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The Third Heads of State Conclave on the Democratic Republic of Congo



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President Kenyatta convenes third Heads of State Conclave on DRC



Heads of State high-level meeting, hosted by President Uhuru Kenyatta in his capacity as the Co-Convenor of the Peace Process and Chairperson of EAC, June 20, 2022

His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya in his capacity as the co-convenor of the peace process and Chairperson of EAC convened a Septet Summit and 3rd Conclave of the East African Community (EAC) Heads of State to discuss the peace and security situation in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on June 20, 2022.

President Kenyatta received his EAC counterparts Yoweri Museveni (Uganda), Paul Kagame (Rwanda), Evariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi), Salva Kiir Mayardit (South Sudan) and Felix Tshisekedi (DR Congo) at State House, Nairobi to deliberate on the measures to promote peace, stability and development and contribute to reconciliation and lasting peace and solutions to the conflict in DRC. Tanzania's President (Samia Suluhu Hassan) was represented at the meeting by the country's Ambassador to Kenya, High Commissioner John Stephen Simbachawene.

During the meeting, which was an acceleration of ongoing regional efforts to attain sustainable peace and security in Eastern DRC, a brief on the political trace of Nairobi process which detailed actions and activities undertaken since the second conclave was presented.

The Heads of State directed immediate ceasefire to be enforced and cessation of hostilities be commenced immediately. They further directed that the political process be intensified by all parties in order to allow the citizens of the DRC to feel safe and secure and enable them to continue with their respective social, cultural and economic activities.

The Leaders emphasized that all offensive language, hate speech, threats of genocide and other political inciting language must cease. They encouraged the people of DRC to work together in order to stabilize the eastern DRC.

The Leaders thanked President Uhuru Kenyatta for convening and hosting the third Conclave and applauded President Felix Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo for taking the regional route, in his determination to resolve the peace and security situation in the east of the DRC.



H.E. Paul Kagame (Rwanda)



H.E. Evariste Ndayishimiye (Burundi)



H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit (South Sudan)



Kenya co-hosts the 2nd United Nations Oceans Conference



H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta and H.E. President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa of the Portuguese Republic co-chaired the United Nations Oceans Conference and presided over the opening of the conference on Monday 27th June, 2022. UN Secretary General António Guterres also participated in the Oceans Conference.

Kenya and Portugal co-hosted the 2nd United Nations Oceans Conference in Lisbon from June 27 to July 1, 2022.

His Excellency, Uhuru Kenyatta, co-President of the Conference presided over the official opening ceremony on Monday 27th June, 2022. President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa of the Portuguese Republic (co-President of the Conference) and UN Secretary General António Guterres also participated in the opening session of the Oceans Conference.

The Conference themed, “*Scaling Up Ocean Action Based on Science and Innovation for the Implementation of Goal 14: Stocktaking, Partnerships and Solutions*” is the second of its kind to take place”. The week-long Conference, brought together world leaders who pledged to take action to save the ocean through conservation of oceans, seas and marine resources.

The Conference whose main objective was to ‘*Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development*’, brought together Heads of State and Government, High- Level Representatives of Global and International organizations, High -Level Climate Champions representatives of civil society organizations and other climate stakeholders.

Speaking at the Opening of the conference, H.E Uhuru Kenyatta called for urgent global action to mitigate the decline in seas, ocean and marine environment, saying the world needed to upgrade from proposals on the subject to tangible interventions. He called on world leaders to jointly work together in the scaling up of conservation action to help solve challenges facing sustainability and health of global maritime resources.

“Our actions are not commensurate with the threat that faces the ocean. We urgently need to build an ocean-based economy where effective protection, sustainable production and equitable prosperity go hand-in-hand. These actions must be taken collectively because the ocean is a global common good,” President Kenyatta said.

The President noted that human action continues to threaten the ocean and its eco systems, pointing out that more than eight million tons of plastic are dumped in the marine environment annually while dumping of toxic waste into the water was altering and destroying marine ecosystems.

“Our actions are not commensurate with the threat that faces the ocean. We urgently need to build an ocean-based economy where effective protection, sustainable production and equitable prosperity go hand-in-hand. These actions must be taken collectively because the ocean is a global common good,” President Kenyatta said.

