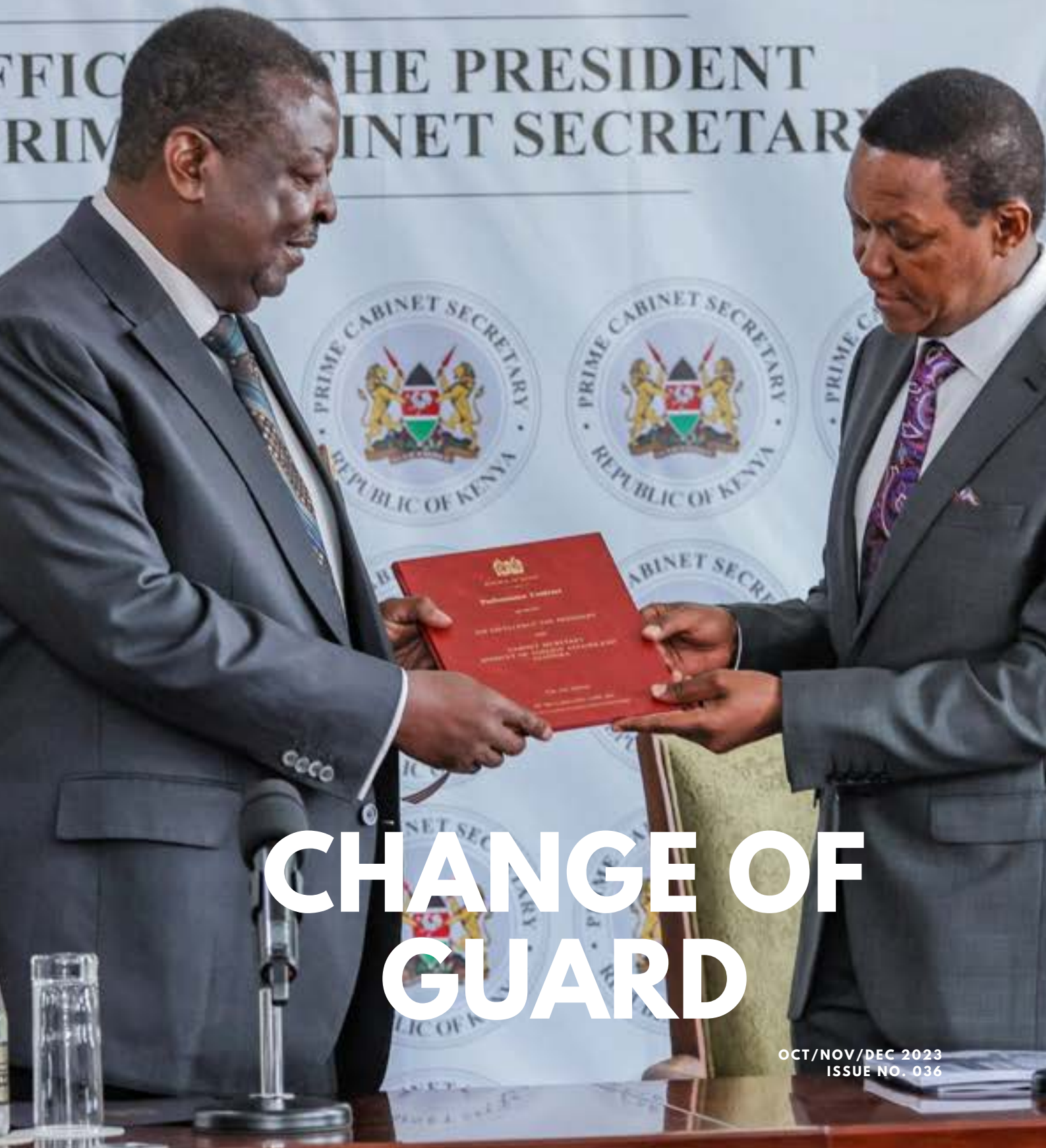




E-NEWSLETTER Diplomacy

A Publication of the State Department For Foreign Affairs

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
PRIME MINISTER AND
PRIME CABINET SECRETARY



CHANGE OF GUARD

OCT/NOV/DEC 2023
ISSUE NO. 036



MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AND
DIASPORA AFFAIRS

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

DIPLOMACY

E-NEWSLETTER

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H.E. President Dr. William Ruto addresses the newly appointed diplomats at State House, Nairobi on December 7, 2023

President Ruto sends off newly appointed envoys after extensive induction program

By *Glenna Moturi*

On December 7, 2023, H.E. President Dr. William Ruto sent off the newly appointed Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Consuls General and Deputy Heads of Mission to their respective countries of accreditation.

In his address to the envoys, the President urged the recently appointed diplomats to forge connections, create networks, and speak out on behalf of Kenya's interests overseas. He encouraged the ambassadors to look for fresh overseas business ventures for Kenyans and market the country as a desirable location for investments.

The 41 Diplomats undertook a three-week induction training conducted by the Foreign Service Academy (FSA) led by Director General, Amb. Kirimi Kaberia. The program was aimed at equipping the envoys to manage their future role as foreign representatives and promote Kenya's image and interests abroad.

In his keynote address during the induction opening ceremony, Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Korir Singoei commended the diplomats on joining the Foreign Service at a very momentous time for Kenya saying the induction would help them serve and transform Kenya's diplomatic landscape in pursuit of the country's strategic interest globally.

The extensive training curriculum under the general theme of "Understanding our Country" covered a wide range of diplomatic topics breaking down the country's history, profile, environment, values and interests as well as day-to-day management and operations of missions abroad.



On December 1, 2023, following the conclusion of the induction program the envoys took part in a diplomatic Golf clinic and tournament held by Thika Greens Golf Resort. Later, they took part in a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) project at Ng'ate Primary School in Murang'a County in an attempt to give back to the community. The Diplomats supplied food items to the students and building materials to fix the school's leaky roof.

In his address during the CSR event, Amb. George Orina, the Chief Guest and Ambassador-Designate to Ethiopia, emphasized the value of education and pushed students to put in more effort. He underlined how education has the capacity to advance people's career.

As part of the induction program the Diplomats toured the Konza Technopolis City in Makueni County on December 4, 2023. The delegation was received by the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. John Paul Okwiri and Konza staff who made presentations to the diplomats and undertook a site visit of the facilities to promote investment opportunities in the smart city.

Continued on page 4...



President Ruto sends off newly appointed envoys after extensive induction



The envoys conducted a tour of Kenya Airways on December 5, 2023. The visit provided an opportunity to explore the possible linkages in their new assignment for the expansion of trade, while promoting KQ's freight capacity.

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The purpose of the visit was to enlighten the new envoys on the investment and technological opportunities that Konza Technopolis holds as a key flagship project of Kenya's Vision 2030 economic pillar and part of H.E. President William Ruto's BETA Plan under the Digital Superhighway Agenda that seeks to transform Kenya's digital landscape to generate employment and grow the GDP.

The envoys were encouraged to promote Kenya, especially Konza Technopolis as an investment hub that offers an array of opportunities for investors. In line with H.E. President Ruto's conservation initiative to grow 15 billion trees by 2032; they planted trees at the Konza Park.

Later, the envoys were hosted by the Kenya Airways Group (KQ) Management, led by the Group Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Allan Kilavuka, for a tour and roundtable meeting at the Kenya Airways Pride Center on December 5, 2023. The collaborative initiative by the Foreign Service Academy was themed - 'Building Bridges for Beneficial Strategic Engagement between Kenya Airways Group and Kenyans Missions abroad'.

The roundtable discussions focused on areas of possible collaboration that would contribute to the positioning of KQ as a globally competitive airline, in line with the Economic Pillar of Kenya's Foreign Policy. KQ was applauded for being a leading regional airline and for greatly promoting Kenyan economic interests in Africa and beyond.

The diplomats were hosted by the Director-General United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), Zainab Bangura for a brief tour of UNON in Gigiri, Nairobi.



The newly appointed envoys participated in a CSR activity in Nga'te Primary School, Murang'a County on December 1, 2023. The team of 41 Ambassadors adopted the school, planted trees and donated roofing materials for all the classrooms.

