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Harambee Afrika



Kenya Embassy Addis Ababa Newsletter



Leveraging Kenya's
Africa Diplomacy



Content



H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Margaret Kenyatta accompanied by Amb. Catherine Muigai Mwangi



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FROM THE DESK OF THE AMBASSADOR



Catherine Muigai Mwangi
AMBASSADOR/PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE

It is with great pleasure that I present to you this 7th edition of Harambee Afrika, the Kenya Embassy newsletter. At the outset I wish to extend warm greetings to all our esteemed readers.

We launch this issue at a critical juncture of our continents history covering the period of July, 2014 to February, 2015. The Continent experienced one of the worst disease outbreaks in History the Ebola Disease outbreak which started out in West Africa and affected multiple countries. The Ebola outbreak in West Africa was first reported in March 2014, and has rapidly become the deadliest occurrence of the disease since its discovery in 1976. The disease has killed more than 9,729 people and the reported number of cases has

been more than 23,948. In this regard the AU organized an emergency conference to tackle this menace in October Kenya participated and donated US\$ 1 Million dollars towards the relief efforts.

Terrorism and violent extremism is affecting an increasing number of African countries with most terrorists claiming affiliation with Al-Qaida continue to pose the biggest challenge. The emergence of Boko Haram has become an issue of serious concern not only to the people of the North-Eastern Nigeria but also to Africa and the world at large.

It is against this backdrop that the Republic of Chad, as Chair of the PSC for the month of September 2014, planned the PSC Summit on terrorism in Africa that took place in the Kenyan capital. The Presidents of Chad, Niger, Nigeria, Somalia, Tanzania and Uganda, Burundi's Vice President as well as the Prime Ministers of Namibia and Algeria led their countries' delegations.

On the Continental side the African Union and Kenya officially launched the African Institute of Remittances (AIR) at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies. AIR is an organ of the AUC with an overall mandate to lower the costs of remittances by gathering, analyzing and disseminating statistics and data on remittances; and leverage remittances for development.

We also witnessed the graduation of the first batch of students from the Pan African University Institute of Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation (PAUSTI). The graduation ceremony

took place on Monday, 24th November, 2014 at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Juja.

This has also been an exciting year for the Mission; we hosted H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta 3 times (2 times for the IGAD Extra Ordinary Summit and once for the African Union Summit in January, 2015). On the African Continent it has been a very challenging yet exciting year.

This publication covers areas of our Bilateral Relations with Ethiopia including the 1st Joint Technical Meeting on the Implementation of the Special Status Agreement with Ethiopia.

I had the honor of Hosting the Wananchi Club during the Ambassadors Baraza, This group of hard working Kenyans who are contributing to the development of their countries of residence and who in their everyday endeavors keep on lifting the Kenyan flag high as true ambassadors of their motherland.

I would also like to take this opportunity to welcome four new members of staff who have recently joined the Embassy: Amb. Aggrey Shitsama, Deputy Head of Mission, Mr. Joseph Vungo, First Counselor, Alice Avedi, Second Counselor and Mr. Erick Nyaga, Trade Attaché.

Lastly, we are very encouraged by the positive feedback we receive from our readership regarding the content, quality of articles, and readability we shall endeavor to uphold these standards.

Happy Reading !

29TH JOINT BORDER COMMISSIONERS’/ADMINISTRATORS’ MEETING

The 29th session of the Kenya-Ethiopia Joint Border Commissioners’/Administrators’ Meeting was convened on 17-18, October 2014 in Mombasa, Kenya. In furtherance of the warm and cordial relations, and the need to foster friendly relations between border communities, The meeting takes place annually between Commissioners’/ Administrators’ responsible for the daily management of the joint border in order to exchange ideas on how to effectively ensure that cross border communities live in harmony and at peace with each other.

The Meeting was officially opened by Mr. Joseph Irungu, Secretary for Interior on behalf of Amb. Monica K. Juma, Principal Secretary for Interior, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government of the Republic of Kenya. The Opening ceremony was also addressed by H.E. Ato Tagesse Chaffo, Deputy President of Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s Regional State (SNNPRS) of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) and the Head of the Ethiopian Delegation. Mr. Ernest Munyi, the Regional Coordinator for North Eastern Region of the Republic of Kenya led the Kenyan delegation.

After fruitful deliberations held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, the meeting agreed on a variety of issue which include the inspection and maintenance of the Boundary Pillars for the entire Kenya-Ethiopia border. The two countries resolved to continually share information on human trafficking and illegal migration in order to



The delegation posing for a photo at Travellers Beach , Mombassa.

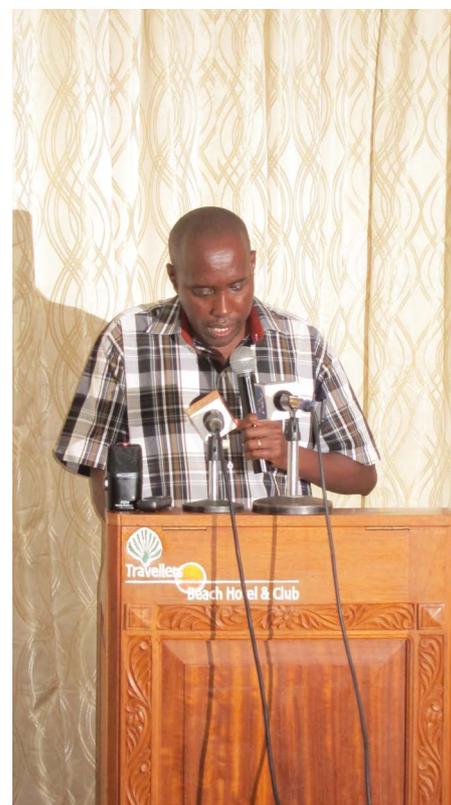
ensure that terrorists do not take advantage of the situation while encouraging closer cooperation and regular meetings of the Joint Border Security Committees.

The meeting finally agreed to consider an interim list of commodities that could be traded freely across the border pending the implementation of the Border Trade protocol and agreed to push for the conclusion of MOUs in Health, Agriculture, Livestock, Health and Education in order to foster closer cross border cooperation in the economic and social sector. The meeting was officially closed by Mr. Joseph Ole Lenku, Cabinet Secretary for Interior and Coordination of National Government.

Fifty five participants from both Kenya and Ethiopia participated in the meeting. They were drawn from Government Ministries, Departments, Agencies, County Governments, and community leaders. Also in attendance was H.E. Amb. Ukur Yattani, the Governor for Marsabit County; Hon. Chachu Ganya, MP for North Horr Constituency; Hon. Sora Guyo, the Deputy Speaker of Marsabit County Assembly.



H.E. Ato Tagesse Chaffo, Deputy President of Southern Nations, Nationalities and People’s Regional State (SNNPRS) of the FDRE & Mr. Ernest Munyi, the Regional Coordinator for North Eastern Region of the Republic of Kenya signing the Agreed Minutes

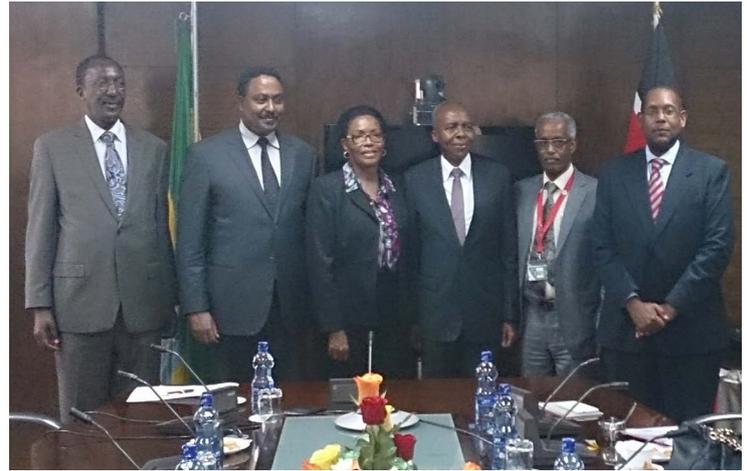


Mr. Joseph Ole Lenku, former Cabinet Secretary for Interior and Coordination of National Government giving his closing remarks

TRANSPORT MEETING



Hon. Workneh Gebeyehu, Minister for Transport of Ethiopia with Eng. Michael Kamau, Cabinet Secretary for Transport Kenya with at his offices



Hon. Workneh Gebeyehu, Eng. Michael Kamau, Amb. Catherine Muigai, Mr. Titus Naikumi, former CEO Kenya Airways, Mr. Nduva Muli, Principal Secretary Ministry of Transport

Eng. Michael Kamau, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Kenya met with Hon. Workneh Gebeyehu, Minister for Transport of Ethiopia in July, 2014 at the Ministry Headquarters in Addis, Ababa, Ethiopia. He was accompanied by Mr. Nduva Muli, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Transport, Amb. Catherine Muigai, Ambassador of Kenya to Ethiopia, Mr. Titus Naikumi, former CEO Kenya Airways and Ms. Elizabeth Onunga, Regional Manager Kenya Airways. The meeting centered on issues of mutual interest to both countries & how to cooperate in the transport sector.