The High-Level opening was also addressed by the Presidents of Angola, Palau, Columbia, Guinea -Bissau, Zambia, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea and the State of Libya, Prime Ministers of Portugal and the Republic of Iceland as well as the President of the seventy - sixth session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Through the Declaration “Our Ocean, Our Future, Our Responsibility”, world leaders pledged to decisively address the decline of ocean and its resources as a way of achieving sustainable development goal 14.

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World Leaders who attended the 2022 UN Ocean Conference at the Altice Arena in central Lisbon

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“As leaders and representatives of our governments, we are determined to act decisively and urgently to improve the health, productivity, sustainable use and resilience of the ocean and its ecosystems,” they said, expressing deep regret over their collective failure to achieve several of the targets of Goal 14 noting that it was the least funded sustainable development goal.

Highlighting over exploitation of the ocean and its habitat as a key contributor to the oceans decline, leaders in the conference called on collective commitment to scaling up ocean based science. They pointed to decisive and realistic actions needed to strengthen institutional capacity and ocean literacy for long term sustainability of the oceans.

“Kenya’s National Statement and closing remarks at the Ocean Conference were delivered by Mr. Keriako Tobiko, Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Forestry.



Kenyan Cultural troop (Kayamba Africa) perform at the UN Oceans Conference in Lisbon, Portugal.

CS Tobiko echoed the intricate link between a healthy planet and a healthy ocean, informing that Kenya has recently developed a National Marine Litter Management action plan in fulfilment of UNEA 1.

CS Tobiko lauded the country’s commitment to developing a National Action Plan on Sea Based Marine Plastic Litter which he said will be tailored to address gaps, priorities and needs, to more effectively prevent and reduce marine plastic litter from sea-based resources.

The Sustainable Blue Investment Economic Forum

President Uhuru Kenyatta also presided over a high-level side event dubbed ‘Sustainable Blue Economy Investment Forum’ held on 28th of June in Cascais, Lisbon.

The forum was addressed by the Kenyan leader, H.E Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, President of Portugal, H.E Ivan Duque Marquez, President of Colombia, Mr. John Kerry, US Special Envoy on Climate, Ngozi Okonjo – Iweala, Director General WTO and Liu Zhenmin, DESA UN Under-Secretary.

The side event themed ‘Promoting and Strengthening Ocean – Based Economies Through Regional Cooperation on Maritime Decarbonization’ discussed key issues related to sustainable ocean principles geared towards investing in a sustainable economy.

President Uhuru Kenyatta in his remarks informed the participants of the need to focus on energy and shipping investments that promote sustainable regeneration of ocean resources and eco systems. He urged leaders to tighten rules and procedures around the harvest of ocean and marine resources.

The US Special Envoy on Environment said that the decline of the oceans is related to the climate crisis experienced in the world, noting that principle drivers of the ocean decline are from heat and gas emissions.

This, he said resulted in increased acidification of the ocean as 90 per cent of global warming goes into the oceans and seas. He urged leaders to explore alternatives to reduce emissions, which he said continue to rise despite the recent Climate forum in Glasgow (COP 26).

The Portuguese leader described the forum as an impetus for development, saying that opportunities for wealth and job creation came from the ocean. He informed that the ongoing conference must be about ocean knowledge and ocean innovation economy in order to achieve a sustainable blue economy.



Kenya formalizes diplomatic relations with more Caribbean States



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo signed Joint Communiqué on establishing diplomatic relations with Belize Foreign Minister Hon. Eamon Courtenay, Wednesday, June 22, 2022 and signed with Hon. Chet Greene, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Trade of Antigua and Barbuda, June 23, 2022.

Kenya is set to host more resident diplomatic missions for Caribbean States. This follows the formalization of diplomatic relations between Kenya and two additional CARICOM members; Belize and Antigua and Barbuda.

Amb. Raychelle Omamo Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs who led the Kenyan delegation to the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Meeting (CFAMM) which took place in Kigali, Rwanda, held consultations with Foreign Ministers of the two CARICOM states on 23 June 2022.

During discussions on the sidelines of the CFAMM, Amb. Omamo noted that under President Uhuru Kenyatta's leadership, Kenya has continued to value its relations with CARICOM and reaffirmed the commitment of Kenya to spur these relations through opening channels for people to people interactions, trade and exchange of educational programmes, among other areas.

The Cabinet Secretary signed Joint Communiqué on establishing diplomatic relations with Belize Foreign Minister Hon. Eamon Courtenay on June 22, 2022 and with Hon. Chet Greene, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Immigration and Trade of Antigua and Barbuda.

