

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE PRIME CABINET SECRETARY AND
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS**

**DIPLOMATIC BRIEFING BY H.E. DR. MUSALIA MUDAVADI, EGH.,
PRIME CABINET SECRETARY AND CABINET SECRETARY FOR
FOREIGN AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA,
TO HEADS OF MISSION AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

THE JW MARRIOTT, NAIROBI

**The Dean of the Diplomatic Corps,
Director General of the United Nations Office in Nairobi,
Excellencies Ambassadors and High Commissioners,
Representatives of International Organizations,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good morning!**

Pleasantries

Excellencies

1. I warmly welcome you to this Diplomatic Briefing and thank you for honouring my invitation. To the newest members of our diplomatic community, who presented their credentials on 3rd and 10th September 2025, I say—***Karibuni Kenya***. I encourage you to visit different parts of our country and experience **first-hand our world-renowned heritage sites and remarkable tourist attractions**. As a Ministry, we are committed to ensuring that your tour of duty in Nairobi is successful is not only successful but also truly memorable.
2. Similarly, we extend our sincere **appreciation to those whose tour of duty has come to a close**, for their invaluable contributions in deepening the bonds between Kenya and their respective countries. We wish you the best in your future endeavours.
3. This Briefing is part of our **regular quarterly engagements**, designed to strengthen dialogue, deepen collaboration, and foster mutual understanding as we collectively advance our shared interests for the benefit of our peoples and the broader global community

4. At this juncture, I **sincerely thank and commend you, Excellencies**, for your steadfast support and cooperation with the Ministry and other Government agencies, in full respect of the principles and procedures of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1963). I encourage you to continue upholding this spirit, which provides a solid foundation for effective coordination and enduring partnership
5. Since July 2025, Kenya commenced the new fiscal year 2025/2026, which presents new opportunities to consolidate our international relations through high-level visits, expanded diplomatic engagements and the implementation of mutually beneficial cooperation frameworks.
6. Excellencies, permit me to convey **Kenya's heartfelt condolences** to the Government and People of the Republic of South Africa on the passing on of **H.E. Amb. Mninwa Johannes Mahlangu**, South Africa's High Commissioner to the Republic of Kenya, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Federal Republic of Somalia, and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON), and **H.E. Ambassador Serge Mombouli**, Ambassador of the Republic of Congo to the United States and Dean of the African Diplomatic Core. The departed were distinguished diplomats. **I kindly request that we be upstanding and observe a moment of silence in his honour. (Pause for a minute)**

Foreign Policy Issues

Excellencies,

7. As you may be aware, the **Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2025 on the Foreign Policy of the Republic of Kenya** was approved and gazetted in May 2025, laying the foundation for the effective implementation of Kenya's foreign policy objectives in an increasingly complex international landscape. The revamped Policy seeks to elevate

and position Kenya as a core state in the region; a stable economy and a premier investment destination; an exporter of peace regionally and globally; and, a reliable partner in addressing global challenges.

State/Official Visits

8. Excellencies, Kenya continues to strengthen its established diplomatic relations through a **broad range of engagements that have yielded notable outcomes**. These include State and Official visits to: United Kingdom, Spain, China, and Japan; an inbound official visit by H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda from 30th to 31st July, 2025, that served to strengthen bilateral relations between Kenya and Uganda; Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) with Iran, Medium Term review of JCCs with Uganda, and Political Consultations with Ukraine, Spain, Sweden Norway and Azerbaijan. Additionally, Kenya participated in the recently concluded Africa-Singapore Ministerial Exchange held in Singapore and the second Africa Climate Summit (ACS-2) held in Addis Ababa.
9. Kenya remains committed to forging strategic partnerships with various nations towards achieving inclusive growth, sustainable development and shared prosperity.

The Economy

10. Excellencies, Kenya has and continues to pursue economic cooperation with various countries as part of the Government's national development agenda under Vision 2030 and the **Bottom-Up Economic Transformative Agenda (BETA)**. Economic and commercial diplomacy remains a key priority of the Kenya's Foreign Policy agenda aimed at enhancing economic cooperation, promoting trade and investments.

11. Kenya remains committed to strengthening regional and global economic cooperation anchored on frameworks and partnerships geared towards achieving sustainable development and inclusive growth.

National Democratic Credentials

12. In tandem with our **democratic credentials and adherence to the rule of law**, His Excellency the President witnessed the swearing-in of the Commissioners of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC). The IEBC is expected to conduct free, fair, and transparent elections in adherence to the Constitution and the Elections Act of 2011. I wish to assure you that the Government of Kenya remains firmly committed to safeguarding this democratic process.
13. Kenya's progressive Constitution guarantees freedom of speech, respect for human rights, and the rule of law. The Government takes seriously concerns raised regarding recent reports of abductions. As a member of the **Human Rights Council and host of the Sub-regional UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Nairobi**, Kenya remains steadfast to addressing these matters transparently and accountably. It is for this reason that on **16th August 2025, His Excellency the President appointed a 16-member Panel of Experts** comprising of legal scholars and human rights advocates to oversee compensation for protest victims dating back to 2017. This is testament to the President's steadfast commitment to justice, national healing, and the rule of law.
14. As you are aware, a case challenging the establishment of the Panel of Experts is before the courts, and the Government remains committed to respecting due process. In the same vein, Parliament is considering **the Public Order (Amendment) Bill, 2025**, which seeks to

strengthen the framework for maintaining public order by ensuring respect for the Constitution and protecting public property from vandalism. The Government continues to prioritize police professionalism and accountability to guarantee conduct of public order operations are with full respect for human rights and the rule of law. I take this opportunity to reaffirm the Government's commitment to constructively engaging all stakeholders to foster peace, stability, and national cohesion for the prosperity of our country.

