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Kenya mourns third President Mwai Kibaki



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Editorial Team

Chair Editorial Board : Amb. Isaiya Kabira
Sub - Editor : Julius Bargarretti
Design & Layout : Kawira Githinji
Photography : Andrew Kuria
Content Developers:
Jane Kariuki, Kawira Githinji,
Kuria Muigai, Phillip Opwora Pauline Opema,
Evince Oguta



Kenya mourns former President Mwai Kibaki



H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa (South Africa)



H.E. Sahle Work-Zewde (Ethiopia)



H.E. Salva Kiir (South Sudan),



Former President of Malawi Joyce Banda

Kenya's third President, His Excellency Mwai Kibaki passed away at the age of 90 years on April 22, 2022. The Late President served Kenya as third President for 10 years (2002 to 2013) and Member of Parliament for 50 years (1963 to 2013).

President Uhuru Kenyatta announced the death of the former President and declared a period of national mourning including flying of the national flag at half-mast in honour of the life and times of the former President Mwai Kibaki.

The body of the late President Kibaki was laid-in-State in Parliament Building for three days to allow Kenyans adequate time to pay their last respects. Kenyans thronged Parliament to view the body from April 25 to 27, 2022.

The Funeral Mass at the Interfaith National Funeral Service held on April 29, 2022 at the Nyayo National Stadium in Nairobi County brought together leaders from all walks of life who eulogized the late Head of State as a great statesman and visionary leader having served Kenya, Africa and the World.

A cross-section of national and foreign leaders led by President Uhuru Kenyatta delivered emotional tributes commending the former President's exemplary life. African leaders who attended the State Funeral Service included - H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa (South Africa), H.E. Salva Kiir (South Sudan), H.E. Sahle Work-Zewde (Ethiopia) as well as former President of Malawi H.E. Joyce Banda paid their final respects to the late President Mwai Kibaki and thereafter signed the condolence book.

Other African leaders who attended the state funeral included Vice President Constantino Chiwenga (Zimbabwe), Phillip Mpango (Tanzania) and Jesica Alupo (Uganda).

The third President of Kenya was accorded a State Burial Service on Saturday, 30th April, 2022, which was an elaborate military and religious ceremony that included a 19-Gun Salute and a Kenya Air Force fly-past.

His body was interred at this Munyange home on the outskirts of Othaya town in Nyeri County. Thousands of mourners, among them national, religious, cultural and local leaders attended the burial services.

The cortege of the third president was transported to Othaya in Nyeri County via road. Along the route, central Kenya residents came out, braving the early morning cold weather to bid farewell to the late President who had served the region as Othaya Constituency Member of Parliament for a record 35 years in his long public service career spanning 5 decades.



CS Omamo eulogizes Late President Mwai Kibaki



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo signs the Condolence Book in honour of the Late H.E. Mwai Kibaki at the MFA office on April 26, 2022

Following the passing on of Kenya's third President His Excellency Mwai Kibaki on April 22, 2022, Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo extended her deepest sympathies to his family and the entire nation at large.

In her message of condolence, CS Omamo eulogized President Kibaki as a true African Statesman.

"Mzee Kibaki was a gentleman and patriot who served our country with great dedication and distinction. He was a visionary who had clarity regarding our Nations' destiny."

"Accordingly, he was able to steer Kenya toward significant economic development and transformation thereby laying a strong foundation for Kenya's economic take off," the CS said, adding that, "We will remember Mzee Kibaki as the Father of our Vision 2030 that binds us all to the goal of Kenya's prosperity and economic success."

The Cabinet Secretary underscored that President Kibaki was the quintessential diplomat who skillfully advanced Kenya's agenda at international fora, where he made immense contribution to regional peace and stability.

CS Omamo emphasized that it was during President Kibaki's tenure that the historic 2005 South Sudan Comprehensive Peace Agreement (the Naivasha Agreement) was signed. He also fostered harmony within the East African Community and was passionate about regional integration and trade.

"Our Ministry and our Nation will be forever indebted to Mzee Kibaki for enhancing Kenya's foreign relations and her stature within the community of nations," the CS said.

During the National Funeral Service, CS Omamo welcomed visiting African Presidents Cyril Ramaphosa (South Africa), Salva Kiir (South Sudan) and Sahle Work-Zewde (Ethiopia) who attended the State Funeral Service of His Excellency Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya at the Nyayo National Stadium on April 29, 2022.

May the soul of His Excellency Mwai Kibaki rest in eternal peace.



H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa (South Africa)



H.E. Sahle Work-Zewde (Ethiopia)



H.E. Salva Kiir (South Sudan)



President Kenyatta receives good will message from Saudi King



President Uhuru Kenyatta with Special Envoy H.E Minister Ahmed Bin Abdulaziz Kattan who delivered a special message from King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia on April 13, 2022

Kenya and Saudi Arabia continue to exemplify existing relations between the two friendly countries as evidence by the continued efforts to solidify expanding and deepening ties.

On April 13, 2022, President Uhuru Kenyatta at State House received a good will message from His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud. The message was delivered by Saudi Minister of State for African Affairs, Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Kattan who also conveyed greetings from Saudi's Crown Prince Mohamed bin Salman.

The Visiting Minister briefed President Kenyatta on the upcoming Saudi – African and the Arab – Africa Summits scheduled to be hosted in Riyadh. The two Summits are geared towards cultivating interaction aimed at enhancing economic growth and people to people relations between the two regions.

President Kenyatta noted with deep appreciation the Greening Initiative spearheaded by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Mohamed Bin Salman and expressed Kenya's willingness to join in the programme and to collaborate with Saudi Arabia in combating the effects of Climate Change.

The President extended an invitation to His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud to visit Kenya at his earliest convenience.

In a press briefing held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs after the State House meeting, Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo confirmed that Kenya looks forward to participate in the two summits.



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo held a press briefing on the visit by the Special Envoy from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia H.E. Minister Ahmed Bin Abdulaziz Kattan, who delivered a good will message to H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta from King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia on April 13, 2022

She said that, President Kenyatta and the Special Envoy also agreed to host a virtual investment conference between Kenya and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in order to explore and seize bilateral trade and investment opportunities.

The Minister was accompanied by the Saudi Arabia Ambassador to Kenya Khalid bin Abdullah Al-Salman and Kenya's Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Peter Ogego.



Kenya-Mozambique UNSC consultations in Nairobi



The Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Amb. Macharia Kamau, presided over the opening ceremony of the Kenya-Mozambique United Nations Security Council (UNSC) consultations held in Nairobi on April 11, 2022.

The catalyst for the talks was the impending two-year non-permanent term of the Republic of Mozambique, set to commence on January 1, 2023, as well as Kenya's ongoing non-permanent membership of the Council.

The visit by the delegation of Mozambique, led by the Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, H.E. Mr. Francisco Neto Novela accompanied by H.E. Mr. Casimiro Augusto Mueio, the Permanent Secretary for National Defense of Mozambique, dovetails appropriately with the outcomes of the 983rd meeting of the AU Peace and Security Council, held on March 4, 2021, during Kenya's successful chairmanship.

The meeting held under the theme *"Unified role of the African Members in the United Nations (UN) Security Council (A3) in the UN Security Council,"* noted that the unified voice of the A3 in the UN Security Council can only be as strong as the voice of the AU Peace and Security Council.

Amb. Macharia Kamau, Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Kenya and H.E. Mr. Francisco Neto Novela Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs Mozambique during the Kenya-Mozambique UN Security Council Consultations, in Nairobi on April 11, 2022

Similarly, the consultations were also informed by the need for integrating African efforts in order to create the necessary synergies, which are vital for non-permanent members of the Council. This is also consistent with His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta's Pan Africanist vision, which continues to guide and direct Kenya's Foreign Policy dispensation.

While congratulating Mozambique upon the impending entry into the Council, Amb. Macharia Kamau also commended the Mozambican government's initiative and determination to learn before the country's deserved installation in January 2023.