Speaking during the bilateral meeting with the Kenyan Minister, the Belize Foreign Minister informed of the decision of the Belize government to open a resident High Commission in Nairobi to pursue strong ties with Kenya and strengthen participation in the global environmental issues by accreditation to the UNEP and UN-Habitat.

He expressed gratitude to Kenya for supporting the establishment of CARICOM offices in Nairobi which was recently launched formally by Cabinet Secretary Omamo and the Barbadian Foreign Minister.

Hon. Greene noted that Antigua and Barbuda is keen to strengthen partnership with Kenya in Blue Economy noting the University of West Indies offers opportunities to exchange of programmes in the related fields which Kenya and Africa can take advantage.

He thanked Kenya for establishing diplomatic relations and assured that his country would take advantage of the opportunity in the CARICOM Office in Nairobi to open its resident High Commission. Kenya and Antigua and Barbuda are co-champions of the Commonwealth Blue Charter Action Group on Sustainable Blue Economy.

The two Joint Communiques commit the signatories to promote and strengthen bilateral ties of friendship and co-operation for the mutual benefit of the peoples of respective countries and further common interests at the global level.

The establishment of the resident representation of the two CARICOM states will strengthen the credentials of Kenya's capital as a global diplomatic hub and will be the host of the highest number of resident CARICOM diplomatic missions in Africa.

Cabinet Secretary Amb. Omamo was accompanied by Amb. Moi Lemoshira, Secretary, Foreign Service Administration, Amb. Angeline Musili, Director for Europe and Commonwealth and Amb. Manoah Esipisu, Kenya's High Commissioner to the UK and Permanent Delegate to the Commonwealth, among others.



Kenya, USA agree to cooperate on strategic partnership



PS Amb. Macharia Kamau met with Curtis Ried Special Assistant to President Biden and Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs on June 8, 2022

Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary, Amb. Macharia Kamau met with Mr. Curtis Ried, Special Assistant to U.S. President Joe Biden and National Security Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs in Nairobi, Kenya on June 8, 2022.

During the meeting, PS Kamau commended the bilateral relations between the two countries that have continued to deepen over the years.

The meeting focused on strategic partnership and cooperation amid the numerous challenges imposed on the global community by the Covid-19 pandemic, climate emergency, proliferation of armed conflicts particularly in the Horn of Africa regions.

The Principal Secretary underscored the critical role Kenya continues to play as a guarantor of regional peace and security and commended the U.S. government for the continued support particularly collaboration in counter terrorism and violent extremism.

"Despite our efforts to address peace and security challenges on the African Continent, the situation in the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes has continued to be a source of concern." The PS noted, she added that Kenya remains eager to enhance the partnership with the United States and other likeminded partners in its effort to engender peace and security in the region.

"Kenya looks forward to collaborating with the United States in the climate change agenda"

PS Amb. Macharia Kamau

PS Kamau recognized Kenya's close engagement with the U.S. government in defence matters under the Bilateral Defence Forum (BDF) and appreciated the support extended to Kenya's Defence Forces in the form of capacity building and equipment.

On trade and partnership, the Cabinet Secretary noted that the extension of AGOA up to 2024 provided an opportunity for Kenya to grow its exports to the U.S. She urged the fast tracking of the FTA negotiations for a post AGOA trade arrangement.

On Climate Change, the PS appreciated U.S. government donations of 188 ventilators to various medical institutions across the country. He noted with gratitude donations of 10 million doses of different brands of Covid-19 vaccines of Kenya from August 2021 to date.

On Climate Change, he informed Kenya's recognition for its leading role in climate change adaption efforts in Africa and especially in the uptake of renewable energy.

"Kenya looks forward to collaborating with the United States in climate change agenda and seeks support for meeting its net-zero carbon strategies, implementation national determined contributions and national adaption strategies and programs," PS Macharia stated.

Amb. Kamau thanked Mr. Ried for the opportunity to meet and encouraged continuous engagement for realization of sustainable development, peace and security in the region.



CS Omamo receives credentials from heads of International organizations



Family photo: Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo with the new heads of International Organisations based in Nairobi and in the Region on June 18, 2022.

On June 18, 2020, Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo received letters of credence from new heads of International Organizations based in Nairobi and the regions.

Speaking during the colourful event held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs headquarters, the CS welcomed the new heads to Kenya and reiterated Kenya's cooperation and support during their tour of duty.

