

Republic of Kenya

FOREIGN POLICY FRAMEWORK

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

NAIROBI, 2009

Foreword

The documentation of the Kenya Foreign Policy Framework marks a critical milestone for our nation. Though the country has hitherto not had a written foreign policy, her international engagements have consistently been guided by the pursuit of national interests predicated on the quest for national security and economic prosperity. The decision to develop a written and consistent foreign policy was necessitated by the absence of a single reference document containing broad guidelines on how to conduct our diplomatic engagements in the face of a dynamic, competitive and globalized environment. The document outlines Kenya's foreign policy as it has evolved in the last forty-six years, and the direction it will take in the coming years.

This framework will serve as the standard reference and principal guide in the conduct of Kenya's foreign policy. It is a culmination of a consultative policy formulation process that begun in 2006. It therefore represents the aspirations of all Kenyans in the conduct our international relations with other countries through bilateral and multilateral engagements. Indeed, the vision driving our foreign policy is '*a peaceful and prosperous Kenya effectively contributing to the realization of a stable continent and better international understanding'* and the mission,*' to advance the interests of Kenya through innovative diplomacy'* sums up these aspirations. The guiding light throughout this process has been the quest for a peaceful, united and prosperous Kenya as embodied in our National Anthem.

The policy contains a set of goals outlining how Kenya shall interact with other countries economically, politically, and socially in order to maximise the benefits of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. It also considers how to harness strengths and opportunities to serve national interests, as well as ways to deal effectively with the challenges and threats. It highlights the policy context; the fundamentals of Kenya's foreign policy; the five foreign policy pillars of our diplomacy (economic, peace, environmental, cultural and 'diaspora'); priorities and strategies; as well as the fundamental institutions and instruments needed for implementation.

In line with our national planning process and in order to position the foreign policy framework within national development plans, particularly Vision 2030, five-year strategic plans will be developed as part of the implementation process. These will be subject to review every third year.

The successful implementation of the framework calls for adequate funding and strengthening of the Ministry as the key institution in foreign policy formulation and implementation. Indeed, we will also rely on the support of other government departments whose functions and responsibilities in one way or another impact on Kenya's foreign relations. I am confident that we will collectively achieve the goals set out in the policy framework.

Hon. Moses Wetang'ula, E.G.H., M.P
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD **2**

ACRONYMS **4**

MAP OF KENYA **6**

PREAMBLE **11**

CHAPTER ONE **12**

POLICY CONTEXT **12**

CHAPTER TWO **15**

FUNDAMENTALS OF KENYA'S FOREIGN POLICY **15**
PHILOSOPHY AND VALUES 15
GUIDING PRINCIPLES 15
SOURCES 15
OBJECTIVES 16

CHAPTER THREE **17**

PILLARS OF KENYA'S FOREIGN POLICY **17**
ECONOMIC DIPLOMACY 17
PEACE DIPLOMACY 18
ENVIRONMENTAL DIPLOMACY 18
CULTURAL DIPLOMACY 20
'DIASPORA' DIPLOMACY 22

CHAPTER FOUR **23**

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK **23**
I. CORE PRIORITIES **23**
II. STRATEGIES **25**
III. KENYA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD **29**
IV. KEY INSTITUTIONS AND INSTRUMENTS **32**

CONCLUSION **35**

ACRONYMS

AU	African Union
ACHPR	African Court of Human and People's Rights
ACP/EU	Africa Caribbean Pacific Countries/European Union
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
ASEAN	Association of Southern Eastern Asian Nations
CADSP	AU's Common African Defence and Security
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CPA	Comprehensive Peace Agreement in the Sudan (2005)
EAC	East African Community
EASBRIG	Eastern Africa Standby Brigade
EPAs	Economic Partnership Agreements
ERS	Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation
EU	European Union
EUC	European Union Commission
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FOCAC	Forum on China-Africa Cooperation
G77	Group of 77 developing countries and China
HSGIC	Heads of State and Government Implementation Committee
ICAO	International Civil Association Organization
ICGLR	International Conference on the Great Lakes
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IGAD	Inter-Governmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOR-ARC	Indian Ocean Rim-Association for Regional Cooperation
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MTP	First Medium Term Plan (2008 – 2012) of Vision 2030
NAASP	New Asian-African Strategic Partnership
NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NDP	National Development Plan
NEPAD	New Partnership for Africa's Development
OAU	Organization of the African Unity
OAS	Organization of American States
PAP	Pan-African Parliament
PLANELM	Planning Element
PSC	Peace and Security Council
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
TFC	Transitional Federal Charter of the Somali Republic (2004)

TICAD	Tokyo International Conference on Africa's Development
UN	United Nations
UNCED	UN Conference on Environment and Development
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UFAS	United Federation of African States
UN-HABITAT	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNON	United Nations Office in Nairobi
UNPBC	United Nations Peace Building Commission
US	United States of America
Vision 2030	Kenya Vision 2030 'A Globally Competitive and Prosperous Kenya'
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Properties Organization
WTO	World Trade Organization

Map of Kenya



Source: Survey of Kenya

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION: This Foreign Policy Framework document outlines Kenya's foreign policy, as it has evolved since independence in 1963. It documents the historical context of the country's foreign policy, its underlying philosophy and values, main sources and influences, guiding principles, objectives and core priorities, strategies and the implementation framework.

In over forty-six years, this is the first time Kenya has undertaken to develop a written and consistent foreign policy. Necessitating this development is the imperative to rethink and re-align the country's national interests to an increasingly globalized environment. This policy is also occasioned by the need to confront a range of challenges and threats as well as take advantage of opportunities within the international arena characterized by both interdependence among states and complex interplay of many actors with conflicting interests.

Kenya's foreign policy framework document provides a comprehensive blue print that responds to the changing dynamics on the global diplomatic scenes. This policy contains effective strategies and instruments designed to pursue Kenya's values and interests in an increasingly competitive world. As the principle foreign policy instrument, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall work with the relevant government institutions to ensure that the conduct of Kenya's foreign policy is pro-active, effective and well coordinated.

