

E-NEWSLETTER Diplomacy

A Publication of the State Department For Foreign Affairs



CONGRATULATIONS MFDA BEST PERFORMING MINISTRY, FY 2022/23

JAN FEB MAR 2024
ISSUE NO. 037



DIPLOMACY E-NEWSLETTER

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Senior Staff Validate Ministry's Strategic Plan



Principal Secretary, Dr. Korir Singoei, officiates the opening of a 3-Day Senior Staff Retreat on validating strategic plan draft for the State Department for Foreign Affairs on March 13, 2024

By Amb. Moi Lemoshira

The Senior Staff of the State Department for Foreign Affairs have validated the Department's Strategic Plan for 2023/24-2026/2027. The Plan identifies the Foreign Policy Strategic Objectives in line with Kenya's national interests. The draft text further aligns the priorities of the Department with the Fourth Medium Term Plan (MTP-IV) 2023-2027.

In his statement during the opening session of the review of the draft, Dr. Korir Singoei, Principal Secretary of the State Department for Foreign Affairs underscored the commitment of the Department to ensure that the deliverables over the MTP-IV period and specifically to advance the Bottom-Up Transformation Agenda (BETA).

PS Singoei emphasized the need for clarity of performance targets as defined in the strategic priorities to ensure effective implementation.

The validation process was guided by specific performance management tools to deliver the mandate, functions and the broader Vision of the Department which is a 'Peaceful, Progressive and Competitive Kenya.'

Building upon the successes of its predecessor strategic plan covering the years 2018-2023, the new Plan embodies continuity and innovation in fulfilling the department's mandate.

Anchored on the national development blue print Kenya Vision 2030, the draft Plan provides a solid framework and advancing Kenya's Foreign Policy agenda.

Speaking during the closing of the validation exercise, Amb. Moi Lemoshira DG Political and Diplomatic Affairs noted that the opportunity to collectively review the draft has ensured "shared understanding of the key issues and ownership of the Plan, which are essential to promote collective action in the implementation phase."

Following the internal validation, the draft Plan will be submitted to evaluation by Stakeholders before finalization and publication.



State Department for Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei with Senior Staff during a 3-day Senior Staff Retreat on validating strategic plan draft on March 13, 2024



Senior Staff Plant Trees in Nakuru County

Trees play an essential role in mitigating the effects of climate change. To ensure a better world and achieve the presidential directive of planting of 5 billion trees by 2030, the Senior Staff took time off their busy schedule to participate in a tree planting session led by Amb. Yabesh Monari, Director General, Foreign Service Administration and Amb. Moi Lemoshira, Director General, Foreign Service Political and Bilateral Affairs. 400 trees were planted at Lake View Junior and Primary School in Naivasha in collaboration with Kenya Forest Services in Nakuru County on March 14, 2024. Ms. Jeniffer Njiru, Director Staff Welfare and Wellness organized and coordinated the successful event.





PCS Mudavadi Champions for Kenya's Agenda at Denmark - Kenya Summit



The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Hon. Musalia Mudavadi held a meeting with the Prime Minister of Denmark H.E Mette Frederiksen in Copenhagen on March 11, 2024

By Philip Mwangi

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E Musalia Mudavadi made an official visit to Denmark from March 11, 2024 for the Danish - Africa High Level Dialogue Summit on Strengthened Partnership between The Kingdom of Denmark and Africa.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary represented H.E President William Ruto at the summit attended by over 200 delegates from across Africa to discuss key issues focusing on the new Danish policy, founded on the pillars of trade and investment, climate action, and peace and security.

During the Inaugural Session of the Summit, the PCS/CS welcomed Denmark's Commitment to Sustainable Development, emphasizing on the need for Africa and Denmark to align their policies and investments with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) so as to harness the vast opportunities between them.

"Let us remain steadfast in our dedication to cooperation and dialogue, translating our discussions into tangible actions that foster positive change in our societies. Together, we can build stronger partnerships, foster innovation, and create a more prosperous world for future generations," he said.

Dr. Mudavadi further praised the government of the Kingdom of Denmark for its support of Africa's trade and investment initiatives saying Africa and Kenya in particular are ready to foster more friendly partnerships amidst the global competitive market. He argued that there is a need for engagements that will yield a structure that has a greater impact on the livelihoods of Africans and help African countries get out of poverty and crises.

"We have witnessed a tremendous improvement in the level of engagement between Denmark and Africa and more so with Kenya as a comparison 15 years ago and now. What we need to focus on are the structures of engagement to see if they are having the necessary impact required on the African continent," stated Dr. Mudavadi.

On market access for agricultural products from Africa, Mudavadi called for easing of trade barriers arising from the ever-changing EU standards that restrict trade. This, he argued, would bolster trade between the two continents owing to their proximity and the fact that Europe has always been a preferred market for Africa's agricultural products.

He noted that building partnerships in Africa's food production will drive sustainable production practices and enable farmers to meet the global standards necessary for enhanced market access.

In Kenya, Dr. Mudavadi assured that government agencies are continuously improving national systems to ensure compliance and traceability along the supply chain, meeting the standards necessary to facilitate trade.

"We call for partnership with Denmark and EU to invest in food production to enable Africa's producers to meet global safety standards," he urged, adding that Kenya, in particular, recognises the centrality of global and regional peace and security in the development of our economies.

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PCS Mudavadi Champions for Kenya's Agenda at Denmark-Kenya Summit

Continued from page 5

Prior to the Summit, H.E. Mudavadi had held bilateral meeting with his host, H.E Mette Fredriksen, the Prime Minister of the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark, where they discussed the current peace and security situation in Africa and especially the Horn of Africa and the need for international support for various peace keeping process in the continent.

He took the opportunity to convey H.E. President Williams Ruto's message to the Prime Minister ahead of the High-Level Dialogue meeting and briefed him about the upcoming International Development Association (IDA21) Summit, scheduled to be held in Kenya from April 28 to 29, 2024, and expressed Kenya's anticipation for Denmark's participation at the highest level.

"We are enthusiastic about enhancing the Kenya-Danish partnership, exploring untapped opportunities amidst evolving global economic and socio-political landscapes," He stated.

The PCS also toured the State of Green in Copenhagen where he observed that there lies a great opportunity for Kenya and Africa at large to drive the green energy transition for economic growth, social development and environmental sustainability.



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with the Danish Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Lars Lokke Rasmussen in Denmark on March 11, 2024

This, he noted, will be achieved through strategic public-partnerships, the Kenyan government aims to leverage expertise and support from Denmark and other nations

With abundant natural resources at disposal, the PCS conveyed the need to swiftly embrace technologies focusing on wind energy, solar power, biogas, biomass, and hydroelectricity as the next frontiers of renewable energy.

He further lauded the "invaluable insights for our ministries of energy, water, and environment in Kenya" gained at the Green Park and vowed to champion green energy initiatives to bolster our Climate Action agenda for the future.

Kenya's Ambassador to the Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8), Angeline Musili accompanied H.E Mudavadi during the official Visit. The Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8) is a regional co-operation format that includes Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, and Sweden.



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Musalia Mudavadi visited the State of Green in Copenhagen on his second day in Denmark in on March 12, 2024



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Dr. Musalia Mudavadi held a bilateral meeting with Danish Minister of Development Cooperation and Global Climate Policy, Hon. Dan Jorgensen in Copenhagen, on March 11, 2024



Kenya and Ethiopia Inks Deals to Further Strengthen Relations



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Ambassador Taye Atske-Selassie, hold talks on the margins of the 36th Session of the Kenya - Ethiopia Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on February 21, 2024.

By Andrew Kuria

The 36th Session of the Kenya - Ethiopia Joint Ministerial Commission (JMC) was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on February 21, 2024.

The JMC, which was co-chaired by the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia, Ambassador Taye Atske-Selassie, deliberated and agreed on several Memoranda of Understanding in seven (7) key areas which were signed during the meeting. This includes, culture, tourism, petroleum sector development, wildlife protection, blue economy and fisheries, correctional services, and capacity building.

Speaking during the event the PCS underlined the need for Kenya and Ethiopia to resolve trade barriers, including tariff and non- tariff barriers, that stifle expansion of trade between the two countries.

"I am excited by this great opportunity to explore ways to strengthen the friendly relations between our two countries," Dr. Mudavadi said.

Amb. Selassie reiterated Ethiopia's commitment to work for peace and prosperity, including through enhanced security along the common border.



Kenya's Ambassador Moi Lemoshira, Director General Bilateral and Political Affairs and Ethiopia's Ambassador Fisseh Shawul, Director General for Africa Affairs, exchange signed agreed minutes during the 36th Session of the Kenya - Ethiopia JMC in Addis Ababa on February 21, 2024

The two sides further agreed to promote parliamentary diplomacy through exchange visits by the speakers of Kenya's National Assembly and Ethiopia's House of Peoples Representatives.

The 36th JMC further provided an opportunity for Kenya and Ethiopia to enhance their cooperation in regional and global issues of mutual interest.

The JMC, established in 1963, aims to deepen historical ties between the two countries and promote prosperity of the people of the two countries.

The agreed minutes of the two sides set the stage for the implementation of decisions with far reaching impact on bilateral ties. The two sides further agreed on time bound monitoring, including a midterm review hosted by Kenya on February 2025, to assess progress and prepare for the next JMC in 2026.

Dr. Mudavadi and Amb. Selassie appreciated the JMC negotiation teams spearheaded by Kenya's Ambassador Moi Lemoshira, Director General Bilateral and Political Affairs and Ambassador Fisseh Shawul, Ethiopia's Director General for Africa Affairs.

The Kenyan delegation included Amb. George Orina, Kenya's envoy in Addis Ababa and Mr. Chimwaga Mongo, Secretary, State Department for Roads.



Kenya Hosts the 7th Session of the Kenya-Egypt Joint Commission for Cooperation



H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and H.E. Sameh Shoukry Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt sign the Joint Communiqué on the Occasion of the signing of agreed minutes at the 7th Session of the Kenya - Egypt Joint Commission for Cooperation in Nairobi on March 7, 2024.

By Irene Agum

The 7th Session of the Kenya- Egypt Joint Commission for Cooperation has concluded in Nairobi, Kenya with the signing of four Memoranda of Understanding that are aimed at enhancing growth of industrial and technological capacity, job creation and attainment of sustainable development for the two countries.

H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and H.E. Sameh Shoukry Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt signed the Memoranda of Understanding on Maritime Affairs, Veterinary Services, renewable energy and fine arts at the conclusion of the 7th Session of the Kenya- Egypt Joint Commission for Cooperation held in Nairobi from March 5 - 7, 2024.

In a Joint Communiqué, Kenya and Egypt reaffirmed shared commitment to deepen bilateral cooperation in niche fields including trade and investments, agriculture, tourism, energy and infrastructure Development. Additionally, the two countries also pledged to enhance the sharing of knowledge and best practices towards agricultural development, water conservancy, the development of arid and semi-arid lands, and the advancement of maritime economy.