The organizations represented included; Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), United Nations High Commissioners for Refugees (UNHCR), World Health Organization (WHO), International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

While receiving credentials from Mr. Daniel Gerard O'Malley, the new ICRC Head of Regional Delegation for Kenya, Tanzania and Djibouti, the Cabinet Secretary hailed the organization for humanitarian aid across Horn of Africa.

CS Omamo commended UNFPA for its roles in helping the Government actualize the 2019 population and housing as She received credentials from Anders Thomson, the new Country Representative for Kenya.

She welcomed Ms. Mariatu, the new country representative for IFAD and hailed the organization for the role played in empowering the rural poor and enhancing livelihood.

While receiving credentials from UNPD Representative for Kenya Antony Ngorano, the CS reiterated Kenya's commitment to build on successful cooperation with UNDP to enhance development and sustainable development goals.



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo receives credentials from Anders Thomson, the new Country Representative for Kenya, UNFPA



CS Amb Raychelle Omamo receives credentials from Dr. Fatuma Adan Head of Mission for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development.



Barbados President makes official visit to Kenya



President Uhuru Kenyatta with Barbadian President Sandra Mason who paid him a courtesy call at State House, Nairobi on June 8, 2022.

Her Excellency Dame Sandra Prunella Mason, the President of Republic of Barbados, arrived in the Kenya on June 8, for a six- day official visit. She was received at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport by Energy Cabinet Secretary Amb. (Dr.) Monica Juma, and Mr. Patrick Nzusi Director, Americas and the Caribbean Directorate.

President Mason held bilateral talks with His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta aimed at further strengthening bilateral relations between the Kenya and Barbados.

During the meeting, President Kenyatta emphasized the need to enhance transport connectivity between Kenya and Barbados to boost the mutually beneficial ties that the two countries enjoy.

He noted that the two countries possessed great potential that could be harnessed for the benefit of their

citizens, if transport hurdles that are an impediment to trade and interpersonal interactions were addressed.

During the visit, Her Excellency made several visits including to Kenya High School, where she planted a commemorative tree. She was received by Dr. Sarah Ruto, Chief Administrative Secretary for Education, Ministry of Education and Mrs. Flora Mulatyah, Chief Principal, Kenya High School.

She also visited Oserian Flower Farm in Naivasha where the delegation was taken through a presentation on the history of the farm, value addition done, types and varieties of flowers produced and the various export destinations. Additionally, Her Excellency met with Chief Justice Martha Koome, a number of Government officials and visited businesses of interest.

MFA holds diplomatic golf tournament

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a Diplomatic Golf Tournament which coincided with the 18th Ambassadors Conference that took place from June 11 to 17, 2022.

The tournament was sponsored by the Government of Kenya and seven corporate companies who got a chance to brand the event and market their products. The Tournament was covered live by the Standard Media Group and Capital FM.

The Golf Tournament started with the 1st tee off at 7:30am consisting 49 flights with a total of 193 golf players. The players were drawn from the Ministry, Diplomatic Corps, sponsors and invited guests. The last tee off was at 1:30pm.

During the tournament the golf players received the following items; Co-branded shirts and caps from the Ministry, KCB and Windsor Hotel; Co-branded shirts from the Ministry and Corporation for Africa Overseas (CFAO) Motors, Kenya; KETEPAs tea gift packages from Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA) and the winners received Magical Kenya big five trophy awards.

There were eight (8) Individual prize categories (Winner, Runner up and Third place) which included; Members (1,2,3); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1,2,3); Diplomatic Corps (1,2,3); Sponsors (1,2,3); Guests (1,2); Gross Score (1,2); Junior winner (stabled for points); Overall winner.

Other prize categories included; Longest Drive (Men) Hole No.9; Nearest to the Pin (Men) Hole. No.17; Longest Drive (Women) Hole No.10; Nearest to the Pin (Women) Hole No. 13.

In the Ministry's category, there were nine golf players who took part in the Tournament, these include; Amb. Michael Oyugi, Amb. Jean Kamau, Amb. Ben Ogutu, Amb. Moi Lemoshira, Amb. Tabu Irina, Amb. Willy Bett, Amb. Joshua Gatimu, Amb. Fred Matwang'a and Mr. Patrick Nzusi.