Peace and Security Issues

15. Kenya's participation in the **African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM)** underscores its commitment towards the pursuit of lasting peace in Somalia while at the same time, responding to cross-border threats posed by *Al-Shabaab* elements. Kenya continues to call for predictable and sustainable international financing for the Mission, coupled with robust logistical support, force enablers, and multipliers to strengthen AUSSOM's operational effectiveness. We therefore appeal to your respective Governments to consider extending support to AUSSOM.

16. In the pursuit of peace, security and stability in the eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), H.E. President William Ruto and President Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe, co-chaired a **high-level meeting of the EAC-SADC Initiative in Nairobi on 1st August 2025**. The meeting endorsed the merger of the Luanda and Nairobi Peace Processes under the leadership of the African Union (AU), approved the panel of Facilitators' Terms of Reference (ToRs), mediation design, and a joint resource mobilization strategy. Lasting peace in Eastern DRC, requires a long-term multifaceted strategy that integrates security, governance, economic revitalization, and social cohesion, while safeguarding human rights.

17. Kenya hosted members of the **High-Level panel for the review of AU's Governance, Peace and Security Frameworks from 1st to 5th September 2025**, a reform process chaired by H.E. President Ruto. This initiative aligns with Kenya's Foreign Policy principle of Pan-Africanism and underscores the country's unwavering commitment towards strengthening the Africa Union. Kenya firmly believes in an African Union endowed with robust mechanisms to effectively address peace, security, and governance challenges, particularly at a time when the **global order faces unprecedented strain and collective action is at its lowest**.
18. Kenya has and continues to champion for peaceful means and dialogue towards resolution of conflicts. Kenya **endorsed the declaration 'for the implementation of the two-state solution' Conference held in July 2025 in New York**. The declaration emphasized the need for collective action towards finding a lasting peaceful solution.

Haiti

19. Since the deployment of the Kenya-led Multinational Security Support Mission (MSSM) in Haiti, notable gains have been achieved despite the challenges faced, including the loss of lives of our security personnel. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is expected to consider the **UN Secretary-General's February 2025 recommendations**, which propose among others, enhanced logistical and operational support to the MSSM through the creation of a **UN support office in Haiti and the transition of the MSS Mission to a Gang Suppression Force (GSF)**. A decision is expected during the renewal of the **Mission's mandate which is set to expire on 2nd October 2025**.

20. The MSSM presents a critical and time-bound opportunity to reverse Haiti's worsening security situation and lay the foundation for a return to democratic governance. The sustained commitment and solidarity of international partners is essential to enable the mission fulfil its mandate. Kenya remains fully committed to the mission's success and continues to appeal for adequate and predictable financial resources, equipment, and logistical support from the international community.

Global Governance/ Multilateralism

21. Excellencies, more than ever before, the global turbulence calls for intensified regional integration and an increased commitment to multilateralism and collective action in addressing cross-cutting challenges, including persistent threats to peace and security, the triple planetary crises, humanitarian crises among others.
22. Kenya remains firmly committed to international law, established norms, and a rules-based multilateral order. While this system is not without its shortcomings, it endures as a vital framework for global cooperation. Kenya will therefore continue to consistently and resolutely champion the multilateral reform agenda.
23. Excellencies, **the 80th session** of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) is fast approaching. This year's theme, ***"Better Together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights"*** is both timely and significant as it affirms the enduring relevance of the United Nations in advancing the collective aspirations of peace, security, stability and humanity.
24. At a time of increased global complexities, this theme serves as a reminder that our strength lies in our unity, cooperation, and shared responsibility. This theme resonates with Kenya's priorities of

promoting peace and conflict resolution, advancing climate action and resilience, as well as fostering equitable and inclusive development. Kenya aligns itself with this vision and underscores the importance of revitalizing multilateralism as the foundation for building a more peaceful, just, and inclusive international order.

