Service Academy's Ag. Director General, Ambassador Paul K. Ndung'u confirmed that the institution had two main missions among them, to provide specialized training and skills development for Foreign Service Officers and other Public Service members and, to conduct strategic Foreign Policy Research and Analysis to serve as a foreign policy think tank for the Ministry and Government of Kenya.

The Academy continues to document Kenya's diplomatic history, train Foreign Service Cadets and other Public Servants, induct new Ambassadors, High Commissioners, and Consuls-General, and train diplomats and Ambassadors

GAZETTE NOTICE NO. 9623

THE FOREIGN SERVICE ACT
(Cap. 185E)
FOREIGN SERVICE ACADEMY
APPOINTMENT

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by section 30 (1) of the Foreign Service Act, the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs appoints—

Under paragraph (a)—

Patrick Muthengi Maluki (Dr.)

Under paragraph (d)—

Beatrice Kituyi,
Kenneth Wyne Mutuma (Dr.),
Patrick Muthengi Maluki (Dr.).

to be members of the Council to the Foreign Service Academy, for a period of three (3) years, with effect from the 9th August, 2024.

Dated the 8th August, 2024.

MUSALIA MUDAVADI,
Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

Gazette notification appointing Dr. Patrick Maluki, Beatrice Kituyi, and Dr. Kenneth Wyne Mutuma to the Foreign Service Academy Council for three years effective August 9, 2024.



Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Dr. Korir Singo'ei with Dr. Patrick Maluki, one of the members appointed to the new Foreign Service Academy Council



of friendly countries upon request.

The FSA Act 2021 establishes and composes the Foreign Service, its functions, the Cabinet Secretary and Principal Secretary's powers and functions, the recruitment of Foreign Service personnel and their conditions of service, and the Council's role. The FSA Council is anticipated to strengthen the Academy's institutional autonomy, which will increase its capacity

and productivity by enabling policy research and resource mobilization partnerships.

Strengthening Kenya and Haiti Diplomatic Relations *By K. Githinji, N. Kipruto and D. Makena*



Prime Cabinet Secretary Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and PS Korir Sing'oei join artists on stage during the Harmony 4Haiti Concert and Cultural Festivals in August 2024.

Kenya's successful staging of the Harmony4Haiti Concert and Cultural Festival in August 2024 elevated the country's commitment to the Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission in Haiti. The festival was designed to foster collaboration and understanding by celebrating the interconnected, rich cultural heritage of Africa and Haiti.

The colourful festival took place on August 24, 2024, at the Uhuru Gardens in Lang'ata, Nairobi, and featured musical performances by Haitian and African artists; a theatrical play; a cultural exhibition of Haitian- African art, crafts, and cuisine; and panel discussion on Haiti-Africa relations. There were side workshops and seminars

highlighting sustainable development and humanitarian aid all aimed at fostering cultural exchange and collaboration while strengthening Haiti's future stance.

The Harmony4Haiti Concert and Cultural Festival was graced by the Prime Cabinet Secretary (PCS) and Cabinet Secretary (CS) for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Musalia Mudavadi who led dignitaries from both government and foreign missions in Kenya. The festival's significance to Kenya-



Haiti diplomatic relations and Haiti-Africa unity was underscored by the Prime Cabinet Secretary, who noted that the event not only addressed local awareness gaps regarding Kenya's police deployment in Haiti but also demonstrated Kenya's courageous leadership in the global peace initiative. He expressed confidence that Haitians would ultimately experience the 'Hakuna Matata' peace.



Snippets from the Harmony4Haiti Concert and Cultural Festival

President William Ruto has repeatedly underscored Kenya's commitment to global peace and stability through the MSS mission in Haiti observing that the MSS Mission continued to make significant progress supporting the Haitian government and maintaining security for Haitians. Kenya and Haiti established diplomatic ties in September 2023 and the country's engagement in peace and stability efforts for Haiti through the MSS mission will galvanize bilateral relations



between the two states. Haiti is significant to the African diaspora history; it is the first Caribbean nation and first American nation to abolish slavery. It attained independence in 1804, thereby inspiring freedom movements across Africa and the world.