The Director-General UNON congratulated the diplomats on their appointment and shared a brief on UNON's history, future and significance globally and in Kenya. She emphasized the importance of supporting the United Nations (UN) presence in Kenya, which is the only UN headquarters in the global south as well as the only UN duty station that is not only growing in population but also in terms of budget in its role as a service provider to 158 countries and 180 UN duty stations.

Bangura underscored the key role that Kenya and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs plays in supporting and facilitating UNON through cooperation and advocacy.

In his vote of thanks, Amb. George Orina, shared his appreciation with the Director-General for positioning UNON as an important UN Station in the World. He pledged that the Delegates would work hard to advocate for UNON globally and position Nairobi as a vital multilateral hub.



PCS Mudavadi takes over the helm of MFDA

By David Gatobu

Following the cabinet reshuffle by H.E President Dr. William Ruto on October 5, 2023, the Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi was assigned Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs docket, replacing Dr. Alfred Mutua who moved to the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife.

During a handover ceremony held on October 17, 2023, at the Kenya Railway Headquarters, Dr. Mudavadi thanked the President for the honour and confidence bestowed upon him with the additional roles in the new Ministry.

The PCS stated that he is fully aware of the key roles of the Ministry and the impact on Kenya’s social-economic, political and security transformational agenda.

“Kenya’s Foreign Policy will remain aligned to the implementation of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA),” he said, adding that Kenya’s Foreign Policy is an indispensable component in advancing the country’s economic growth and development agenda.

“As we continue to advance our interests globally, we will always be guided by the quest to promote Kenya’s Economic, Cultural, and Environmental Diplomacy” the PSC stated.



Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and Dr. Alfred Mutua during the handover ceremony on October 5, 2023.

PCS Mudavadi welcomed officers from the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs to the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary. He emphasized that together with support from the Ministry’s Foreign Service Corp, he will advance Kenya’s national, regional and global interests, consistent with the principles and objectives that define Kenya’s Foreign Policy, under the guidance of H.E. President Ruto.





Brace yourselves for a competitive diplomatic world - PCS Mudavadi urges staff



PCS Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi joined PS Dr. Korir Singoei and the State Department for Foreign Affairs Staff during the wellness, farewell and awarding ceremony at Ulinzi Sports Complex on December 11, 2023.

By Leonard Kulei

Prime Cabinet Secretary and CS Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E. Hon. Musalia Mudavadi has asked Kenya Foreign Service Officers to prepare for a competitive global space in the face of fast-changing technological revolution.

The PCS reminded staff that Kenya is competing for resources with global citizens who move with technology.

"I ask you to be prepared to work with people with technology in their fingertips. We must race with them if we must win for our country," he noted.

He was speaking at the Ulinzi Sports Complex in Nairobi on December 11, 2023, during a joint wellness, farewell and prize giving day for the Ministry staff. The PCS also feted outstanding staff and Directorates for the fiscal year 2022/2023.



He used the platform to recognize and welcome the newly recruited Third Secretary Cadets indicating they are the future of Kenya diplomacy.

"And to the newly recruited Third Secretaries, I welcome you to the Ministry. You carry the future of our country's Diplomacy," he said.

PCS Mudavadi appreciated the retired officers noting that they have been a pillar of Kenya's Diplomacy. He paid tribute to them noting that they individually and collectively contributed to the milestones in the realization of the country's Foreign Policy objectives.



Continued on page 7



Brace yourselves for a competitive diplomatic world - PCS Mudavadi urges staff



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Hon. Mudavadi made special mention of Kenya's diplomats in Missions across the world saying that they play a critical in protecting national interests. He noted the government is taking every step to address the challenges facing Missions abroad.

Prime Cabinet Secretary also presided over the award ceremony for best performance for 2022/23 financial year. Africa and Africa Union Directorate was awarded as the best performing Division during the event. The Central Planning and Project Monitoring Department (CPPMD) was awarded second runner-up. Directorate of International Conferences, Media and Events (DICE) emerged as third runner-up for its outstanding role at the Ministry. Records Management Unit was the most improved.



PS Abraham Singoei, DG Moi Lemoshira and DG Kirmii Kaberia among other top-ranking staff also attended the event.

Speaking during the event, PS Dr. Korir Singoei expressed sincere appreciation to all staff for their dedication and hard work.

"Today is not only an opportunity for us to focus on wellness and team building but also to celebrate the milestones and achievements that define us as a dynamic and resilient team in the execution of Kenya's Foreign Policy," PS Singoei said

The PS extended his heartfelt gratitude to the retirees whose many years of service have been the bedrock of the Ministry's pursuit of strategic interests globally.

PS Singoei noted that a healthy and cohesive team is the key to achieving strategic objectives.

"Today's activities are designed not only to promote physical and mental well-being but also to strengthen the bonds that unite us as a diplomatic family"

He commended the Best Performing Staff and Most Improved Directorates for their commitment to excellence, innovation and collaboration.

He wished all staff God's blessings during the festive season and a Happy and Prosperous New Year 2024.



AWARDS - Best Performing Departments





Kenya participates at the World Climate Action Summit - COP28 in Dubai

H.E. President Dr. William Ruto delivers speech at the United Nations Climate Change Conference -COP28 in Dubai

By Fatuma Ngwena and Irene Kimeu

H.E. President Dr. William Ruto, led the Kenyan delegation to Dubai, for the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference, commonly referred to as COP28, to make the case for Kenya and Africa regarding global action on carbon emissions and climate change. He was accompanied by the Prime Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Kenya Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi among other government officials.

In his speech, President Ruto highlighted Kenya's leadership position in the fight against climate change, pointing out that Kenya hosted the African Climate Summit (ACS) in September, 2023 which profoundly altered perceptions of Africa's potential. In order to enhance the health and standard of living for millions of people worldwide, the president stated that Kenya will continue to raise its concerns about the situation alongside organizations like the World Bank.

"Tackling climate crisis is an urgent task that calls for prompt and collective effort in transitioning to clean green energy. That is why we must advocate for stronger climate action by setting ambitious renewable energy targets and implementing green policies at all levels of governance," the President said. He added that, "in order to improve industrial de carbonization, the world has to implement clear and practical road maps that will transform Africa into a green powerhouse. A unified global effort will ensure that we mobilise capital for both our development and necessary climate action," said Dr. Ruto .

On the side-lines of the COP28, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Hon. Dr Musalia Mudavadi joined H.E. President Dr. William Ruto in bilateral talks with the Managing Director of Operations at the World Bank Anna Bjerde, on the crisis to improve the health and livelihoods of millions of people in the world.



From the insightful meeting, the World Bank delegation assured H.E. the President that the institution will walk with Kenya in her quest for economic recovery and growth.

The PCS/CS also held bilateral meeting with Azerbaijani Ambassador to the Republic of Kenya Sultan Hajiye and affirmed the commitment for future prosperity. Kenya's bilateral relations with Azerbaijan has seen the two nations collaborate in key sectors of economic advancement for the benefit of the citizens of the two countries.

In a different bilateral meeting, Scotland First Minister, Humza Yousaf paid a courtesy call to Dr Mudavadi, who assured of Kenya's dedication to enhancing cooperation with Scotland, with a focus on exploring areas of mutual benefit and interest.

Significantly, Kenya's participation at the COP28 provided the country with an essential platform for the advancement of the country's bilateral relations with the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as five agreements were signed. Dr. Mudavadi led senior Kenyan government officials in signing the agreements with the government of the UAE.

The Secretary-General of the United Nations António Guterres attended the meeting. Also in attendance were Kenya's Attorney General Hon Justin Muturi and Kenya's Ambassador to the UAE, H.E Amb. Kariuki.



S DFA Launches Historical Treaty Database

By Phillip Wainaina, Glenna Moturi and Fatma Ngwena

On Nov 27, 2023, The State Department for Foreign Affairs launched the first Kenyan Treaty Database (<https://treaties.mfa.go.ke/>) through the Office of the Registrar of Treaties in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), African Union Commission (AUC), the Government of Sweden and different Ministries, Departments and Agencies.