25. In furtherance of the multilateral reform agenda, Kenya's participation at the **4th International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville**, led by H.E. President William Ruto, underscored the need for urgent reforms in the international financial architecture, domestic resource mobilisation, practical tax cooperation and long-term affordable capital, while reaffirming commitment to multilateral consensus-driven solutions that respect national ownership.
26. In July 2025, Nairobi had the honour of hosting the 20th Ordinary Session of the **African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)**, reaffirming our country's role as a convener and champion of Africa's common environmental agenda. This provided a platform to coordinate environmental policies, enhance implementation of regional and global environmental frameworks, and strengthen collaboration to address the continent's pressing environmental challenges, including climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification and pollution. Building on these outcomes, Addis Abba hosted the second **Africa Climate Summit (ACS2)** aimed at advancing Africa's unified voice on climate action and sustainable development, ahead of the upcoming 30th session of Conference of Parties (COP -30) to be held in Belem Brazil. Therefore, we call upon to the international community to sustain its support and commitment to Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) and other related initiatives that seek to address climate change.
27. Kenya has submitted **various candidatures** to key international bodies namely: The candidature of Prof. Phoebe Okowa for the

position of Judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) both the casual vacancy for the 2025-2027 period and the regular election for 2027-2036 period; the candidature of Mr. Mohammed Ibrahim Amin for the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) Executive Committee - delegate for Africa for the 2025-2028 term. Kenya has presented its candidature for re-election to the **International Maritime Organization (IMO) Council** under Category 'C' for the term 2026–2027. My colleague, **Hon. Hassan Joho**, Cabinet Secretary for Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, will officially unveil the candidature on 12th September 2025, to which you are warmly invited. We appeal for your valued support as Kenya continues to champion the strengthening of multilateralism

United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON)

28. Kenya deeply values the longstanding strategic partnership with the United Nations. In July, His Excellency the President Dr. William Samoei Ruto, and myself, visited United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) as well as the **UNON's Green building** which is a flagship example of sustainable infrastructure in Africa and a point of pride in Nairobi's positioning as a UN city. These visits reaffirmed Kenya's unwavering **commitment to facilitating the operational needs of the United Nations**. The Government is ready to undertake the necessary investments aimed at providing robust infrastructure, a safe and welcoming environment for UN staff and their families, and a vibrant, diverse diplomatic community.
29. Additionally, Kenya continues to advance Nairobi as a hub for multilateral diplomacy. We welcome the Gigiri Master Plan — a major upgrade of the UNON conference facilities built in 1985. The modernization was approved through UN General Assembly Resolution 78/253. The Gigiri Master Plan is envisaged to expand UNON's capacity to accommodate up to 9,000 in-person delegates at

peak capacity. This reflects the United Nations' strong commitment to supporting UNON, the only UN headquarters in the Global South.

30. Kenya looks forward to the planned relocation of operations of three UN agencies from New York to Nairobi namely UNICEF, UNWOMEN and UNFPA and assures of the Government's sustained support for the Gigiri Master Plan.
31. Further, to ensure the smooth working of international organizations in Kenya, we have embarked on the **review of the Privileges and Immunities Act**. This review is aimed at streamlining the process of hosting international and intergovernmental organizations in Kenya, incorporating measures for supporting and monitoring of their activities as well as standardization of privileges and immunities for personnel of these international organizations, and persons attending international conferences in Kenya. This review process is set to undergo public participation and we shall be coming to you, the diplomatic corps, for comments and contributions towards enriching the draft bill, before enactment by the National Assembly of Kenya.

Upcoming Conferences

32. In line with efforts to position Nairobi as an International Multilateral hub, I take this early opportunity to invite you to the following conferences and summit:
 - i) The **24th Summit of the COMESA** Heads of State and Government that will take place from 7th to 9th October 2025 at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) Nairobi under the theme "***Leveraging digitalization to deepen Regional Value Chains for Sustainable and Inclusive Growth***".
 - ii) The **7th session of the United Nations Environmental Assembly (UNEA)** will take place from 8th to 12th December 2025 at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, on the *theme "Advancing sustainable solutions for a resilient planet"*.

- iii) **Kenya International Investment Conference** to be held in March 2026.
- iv) **The Africa-France Summit** jointly hosted by Kenya and France to be held in May 2026, Nairobi Kenya. Kenya will make history as the first non-Francophonie African countries to host the since its inception in 1973. The Summit is envisaged to strengthen relations Africa's voice especially on global economic issues of interest to Africa and France.

Sports Diplomacy

- 33. Kenya is deeply honoured to have co-hosted the just concluded **African Nations Championship (CHAN-2024)** football matches alongside Tanzania and Uganda. The CHAN 2024 reaffirmed the spirit of Pan-Africanism and provided an important platform for fostering regional integration, celebrating African talent, and promoting youth empowerment through sports. Beyond the matches, the championship created opportunities for economic activity, strengthened cultural exchanges, and enhanced Kenya's visibility as a hub for international sporting events. Building on the lessons and successes of this tournament, Kenya stands ready to host the **Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON)** set to take place in 2027.

Closing Remarks

- 34. Excellencies, in conclusion, I reaffirm Kenya's unwavering commitment to multilateralism as the surest path to addressing the complex challenges of our time. Guided by our national priorities, we shall continue to forge partnerships that advance peace, security, sustainable development, and shared prosperity.

35. Looking ahead, Kenya stands ready to work hand in hand with all partner States, in a spirit of unity and mutual respect, to help build a just, inclusive, and sustainable world for the mutual benefit of present and future generations.
36. Once again, thank you for your attention, and I look forward to our continued cooperation.

Asanteni Sana!
I Thank You!
God Bless You!
God Bless Kenya!