Kenya and Egypt have had a strategic framework of cooperation dating several years and the two countries seized the 60th anniversary since the establishment of diplomatic relations to boost cooperation.

On Maritime Affairs, the two countries continue to exchange advanced knowledge on fisheries and aquaculture research as well as advance the transfer of African agricultural technologies.

Regarding renewable energy, the two nations have reached a mutual agreement to share insights and experiences regarding energy conservation and efficiency; collaborate on the development of a wind atlas, and conduct collaborative research on the environmental impact assessment of electrical energy in the country.

They also commit to lending technical assistance for the development and maintenance of electrifying power systems, transmission and distribution networks and electrical interconnection networks. The ministers committed to promote the uptake of renewable energy sources and advance sustainable development in the continent.

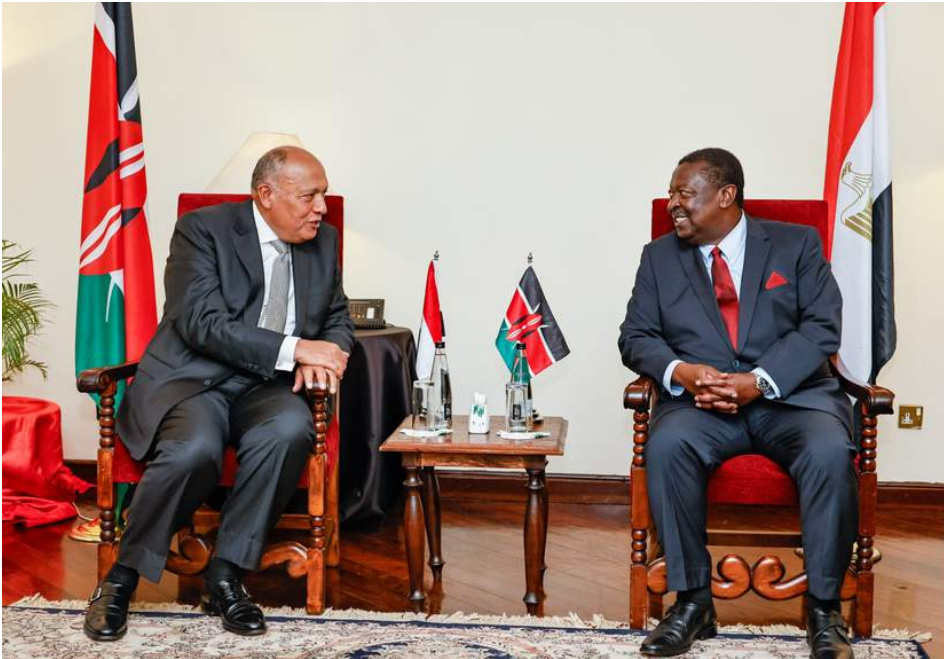
To enhance trade in livestock commodities, agro-processing, and value addition for all products, Kenya and Egypt will facilitate the exchange of genetic resources in livestock, support initiatives for livestock research and innovation, as well as lend technical support for agricultural engineering and mechanization.

The two states have pledged to cooperate to establish forums/platforms for youth and creatives to enable creation and exchange of knowledge/ ideas; exchange of information and best practices; jointly host youth and creative economy trade fairs to exhibit innovations and talent while establishing market linkages.

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Kenya hosts the 7th Session of the Kenya-Egypt Joint Commission for Cooperation



H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and H.E. Sameh Shoukry Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt in a bilateral meeting during the 7th Session of the Kenya - Egypt Joint Commission for Cooperation in Nairobi on March 7, 2024.

Kenyan Mission abroad after London while the Egyptian Mission in Nairobi was accorded full diplomatic status on 12th April, 1994.

Kenya currently commands a minimal market share in the Egyptian market with exports comprising a limited number of products dominated however by tea standing at 89% of total exports to Egypt. Kenya's total average exports to Egypt are valued at approximately Kshs. 26.8 Billion while imports from Egypt are valued at approximately Kshs. 40.3 Billion.

Continued from page 8

The country agreements will encourage the design of structured youth and creative economy labor export programmes that foster financial inclusion, representation, environmental sustainability, volunteerism, counselling and mentorship of youth from both countries.

The two states acknowledged the importance of cultural diplomacy and made a commitment to strengthen initiatives promoting cultural exchange.

Further, they undertook to fast-track the establishment of a Joint Business Council, a body that will offer support to venture capitalists seeking to explore investment opportunities in both countries.

By facilitating the exchange of trade delegations and encouraging the diversification of trading products, the newly established Business Council will augment trade volumes and value between the two countries. Kenya Embassy in Cairo was opened in 1964, becoming the second

The 7th JMC yield mutual commitment to reinstate regular political consultations between their respective ministries in order to enhance regular exchange of views on regional and global matters as well as to follow up on the outcomes of the JCC. The visiting minister, H.E. Mr. Shoukry expressed gratitude to Kenya for hosting the JMC.



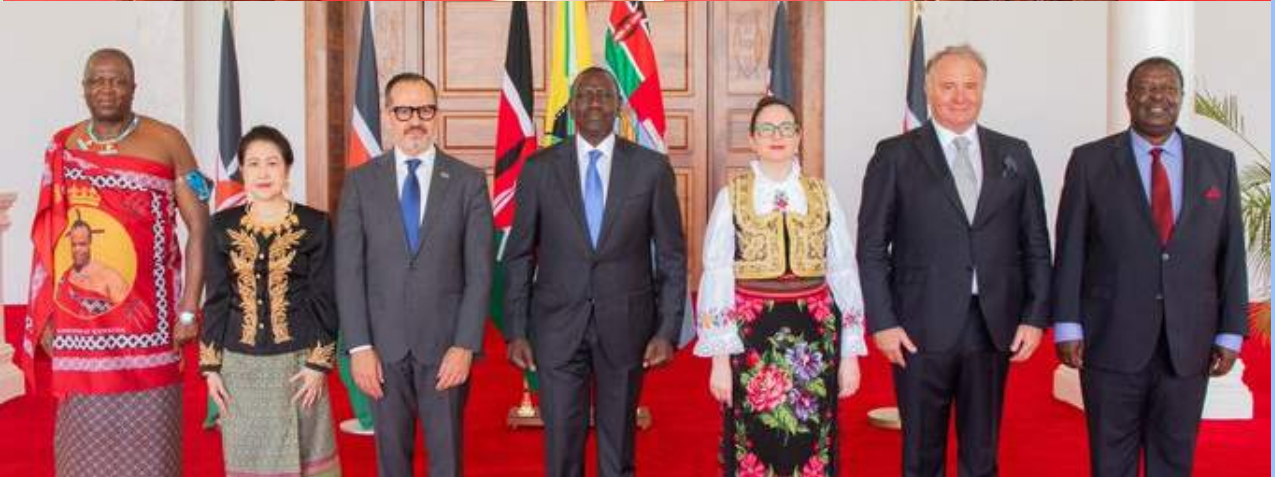
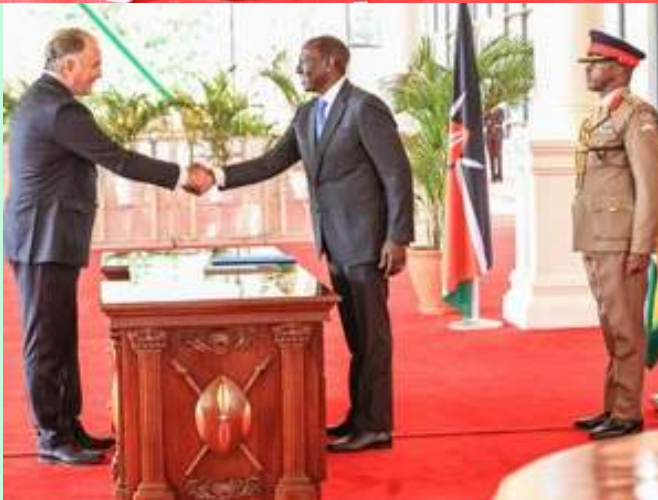


Presentation of Credentials



On March 6, 2024, newly posted envoys to Kenya presented their credentials to H.E. President William Ruto at State House, Nairobi. The envoys are from Mexico, Serbia, Thailand, San Marino and Eswatini

They are Excellencies Enrique Javier Ochoa Martinez (Mexico), Danijela Cubrilo Martic (Serbia), Morakot Janemathukorn (Thailand), Giovanni Conti (San Marino) and Mahlaba Mamba (Eswatini).





Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with members of the African Diplomatic Corps on March 4, 2024

PCS Mudavadi Underscores the Need for African Nations to Strengthen Diplomatic Ties

By Irene Kimeu

Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E. Dr Musalia Mudavadi participated in a dynamic session with members of the African Diplomatic Corps in invigorating the exchange of ideas and exploring avenues for enhanced cooperation on March 4, 2024.

The PCS/CS underscored the need for African Nations to strengthen Diplomatic ties and advance impactful diplomacy for Africa and beyond.

He further called for Collaboration in navigating global challenges such as climate change and seizing opportunities for growth and development.

Dr. Mudavadi emphasized on the dire need for African leaders to strike a balance between global solidarity and continental cooperation towards peace and security with statistics showing that in the recent past, Africa has experienced conflicts that has affected millions of people including women, children and the elderly.

PCS used the platform to urge African diplomats to rally their capitals in support of Kenya’s bid for the AU Commission’s top position. Dr. Mudavadi said Africa remains central to Kenya’s foreign policy, promoting mutual coexistence through strong continental bonds.

Accompanying the PCS was Dr. Korir Sing’Oei, PS State Department for Foreign Affairs, Ms Aurelia Rono, State Department for Parliamentary Affairs under the OPCS , Amb. Moi Lemoshira, DG Foreign Service, Political and Diplomatic affairs , Amb. Dennis Mburu, Director Africa Affairs among others.



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi address members of the African Diplomatic Corps on March 4, 2024



Members of the African Diplomatic Corps



Prime Cabinet Secretary Chairs Key Talks with European Union Envoys



The Prime Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E Dr. Musalia Mudavadi chaired a crucial meeting with European Union Ambassadors in Nairobi on March 4, 2024.

By Philip Mwangi

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E Dr. Musalia Mudavadi chaired a crucial meeting with European Union Ambassadors in Nairobi on March 4, 2024.

Hon. Mudavadi during his remarks welcomed the European Diplomatic Corp and termed the meeting a testament to an enduring friendship and a strong bond and co-operation between Kenya and Europe and a clear demonstration of ambition to promote a continued progress in strategic partnership.

He further acknowledged the ratification of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) by the European Parliament saying that its implementation will enable duty and quota free access for Kenyan exports to the European market thus enhancing trade co-operation between Kenya and Europe Member States. He vowed that Kenya will expedite the ratification process of the agreement so as to tap into the opportunities.