In his keynote address, Dr. Korir Singoei, Principal Secretary State Department for Foreign Affairs applauded everyone who took part in the project, deeming it as a commitment to shaping a future whose diplomacy is efficient, transparent and accessible to all.

The PS underscored the significance of the Treaties that Kenya has ratified as an anchor to multilateralism and the enhancement of a rules-based order. He further stated that, this Database is an important instrument for facilitating civic education for the vindication of rights for those who want to use these treaties and fundamentally for the state to assess the totality of its obligations and the extent of its exposure.



PS Dr. Korir Singoei with partners during the launch of the Kenya Treaty Database on November 27, 2023

The Treaty Database is an online repository that contains comprehensive information on the Multilateral treaties, Bilateral Agreements and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) concluded by the Republic of Kenya. It also contains Publications of His Excellency the President's Reports on the progress made by Kenya in fulfilling its international obligations and the Cabinet Secretary's reports on treaties ratified by Kenya. The online platform streamlines Kenya's Treaty management processes, enhances accessibility, transparency and provides an extensive depository of our nation's commitment to the global community.

This historical Database enables diplomats, legal experts, international stakeholders, diaspora citizens, educational institutions, both public and private to access and analyse information on Kenya's Treaty obligations. Kenya has ratified 252 treaties, has signed but not ratified 11 treaties, and is a member of 84 international organisations.

The Treaty Database is a digital interface that facilitates the implementation of one of the 5 strategic pillars of BETA i.e., Digital Superhighway and creative economy. It is a timely and vital information resource base that aims to improve Kenya's ability to embrace digital diplomacy and participate competitively in the global digital sector.



PS Dr. Korir Singoei gives key note address during the historical Kenya Treaty Database Launch on November 27, 2023



23rd Ordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State and Government in Tanzania



H.E. President Dr. William Ruto participates during the East Africa Community (EAC) Heads of State and Government in Arusha on November 24, 2023.

By Amb. Josphat Maikara

His Excellency President Dr. William Ruto was among the East Africa Community (EAC) Heads of State and Government who met in Arusha for the 23rd Ordinary Summit held on November 24, 2023.

The Summit themed 'Accelerating Economic Recovery Through Climate Action and Enhancing Food Security for Improved Livelihoods' was preceded by a High-Level side event on Climate Change, Food Security and Environmental Sustainability on November 23, 2023 at the same venue.

During the meeting the Republic of South Sudan took over the leadership of the EAC Policy Organs from the Republic of Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) took over as the Rapporteur from South Sudan.

H.E President Salva Kiir of South Sudan received instruments of EAC Leadership from the outgoing Chair, H.E. Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of Burundi in the presence of Dr. Maluki, EAC Secretary General.

The Summit considered the Report of the EAC Council of Ministers on the Negotiations with the Federal Republic of Somalia (FRS) into the EAC and resolved to admit FRS as the eighth member of the EAC in accordance with Article 3 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the Community.

The Heads of State took note of the resolutions of the High-Level Forum on Climate Change, Food Security and Environmental Sustainability, that preceded the Summit and committed to present one position as EAC Partner States to the COP 28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

In his statement during the High-Level Forum, President Ruto observed that the 23rd Summit was taking place at a difficult time occasioned by climate change evident by drought and elnino rains in the region. As such, innovative and sustainable measures must be devised to mitigate the effects of climate change.

The President gave a highlight of Kenya's priorities aimed at mitigating the impact of climate change viz avis the conservation of water towers through fencing to guard against encroachment and destruction; engaging 1,000 forest rangers to protect the national forest cover and commitment to plant 15 billion trees over the next 10 years to protect its environment and conserve its water towers.

To enhance Food Security, Kenya has registered 6.5 million farmers and distributed subsidized fertilizers to them to eliminate brokers, middlemen and cartels. The fertilizer subsidies had enabled the country to increase maize production by 40 per cent from 40 million tonnes in 2022 to 61 million tonnes in 2023. There are plans to build 100 mega dams to harvest rain that would lead to an increase in food production through irrigation.

In his address during the Summit, President Ruto welcomed FRS into EAC and congratulated H.E. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, on the admission of FRS into EAC. The President observed that the entry of Somalia into the bloc expands the Common Market by 15 million people, reinforcing the EAC's position as the most integrated and progressive bloc in Africa.

He called for full implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol that would unlock the region's vast potential and implored Partner States to hasten the process of political integration noting that, it is East Africa that would eventually unite the African continent.

The President congratulated H.E Salva Kiir Mayardit for taking over the leadership of EAC and assured him of Kenya's support to lead EAC as an integrated regional block with one destiny.

Dr. Ruto led the Kenyan delegation comprising Cabinet Secretaries Rebecca Malonzo, (EAC Affair) and Hon. Adan Dwale, (Defence), Principal Secretaries Korir Sing'oei, (Foreign Affairs) and Abdi Dubat, (EAC Affairs), Hon. Keter, Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region; Amb. Josphat Maikara, Director, East Africa Affairs and ICGLR Amb. Chege, Dar es Salaam; Amb. Dennis Mburu, Consul General, Arusha; and Dr. Alice Yalla, Integration Secretary, State Department for EAC, among others.



Third Secretary Cadets graduate after extensive training



By Kavira Githinji

Following a three-months course at the Kenya School of Government (KSG), the 110 Foreign Service/Third Secretary Cadet cohorts of 2023 graduated from the Foreign Service Academy on November 14, 2023.

At the occasion, Amb. Yabesh Monari, Director General, Foreign Service Administration, represented Dr. Korir Singoei, Principal Secretary, State Department for Foreign Affairs. He congratulated the Cadets as they embarked on their exciting adventure into the vibrant field of Foreign Service, a career that shapes the course of global affairs.

In a message read on his behalf, PS Singoei said that the Cadets, as Foreign Service Officers, were entrusted with safeguarding the values of justice, fairness, and equality and representing not only the country but also the standards that uphold a just and equitable world.

The Foreign Service Academy's Director General, Amb. Kirimi Kaberia, welcomed the newly recruited Foreign Service Officers to the Ministry and stated that the 3 months induction course offered by the Academy prepared them to undertake their duties effectively.

Prof. Ludeki Chweya, Director General, Kenya School of Government, Amb. Stella Mokaya, Deputy Director FSA and Dr. Judy Njeru, Director Human Resource were in attendance.



Amb. Yabesh Monari, Director General, Foreign Service Administration, represented PS Dr. Korir Singoei, during the event





H.E. President Dr. William Ruto led the country in national-wide tree Planting initiative on November 13, 2023

By Evance Oguta

On November 13, 2023, Kenya celebrated a special public holiday dedicated to a nationwide tree-planting initiative as part of the National Tree Planting Campaign under the Presidential Programme for the Accelerated Restoration of Forests and Rangelands, which aims to plant 15 billion trees by 2032.

Interior Cabinet Secretary, Prof. Kithure Kindiki, made the announcement, urging citizens across the country to participate in tree planting as a patriotic gesture contributing to the nation's efforts in addressing the adverse effects of climate change. The National Tree Planting Day witnessed active involvement from communities, government agencies, and individuals, showcasing a united front in achieving the national target of planting 500 million trees across the country by December 25.

The tree-planting drive spanned all 47 counties in Kenya with H.E. President William Ruto officiating the inaugural Tree Planting Day. Cabinet Secretaries, County Governors and other officials oversaw the process, encouraging widespread participation from citizens to get involved with the new initiative.

The collective dedication showcased during the event underscored a commitment to sustainable environmental practices and the preservation of Kenya's natural heritage. The government's ambitious goal was to plant 150 million trees by the end of the day.

Each Cabinet Secretary was tasked with adopting at least two counties and providing leadership in the exercise. Thus, the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary and CS for Foreign & Diaspora Affairs joined Hon. Anne Waiguru, Governor for Kirinyaga County and other stakeholders in the tree-growing endeavour in Kirinyaga and Tharaka Nithi. The rest of the Ministry's staff participated in the Counties of Kitui and Makueni.

National Tree Planting day: A journey of 15 billion trees

In Makindu, Makueni County, the event was presided over by the President who was accompanied by hosts of Senior Government Officials. It was also attended by all Directors from the State Department for Foreign Affairs.