In the Ministry's prize category, the winners were as follows; Amb. Ben Ogutu (Winner), Mr. Patrick Nzusi (2nd Runner-up), Amb. Moi Lemoshira (1st Runner-up and Longest Drive Hole No.9 (Men)

The Awards ceremony took place at the same time with the official closing ceremony of the 18th Ambassadors Conference at Windsor Hotel and Country Club.



Youth urged to accelerate action for the ocean



Cabinet Secretary Amb. Monica Juma during the closing ceremony of Ocean Youth and Innovation Forum held at Carcavelos beach, Lisbon Portugal on June 26, 2022.

President Uhuru Kenyatta has called on young people to inspire, amplify and accelerate youth action for the ocean.

He said this in a speech read on his behalf by Energy Cabinet Secretary Amb. Monica Juma during the closing ceremony of Ocean Youth and Innovation Forum held at Carcavelos beach, Lisbon Portugal on June 26, 2022.

President Kenyatta said the Youth needed to be more persistent in telling the story of the oceans.

“A river cuts through a rock not because of its strength but because of its perseverance - you must persist. We live in a world of climate change denial. You must keep innovating, keep up the activism, and keep looking for investors who will put money into your ideas for sustainable development,” he said.

The two-day event brought together hundreds of youth from 165 countries with a shared goal: - Protecting the Ocean.



CS Amb. Monica Juma, Portuguese President H.E Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa UN Secretary-General António Guterres and the Youth during the forum

The Forum was a unique opportunity for young people to contribute to the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (SDG14), ahead of the start of the UN Ocean Conference, taking place from 27 June through 1 July, to seek science-based and innovative solutions to improve the health of the ocean.

Also present were Portuguese President H.E Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa and UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

President Kenyatta and President Rebelo De Sousa were both co-chairs of the UN Oceans Conference which was co-hosted by Kenya and Portugal.



PS Kamau meets with officers from Government MDAs on treaties



On June 7, 2022, Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau held a meeting with focal points officers from across Government MDAs dealing with drafting of multilateral and bilateral Treaties signed between Kenya and its partners, to discuss Implementation, Monitoring and Reporting mechanism of the instruments.

The Principal Secretary called for incorporation of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) aspect in Kenya's reporting structure of Treaties that will ensure critical data collection, analysis and information sampling as Kenya fully implements her international obligations.

PS Kamau also awarded certificates to focal points who have for the past 9 years prepared Presidential Reports on international obligations.

The meeting was attended by the Solicitor General Kennedy Ogeto, Ms. Mandisa Mashologu, the Deputy Resident Representative UNDP Kenya, and Amb. James Waweru, the Registrar of Treaties.



PS Macharia Kamau awarded certificates to focal points who have for the past 9 years prepared Presidential Reports on international obligations.





Kenya and Zambia commence talks on JCC



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo and Hon. Chipoka Mulenga, Minister for Commerce, Trade and Industry of Zambia co-chaired the Ministerial segment of the Midterm Review of the 9th session of the Kenya-Zambia JPCC on

Amb. Raychelle Omamo, Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Hon. Chipoka Mulenga, Minister for Commerce, Trade and Industry of Zambia co-chaired the Ministerial segment of the Midterm Review of the 9th session of the Kenya-Zambia JPCC on June 14, 2022.

CS Omamo appreciated the strides made in the discussions on the three clusters namely Foreign Affairs; Administration and Governance; Trade and Economic Affairs and Social and cultural issues.

"It is imperative to note that the full benefits of these deliberations will be achieved through effective implementation of our commitments as we endeavor to improve the quality of our relations," CS Omamo stated.

Earlier on, the Principal Secretary Amb. Macharia Kamau and his Zambian counterpart Amb. Isabelle M. Matyola officially opened the midterm review talks of the Kenya/ Zambia Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation (JPCC) in Nairobi on June 12, 2022.

In their opening remarks, the two leaders reiterated the warm and cordial long-standing relations existing between the two countries and recognized the importance of the midterm review in tracking implementation of the agreed areas of cooperation of the 9th Session of the JPCC.

They further underscored the importance of exploiting opportunities within the existing frameworks of African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and other arrangements, including, promotion of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), Mining, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Tourism, Information Communication and Technologies (ICT), and other service sectors to boost intra-African trade.



PS Amb Macharia Kamau and his Zambian counterpart Amb. Isabelle M. Matyola officially opened Mid Term Review talks of the Kenya Zambia Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation in Nairobi on June 12, 2022

During the talks, it was noted that the two sides are supporting each other on issues of mutual interest in Multilateral Fora such as Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), United Nations (UN), African Union (AU), International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and in the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM/ATMIS).