The Kenyan contingent of Police officers has been participating in linguistic and intercultural workshops where they learn French and Haitian Creole; the languages of Haitian institutions and people.

Reviewing Kenya's Foreign Policy *by. I.Agum and P.Mwangi*

The Kenya Foreign Policy published in November 2014, has served as the framework for Kenya's diplomatic interactions over the past decade. This policy was a significant milestone, as it was the first comprehensive framework of its kind since the country's independence. In the context of a dynamic international landscape characterized by the decline of multilateralism and the emergence of a multipolar world, there has been increasing need for review of the policy to ensure that it remains effective in promoting Kenya's national interests and values, as anchored on the principles of Peace diplomacy, Economic diplomacy, Environment Diplomacy, Diaspora Diplomacy, and Cultural Diplomacy.

The State Department for Foreign Affairs has organized in the past months forums to assess the policy and evaluate strategies that would allow Kenya to maintain an appropriate and effective posture in a world that is witnessing increased geopolitical disruptions. These forums reflecting on Kenya's Foreign Policy 2014, bring together experts in international relations to review and enrich the Kenya foreign policy document. The sessions also seek to identify gaps in the current foreign policy; present perspectives on Kenya's Foreign Policy priorities; as well as consider proposals for implementation and dissemination of Kenya's Foreign Policy while prioritizing national interests as well as advancing Kenya's role on the global stage.

Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, officiated the July 2024 Colloquium on the Review of Kenya's Foreign Policy 2014 which convened over 150 Senior Government Officials, Retired Ambassadors, Heads of Directorates, Experts, and Scholars. The PCS underscored the forum's significance in the development of a foreign policy that is relevant, effective, and inclusive, with a focus on stakeholder engagement and scope, in order to advance the country's national interests and values.

"Global trends are now influencing and redefining Kenya's foreign policy, and this is the reason the Foreign Policy document must take these trends into account. Kenya isn't an island and we must therefore have an all-inclusive foreign policy that takes to consideration the national interest of the country. Kenya's interests are as wide as the country seeks to participate in matters global agency."

Excerpts from the PCS statement.





PCS Dr. Musalia Mudavadi addressing the colloquium on the review of Kenya's Foreign Policy on July 30th 2024.

The review of Kenya's Foreign Policy comes at a time when the world is experiencing a shift in global order as new alliances and rivalries emerge. The old unipolar or bipolar order has given way to the forces of the next world order where emerging powers, new actors, evolving interests, and the assertiveness of developing states are recalibrating the global status quo. Kenya must therefore pursue a robust, pragmatic, and strategic foreign policy hinged on diplomatic wisdom and tact as it endeavors to lead the region and continent in rallying a common and well-coordinated diplomatic response to the new scramble and geopolitical influences by emerging and traditional powers. This has the potential to guarantee the security and prosperity of Kenya while promoting regional cooperation and peaceful co-existence for mutual benefit.

The process of the review is set to create transparency on Kenya's foreign policy agenda to citizens while informing the citizenry of Kenya's global involvement in a wide range of areas including peace and security in a volatile global landscape; examining the geopolitical context of the foreign policy while appreciating the impact of Kenya's diaspora's whose remittance is estimated Kshs. 671 billion. Diaspora engagement has been invigorated to contribute to Kenya's national development agenda and this was actualised through the designation of a fully-fledged State Department for Diaspora Affairs under a Principal Secretary.

As one of the pillars of Kenya's foreign policy, Diaspora diplomacy aims to harness the diverse skills, knowledge, expertise, and resources of Kenyans abroad, and facilitate their integration into the national development agenda. Kenya continues to engage global partners to diversify and increase international employment opportunities for its citizens.

Dr. Mudavadi alluded to the deployment of soft power, including cultural diplomacy, educational exchanges, and international media as elements for "not only shaping public opinion but also building and maintaining global influence.



“Kenya continues to leverage its soft diplomacy tools such as cultural exchanges, training, capacity building, peace interventions, sports, and art. Kenyan sports people especially athletes continue to raise the country’s flag and image globally. Kenya will seek to promote sports tourism by hosting and supporting international sporting events.