The exercise culminated in the planting of over 150,000 trees at Kiu Wetland in Makindu, Makueni County. Encroachment and degradation of this water catchment had resulted in the reduction of the levels and recharge rates of the springs causing water shortage in the adjacent community.

Additionally, a cluster of seven Departments in the Ministry comprising of ICT, DICE and Europe and Commonwealth, participated in the tree planting in partnership with Green Africa Foundation and the local community in Kiusyani, Kitui County. A total of 3,300 trees were planted.



Amb. George Orina and S DFA staff joined H.E President Dr. William Ruto at the Kiu Wetlands in Makindu, Makueni County for the National Tree Growing exercise on November 13, 2023.



Ms. Jennifer Njiru, Director Staff Welfare and Wellness Division and Dr. Isaac Kalua, Founder, Green Africa Foundation led the tree planting exercise in Kiusyani, Kitui County.



Tree planting exercise at Kamiti Maximum Prison

By Irene Kimeu

On December 15, 2023, at Kamiti Maximum Prisons, the State Department for Foreign Affairs planted 3000 trees in collaboration with the State Department for Correctional Services.

Mr. Haggai Onguka, Director, Kenya Foreign Missions Management, represented the Principal Secretary State Department for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Korir Singoei during the event.

Speaking on behalf of the Principal Secretary, Mr. Onguka welcomed the collaborative initiative and reaffirmed the Ministry's commitment to environmental conservation and in particular, initiatives to address climate change, which is an existential threat to humanity, as well as life on earth.

Mr. Haggai Onguka, Director, Kenya Foreign Missions Management plants a tree at the Kamiti Maximum Prison on December 15, 2023



He noted that this was the second Tree planting exercise the State Department was undertaking as part of the goal to guarantee Kenya's national target of planting 15 billion trees by 2032.

In his remarks, Mr. Peter Wanjohi, MBS. Secretary Administration, representing Ms. Salome M. Beacco, Principal Secretary, State Department for Correctional Services, lauded the State Department's efforts towards tree planting as a means of mitigating the effects of climate change. He noted that, such cooperation was in line with the Government's policy of 'delivering as one'.

"Tree planting initiative is a regular part of the prison's rehabilitation program as the Institution was working to increase trees cover on the vast piece of land occupied by the Kamiti Prisons" said SSP Corazon Odilliah who represented the Officer in Charge (OIC) of Kamiti Medium Prison, SEP Francis Mwaura.





PCS Mudavadi hosts envoys in Kenya



H.E the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Foreign Minister Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with members of the Diplomatic Corps in Nairobi on November 6, 2023

By Phillip Wainaina

On November 6, 2023, H.E. Hon, Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, hosted a luncheon in honour of members of the diplomatic corps stationed in Nairobi. The luncheon marked the first meeting between the Prime Cabinet Secretary with the foreign heads of missions in Kenya since his appointment.

In his address to the envoys, PCS Mudavadi recognized the vital role the envoys play in fostering goodwill and collaboration between Kenya and the respective countries. He stated that Kenya is fortunate to host a large and truly cosmopolitan Diplomatic Community.

“We are home to ninety-three Resident Embassies and High Commissions, forty Consulates as well as forty non-resident Embassies and High Commissions. We also host the only United Nations Headquarters in the entire Global South, in addition to forty-seven offices of UN Agencies, as well as one hundred and thirteen International Organizations,” he stated.

On bilateral relations, the PCS underscored that Kenya continues to make significant investments in bilateral relations for the posterity of her population living at home and in the diaspora. These relations he said are founded on historical ties, strong friendships, common values, and a shared desire for socioeconomic progress.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary promised to ensure that Kenya adheres to the current Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and all bilateral agreements it has signed with other countries. He urged the envoys to look for new opportunities for cooperation in light of the rapidly shifting demands, global trends, and geopolitics.

“As the central coordinator of Kenya’s Foreign Policy, the Ministry remains keen on maintaining regular contact with our Partners and engaging in consultations on issues of shared interest.”

On multilateral cooperation, PCS Mudavadi underlined that Kenya respects international law, upholds the United Nations Charter, and ensures and defends a fair and just international order.

“His Excellency President William Ruto is championing African and indeed the Global Climate Action in His capacity as the Chair of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC).” He assured, Kenya will continue to advocate for a stronger African voice in the Global Climate Change Debate and a more prominent leadership role for Africa in Global Climate Action.

In the area of Peace and Security Kenya’s credentials in regional and global peace and security are widely known. The PCS highlighted the initiatives the country has undertaken to respond to threats to regional peace and stability, including the Juba Peace Agreement, the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, the East Africa Community Regional Force’s deployment to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the efforts to silence the guns in Ethiopia and Sudan.

On economic relations, he outlined the country’s aspirations to spearhead the region’s economic diplomacy by being the pilot nation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA).

“I appeal to investors from your countries to take advantage of Kenya’s strategic geopolitical positioning, our macro-economic stability, as well as the country’s progressive economy for mutual prosperity and growth.”

Dr. Mudavadi reaffirmed that the Ministry remains well guided on the promotion, projection, and protection of Kenya’s strategic interests, in collaboration with friends and partners, under the able leadership of His Excellency President Dr. William Ruto.



Kenya hosts 3rd session of the INC-3 on an International legally binding plastic Treaty

By Shyat Lemoshira

Building upon the adoption of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA) 5/14 Resolution "End Plastic Pollution: Towards an International Legally Binding Instrument", Kenya hosted the 3rd Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-3) from November 13 to 19, 2023 at the United Nations in Gigiri, Nairobi.

Over 160 countries, observer organizations, civil-society groups and environmental movements took part in INC-3 following the previous sessions (INC-1 and INC-2) in November 2022 in Punta del Este, Uruguay and May-June 2023 in Paris, France, respectively. The objective of the function was to develop an International Legally Binding Instrument (ILBI) on Plastic Pollution including in the Marine Environment.

H.E President Dr. William Ruto, delivered a keynote address during the Opening Plenary of the INC-3. He affirmed Kenya's commitment to managing plastic pollution as he appraised the charting of a global plan for tackling pollution by the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee.

Ms. Inger Andersen, the Executive Director of the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) complemented H.E the President's statement as she urged delegates to utilize the negotiations to hone a sharp and effective instrument to carve out a better future, free from plastic pollution.

The Kenya Foreign Policy (2014)'s Pillar of Environmental Diplomacy grants the Ministry a greater duty to champion for the UNEP's strengthening and for environmental management, thereby minimizing the impact on the environment.

Kenya, along with other member governments and prominent players from the commercial sector and civil society, redoubles worldwide efforts to address environmental concerns through such diplomatic and technical engagements. Henceforth, Kenya continues to be a potent global and African multilateral hub for environmental issues.

Africa's participation in the INC-3 is also drawn on earlier conferences such as the 19th Ordinary Session of the African Ministerial Conference (AMCEN) in Addis Ababa in August 2023 and the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi in September 2023. By utilizing of these chances, these initiatives reinforce Africa's environmental diplomacy and foster cooperation in tackling the continent's environmental issues.

Ultimately, INC-3 led to substantial discussions among UNEP member states and a greater recognition for participation by indigenous and other non-civil society groups in environmental sound management of plastics and plastic products and across international supply chains. The developments from the INC-3 will be further embedded in the 4th INC Session, scheduled to be held in Ottawa, Canada in April 21-30, 2023.

Jamhuri Day Celebrations in Islamabad

On December 8, 2023, the Kenya High Commission in Islamabad, Pakistan, hosted a reception to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of Kenya's independence. The event was organized to honor the historical significance of the country's independence and celebrate its achievements.

Approximately 300 guests attended the event, including Heads of Diplomatic Missions, International Organizations, Mission staff and their families, the Kenyan Diaspora, Pakistan Government officials, business people and members of various media organizations.

In her speech during the celebrations, the High Commissioner, Amb. Nyambura Kamau highlighted Kenya's remarkable achievements in the past 60 years of independence. She noted that the journey towards autonomy was painful, but on 12th December, 1963, the Republic of Kenya began a journey of self-determination and equal participation in the international arena.