POLICY CONTEXT: The foundations of Kenya's foreign policy were laid during the long struggle for national liberation from colonialism. From the outset, the architects of our Republic underscored the inextricable link between national independence and humanity's larger freedom, equity and the inalienable right to a shared heritage. Also propelling Kenya's international relations are the strong moral imperatives generated by the country's unique position as the cradle of mankind, custodian of a common heritage and protector of rare species—both flora and fauna. Arising from this sense of responsibility, Kenya's foreign policy is guided by a strong belief that our own future is inextricably tied to the stability and security of our environment and heritage as the basic source of our nationhood, livelihood and prosperity. It is also linked to the stability and prosperity of our neighbours in East Africa, and the rest of Africa.

As a result of this pragmatic approach, Kenya's foreign policy principles, which emerged during the period, have stood the test of time: peaceful co-existence with neighbours; equality and sovereignty of all states; friendly relations with all nations; resolution of conflicts by peaceful means; adherence to the principle of non-alignment; and justice and equity in the conduct of international relations. Kenya successfully forged mutually beneficial alliances with the West while constructively engaging the East through its policy of positive non-alignment.

Forces of globalization have also altered the environment and the conduct of international relations, simultaneously expanding and constricting the space for the realization of Kenya's goals. While offering new economic opportunities, especially in the fields of Science, Technology and Communication, globalization has also led to reduced capital flows, shrinking market access and economic marginalization of poor economies.

FUNDAMENTALS OF KENYA'S FOREIGN POLICY: Kenya's foreign policy is guided and driven by a vision of '*a peaceful and prosperous Kenya effectively contributing to the realization of a stable continent and better international understanding'*. Its mission is '*to advance the interests of Kenya through innovative diplomacy'*. The policy is driven by national values and aspirations of the Kenyan people, which include: Unity in Diversity; Honour and Patriotism; Peace and Liberty; Justice and Equity; Quest for Prosperity; and the *Harambee* spirit (pulling together).

The guiding principles of the policy are: Peaceful co-existence with neighbours and other nations; Resolution of conflicts by peaceful means; Promotion of regionalism; Respect for the equality, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states; Respect for international norms, customs and law; Adherence to the principle of non-alignment; and Justice and equity in the conduct of international relations.

The conduct of Kenya's foreign relations is guided by a diversity of sources, including official documents and pronouncements. These include: The Constitution of the Republic of Kenya (1963); The Sessional Paper No. 10/1965 on *African Socialism and its Application to Planning in Kenya*; The Sessional Paper No. 1/1986 on *Economic Management for Renewed Growth*; Manifestos of the ruling parties; The Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (2003-2007); National Development Plans; Kenya Vision 2030; and Executive Pronouncements and Circulars.

Kenya's foreign policy will pursue the following national objectives: Protect Kenya's sovereignty and territorial integrity; Promote sub-regional and regional integration and co-operation; Enhance regional peace and security; Advance the economic prosperity of Kenya and her people; Project Kenya's image and prestige; Promote international cooperation and multilateralism; Promote and protect the interests of Kenyans abroad; and Enhance partnership with the Kenyan Diaspora.

FOREIGN POLICY PILLARS: Kenya's foreign policy is anchored on five interlinked pillars of diplomacy: economic; peace; environmental; cultural and 'diaspora'. The economic diplomacy pillar aims to achieve robust economic engagement in order to secure Kenya's social economic development and prosperity that will ensure our nation becomes a middle income and industrialized economy by the year 2030. The peace pillar seeks to consolidate Kenya's legacy

in cultivating peace and stability as necessary conditions for development and prosperity in countries within the region. Environmental diplomacy recognizes Kenya's enormous stake in the management of its own resources, those of the region and the world and is designed to provide the link between the management of shared resources and issues of security, sustainability and prosperity especially within the Eastern African region. The cultural pillar aims to use culture as a vital role in international relations especially through the use of Kiswahili language as the pedestal of our engagement with foreign cultures and the renowned Kenyan personalities including athletes in order to exert greater influence on domestic, regional and international exchanges. 'Diaspora' diplomacy recognises the importance of harnessing the diverse skills, expertise and potential of Kenyans living abroad, and facilitating their integration into the national development agenda. This aspect of our foreign policy framework takes into account the recent inclusion of Africans in the Diaspora as the sixth region of the African Union. These pillars will be anchored on core priorities and strategies for bilateral and multilateral engagement.

FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES : Kenya's foreign policy seeks to pursue the following core priorities and strategies: Promote economic development and prosperity by increasing market access, capital in-flows, and enhance technological advancement; Enhance peace and security by ensuring a stable sub-region, engaging in preventive diplomacy, combating international terrorism and transnational crimes and supporting post-conflict reconstruction and development; Take a leadership role in environmental diplomacy by addressing regional and global environmental issues, adherence to international laws and norms on the environment and participating in mechanisms for equitable and sustainable resource sharing; Use Kiswahili as the linchpin to our cultural diplomacy by establishing learning programmes in our Missions and linking Kenyan Kiswahili language learning centres to reputable institutions abroad as well as support to the adoption of Kiswahili as a UN language; and Promote Nairobi as a hub of multilateral diplomacy through enhancing the security and safety of organizations based or headquartered in the country, and raising the profile and competitiveness of Nairobi as a center of multilateral and conference diplomacy.

INSTRUMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION: To attain Kenya's Foreign Policy objectives and priorities, the following institutions are fundamental: The Presidency; the Cabinet; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Parliament. In addition, there are eight instruments that are key to the realization of these objectives and priorities. These are: Offices of Retired Heads of State/ Government and other Statesmen; National Security Advisory Committee (NSAC); Parliamentary Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations; the proposed Kenya Fund for Technical Cooperation; Association of Former Ambassadors and Senior Diplomats; Ambassadors at Large and Goodwill Ambassadors; Immigration Policies and instruments; and establishment of Special diplomatic zones.