Later on H.E. the Ambassador met with Mr. Mbuvi Ngunze, the incoming Group Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Kenya Airways and the Addis Ababa staff hosted Amb. Catherine Muigai for dinner.

Right : Hon. Workneh Gebeyehu, Eng. Michael Kamau, Tewolde Gebremariam, CEO Ethiopian Airlines, Mr. Titus Naikumi, Mr. Nduva Muli and the General Manager, Elily International Hotel at dinner hosted by the Ministry of Transport.



Amb. Catherine Muigai and Mr. Mbuvi Ngunze (in glasses) the incoming Group Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Kenya Airways with some of the Kenya Airways Staff in Addis Ababa.

THE 1ST JOINT TECHNICAL EXPERTS MEETING ON THE SPECIAL STATUS AGREEMENT (SSA) BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

The first Joint Technical Experts meeting on the implementation of the SSA between Kenya and Ethiopia was held at the Intercontinental hotel Nairobi, Kenya on 11th December 2014. The SSA was signed on 21st November 2012 and came into force in April 2014. The agreement aims at enhancing the relations between two countries by granting special status in the identified sectors of Trade, Investment, Infrastructure, Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods. The main agenda of the meeting was to assess the SSA implementation status and chart the way forward.

The opening ceremony was graced by H.E. Ambassador B. H. Ogutu, Political & Diplomatic Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Trade of the Republic of Kenya on behalf of the Principal Secretary.

In his remarks he lauded the relationship between the two countries on economic, cultural and historical ties since 1954. He stated that the two countries are strategic partners within IGAD, COMESA and African Union; and noted the increased volumes of trade between the two countries attributed to the continuing improvement of the bilateral relations. He reaffirmed the commitment of the Government of Kenya on the implementation of the SSA and hoped that the meeting will develop a concrete implementation and monitoring plan.

In his opening remarks Ambassador Solomon Abebe expressed his appreciation for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and his delegation. He observed that the level of the implementation of the SSA is limited compared to both parties expectation. He reiterated that the focus of the meeting should be on designing implementation mechanism and action plan.

The meeting looked at the implementation status of the SSA, deliberated on each identified sectors of the agreement namely: Trade; Investment; Infrastructure and; Food Security and Sustainable livelihood and chartered the way forward based

on timelines. Both Parties agreed that a lot needs to be done to implement the agreement.

In regard to trade, the meeting commended on work already done but agreed to establish Joint Trade Committee (JTC) within three months to promote trade for both countries and strengthen the work done so far. On Tourism, the meeting agreed to establish Joint Tourism Committee to promote tourism for both countries.

In respect to SMEs, both parties agreed the relevant sectors should share experience and work out plan of action.

In regard to Investment, the meeting agreed to: exchange draft agreement on promotion and protection of investment; exchange draft agreement on avoidance of double taxation; and establish Joint Private Investment Council (JPIC) by mid January.

On infrastructure: it was observed that both sides are working on energy generation; construction on Isiolo-Moyale road and Lamu Port South Sudan and Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) corridor project are on course; it was agreed that One Stop Border Post (OSBP) should be completed on time and should be followed by a ground breaking ceremony; and finally both parties agreed to harmonize their transport rules and axle load.

In respect to Food Security and Sustainable Livelihoods: Ethiopian side agreed to communicate to the relevant ministry and agencies on the Kenyan proposal to establish a joint fact finding mission on the impact of GIBE III project on the Lake Turkana Basin. In this regard both parties agreed to create linkage for information sharing between Joint Border Commission and SSA Implementation Technical Committee. Both parties also agreed to explore and develop pro-poor economic initiatives to promote food security and legal trade in livestock sector.

Finally the meeting was in concurrence that the next meeting should take place in

Ethiopia as soon as possible.

The meeting was attended by both Kenyan and Ethiopian delegation. The Kenyan delegation was led by H.E. Ambassador N. Ndirangu, Director of the Economic & International Trade at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Trade while Ethiopian delegation was led by H.E. Ambassador Solomon Abebe, Director General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia. H.E. Ambassador Catherine Mwangi, Head of Mission, Kenya Embassy in Addis Ababa was present and played the role of the deputy head of Kenyan delegation.

PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS IN DJIBOUTI

H.E. Catherine Muigai presented her Credentials to H.E. Ismail Omar Guelleh President of Djibouti at the Presidential Palace in Djibouti City on the 23rd March, 2015.

EMERGENCY MEETING ON THE EBOLA OUTBREAK HELD ON THE 8TH SEPTEMBER, 2014.

source : www.nbcnews.com



The Ebola disease outbreak was first reported in March 2014 in West Africa and has rapidly become one of the deadliest disease outbreaks since its discovery in 1976. In fact, the current epidemic that swept across the West African region has now killed more than all other known Ebola outbreaks combined. Up to 28 February, 2015 the disease had claimed a total of 9,729 lives in six countries; Liberia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, the US and Mali, the reported total number of reported cases is more than 23,948.

The outbreak had begun in Guinea in March, 2014 and had spread to Sierra Leone, Liberia, Nigeria and then to Senegal. The transmission was taking place across borders due to the porous borders and the fragile health systems. Significant deficit in human, financial and material resources were needed to respond to the outbreak.

At the onset of the outbreak, The African Union Commission (AUC) organized an Emergency Executive Council Meeting on the Ebola Outbreak on the 8th September, 2014. The Objective of the meeting was to discuss an African response to the crisis and to deliberate on the suspension of flights, maritime and border closures, as well as the stigmatization of the affected countries and their nationals. Concern had been raised by some countries that such measures could have serious socio economic and cultural effects, and could ultimately lead to increased suffering of the people in the affected countries.

The Kenyan government in solidarity with the African continent sent a high profile delegation led by Amb. Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs & International Trade which included Mr. Henry Rotich, Cabinet Secretary National Treasury, Amb. Catherine Mwangi, Ambassador of Kenya to Ethiopia and Dr. Dr. William Maina, Head, Directorate of Preventive and Promotive Health Services, Ministry of Health and other government officials.

H.E. Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, Chairperson of the African Union remarked that Africa needed to stand in solidarity with the affected nations in particular Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and that the presence of the African Ministers was a testimony to the solidarity given the short period that the AUC had called for the meeting. The objective of the meeting was to show solidarity and to develop a

collective, comprehensive and coordinated strategy to combat the outbreak.

The Chairperson added that the crisis had highlighted the weakness of the African Public Health systems therefore the need to move faster to operationalize the African Centre for Disease Control. She finally called on all members to work together to assist the affected and thanked the WHO, Medicines Sans Frontiers, the UNHCR, the US Center for Disease Control and many other international partners and members states for their continued support.

Also present was Mr. Carlos Lopez, UN Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of ECA who remarked that there had been thirteen (13) reported Ebola Disease Outbreaks in the world since it was discovered in Yambuku, DRC in the 1970s and Ebola had been stopped every time.