The High Commissioner noted that Pakistan established its Mission in Kenya soon after Kenya gained independence, while Kenya opened its diplomatic mission in Pakistan in 1984. Both countries have maintained friendly and cordial relations and cooperate in various fields such as trade, investment, defense, education, agriculture and technology.



High Commissioner Amb. M. Nyambura Kamau, Regional Africa Ambassadors and High Commissioners cut the cake to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Kenya's independence.

Amb. Kamau highlighted that Kenya is a member of the East African Community, the Common Market for East and Central Africa, and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). As part of these regional partnerships, Kenya offers valuable opportunities for collaboration and urged Pakistan to continue partnering and cooperating with Kenya, recognizing the untapped potential in various sectors.

She expressed satisfaction with the robust economic partnership between Kenya and Pakistan, which has led to a significant increase in bilateral trade in recent year and encouraged both countries to continue working together to strengthen cooperation and maintain solidarity across all fields.

The High Commissioner expressed her appreciation and gratitude to the participants and sponsors of the event. She reiterated the Missions commitment to fostering strong relationships and partnerships with all its stakeholders, as it strives to fulfill its mandate of promoting Kenya's interests.



PCS Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with his UK counterpart Rt. Hon. James Cleverly, MP, Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei (Foreign Affairs), The British High Commissioner to Kenya Mr. Neil Wigan and Principal Secretary Ms. Roseline Njogu (Diaspora Affairs) during a bilateral meeting in Nairobi on October 31, 2023.

Kenya, UK bolster relations

Kenya and United Kingdom enjoy cordial relations that have continued to grow from strength to strength, signifying the historical ties and joint commitment to enhancing diplomatic relations and collaborations in key sectors of trade, investment, green projects and climate financing as is envisioned by the Kenya -UK Strategic Partnership.

In a bilateral meeting between Kenya's Foreign Minister Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and his UK counterpart Rt. Hon. James Cleverly, MP, held on October 31, 2023, on the margins of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla's State Visit to Kenya, the two leaders appreciated the existing friendly ties between the two nations.

PCS Mudavadi expressed appreciation to the Government of the United Kingdom for the support of international climate financing, aimed at supporting Kenya's response mechanism and emphasized that it is consistent with H.E. President William Ruto's call to address the Triple Planetary Crisis.



PCS Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with his UK counterpart Rt. Hon. James Cleverly, MP, and Cabinet colleagues Kipchuma Murkomen, Prof Njuguna Ndung'u, Hon. Aden Duale, Hon. Alice Wahome, Hon. Rebecca Miano, Hon. Zachary Njeru, Attorney General Hon. Justus Muturi and Principal Secretaries from various Ministries on October 31, 2023

The PCS expressed satisfaction that the two countries are partnering on key projects, including Menengai Geothermal, Malindi Solar Expansion, Grand High Falls Dam, the United Green and the Nairobi City Project.

Trade and Investments remain the key pillar of the bilateral relations between Kenya and the UK. The PCS emphasized there is great potential to deepen trade relations and increase export products and services anchored on the Kenya-UK Economic Partnership Agreement.

The PCS also reaffirmed Kenya's commitment to the values and principles that anchor Kenya - UK relations and the enrichment of beneficial partnerships central in advancing the achievements of mutual interests.



Kenya, China bolster bilateral relations

By Sophia Wamuti

On October 18, 2023, H.E. President Dr. William Ruto made a 3-day Official Visit to China aimed at strengthening bilateral relations with China and showcase Kenya's thriving participation in the Third Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) Forum for International Cooperation.

President Ruto delivered a keynote address headlined Digital Economy as a New Source of Growth during the high-level BRI Forum that highlighted Kenya's advancements in ICT and innovation.

The high-level Forum, attracting world leaders amongst them the UN Secretary-General, offered a platform for cooperation and partnership talks focusing on common development and prosperity.

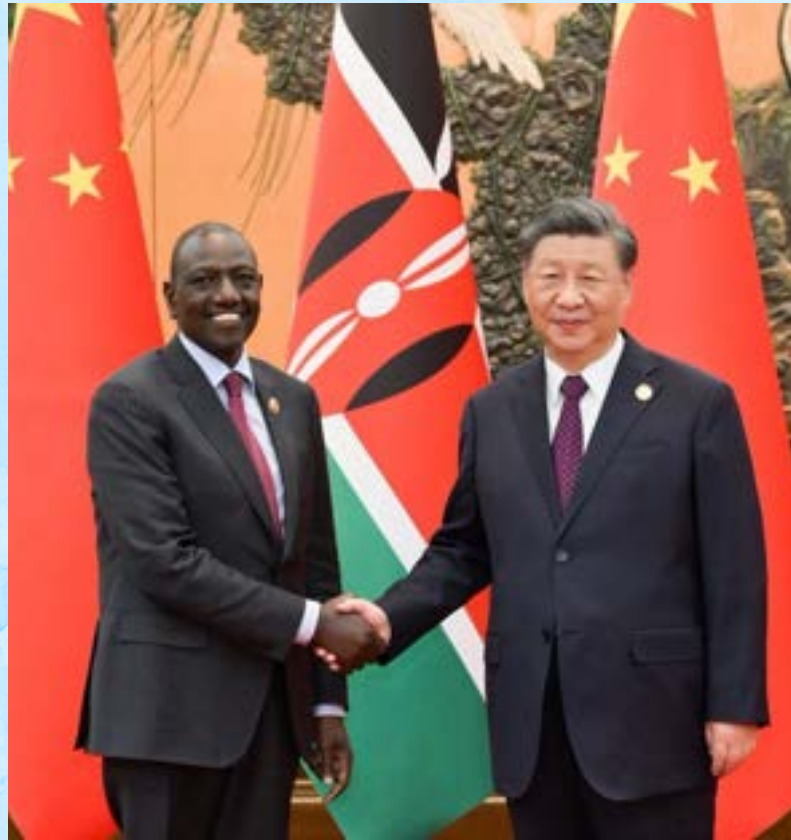
He later participated in an Investors' Roundtable titled 'Kenya-China Investment Meeting' organized by KenInvest and the Kenya-China Chamber of Commerce and Industry. In attendance was Amb. Willy Bett, Kenya's Ambassador to China.

The President emphasized that Kenya had a solid friendly business environment and skilled manpower that guaranteed high returns for investors.

On the sidelines of the BRI Forum, a number of Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were signed between Kenya and China.

Firstly, H.E. the President witnessed the signing of an MOU between China's Energy International Group and Kenya that aimed to accelerate Kenya's digital transformation by optimizing electrical power systems and modernizing power generation.

Additionally, the Principal Secretary for State Department for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Korir Sing'oei signed an MOU on digital economy between the Government of Kenya and Huawei on October 16, 2023.



H.E. President Dr. William Ruto and Chinese President H.E. Xi Jinping during the 3rd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in Beijing, China on October 18, 2023

"Our partnership with leading Chinese technology corporation, Huawei will advance our ICT infrastructure and drive digitization across key sectors," said President Ruto.

"This partnership is vital for Kenya's Digital Superhighway and the components of the Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda."

President Dr. Ruto held bilateral talks with his host, President Jinping. They agreed to further open Chinese markets to Kenyan agricultural produce and ensure the completion of ongoing infrastructure projects. The two leaders were committed to enhancing trade, investments, and cooperation for the mutual advancement of both nations.

He also met with Mr. LI Xi, a senior member of China's Communist Party-Political Bureau, where they agreed on creating a favorable environment for Chinese companies to undertake projects such as airport modernization.

H.E. the President also held talks with the Pakistani Prime Minister Anwaar-ul-Haq Kakar, welcoming Pakistan's interest in boosting trade relations, specifically in pharmaceutical products and medical equipment.

Later, President Ruto and First Lady H.E. Rachel Ruto attended a State Banquet hosted by President Jinping and the Chinese First Lady hosted for visiting Heads of State and Government.