In the grand strategy, Kenya shall support Creative Arts by marketing Kenya as film production destination and support the internationalization of local film production and content. This will go a long way to support Kenya’s projection of its soft power diplomacy. The establishment of a pool of veterans for mediation and special envoys on peace, technology, and blue economy, for instance, is part of the grand schemes in projecting Kenya’s image to attract investment, promote tourism, and strengthen diplomatic ties.”

Excerpts from the PCS statement.

Participants were called upon to make considerations towards advancing Kenya’s position on Green Growth; review of perceptions on **Diaspora Diplomacy** and **Labour migration** geared towards protecting, engaging, empowering and prosperity of the diaspora: enhancing **Digital-tech Diplomacy** by prioritising technologies considered as catalysts for development and strengthening constitutionalism and the Rule of Law.

Kenya has centralized **technology diplomacy** by positioning itself as a regional frontrunner in the digital diplomacy sphere. Tech diplomacy facilitates diplomatic outreach and networking, enhances global visibility, and cultural exchanges. Tech diplomacy offers a novel way to negotiate, cooperate, and address pressing global challenges of our time such as climate change, industrialization, digital divide, cybersecurity, misinformation and disinformation, and rapidly advancing information space. The appointment of the Special Envoy for Technology attests to the significance that Kenya attaches to tech diplomacy.



PS Dr. Korir Sing'Oei (Foreign Affairs) and PS Roseline Njogu (Diaspora Affairs) makin their remarks at the colloquium.



Kenya's growth on the international stage has been described as **BOLD** taking into consideration the various moments the country has been at the forefront in geopolitics and in defence of its strategic national interests. Kenya continues to pitch on **Summit diplomacy** which has seen the president lead Kenya's foreign policy from the front, directly engaging other heads of state and government. The emerging trend today is the continuous use of high-level visits, including state visits by state leaders to drive their countries foreign policy agendas.

Geo-economics as a driver of foreign policy is largely being embraced where states focus on the use of economic tools such as trade policies, foreign investment, global financial systems, economic sanctions, foreign aid and grants to promote and defend their national interests while achieving imperative geopolitical objectives. Kenya continues to advocate for a multilateral trade and financial system that is founded on equity, inclusion, and fairness. One that promotes prosperity for all and does not prioritize the dominance of one or a few.

The review of the policy presents an opportunity to interrogate and understand Kenya's foreign policy articulation based on the values and norms that support Kenya's interests while seeking realignment to accommodate citizen engagement on matters foreign policy. It means therefore that Kenya must operate by the realpolitik maxim that Kenya is a unitary and rational actor in international relations. Kenya is challenged to face the outside world as a monolithic actor representing the proud citizens of Kenya. **This, is what defines Kenya's patriotism.**

Dr. Korir Sing'Oei, Principal Secretary of the State Department for Foreign Affairs, has been moderating panel discussions following the inaugural session of the July 2024 Colloquium. The panels discuss diverse subjects, including: Kenya's Foreign Policy Evolution and the Future Perspective; the geopolitical context of Kenya's Foreign Policy; Peace Diplomacy; Diaspora Diplomacy; Economic Affairs and Commercial Diplomacy; Digital Diplomacy; Socio-Cultural Diplomacy; Environmental Diplomacy and Climate Change; and Global Governance (multilateralism).

The panelists also discuss Kenya's foreign policy priorities, identified deficiencies in the current foreign policy, and proposed strategies for implementation and dissemination. The discussions further underscored the necessity of reevaluating perceptions of the diaspora in order to better protect, engage, and empower them; prioritize technology as a catalyst for development to enhance digital diplomacy; reinforce constitutionalism and the rule of law.

Kenya's grand strategy envisages employing economic, diplomatic, defence, technological, and other means to achieve foreign policy objectives. The country is called upon to be strategic in its foreign policy projection. Kenya stands for global solidarity, equity, fairness, and collective security where crises receive equal attention. Kenya supports the view that security threats in one part of the world should be treated as a threat to the entire world and all actors should collectively address it.