CONCLUSION: This foreign policy framework is premised on the dynamic character of Kenya's foreign policy which has enabled it to respond to changing developments in the diplomatic arena, for more than forty-six years. It provides a paradigm shift in Kenya's world view and the imperative to have a robust foreign policy in order to successfully pursue Kenya's national interests, objectives and priorities. The policy has been conceived as a flexible tool that will require review from time to time to ensure relevance and to keep pace with a fast-changing diplomacy in the global arena. The policy outlines the goals, objectives, pillars of diplomacy, core priorities and strategies, as well as the institutions and instruments for implementation. Its successful implementation will also require a well funded foreign policy implementation machinery.

PREAMBLE

"A foreign policy of a country is like a mighty towering tree at the centre of the homestead that visibly marks its location from a far distance, guiding the neighbour and the stranger. It is rooted in, and fed by, the essentials of the country's personality—the collective history, culture, economy, politics, vision and aspirations of its people. Despite its imposing and immutable presence, it sheds off old leaves and acquires new ones to weather the storms and enjoy the bliss of changing seasons. Its withering announces to the neighbour and the foreigner that all is not well with the nation. Its blossoming proclaims to the world the health and wealth of its people—broadly defined"

1. This document outlines Kenya's foreign policy as it has evolved since independence in 1963. The policy documents the historical context of the country's foreign policy, its underlying philosophy and values, main sources and influences, guiding principles, objectives, core priorities and strategies.

2. In over forty years, this is the first time Kenya has undertaken to develop a written and consistent foreign policy. Necessitating this development is the imperative to rethink and re-align the country's national interests to an increasingly globalized environment. This policy is also occasioned by the need to confront a range of challenges and threats as well as take advantage of opportunities within the international arena characterized by both interdependence among states and complex interplay of many actors with conflicting interests.

3. The world has witnessed drastic changes in international politics and rules of diplomatic engagement. Since the end of the cold war, fundamental shifts have occurred in the configuration and realignment of global power relations. Also changing the contours of diplomacy is the emergence of a uni-polar world order, the increasing influence of emerging economies such as China and India and the resurgence of Russia in global politics.

4. The diplomatic frontiers are also changing at the regional level. The transformation of the Organisation of African Unity into the African Union has created new diplomatic opportunities and challenges for Africa. This is signified by the emerging governance, peace and security architecture providing a framework to stabilize the continent and create an enabling environment for sustainable development. To maximise socio-economic development and avoid increasing marginalisation, Africa is strengthening regional cooperation and promoting regional economic blocs.

5. Kenya's foreign policy document provides a comprehensive blue print that responds to the changing dynamics on the global diplomatic scenes. This policy contains effective strategies and instruments designed to pursue Kenya's values and interests in an increasingly competitive world. As the principal foreign policy instrument, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs shall work with the relevant government institutions to ensure that the conduct of Kenya's foreign policy is pro-active, effective and well coordinated.

CHAPTER ONE

POLICY CONTEXT

6. The foundations of Kenya's foreign policy were laid during the long struggle for national liberation from colonialism. From the outset, the architects of our Republic underscored the inextricable link between national independence and humanity's larger freedom, equity and the inalienable right to a shared heritage. Also propelling Kenya's international relations are the strong moral imperatives generated by the country's unique position as the cradle of mankind, custodian of a common heritage and protector of rare species—both flora and fauna. Arising from this sense of responsibility, Kenya's foreign policy is guided by a strong belief that our own future is inextricably tied to the stability and security of our environment and heritage as the basic source of our nationhood, livelihood and prosperity. It is also linked to the stability and prosperity of our neighbours in East Africa, and the rest of Africa.

7. Kenya assumed its place as a sovereign state and actor in international relations after independence in December 1963. The succeeding decades witnessed fundamental transformation in the country's foreign policy orientation and strategy. The benchmarks guiding the country's relations with the world were set by the imperative to re-align its foreign goals to the turbulent and shifting dynamics of a divided world during the Cold War era (1945-1989). Even as Kenya's liberation struggle enhanced the country's international image and stature, paradoxically, this heroic history also risked playing into the East-West ideological war in ways that could hamper the realization of our national values and interests. To reconcile Kenya's revolutionary past and the challenge of building a new stable and prosperous nation in a polarised world, the architects of Kenya's foreign policy charted a dynamic, pragmatic and liberal approach to international relations.

8. As a result of this pragmatic approach, Kenya's foreign policy principles, which emerged during the period, have stood the test of time: peaceful co-existence with neighbours; equality and sovereignty of all states; friendly relations with all nations; resolution of conflicts by peaceful means; adherence to the principle of non-alignment; and justice and equity in the conduct of international relations. Kenya successfully forged mutually beneficial alliances with the West while constructively engaging the East through its policy of positive economic and political non-alignment.

9. A shift in Kenya's international orientation and strategy became necessary after the revolutionary changes that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union, the end of the Cold War and the surge of economic globalization in the twilight of the 20th Century. In the ensuing configuration of power in a uni-polar world (with America as the sole superpower), Kenya remained a strong ally of the West in the Indian Ocean region. Despite this, Kenya's geo-strategic position declined significantly. Further, the unilateral tendencies and other practices of major powers challenged global multilateralism, compelling weaker states to seek new strategies of consolidating their influence in world relations.

10. In addition to Kenya's strong economic ties with Japan, the emergence of China and India as economic powers has presented new opportunities for cooperation on multiple fronts. The forceful entry of China as a competitor for resources in Africa, especially oil has intensified tensions in the West resulting in a 'new scramble' for the continent. A resurgent Russia as a more assertive power in global affairs and America's plans to build a new nuclear defence system in Eastern Europe has intensified fears of a Cold War-style arms race. This has the potential of changing the world's strategic stability in ways that will affect Kenya's external relations.

11. Forces of globalization have also altered the environment and the conduct of international relations, simultaneously expanding and constricting the space for the realization of Kenya's goals. While offering new economic opportunities, especially in the fields of Science, Technology and Communication, globalization has also led to reduced capital flows, shrinking market access and economic marginalization of poor economies.