In addition, PS Kamau reiterated the importance of early and advance planning, as well as the need for proper and effective coordination across government in what was advocated as a whole-of-government approach to Council matters.

H.E. Mr. Francisco Neto Novela thanked his counterpart, Amb. Macharia Kamau, for the cordial reception accorded to the delegation of Mozambique and also for Kenya's willingness to share experiences and lessons learnt at the Council.

Permanent Secretary H.E. Novela further pointed to the composition of the Mozambican delegation as a demonstration of the seriousness that the government of Mozambique attached to their consultations with Kenya on Council matters.



Group photo during the opening ceremony of the Kenya-Mozambique UN Security Council Consultations, in Nairobi on April 11, 2022.



Japan donates Covid-19 Vaccines to Kenya



The Japanese Ambassador to Kenya Amb. Okaniwa Ken handed over a donation of 200,000 doses of Covid-19 vaccines to the Government of Kenya at the Kenya Vaccines Logistical Center in Kitengela on April 22, 2022.

The Japanese Ambassador to Kenya, Ambassador Okaniwa Ken handed over a donation of 200,000 doses of the Astrazenica Covid-19 vaccines to the Government of Kenya at a function held at the Kenya Vaccines Logistical Center in Kitengela on April 22, 2022.

The vaccines were received by the Covid Taskforce Chairperson, Dr. Willis Akhawale on behalf of the Health Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Mutahi Kagwe. Ambassador Paul Ndugu, Director, Asia and AustralAsia and Pacific Islands Directorate and Ms. Sylvanne Changwony, represented the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the event.

The donation made through the COVAX facility aims to boost Kenya's capacity to immunize its citizens against the COVID-19 pandemic.

Speaking while receiving the vaccines, Dr. Akhawale reiterated Kenya's gratitude to the Government of Japan for the continued support. He noted that in September 2021, Japan donated 12 ultra-low-temperature freezers and accessories for storage of COVID-19 Vaccines.

Dr. Akhawale called on all Kenyans who have not yet been fully vaccinated including those eligible for booster shots, to visit their closet health center immediately.

On his part, the Japanese Ambassador Okaniwa Ken, said the donation build on Japan's ongoing partnership with Government of Kenya, including in response to COVID-19.



Ambassador Paul Ndugu Director, Asia and AustralAsia and Pacific Islands Directorate with the The Japanese Ambassador to Kenya, Amb. Okaniwa Ken during the vaccine handing over ceremony on April 22, 2022



The vaccines were received by Dr. Akhawale on behalf of the Health CS Hon. Mutahi Kagwe.



Kenya Embassy Brasilia celebrates Wangari Maathai Day



The Embassy commemorated Wangari Maathai Day on 3rd March 2022 with Ambassador Lemarron Kaanto planting a tree at Brasilia's ARIE do Bosque Park on March 3, 2022.

Kenya Embassy in Brasilia celebrated Wangari Maathai Day in conjunction with the African Environment Day in Brazil on March 3, 2022.

To mark the occasion, Amb. Lemarron Kaanto planted a tree at the Brasilia's ARIE do Bosque Park and installed a commemorative plaque paying tribute to the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laurette.

This marked the Embassy as the first mission in Brasilia to install such a plaque at the Public Park.

Amb. Kaanto was joined by the Head of the Foreign Affairs Office of the Government of the Federal District and the Executive Secretary of the Brasilia Environment Institute (IBRAM), both of who also planted trees in homage to the rich legacy of Professor Wangari Maathai.

The tree planting ceremony will take place yearly to commemorate Wangari Maathai Day.

After the tree planting ceremony, the mission hosted the African Diplomatic Corps Members of the Kenya Diaspora and the general public for a screening of the award-winning documentary – ***“Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai”*** at the Bank of Brazil Cultural Center (CCBB).

The film was an effective public diplomacy tool and generated interest in the legacy of Professor Maathai and Kenya's development as a hub for environmental protection.

It was proposed that the film screening take place annually in conjunction with the tree planting ceremony.

Following this event, the African Heads of Mission requested the Mission for the film to be featured during the Africa Day and also be featured in other cultural centers.



Amb. Kaanto also installed a commemorative plaque paying tribute to the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.



Kenya's envoy to Qatar is laid to rest



Late Amb. Patrick Paddy Odera Ahenda served the country in various capacities including as MP for Kasipul Kabondo and as Kenya's Ambassador to Qatar from Feb 2019 until his demise on April 4, 2022

Kenya's envoy to the State of Qatar Ambassador Paddy Ahenda passed on at the age of 70 years on April 4, 2022 at Hamad Hospital in Doha, Qatar.

The body of the Late Ambassador arrived in Kenya, Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on April 10, 2022 and was received by Cabinet Secretary, Amb. Raychelle Omamo.

President Uhuru Kenyatta eulogized the envoy as a dedicated and committed diplomat who was keen on deepening Kenya's relations with Qatar and the Arab world.

During his memorial service attended by family, leaders, senior officials from both the National and County Governments and Ministry of Foreign Affairs staff, the Cabinet Secretary led the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in bidding farewell to the Late Ambassador who had served the country in various capacities including Member of Parliament for Kasapul Kabondo and as Kenya's Ambassador to Qatar from February 2019 until his demise.

"Ambassador Ahenda exemplified efficiency, dedication, loyalty and teamwork with colleagues," CS Omamo stated.



CS Amb Raychelle Omamo led the Ministry in bidding farewell to the Late Amb. Patrick Paddy Odera Ahenda.

She added that, "During his tenure as Kenya's Ambassador to Qatar, he performed his duties with dedication, resulting in the warm and bilateral relations which Kenya currently enjoys with Qatar."

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has indeed lost a dedicated and dependable Ambassador, who will be missed dearly by us in the Ministry and the Diplomatic fraternity as a whole." The CS stated.

H.E. the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Mohamed bin Abdulrahman Al- Thani expressed his condolences and those of the State of Qatar on the death of the Kenyan Ambassador to the country.

The envoy was laid to rest at his home in Homa Bay country. May the soul of Amb. Patrick C. O. Ahenda rest in perfect peace.



Deputy Chair AUC conducts working visit in Kenya

On April 6, 2022, Cabinet Secretary Amb. Raychelle Omamo met with H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, who is on an official working visit to Kenya.

The Deputy Chairperson briefed the Cabinet Secretary on the African Union organizational reforms and appreciated Kenya's tangible contribution to the AU notably on the Peace and Security agenda, financial support and the hosting of the AU field offices in Nairobi.

The Cabinet Secretary welcomed the Deputy Chairperson and commended the cordial multilateral relations between Kenya and the African Union as well as the AU's support to the peace processes in the region.

Ambassador Omamo expressed optimism regarding the Africa CDC office that has been established in Kenya and was confident that it would be able to deliver on its mandate.



CS Amb. Raychelle Omamo met with H.E. Dr. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson of African Union on April 6, 2022

They agreed to work together on environmental issues, climate change, peace and security, and other areas of mutual interest.

Kenya hosts the 2022 SWEACC - Business and Investment Forum



Group Photo : The 2022 Swedish-East African Chamber of Commerce Business and Investment Forum, officially opened by CS Trade Hon. Betty Maina in Nairobi on April 27, 2022

The 2022 Swedish-East African Chamber of Commerce Business and Investment Forum (SWEACC) took place in Nairobi, Kenya from April 27 to 28, 2022 and was officially opened by Hon. Betty Maina, Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise and Acting Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development.

The annual event themed "Digitization for Societal Development in East Africa" is a platform for expanding and developing trade and investment opportunities for the East African Community as well as helping increase the regions competitiveness continentally and globally.

Speaking during the meeting, CS Maina emphasized that digitalisation will fast-track industrialization and improves major sectors of the economy and allows the government to develop right tools to cab cyber security.

"There is need to harness innovation and the potential brought by digital technology for East Africa's accelerated economic growth and structured transformation," CS Maina stated.

She urged that organizations should work together, exchange expertise and connect ICT with the people as well as protect ideas before they are commercialized.