Kenya's peace diplomacy is fine-tuned, and more purposeful. Kenya is fully committed to the principles of peaceful co-existence, non-interference, and respect for sovereignty. As a state, Kenya endeavors to be at peace with other states and seek to establish mutually beneficial ties with as many states as possible in the world. The zero-sum Cold War approach has been replaced with cooperation, mutual respect, and collective security.

Regional integration provides a huge opportunity for win-win diplomatic outcomes. Kenya notes the geo-strategic constraints that landlocked countries face are



increasingly becoming major drivers of conflicts on the continent. There are 16 landlocked countries in Africa with a combined estimated population of 378 million people. Kenya advocates for the establishment of a Contact Group or Working Group to discuss, negotiate, and assess the concerns of the often-forgotten landlocked countries and sticking contentious issues or conflicts relating to maritime access. The friendly and cooperative ties with the neighboring states within the East African Community are the number one referents of Kenya's foreign policy.

As a region, countries have become increasingly interdependent hence trade tensions and absolute detachment are no longer justifiable within the East African Community. The future of the region and continent depends on deepening integration. Kenya, as a core state in the region and Africa, is committed to the promotion of intra-Africa trade under the collective aspirations of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the African Union's agenda of visa liberalization to foster Africa's integration. Kenya will continue to engage in transnational infrastructural connectivity to enhance intra-Africa trade and people-to-people relations. Internationally, Kenya will focus on fostering sustainable development and economic growth through diversification, innovation and strategic partnerships with the EU, Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership with USA, Comprehensive Economic bilateral agreements with Japan, China, and UAE to mention a few.

In the Grand Strategy, foreign policy is a function of the country's domestic policy. The framework of the Grand Strategy approach in foreign policy posits that states must look after their self-interests in an international system of competition for power and all that contributes to the attainment of national interests. Therefore, states must design and implement grand strategies for their survival and Kenya cannot fail to plan for its survival. Arguably, Kenyan's internal unity of purpose and love of country must positively project Kenya's position and image on the global arena. This has the ripple effect of attracting foreign investment, opening up lucrative opportunities for the citizens, while enhancing partnerships that transform the lives of Kenyans.

Kenya Feted in Ethiopia *by. Amb. G.M Orina*

On August 29, 2024, Ambassador George M. Orina, Ambassador/Permanent Representative, was honoured to receive an award on behalf of the Republic of Kenya from Hon. Temesgen Tiruneh, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Kenya was feted for being the continent's leading trade partner in pulses with Ethiopia. This unique gesture serves as a testament to the amicable relationship between Kenya and Ethiopia, as well as a distinct indication of the expanding trade flows between the two nations. It is anticipated that bilateral trade will experience an even greater expansion within the AfCFTA framework.

According to data from the Kenya Revenue Authority and Kenya's Embassy in Ethiopia, Kenya's exports to Ethiopia have depicted an upward trend from Ksh 7.1 billion in 2019 to Kshs. 15.8 billion in 2023. The peak import value stood at Kshs. 6.7 billion in 2023. Between 2019 and 2023, Kenya's exports to Ethiopia averaged at



Kshs 12.3 billion while her imports averaged at Kshs 2.7 billion. The balance of trade between the two countries has been in favour of Kenya throughout the period.



Ambassador George M. Orina, Ambassador/ Permanent Representative receive an award from Hon. Temesgen Tiruneh, the Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