12. Also compelling Kenya to find new anchors for its conduct of external relations are new security threats generated by trans-national crimes such as money laundering, trafficking in humans, small arms and light weapons, drugs as well as the surge of extremism and international terrorism. With the Horn of Africa increasingly emerging as a vortex of international terrorism, Kenya has re-examined the parameters of its external relations to balance between playing an effective role in the global anti-terrorism efforts and ensuring that dynamics of counter-terrorism do not undermine the rights of its Muslim citizens and its fragile democracy. Similarly, environmental problems such as climate change, the buildup of greenhouse gases, toxic chemicals, and pesticides; species extinction; deforestation; and marine degradation have posed a threat to the prosperity, health, and security of Kenya and its neighbours. In response, Kenya has elevated environmental diplomacy into one of its foremost foreign policy pillars and priorities.

13. Kenya's current world view is also a response to a number of critical political developments which have produced a set of important transitions in our foreign policy. The first policy transition is the emergence of 'peace diplomacy'. This has been a major strategic response to widespread civil wars, the implosion of the state, political Islam and other forms of extremism which have threatened regional security, stability and prosperity.

14. The terrorist attacks on Kenya in August 1998, and again in November 2002, threw the country into the international spotlight. Still vulnerable to future attacks, Kenya's role in the global campaign to combat the threat of international terrorism came into sharp focus after the September 11, 2001 attacks on America. With international terrorism now elevated into a foremost threat to global security, combating terrorism has become a crucial agendum of Kenya's external relations and a subject of its strategic partnerships.

15. A second policy transition is the expansion of the space for regional multilateral diplomacy. The collapse of racist regimes in Southern Africa, particularly the demise of apartheid, ended anti-colonial struggle as an agenda in Africa. This paved the way for the transformation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to the African Union in 2002, the formation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), and the creation of Africa's peace and security architecture presented opportunities for collective

action to resolve regional conflicts and stabilize the continent as a pre-condition for socio-economic regeneration. In recent years, Kenya has not played the robust role in African politics commensurate with its status but has now begun taking its place in regional diplomacy.

16. A third transition in Kenya's foreign policy is the recognition of Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as critical tools in breaking the trap of economic marginalization and accelerating regeneration. From the early 1990s, Kenya championed the revival of the East African Community (EAC) (which had collapsed in 1977), and the formation of two other regional groups: Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). Through regional multilateralism, Kenya has found a critical entry-point for its economic, peace and environmental diplomacy as the basis of its vision of shared prosperity with its neighbours. Despite the opportunities offered by regional multilateralism, Kenya has to contend with the dilemmas posed by the proliferation of regional groupings with overlapping mandates and memberships.

17. Despite the challenges presented by these transitions, Kenya has continued to enjoy a high international profile. Some of the factors contributing to this profile include its unique endowment, strategic location, sustained stability, political maturity, sound economic policies, dynamic environmental strategies and highly educated and skilled human resources. Also contributing to Kenya's international profile are its outstanding sports persons at home and a dynamic Diaspora. The achievements of these Kenyans have enabled the country to establish strong international, cultural and educational linkages boosting our image abroad.

CHAPTER TWO

FUNDAMENTALS OF KENYA'S FOREIGN POLICY

PHILOSOPHY AND VALUES

18. Kenya's foreign policy is guided and driven by a Vision of '*a peaceful and prosperous Kenya effectively contributing to the realization of a stable continent and better international understanding'* and the Mission '*to advance the interests of Kenya through innovative diplomacy'*. The policy is inspired and guided by the following national values and aspirations of the Kenyan people:

a) Unity in Diversity;

b) Honour and Patriotism;

c) Peace and Liberty;

d) Justice and Equity;

e) Quest for Prosperity; and

f) *Harambee* Spirit (pulling together).

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

19. The execution of Kenya's foreign policy and the conduct of international relations is guided by the following principles:

a) Peaceful co-existence with neighbours and other nations;

b) Resolution of conflicts by peaceful means;

c) Promotion of regionalism;

d) Respect for the equality, sovereignty and territorial integrity of states;

e) Respect for international norms , customs and law; and

f) Justice and equity in the conduct of international relations.

SOURCES

20. The conduct of Kenya's foreign relations has been guided by a diversity of sources, including official documents and pronouncements. These are:

a) The Constitution of the Republic of Kenya (1963);

b) The Sessional Paper No. 10/1965 on *African Socialism and its Application to Planning in Kenya*;

c) The Sessional Paper No. 1/1986 on *Economic Management for Renewed Growth*;

d) Manifestos of the ruling parties;

e) The Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation (2003-2007);

f) National Development Plans;

g) Kenya Vision 2030; and

h) Executive Pronouncements and Circulars.

21. Kenya's world view is also informed by its experience and lessons learnt in diplomacy over a period of nearly five decades. Other actors that influence the country's foreign policy include media, and the public (interest groups, civil society, and private citizens).

22. Kenya's Foreign Policy also draws from high level decisions on national security integrating foreign and domestic policy.

23. Kenya's adherence to and respect for regional and international instruments, particularly the OAU Charter (1963), the Constitutive Act of the African Union (2001) and the United Nations Charter (1948) has played a determinant role in fashioning our foreign policy.

OBJECTIVES

24. Kenya's foreign policy pursues the following national objectives:

a) Protect Kenya's sovereignty and territorial integrity;

b) Promote sub-regional and regional integration and co-operation;

c) Enhance regional peace and security;

d) Advance the economic prosperity of Kenya and her people;

e) Project Kenya's image and prestige;

f) Promote international cooperation and multilateralism;

g) Promote and protect the interests of Kenyans abroad;

h) Enhance partnership with the African Diaspora and descendants.

These objectives will be pursued through five key inter-linked pillars of Kenya's Foreign Policy.