SWEACC- BIF 2022 aimed at promoting successful investments and trade opportunities in the areas of Healthtech, Edutech, Fintech, Greentech, and Agritech.

The forum gave an opportunity for business to business, Government to Government and Government to Business meetings to take place.

The event organized by Embassies from EAC accredited to the Kingdom of Sweden in collaboration with SWEACC was attended by Amb. John Weru, the Principal Secretary, State Department for Industrialization and Ambassador Diana Kiambuthi, Kenya's Ambassador to the Nordic Countries among others delegates.

Amb. Fredrick Matwang'a, Director of Economics Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs noted that Africa still faces challenges of technological penetration due to limited capacity, both human and institutional. He therefore stressed the need for East Africa region to leverage on the Swedish technological and innovation space through investments in the region.

He later on led the SWEACC delegation to Konza Technopolis to learn and appreciate how the technocity fits into SWEACC agenda of developing new meaningful technological exchange and investment partnerships.



Stockholm+50 logistical planning mission



Environment PS Dr. Chris Kiptoo met the Minister for Climate and Environment of Sweden H.E. Annika Strandhäll in Stockholm on April 7, 2022

The Second Logistical Planning Mission of Stockholm+50 was held in Stockholm, Sweden from April 6 -8, 2022. The Kenyan delegation to the planning mission was led by Environment Principal Secretary Dr. Chris Kiptoo and Foreign Affairs Director General for International Conferences, Media Events and Communication Amb. Isaiya Kabira.

The main objective of the planning mission was to examine the suitability of the conference venue and other logistics in collaboration with the host government.

During the meeting PS Kiptoo held bilateral talks with the Swedish Minister for Climate and Environment H.E. Annika Strandhäll and his counterpart, the Deputy Minister for Climate Change and the Environment Anders Granvall.

Discussions focused on the logistical preparation of the upcoming International meeting on Stockholm+50 to be co-hosted by Kenya and Sweden in Stockholm Sweden from July 2 – 3, 2022.

The Swedish Minister commended the spirit displayed by Member States in Nairobi during UNEA 5.2. towards the negotiation of the 14 resolution and their consensual adoption, despite the evolving geopolitical circumstances in Eastern Europe.

Particularly, she indicated her recognition on the positive feedback by Member States during the Stockholm+50 preparation meeting, on the milestones made at the UNEA 5.2. regarding tackling plastic pollution.

On his part, PS Kiptoo recalled the 1972 Stockholm Conference and its outcomes, including its declaration which remains relevant to addressing today's environmental challenges and the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) hosted in Nairobi Kenya.

PS Kiptoo highlighted the critical role by UNEP in shaping the global environmental agenda and in line with the outcomes of the UNEA 5.2 and UNEP @50, reiterated the strengthening of the UNEP to make it fit-for purpose to respond to the current environmental challenge.

"I have faith that the Stockholm+50 International meeting will provide a platform to build back trust amongst Member States and reinforce multilaterals efforts towards environmental matters and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals," PS Kiptoo stated.

During the meeting with his Swedish counterpart Anders Granvall, PS Kiptoo appreciated Sweden as the host of the International meeting, for the level of preparedness towards Stockholm+50. He expressed satisfaction to the preparations so far.

Reflecting his views on the whole planning exercise, Amb. Isaiya Kabira expressed his confidence that together with the United Nations the co-host will deliver a successful Stockholm+50.



Environment PS Dr. Chris Kiptoo met with Swedish Deputy Minister of Climate and Environment H.E. Anders Granvall in Stockholm for a preparatory meeting on Stockholm + 50 International meeting scheduled for 2-3 June 2022



A dark past recedes and a bright future beckons for the DRC

As Elusive as a Leopard

An enduring feature of a leopard, the national emblem of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), is its elusiveness. Mirroring the stealth feline, the circumstances seem to have refused to yield the conditions that sets, the country that stretches from the Atlantic Ocean to the Great Lakes, on a path of political and economic transformation.

As it completes the final bureaucratic steps to join the East African Community (EAC), the enduring low-ebb conflicts threaten the boon that membership holds. To understand the security situation in the eastern DRC, it suffices to throw light on its troubled past and start at the beginning.

The Five Premises

The DRC's recent history defies simple explanations. Most times, five premises have been advanced to rationalize its stubborn rejection of easy answers. First is the notion that the DRC is vast and geographically isolated, with few passable roads, which deprives the capital of adequate state control.

This inevitably yields anarchy as the state is literally absent. Second, the assertion that the high population density of one neighbour bursts beyond its border into the DRC in search of means for food security and adequate shelter. Then, there is DRC's teeming mineral riches, largely unprotected by a weak state; that foreign armies have found irresistible, providing them no incentive to depart. Fourth, for a little-policed country with nine neighbours; its dense vegetation cover provides an excellent hiding place and base for operations of foreign armed groups to launch attacks against their home countries.

In addition, the over 200 ethnic groups is a recipe for claims and counter-claims over land and other resources, particularly when the tribal boundaries are largely artificial. The elephant in the room is that these scenarios did not pertain out of the blues. Which, then, is the original sin?

The Original Sin

Inexorably, no debate about the obstacles to DRC's take off can end before reference is made to the original sin. The narrative starts with the Belgian colonial state forcefully creating a rational state in Congo that reigned over pre-colonization societies by accommodating a small Congolese elite that took over the state after independence in 1960.

This clique, however, did not have experience in political organization and split immediately after independence. Political and military rivals challenged the newly independent state until Mobutu Sese Seko forged an elite consensus by buying in or crushing rival groups.



H.E Felix Antoine Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) together with President Uhuru Kenyatta, Chair of the EAC Summit of Heads of State signed the treaty of Accession by Democratic Republic of Congo to the East Africa Community (EAC) on April 8, 2022

The consensus yielded nine years of state-formation. Nonetheless, the edifice started disintegrating under economic pressure and outside interference. State power was whittled down to the point of losing even the monopoly of legitimate violence. Unresolved questions of citizenship and land entitlements drew in outside intervention obliterating what remained of a weak state.

By and large, it is arguable that three intricate strands of state-building define the DRC and require irreversible resolution to give peace and stability a fighting chance. These are monopoly of state power, definition of ways to share power across the vast territory and a resilient political consensus at the heart of the state. What about the pervasive conflicts?

Simmering Conflicts

Open warfare is not rampant. Yet, simmering conflicts endure with over 140 rebel groups tormenting each other, albeit with a slew of random violent attacks on civilians. The main players are the Congolese national army (FARDC), the Congolese self-defense groups (Mayi-Mayi), Rwanda Hutu rebels (FDLR, Democratic Front for the Liberation of Rwanda) on one side, fighting against each other, against a fourth party, the largely Tutsi CNDP (National Congress for the Defence of the People).

Besides, there is the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) jousting with the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF) in North Kivu. On its part, the Red Tabara and Forebu, Burundi insurgents with fallback bases in Uvira, South Kivu, engaged in back-and-forth attacks with the Burundi government. Meanwhile, MONUSCO is doing its better to be impactful.

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A dark past recedes and a bright future beckons for the DRC



The signing of the treaty of accession follows the admission of DR Congo into the EAC as the seventh member of the regional bloc during the virtual 19th Extraordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State chaired by President Kenyatta on March 29, 2022.

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Urgency of Peace

Solving the smouldering conflicts, even with their corresponding flare ups, between Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, the Congolese Tutsis, the Rwandan Hutu rebels and the DRC government is critical. But why is the need for peace is urgent? Indeed, so long as no solution is found, peace will remain elusive for the DRC. Sadly, without peace, stability is unattainable. Most regrettably, with entrenched instability; the vast intrinsic potential of the country, and its 93 million patriotic people, will continue to be laid to waste.

The prospects for almost 100 million people makes the pursuit of peace urgent for, at least, two broad reasons. First, the fraying global peace and security architecture: with Ukraine capturing the attention of the Western world, there is little political appetite among United Nations Security Council members to significantly dedicate resources to strengthen MONUSCO to execute its mandate better. It, therefore, behoves the East African Community member states to take a different tack in unlocking the impasse because the region stands to lose most.