Kenya participates at the 23rd IORA Ministers meeting in Sri Lanka



Mr. Joseph Masila, Director Economic Affairs and Commercial Diplomacy at the IORA meeting in Colombo, Sri Lanka on October 11, 2023

By Phillip Wainaina

Kenya participated at the 23rd Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) held in Colombo, Sri Lanka on October 11, 2023. The IORA COM is an annual meeting where Foreign Ministers from IORA Member States meet to discuss and decide over the body's priorities.

The meeting was held to hand-over the IORA chairmanship and vice-chairmanship to Sri Lanka and India respectively. Sri Lanka succeeded the People's Republic of Bangladesh whose two-year term had elapsed.

Mr. Joseph Masila, Director Economic Affairs and Commercial Diplomacy represented Kenya on behalf of H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

In a speech read on his behalf, H.E. Mudavadi noted that the Indian Ocean remains a dynamic and diverse region, characterized by a rich tapestry of cultures, economies and ecosystems. To realize the full sustainability of the region's potential, he suggested strengthening the structural underpinnings that support cooperation in the area.

"Our Indian Ocean identity is not just a geographical construct; it embodies the shared history, values, and aspirations of our people," he stated, "reinforcing our Indian Ocean identity means celebrating our diversity while embracing our commonalities. It involves nurturing a sense of belonging and solidarity among our nations, driven by a shared vision for sustainable development in our region."

In addition, he endorsed the meeting's theme "Strengthening Regional Architecture: Reinforcing Indian Ocean Identity", terming it as a profound and timely call-to-action.

He called on the member states to align with the overarching goals of the Jakarta Concord and the IORA Vision 2030 and beyond. These goals emphasize on trade and investment as key drivers for fostering regional cooperation and development within the IORA. In embracing the objectives, Kenya called for support in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Women Economic Empowerment to ensure inclusive and sustainable growth across the region.

Moreover, the country emphasized on harnessing the power of partnerships to advance and develop the bloc's architecture, strategic partnerships with international organizations, regional stakeholders and think tanks specializing in Indian Ocean dynamics. In return, this can help tailor solutions to region-specific challenges and enhance IORA's capacity to address complex maritime challenges and promote sustainable practices in the Indian Ocean region.

IORA is an inter-governmental organization which was established on March 7, 1997. Its vision originated during a visit by late President Nelson Mandela of South Africa to India in 1995. It is home to nearly 2.7 billion people, 23 member States and 11 dialogue partners whose shores washed by the ocean.

The member states are divided into a number of sub-regions (Australasia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, West Asia and Eastern & Southern Africa), each with their own regional groupings (such as ASEAN, SAARC, GCC and SADC).

Kenya is a member state.



H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with Angola's Foreign Minister H.E. Tété António during the inaugural JCC in Nairobi

Kenya and Angola hold Inaugural JCC

By Irene Kimeu

Prior to H.E. Joao Lourenco, President of the Republic of Angola State Visit, Kenya and Angola held the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) inaugural session in Nairobi on March 19–21, 2023. President Lourenço honoured Kenya as the Chief Guest during the Mashujaa Day celebrations on the October 20, 2023 and was represented by Angola's Foreign Minister, H.E. Tété António.

The official visit confirmed the friendly relations and mutual goal of strengthening ties between Kenya and Angola. Dr. William Ruto reiterated their dedication to advancing bilateral cooperation in the area of Public Service, Trade, Forestry, Agriculture and Transportation.

As a result of JCC between the two countries, eleven bilateral legal instruments were signed on wildlife management and conservation, shipping and maritime, youth development, forestry cooperation and bilateral cooperation in Agriculture.

Additional MOUs were signed on telecommunication, ICT, oil and gas, mining and geology, health collaboration, capacity building of the public service, and cooperation of the diplomatic

academies, all in a bid to unlock the potential of commercial and trade relations.

Kenya waived visa requirements for all nationals of Angola, and discussions are underway to resume direct flights from Kenya to Angola.

The two presidents expressed their commitment to maintaining peace and addressing the conflict in DRC. They also expressed their concern about the impact of conflict in Sudan and called upon the warring parties to engage in peaceful democratic transition.

Dr. Ruto commended the Angolan President for Angola's leadership of African Caribbean Pacific countries and the significant strides made during Angola's chairmanship of the bloc. The two presidents agreed to collaborate to combat climate change following resolutions made during the Africa Climate Summit and COP 28 in Dubai.

President William Ruto thanked His Excellency for honoring Kenya with his visit and called for urgent reforms of the United Nations, especially the Security Council, to make it more representative, accountable, effective, and responsive to the world's geographical realities.





Department welcomes back Amb. Moi Lemoshira

Amb. Moi Lemoshira has been appointed as the new Director General Foreign Service in charge of Political and Diplomatic Affairs.

In the recent changes in the Department announced by the Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei, Amb. Lemoshira assumes the top position tasked with coordination of Kenya's Foreign Policy under the direction of the Principal Secretary.

The new position of Director General for Political and Diplomatic Affairs is in charge of both bilateral and multilateral affairs.

The establishment of the position at a higher level augurs well with the continued expansion of Kenya's diplomatic affairs and growth in the role and influence of the country on global affairs.

Director General Lemoshira returns for the Department from secondment to the Office of the National Security Advisor, Executive Office of the President.

Before his deployment as Deputy National Security Advisor, Amb. Lemoshira had served as Director General for Bilateral and Political Affairs.



Amb. Moi Lemoshira, MBS, Director General, Foreign Service, Political and Diplomatic Affairs

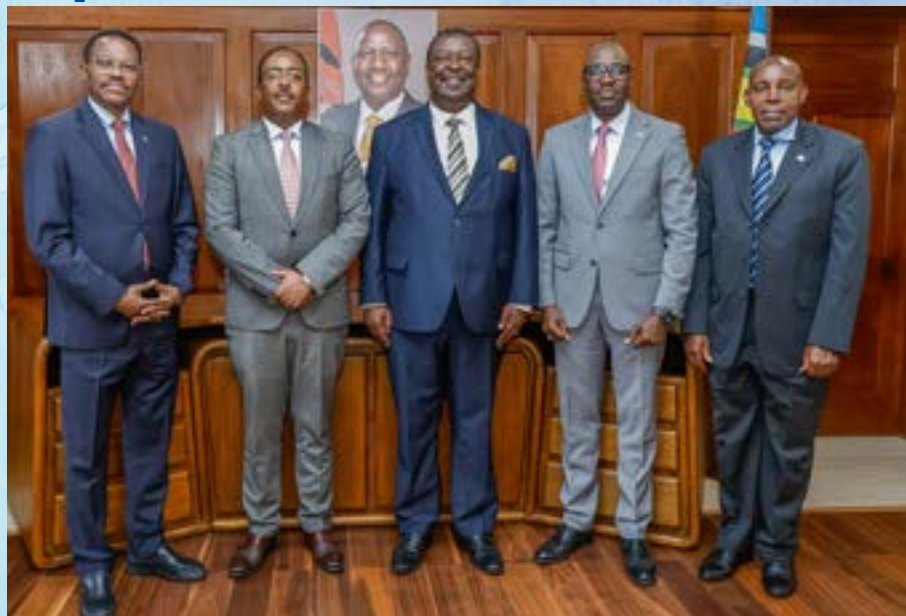
Other senior positions held over his 28 years of service include Chief of Staff, Office of the Cabinet Secretary, Director in the Office of the Principal Secretary and Kenya's Ambassador to Algeria with non-resident accreditation to Mali.

Kenya and Ethiopia reaffirm commitment to enhance cooperation

On November 9, 2023, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs exchanged views with H.E Redwan Hussein Rahmeto, Special Envoy of H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister.

They reviewed the frameworks of bilateral cooperation between the two countries and discussed other issues of mutual interest.

The Ethiopian Special Envoy also delivered a Special Message from H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for H.E. President William Samoei Ruto.



H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, PCS and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs with H.E Redwan Hussein Rahmeto, Special Envoy of H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and National Security Advisor to the Prime Minister

He was accompanied by H.E. Bacha Debele Buta, the Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to Kenya. Present was Dr. Abraham Korir Singoei, Principal Secretary, State Department for Foreign Affairs and Amb. Yabesh Monari, Director General, Foreign Service Administration.