CHAPTER THREE

PILLARS OF KENYA'S FOREIGN POLICY

25. Kenya's foreign policy rests on five interlinked pillars: economic diplomacy; peace diplomacy; environmental diplomacy, cultural diplomacy and 'diaspora' diplomacy

Economic Diplomacy

26. Kenya's quest for a peaceful and stable environment is linked to its social economic development and prosperity, and that of the region. A robust economic engagement is necessary to secure Kenya's regional and wider economic objectives. Kenya's economic diplomacy is a tool for advancing the goal of becoming a middle income and industrialised economy by the year 2030. The specific objectives of this economic diplomacy are:

a) Increase capital flows to Kenya and the East African region by exploring alternative non-traditional sources of development assistance and foreign direct investment;

b) Support investment by Kenyan enterprises within the region and beyond;

c) Promote the country as a favourite destination for foreign direct investment, tourism, and conferencing;

d) Expand access to traditional markets and explore new destinations for its products in emerging and non-traditional markets in Africa, Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East;

e) Enhance technological advancement by exploring new sources of affordable and appropriate technology;

f) Support the exploration of alternative sources of traditional and renewable energy;

g) Strengthen regional economic organizations, especially the EAC and COMESA to serve as competitive spring boards to emerging and global markets.

h) Promote just and equitable rules and frameworks of international trade.

27. To achieve these objectives, Kenya will work with partner States to strengthen regional organizations, particularly the EAC, into more viable economic blocs in an increasingly competitive global economic environment.

28. With the largest economy in the region, Kenya recognizes its responsibility to promote shared regional economic prosperity. This calls for measures to accelerate the growth of other economies in the region by promoting free movement of peoples, goods and services in line with the IGAD Agreement (1996) and the East African Treaty (1999). At the continental level, Kenya endorsed NEPAD in 2002 as a viable continental framework and AU strategy for Africa's recovery. Kenya has also endorsed the various decisions by the AU aimed at integrating the continent's economies.

29. Kenya will strengthen strategic ties with emerging economies in Western and Eastern Europe, Asia, Middle East and Latin America, and consolidate its traditional markets in North America and Europe by entering into new frameworks for cooperation and strengthening existing ones.

Peace Diplomacy

30. Underlying Kenya's peace diplomacy is the recognition of peace and stability as necessary conditions for development and prosperity. Linked to this, is Kenya's conviction that its own stability and economic wellbeing are dependent on the stability of its neighbours in the volatile Great Lakes region and the Horn of Africa. This realization coupled with the impact of hosting thousands of refugees escaping conflict situations have put Kenya in the forefront in brokering peace in Sudan and Somalia, and to back peace processes in Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda. Underpinning Kenya's peace diplomacy are the following mutually reinforcing objectives:

a) Promote the resolution of conflicts by peaceful means;

b) Establish a national Fund to support regional peace initiatives, including by other African or non-African players, and to proactively respond to situations calling for rapid intervention;

c) Create capacity to effectively support peace processes by coordinating the training of diplomats from the region through the Foreign Service Institute, appoint and deploy special envoys, and work with independent mediators to resolve regional conflicts;

d) Work with other African countries to strengthen the conflict prevention capacity of regional institutions, including the EAC, IGAD, COMESA and the African Union;

e) Support regional initiatives aimed at promoting sustainable peace and development, including the implementation of the Transitional Federal Charter of the Somali Republic (2004), the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in the Sudan (2005), and the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes Region of Africa (2006);

f) Support peace efforts by the African Union and the United Nations through contributing troops and providing leadership in peacekeeping missions within the continent and globally; and

g) Mobilize support and resources for peace consolidation and development in African countries emerging from conflict through bilateral networks as well as regional and international peace building mechanisms, particularly the AU Policy Framework for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (2005) and the newly established UN Peace Building Commission (UNPBC).

h) Establish a peace fellowship which recognizes and honours individuals or institutions which have contributed to regional peace.

31. In pursuing these objectives, Kenya's foreign policy continues to draw on the experiences of Kenyan nationals who have been involved in mediating conflicts as well as our experienced and distinguished peacekeepers. Today, Kenya stands as a shining example of countries which have consistently provided support and leadership to the UN peace-support operations worldwide, including in Namibia, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Western Sahara, Darfur, Southern Sudan, Ethiopia/Eritrea, Former Yugoslavia and East Timor. Kenya's peace diplomacy therefore seeks to consolidate and deepen this legacy.

Environmental Diplomacy

32. A distinct feature of Kenya's foreign policy is a strong orientation towards environmental issues. This orientation emanates from the recognition of Kenya's enormous stake in the management of its own resources, those of the region and the world. As the cradle of mankind and custodian of

unique flora and fauna, Kenya takes seriously its obligation to transmit humanity's inheritance to posterity in the same or better form. Underlying this diplomacy is the recognition of the global impact of contemporary environmental problems such as global climate change, ozone depletion, ocean and air pollution, and resource degradation—compounded by increasing world population. Environmental diplomacy is designed to provide the link between the management of shared resources and issues of security and prosperity, especially in the Eastern African region. Clearly, degradation of shared environment and resources threaten the prosperity, employment, and health of all Kenyans. Further, lack of proper management of trans-border resources such as water resources and bio-diversity including wildlife and forests, is a potential source of conflicts within and between countries. Therefore, Kenya's environmental diplomacy will pursue five objectives. These are:

a) Promote compliance with the relevant national, regional and international environmental legislation, regulations, standards, and other appropriate operational procedures and guidelines;

b) Promote the integration of environmental management into national and regional economic activities, including agriculture and tourism to minimize negative impact on the environment;

c) Train through the FSI a cadre of diplomats with skills and responsibilities to promote understanding and awareness of and commitment to reducing environmental impacts;

d) Promote science and technology as mechanisms to encourage innovation to reduce environmental impacts;

e) Encourage public dialogue, awareness and knowledge creation on environmental matters through national, regional and international forums; and

f) Maintain robust and open communication channels and promote research on environmental issues.

33. International environmental bodies operating and headquartered in Kenya such as UNEP, UN-Habitat, and the Lake Victoria Basin Commission are useful entry points for pursuing Kenya's environmental goals. To enhance Kenya's leadership on environmental issues, strategic partnerships will be established with academia, research institutions, and think-tanks as a vital reservoir of knowledge and intellectual resources.