Therefore, there was need to stop the panic and stigmatization of the countries and their nationals. He stated that the economic impact on the countries affected would be significant with estimates being at 7% of the total GDP due to a combination of factors and reduction in investments with other far reaching consequences in the social sphere.

He called on for solidarity and massive mobilization of resources and personnel while urging member states to stop misinformation and called for action for a substantial funding and estimated that the United Nations needed close to US\$ 600 Million to combat Ebola. He concluded by saying that Africa needed to put a



Amb. Amina Mohammed addressing the forum

special emphasis on the containment and prevention of Ebola and should put mechanisms for future outbreaks while calling on Africans to come out in solidarity with the affected member states.

Dr. Luis Gomes Sambo, Regional Director WHO Regional office for Africa made a presentation to the Council on the Ebola crisis. While extending his condolences to the affected countries he noted that the meeting was being held against a background of an unprecedented outbreak of Ebola that had killed over 2000 people and had affected 3000 more and had stretched the continents resources to the limit. He informed that WHO according to the international Health Regulations did not support the imposition of travel bans, closure of borders both maritime and terrestrial and the suspension/cancellation of flights to the affected countries. In her opening statement to the Council,

Amb. Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs & International Trade informed that Kenya was deeply concerned about the outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease and its persistent transmission in a number of countries in the West African region. She further expressed solidarity with the affected countries and the entire African continent and informed that Kenya had put in place a National Ebola Task Force to coordinate national preparedness and also monitor the situation in the affected countries and advise the government on all the necessary measures to be taken.

On the cancellation of flights from West Africa, she informed that Kenya being a major air travel hub in the East African region was more vulnerable to importation of Ebola and other Infectious diseases through air travel. She further stressed that the country did not suspend flights to the affected countries rather it left this to the

discretion of air travel operators and added that the government has been requesting them to continuously review the temporary suspension.

She concluded by saying that Kenya would support the affected countries through the provision of medical support teams to join the local health teams in responding to the outbreak and towards that effort Kenya contributed US\$ 1 Million to the three affected countries. Later on the Government sent a contingent of nurses and doctors to the affected countries.

All members States called for the cancellation of the general travel ban, and called all members to give information and advice so as to manage the exposure, to detect, to investigate all Ebola cases. They called for more finances towards the three affected countries.

CABINET SECRETARY AMB. AMINA MOHAMED LEADS KENYA DELEGATION AT THE SECOND AFRICA -TURKEY SUMMIT MALABO EQUATORIAL GUINEA.

Amb. Amina Mohamed represented President Uhuru Kenyatta on behalf of the East African Community at the Second Africa Turkey Summit. The Summit was held on the 21st November 2014 at Sipopo Conference Center, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea under the theme New Model of Partnership for the Strengthening of Sustainable Development and Integration. To prepare for the summit, a meeting of senior officials was held on the 19th November and the Executive Council on 20th November 2014.

The summit organized under the Banjul formula by the African Union Commission and the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, aimed to forge future cooperation and further develop strategic ties. The African and Turkish governments considered the Joint Implementation Plan of Africa –Turkey Partnership 2015-2018, and discussed the way forward regarding the proposed key priority projects of plan.

The Second Africa Turkey Summit was a follow-up to the first Turkey-Africa Cooperation Summit, which was held in Istanbul, in August 2008. The Summit which adopted “The Istanbul Declaration on Turkey-Africa Partnership: Cooperation and Solidarity for a Common Future” and “Cooperation Framework for Turkey-Africa Partnership”, spelt out the areas of



cooperation between the two parties and established a follow-up mechanism.

Ambassador Amina while delivering her key note address on behalf of the East African Community recalled two outcome documents, namely the Istanbul Declaration and the Framework for Cooperation, adopted during the First Africa -Turkey Summit which spelt out the areas of cooperation between the two parties as well as an Implementation Plan 2010-2014 jointly developed taking into account the strong bilateral relations between many African countries and Turkey.

She noted that EAC and Turkey can promote mutual development by undertaking programmes such as assisting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to expand exports through programmes aimed at improving skills in product development, marketing and value addition for exports, cooperating in the mining sector and technology transfer, encouraging joint ventures in the field of production of low-cost and reliable energy to boost global competitiveness and utilizing East African Business Council (EABC) to promote interaction between the business communities and industrialists in East Africa and Turkey.

She reiterated that agriculture forms a major sector in EAC Partner States and has great potential for uplifting East Africa's socio-economic development and can contribute to increased trade relations between East Africa and Turkey. In this respect the EAC strongly believe that sharing information of value addition in the agricultural sector will increase employment in the rural areas and contribute to foreign exchange earnings. The holding of regular trade fairs in Turkey will further enhance the presence and penetration of EAC products in the Turkish Market.

Ambassador Amina highlighted the role of investments in energy infrastructure, including promotion of renewable energy and energy-efficient technologies as key in achieving economic growth. The East Africa region advocates for enhanced energy infrastructure through development of the energy industry including the promotion of renewable energy and improved energy efficiency, clean technologies like solar, wind, geothermal energy, bio-fuel and other renewable energies. She stressed on the need to promote the cooperation between Turkish energy companies including state-owned and private companies and national petroleum companies in East African countries with a view to exploring opportunities of oil and oil products trading for the benefit of both sides.

In view of the important role culture, education and tourism play in advancing development, she noted that there is need to enhance cooperation in the socio-economic sector between East African Community and Turkey. In this regard the region urges for students exchange programmes to promote skills development and technology transfer among students and staff for experience sharing, establish regional cultural exchange programmes between EAC and Turkey and encourage East African and Turkish academic institutions to exchange languages instructors.

In conclusion, Amb Amina said co-operation between Africa and Turkey can facilitate the realization of Africa's Agenda 2063 and the Post 2015 Development Agenda. She reiterated the need to ensure the identified areas of cooperation are consistent with the continent's development agenda. "The Africa-Turkey partnership should place emphasis on aligning the priority projects to the African Union Commission's Strategic Plan and Agenda 2063."

The Second Summit followed up on the Africa-Turkey partnership projects and further consolidated and developed areas of cooperation at all levels and examined the progress of the partnership, discussed common achievements as well as implementation challenges. It further mapped out the future direction of the partnership based on the lessons learnt.

Africa and Turkey see their partnership as a historic opportunity to create a united front to serve socio economic development objectives. In the joint plan of action, the leaders identified key areas of agreements across the following areas: institutional cooperation; trade and investment; agriculture, business, rural development, water resource management, small and medium scale enterprises; health; peace and security; conflict resolution and mediation; migration; infrastructure, energy, mining and transport; culture, tourism and education; media, information and communication technologies; environment; and youth and employment.

As they deliberated and made recommendations for the future, the leaders were conscious of the changing realities that have taken place since the first Summit of the Africa-Turkey Cooperation forum. Over the past five years, Africa has consistently posted 7 out of the world's 10 fastest growing economies. In the same period, Africa has seen the emergence of the world's fastest growing consumer class. At the same time, Turkey's footprint on the continent has grown, with the establishment of more diplomatic and consular offices as well as stronger air links among other major developments.



Top & Bottom : Amb. Amina Mohammed , CS Foreign Affairs and Amb. Purity Muhindi , Director Africa & African Union at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Kenya conferring before the Summit.



PRESIDENT UHURU KENYATTA LEADS THE KENYAN DELEGATION TO THE 24TH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT IN ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA



H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Margaret Kenyatta, accompanied by Amb. Catherine Muigai Mwangi and Mr. Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the AU, upon arrival for the 24th Ordinary Summit of the Africa Union

His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya led the Kenyan delegation comprising of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Ministry of Planning and Devolution, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Finance and National Treasury, Attorney General Office, NEPAD Kenya Secretariat, National Assembly and Senate at the 24th Ordinary Summit of the African Union from 30th to 31st January 2015

Prior to the Summit, there was 26th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council and the 29th Session of the Permanent Representative Committee held from the 26-27 and 23-24 respectively. The summit was held under the theme: "2015 Year of Women's Empowerment and Development towards Africa's Agenda 2063".