PCS Mudavadi engages Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the compensation to the Kenya victims of the 1998 US Bombing



H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, PCS and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs with Senators Agnes Kavindu (Chairperson), Mohamed Chute and Alexander Mundigi at Railways Headquarters on October 26, 2023

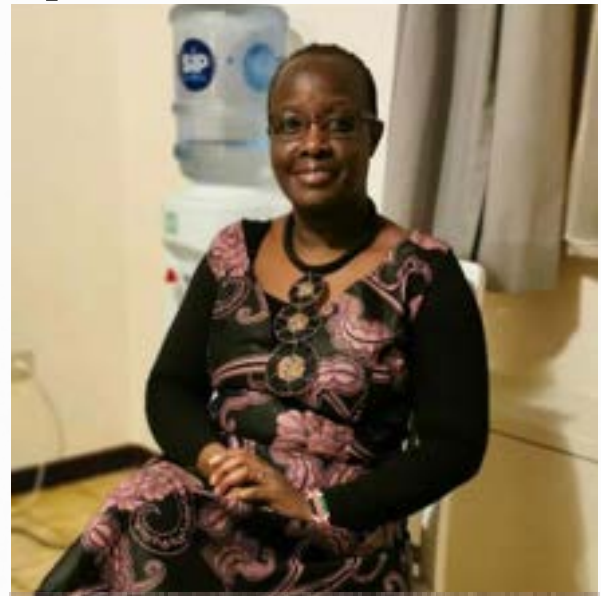
The Senate Ad Hoc Committee on the Compensation to the Kenyan Victims of the 1998 Bombing of the United States Embassy in Nairobi met the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs on October 26, 2023.

The committee presented its request seeking an engagement with the US Ambassador to Kenya, Meg Whitman, in relation to having a joint discussion with the US Congress on the compensation matter.

The Ad Hoc Committee is mandated to ensure that the eligibility of Kenyan and American Victims, their personal representatives, and next of kin are entrusted in the Victim Compensation Fund, pursuant to the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act.

The team was led by Senators Agnes Kavindu (Chairperson), Mohamed Chute and Alexander Mundigi.

Celebrating the life of Anne Teresa Nyawira



By SDFA Office Administrators

On 1 November, 2023 the Ministry woke up to the sad news of the demise of Anne Teresa Nyawira, who passed away while undergoing treatment at KU Leuven Hospital in Brussels, Belgium. Until her demise, Nyawira was serving as an Administrative Attache at the Kenya Mission in Brussels.

During her requiem mass held on November 16, 2023, followed by her burial on November 18, 2023 attended by her family, friends and colleagues, many of the mourners eulogized her as a committed christian, a loving mother, daughter, sister, friend, cousin, wife and daughter in law. Her colleagues described Nyawish, as she was popularly known as a friendly and gentle soul, a strong personality, very hard working and a team player.

We thank the almighty God for enabling our paths to cross at the State Department for Foreign Affairs, and in other Ministries where she had worked. We will dearly miss her counsel, hearty laugh and signature smile. We trust God, and continue to commiserate with the family as they come to terms with the painful, irreplaceable loss, and pray that God bestows unto them strength and peace that surpasses human understanding, as they accept the loss.

Eternal rest grant unto Nyawira, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

Amen



KENYA - EUROPE ENGAGEMENTS

The United Kingdom

State Visit by Their Majesties King Charles III and Camilla, The Queen Consort, October 31, 2023

The visit was a true manifestation of our robust and vibrant bilateral relations between Kenya and the UK, this being the first Royal Visit outside of Europe and the first to a Commonwealth Country.

Their Majesties were also accompanied by The Rt. Hon. James Cleverley, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom, who held a bilateral meeting with The Hon. Dr Musalia Mudavadi, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

The visit deepened commitment to the Kenya – UK Strategic Partnership 2020 – 2025, leading to shared implementation of improved policies and projects.



The Czech Republic



H.E. Prof. Petr Fiala, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic made an Official Visit to Kenya from November 6 - 7 2023.

During the Visit, H.E. President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, held a bilateral meeting with H.E. Prof. Petr Fiala Prime Minister of the Czech Republic on November 7, 2023 at State House, Nairobi.

H.E. the Prime Minister also opened the Czech – Kenya Business Forum that took place at the Sarova Panafric Hotel. The Business Forum brought together over 100 participants from the business community from Kenya and the Czech Republic.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic was signed during the Business Forum.

Romania

H.E. President Dr. William Ruto, welcomed H.E. Klaus Werner Iohannis, President of Romania to Kenya on his first State Visit from November 14 - 15, 2023.

This visit was part of a Presidential Tour of Africa, where H.E. Iohannis also visited Tanzania, Ghana and Cabo Verde.

The President of Romania was accompanied by H.E. Carmen Iohannis, First Lady of Romania and a delegation from the Government of Romania.

During the visit, the H.E. the President and H.E. Iohannis witnessed the signing of four (4) Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs):



- (i) MoU on Environmental Protection and Climate Change
- (ii) MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety
- (iii) MoU on Agricultural Research and Cooperation
- (iv) MoU on cooperation between the Foreign Service Academy of Kenya and the Romanian Diplomatic Institute



KENYA - EUROPE ENGAGEMENTS

President Ruto’s State Visit to the Federal Republic of Germany

H.E. President Dr. William Ruto, made an Official Visit to Berlin, the Federal Republic of Germany on November 20, 2023 to attend the G20 Compact with Africa (CWA) Conference.

The President was invited to be a panelist on “Fostering Local Value Chains and Investments in Africa – The role of the German private sector” and also participated in two Working Sessions at the Chancellery on “Strengthening Economic Co-operation and Promoting Private Sector Investment” and “Intensified Cooperation in the Energy Sector”

Discussions between H.E. Dr. William Ruto and H.E. Olaf Scholz centered on strengthening relations, G20 Compact with Africa (CWA), trade and investment, green energy and sustainable development, labour mobility, technology, and peace and security.



Meeting with H.E. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic



H.E. President Dr. William Ruto met with H.E. Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic on October 21, 2023.

Discussions centered on investment in infrastructure and energy including railway development and BRT System, regional peace and security particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Sudan and cooperation in combating climate change.

H.E. President Ruto's Address to the European Parliament in Strasbourg

On November 21, 2023, H.E. President Dr. William Ruto urged for new forms of cooperation with the African Union and European Union based on mutually beneficial strategies.

He further called for stronger international cooperation to fight climate change, combat poverty and tackle conflicts.

In his address the President stressed the challenges caused by climate change, making everyone equal “in the face of a shared global challenge, transcending all divides North-South, East-West, developed and developing.”



President Ruto further noted, it is increasingly clear that the international political structures established in the 20th century are no longer fit for purpose, and called for a fundamental redefinition of international cooperation that would move beyond arrangements that perpetuate cycles of indebtedness and dependence.



KENYA - EUROPE ENGAGEMENTS

Kenya Participates at the Global Gateway Forum in Belgium

Global Gateway is a collective programme that seeks to pool \$316 billion from governments and private investors to address infrastructure shortages in developing countries.

H.E. Rigathi Gachagua, Deputy President attended the Inaugural Global Gateway Forum from 25th -26th October 2023 in Brussels, Belgium.

During the Forum the European Union granted Kenya over Sh11.4 billion (72million Euros) to support priority areas of green transition on environmental sustainability and digital inclusion, good governance as well as peace and stability.



Kenya – Estonia Political Consultations



Kenya – Estonia Inaugural Political Consultations were held in Tallinn, Estonia from the October 26- 27, 2023.

Kenya and Estonia agreed to hold a roundtable on AfCFTA during the next African Business Forum slated for May 21, 2024 in Tallinn Estonia.

Kenya and Estonia will co-host a joint event on twin (digital and green) transition during the upcoming 6th United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA.6)

Estonia committed to support Kenya’s quest for the ensuing Data for the Environment Alliance (DEAL) Secretariat to be hosted in Nairobi.

Closer cooperation in peace and security through the respective Peace support training institutions such as the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC), the Estonian Peacekeeping Operations Centre (EPOC) and the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences (EASS) under the Erasmus+ program.