34. The EAC and IGAD constitute important forums for dialogue and policy implementation on trans-border resources and regional ecological challenges. Kenya also recognizes COMESA's potential role in catalyzing dialogue on the principle of equitable use of shared resources and environmentally compliant economic activities. Another channel of Kenya's environmental diplomacy is the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), launched in 1999 as a unique forum for ensuring co-operation and working relationships among the countries of the Nile basin and to implement decisions by the member states. Within the African Union, Kenya will continue to support the promulgation and implementation of a binding continental framework for the management and exploitation of natural resources to ensure environmental protection. Kenya will also utilize its nationals to support and promote environmental initiatives.

Cultural Diplomacy

35. Alongside the above forms of diplomacy, Kenya has continuously placed emphasis on cultural recognition and understanding as the basis for dialogue. We have effectively used language especially Kiswahili, value systems, art, music and dance to build friendships and foster mutual understanding at the regional and global levels. Adopting cultural diplomacy as one of the pillars of our foreign policy is intended to ensure that culture contributes to science and technology, and socio-economic development, as well as position Kenya as a cultural capital.

36. Cultural diplomacy is the linchpin of public diplomacy; for it is through cultural activities that a nation's idea of itself is best represented. Cultural diplomacy is uniquely able to reach out to people of all walks of life; young people, to non-elites, to broad audiences with a much reduced language barrier. Cultural diplomacy will enable us to: Reach influential members of foreign societies who cannot be accessed through traditional embassy functions; Provide a positive agenda for cooperation in spite of policy differences; Create a neutral platform for people-to-people contact; Serve as a flexible, universally acceptable vehicle for engagement with countries where diplomatic relations have been strained or are absent; Provide awareness of cultural richness of our nation and generate interest in Kenya's cultural heritage.

37. A fundamental practice of Cultural diplomacy is the exchange and sharing of ideas, information, art, lifestyles, value systems, traditions, beliefs, languages and other aspects of cultures. More than ever before, culture is playing a vital role in international relations and the struggle for space and cultural influence has taken centre stage in the global context.

38. As cultural diplomacy exerts a great influence on domestic and international exchanges, it provides a potential forum for negotiation and is a medium of exchange of shared solutions. Further, cultural contact provides a forum for unofficial political relationship-building: it keeps open negotiating channels with countries where political connections are in jeopardy, and helps readjust relationships with emerging powers. Clearly alliances are now being forged along lines of cultural understanding as they are on economic or geographic ones.

39. At the continental level, the African Union fosters designs on a United Federation of African States that will confer a single currency, free movement of goods, people and services, common passports and other identification documents, amongst other features. This move towards realising a fully functional Federation that integrates the multifarious assets and facets of 53 diverse nations is not only closely tied to the success of cultural recognition, but also understanding and dialogue among member states. The achievement of every milestone along the path to a United Federation of African States therefore requires the skilful use of cultural diplomacy between member states, to secure agreements, and between member states and citizens, to gain support for actions like a referendum to transfer sovereign powers. Recognition of the importance that cultural diplomacy plays in this ambitious undertaking is set out under Mission 4 in the Strategic

Plan of the African Union Commission Volume 1 - the primary blueprint for achieving its mandate.

40. The most remarkable practice of cultural diplomacy has been displayed by the impact of Kenyan Athletes at the global sporting arena since Independence. No other activity has contributed more to projecting Kenya's image positively like the performance of Kenyan athletes. Further, the influence of Kenyan music with genres of Benga on East and Central African Radio Stations is very noticeable. Furthermore, the counterpart traditional flavours and dance cannot leave any music lover indifferent.

41. Literature as a reflection of our values, hopes aspirations is a critical component our cultural diplomacy. The influence of Kenyan literature in defining our identity and proud history is a significant way of reclaiming our place regionally and internationally.

42. Through Cultural diplomacy Kenyan culture plays a decisive part in international relations through winning hearts and minds and in creating an empathetic understanding of our circumstances. When Kenyan cultural icons tour the globe or when Kenyan athletes perform at the world stage or Kenyan literature is read, they create a buzz of economic and political interest in Kenya that goes beyond the cultural event or artifact, to generate economic gain.

43. Kenya's strategic marketing of its sports, arts and culture will transform the globe, at best into a consumer of its cultural productions. To this end, Kenya must be more aggressive in marketing some of its literature, theatre, film, culinary art, visual art, cultural tourism, folklore and folk media, traditional song and dance, tropical and indigenous architecture and knowledge systems.

44. Kenya will have a long term commitment to promoting mutual understanding by fostering international cultural relations. Kenyan programs to this end, will take the form of exchanges on the one hand and public diplomacy, on the other. Exchanges will allow Kenyans and people from different countries and cultures to get to know and understand each other. Public diplomacy will get the Kenyan word out in a persuasive way.

45. Kenya's cultural diplomacy places Kiswahili language at the pedestal of our engagement with foreign cultures. Kiswahili will be promoted as an important tool of our diplomacy, taking into account that the language is spoken or understood by over 100 million people in Africa and that it is the most widely taught African language in at least 100 universities and institutions of higher learning in Africa, Asia, Americas and Europe. It is also the most widely listened-to African language through more than 100 radio and television stations worldwide. The promotion of Kiswahili into a world language is a significant strategy of establishing cultural links with other civilizations and promotion of our economic interests through gaining international visibility.

'Diaspora' Diplomacy

46. The concept of 'Diaspora' in Kenya's diplomatic thinking demands innovative interrogation to bring out its diverse aspects, dynamics and potential. In its narrow sense, this concept has been used to refer to Kenyans living and working abroad. In the broader sense, the concept is derived from the Constitutive Act of the African Union which defines the Diaspora as peoples of African descent particularly in Europe and the Americas. The Statutes of the Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union (ECOSOC, 2004), provides for the participation of the Diaspora in all its activities (article 2 (2). Africa is also beginning to draw huge investments, technology transfer, cultural linkages and even diplomatic engagements from this Diaspora. Indeed, the African Union recognises the African Diaspora as the sixth region of its components.