"I look forward to having more fruitful meetings where we focus on accelerating delivery of key projects in Kenya and that are constituted both by Kenya and EU commitments on the roadmap on agriculture and value chains, renewable energy, transportation, digitization, among others," Mudavadi stated.

On the ongoing Kenya – EU Strategic Dialogue launched in January 2022, the PCS underscored significance in bolstering crucial sectors such as peace and security, trade, investments, climate change and more, in line with Kenya's Bottom-up Transformative Agenda (BETA) for sustainable development.

EU in support of priority in Kenya such as 16.f green transition on environmental sustainability and digital inclusion, good governance as well as peace and stability granted over Ksh.11.4 billion during the inaugural Global Gateway Forum in November 2023.

"I urge the EU to continue aligning Global Capital with SDGs for a sustainable positive future," Mudavadi said "and with this, I believe by enhancing Africa's access to financing for global development, we will unlock the continents vast potential; vast natural resources, arable land and vibrant human capital."

Hon. Mudavadi emphasized on Kenya's commitment to combat money laundering and terrorism financing through legislative reforms in compliance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations, such as the enactment of the AML/CFT (Amendment) Act. The PCS also sought EU support in combating challenges, as well as enhancing Kenya's capabilities in order to swiftly exit the FATF grey list.

Additionally, regarding the myriad of impacts of climate change on developing countries, the leader expressed Kenya desire to build on Nairobi Declaration reached during the African Climate Summit (ACS 2023) to amplify Africa's voice in calling for collaborative global climate financing to combat the dire consequences to their livelihoods, ecosystems and the economy.

On Peace and Security, the PCS recognized and appreciated EU's role under the EU Peace facility for African led peace support operations amounting to KSh 9 trillion (EUR 600 million) and called for continued support. H.E regrettably noted that Africa bares the brunt of conflicts, with statistics as of 2023 showing that over 37 million people had been forcibly displaced in Africa with 121 million people facing severe acute food insecurity. Worse still, in the period between February 2019 and February 2024, conflict fatalities from selected African countries reached 208,000.

Mudavadi further sought for EU support for President William Ruto as he champions the World Bank International Development Association (IDA21) with the key proposed reforms. Kenya will host in April 2024 IDA21 meeting that promises to be a pivotal platform for transformative discussions on a global scale including building innovative global financing approach and architecture.

"Moving forward, I believe that our shared global priorities, need to be aligned towards building back to a more inclusive global sustainable economy, combating the climate crisis and revitalizing our democracies as well as advancing our peace and security agenda, which are key pillars in our partnership," Mudavadi concluded.



World Convenes in Nairobi for the 6th Session of United Nations Environment Assembly



H.E President Dr. William Ruto gives key note address at the United Nations Complex in Gigiri during the Sixth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly on February 29, 2024

By Philip Mwangi

Kenya, by virtue of being the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters, hosted the 6th Session of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6) held from February 26 to March 1, 2024 at Gigiri, Nairobi.

UNEA-6 focused on the role of multilateralism in tackling the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, pollution and waste, and provided an opportunity for world governments, civil society groups, the scientific community and the private sector to shape the global environmental policy.

To that effect, Heads of State and Government, Ministers, Senior UN Officials, members of civil society and the private sector on Thursday 29th February, 2024 gathered at UNEP headquarters for the High-Level Segment of the UNEA-6. This session was led by President Dr. William Ruto, Leila Benali, President of UNEA-6 and Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development for the Kingdom of Morocco, Dennis Francis, UNEP Director-General Inger Andersen and Paula Narvaez President of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nation.

In the plenary were Heads of State and Government, including President Mokgweetsi Masisi- Botswana, President Omar Guelleh - Djibouti, Transitional President Brice Nguema - Gabon, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud - Somalia, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed - Ethiopia, and Prime Minister Ariel Henry - Haiti, among others.

“It is my hope that UN Environment Assembly will demonstrate that challenges are best addressed when the community of nations and citizens of the world join forces with an open mind,” said Leila in her address to the plenary, “our efforts today will be crucial to secure our world – for the benefit of people and planet.”

During his opening speech, H.E Ruto welcomed the more than 7,000 delegates from 182 UN Member States and more than 170 Ministers in attendance and pointed out the Assembly’s “tremendous responsibility to expeditiously deliver on its agenda in full thereby demonstrating the power of international cooperation and effective multilateralism.”

H.E. President Ruto also expressed concerns over the escalating adverse impacts of climate change, which pose significant threats to humanity and called on the international community to form of a huge coalition for collective climate action through equitable financing.

H.E Mudavadi Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora emphasized on the need for a combined global effort in addressing the environmental challenges in the 21st century via comprehensive multisectoral, and multilateral strategies. He also conveyed Kenya’s commitment in spearheading efforts for a cleaner, sustainable environment, through initiatives like banning single-use plastics, promoting green energy like geothermal power, and advocating for the adoption of electric vehicles and motorcycles.

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World Convenes in Nairobi for the 6th Session of United Nations Environment Assembly



The Sixth Session of the United Nations Environment Assembly held in Nairobi on February 29, 2024

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The UN Environment Assembly is the world's highest decision-making body on the environment – its membership includes all 193 UN Member States. It meets biennially to shape global environmental policy. The Assembly also defines the work of UNEP.

The Assembly had 19 resolutions and two decisions under discussion – they cover a range of issues, including circular economy; effective, inclusive, and sustainable multilateral actions towards climate justice; solar radiation modification; sound management of chemicals and waste, and sand and dust storms.

Among the outcomes of the Session was the Ministerial Declaration of UNEA-6 on effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions to tackle climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution; where the Assembly vowed to “advance the collective resolve to tackle the triple planetary crisis. The Declaration vowed to commit the world's ministers to cooperate for effective, inclusive and sustainable solutions for the planet.

In the decisions, Member States agreed to hold the seventh session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) from 8 to 12 December 2025 in Nairobi. The decision also sets out a provisional agenda for UNEA-7 and requests the Executive Director of UNEP to prepare a proposal for a new Programme of Work and Medium-Term Strategy for UNEP for approval by Member States at the session.

The Assembly also adopted seventeen resolutions, including; Circularity of a resilient, low-carbon sugar cane agro-industry, Amendments to the instrument for the establishment of Restructured Global Environment Facility (GEF), Enhancing the role of regional forums of environment ministers and UNEP regional offices, Promoting sustainable lifestyles, Sound management of chemicals and waste, among others.



Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme address delegates during the UNEA 6 held from February 26 to March 1, 2024 at Gigiri, Nairobi.



Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei and Senior Staff at the State Department for Foreign Affairs cut cake to celebrate outstanding performance during the last financial year 2022/2023 at the Ministry headquarters on February 26, 2024.

MFDA, Best Performing Ministry FY 2022/23

By Kawira Githinji

The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs has been recognized as the best performing Ministry for the fiscal year 2022/2023. These demonstrate the Ministry's commitment and effectiveness in serving the country's interest both domestically and internationally.

For the last one year, the Ministry has facilitated important state visits, participated in major forums, and coordinated peace initiatives. This indicates Kenya's dedication to promoting its diplomatic agenda and maintaining positive relations with other countries

This success reflects highly on the leadership and efforts of all ministry staff, demonstrating their capacity to provide outstanding service.

Dr. Korir Singoei, Principal Secretary for State Department of Foreign Affairs during the Senior Staff meeting held on February 26, 2024, commended Staff on their achievement and stated that the Ministry is determined to preserving its momentum of success by ongoing dedication, professionalism, and collaborative efforts

"The State Department for Foreign Affairs commitment to excellence has not gone unnoticed, and Kenya's pivotal role in shaping continental diplomacy was recently recognized at the African Union Summit, in February 2024," the PS said, emphasizing that H.E. President William Ruto was entrusted with leading the reform process of the African Union, where Kenya has announced its intention to contest the position of Chairperson of the African Union

This acknowledgment highlights Kenya's proactive role in fostering peace, collaboration, and development within and beyond Africa, underscoring the country's substantial contributions to regional and continental affairs.

Additionally, it confirms Kenya's role as a major influence in determining the direction of diplomacy on the continent. Kenya's status in the international community is further improved by this recognition, which demonstrates Kenya's dedication to achieving shared objectives for the peace and development of Africa

The Principal Secretary concluded by praising the staff for their diligence, devotion and pursuit of excellence. He expressed confidence in the Ministry's capacity to build on its recent achievements and get beyond any upcoming obstacles.

Women in Diplomacy Conference in Nairobi



By Irene Agum

The State Department for Foreign Affairs through the Foreign Service Academy in collaboration with the University of Nairobi's Department of Diplomacy and International Studies, United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) and United Nations Office, Geneva (UN) recently concluded the Conference on Women in Diplomacy.

The purpose of the symposium, which was conducted in the Chandaria Auditorium of the University of Nairobi, was to highlight the substantial impact that women have had on the field of diplomacy while also recognizing the difficulties associated with navigating the global political landscape.

The Principal Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Korir Singoei, in a statement read on his behalf by the Deputy Director-General, Political and Diplomatic Affairs Ambassador Lucy Kiruthu confirmed that the Government of Kenya continued to increase the representation of women in science, politics, and industry in order to reduce gender inequality. Dr. Singoei stated that these efforts remained vital for the nation's advancement in attaining the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Ms Tatiana Valovaya, the 13th Director-General at the UN Office, Geneva, and the first woman in that position highlighted the significant role that women have played in the development of the various institutions within the United Nations.

Deputy Director-General Political and Diplomatic Affairs Ambassador Lucy Kiruthu gives key note address during the Women in Diplomacy Conference at University of Nairobi on February 21, 2024

The Director-General observed that while women continued to play a significant role in peace-building, they were also responsible for changing the face of diplomacy. This was notably through their strength and determination especially in taking up roles as diplomats and also at the helm of leadership at the United Nations.

The UN Director-General exemplified the role of women in diplomacy citing the 1592 Treaty of the Cambrai (Ladies Peace) where peace was brokered by two women on behalf of the King Francis 1 of France and the Charles V, the Spanish Emperor.

The University of Nairobi in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs has been having joint discourses bringing together practitioners and academics in the discipline of International Relations.

The Women in Diplomacy Conference was centred around conversations on Climate Action and Women, Peace and Security and the role of women, Women and Governance-Perspectives from Multilateral settings, Career Development and Leadership for Women in Diplomacy as well as The Role of a Woman Diplomat in Science, Technology and Innovation.

Participants at the conference advocated for a re-evaluation of the position of women in science and technology, while also promoting the involvement of young female diplomats in the ever-evolving fields of engineering, mathematics, and technology. Additionally, it was agreed that scientific and technological experts should be integrated into diplomatic negotiations by governments.

Prominent participants at the conference who contributed invaluable perspectives and experiences were; Dr. Sally Kosgei, former Permanent Secretary Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Head of Public Service, Ambassador Ann Nyikuli, Secretary of the Former and Retired Ambassadors' Association; and Professor Maria Nzomo, an esteemed scholar and diplomat in the field of international relations.