For Kenya, as heralded by President Uhuru Kenyatta's foreign policy priorities for peace and security in Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan and now the DRC, the focus is singular, the paradigm is Afro-centrism and African solution holds sway. The alternative is a situation where the status quo, and especially the violence, will continue to simmer and embroil the Kivus and the entire region straddling the Indian and Atlantic oceans. It is an unpalatable option that Kenya is working to roll back with recent initiatives such as the holding of the Quintet Summit on Peace and Security in Eastern DRC on 21 April 2022 that brought Burundi, DRC, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda to Nairobi.



Group photo of EAC Ministers with Heads of State: H.E Uhuru Kenyatta Chair of the EAC Summit, H.E Felix Tshisekedi, new member of EAC Heads of State Summit, H.E Yoweri Museveni and H.E Paul Kagame on April 8, 2022.

Kenya's Inroads and Setbacks

Besides, the pressing need for Africa to take care of itself better through economic sustenance and overall economic development is pivotal. It suffices to give an ordinary example. Kenya's visible investments such as Equity Bank's presence across the vast territory of the DRC serve a need to increase financial inclusion. The goal of attracting investment and retaining it to generate opportunities to uplift the economic well-being of people is likely to be upset by the less visible but equally important delivery of essential goods such as petroleum.

The fate being meted out on Kenyan businesses in the DRC, especially the small and medium enterprises, is appalling and needs to be urgently stopped before any anticipated gains from the DRC's entry into the EAC. It is regrettable that between 2021 and 2022, Kenya has lost two lives and six has sustained life threatening injuries and four have been kidnapped and a ransom paid. During this span of time, property worth over 1 million US dollars has been lost. Notwithstanding these setbacks, can the promise of the DRC in EAC be unlocked?

Unlocking The Promise of the DRC in the EAC

The opportunities DRC offers are vast; though like thorns in a rose flower, they are nestled with daunting risks. Its fragile history imbues it with staggering perils: unsecured and largely impassable roads, an ingrained culture of sleaze, a grasping elite and hollowed-out public service. Luckily, in this dire lay of land lurks the promise of importing best practices from the rest of the East African Community (EAC) to unlock its latent prospects in production and consumption. For instance, rejuvenating trade in services will inject fresh impetus in growth while enhancing cooperation in public service will pave way for implementation of urgent reforms to strengthen the state and instil ethos that will unleash the leopard to realize its potential. The odds are pacifying the eastern DRC will be a critical first step in this stalled journey.

Mr. Moni Manyange, a political officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is the Charge d'Affaires of the Consulate of the Republic of Kenya in Goma, DRC.



World leaders pay Tribute to the Late President Mwai Kibaki

1. H.E. Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda

It is with sorrow and grief that I have learnt of the passing on of President Emilio Stanley Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya on 22nd April, 2022. Former President Kibaki steadfastly steered Kenya through turbulent times with wisdom and foresight. He forged ever stronger partnership for the Republic of Kenya and deepened his country's ties with the Republic of Uganda. His legacy includes tremendous contributions towards the revival of the East African Community.

On behalf of the people and the Government of the Republic of Uganda and on my own behalf, I wish to convey our deepest condolences to you as well as to the family of the former President Mwai Kibaki. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this very trying moment. May the Almighty God rest the soul of President Mwai Kibaki in eternal peace and comfort his family.

2. H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda

It is with deep sadness that I learnt of the passing of His Excellency Mwai Kibaki, former president of the Republic of Kenya. The Government of the Republic of Rwanda extends its heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the family of the late President Kibaki, as well as to the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya during this moment of grief. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time of sorrow.

3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation, Republic of Rwanda

It is with deep sadness that the Government of the Republic of Rwanda learned of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. The Government of the Republic of Rwanda extends its heartfelt condolences and sympathy to the family of the late President Kibaki, as well as to the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya during this moment of grief. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time of sorrow.

4. H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing of H. E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya, which occurred on 22nd April, 2022. With inexpressible grief, I convey my deepest condolences on behalf of the Government and people of South Sudan to H. E. Uhuru Kenyatta, the family of the former President and the people of the Republic of Kenya. In honour of the former President Kibaki's legacy, I declare three days of mourning and order the South Sudan flag to be flown at half-mast across the country during those days.

President Kibaki will be remembered as a courageous statesman who took principled stance in his pursuit of dignified and practical politics throughout his political career. In opposition, his practical approach to politics kept the torch of accountability burning in Kenyan institution. When he became President, the economic policies he enacted set Kenya on the path of sustainable development that will be built on by successive governments. Regionally, President Kibaki earned the respect of his peers because of his work on regional stability.

He oversaw the conclusion of the historic Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) between the Sudan Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), which ended one of Africa's longest civil wars. He Picked up the quest to end the Sudanese civil war from where President Moi left it off. As we mourn this iconic leader, let us remain inspired by his approach to politics and dedication to public service, the attributes which earned him respect both in Kenya and internationally.

I pray that God gives President Kibaki's family and those who are mourning him the comfort they need during this difficult hour to cope with this enormous loss. With my deepest sympathies.

5. H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of the Republic of Djibouti

It is my duty to convey to you, on behalf of the People and Government of Djibouti and in my own name, my sad condolences and my deepest sympathy and solidarity, following the death of the former Kenyan President, the late Mwai Kibaki. Djibouti sympathizes with the late Mwai Kibaki's death as an icon and a source of culture and worthy political and intellectual heritage that can be used to address challenges with serenity, clarity and success. An inveterate patriot, he was able to gain the unanimous esteem of his countrymen for his pragmatism and his talent as an enlightened and visionary leader. He will have undoubtedly marked the history of his country, has I have also been involved in a number of emblematic reforms, including Vision 2030 development plan which is still in effect in Kenya.

6. H.E. Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed "Farmajo", President of the Federal Republic of Somalia

We have been deeply saddened by the news of the passing away of Kenya's former President Mwai Kibaki. In my name and on behalf of the Somali people and Government, I would like to offer my sincere condolences to you, Your Excellency, and through you to the Government and people of Kenya as a whole. President Kibaki will be long remembered for his achievements during his tenure especially the role he played in Kenya's socio-economic transformation, peace, development and security. As we stand united in mourning and join you and the people of Kenyan in grief, my condolences, once again, to Your Excellency, the bereaved family and all Kenyans. We lost a great leader and a true Pan-Africanist.

7. H.E. Dr. Emmerson D. Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe

It is with a great sense of shock and grief that I learnt of the passing on of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya on 22nd April, 2022. On behalf of the Government and people of Zimbabwe and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to convey our deepest condolences to you, and through you to the Kibaki family and the people of the Republic of Kenya, on the sad loss of the man who spent most of his adult life in the service of his country. His death has robbed the people of Kenya and Africa, of a distinguished statesman who fought for the development of Kenya and the continent at large. The people of Zimbabwe stand with the Government and the people of Kenya during this sad moment. We in Zimbabwe, pray that the bereaved family and the entire Kenya nation may find solace in the very rich legacy of nation-building left behind by the late former Head of State. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

8. H.E. Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa

On behalf of the Government and people of South Africa, I extended condolences to the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya following the passing away of former Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki. We send our deepest condolences to the family of former President Kibaki and to the people of Kenya in general. We mourn with them and share in their loss.

9. H.E. Nana Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana

This is to express my condolences and sympathies of the people and government of Ghana to President Uhuru Kenyatta, the people and Government of Kenya on the sad loss of the Third President of Kenya H.E. Mwai Kibaki, who gave so much of his life to the public service of his people and country. May His Soul Rest in perfect Peace with God's blessings.