1: Kenya- Ethiopia bilateral trade

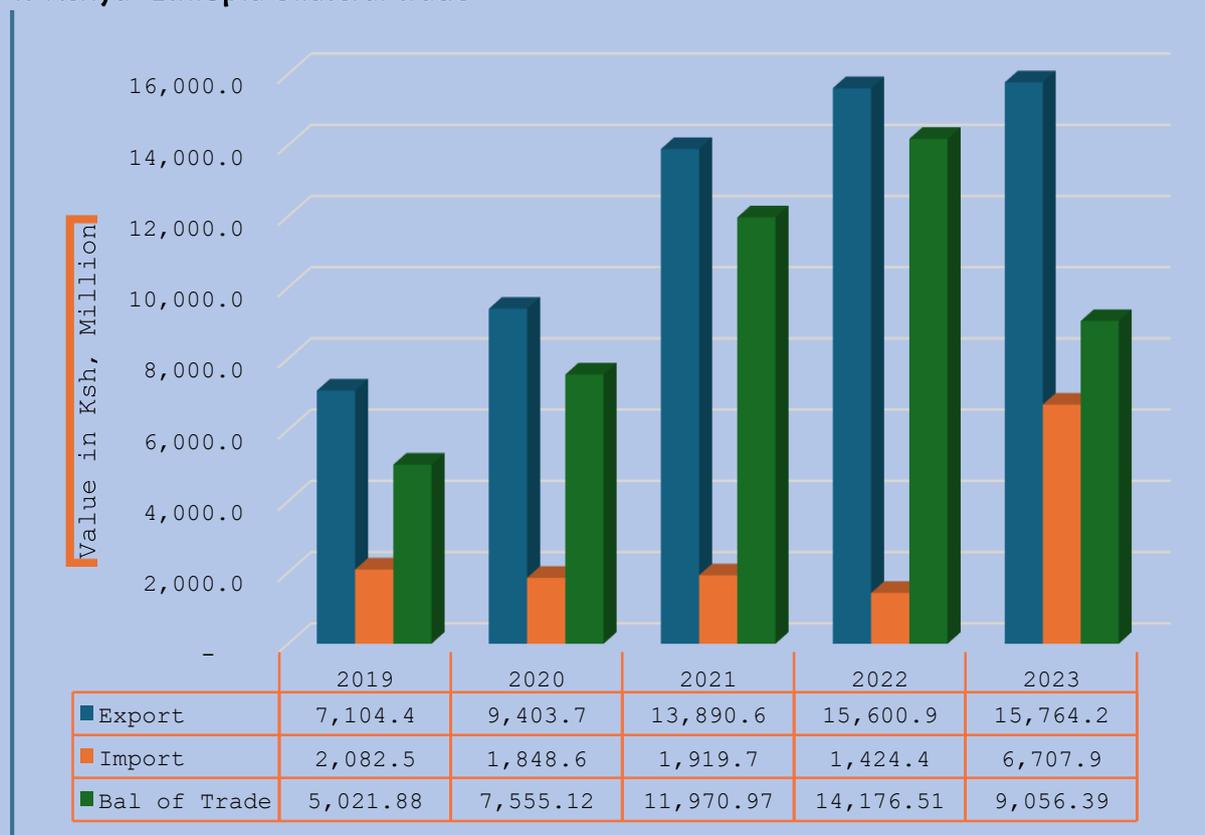


Table 1: Kenya's Top Ten Exports to Ethiopia (2023)

S.N	PRODUCT	Share of Total Exports (%)	Kenya's Share of Ethiopia's Total Imports
1	Chemical products	10%	3.4%
2	Pharmaceutical products	9%	1.5%
3	Soaps and washing preparations	9%	7%
4	Edible food preparations	7%	5%
5	Inorganic chemicals	6%	7%
6	Plastic products	6%	1%
7	Electrical machinery	6%	0.5%
8	Articles of base metal	4%	5%
9	Manufactured products/articles	4%	12%
10	Cereals	5%	1%



Kenya was ranked **25th Exporter of products to Ethiopia**, accounting for **0.7%** of the total imports (which is quite low) as evident in the table above.

Kenya's imports from Ethiopia were valued at Ksh. 6.7 billion in 2023 with the main import products from Ethiopia in 2023 being electrical energy (Ksh 4.9 billion) accounting for 78%, while dried leguminous vegetables accounted for 8% of total imports from Ethiopia. Kenya was ranked 15th importer of Ethiopia's products at **2.3%** of the share of her imports.