In addition to academics and Kenyan Ambassadors who have retired, the Conference was attended by representatives of the Diplomatic Corps in Nairobi, the United Nations, and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.



Women in Diplomacy Conference at University of Nairobi on February 21, 2024.



The Magical Kenya Experience in Accra

By Kenya High Commission, Accra

The Kenya Tourism Board (KTB) led a rich mix of public and private tourism sector players for a two-day road show in Accra, Ghana from February 5 - 6, 2024, as a strategy for Kenya to increase tourist arrivals from West Africa, diversify its source markets and promote intra-Africa tourism.

Dubbed as the **Magical Kenya Experience**, Ms. Fiona Ngesa, Ag. Marketing Director, KTB led the Kenya delegation of the listed institutions that comprised of, the Kenya Tourism Board, Kenya Utalii College, Kenya Tourism Federation, Sarova Hotels, Tribe Hotel, Enashipai, Mahali Muzuri, Heritage Hotels, Destination Connect, Incentive Travel Ltd, Fairmont Hotels, Ocean Beach Resort- Malindi as well as the Kenya Airways Office in Ghana to showcase the various offerings of Kenya as a destination of choice and formed meaningful mutually beneficial partnerships with their Ghanaian counterparts.



H.E. E.M. Barine, Kenya High Commissioner in Ghana gives keynote address during the Magical Kenya Experience event in Accra, Ghana

The one-day event was held in the morning hours with the rest of the day dedicated to B2B and closing with a cocktail that brought additional participation of the government, friends and a selection of the Diplomatic Corps.

To show demonstration of great interest to tap into Kenya's tourism experience and investment the roadshow was graced by Hon. Dr. Archibald Yao Letsa, Volta Regional Minister and H.E. E.M. Barine, Kenya High Commissioner in Ghana.

The event was very well covered on both radio, television, print and extensively social media platforms under the hashtag #YenkoKenya which means let's go to Kenya. Beautiful images of the Magical Kenya experience were in circulation where most social media consumers expressed interest on travelling to Kenya.

The day after the roadshow, the team had opportunity to appear, live and simultaneously, on two lead TV and radio stations, respectively.





Kenya Bolsters Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership with USA



H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with US Secretary of State H.E. Antony Blinken in USA on February 2, 2024.

By William Maracha

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, on January 30, 2024 landed in the United States for a three-day visit where he engaged senior officials in discussions on the Kenya-United States Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership, with a specific focus on enhancing cooperation between the two nations.

On the second day, the PCS held a meeting with the Deputy CEO of Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), Ms. Chidi Blyden in Washington DC, where they both discussed how to expedite the implementation of the \$60 million (Ksh 9.5 billion) MCC grant-funded program to improve urban connectivity and promote economic growth in Kenya.

“My commitment is to facilitate implementation of the threshold program agreement that Kenya and MCC signed in New York in September 2023 on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly,” Dr. Musalia stated, “This transformative initiative will address the climate-friendly transportation needs of pedestrians and enable us to acquire electric buses for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) network in Nairobi.”

Prior to that meeting, PCS Mudavadi met with the former governor of South Carolina and ex-Executive Director of the United Nations Food Programme Mr. David Beasley. The discussion explored prospective investment avenues for Kenya in its pursuit of becoming a regional logistics and financial hub.

In another high-level bilateral meeting with the US Secretary of State H.E. Antony Blinken, Hon. Mudavadi appreciated the long-standing US support for global climate issues, and the fight against terrorism at the same time reiterated the need for global development finance architecture reforms.

He also lobbied for speedy negotiations on the Kenya-US Strategic Trade and Investment Partnership (STIP). Also requested the US to consider extending the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) beyond its expiry next year. He stated that these initiatives will “facilitate expanded duty and quota-free access for Kenya’s and Africa’s exports to the US market.”

On peace and security issues, including regional conflicts in East Africa and disruption of global logistics by the Middle East crisis, the two leaders focused on Kenya and US mediation efforts to mitigate the disruptive impact of these crises on the people and economies of the region.

Later, the PCS met the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Amb. Samantha Power. The two explored avenues for enhancing Kenya’s economy and improving livelihoods through foreign direct investments from the US private sector and the Kenyan Diaspora.

Additionally, Ms. Power commended Kenya’s innovative Ushirika plan for fostering social inclusion for refugees and benefiting host communities.

To seek the United States’ support to move up Kenyan agricultural value chains, Hon. Mudavadi held talks with Arkansas Senator John Boozman in Washington. The PCS called for harnessing the development potential of priority sectors including agriculture, tourism, ICT, mining and energy. These will support economic stabilization and recovery, asserting that the partnership will help Kenya’s economic hub to grow and stabilise.

He also urged the Senator to help resolve the US President’s emergency plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funding for Kenya’s HIV/AIDS programs.

Sen. Boozman, the Ranking Member of the US Senate Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry Committee promised to support Kenya’s agenda.

The visit ended on a high note as the PCS held extensive talks with the Development Finance Corporation (DFC) on support for Kenya’s priority sectors. DFC, a US government development finance institution through the Chief Executive, Scott Nathan, conveyed intentions to finance and offer investment guarantees for smart agriculture, clean energy, electric vehicles value chains and SMEs.

Meanwhile, Hon. Mudavadi urged the DFC to focus on projects with high multiplier effects to stimulate the government’s economic and social transformation agenda. These include infrastructure, manufacturing and supply chain diversification investments. This is expected to unlock Kenya’s potential as a regional logistics hub for the United Nations operations and global investors in the Eastern Africa region.

“DFC’s support for a pyrethrum processing project in Nakuru has improved livelihood opportunities for local farmers and increased Kenya’s export potential for organic pesticides.” Hon. Mudavadi said.

Kenya is keen to strengthen collaborations with the US to foster economic prosperity, security, human rights protection and democracy among other aspects.



Kenya – China Strengthen Relations

By Winnie Aluoch

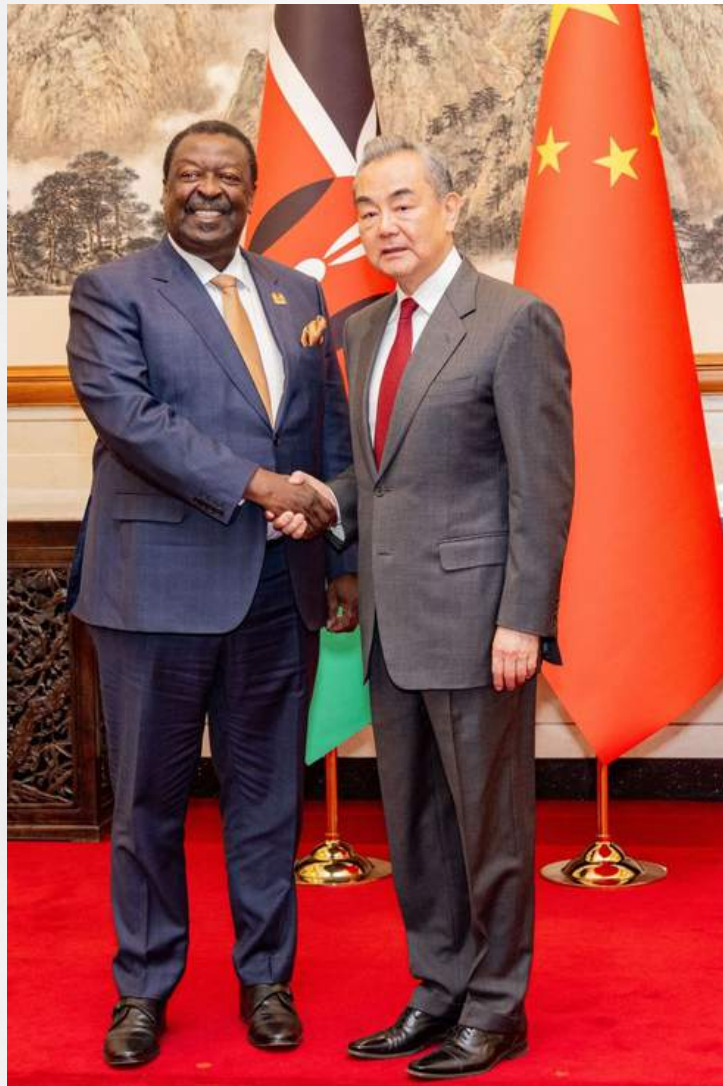
Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi embarked on a 3-day official visit to Beijing, China from January 24 to 26, 2024.

The visit was an invitation by the Member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E Wang Yi. This followed shortly after the state visit by H.E. President William Ruto, during the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative. It presented a valuable opportunity for Hon. Mudavadi to follow up on the bilateral discussions and agreements between Kenya and China reached during the state visit.

The two ministers held fruitful discussions centered on bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual interests, which took into account the comprehensive strategic partnership since the two nations established diplomatic relations 60 years ago. H.E Wang pointed out that Kenya and China “have established mutual trust and friendship, providing strategic guidance for the development of bilateral relations”

Similarly, Hon. Mudavadi commended China for their indispensable support towards the realization of Kenya’s national development priorities, particularly in road and rail transport as well as green energy and ICT. For instance, Kenya’s partnership with leading Chinese technology corporation, Huawei, will advance the ICT infrastructure and drive digitization across key sectors like transportation, e-government, education, and health.

To further solidify the ties between the two countries, the Ministers agreed on a long-term joint Kenya-China strategic vision partnership for the next sixty years, anchored on a tighter community with a shared future as well as pillars of its implementation. To this effect, the two Ministers agreed to institutionalize joint technical teams to put in place details of the pillars, implementation plan and framework.



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with Member of the Political Bureau of the Chinese Communist Party (CPC) Central Committee and Minister of Foreign Affairs H.E Wang Yi during his official visit to Beijing, China on January 26, 2024.

The PCS reiterated Kenya’s adherence to the One-China principle stating that “Kenya will continue to adhere unswervingly to the One-China principle and stand with China on issues such as Taiwan and human rights.”

China also reciprocated by not only promising to guarantee African-style development but also firmly offering support in safeguarding Kenya’s sovereignty, independence, national stability and development. African-style modernization, from the Chinese point of view, means development projects will come in only on request by locals.

At the global level, Hon. Mudavadi and his counterpart candidly discussed the need for an equal and orderly multipolar world, reforms of the international financial architecture, United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and resolution of peace and security challenges around the world. In this regard, China agreed to continue supporting Kenya’s UN-backed mission in Haiti as well as other peace-building initiatives in Africa where Kenya is playing a leading role.

Hon. Mudavadi’s trip was not only expected to lead to new infrastructure deals but also, give impetus to the bilateral relations between Kenya and China. As he stated, the partnership remains “strong and pragmatic” and praised the Belt and Road for supporting Kenya’s economic development.



Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi with Kenya Embassy in China



Inauguration of President H.E. Felix Tshisekedi

By **Amb. Josphat K. Maikara**

The inauguration of the President-elect of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) H.E. Felix Tshisekedi was held on January 20, 2024, following his declaration as the winner of the presidential elections held on December 20, 2023. The swearing-in event was held at Martyrs Stadium in Kinshasa.

H.E. Hon. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H, President of the Republic of Kenya was among the 17 Heads of State who graced the occasion.

In his inaugural address, H.E. Tshisekedi acknowledged the present and former Heads of state, national leaders, diplomatic corps, religious and traditional authorities who graced the occasion. He also expressed his gratitude for the support received from the United Nations, the Arab Republic of Egypt, neighbouring Republics of Congo and Angola for their logistical support provided during the electoral process.

President Tshisekedi outlined six commitments for his next term, focusing on job creation, purchasing power protection through reducing prices of commodities, security, economic diversification, access to basic services and public service efficiency. He also acknowledged challenges at both national and international levels, including the need for national cohesion at the national level which he said could be achieved through the “renewal and consolidation of our want to live collection.”



The inauguration of the President-elect of the Democratic Republic of Congo ' H.E. Felix Tshisekedi held on January 20, 2024

Additionally, he acknowledged his Country's natural and growing potential and expressed its desire to remain an essential global player and a better catalyst for regional integration by being a solution provider to global issues like climate change.

He also expressed determination to transform achievements into lasting progress, emphasizing a vision for a united, secure and prosperous Congo. He outlined key priorities, including opening up territories and addressing agricultural and sanitation challenges.

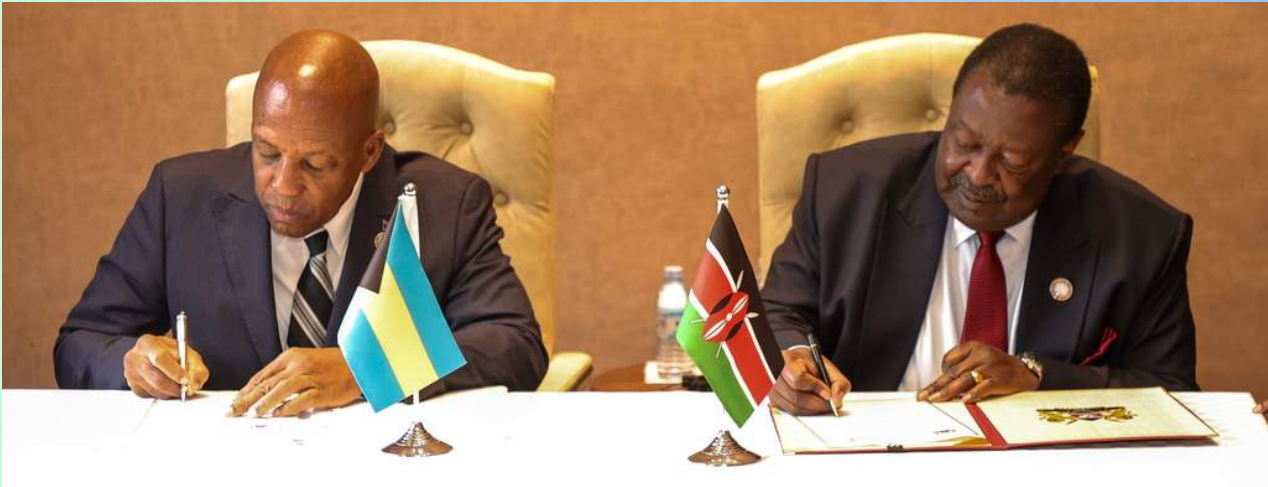
Tshisekedi concluded with the declaration of a new era marked by maturity, progress and renewal, symbolized by the President's renewed commitment to the nation's well-being and prosperity.

The inauguration was graced by 17 Heads of State, four former Heads of State, national leaders, diplomatic corps, religious and traditional authorities. The CEO of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC), Mr. Scott Nathan, led the US Presidential delegation. The Ceremony was also attended by the Vice Chairperson of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Ms. Shen Yueyue.



H.E. Hon. William Samoei Ruto, accompanied by Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi attended the inauguration of the President-elect of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) H.E. Felix Tshisekedi held on January 20, 2024

Kenya and The Bahamas Establish Diplomatic Relations



The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs of Kenya, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, with the Minister of Immigration and National Insurance of the Bahamas, Hon. Alfred M. Sears sign agreement to establish diplomatic relations with the Bahamas on January 19, 2024

By Philip Mwangi

The Republic of Kenya and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas have formally established diplomatic ties. This significant deal was struck on the side-lines of the 19th Non-Aligned Movement summit held in Kampala on January 19, 2024.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs of Kenya, H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, held bilateral talks with the Minister of Immigration and National Insurance of the Bahamas, Hon. Alfred M. Sears.

The two nations agreed to establish embassies in Nairobi and Nassau as a testament to the new chapter of diplomatic relations.

“Together with Mr. Sears, we have initiated the process of establishing embassies in both our capitals at the Ambassadorial level. Today's milestone agreement reflects a robust commitment to future cooperation and fostering friendship between our nations.” Hon. Mudavadi stated.

He added that the move will create opportunities for increased trade and investment between the two countries.

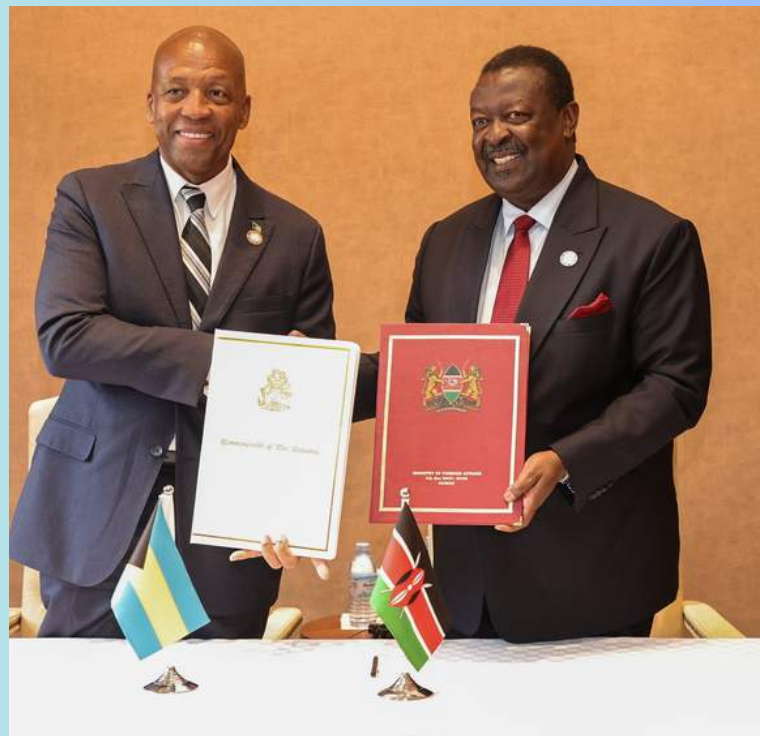
On his part, Mr. Sears underscored Kenya's position as a regional and continental investment hotspot which is pertinent to Bahama's quest to improve its standing internationally. He also emphasized strengthening the future interactions between the two nations.

Hon. Musalia and his counterpart also declared their readiness to engage further, guided by the goals and tenets of the United Nations Charter and international law, particularly the respect and advancement of global equality, security, and peace.

Having already dropped visa restrictions for their nationals, the two countries are also considering signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Technical Cooperation.

“This strategic framework will provide a structured platform for regular dialogue on key regional and international issues of mutual interest.” the Bahamas' Ministry stated.

The Bahamas had pledged to join Kenya in the security force in Haiti with a commitment of 150 people.





19th Non-Aligned Movement Summit: Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence



H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi represented Kenya at the Ministerial meeting of the 19th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Member States Summit in Kampala, Uganda on January 17, 2024

By Philip Mwangi

Leaders from 120 member states that make up the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) converged in Kampala, Uganda for the 19th edition of the summit from January 15 to 20, 2024. The summit sought to address pressing global issues and foster cooperation among member states.

The Movement, established in 1961 at the height of the Cold War between the West and East is the second-largest group of countries after the United Nations. Its membership currently consists of 54 from Africa, 39 from Asia, 26 from Latin America and the Caribbean, and two from Europe. It also includes the non-UN member state of Palestine, 17 other observer countries and 10 observer organisations.

South Sudan was admitted into NAM as the 121st member in the group and the 54th member from Africa. Unlike other regional and international organisations, the group neither has a formal founding charter, act, or treaty, nor a permanent secretariat. The country holding the rotational chairmanship is responsible for coordinating and managing the affairs of the Movement.

Consequently, the President of the Republic of Uganda H.E. Yoweri Museveni, was unanimously elected as the Chairman of NAM during the opening session of the summit. Uganda succeeded Azerbaijan and will serve for three years at the Forum until 2027.

The 19th Edition-themed "Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence" culminated in the adaptation of the Kampala Declaration. The leaders agreed to rededicate the movement to its principles, ideals and purposes. They also commit to strengthen the unity and cohesion of NAM as a political force in the international arena, to push back against unilateral actions that contradict international law.

Additionally, the declaration saw the leaders agree to; accelerate the fight against hunger and poverty, push for empowerment and advancement of women in all sectors, tackle the challenges of climate change, as well as the protection of the family as the basic unit for the upbringing and protection of children.

President H.E. William Ruto joined the other Heads of State and Government, leading the Kenyan delegation at the summit.

On the side-lines, The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E. Hon. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi and the Principal Secretary, Dr. A. Korir Sing'oei, held bilateral meetings to advance Kenya's interests.

Among such engagements was with the Algerian Foreign Minister, H.E Ahmed Attaf, where Hon. Mudavadi expressed Kenya's appreciation for Algeria's political and financial support towards the Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti. He also affirmed the commitment of Kenya to lead international efforts to support the quest for peace and stability in Haiti. On his part, Mr Attaf affirmed Algeria's continued collaboration with Kenya on the issue.

The two Ministers also discussed the conflict between Israel and Hamas, and jointly called for the imperative of de-escalation of conflict hostilities and an end to the humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Both Kenya and Algeria underscored the need for a two-state solution, aligning with the UN declaration for a lasting resolution to the conflict. Kenya and Algeria maintain strong political and diplomatic ties and are strategic partners in the African continent.

In a meeting between Hon. Mudavadi and the Tanzanian Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. January Makamba, Kenya and Tanzania agreed to explore avenues to strengthen the relations between the two countries.

The major outcome of the engagement was the resolution of the recent aviation dispute between the two nations. Previously, the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority had announced the withdrawal of approval for Kenya Airways (KQ) to operate passenger flights between Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, in response, the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority denied Air Tanzania the approval to operate all-cargo flights between the two countries.