47. As a starting point, Kenya's foreign policy will focus on Kenyans in the Diaspora, tapping into its potential to facilitate the country's political, economic and cultural regeneration and development. Kenya is a signatory to the AU's Constitutive Act (2001), which promotes the participation of African professionals within the continent and in the Diaspora. Kenya's Diaspora diplomacy will seek to advance this agenda. Kenya also recognizes ECOSOC as a useful channel for advancing the cultural, economic and social role of the wider African Diaspora.

48. Recognizing that the Diaspora has emerged as a potentially important resource for the realization of the country's national development goals, Kenya will creatively explore the various ways and frameworks of effectively promoting, utilizing and enhancing the contribution of this important resource. These will include:

a) *Promoting the access by Kenyans to the international labour market*: This policy promotes access of Kenyan professionals to the expanding international labour market. In pursuit of this goal, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has established a dedicated office which will develop and manage a databank of Kenyan professionals, business people and other experts in various fields for the purpose of disseminating the relevant information on new international job opportunities. It will also enhance the capacity of its diplomatic missions to give requisite diplomatic backing to Kenyans pursuing such openings;

b) *Utilizing outstanding Kenyans: Kenya's missions abroad will enhance their capacity to provide support and consular services to* Kenya's world class athletes and its significant repertoire of eminent nationals who have earned international repute in different fields. As a matter of policy, Kenya's strategy is to invite distinguished nationals to serve as goodwill ambassadors to pursue its foreign policy objectives;

c) *Tapping into the skills and resources of the Diaspora:* The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will work with other ministries to invite nationals in the Diaspora to invest their skills and resources in the various sectors of national development. Kenya will create incentives and policies to encourage them to invest in the country.

The economic, peace, environmental, cultural and 'diaspora' pillars will be anchored on core priorities and strategies for bilateral and multilateral engagement which will also form the basis for the implementation of this new foreign policy framework.

CHAPTER FOUR

IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

49. To achieve the goals and objectives set out in Kenya's Foreign Policy Framework, there are core priorities and strategies that will be pursued respectively. These will form the basis for the development of the Ministry's five-year strategic plan in order to take cognizance of new challenges and opportunities and ensure adherence to the requirements of performance management in the public sector. In addition, the institutions and instruments which are key to the successful implementation of this policy have been identified. Finally, the success of this policy is dependent on the presence of an efficient foreign policy machinery.

I. CORE PRIORITIES

50. During the first few years of policy implementation, focus will be on the following core priorities:

A. To Promote economic development and prosperity by:

a) Increasing market access through regional economic cooperation, strategic partnerships and agreements;

b) Increasing capital in-flow through harnessing and retaining existing sources of development assistance and foreign direct investment while attracting new sources;

c) Enhancing technological advancement through seeking alternative sources of appropriate technology at reasonable prices.

B. To enhance peace and security by:

a) Acknowledging that Kenya's stability, progress, and prosperity are inextricably tied to the stability and development of its neighbours and the wider world;

b) Engaging in preventive diplomacy through mediation, peace keeping, strengthening internal capacity for conflict prevention, resolution and management;

c) Combating international terrorism and organized transnational crime such as money laundering, trafficking in drugs, humans, small arms and light weapons and other forms of contraband; and

d) Supporting post-conflict reconstruction and development of countries emerging from intra and interstate conflicts.

C. To take a leadership role in environmental diplomacy by:

a) Enhancing Kenya's leadership in regional and global environmental issues;

b) Promoting international laws and norms on the environmental protection; and

c) Diffusing resource-based tensions or potential conflicts through participating in mechanisms created to promote equitable and sustainable resource sharing and to prevent and manage trans-border resource-based conflicts.

D. To Promote Nairobi as a hub of multilateral diplomacy through:

Nairobi has emerged as a hub of multilateral diplomacy, including hosting numerous regional and international bodies. Kenya's foreign policy shall be directed towards promoting Nairobi as a diplomatic centre, international economic hub and venue for multilateral diplomacy. To achieve this objective, our external policy will endeavour to:

a) Strengthen the status of UNON by increasing investment in the security and safety of UNEP, UN-Habitat, other UN and intergovernmental organizations and agencies based or headquartered in the country and creating a conducive operational environment for their efficient functioning; and

b) Raising the profile and competitiveness of Nairobi as a center of multilateral diplomacy and the capital of international negotiations.

E. Cultural diplomacy

a). Creating an independent clearinghouse, through the Fund for International Cooperation, to promote the national interest, support Missions in their efforts to bring the best sportsmen and women, artists, writers, and other cultural icons to their audiences;

b). Expanding international cultural exchange programs by sending more Kenyan sportsmen, artists, performers, and writers abroad as well as hosting cultural groups from other countries;

c). Highlighting the importance of cultural diplomacy at every level, encouraging Ambassadors and Missions to promote cultural activities and to aggressive marketing of cultural artifacts.

d). Widening Cultural connection to include young artists, creating a corps of emerging cultural figures willing to spend longer periods of time abroad.

e). Promotion of Kiswahili through establishment of Kiswahili learning programmes in our Missions and the linking of Kenyan Kiswahili language learning institutions to reputable institutions abroad.

These core priorities will be reviewed over time to ensure that they take cognizance of the dynamic characteristics of diplomacy and foreign relations.

II. STRATEGIES

51. Kenya recognizes the importance of strengthened bilateral relations, regional cooperation, and enhanced multilateral engagement as fundamental components of its foreign policy and entry points for achieving its national interests and security.

Bilateral Relations

52. Kenya has always embraced bilateralism to pursue its foreign policy objectives by entering into bilateral trade, political and cultural agreements. Within the sub-region, Kenya will pursue its interests through regionalism. Beyond the sub-region, Kenya has signed bilateral agreements with the member states of COMESA and SADC. These countries host a significant number of Kenyans, they continue to receive Kenyan business people and tourists, and have emerged as trading partners. Kenya will continue to strengthen cooperation with these countries and with other countries in the region.