The parties took note of the developments that have taken place since 1982 regarding the Bilateral Trade Agreement and agreed to address any challenges on trade, particularly market access between the parties through a Joint Permanent Commission on Trade and Investment.

They further deliberated on sociocultural issues including education, health, labour, social protection, gender, youth and sports where the parties agreed on the initiatives that will be undertaken in each sector.



CS Omamo calls on rural women to take up opportunities in blue economy



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo presides over the panel discussion themed: "Empowering women to enhance rural food security through resilient Blue Economy initiatives," on the sidelines of 2022 Un Oceans Conference on June 27, 2022

On June 27, 2022, Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo on the sidelines of 2022 United Nations Ocean Conference in Lisbon, Portugal hosted a panel discussion themed: "Empowering women to enhance rural food security through resilient Blue Economy initiatives." The panel discussion brought together world experts in blue economy, food, agriculture and marine aquaculture.

The discussants deliberated on potential blue economy initiatives aimed at bolstering rural food security while engaging women in attainment of SDG2, SDG5 and SDG14 through discussing barriers that prevent rural women's full participation in the Blue Economy. They also deliberated on the ways to upscale the rural women to take up the huge opportunities in blue foods.

In her closing remarks, CS Omamo called for leveraging internet tools and technology to ensure women participate in blue economy food cycle, further calling for enhanced strategies to build knowledge and research for Women in rural context to absorb marine economy.

The discussants included Amb. Colleen Kelapile, President of the Economic and Social Council, Amb. Nancy Karigithu- Special Envoy for Maritime and Blue Economy, Mr. Arthur Tuda - Secretary General - WIOMSA, Dr. Kevin Horsburgh- Climate Science lead, Green Climate Fund and Sylvia Diez - World Bank, Vincent Doumeizel Senior Advisor - United Nations Global Impact and Ole Vestergard Prog Management Officer UNEP.





Kenya-India consultations on Multilateral Cooperation

On June 6, 2022, Amb. Salim M Salim, Director-General Multilateral and International Affairs led the Ministry's delegation in a meeting with Mr. Prakash Gupta, India's Joint Secretary (United Nations Political) and Mr. Ashish Sinha, Deputy High Commissioner of India to Kenya to discuss matters of mutual concern with respect to multilateral cooperation.

They commended and applauded India and Kenya's excellent bilateral cooperation and strong relations that have been extended to multilateral spaces.

Amb. Salim discussed issues on the agenda of their membership of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and on their ongoing cooperation during both their tenures as UNSC non-permanent members. They both agreed to work closely on a reformed multilateralism that drew attention on ensuring a UN system that served member states and amplified the voice of the global South.

Furthermore, they both solemnly stressed on transformational UNSC reforms that were built on equal voting rights of all UN members.

Amb. Salim and his counterpart engaged on matters that included regional country files in the Horn of Africa namely, Somalia, DRC, South Sudan in addition to Myanmar, Afghanistan, and Ukraine. The two states exchanged views on issues that touched on their engagement on the multilateral groupings at the Commonwealth Summit, Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), and the Group of 77 (G77).

Mr Gupta invited Kenya to co-host a side event on the theme of Maritime Security during their Presidency in December that will underline Kenya's image in the Blue Economy sector.

Kenya and India both remained steadfast in their commitment to work closely together and looked forward to furthering their relations to advance their mutual interests.

MFASWA holds elections

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Staff Welfare Association (MFASWA) held a special General meeting on June 10, 2022. During the meeting, election of new members was conducted following expiration of the terms of the current officials and posting of executive members to various missions abroad.

Member elected included Chairlady (Shamala Wetende); Vice chair (Andrew Kuria); Secretary (Miriti mburiah); Assistant a Secretary (Francis Githua); Treasurer (Caroline Imbayi); Executive members (Martha Wangechi, Evans Bolo, Anne Otieno).

Giving her acceptance speech as the new chairlady of MFASWA, Ms. Shamala Wetende lauded members for availing themselves in large numbers and assured them that together with the new elected team, they will embark on strengthening MFASWA to ensure it keeps growing and responds to the needs of the members.

"It will be my singular duty to ensure that the trust, effort and hope that members have bestowed on me do not go in vain," Ms. Wetende said.