"The issue of aviation restrictions between Kenya and Tanzania has been successfully resolved. Gratitude to H.E January Makamba and both the Ministries of Transport of Kenya and Tanzania for their collaborative efforts in achieving this resolution." H.E. Mudavadi posted in his X handle.

On his part, H.E Makamba also confirmed the swift resolution on his X handle and commended the concrete plan of action that quickly thwarted threats to the relations between Kenya and Tanzania.

"I'm encouraged by your commitment to see our relations propelled to greater heights. It is a privilege to work with you to advance regional peace, security and integration." He added.

The two also reaffirmed the commitment of the two friendly nations to always embrace diplomacy in addressing their differences.



The 60th Jamhuri Day Celebrations - Ankara

By Kenyan Embassy- Ankara

The Kenya Embassy, Ankara held celebrations to commemorate Kenya's 60th Independence Anniversary on December 15, 2023.

During the event, the Mission showcased Kenya's tourism, sports prowess, agricultural products and cuisines through documentaries, displays and food.

The Kenyan Ambassador to Türkiye, Amb. Leonard N. Boiyo, started his remarks by recalling the catastrophic February 6, 2023 earthquakes and commended the resilience of the people of Türkiye.

He further pointed out that for the last six decades, Kenya has been forging a conscious, peaceful, stable, cohesive, healthy, and prosperous nation and re-engineering its political, economic, and socio-cultural institutions. On this note, Amb. Boiyo applauded the relations between Kenya and Türkiye describing them as strong and mutually beneficial, as evidenced by trade between the two countries exceeding US\$ 300 million (Ksh 48.2 trillion) in 2022. The ambassador added that the two countries possess enormous potential for improvement, through the revitalization of the Joint Economic Commission (JEC) among other mechanisms.

He marketed Kenya as being an integral member of the East African Community (EAC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), with a combined market of over 500 million people and a strong champion of intra-African trade under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Amb. Boiyo noted that several Turkish companies have successfully invested in Kenya, referencing the Turkish Investment Holding with its US\$ 760 million (Ksh122 trillion) investments at the Naivasha Special Economic Zone (SEZ) and called for more investment by Turkish companies by taking advantage of the opportunities presented by Kenya's SEZs.

The Ambassador also hailed Turkish development agencies and NGOs such as the Turkish International Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA), Maarif Foundation, and Yunus Emre Institute for undertaking projects across various sectors in Kenya.

On matters of regional and global peace and security, the two countries were lauded for playing significant roles with the highlight being Türkiye's efforts in the resolution of the Russia-Ukraine war, its leading role in negotiating the Black Sea Grain Initiative (BSGI) and its push for fairness and equality in the supply of grains, especially to Africa. Kenya, on its part, has over the years deployed its mediation, conflict resolution, peacekeeping, and humanitarian capabilities in regions facing intra-state conflicts, violent extremism, and illegal movement of small arms; and has been mandated by the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to lead a Multinational Security Support (MSS) to Haiti.



Kenya's Ambassador to Türkiye, Amb. Leonard N. Boiyo with Embassy staff cut a cake to celebrate the 60th Jamhuri Day Celebrations in Ankara on December 15, 2023.

Amb. Boiyo lauded Türkiye for supporting initiatives by regional states and organizations towards peace and stability in the Horn of Africa region, as well as the signing of the Defence Industry Cooperation Agreement (DICA) in July 2023 as a demonstration of the determination to enhance cooperation on peace and security.

In conclusion, the ambassador highlighted the role of Kenya and Türkiye in advocating for reforms of Multilateral International Institutions, noting that the envisaged reforms were crucial amidst the evolving challenges presented by the resurgence of great power rivalry, inter-state conflicts, civil wars, transnational organized crimes, violent extremism and terrorism, global pandemics.

Similarly, the Director General East and South Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Amb. Elif Comoğlu ÜLGEN, represented the Government of Türkiye and the Chief Guest-congratulated the Mission, the Kenyan Diaspora in Türkiye and Kenya at large for the 60th Jamhuri Day Anniversary. She said Türkiye considers Kenya a critical partner in peace and security in the Horn of Africa and the African continent as a whole and reiterated the role of Türkiye's government and the business community in their engagement with Kenya in various sectors.

Likewise, Amb. Comoğlu lauded the signing of the Defence Industry Cooperation Agreement (DICA) during the year and hoped that the Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) would be concluded to allow the two countries to further engage on peace and security matters.

The event was graced by representatives from the Government of Türkiye, Ambassadors and Representatives of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations based in Ankara, members of the Turkish business community, the Kenyan Diaspora in Türkiye as well as friends of Kenya in Türkiye.



Housing Minister Attends Inaugural Kenya – South Africa Affordable Housing Forum

By Dr. Evans Nyaga

On December 14, 2023, the Cabinet Secretary for Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Alice Wahome, together with the Principal Secretary of State Department for Housing and Urban Development, Mr. Charles Hinga and other officials from Housing and Urban Development, both from Public and Private Sector, attended the inaugural South Africa – Kenya Affordable Housing Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa.

While addressing the forum, CS Wahome hailed the cooperation between Kenya and South Africa, stating that the collaboration will offer opportunities in the delivery of affordable housing for public and private entities; along the entire housing development value chain, from manufacturing, construction and other infrastructure development-related sectors.

During the inaugural session, CS Wahome reiterated that the cooperation framework will provide great resources for Africa and other developing nations on how to work together to improve technical capabilities in the provision of affordable housing and mitigate informal settlements and slums.

Hon. Wahome informed that Kenya is implementing an affordable housing plan and that currently, 33 active affordable housing construction sites offer employment to more than 120, and will be rolled out to all 290 constituencies, thus creating more employment opportunities. She further informed that Kenya has a deficit of more than 2 million houses and that the demand for houses continues every year. The government has a target of implementing about 200,000 housing units every year.

However, the cabinet secretary revealed that the program is facing a myriad of challenges that include; the high cost of land, building materials and labour, funding; incessant litigations, and legislative gaps, among others. She added that legislation is currently before parliament seeking to address legislative gaps and concerns raised by judges during a recent judgement on litigation against the program.

South Africa's Minister of Human Settlement, Mr. Mmamoloko Kubayi, while addressing the forum, hailed the cooperation between the two countries. He disclosed that the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Housing and Settlement, between the two countries signed in November 2022 during South African President Cyril Ramaphosa's state visit to Kenya was on course and would be fully implemented.

Mr. Kubayi revealed that South Africa has implemented more than 4,300,000 million affordable houses so far and is putting in more efforts to increase the number to conform to increased demand.

She also pledged South Africa's support to Kenya in implementing the affordable housing program.

The event was also attended by National Housing Corporation (NHC) MD and CEO QS David Mathu, Executive Director, National Construction Authority, Eng. Maurice Aketch, among other leaders.

Kenya Participates in the 20th AGOA Forum



By Jackline Marangu

Kenya was among the participating countries at the 20th United States-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum (also referred to as the AGOA Forum) that was hosted in Johannesburg, South Africa from 2nd to November 4, 2023.

The forum aimed to enable Sub-Saharan AGOA eligible countries to discuss ways to boost economic cooperation and trade between the United States and Africa, review progress, and identify areas of opportunity,

challenges and how to address them. AGOA forum is held alternating between the U.S.A and the African continent.

Themed "Partnering to Build a Resilient, Sustainable and Inclusive AGOA to Support Economic Development, Industrialization and Quality Job Creation," the forum presented an opportunity for the United States to build upon the success of the Africa Leaders' Summit held in December 2022 and further the economic partnership with AGOA countries.

Additionally, the conference also featured a 'Made in Africa Exhibition' that showcased regional value chains on the African continent. Kenyan was represented at the Exhibition by Ketepa Tea Packers Limited, Jiwa Coffee Limited, Export Processing Zone Authority Kenya (EPZA), Eldo-Tea Kenya and Sheba Farms Limited Kenya. It provided a platform to showcase various brands of Kenyan tea, coffee and asparagus produced and packaged in Kenya aiming at attracting investors from all over the world.

The Kenya delegation was led by the Principal Secretary, State Department for Trade, Mr. Alfred K'Ombudo. Other members of the Kenya delegation included the Kenyan High Commissioner to South Africa, Amb. Catherine Muigai Mwangi, and Kenya's Ambassador to the United States of America, Amb. Lazarus O. Amayo

Shared Prosperity: Highlights from the Kenya- India Trade and Investment Forum



H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, attended the Kenya-India Trade and Investment Forum in New Delhi, December 5, 2023

Amb. Joseph Masila

The Kenya - India Trade and Investment Forum, held on December 5, 2023, in New Delhi, constituted a vital milestone in enhancing economic relations between the two nations.

The high-level gathering, which occurred during the state visit of H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, was attended by prominent government officials, business leaders, and industry experts from both countries. The event brought together leaders from various sectors, including water and irrigation, healthcare, energy, digital economy, and infrastructure, to discuss ways in which India and Kenya can work together for mutual benefit.

The business forum, which was attended by approximately 270 representatives from India and Kenya, highlighted the significant potential for collaboration and investment opportunities between the two countries. It also marked a significant step towards fostering increased economic cooperation and strengthening the bilateral ties.

Key takeaways from the forum emphasized the favourable business environment in Kenya, which is committed to creating an ecosystem conducive to business growth. Kenya's strategic position as a gateway to Africa and its ambitious plans for renewable energy, particularly solar energy, offer exciting opportunities for Indian investors to engage in sustainable and innovative ventures.

The forum also underscored the longstanding historical, cultural, and trade ties between India and Kenya, which have created an environment of trust and ease for entrepreneurs from both countries to collaborate. The potential benefits of a strengthened partnership between the two countries are substantial, including Kenya's status as a regional financial hub, a stable economy, and a young and productive workforce, combined with India's expertise in areas such as generic medicines, healthcare, and digital economy.

To further explore these opportunities, the forum recommended follow-up meetings and a subsequent forum in the next financial year, with a focus on facilitating networking and engagement across diverse sectors through a Business-to-Business (B2B) session. The Kenya High Commission in New Delhi was encouraged to organize trade and investment missions to maintain the momentum of cooperation between the two nations.

In summary, the India-Kenya Trade and Investment Forum served as a venue to reaffirm the commitment of both countries to strengthen their partnerships for mutual benefit. The event not only highlighted the vast potential for collaboration but also provided a platform for continued engagement and concrete actions, to realize the shared economic benefits of a robust and enduring relationship between India and Kenya.



Kenya's delegation accompanying H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, during the Kenya-India Trade and Investment Forum in New Delhi On December 5, 2023



Third Session of UN-Habitat Executive Board, 2023



By Amb. Julius Bargorett

The Third Session of the Executive Board of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme was held from November 28 - 30, 2023 at the UN-Habitat Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya.

The meeting discussed key topics which included affordable housing for all, the financial status of the United Nations Human Settlement Programme, obstacles to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda, Preparations of the strategic plan of UN-Habitat for the period 2026-2029 and the preparations for the 12th session of the World Urban Forum (WUF).