Tributes

10. H.E. Dr. Mokgweetsi Eric Keabetswe Masisi, President of the Republic of Botswana

It was with profound sadness that I learnt of the demise of former President Mwai Kibaki on Friday 22nd April, 2022. On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Botswana, and indeed my own behalf, I wish to convey to you, to the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya, our deepest condolences and sympathies. Former President Kibaki will be remembered for his contribution to Kenya's development efforts through structured engagements between Government and the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA), as well as the Presidential Roundtable. Our thoughts and prayers are with the bereaved family. May you find solace in His Almighty our Lord, during this difficult period. May the Soul of the departed rest in eternal peace. President Kibaki championed the cause of democracy and unity on Kenya and beyond.

11. H.H. Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al-Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar.

I want to extend to Your Excellency and, through you, to your friendly people, my sincere condolences and sympathy on the sorrowful passing away of the Kenya's former President, H.E. the late Mwai Kibaki. Particularly to his bereaved family. May the Almighty God grant the departed soul His mercy and rest it in peace. H.E. Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hamad Al Thani, Deputy Amir of the State of Qatar On the sorrowful passing away of Kenya's former President H.E. the late Mwai Kibaki, I want to express my sincere condolences and sympathy to your Excellency and, through you, to his bereaved family. May the Almighty God grant the departed soul His mercy and rest it in peace. H. E. Sheikh Khalid Bin Khalifa Bin Abdul Aziz Al Thani, Prime Minister and Minister of Interior of the State of Qatar.

On behalf of the State of Qatar and my own behalf, I want to convey, on the sorrowful passing away of Kenya's former President, H.E. the late Mwai Kibaki, our sincere condolences and sympathies to Your Excellency and, through you, to his bereaved family. May the Almighty God grant the departed soul His mercy and rest it in peace.

12. H.H. Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, Crown Prince of the State of Kuwait

I have received the news of the death of the former President of the Republic of Kenya Hon. Mwai Kibaki who had remarkable contributions to the service of the country. I express to you, Excellency, and to the people of the friendly Republic of Kenya and to the family of the deceased my sincere condolences and my sincere sympathy, as I ask Almighty God to pour wide mercy the deceased and to his relatives' patience.

13. H.E. Narendra Modi, President of the Republic of India

We mourn the sad demise of former President Mwai Kibaki, whose contributions to India-Kenya relations, including through his participation in Inia-Africa Forum Summits in 2008 and 2011, will be remembered. Our thoughts and sympathies are with his family, friends and all Kenyans.

14. H.E. Silvio Jose Albuquerque e Silva, President of the Federative Republic of Brazil

The Government of Brazil would like to convey its heartfelt condolences to the family of the late former President, the Kenyan Government as well as the people of Kenya, for the immense loss of a loved one and distinguished politician. His H.E. Mwai Kibaki's memory will be honoured for his courageous leadership during his tenure as President of the Republic of Kenya. He will also be remembered for his legacy of dedication and courage, pragmatic leadership and his distinguished academic work.

15. H.E. President Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi

It is with deep sorrow and sadness that I learnt of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of Kenya. My deepest condolences to his family, to my brother H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta and to all.

16. H. E. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi

I have learnt with profound sorrow the passing on of the late H. E. Mr. Mwai Kibaki, the Third President of the Republic of Kenya on 22nd April, 2022. I extend deepest condolences to the family of the late President and the People of Kenya on the demise of this illustrious Son of Kenya.

17. H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia

Deeply saddened to learn of the death of third President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Mwai Kibaki. We extend our profound condolences to the bereaved family and to the people of Kenya on the passing away of this great son of Africa. May His Soul Rest in Peace.

18. Most Honourable Andrew Holness, ON, PC, MP, Prime Minister of Jamaica

It is with much sadness that I have learnt of the passing of former President Mwai Kibaki. On behalf of the Government and people of Jamaica, I extend our sincere condolences to the Government and people of Kenya as you mourn the passing of one of Kenya's distinguished statesmen. President Kibaki's commitment to the self determination of the Kenyan people, as demonstrated by his participation in the drafting of the 1963 Constitution of Kenya, as well as his efforts to promote economic and social development, are legacies that will continue to shape Kenya's future. Indeed, his designation as one of the 'Top 100 People in the World with the potential to lead' by Time Magazine in 1974, foretold the various capacities in which he would later serve his country including as President, Vice President and in various ministerial capacities. His was a life of dedication and service. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, as well as the Government and people of Kenya, during this time of bereavement. May he Rest in Peace.

19. H.E. Mr. Cleopas Siphos Dlamini, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Eswatini

I have it in command by His Majesty, King Mswati III of the Kingdom of Eswatini, as well as on my own, to express our heartfelt condolences on the passing of former President Mwai Kibaki, a man that was held in high respect within the Republic of Kenya. Recounting the resolute contributions that the former President made with transforming the politics of Kenya and encouraging East African Immigration, his fighting spirit for the greater good, will forever be remembered. May the Almighty God be with his family and loved ones in this dark hour of bereavement.

20. Ministry of Foreign Affairs China

Kindly accept the condolences on behalf of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, on the passing on of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, the Third President of the Republic of Kenya. H.E. Mr. Kibaki was a great leader of Kenya and an old friend of the Chinese people, who made great contribution to the development of the China-Kenya friendly relations. Please accept our deepest condolences and sincerest sympathy to his family.

21. H.E. Takako Suzuki, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Member of the House of Representatives

I would like to express my sincere condolences to his family, the government and the people of Kenya on the occasion of demise of H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the people of Japan, I would like to convey our gratitude for your statement of solidarity when the Great East of Japan earthquake occurred. I would also like to express our gratitude for his Excellency's great effort on the development of friendship and relations between Japan and Kenya.

22. Mr. V. Tkachenko Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

It is with deep sorrow that we have received the sad news of the passing of the third President of the Republic of Kenya, Mwai Kibaki. President Kibaki was well known in Russia as an outstanding civil servant, who earned his well-deserved authority in the eyes of his compatriots and of the world community, and who actively promoted peace and progress in the African continent. On behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation I convey our heartfelt condolences. I kindly convey the words of support and sympathy to Mr. Kibaki's loved ones.



Tributes

22. H.E. Isaac Herzog, President of the State of Israel

I was saddened to learn of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, and wish to convey my sincere condolences to the Kenyan nation for this loss. Mr. Kibaki was a committed and competent leader responsible for stimulating growth and progress that greatly contributed to the wellbeing of his countrymen. He earned the respect of his own people as well as of countries around the world, the State of Israel among them. On behalf of the State of Israel, I relay my deepest sympathies.

23. H.E. Sauli Niinisto, President, Republic of Finland

I was saddened to receive the news of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the people of Finland and on my own behalf, I would like to express my deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Kibaki and the people of Kenya.

24. H.E. János Áder, President of the Republic of Hungary.

It is with deep sorrow that I have learned about the passing away of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, the third President of the Republic of Kenya. He was a significant personality in the political life of Kenya, and his tireless work for the progress of his country remains an example for all. Let me express my sincere condolences to Your Excellency, to the mourning family and to the people of Kenya.

25. H.E. (Ret) General Prayut Chan-o-cha, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

I was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the Royal Thai Government and the people of the Kingdom of Thailand, I wish to express my deepest sympathy and condolences to Your Excellency, the bereaved family of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, the Government and the bereaved family of President Kibaki, the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya on this irreparable loss. His Excellency's tireless dedication and great service to his country will always be remembered.

26. H.E. Don Pramudwinai, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand

I learned with deep sorrow of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. During this time of grief, I would like to extend my profound condolences to the bereaved family of President Kibaki and the people of the Republic of Kenya for this great loss. He will always be remembered for his great contribution to the development of Kenya.

27. H.E. Anayansi Rodriguez Camejo, Vice Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cuba

With deep sorrow we have learned the deceased of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. Last 22nd April. We deeply regret the loss of such important figure for the Kenyan people. On behalf of the Government and the Cuban people I express my deepest condolences.

