

## OFFICE OF THE PRIME CABINET SECRETARY AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS

PRESS RELEASE
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FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024

## **KENYA - DRC RELATIONS**

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo

The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, has concluded a fruitful official visit to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as a **Special Envoy of H.E. President William Ruto.** The Prime Cabinet Secretary's delegation included Mr. Mohamed-Daghar, the Principal Secretary in the State Department for Transport, Mr. Allan Kilavuka, the CEO of Kenya Airways, Amb. Josephat Maikara, Director of EAC/ICGLR at the Ministry, Mr. Kevin Thuo, the Charge D'Affaires at Kenya's Embassy to the DRC, among other senior officials. During his visit, Dr. Mudavadi delivered a **Special Message from President Ruto to H.E. President Felix Tshisekedi of the DRC**.

Additionally, the Prime Cabinet Secretary engaged in constructive discussions with H.E. Christophe Lutundula Apala Pen'Apala, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of Congo, focusing on various issues of mutual interest. These bilateral discussions took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere, resulting in the establishment of three key agreements aimed at strengthening cooperation between Kenya and the DRC.

The two countries have reached the following agreements:

- 1. Kenya Airways will resume full operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo, thereby enhancing connectivity and trade between Nairobi and Kinshasa.
- 2. The DRC ambassador, who had been recalled, will promptly resume duties in Nairobi. In return, the new Kenyan ambassador to the DRC will present credentials and commence work without delay.

3. Kenya and the DRC technical teams will commence discussions to lay the groundwork for the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) meeting, which will be held at the earliest convenience.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary also took the opportunity to meet with Kenyan organisations operating in the DRC, including Equity Bank BCDC – a subsidiary of Equity Bank Kenya – KCB-owned TMB bank, as well as a meeting with the Kenya airways staff in DRC. The meeting with Kenya Airways staff was particularly vital in assuring the national carrier of government's support in its areas of operations.

The successful visit of Hon. Musalia Mudavadi underscores the commitment of Kenya and the DRC to deepening their diplomatic relations – based on mutual trust and partnerships – as well as in fostering mutually beneficial collaboration across various sectors. This paves the way for a promising future of shared prosperity and development.

For media inquiries or further information, please contact the undersigned.

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