The Cabinet Secretary Ministry of Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development, Hon. Alice Wahome, led the Kenyan delegation and was received by the Executive Director UN-Habitat, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sherif and the Director Regional Office for Africa, Mr. Oumar Sylla. Also in attendance was the former Permanent Representative of Kenya to UN-Habitat Amb. Jean Kimani and the Chargé d'Affaires Mr. Daniel Kottut.

During the opening session, the Cabinet Secretary underscored the need for UN-Habitat to have sustainable and predictable funding citing that County Governments and various municipalities have immensely benefited from UN-Habitat Initiatives. She conveyed the Government's commitment to supporting the organization, citing that it has prioritized affordable housing as a key pillar of the Bottom-up Economic transformation agenda that targets to deliver 200,000 low-cost housing units annually, with an emphasis on slum upgrading and prevention and increasing social housing.

She also lauded the Executive Director for her commitment and dedication to duty since assuming office in January 2018, noting that she will go down in history as a strong woman who steered the organization during a transformative period by coordinating the operationalization and the work of the new governance structures including the Executive Board, the Committee of Permanent Representatives and the UN-Habitat Assembly.

Other key agenda items discussed during the session included stakeholder engagement policy, financial, budgetary and administrative matters, including the implementation of the resource mobilization strategy, principal obstacles to the implementation of the New Urban Agenda by member states and preparations for the 12th session of the World Urban Forum.

Major outcomes of the session included the adoption of various decisions, for instance, the decision on the implementation of the outcomes of the second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly.

The second session of the UN-Habitat Assembly adopted resolutions including a Kenya-sponsored resolution on 'Adequate Housing for All' that conforms with the Government of Kenya's implementation of the Affordable Housing Programme.

The session also considered the rotation of Officers of the Executive Board as follows; Chair: African Group, Rapporteur: Pakistan (Asia and the Pacific Group), Vice chair: Poland - Eastern European Group, Vice chair: Brazil - Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), Vice chair: France -Western European and Others Group (WEOG). Also, Portugal was endorsed to chair the ad hoc working group on the development of the Stakeholder Engagement Policy while Colombia and Nigeria to co-chair the ad hoc working group on Programmatic, Budgetary and Administrative Matters. The Position of the Chair of the Bureau under the African Group Africa was however not confirmed but was left under the stewardship of Kenya during the transition period pending further consultations, a task Kenya continues to discharge on behalf of the African Group.

The Executive Director conveyed appreciation to member states & stakeholders for attending and contributing to the 2023 3rd session of the Executive Board and reaffirmed the programme's commitment to continue prioritizing the needs of member states and addressing recommendations by the oversight bodies of the United Nations.

UN-Habitat works in over 90 countries to promote transformative change in cities and human settlements through knowledge, capacity building, policy advice, technical assistance and collaborative action. The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is an intergovernmental organization mandated to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities and is the focal point for all urbanization and human settlement matters within the UN system. UN-Habitat is made up of a three-tier governance structure comprising the UN-Habitat Assembly, the Executive Board and the Committee of Permanent Representatives.

In 1996, the UN General Assembly established the United Nations Office in Nairobi (UNON). This is the only fully-fledged UN Office in the global South alongside the UN Offices in New York, Geneva and Vienna. UNON hosts the global headquarters for two programmes: The United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).



Navigating EU Green Policies: Implications and Strategies for Kenya's Horticulture Sector

By Amb. Bitange Ndemo, Evans Maturu, Florence Kaibi

The Kenya Embassy in Brussels, also accredited to the European Union, maintains a strong focus on economic and commercial diplomacy, which stands as a cornerstone of the country's foreign policy. This strategic effort primarily involves advocating for increased placement of Kenyan export products within the EU market, recognizing the EU as Kenya's second-largest export market. Notable Kenyan exports to the EU include horticulture products such as fruits, vegetables, and herbs, where Kenya boasts a comparative advantage, alongside commodities like coffee and tea.

In alignment with this objective, the Embassy diligently monitors legislations from the EU Parliament, particularly those that may have adverse effects on developing countries like Kenya. Several EU policies, while aimed at enhancing sustainability and environmental protection, can disrupt the production and supply chains of commodities from these nations.

One such policy of significance is the EU Green Deal (EGD), introduced in 2019, which encompasses a comprehensive set of initiatives designed to propel the EU towards a green transition. The deal outlines an action plan to promote resource efficiency, establish a circular economy, preserve biodiversity, and combat pollution, with the overarching goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2050. Central to the EGD is the prioritization of environmental protection, positioning sustainability as a driving force behind economic activities.

Agriculture, with its profound impacts on climate change, remains a primary concern within this framework, particularly regarding the escalating use of fertilizers and agrochemicals. The EU's adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, along with its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), underscores the imperative of pursuing development that satisfies present needs without compromising future generations' ability to meet their own needs.

Given the prominence of agriculture, especially in many global South countries, the ramifications of the EGD extend across various economic sectors. The EU intends to implement agricultural aspects of the EGD through strategies like the Farm to Fork (F2F) and Biodiversity strategies. These initiatives, while promoting sustainability, may inadvertently disadvantage exports from developing countries like Kenya, necessitating compliance with stringent market entry requirements.

The Kenyan horticulture sector, a significant contributor to the nation's economy, stands particularly vulnerable to the regulatory shifts introduced by the EGD. Notably, the sector accounts for 26% of Kenya's agricultural GDP,

with 81% of crops grown in the country falling under horticulture. It has played a pivotal role in generating income, providing employment, ensuring food security, and earning foreign exchange, with exports growing by 21.8% in 2021 alone, amounting to approximately KSh.160 billion.

However, the implementation of the EGD poses challenges not only for intra-EU trade but also for third countries exporting to the EU. As the EU aims to establish its food systems as global sustainability benchmarks, exporters from countries like Kenya face additional regulatory burdens. The F2F strategy introduces new regulatory requirements to a sector already grappling with compliance challenges, such as meeting existing sanitary and phytosanitary standards in the EU market.

Moreover, factors like carbon emissions from airfreighting horticulture produce have sparked debates both in Kenya and the EU. Discussions surrounding "food miles" continue, with concerns raised about potential socio-economic repercussions on value chain actors in Kenya should airfreight be restricted.

Given the EU's status as the largest single destination for Kenyan exports, any legislative changes and shifts in market conditions are bound to impact Kenya's horticulture sector significantly. The implementation of the EU's F2F and Biodiversity strategies, in particular, is anticipated to have adverse effects on horticulture farming in Kenya.

Addressing these challenges necessitates a concerted effort from all stakeholders involved in the horticulture sector. Skills enhancement programs may be required to ensure practitioners are equipped to meet new regulatory demands. Additionally, all players along the value chain targeting the EU market must adapt to these changes and integrate the new guidelines into their practices to remain competitive.

In conclusion, while the EU's efforts towards sustainability are commendable, it's imperative for policies like the EGD to consider the diverse socio-economic contexts of developing nations. Collaborative approaches that balance environmental goals with the developmental needs of countries like Kenya are essential for fostering mutually beneficial outcomes in the global trade landscape.

Amb. Bitange Ndemo is Head of Mission in Brussels. Evans Maturu is Head of Chancery, Florence Kaibi is the Agricultural Attache



A Step Towards the Future: My Training Journey in Bangladesh



By Betty Chelangat

The current evolving global landscape necessitates diplomatic skills capable of navigating complex diplomatic challenges. The Specialized Diplomatic Training and Professional Master's in International Relations and Diplomacy Scholarship was a step towards a transformative experience of a lifetime.

The training program was a convergence of theoretical knowledge and practical skills. A synergy between academic learning and real-world diplomatic practice provided me with a holistic understanding of international issues. The integrated approach provided an enriching experience and invaluable insights into the realm of international affairs.

The Professional Masters' program provided a robust academic framework with courses ranging from international law, foreign policy, economics and international security among others.

The Specialized Diplomatic training on the other hand emphasized on enhancement of essential diplomatic skills such as diplomatic protocol, speech-making, negotiations and effective communication. The hands-on experience, simulations and interactive sessions have accorded me a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of diplomatic practice as well as maintaining diplomatic relations and mutual understanding.

One of the most enriching aspects was the mentoring and engagement with seasoned diplomats and experts in the realm of international relations who generously shared their insights and real-world experience.

Through this intense training, I managed to gain indispensable knowledge and practical skills that transcend theoretical frameworks. The field trips not only reinforced theoretical learning on the political, economic and cultural development of the host country but also enhanced connection and interaction with diverse people from all walks of life.

While the experience was undeniably positive and fulfilling, certain challenges required dedication and perseverance to overcome. Acceptably, the efforts I invested in overcoming these challenges only served to enhance my overall level of satisfaction and sense of fulfilment. Navigating cultural shock and diverse perspectives along with difficult weather conditions has instilled in me patience, perseverance, empathy and will power to step out of my comfort zone.

The impact of the training is immense both at personal and professional levels. It not only amplified my diplomatic acumen, strategic and analytical thinking capacity but also expanded my professional network. It also broadened my perspective of multifaceted issues in the global domain. The training instilled in me a sense of confidence, resilience and professionalism that propels my career with competence and integrity.

It has been instrumental in shaping my journey towards becoming a proficient diplomat by preparing me for the varied responsibilities of a diplomat in the 21st century. I am honoured to have been vetted as the best international participant and take great pride to have represented my Country to the best of my ability. Indeed, exchange of capacity building for diplomatic service contributes a significant part of stronger bilateral relations.

My understanding of Bangladesh's culture and perspective on key issues has been advanced which has deepened my appreciation of diplomacy. As such the Kenya Foreign Service Academy has been envisaged as a tool for such exchanges.



IN BRIEF



The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi held a bilateral meeting with H.E. Mukhtar Babayev, Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Republic of Azerbaijan who is also the President of the 29th session of the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC(COP29).

They explored avenues for further bilateral cooperation between Kenya and Azerbaijan in diverse areas such as oil and gas, green energy, agriculture, capacity building for fertilizer production, and trade and investment. - March 1, 2024

On the sidelines of the 37th AU assembly, The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi engaged with Morocco's Foreign Affairs Minister Nasser Bourita who apprised him on the operations of the Kenyan Embassy in Rabat which attests strong commitment to bilateral relations between the two countries.

Defence Cabinet Secretary Hon. Aden Duale and Foreign Affairs PS Dr Korir Singoei joined him in this important conversation that will cement the friendly relations between Rabat and Nairobi. - February 18, 2024



The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign ad Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi met with the Chinese Ambassador to Kenya, Dr. Zhou Pingjian at the Railways HQ offices on March 13, 2024.

The meeting focused on the follow-up to the Prime CS's visit to China earlier this year, during which both sides discussed and agreed to enhance the strategic partnership between and in mutual areas of interest.