28. H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc. President, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam

I am deeply saddened by the demise of H.E. Former President of the Republic of Kenya Mwai Kibaki on 22nd April, 2022. H.E. Mwai Kibaki made significant contributions in construction and development of the country. The passing away of H.E. Mwai Kibaki is a great loss for the State and the people of Kenya. On behalf of the State of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, the people of Viet Nam and on my own behalf, may I convey to You and by Your Excellency, to the State, people of Kenya and to the relatives of H.E. Mwai Kibaki our deepest condolences.

29.H.E. Wavel Ramkalawan, President of the Republic of Seychelles

It is with great sadness that I learnt of the passing of H.E Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the Government and people of the Republic of Seychelles, and on my own behalf, I offer my deepest and heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and loved ones of the former President, and to the people of the Republic of Kenya. May they find comfort and strengthen during this time of grief. H.E. Kibaki will be remembered for his longstanding political career spanning over decades and his dedicated service to the people of Kenya. In reiterating our sincere condolences, please accept Your Excellency, the assurances on my highest consideration.

30. H.E. Brahim Ghali, President of the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic

It is with deep sorrow and sadness that I learnt of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the People Sahrawi Republic and my own, I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the people of the Republic of Kenya and to the family of President Kibaki. By passing on of the third President of Kenya, Africa has lost one of its finest sons and a dedicated public servant. He dedication to the economic transformation of Kenya and his work towards regional integration will be remembered for many generations. Excellency, the people of Sahrawi Republic stand with Kenya in this sorrowful time. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

31. H.E. Mahmoud Abbas, President of the State of Palestine

We send Your Excellency and the People of Kenya, in the name of the State of Palestine and its People, our heartfelt condolences for the passing of H.E. Mr. Mwai Kibaki, Kenya's former President, the distinguished politician and outstanding economist who dedicated his life to serve his nation and people. We call on God to bless the late President Kibaki with eternal compassion and peace in his death, and to bestow upon You and his honourable family ultimate patience and serenity, and appropriate condolence, and to protect You and Your people from all harms.

32. Government of the State of Eritrea

It is with deep sorrow that I extend my sincere condolences on behalf of my government for passing of Kenya's former President H.E. Mwai Kibaki. I wish to express our condolences to the government and people of Kenya during this difficult period.

33. Senator Dr. The Most Honorable Jerome Walcott, Minister of Foreign Affairs & Foreign Trade, Barbados

On behalf of the Government and people of Barbados, I extend sincere condolences to the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya on the passing of H.E. Hon. Mwai Kibaki, the third President of the Republic of Kenya. Former President Kibaki will be remembered as one of the lead architects of Kenya's post-independence legacy, overseeing the adoption of a new constitution, enacting transformational policies for economic development, expending education through the launch of free primary schooling and the further expansion of access to healthcare, all of which reflected his firm commitment to social empowerment and human rights for all Kenyans. He will also be remembered for his commitment to regionalism, his advocacy for the expansion of the East African Community, and his championship of freedom of movement and trade liberalization within the regional block. Indeed, his is a legacy of service not only to Kenya, but to the African continent and the Global South at large.

34. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union

It is with sadness that I learnt of the passing of former President Mwai Kibaki that occurred on 23rd April, 2022. On behalf of the African Union Commission and on my behalf, I wish to express my sincere condolences to his family, Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya. Africa has lost a statesman, a brilliant economist and a champion of regional cooperation in the East Africa region. We pray for the peaceful repose of his soul and offer our prayers to his family in this time of sorrow.

35. Commission of the African Union's Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU IBAR)

It is indeed a sad news to learn that Kenya has lost such a Great Statesman and Pan Africanist who worked tirelessly to change the lives of the Kenyan people through many of his achievements during his tenure. We stand with the Kenyan nation during this mourning period and pray that the Almighty God grant you strength and serenity during this period. And may H.E. Mwai Kibaki's soul in eternal peace.



Tributes

36. Rt. Hon. Patricia Scotland QC, Commonwealth Secretary-General, London

I am deeply saddened to learn of the passing away of former President Mwai Kibaki. On behalf of the Commonwealth, I wish to convey my heartfelt condolences to his family and to the Government and people of Kenya at this time of great loss. The Commonwealth family have lost a leader and a great advocate, who demonstrated passion and commitment towards advancing the shared values and aspirations of our Commonwealth of Nations. The legacy that Mr. Kibaki leaves behind is one that we can all be proud of and should aspire to emulate. He was an example of the best that the Commonwealth can offer and will be warmly remembered for his personal integrity. During this time of grief, I wish to reassure you and the nation of the abiding solidarity and unflinching support of the Commonwealth.

37. East Africa Community Secretariat

East Africa Community Secretariat conveys deepest sympathy to the family, Government and people of the Republic of Kenya following the demise of H. E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya.

38. Amb. João Samuel Caholo, Executive Secretary, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, Bujumbura

I am saddened to learn of the passing on of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, the former President of the Republic of Kenya. Indeed, the country as well as the Great Lakes Region has lost a great leader. The ICGLR will remember H.E. President Kibaki as one of the Founding Fathers of our organization and who participated in among others, the signing of the Pact on Security, Stability and Stability in the Great Lakes Region in Nairobi in 2006. He ensured the implementation of the ideals of the Pact as demonstrated in the key roles he played in the negotiations between the Democratic Republic of Congo and the M23, the signing of the Peace Agreement between the Sudanese Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement as well as the resolution of the crisis in South Sudan. On behalf of the staff at the ICGLR Secretariat and on my own behalf, I extend my profound condolences to your Excellency, to the bereaved family and the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya during this period of mourning. May his soul rest in peace.

39. Mr. Elias M. Magosi, Executive Secretary, Southern African Development Community Secretariat.

I have learnt with deep sadness the passing on of the third President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Mwai Kibaki who died on 21st April, 2022 at the age of 90. On behalf of the SADC Secretariat, and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to convey our heartfelt condolences and prayers to you, the people of Kenya and indeed the bereaved family for this great loss. With the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, the Republic of Kenya and the African continent at large, have lost a great statesman and a Pan-Africanist who dedicated his entire life to public service, having served, among other key positions, as member of Parliament, Minister of Finance, Vice President and later a President of this great Republic.

40. Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group

It is with profound sorrow that I have learnt of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, C.G.H, the third and former President of the Republic of Kenya. President Kibaki was a valued friend and partner of the African Development Bank. During his presidency, the Bank partnered with the Government of Kenya to construct the Nairobi-Thika Superhighway, which is a landmark and one of the biggest infrastructural projects in Kenya that drives the country's economic development and fosters regional integration. As a distinguished African statesman and renowned economist, President Kibaki was steadfast in advancing economic growth and wellbeing for all Kenyans. He leaves a remarkable legacy that will remain indelible for many decades to come.

On this very sad moment, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, Senior Management and staff of the African Development Bank, I wish to express our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolence to your Excellency, the family of President Kibaki and to the Government and people of Kenya. May God give you comfort and solace during this difficult period. May his soul of our dearly beloved late President Kibaki rest in peace.

41. Mrs. Zainab Hawa Bangura, Under-Secretary-General & Director-General, United Nations Office in Nairobi

The United Nations Office at Nairobi wishes to express its sincere condolences to the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya on the death of the third President of Kenya, H.E. Emilio Mwai Kibaki, who passed away on 21 April 2022, at the age of 90. UNON also extends its deepest sympathy to his bereaved family during this period of great sorrow.

42. United Nations Human Settlements Programme

UN-HABITAT conveys its condolence to the family, the Government and the People of Kenya following the demise of the former President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Mr. Mwai Kibaki on Friday, 22nd April, 2022. President Kibaki will be remembered for his legacy of civic responsibility in Kenya, for his patriotic leadership in ensuring national economic growth and for championing peace in the region.