Some of the key highlights of the outcome of the Summit included Decision on the Progress Report of the Commission on the Implementation of Previous Decisions on the International Criminal Court (ICC) in which the Assembly commended President Uhuru Kenyatta for the leadership demonstrated and the unprecedented act of appointing the Acting President so as to

respect the Court Summons and protect the Sovereignty of Kenya.

The Assembly equally noted with concern that that the case against the Deputy President William Samoei Ruto is still proceeding before the International Criminal Court reiterating to the ICC the imperative need to terminate its prosecution against the Deputy President as per the previous decisions. The Assembly urged the African State parties to continue to speak with one voice to ensure that African proposals to the amendments to articles 16 and 27 of the Rome Statute of the ICC are considered by the Assembly of State Parties Working Group on amendments as well as by the forthcoming sessions of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute.

Another milestone in the just concluded Summit Kenya pledging USD 1 million towards the establishment of the Court after the Assembly underscored the need to expeditiously operationalize the exercise of the jurisdiction of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights to try international crimes through signing and ratification of both the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights

and the Protocol on the Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights by Member States of the African Union. The Republic of Kenya, Benin and Guinea Bissau signed Protocol on the Amendments to the Protocol on the Statute of the African Court of Justice and Human Rights. The Assembly equally underlined the need to ensure predictable and sustainable funding.

The 24th ordinary Summit also saw the adoption of Agenda 2063 and the first ten year implementation plan including the following Flagship projects geared towards promoting integration in Africa: Integrated High Speed Train Network; Great Inga Dam; Single African Aviation Market; Outer Space; The Pan African E-Network; Creation of an Annual African Consultative Platform; Establishment of the Virtual University; Free Movement of Persons and the African Passport; The Continental Free Trade Area; Silencing the Guns by 2020; Development of a Commodity Strategy and establishment of the Continental financial Institutions, including the African Central Bank by 2030. On the Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak, the Assembly recommended the extension of the mandate of the African Union

Support to the Ebola Outbreak in West Africa (ASEOWA) and called upon Member States to lift all restrictions imposed on Ebola affected countries; requested the international financial institutions and partner countries to cancel the debt of the three affected countries (Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone) and approved the recommendation to urgently convene a Global Conference on the Ebola epidemic by the Commission in liaison with all stakeholders as well as appealed to the scientific community to accelerate the search for a vaccine against Ebola.

On the Establishment of the African Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (African CDC), the Assembly expressed satisfaction for efforts made by the Commission to speed up the process for the establishment of the Centre by mid-2015 and approved that the coordination office should initially be at the Headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa. The African Union Commission was authorised to undertake the mobilization of funds from Member States, development partners and the private sector who have already indicated an interest and with experience in the domain.

Regarding the Report of the High Level African Trade Committee (HATC) on trade issues, the Assembly reaffirmed its commitment to launch continental free trade area negotiations in June 2015 and mandated the Chairperson of the HATC in collaboration with the Chairperson of the Commission to engage in high level consultations for the establishment of the CFTA.

On the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the Assembly urged Member States to identify key issues in the post-Bali work programme that facilitate the achievement of Africa's strategic structural transformation and regional integration agenda.

On African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), the Assembly called upon AGOA-eligible countries to enhance the advocacy to complement the efforts of the African Group of Ambassadors in Washington, USA towards the reauthorization of AGOA.

On Africa's engagements at the UN climate summit and Lima global Climate Change Conference (COP20/CMP 10), the Assembly requested the Commission to facilitate the implementation of the WPCCAA and put in place a mechanism for follow up and regular reporting to the Summit on its implementation; and the AMCEN and AGN to take into account the WPCCAA in their



President Uhuru Kenyatta leads the Kenyan delegation at 24th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State & Government of the African Union

negotiations and engagement with other partners in the climate change processes and for a. It approved the recommendation that a Troika comprising the outgoing, current and incoming presidents of AMCEN be the coordination mechanism of CAHOSSC.

President Uhuru Kenyatta presented the fifteenth report of the Committee of Ten Heads of State and Government on the Reform of the United Nations Security Council on behalf of President Ernest Bai Koroma of Sierra Leone. The Assembly reiterated its call for Africa to continue to speak with one voice and cohesively on all issues relating to the United Nations Security Council reform and related matters while ensuring that the interest of Africa are maintained and safeguarded at all times in the on-going Intergovernmental Negotiation on Security Council reform.

On the Report of the High Level Committee on the Post 2015 Development Agenda while acknowledging that negotiations by the global community has entered a critical phase noted that continued strategic engagement is necessary to facilitate the

evolution of a Post-2015 Development Agenda that is compatible with Africa's development objectives;

The Assembly equally supported decision to use the proposal from the OWG on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the main basis for negotiations as it captures the essential elements of the Common African Position (CAP) priorities and should not be reopened for further discussion. The Assembly endorsed the formation and the Terms of Reference of the African Group of Negotiators on the Post 2015 Development Agenda which shall be the single negotiating body acting on behalf of the continent

On the Alternative Sources of Financing the African Union, the Assembly recommended a proposal of a non-exhaustive and non-binding basket of options, at national, regional and continental levels, building on the reports of H.E. President Obasanjo and the ministerial Working Group of the CAMEF from which Member States may choose from, on the understanding that Member States preserve their sovereign rights of adding new options/measures deemed convenient to them.



President Uhuru Kenyatta addressing the Summit on ICC and Expansion of the mandate of the African Court

**RECEPTION OF THE PRESIDENT DURING THE 24TH AU SUMMIT,
JANUARY 2015.**



FIRST LADY MARGARET KENYATTA AT THE 14TH ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN FIRST LADIES AGAINST HIV/AIDS



H.E. Margaret Kenyatta confers with her Chief of Staff during the OAFLA Summit

First Lady of the Republic of Kenya, Margaret Kenyatta participated at the Fourteenth Ordinary General Assembly of the Organisation of African First Ladies against HIV/AIDS (OAFLA). The General Assembly was held under the theme: “Enhancing partnerships to create an enabling environment to achieve: the end of AIDS by 2030 and to empower women in their Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights”.

First Lady Margaret Kenyatta while addressing members of the Organization of African First Ladies against HIV/AIDS (OAFLA) at the working luncheon on eradication of Polio on the sidelines of the OAFLA called for concerted regional efforts for the total eradication of the debilitating polio virus in East Africa. She said that polio is one of the vaccine-preventable diseases that for many years continues to cause high child mortality, not only in Africa but in the whole world.



She noted with appreciation that since 1988 when the Global Polio Eradication Initiative was started, the number of cases has fallen by over 99 percent. She said this great milestone in polio eradication could not have been achieved without the commitment of the various countries, governments and stakeholders.

The First Lady said the government has been very supportive of the polio eradication agenda and child survival programs in general. The country started the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) in 1980 and has since registered admirable results. “The programme was so successful that four years later in 1984, we eradicated indigenous polio and remained polio-free for 22 years”, said the First Lady. She however said Kenya reported four imported outbreaks of polio between 2006 and 2013 that resulted in a total of 36 cases of the wild polio virus. “These outbreaks were promptly addressed and the country has not reported any polio case for the last 18 months since July, 2013”, she added.

Mrs. Kenyatta reiterated the need to ensure the refugee population in the region is polio free adding that the three cases reported in Kenya occurred in Daadab refugee camp.

Left : First Lady Margaret Kenyatta signs a partnership agreement between OAFLA and Alere inc.

She said Kenya will continue to provide leadership in all critical areas of Health including strengthening immunization systems, surveillance, resource mobilization and investment in programmes that help reduce maternal, neonatal and child mortality.