She thanked the Principal Secretary, Amb Macharia Kamau who is the patron of the welfare for the great leadership and guidance since MFASWA became independent 2018.

Ms. Wetende outlined the duties of the new elected team, which included; growing the membership of the Association from the current 400 members; contribute towards making MFASWA more than a bereavement cheque by coming up with modalities of lending small amounts of money to members against their pay slips. The amounts shall be repaid back with a percentage to cover administrative and processing charges.



Outgoing MFASWA Chairperson Ms. Esther Jelagat Lelei (R) welcomes new Chairperson Ms. Wetende Shamala (L) on June 10, 2022

Ms. Wetende urged the elected team to ensure they are proactive; innovative and empathetic to the needs and concerns of members.

Members requested the new team to benchmark with other stakeholders to ensure MFASWA transforms in to a Sacco.

MFASWA is a Staff Welfare Association for Staff members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Welfare is a non-political and non-profit making in conformity with the laws of Kenya.

The Principal Secretary, Amb. Macharia Kamau is the Patron and Ex-Officio Member to the Committee of the Association. Membership to the Association is open to all MFA employees at a registration fee of two hundred Kenya shillings.



MFA holds its 18th Ambassadors' and High Commissioners' Conference



On June 13, 2022, CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo officially opened the 18th Ambassadors and High Commissioners' Conference that brought together Ambassadors and High Commissioners representing Kenya abroad.

The 18th Ambassadors and High Commissioners' Conference themed *"Delivering Greater Value by Leveraging on Kenya's Diplomatic Footprint and Strategic Global Position,"* was held on June 10th -18th 2022 at the Windsor Golf Hotel and Country Club in Nairobi.

The Conference organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, occurred against the back drop of the COVID-19 pandemic and towards the end of the decade-long Jubilee Administration.

The Conference accorded a deliberative platform to fully apprise Heads of Mission on Kenya's Foreign Policy trajectory as well as craft a road-map on the future of both the Ministry and Foreign Service in light of the changing dynamics of the contemporary global system.

The Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs officiated at the Opening Ceremony of the Conference. The Opening Statement set the pace for the Conference with highlights on the thematic issues that informed the theme of the Conference.

The address by the Principal Secretary drew perspectives on the transitional nature of Kenya's Foreign Policy in the near past and laid the foundation on the debate on the future of Kenya's diplomacy.

The Conference Climaxed with the recognition of the importance of cultural diplomacy manifest in the landmark cultural event and field visits to ICRAF and KONZA Technopolis for an experiential learning on Kenya's multidimensional pathway of harnessing science and technology for socioeconomic development in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Conference which attracted the rich expertise of various speakers from the government, private sector and academia, provided a platform for the appointing authority to receive feedback on the delivery of the mandate of the Ministry and to give instructions.

Additionally, the Conference availed the opportunity for Envoys to interact with top representatives of stakeholder organizations including other Ministries/Departments/Agencies (MDAs), the Judiciary and Legislature and the private sector with the aim of strengthening joint action for delivery of the Foreign Policy Objectives.

Further, the Conference accorded a forum for discussion of administrative issues and challenges bedeviling Kenya Missions Abroad in a bid to find amicable interventions.

It is envisaged that the outcomes of the Conference deliberations will aid the Ministry and Government in the formulation and incorporation of strategies that would afford greater opportunities to strategically position Kenya on the global limelight.

A session with H.E. the President provided an opportunity for the envoys to receive instructions from the appointing authority and to participate in a joint Diplomatic Address with the diplomatic corps in Nairobi.

The diplomatic golf and cultural night was dedicated to cultural and sports activities that promote networking and strengthening cooperation with stakeholders including selected public and private organizations. The double event provided opportunity for enhancing understanding of Kenya's Cultural and Sports Diplomacy.

About 150 participants were present including the Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretary, Director-Generals, Directors/Political Affairs Directorate, Ambassadors and High Commissioners, Directors/Heads of Division/Unit, Facilitators, Invited Guests, Secretariat and Support Staff.

The Conference concluded with a Report of the discussions on the various thematic issues and the decisions taken on the way forward.



Ambassadors Conference in pictures



H.E. President Uhuru Kenyatta met with Kenyan envoys at State house Nairobi on June 14, 2022.

The Ambassadors were in Kenya for the 18th Ambassadors Conference happening in Nairobi.