43. Mr. Siddhart Chatterjee, UN Resident Coordinator in China

We at the UN family in China are deeply saddened to hear about the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. Mr. Kibaki was a prominent Kenyan statesman and a great economist. He has left behind a united and prosperous Kenya with free primary education, infrastructure developments in transport and energy, increased access to healthcare and more legacies that set the country on a promising path of transformational development. As commended by Mr. Antonio Guterres, the UN Secretary-General, "President Kibaki will be remembered as a leader who made an important contribution to the development of Kenya," something I have seen firsthand having lived in Kenya from 2004 to 2008 and subsequently from 2014 to 2020.

On behalf of the United Nations Country Team in China, I extend my sincere condolences on the passing of H.E. Mr. Kibaki, our heartfelt sympathies go to Mr. Kibaki's family and the people and government of Kenya.

44. Mr. Qu Dongyu, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

It is with sadness that I have learned of the demise of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations and on my own behalf please accept our heartfelt condolences to the family and the people of Kenya.

45. Ms. Audrey Azoulay, Director-General, UNESCO

It was with immense sorrow that I learned of the passing of H.E. Mr. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of UNESCO, and my own name, I wish to extend to his family, his friends and the entire country my deepest sympathy for the loss of such an inspiring leader.

Indeed, Mr. Kibaki devoted his life to his country, playing a significant role in Kenya's independence, socio-economic transformation, peace, development and security. In addition, as a staunch advocate for Africa, he made an outstanding contribution to the international community and diplomacy.

This engagement was clear in Mr. Kibaki's role as UNESCO Special Envoy for Water in Africa. His deep commitment to addressing water-related issues was visible in his work to make education central to water initiatives, to encourage sustainable water management, and to support access to safe water in communities. In all these efforts, he promoted the role of science and technology in African development, carrying high the values of our Organization.

As this allows, Mr. Kibaki's vision resonated greatly with the mandate of UNESCO. I have no doubt that his spirit and dynamism will continue to guide us for many years to come.



Tributes

46. H.E. Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Secretary General, League of Arab States

It is with great sadness that I have to express to you my most sincere condolences on the passing of the former President Mwai Kibaki. President Kibaki was a remarkable and exceptional leader and personal friend for years. He will surely be remembered for his distinguished record of public service, and his significant contributions for the prosperity of the people of Kenya. Our deepest sympathies, thoughts and prayers are with all his family and the people of the Republic of Kenya during this time of sorrow.

47. Government of Slovak Republic

The People of Slovak Republic would like to express our heartfelt condolences to the government and people of the Republic of Kenya on the passing away of H.E. Mwai Kibaki. Former President of the Republic of Kenya on 22nd April, 2022. During this time of national mourning, our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Kenya, particularly with the family of the former President. We share the sense of grief in the loss of an iconic leader and visionary statesman and honour his legacy as a true and dedicated public servant.

48. European Union

On behalf of the European Union, the EU Delegation to Kenya conveys its sincere condolences to the family and friends of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, to H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, C.G.H., President of the Republic of Kenya, and to the Kenyan people on the passing away of the former President of the Republic of Kenya. With the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, not just Kenya, but East Africa and the global community as a whole, have lost a true elder statesman who dedicated his life to public service. His achievements for Kenya since independence in many different roles – as President, Member of Parliament, and Leader of the Opposition – are innumerable. Many Europeans will remember H.E. Mwai Kibaki foremost as the flagbearer, and then implementer, of Kenya's return to fully fledged multi-party democracy. For this achievement, he retains Europeans' sincerest respect and admiration.

49. International Civil Aviation Organization

It is with deep regret that we learned about the passing away of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, third President of the Republic of Kenya. On behalf of the President of the ICAO Council, the Secretary-General of ICAO and the entire staff at EASF Regional office in Nairobi, kindly accept our sincere and heartfelt condolences. Our heartfelt condolences to the Government of Kenya and to the family of President Kibaki and we pray for comfort and peace to the citizens of the Republic of Kenya. May his soul rest in Peace.

50. Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, Former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria

I commiserated with the Government and people of the Republic of Kenya over the death of the former President Mwai Kibaki. President Kibaki was a distinguished African statesman and leader who was humble and reform-minded. A brilliant technocrat who left a legacy of strong economic growth and impressive infrastructure, especially with his exemplary grassroots development projects. He was brilliant technocrat who earned tremendous respect of the Kenyan people because of his track record while serving his country in different capacities as a scholar, parliamentarian, cabinet minister and President.

51. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, Former President of the United Republic of Tanzania

I receive with shock, sadness and sorrow, news of the untimely passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, former President of the Republic of Kenya. I wish to convey my deepest condolences and sympathies to you and through you to the bereaved family and the great people of Kenya. My wife Salma and I would like to inform you that we share your grief and join you in mourning the death of one of Kenya's great sons and leader. Your loss is our loss and your pain is our too for we were close to President Kibaki and his dear wife Lucy. That is why I attended the burial of the late Lucy Kibaki in Othaya.

During his leadership, President Kibaki distinguished himself as being our leader as much as he was Kenya's. I have firsthand knowledge and experience of how much he cared about promoting good relations between Kenya and Tanzania. He left a strong legacy which has translated into excellent relations which so happily exist between our two friendly countries. President Mwai Kibaki worked tirelessly to advance the East African integration agenda.

The East Africa Community and the East African cooperation and integration process is what it is today, thanks in many ways to his immense contribution. He was, also, a great Pan-Africanist who wholeheartedly championed African unity and integration. I am not Kenyan, but I can dare say that the people of Kenya were lucky to have had Mwai Kibaki as President at the time he served.

He was a wise and responsible leader who did not hesitate to do what he believed served the best interest of his country and the people of Kenya. One example I can give as testimony to this is with regard to his exemplary leadership during his talks with ODM leader, my brother, Raila Odinga, aimed at resolving the crisis following the 2007 Kenya elections. I joined the talks at the invitation of President Mwai Kibaki when there was an impasse.

As you may recall the talks were being led by Kofi Annan, the former Secretary General of the United Nations. President Kibaki demonstrated the highest level of leadership skills and responsibility. It needed a strong, courageous and visionary leader like him to take the bold decision which gave Kenya, the Agreement which ended the crisis and guaranteed peace to the people of this great nation. I vividly remembered the decisive words he said which took Kenya from the brink. He said: "so be it". My dear brother President Kenyatta, I am sorry I would not be able to join you and the people of Kenya at the funeral of this great leader of our time, but I will be with you in spirit, praying for a smooth event. I promise to come and see you and the bereaved family at the earliest possible opportunity. May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace. Amen.

52. Makerere University

Makerere University has learned with deepest sadness of the passing of one of our most outstanding alumnus, former President of Kenya, H. E. Dr. Mwai Kibaki. The memory of this Gallant son of Makerere University and now blessed ancestor will forever be etched in our hearts. H. E. Dr. Kibaki graduated top of his class with a First-Class Honours Degree (BA) in Economics in 1955. He was a resident of the University Hall. In recognition of his distinguished and outstanding contribution to public service at thenational, regional and international levels, Makerere University bestowed him Honorary Doctorate of Laws upon H. E. Dr. Kibaki on 24th January, 2012 during the 62nd Graduation Ceremony. May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

53. Dr. Akinwumi A. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group

It is with profound sorrow that I have learnt of the passing of H.E. Mwai Kibaki, C.G.H, the third and former President of the Republic of Kenya. President Kibaki was a valued friend and partner of the African Development Bank. During his presidency, the Bank partnered with the Government of Kenya to construct the Nairobi-Thika Superhighway, which is a landmark and one of the biggest infrastructural projects in Kenya that drives the country's economic development and fosters regional integration. As a distinguished African statesman and renowned economist, President Kibaki was steadfast in advancing economic growth and wellbeing for all Kenyans. He leaves a remarkable legacy that will remain indelible for many decades to come. On this very sad moment, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, Senior Management and staff of the African Development Bank, I wish to express our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolence to your Excellency, the family of President Kibaki and to the Government and people of Kenya. May God give you comfort and solace during this difficult period. May his soul of our dearly beloved late President Kibaki rest in peace.