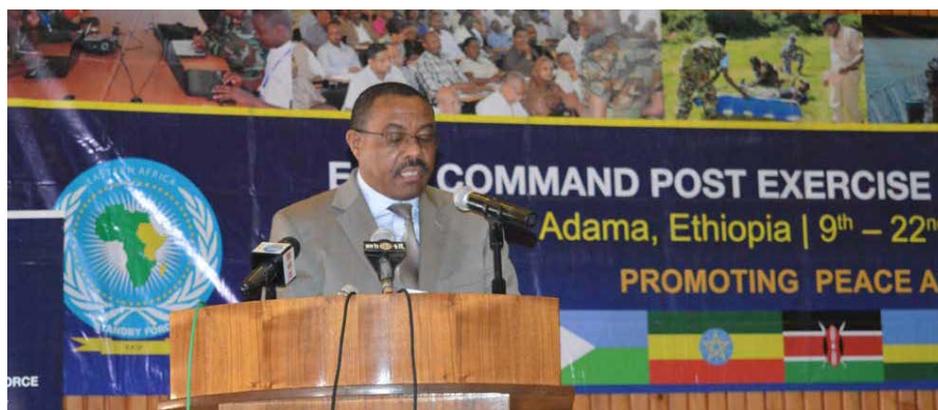
The First Lady was praised and congratulated for her efforts and determination in completing the 42-km London marathon in her campaigns to raise funds for the Beyond Zero campaign, an initiative that aims at saving the lives of mothers and children. The First Lady has been emphatic that no mother should die while giving life and all children should be able to enjoy their childhood and successfully go through the stages of adolescence to maturity.

African First Ladies have pledged to work in partnership with African Union Commission, various UN agencies including UNAIDS and UNFPA and other development agencies like the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and the private sector including Alere Inc to improve the lives and health of African women . The First Ladies have committed to raising awareness and high level political commitment and country ownership for Africa’s social and Health Agenda, including eliminating mother-to-child transmission of HIV (EMTCT) and delivering on the promise of an AIDS-free generation, women empowerment and SRHR.



First Lady Margaret Kenyatta delivers her key note address at the working Luncheon on Eradication of Polio on the Sidelines of OAFLA Summit

FULL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY OF THE EASTERN AFRICA STANDBY FORCE OVERVIEW



Left : H.E Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, during the closing ceremony of the EASF

The Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) is a regional security organization whose mandate is to enhance peace, security and stability in the Eastern Africa Region. The Force is one of the five regional multidimensional forces of the Africa Standby Force (ASF) consisting of the Military, Police and Civilian components and mechanism to provide capability for rapid deployment of forces to carry out preventive deployment, rapid intervention, peace support and peace enforcement within the region, continentally and globally.

MEMBERSHIP

EASF comprises countries from the Eastern Africa Region namely, Comoros, Seychelles, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Sudan, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. The force (EASF), consists of a secretariat (EASFSEC), a Force Headquarters (EASF/FHQs), a Logistic Base (LOGBASE), and a Planning Element (PLANELM) with a Military, a Police and a Civilian Components.

Since its establishment, about ten years ago, EASF has been working towards the full operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF) which is targeted to be achieved by 2015 within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and in line with the African Union

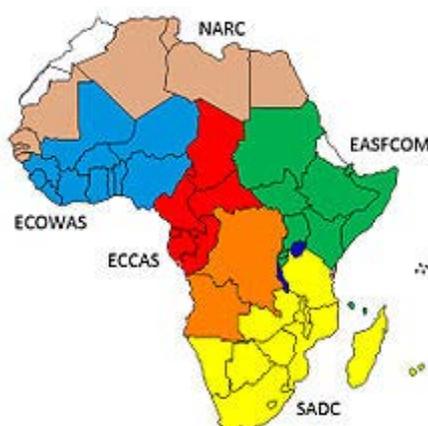
(AU) Roadmap III. The culmination to this endeavours by the EASF, was the just concluded Command Post Exercise named "EASF CPX – MASHARIKI SALAAM 2014" conducted in Adama City in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia from the 13th – 22nd November, 2014.

AIM

The aim of the CPX 2014 was to exercise a multidimensional Mission Headquarters in planning, preparation and execution of a peace-keeping mission in order to promote the theme "Promoting Peace and Security" and with the main objective of validating its readiness for Full Operational Capability (FOC).

ACHIEVEMENT

Encouraged by the successes emanating from the various exercises conducted by the EASF and the just concluded CPX on the 22nd November, 2014, the EASF Member States led by the Host nation's Prime Minister; H.E. Hailemariam Dessalegn declared that, EASF has attained its Full Operational Capability (FOC) a head of AU target of December 2015. The EASF is therefore, now ready for any security deployment whenever called upon by the African Union.



ANNUAL CISSA CONFERENCE 2014

Annual Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) Conference the year 2014 was held in Nairobi between 24th and 30th August 2014. The theme of the Conference was countering the threat of radicalization in the Region and the African Continent as a whole.

The CISSA Conference is held annually and the host usurps the Chairmanship of the Organisation for a period of one year. Its goal is to review the status of security in the Regional/continent.

The Conference impressed upon the need for periodic sharing of intelligence among member States to enable the continent deal with the various security challenges it is confronted with.

Kenya took over the chairmanship of the Committee from Zimbabwe while Ato Shimelis of Ethiopia was appointed the new Executive Secretary of CISSA replacing Isaac Moyo of Zimbabwe whose term was to expire in June 2015 but opted to resign earlier to take over a new posting as Zimbabwe's Ambassador to South Africa.

Left : EASF member countries



African Institute for Remittances (AIR)



Harnessing Migrant Remittances for Social and Economic Development

The African Institute of Remittances (AIR) was officially launched on the 28th November, 2014 at a colorful ceremony held at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies (KSMS) in Nairobi, Kenya. The highlights included the signing of a Host Country Agreement between the Government of Kenya and the African Union Commission and the official opening of the AIR offices located at the same venue.

The African Institute for Remittances (AIR) project is an organ of the African Union Commission (AUC) and has an overall mandate to lower the costs of remittances by gathering, analyzing and disseminating statistics and data on remittances; and leverage remittances for development. The AIR project is being funded by the European Commission (EC) and the World Bank in which they and selected development partners (the African Development Bank, and the International Organization for Migration).

The Ceremony was graced by among others Amb. Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Trade, H.E. Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union, Prof. Njuguna Ndungu, Governor of the Central Bank, The AUC, the European Union Delegation to the African Union; International Organization on Migration (IOM), World Bank; and the African Development Bank. Representatives from Mobile Network Operators: Safaricom (M-Pesa), MTN, Banks United Bank of Africa (UBA); Eco Bank; Equity Bank;

The event was preceded by a stakeholders forum in which there was debate and exchange of views on the volumes of remittances, challenges, and how best AIR will address these issues, the progress made in lowering remittances and how they have contributed to Africa's development agenda. The meeting concluded that if the cost of remitting money could be reduced by at least 5% margin, remittances could go up



Amb. Amina Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Trade & H.E. Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union, opening the ceremony

to over USD\$16 Billion annually. This could provide the recipients with the opportunity to invest more in education, health, housing and income generating activities.

For the first time in 2012, remittances became the largest external financial

source to Africa, ahead of FDI and ODA. Official Statistics indicate that in 2012 remittances amounted to USD 60.4 billion compared with USD 56.9 billion in 2011. Remittances to Africa represented 11% of global remittances in 2012, compared to 8% in 2001.



Amb. Amina Mohamed addressing the session during the launch.

This estimate does not include the unrecorded flows through informal channels.

The launching of AIR marked the conclusion of a long process that began in 2007 and officially endorsed at the Africa/EU Summit held in Lisbon Portugal in 2012 and the beginning of a new phase for the Institute. AIR began as a project under the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) adopted in 2007 under the Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) Partnership and was one of the eight Partnerships under the JAES. During the 2010 African Diaspora Summit in South Africa AIR was endorsed as one of the Diaspora Legacy Projects.

In 2011, consultations were held with various stakeholders from the private sector, Diaspora senders and recipients, and others on the organization of AIR. A report of the findings was submitted to the AUC Consultative and Experience Sharing Forum of July 2011. The AUC presented a report on the establishment of AIR to the 18th AU Heads of State Summit; the Summit acknowledged the importance of remittances to the African Continent and endorsed a decision on AIR by the Executive Council in January of 2012.