Enhanced cooperation in research and innovation, incubation, acceleration and commercialization of research

Support for the operationalization of the Foreign Service Academy. FSA and the Estonia School of Diplomacy to sign an MoU in Diplomatic Training.

Inaugural Kenya - Switzerland Political Consultations

Kenya hosted the Inaugural Kenya-Switzerland Political Consultations on November 7, 2023.

The Consultations presented an opportunity to evaluate the existing bilateral relations between Kenya and Switzerland and further jointly explored possible areas of mutual interest for cooperation between our friendly countries.

The Kenyan delegation was led by Amb. George M. Orina, Director General for Bilateral and Political Affairs, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs while the Swiss delegation was led by Amb. Philipp Stalder, Head of Sub-Saharan Africa and Francophonie Division in the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland.



Key among the outcomes were - to work together towards the establishment of a Joint Business Council, enhanced cooperation in climate change, working together to ensure a rule-based and functioning multilateral system, as well as cooperation in peace and security in the region.



KENYA - EUROPE ENGAGEMENTS

Kenya – Norway Political Consultations

Kenyan delegation led by Amb. Moi Lemoshira, MBS, Director General/ Foreign Service, Political and Diplomatic Affairs held a inaugural Political Consultations with Norwegian delegation led by Mr. Vebjørn Dysvik, Director General/ Regional Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway on 15th November 2023.



The inaugural Political Consultations marked an important step in the enhancement of Kenya and Norway bilateral relations, giving an opportunity to infuse new impetus to strengthen and deepen the relations.

Kenya -Belgium Political Consultations



Kenya and Belgium took a significant step towards strengthening their bilateral relations by holding their inaugural political consultations on 24th November 2023 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The Kenyan delegation was led by Amb. Moi Lemoshira, MBS, Director General, Foreign Service, Political and Diplomatic Affairs, while the Belgian delegation was headed by Amb. Jeroen Cooreman, Director General, Bilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium.

The high-level meeting identified key priorities anchors of the first Political Consultations that would gear the subsequent discussions towards tangible and collaborative outcomes;

- Trade and Investments (pending bilateral agreements; public-private partnerships; health)
- Multilateral cooperation (environmental issues, sustainability and climate action; blue economy; engagement within the European Union; Belgium’s 2024 EU Presidency;)
- Peace and Security Cooperation

- Development cooperation
- People to People Cooperation (through cultural exchange, tourism and sports interaction and diplomatic extended support to foreign Mission’s staff)
- Diaspora engagement to harness their skills and expertise for national development and ensure gainful employment through cooperation in labor mobility and circular migration.

The consultations served as a platform for deepening the existing ties between Kenya and Belgium and provided an opportunity to infuse new energy into their cooperation. Both sides expressed their commitment to fostering closer collaboration in areas of mutual interest.



IN BRIEF

On October 19, 2023, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, PCS and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs received H.E. João Lourenço, the President of the Republic of Angola and H.E. Ana Dias Lourenço, the First Lady of the Republic of Angola, as they arrived in the country for a two-day state visit.

H.E. Lourenço was the Chief Guest at the Mashujaa Day celebrations held in Kericho County.



On November 5, 2023, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, PCS and CS for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs together with Cabinet Secretary for Defence Hon. Aden Duale at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport received H.E. Prof. Petr Fiala, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic who arrived in the country for a 3-day official visit .

On October 31, 2023, Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla of the United Kingdom, visited the Eastlands Library located in Maringo Ward, Makadara SubCounty, Nairobi City County accompanied by Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi





IN BRIEF



PS Dr. Korir Singoei received the new Deputy Executive Secretary of IGAD Secretariat H.E. Mohamed Abdi Ware at his office on December 19, 2023.

Kenya commends his appointment and wishes him well in the service of the great regional organization.

PS Dr. Korir Singoei delivered brief observations at Amani Africa's high level event dubbed *'Africa and the Reform of the Multilateral System: Making Africa's Voice Heard in the Process Towards the Reform of the Multilateral System.'*

He made a case for Africa to ready herself to seize opportunities that will inevitably come up as a result of reform of the multilateral system. It is no longer tenable to envision Africa through the problem lens, and as we seek reforms, we must look through the lenses of opportunity.



On November 20, 2023, PS Dr. Korir Singoei on behalf of Prime Cabinet Secretary and CS Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi bid farewell to H.E Luke Williams, outgoing Australian High Commissioner whose tour of duty in Kenya has come to an end.

During his tenure, Kenya and Australia's partnership was strengthened by high-level visits and the signing of bilateral cooperation framework in August in mining, conservation, education, and human capital development among others.

On November 25, 2023, PS Dr. Korir Singoei visited the Kenyan Consulate in Tanzania and interacted with the Team led by Ambassador Isaac Njenga Head of Mission, Tanzania, and Consul General, Dennis Mburu.

Aside from advancing bilateral relations with the United Republic of Tanzania, the two Missions in Dar and Arusha, are the focal sites around which the strategy for EAC region gravitate, and the central hub for coordinating engagements with the 7-member- States block.





IN BRIEF



On December 18, 2023, Amb. Moi Lemoshira, Director General, Political and Diplomatic Affairs met with H.E. Zhou Pingjian, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China. They discussed matters of mutual interest between Kenya and China. Amb. Lemoshira applauded the Ambassador for the successful celebrations marking 60 years of Kenya-China Diplomatic Relations. H.E Pingjian expressed appreciation to the Government of Kenya for the support in hosting the highly successful event.

The DG assured the Ministry's commitment to continue working closely with the Embassy to strengthen the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership for the mutual benefit of the people of the two countries.

On December 18, 2023, Amb. Moi Lemoshira, Director General, Political and Diplomatic Affairs met with Mr. Kitagawa Yasuhisa, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Japan in Kenya who paid a visit to bid farewell on completion of his assignment in the country.

Discussions focused on significant achievements between Kenya and Japan in trade, peace and security, economy, education and multilateral cooperation - all of which are beneficial to the common interests of the two countries.

Amb. Lemoshira thanked him for his efforts to further enhance ties between Kenya and Japan and wished him well in his future endeavours. Mr. Kitagawa used the occasion to introduce his successor Mr. Ogihara Hiroshi.



On November 7, 2023, Kenya and Switzerland held the inaugural Joint Political Consultations in Nairobi.

The consultations focused on a number of significant areas for cooperation between both countries such as Trade and Investments, Climate Change, Multilateral Cooperation, Peace and Security in regard to development cooperation, and people-to-people cooperation.

The Kenyan delegation was led by Amb. George Orina and the Swiss delegation by Amb. Philipp Stadler.



IN BRIEF

On December 1, 2023, Amb. Moi Lemoshira, Director General, Foreign Service Political and Diplomatic Affairs received H.E. Ambassador Adamu Ibrahim Lamuwa, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

Amb. Lamuwa is on an official visit to Nairobi for consultations with State Department for Foreign Affairs.



The historic accreditation of Amb. Daniel Schaer, as the first non-resident Ambassador of Estonia to Kenya, is a significant milestone for Kenya-Estonia relations.

On December 8, 2023, Amb. Schaer paid a courtesy call on Amb. Lucy Kiruthu, outgoing Director, Europe and Commonwealth Directorate.

Present during the meeting was Amb. Angeline Musili, Kenya's Ambassador-Designate to Sweden.

On December 15, 2023, The Ag. Director of the Middle East Directorate, Mr. Kevin Thuo held a meeting with the Amb. Dr. Ali Gholampour, Iran Ambassador to Kenya.

They discussed key matters of interest to the two countries. Mr. Thuo congratulated the Ambassador on his presentation of credentials and subsequent commencement of his tour of duty in Kenya. They reaffirmed the cordial & long-standing relations between Kenya and Iran.

They renewed the two countries' commitment in advancing mutually beneficial cooperation in areas of trade & commerce, cultural and educational exchanges





REPUBLIC OF KENYA

STATE DEPARTMENT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Merry

Christmas

and a Happy New Year
2024

VISION

A peaceful, prosperous and globally competitive Kenya

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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