Tributes

54. H.E. Rebecca Nyandeng de Mabior, Vice President & Chair of gender and Youth cluster, Republic of South Sudan

I was deeply saddened to receive the news of the passing of the former President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Mwai Kibaki. It is not only Kenya, but the entire continent that has lost a staunch Pan-Africanist and a humbled servant. Although we may meet this news with sadness, we must not forget to celebrate his vibrant and extensive legacy. History will forever remember Mzee Kibaki for the central role he played in the facilitation, negotiation and eventually the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) ON January 9th, 2005 in Nairobi.

President Kibaki was photographed alongside our late hero Dr. John Garang de Mabior and Ali Osman Taha, in a moment that forever changed the history of the Sudan and ultimately gave birth the world's youngest nation.

When I lost my husband and our nation lost its leader, in 2005, President Kibaki was quick to reach out to me and my family to provide support and comfort. Under his presidency, Kenya spared no effort in the remembrance of the Dr. John Garang de Mabior, May their spirits rest in eternal peace.

My thoughts and prayers are with the entire Kibaki family during this difficult time. I pray that they are able to find courage in his resounding legacy. The people of South Sudan will forever cherish his memory.

55. Mr. Lucas Kamau, Kenya Community Chairperson's Council in the United Kingdom On behalf of Kenyans living in the United Kingdom,

I offer our deepest sympathy on the passing of former President H.E. Mwai Kibaki.

President Kibaki steadfastly steered Kenya's economy through turbulent economic times with wisdom and foresight creating a conducive atmosphere for investors which saw the Kenyan economy rapidly grow. He boasts of a long public service and his legacy includes, ushering in economic reforms and a new constitution for Kenya, initiating free primary school education and establishment of infrastructure throughout the country. We honour his legacy and mourn his loss alongside his family and friends.





The A-Z about the 9th Africities Summit in Kisumu, Kenya



#Africities

www.africities.org

Kisumu, Kenya's third-largest city, will host the 9th Edition of the Africities Summit from 17th to 21st May 2022.

This is a historic feat because Kisumu will be the first intermediary City to host this important Pan-African event that is expected to attract more than 8,000 delegates to lakeside city.

- 1. What is Africities?** The Africities is the United Cities and Local Governments of Africa's (UCLGA) flagship pan-African event that is held every three years in one of the five regions of Africa. Kisumu is the first intermediary city to host the summit. Kenya last hosted this event in 2006, in Nairobi.
- 2. Where is the venue?** The Summit will be held at the Mamboleo ASK show grounds in the outskirts of the city, approximately 7 kilometers from the city center.
- 3. What is the theme of the summit?** The 9th Africities Summit will be held under the theme: "The role of African intermediary cities in the implementation of the United Nations' Agenda 2030 and the African Union's Agenda 2063". Scholars, political leaders, and policymakers have prepared volumes of presentations to capture this theme.
- 4. How does one register for the summit?** Registration for the summit is only online and is ongoing at <https://africities.org/registration/>. There is online support available for you on the registration page in case you need further assistance.

- 5. How can one participate as an exhibitor during the summit?** To register as an exhibitor, visit www.africities.org and under registration, select exhibitor. Provide required details.
- 6. Does one need a vaccination certificate to attend the Summit?** A vaccination certificate is not required to attend the event but a negative PCR test needs to be provided.
- 7. I'm a journalist looking to be accredited for the Summit. How do I go about it?** To register visit www.africities.org and under registration, select media accreditation.
- 8. I would like to register my home for consideration for summit guests' accommodation. How can I do it?** Registration for homestays is ongoing online on the Kisumu County Government website; Visit www.kisumu.go.ke and scroll down on the homepage on how to register or use the link; <https://www.kisumu.go.ke/africities-homestays-registration/> If you have more questions call Gabriel Osendo on 0721 887514
- 9. I am a business owner and would like to sell my wares during the summit. How do I register for this?** There will be two business bazaars; one right outside the conference venue and another in the CBD at the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Sports Ground where a cultural village will be established for the duration of the Summit. To register for either of bazaars visit www.visitkisumu.go.ke or www.kisumu.go.ke or call Bovince Ochieng' on 0723106411 bovinceo@gmail.com

- 10. What is the importance of Africities to Kenya as a country, Kisumu County, and the common man?** The Africities summit comes with both short and long term benefits to Kenya. The National and the County governments, especially those in the Lake Region Economic Bloc, will ride on the summit to showcase their investment opportunities.

Kenya will benefit from the Africities Investment Forum, a unique platform for networking and debate between the business community and the political and territorial decision-makers.

There is an anticipated economic boom as Kenya and Kisumu house, feed, transport and entertain the visitors.

SMEs and wananchi selling artefacts and other products at the local markets, and the boda boda riders will have a taste of the cake.

Kisumu has already benefited from the immense infrastructural projects such as the improvement of roads, the construction of the International Convention Center, and the beautification of the City. Kisumu will never be the same.

Join us in Kisumu from 17th to 21st May 2022 at the Africities Summit, and be part of this historic meeting where Africa will be defining her new development trajectory for intermediary cities.

For more information, visit the UCLG Africa website: www.uclga.org

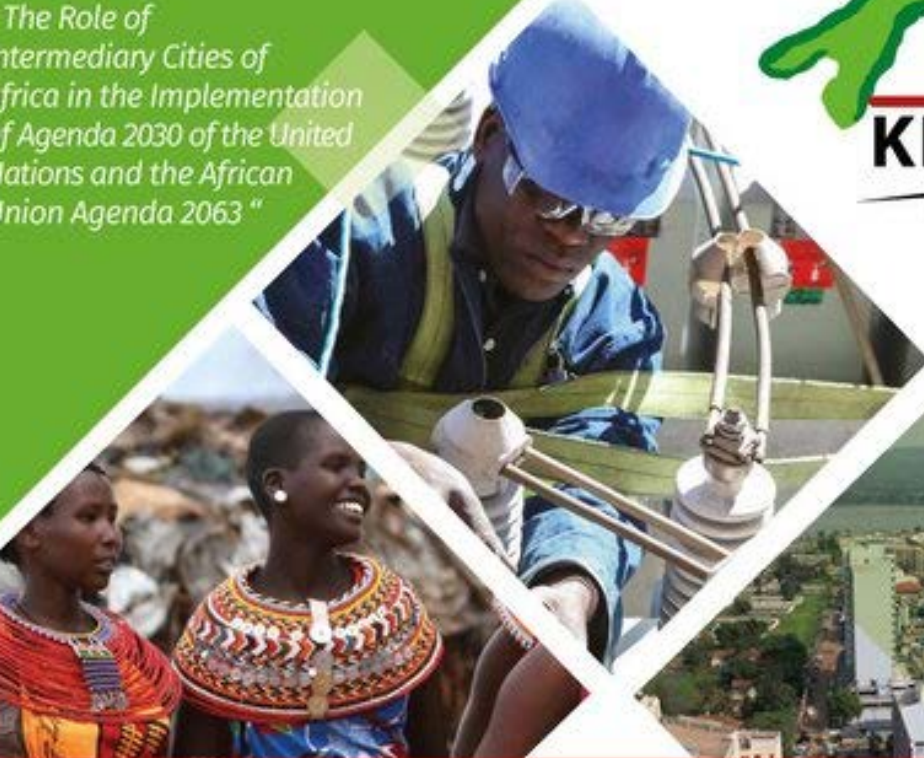
Under the High Patronage of His Excellency
Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya

9th Africities Summit

The Role of
Intermediary Cities of
Africa in the Implementation
of Agenda 2030 of the United
Nations and the African
Union Agenda 2063 "



17 - 21 May 2022



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FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE



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A peaceful, prosperous and globally
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MISSION

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interests and image globally
through innovative diplomacy, and
contribute towards a just, peaceful
and equitable world.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
HARAMBEE AVENUE
P.O. BOX 30551—GPO 00100
NAIROBI
TEL: +254 20 4949 000
+254 20 331 8888

Website: www.mfa.go.ke
Twitter: @ForeignOfficeKE
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