During the 5th Joint AU-ECA Annual Meeting of AU Ministers of Finance and Economic Planning meeting held in Addis Ababa in 2012. The Ministers approved a resolution on the establishment and overall structure of the institute.

In July 2012 Establishment of AIR is endorsed/approved by the 19th Heads of State and Governments Summit. Four countries submitted bids to host the Institute; Djibouti, Egypt, Kenya and Mauritius.

In November 2012 a fact finding mission visited 3 Countries that had submitted bids to host AIR (Egypt, Mauritius and Kenya) Djibouti did not submit its written bid in time and was thus not evaluated. The AUC completed a review of the Organizational Structure report and of offers received against AUC hosting criteria, and submitted them to the AU Permanent Representative Committee (PRC).

The African Union (AU) Executive Council in January, 2014 endorsed the offer made by the Republic of Kenya to host the African Institute for Remittances, while requesting the African Union Commission (AUC) to conclude the Host Agreement with the Republic of Kenya so as to ensure the formal take-off of the Institute in 2014.



Amb. Amina Mohamed & H.E. Erastus Mwencha signing the host country agreement



The Delegation in front of the new offices o AIR

The new AIR premises at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies

KENYA HOSTS AFRICA ENVIRONMENT/WANGARI MAATHAI DAY AND WORLD WILDLIFE DAY 3 MARCH 2015

President H.E Uhuru Kenyatta led the Commemoration of Africa Environment/Wangari Maathai Day and World Wildlife Day at the Kenya Wildlife Service Headquarters in Nairobi National Park. The theme of the celebrations Empowering Women for Sustainable Natural Resources Management was in line with the African Union Year of Women’s Empowerment and Development towards the Agenda 2063.

Africa Environment Day was designated in 2002 by the Organization African Unity (OAU) Council of Ministers in their meeting in Durban, South Africa, recognizing the numerous environmental challenges confronting the African continent. In January 2012, the African Union (AU) adopted a decision calling for the joint commemoration of Africa Environment Day and Wangari Maathai Day in recognition of the work and life of the late Prof. Wangari Maathai who dedicated her life to promoting environmental conservation and sustainable development in Africa. Previous celebrations have been held in Chad (2012), Tunisia (2013) and Lesotho in 2014.

The 2015 celebrations, hosted by the Government of the Republic of Kenya, brought together Representatives from various Government Ministries, Diplomatic Missions, United Nations Agencies, International and local Environmental NGOs, Conservationists, Schools and other stakeholders.

In his speech, H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta expressed appreciation to the African Union for recognizing and honoring Professor Maathai’s life and work and urged



President Uhuru Kenyatta presiding over the destruction of 15 tonnes of illegal ivory at the Ivory Burning site in the Nairobi National Park

Kenyans to plant trees in honour of her legacy. The President further underscored the important roles that wildlife plays in the ecosystem and in the socio-economic development of communities. He further emphasized the urgent need to step up the fight against wildlife crime, and called for intensive investment and cooperation with stakeholders in the fight against poaching. In her statement, H.E Commissioner Tumusiime Rhoda Peace paid tribute to the late Nobel Peace Prize laureate and highlighted her achievements in championing the cause of grassroots’ women and other marginalized groups. Commissioner Peace also highlighted women’s roles in society, in environmental management and the hurdles that they have to overcome.

Other speakers included the Cabinet Secretary for Environment Water and

Natural Resources, Representatives of the Dean of Ambassadors in Nairobi, UNEP and the Greenbelt Movement. To close the celebrations, President Uhuru Kenyatta presided over the destruction of 15 tonnes of illegal ivory at the Ivory Burning site in the Nairobi National Park, as a symbolic gesture to reaffirm Kenya’s dedication to eradicate poaching.

Subsequently on the 4th March 2015 there was the Women and Environment Forum in commemoration of Africa Environment and Wangari Maathai Day at the ICRAF Headquarters in Nairobi Kenya. The forum delved on gender and environmental management highlighting challenges and opportunities in promoting gender equality in Africa, emerging challenges in Africa, policy and institutional interventions to enhance women participation in environmental management among others.



Mrs. Beatrice Muthigani, Ms. Mercy A. Odongo and other participants plant a tree in commemoration of Wangari Maathai Day



Ms. Mercy A. Odongo and Ms Wanjira Mathai at the Women and Environment Forum ICRAF HQ in Nairobi

PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS AT UNECA

On 17th September 2014, Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi presented her Letters of Credence to Mr. Carlos Lopez, United Nations, Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa. The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) is mandated to promote economic social development of Africa and foster intra regional integration.

As the regional arm of the United Nations system, UNECA is able to leverage the United Nations system to regional integration and capacity development of the African Union and its organs as well as the Regional Coordination Mechanism, which combines coordination with policy dialogue and knowledge exchange



During the discussion, the Executive Secretary reaffirmed Kenya's significant role in the continent and expressed his greatest desire to engage with Kenya in various areas in which UNECA can add value especially in Industrial policy. It is advisable that we work closely to optimise the opportunities that the UNECA present.

- 1 - Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi after presentation of her Letters of Credence to Mr. Carlos Lopez, United Nations, Under Secretary General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa.
- 2 - Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi and Mr. Carlos Lopez having discussion.
- 3 - Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi accompanied by Ms Mercy A. Odongo received by the Executive Secretary UNECA Mr. Carlos Lopez.

PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS AT IGAD



On the 21st March, 2015, H.E. Catherine Muigai presented her Credentials to Eng. Amb. Mahboub Maalim, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).



BALOZI'S BARAZA

Amb. Catherine Muigai hosted the Wananchi Club members during the Ambassadors Baraza in October, this was the 1st time the Ambassador was hosting the Kenyan Diaspora in Ethiopia since assuming her duties as Kenya's Ambassador to Ethiopia.

This was an opportunity for the Ambassador to meet and get to know the Kenyans while exchange views and challenges faced by Kenyans and on how to better sell Kenya.

Apart from sharing a meal together there was also a raffle sponsored by the National carrier Kenya Airways in which two lucky winners won a return trip to Mombasa for two and also a night for two in Mombasa.



The Amb. presenting the winners cheque to the lucky winner Mr. Albert for a return Air ticket to Mombassa.



The Amb. with Lucky winner number 2 and KQ country manager



Lucky winner Mr. Albert for a return Air ticket to Mombassa.



Some of Kenya Airways staff at the event



Amb. leading Kenyans in Mughiti (traditional dance)

KENYANS CELEBRATE 51st JAMUHURI DAY IN STYLE



Amb. Shitsama, Deputy Head Minister, with Wananchi club Chairman and members



On 12th December 2014, Kenyans, members of the diplomatic community and other invited guests celebrated the 51st Jamuhuri day in style at a function held at the Kenya Embassy. The well attended function is always one that most Kenyans look forward to.

During the occasion, Ambassador Aggrey Shitsama a Deputy Head of Mission, on behalf of Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi welcomed all to celebrate together with the Kenyan fraternity.

The Ambassador introduced himself as he had recently been posted by the departure of Amb. Christopher Chika. He commended the Diaspora community in Ethiopia as being the best diaspora organizations under the Wananchi Club that is being emulated by other Kenyan Embassies abroad.

He encouraged them to go on in the same spirit where the government can partner them in taking care of Kenyan interests while abroad. He also underscored the Mashujaa day celebrations that were organized by the Wananchi Club to show the unity of purpose that exists within the Club.



Cutting the cake



Amb. Shitsama giving address

STAFF PROFILE



Amb. Aggrey Shitsama **DEPUTY HEAD OF MISSION**

Is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya having been admitted to the roll of advocates on 13th October, 1980. He is a career legal practitioner of more than 34 years standing

2004-2008 He served as a member of on the Council of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology.

In February 2011 appointed on a 3 year contract as Chairman of Standards Tribunal a quasi – judicial body established under the standards Act in the Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development principally to hear appeals from persons aggrieved by decisions of the Kenya Bureau of Standards and Kenya Accreditation Service on issues of standardization.