The President later addressed a joint meeting of Kenyan Ambassadors and the diplomatic Corps based in Kenya.

CS Amb Raychelle Omamo officially opened the 18th Ambassadors Conference on June 13, 2022.

The Conference brought together Ambassadors and High Commissioners representing Kenya abroad.



Kenyan Envoys follow proceedings during the 18th Ambassadors and High Commissioners' Conference themed *"Delivering Greater Value by Leveraging on Kenya's Diplomatic Footprint and Strategic Global Position,"* held on 10th -18th June, 2022 at the Windsor Golf Hotel and Country Club in Nairobi.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs organized a Diplomatic Golf Tournament which coincided with the 18th Ambassadors Conference that took place from June 11 to 17, 2022.

The Tournament was sponsored by the Government of Kenya and seven corporate companies.

The players were drawn from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Diplomatic Corps, sponsors and invited guests.





Rwanda hosts CHOGM 2022



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo led the Kenyan delegation to the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Meeting (CFAMM) in Kigali, Rwanda.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting 2022 (CHOGM 2022) took place in Kigali, Rwanda from 20-25 June 2022, under the theme *'Delivering a Common Future: Connecting, Innovating, Transforming.'* Commonwealth leaders travelled to Rwanda to reaffirm their common values and agree on actions and policies to improve the lives of all their citizens.

His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta was among the High Profile Delegates that also brought together Presidents, Prime Ministers and their representatives from 54 Commonwealth Nations across Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, the Pacific and Europe.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Resolutions reaffirmed their shared commitment to continue working with the United Nations, other international and regional organizations and International Financial Institutions (IFIs) in their responses to COVID-19 pandemic, new threats to economic security and political instability.

The Heads of Government reaffirmed support for the Good Offices role of the Secretary-General as a mechanism to protect and promote the Commonwealth's fundamental values and principles, and also underscored that measures taken to address the COVID-19 pandemic should be targeted, necessary, transparent, non-discriminatory, time-bound, and proportionate.

Amb. Raychelle Omamo, Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs led the Kenyan delegation to the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Meeting. On the sidelines of the CHOGM Ministerial meetings:-

CS Amb. Omamo met the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belize, Hon. Eamon Courtenay during which the two countries signed a historic joint communiqué for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two friendly States. Belize sought to expand its engagement with Africa and UN agencies and multilateral organizations in Nairobi. As a result, Kenya is set to host more resident diplomatic missions for Caribbean States. This followed the formalization of diplomatic relations between Kenya and two additional CARICOM members; Belize, and Antigua and Barbuda.

The CS also met with her counterparts from Nigeria, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, India, Canada, Jamaica, Seychelles, Commonwealth of Dominica and Tonga to reaffirm the commitment to stronger bilateral relations and closer cooperation at the multilateral level including UNSC. Accordingly, the discussions focused on the wide ranging cooperation in the areas of trade and investment, people-to-people exchanges, security and sustainable development.

Amb. Omamo also held talks with Samoa's Prime Minister Hon. Fiamē Naomi Mata'afa. They reaffirmed the strong bilateral relations between Kenya and Samoa and discussed enhancing cooperation in the multilateral arena. Samoa was eventually confirmed as the 2024 host of the event - the first time a Pacific member country will host CHOGM.



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo held consultations with Indian Foreign Minister Subrahmanyam Jaishankar on the sidelines of CHOGM2022.



On the sidelines of CHOGM2022 Amb. Raychelle Omamo met with H.E. Geoffrey Onyeama, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nigeria.



IN BRIEF



Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo held talks with Hon. Luigi Di Maio, Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Italy on June 14, 2022.

They discussed strengthening bilateral cooperation, opening of a trade Agency in Kenya and capacity building in Agribusiness.

Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo held a bilateral meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba, H.E. Bruno Rodriguez Parilla on July 2, 2022. The Foreign Minister was on a two-day official visit to Kenya.

The Ministers underscored Kenya and Cuba's shared values that are based on South-South cooperation. They reaffirmed the strong bonds of friendship between the two States and committed to explore ways of bolstering cooperation in areas of health, trade, investments and agriculture.



On June 23, 2022, Cabinet Secretary Amb Raychelle Omamo and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Barbados, Senator The Most Honourable Jerome Walcott, officially opened the CARICOM diplomatic mission in Kenya, marking the first of its kind for Barbados on the African continent.



VISION

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MISSION

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

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