Table 2: Kenya's Top Five Import Products from Ethiopia (2023)

S.N	PRODUCT	Share of Kenya's Imports to Ethiopia (%)
1	Electrical energy	78%
2	Dried leguminous vegetables	8%
3	Machinery and mechanical appliances; parts thereof	4%
4	Woven fabrics of cotton	2%
5	oil seeds	1%

The total trade between Kenya and Ethiopia is relatively low given the historical relations that two countries have had. Further, the Special Status Agreement signed in November 2012 sought to enhance bilateral economic engagement. This is accentuated by the fact that two countries share a border and an operational one Stop Border Post in Moyale. The business community from both sides are strongly encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities, and more importantly the AfCFTA framework to enhance trade and the movement of people, goods and services.



Sports- Kenya Dominates Africa, Shatters Records at the Olympic Games in Paris *By P. Mwangi.*



Kenya's outstanding performance at the 33rd Paris Olympic Games in 2024 cemented the country's position as a continental leader. The country finished second in Athletics and ranked 17th globally, winning 11 medals—four gold, two silver, and five bronze.

Beatrice Chebet led Kenya's campaign, winning gold medals in both the 5,000m and 10,000m events. Faith Kipyegon won a record-breaking gold medal in the 1,500m, making her the only athlete in history to win three straight gold medals in this event. She also won a silver medal in the 5,000 metres. Emmanuel Wanyonyi added to Kenya's gold medal collection by winning the 800m.



Leonard Kwemoi earned a silver medal in the 5,000m, raising Kenya's overall silver count to two, along with Kipyegon. Mary Moraa won bronze medals in the 800m, Benson Kipruto in the men's marathon, Obwri Hellen in the women's marathon, and Abraham Kibiwott in the men's 3,000m steeplechase. The games also saw Kenya's first Judo participant and a spirited youth rugby squad finish ninth, while the Malkia Queens sparkled.

Before the games began, Ambassador Betty Cherwon, Kenya's Ambassador to the Republic of France, made a courtesy visit to Team Kenya during their pre-Olympics camp at Miramas. This visit highlighted the significance of culture as a pillar in Kenya's foreign policy. Ambassador Cherwon emphasized that sports continued to enhance Kenya-France relations, as witnessed by the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Miramas and Kenya's National Olympic Committee.



Kenya Ambassador to France Amb. Betty Cherwon alongside Sports PS Eng. Peter Tum welcome Africa's fastest man Ferdinand Omanyala to the Kenya house in Paris on August 7th 2024.

The Kenya House in Paris showcased the country's distinct culture and rich past at the Olympics, while also promoting Magical Kenya as a popular tourist destination and investment hub among the 206 countries competing. It also provided an opportunity for the Kenyan diaspora to come together and support Team Kenya.

The 2024 Olympic victory was a huge diplomatic coup for Kenya, establishing sports as an essential component of cultural diplomacy. Kenya effectively represents its national identity through sports and art, increasing awareness of its cultural heritage and fostering interest in its legacy.

Kenya's performance in Paris was an improvement over the 2020 Tokyo Olympics, which were held in 2021, when the country ended 19th with four gold, four silver, and two bronze medals. Kenya hopes to replicate its success from the 34th edition of the games in Los Angeles, which will host the 2028 Olympics.



Celebrating Retiring *by J. Ongolo*

On Saturday 31st August, 2024, Office Administrators in the Ministry held a farewell party themed ***“Celebrating the Goodness of God”*** to celebrate and honour eight of their colleagues who recently retired from Public Service. The function graced by Mrs. Rebecca Ekuam who was the Chief guest for the day was held at The Rayspot Restaurant, KCB Towers in Upperhill.

The retiring ceremony organized by both State Departments (Foreign and Diaspora Affairs) was a meet-and-greet affair for the Admins who turned up in their numbers to celebrate love and long-standing friendships and exemplary service spanning between 25 - 35 years.



The outgoing Office Administrators took the opportunity to impart words of advice to the serving colleagues, and encouraged them by telling them that the secret to a happy re-tyrement rested in early preparation while still in service as doing so made transition easier and acceptable; Retyrement is inevitable. They reiterated that once one retired, they would only be remembered by their deeds and how they served while in service. It is therefore imperative to leave memories that colleagues and all the people one served, can remember with nostalgia.

*“There is a whole new kind of life ahead, full of experiences just waiting to happen.
Some call it ‘retirement’ I call it “bliss”
Betty Sullivan*