August, 2014 he was appointed to the current position and posted to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



Joseph Vungo **FIRST COUNSELLOR/ LEGAL**

Mr. Vungo took up his duties at the Mission in September, 2014. He is a professional teacher, a Lawyer and an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya with specialization in international law. He is in charge of legal issues and other related multilateral work at the Africa Union, Inter – Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA). Mr. Vungo joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2003 and has at different times served the Government at State Law Office and the former Ministry of Roads. He has a very rich experience on legal matters as a result of representing the Government of Kenya in many negotiations, meetings and conferences at the bilateral, regional and international levels. In addition, Mr. Vungo is well trained and versed with leadership, management and administrative matters.

Mr. Vungo is a Christian, married and blessed with two Sons.



Alice N. Avedi **COUNSELLOR II**

Alice Avedi is a career Civil Servant. She has a great wealth of experience having worked for the Government of Kenya for nearly two decades in various capacities. Before her posting to Addis Ababa, she served at the Kenya Embassy to Somalia and the Kenya Embassy to the Russian Federation in Moscow. She holds a Masters degree in International Economic Relations.



Eric Nyagah **CHIEF TRADE OFFICER**

Mr. Eric Nyagah is a Chief Trade Development Officer at the Kenya Embassy in Addis Ababa responsible for trade and investment matters. He served in the Economic and International Trade Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade before joining the mission in September 2014.

He has worked in the Department of Internal Trade in the former Ministry of Trade from October 2007 to August 2009 then transferred to the Department of External Trade in the same ministry. In 2013 the Department of External Trade was renamed to Economic and International Trade Directorate in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Trade, following the changes in government structure.

Mr. Eric holds a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from University of Eastern Africa, Baraton. He is married with one child.

MISSION HOLDS ITS THIRD ANNUAL STAFF STRATEGIC RETREAT IN DEBRE ZEIT, ETHIOPIA

Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi steered the Third Mission Staff Strategic Retreat held on November 30-December 2, 2014 at Pyramid Resort, Debre Zeyt, Ethiopia. In delivering her opening remarks, the Ambassador welcomed all the staff attending the retreat, complemented the team that put the programme together and took note of the resource persons from the African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to exemplify how the interface of the Mission to the key organization was critical to the work of the mission.

The aim of the Third Strategic Retreat was to review and evaluate the Missions past performance, review the Mission's strategies for branding itself and improving the interface with other strategic partners in Addis Ababa and internationally, develop Mission Strategic Plan (2014-2017) and review the evaluation and monitoring procedures of staff work performance as well as the resources management processes to optimize the operations of the Mission.

The retreat was held in closed sessions in the format of a roundtable with a morning and afternoon sessions. Lead discussants made presentations which were followed by discussion and recommendations on the way forward. The Strategic Retreat took stock of the Mission's activities since 2012 when the 2nd Mission Staff Strategic Retreat was held. The Retreat focused on the Mission's expectations for the next four years. Further, the Retreat reviewed the modalities of work, based on performance contract with the aim of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mission in line with Kenya's Vision 2030.

On Scope of work for the Mission, the discussions centered on the role of the Mission in realization of Kenya's national interests as embodied in its foreign policy, ways on how the Mission should pursue the eight strategic objectives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Strategic Plan and the ultimate linkage with Kenya Vision 2030.

The retreat equally delved on Modalities of Work that focused on past performance, challenges, opportunities and how to improve working methods. Critical in this session was the scope of strategies that the Mission can pursue in order to increase its leverage and relevance to its stakeholders and partners.

Further the Retreat explored strategies for enhancing the interface with other stakeholders



through networking, including conferences, briefings among others. The Retreat benefitted from the talk by officials from the African Union Commission and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

On the Mission Medium Term Strategic Plan 2014-2017, discussions focused on the Missions medium term objectives and modalities of achieving the objectives as well as resource alignment with the Strategic Plan. Of critical importance was resource budgeting system and staff utilization management for optimal productivity.

Finally discussion on Performance Contracting and Reporting revolved around performance contracting and staff appraisal systems. The officer from Central Planning

Unit at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Trade guided the discussions on this item.

Key outcome of the retreat included: Mission Strategic Plan 2014-2017 and scope of work for the FY 2014- 2015, Performance Contract for the Mission 2014/2015, Better team spirit and renewed commitment to pursue this common agenda collectively, Common and better understanding of the performance contracting and staff appraisal procedures and method of work that will enable the Mission to meet its planned activities for 2014 -2017.

The retreat was facilitated using the Mission's logistics base including the budget and transport facilities. Several baseline documents including Vision 2030,

Draft Strategic Plan, Mission Performance Contract, African Union and IGAD Strategic Plans, AU/IGAD/UNECA calendar of events, MFA Service Charter, Strategic Plan and Foreign Policy, Budget estimates FY 2012/13, MTEF 2013/14 and Mission Allocation of Duties informed the individual and collective preparations and the deliberations of the retreat.

Following the retreat, the Mission has now positioned itself at a higher pedestal after the signing of the Performance Contract for FY 2014/2015 and is now able to monitor and evaluate its performance in carrying out its mandate in the ever changing and dynamic world.

TRIBUTE TO BERHANE MEKONNEN



Berhanu is the longest serving Kenya Embassy employee having started working at the Kenya Embassy in June, 1974 as a young man, he now has 6 children of his own who work for other embassies. He started out as a Gardner and after 3 years was engaged as a guard to relieve the day watchman.

Berhanu is a walking library of what has been going on at the Kenya Embassy for all these years. He has an excellent memory of the Kenyan Embassy and its environment. He recalls his first at work when he was instructed by Amb. Mugo, the ambassador at that time, to take care of a particular tree when he inquired why that particular tree. The Ambassador informed that the tree had been planted by the first President the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta.

He says that he planted all the other mature trees at the Kenya Embassy and after 20 years, all the mature trees were cut for firewood, from that time the Embassy has never bought firewood like it used to do before. He has photographic memory and can remember where all the telephone cables, water pipes and sewerage lines pass through the Kenya Embassy.

During his tenure at the Embassy, Berhanu has seen a total of 13 ambassadors and 58 diplomats come and leave the Embassy. At some stage in the tenure of Amb. Tumwa, he was taught how to cook Ugali together with other Kenyan dishes. After that, there were alternate monthly visits within the Embassy to host members of staff for Nyama Choma and drinks. He also remembers the birth of Wananchi Club that took place in 1986 during Amb. Nganatha's time at the Embassy. He was appointed to be in charge of catering until 2011 when handed it over to Alemayehu Degefu

He recalls that former President Moi visited the Kenya House four times in 1982 twice for lunch and twice for Dinner. He recalls being rewarded with USD 5 for his cooking skills. He has also served former President Kibaki at Kenya House when he came to plant a tree in honor of the late Wangari Maathai.

Berhanu feels at home at the Kenya Embassy as he is well taken care of by the staff. He feels more Kenyan and can speak Swahili fluently. He recalls with nostalgia how the Embassy staff would escort someone whose tour of duty had come to

an end up to inside the aircraft and would later communicate with the diplomats and ambassadors using mail which he still does to date.

Berhanu attended Kokebe Tsiba High School and finished. He had enough points to join the university but could not as his second child was born and could not continue with his education.

The following year the points were increased and he was locked out. Berhanu says that he has nurtured the virtue of patience which has made him stay at the Embassy all this while and does not regret one single bit as all his plans have come to fruition. He adds that respect and communication has also been very important during his stay. He adds that there is a lot of peace at the Embassy and he enjoys every single bit of it.



H.E. AMB. CATHERINE MEETS THE KENYAN DIASPORA IN DJIBOUTI ON THE 21ST MARCH, 2015



GALLERY



Amb. Amina exchanging the signed Host Agreement between Kenya & the AU on the Hosting of the African Institute for Remittances



Amb. Catherine opening the new Kenya Embassy Gate

The Embassy Staff at the opening ceremony



H.E. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma overseeing the 1st graduation of students from Pan African University campus located at the Jomo Kenyatta University

INTRODUCTION:

Kenya is the business hub of the East & Central Africa with a population of about 40 million. Her economy is resilient, stable, fully liberalized and largest in East Africa Community (EAC). Kenya has a stable pro-investment government and is endowed with large pool of educated skilled and enterprising labour force.