Ambassador Pingjian conveyed a message of gratitude from the leadership of the People's Republic of China to Dr. Mudavadi and the Kenyan government following the success of the Prime CS's official visit to Beijing

The Egyptian Ambassador to Kenya, Wael Nasreldin Attiya, paid a courtesy visit to Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs H.E Dr. Musalia Mudavadi at the Nairobi Railways Headquarters on January 11, 2024

Discussions centered on key mutual interests, underscoring the commitment to strengthen bilateral ties and explore business opportunities, aligning with the historical cooperation and shared aspirations of Egypt and Kenya for development & economic wellbeing in the African Continent.





IN BRIEF

Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei joined Mr. Sanhay Pradhan, Chief Executive Officer of Open Government Partnership during the Open Government Partnership workshop on the global governance of technology in Nairobi on March 12, 2024

The PS commended the Open Government Partnership partners' dedication to leveraging digital tools for transparency, accountability, and effective service delivery.

He emphasized the potential and challenges of technologies like AI, and further urged OGP champions to reflect on this duality for effective tech use. Kenya remains committed to fostering an inclusive digital future.



On March 7, 2024 Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei and H.E. Barlybay Sadykov, Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Kenya signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Political Consultations between the Ministries in charge of Foreign Affairs for the two countries.

The signing of the MOU was witnessed by H.E. Mr. Erzhan Kh. Kazykhan, Assistant to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan for External Affairs and laid a framework for further cooperation between the two countries.

On January 12, 2024, Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei delivered President Ruto's message to General Paul Malong Awan Anei, Chairman, South Sudan United Front and through him to other key leaders of the South Sudan Opposition Movement (SSOMA).

The PS conveyed to him Kenya's commitment to working with all stakeholders towards a stable and democratic South Sudan; crucial to a peaceful Eastern and Horn of Africa.

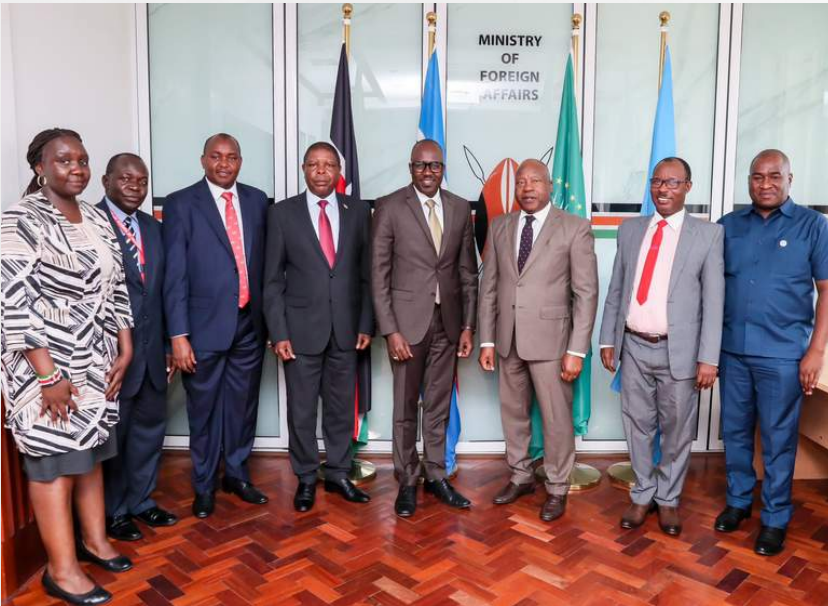


Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei met with H.E. Dr. Salim Ibrahim Al Nagbi, Ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Kenya on January 9, 2024

They deliberated on issues that anchor relations. Specifically, they agreed on enhancing and entrenching bilateral relations on matters of Safe & Secure Labour Migration, Renewable Energy, Security Cooperation, and Counterterrorism, as well as on Cooperation on Governance and Government Experience.



IN BRIEF



On March 12, 2024, Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei met with Amb. Joao Samuel Caholo, Executive Secretary of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and commended his leadership in promoting peace, security, and development in the region.

The PS welcomed the decision to locate the ICGLR Youth Forum Secretariat in Nairobi, which will create exciting opportunities for Kenyan youth.

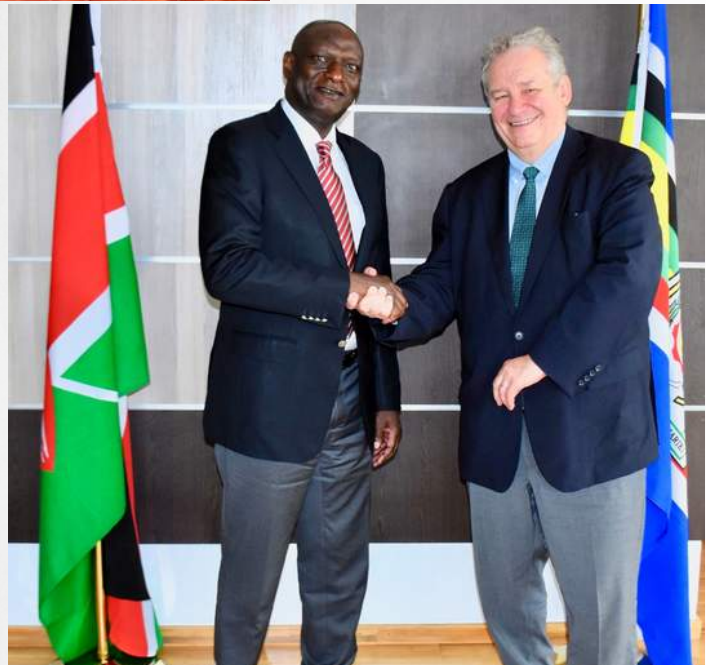
They also discussed the forthcoming ICGLR Mineral and Investment Conference to be held in Nairobi in July and expressed satisfaction with the preparatory processes.

H.E. Mr. Peter Maddens, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Belgium to Kenya, paid a courtesy call on Hon. Charles Keter E.G.H, President's Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region on March 11, 2024.

The two deliberated on peace and security situation in Eastern DRC and the region generally to give light on how Belgium can leverage for peace and security.

Special focus alluded to the importance of Kenya leadership in the process of brokering peace in Eastern DRC and the region at large.

Accompanying the Ambassador was Machteld Cattrysse, Deputy Head of Mission Belgium. Also in attendance was Charles Nyaga, Europe Desk State Department for Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Dennis Wamalwa.



Amb. Yabesh Monari, Director General, Foreign Service Administration represented the Principal Secretary Dr. Korir Singoei at the luncheon in honor of the African Diplomatic Corps on the inauguration of the 1st Cohort of senior Public Service officials in the Leadership Programme for National Transformation on February 22, 2024.

The programme officially launched by Hon. Moses Kuria seeks to transform the Public Service through capacity development geared towards meeting the expectations of citizens in institutional performance.

In his address, DG Monari lauded KSG for their continuous collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs in shaping and empowering Diplomats both in Kenya and Africa at large.



IN BRIEF



On February 22, 2024, Ms. Beatrice Karago, 'ndc' (K), Director, Americas and the Caribbean Directorate received H.E. Jesús Manzanilla Puppo, Ambassador of Embassy of Venezuela in Kenya for a working meeting on issues of mutual interest, including upcoming high-level visits during UNEA-6.

Ambassador Steffan Schønemann of Denmark in Kenya paid a courtesy call on Amb. Rose Makena Muchiri Director, Europe and Commonwealth Directorate on February 22, 2024.

The Ambassadors noted that Kenya and Denmark enjoy warm cordial relations and cooperation in several areas. They also discussed on the upcoming high-level visits, including the attendance of UNEA-6.



The Foreign Service Academy (FSA) hosted a group of 18 visiting M.A. International Relations students from USIU-Africa as part of the University's Field Research activity module. The students, led by Prof. Hussein A. Mahmoud, Associate Professor of the IR Department, received an insightful briefing from Amb. Paul K. Ndung'u, Ag. Director-General/FSA and Dr. Fatma A. Abdallah, Head, Research, foreign policy analysis and knowledge management.

The briefing focused on Kenya's foreign policy outlook from a practitioner's perspective as well as the Academy's role in equipping Kenyan diplomats with requisite skills for effective articulation of Kenya's foreign policy and overall global representation. Amb. Ndung'u noted that Kenya's foreign policy has evolved in response to the changing realities of International Relations



IN BRIEF



PS Dr. Korir Singoei joined the United Nations General Assembly President H.E. Dennis Francis during a public lecture at the University of Nairobi, on March 1, 2024. The lecture focused on 'The Role of Africa in Strengthening Multilateralism' and aimed to address the interconnected challenges facing the African continent.

In his speech, PS Singoei emphasized the country's dedication to fostering peace and stability in Africa by advocating for a fair global order. He described Kenya as a strong supporter of multilateralism and a leader in strengthening the mandates of Regional economic blocs. In his address H.E. Dennis Francis called on Africa to unite, amplify its voice and confront the challenges that undermine peace, prosperity and human rights.

The PS applauded the President General Assembly's efforts in advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and SDGs at the General Assembly

Dr. Ghazi Al-Topy, Head of the African Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, paid a courtesy call on Mr. Abdishakur Sheikh Hussein, Director of the Middle East Directorate on March 1, 2024.

Dr. Ghazi Al-Topy called for more engagements, particularly on Trade and Investments, Safe and Secure Labour Migration, in the Energy sector, Blue Economy & Ports Management, as well as on Peace & Security, especially collaborations in combating Terrorism & Extreme Violence.

On his part, Director Abdishakur noted the scope for enhanced bilateral relations between Kenya and Iraq, and further welcomed the opportunity for robust engagements on these matters in the context of Political and Diplomatic Consultations.



H.E. Dr. Mohamed Hery Saripudin, the Indonesian Ambassador to Kenya, paid a courtesy call on Mr. Maurice A. Okoth, Director Asia and the Pacific on March 18, 2024.

Director Okoth welcomed the Ambassador and assured him that he looked forward to working closely to strengthen the ties between the two countries.

H.E. Dr. Mohamed appealed for more engagement between the two countries. Other issues discussed include; 10th World Water forum in Bali, Indonesia – Africa Summit II 2024, The 2nd Indonex Expo in Nairobi Capacity Building, and commerce relations. The two agreed to improve and intensify engagements between the two countries as a way of deepening mutual relations



Do not stray away

Stay close to the hearth
for its soothing warmth
its energizing, revitalizing
do not stray away
from that good fire

The fire of solidarity
the fire of sustainability
the fire of community
do not stray away
from that good fire

The fire of collaboration
the fire of transformation
the fire of celebration
do not stray away
from that good fire

The fire of creativity
the fire of integrity
the fire of tenacity
do not stray away
from that good fire

The fire of inclusiveness
the fire of mindfulness
the fire of progressiveness
do not stray away
from that good fire

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Kimani Mwangi

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Safari Rally Kenya - March 28 - 31, 2024

VISION

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MISSION

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

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