MARKET ACCESS:

Kenya has the following market access:

- * East African Community (EAC) comprises of five member states backed by a Customs Union Protocol with a population of 120 million.
- * Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) comprises of 20 member states with a population of over 400 million.
- * African Growth Opportunity Act (AGOA) a duty free access to the US market of over 6000 products.
- * Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) access to various markets in the developed world which offers preferential treatment to a wide range of products.
- * African, Caribbean and Pacific states (ACP/ Cotonou Agreement) enable Kenya products to qualify for preferential tariffs on exports member countries.

OPPORTUNITIES:

A. Agriculture:

Kenya's competitive advantage as an investment location for agriculture is supported by various investor friendly factors that include:

- Availability of a well-established export market for agricultural products
- Availability of multinationals in the sector
- Availability of affordable labour and agricultural land
- Bilateral agreements that favour local production.

Agriculture is Kenya's key sector. Opportunities exist in:

- Value addition processing e.g. Coffee, Tea and Fruits.
- Floriculture and Horticulture.
- Marketing infrastructure – wholesale and export; transportation from farms to markets; cold storage within or near airport for fresh produce.
- Development of Multipurpose dams.
- Irrigated Agriculture Program for industrial crops such as cotton, sisal, tea, nuts, fruits and vegetables and coffee among others.
- Fisheries development and management.
- Establishment of Disease free zones.
- Development of abattoirs.
- Large scale animal production for milk and meat.

B. Tourism:

Tourism is one of Kenya's leading foreign exchange earner and third largest contributor to the GDP after agriculture and manufacturing. The sector has been growing fast as a result of various factors such as liberalization, continued Government support and commitment to providing an enabling environment, coupled with successful tourism promotion and political stability.

Kenya is endowed with unique tourist attractions such as beautiful coastal beaches, coral reefs, caves and river deltas, abundant wildlife including the 'big five' in their natural habitats, national parks and game reserves, good climate, beautiful geographical landscapes, savannah grasslands, forests, salt and fresh water lakes. Others include hot springs, mountains, botany and zoology, world heritage sites, and rich cultural history.

Opportunities exist in: provision of accommodation, recreation and entertainment facilities.

C. Manufacturing:

In Kenya manufacturing sector is mainly agro based and plays an important role in value addition to agricultural output by providing forward and backward linkages with other sectors. There is a move to export oriented manufacturing as the main thrust of Kenya's industrial policy since the country aims to raise the share of products in the regional market from 7% to 15 % and develop niche products for existing and new markets.

Kenya is promoting development of Special Economic Zones (SEZs), Industrial Parks, Industrial Clusters, promotion of small and medium scale manufacturing firms, development of niche products, and commercialization of research & development results.

Opportunities exist in the aforementioned areas and in production/ assembling of: Motor Vehicles, Sheet glass, Fertilizers & pesticides, Textiles, Wood products, Cement, Pharmaceutical, Salt works, Tyres, Iron and steel.

D. Wholesale & Retail:

Under this sector Kenya aims to move towards raising earnings by giving large informal sector opportunities to transform into formal sector that will be efficient, multi-tiered, diversified in product range & innovative.

Opportunities exist in: training, improving access to credit to this sector and invest in large wholesale hubs.

E. ICT/Business Process Outsourcing:

The size of the local ICT market which is estimated at US\$ 500 million and an innovative culture are factors that have contributed to making Kenya a premier outsourcing destination. Under this sector there are opportunities to establish: Information Technology (I.T.) enabled services, Call centers for both in-bound and outbound calls, Wide range of business outsourcing services, Disaster Recovery, Software Development, Education and Training, ICT Parks and Development of Broadband infrastructure.

F. Financial Services:

Kenyan financial sector comprises of Banking, Insurance, Capital markets, Pension Schemes and Quasi-banking institutions such as: Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOs); Microfinance Institutions (MFIs); Building Societies, Kenya Post Office Savings Bank (KPOSB); Development Finance Institutions; (DFIs) and informal financial services such as Rotating Savings and Credit Associations (ROSCAs). Financial intermediaries in Kenya has continued to recorded high growth rates due to increased lending as reflected by the rise in domestic credit backed by significant financial innovation.

Kenya intends to become a regional financial services centre with vibrant and globally competitive status that will not only create jobs but also to promote high levels of saving to finance overall investment needs.

Therefore there is room to venture and invest in this sector considering the unbanked under-insured population.

G. Other sectors:

In order to tap regional market opportunities, plans are underway to construct a second port & airport. Lamu and the northern corridor have been identified for the construction of the port, airport, refinery, oil pipeline, a railway line and a road to connect with inter land thus a good investment opportunities. These projects are needed to sustain the growing need for access to sea. The other sectors that requires investment and hence investment opportunities are: Energy – Geothermal & Alternatives, Transport & Infrastructure, Building & construction, Mining and Oil exploration among others.

GUARANTEE TO INVESTORS:

- * The Constitution of Kenya guarantees safety of life and properties.
- * Kenya is a signatory to Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) that insures private investment against non political risks.
- * Kenya is also a member of International Centre for Settlement of International Disputes that guarantees arbitration of disputes between government and investors in a third party country.
- * The Foreign Investment Protection Act (FIPA) guarantees against expropriation of private property by government and if this happen it will be for public good and compensation will be prompt and at market value.

**KENYA AIRWAYS TO FLY TO HANOI IN VIETNAM FROM
MARCH 2015**



Kenya Airways will become the first and only airline to link Vietnam directly to Africa with flights to Hanoi from 30 March 2015. Kenya Airways will fly three times a week to Hanoi in a Boeing 787 Dreamliner and will provide strong connections to the key markets in Africa. Hanoi is home to over 7 million people (2013 estimates) and is a rapidly growing municipality. In 2013, PricewaterhouseCoopers estimated that Hanoi would be fastest growing city in the world in term of GDP growth from 2008 to 2025. Hanoi has a nominal GDP of USD 21.5 Billion and GDP/Capita of USD 3000.

To support and enhance this operation, Kenya Airways will work closely with Sky Team partner Vietnam Airlines, whose hub is Hanoi, in order to provide further travel options into Japan, Malaysia, Korea and China.

Kenya Airways' Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Mbuvi Ngunze said that the potential of Vietnam as a country with strong economic growth and a growing middle class is significant. "Vietnam has shown a considerable and stable economic growth over the recent years, including an increase in trade with Africa. As the first airline to directly connect Vietnam to Africa, we are sure to leverage on this growth. Together with our Sky Team partner Vietnam Airlines, we are very confident the addition of Hanoi to our network will be a success" Mr Ngunze added.

In the last year, Kenya Airways has deployed its new fleet of six B787 Dreamliner aircraft for commercial service, mostly on routes to Asia and Europe. Most recently, the Dreamliner took its inaugural flight to London, one of KQ most prominent routes. Three more Dreamliners are scheduled to arrive in 2015. The airline, which currently has the youngest fleet in Africa, also received three 777-300ER and 3 next generation B737-800 in the last year.

Special offer fare from Addis at Usd 990* return, all inclusive!

For more information, or to make your booking, go to www.kenya-airways.com.et or visit Kenya Airways sales office, Hilton Hotel, Menelik II Ave, Addis Ababa.

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**FROM USD
990***
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As of March 30th 2015, Kenya Airways will become the first African airline to offer direct flights from Africa to Hanoi in Vietnam. The service will be 3X weekly out of Nairobi and we'll fly you on one of our new super-comfortable Dreamliners all the way. To celebrate the new route launch, we're offering incredible inaugural ticket deals, starting from just \$990* from Addis Ababa to Hanoi return.

You have from now until April 30th to buy your tickets at these prices and may travel anytime between March 30th and 30th June 2015. So don't delay. For more details, or to make your booking visit your nearest Kenya Airways offices at Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa, or visit www.kenya-airways.com/et

*Terms and conditions apply



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