53. Additionally, Kenya has concluded bilateral treaties, exchanged ambassadors and made high level visits to individual states in the emerging economic zones in Asia, Middle-East, Latin America and Eastern Europe. Kenya will strengthen bilateral ties through opening new missions in countries of strategic importance and increasing high level visits.

54. The large number of Kenyans abroad makes the strengthening of bilateral relations even more important to ensure the welfare of nearly two million of its nationals abroad. Kenya will continue to strengthen the provision of consular services for its nationals and protect their interests abroad.

Regionalism in Africa

55. Regionalism continues to be one of the cornerstones of Kenya's foreign policy interests. The EAC, IGAD, COMESA, and the African Union constitute Kenya's principal avenues for pursuing its foreign policy goals. Kenya has supported the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) as an avenue of regional engagement for consolidating regional peace, security and post conflict reconstruction.

A. East and Central Africa

56. ***The East African Community*** comprises of five East African countries, namely Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda, with a combined population of over 120 million. The EAC is Kenya's most important foreign policy vehicle and the country's major trading and investment bloc. Guided by the vision of shared prosperity with its neighbours, Kenya's priority is to strengthen ties with the EAC countries. The East African passport has been introduced to facilitate free movement of people, goods and services. Apart from supporting efforts towards integration of economies and harmonisation of laws and practice, Kenya has encouraged the full implementation of the provisions of all common instruments like the common customs union and other measures towards political federation.

57. A common foreign and security policy of the partner states is envisaged in Article 123 of the East African Treaty and related provisions. Kenya has endorsed this policy as an ideal instrument for

ensuring the requisite stability for regional economic development. Ensuring the success of the EAC remains Kenya's most important regional objective.

58. ***The Inter Governmental Authority on Development*****:** Kenya is a founder member of IGAD, launched in 1986. The organization has seven member states, sharing a region characterised by a fragile ecosystem, violent conflicts and under-development. Kenya intends to continue providing support and leadership to IGAD as an effective regional tool for confronting these problems.

59. Kenya's primary focus has been to mobilise international support to enable it consolidate regional peace, particularly in, Somalia, Sudan, the Eritrea/Ethiopia border and the Indian Ocean waters. Kenya will also support efforts to strengthen IGAD's capacity to effectively confront the myriad and interlocking problems relating to ecological challenges, proliferation of small arms and light weapons, forced migration within and across borders, banditry, piracy, and more recently international terrorism linked to Islamic extremism.

60. Kenya will promote infrastructural developments such as highways, railways, airports, pipelines, seaports and development belts such as the Northern Corridor linking Kenya to its northern neighbours particularly Ethiopia, Somalia and Sudan. Infrastructural development is central to effectively addressing the region's security, environmental, and developmental challenges.

61. ***The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa*****:** Kenya has been an active member of COMESA since its inception in December 1994. Together with the EAC and IGAD, COMESA forms the pillar of Kenya's regional diplomacy and an important market. Kenya's diplomacy will continue to centre on furthering the integration goals of this economic bloc of more than 20 member states. A crucial agendum is enhancing the competitiveness of Kenya's private sector to effectively participate in COMESA.

B. Continental Integration

62. ***New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)*****:** NEPAD was launched in 2001 as African Union's recovery and social-economic programme, and later recognized by the UN as the framework through which the international community channels development support for Africa. Kenya will assist in strengthening the regional secretariat established to coordinate the Eastern African NEPAD activities. Kenya continues to support governance reforms in Africa and to fully implement the recommendations of NEPAD's 2006 African Peer Review Mechanism report.

63. Kenya's involvement in NEPAD continues to be driven by the emphasis on the development of Africa's energy sector, infrastructure, including science, technology and innovation (STI) as described in the strategic pillars of Kenya Vision 2030. In this regard, Kenya will actively promote NEPAD as a viable vehicle for resource mobilization to support Africa's development priorities and post-conflict reconstruction. Kenya has fully endorsed the various decisions of the AU Summits to integrate NEPAD into the AU structures, and will continue to assist in clarifying NEPAD's role, mission and vision vis-à-vis the African Union, RECs and Member States.

64. ***The African Union:*** The transformation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to the African Union in 2002 provided Kenya with a new forum for strengthening cooperation with other African states. Kenya endorsed the Constitutive Act of the African Union (2001), and has participated in the AU structures: the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government, the Executive Council of Ministers, the Permanent Representative Committee, the Commission, the Pan-African Parliament, the Peace and Security Council (PSC), and the African Court on Human

and People's Rights. Kenya has also served as a member of the Peace and Security Council, the AU's collective security mechanism and standing decision-making organ for the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts.

65. Kenya continues to pursue the strategic priority of strengthening the AU structures and organs to implement decisions, programmes and projects in the region and in Africa. This entails accelerating the implementation of all PSC organs: the continental, regional and national Early Warning Systems; the Council of the Wise; and the African Standby Force (including regional Brigades). As a founding member, Kenya supports the crucial role of the Eastern Africa Standby Brigade (EASBRIG) and continues to host its planning element (PLANELM) as an instrument of regional peace. It also supports the implementation of Common African Defence and Security Policy (CADSP) to foster an enabling environment for development.

66. On regional governance, Kenya's strategy is to support the implementation of the AU Charter on Democracy and Human Rights, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' rights and the Declaration on Gender Equity. Further, Kenya actively participates in all the activities of the Pan-African Parliament, and will continue to encourage broad-based participation in its debates.

67. On continental issues, Kenya supports the eventual creation of a United States of Africa, but prefers a gradual process which gives precedence to the strengthening of the RECs to enhance Africa's economic capacity, and position the continent as a key player in global economic politics.

C. Global Multilateralism

68. Upon becoming a Member of the United Nations in 1963, Kenya used the forum to assert its independence and sovereignty in the community of nations while adhering to and upholding the principles enshrined in the UN Charter. Kenya has actively promoted multilateralism within the context of the United Nations to increase its global influence and secure its national interests. Kenya considers multilateralism as a collective check against the dominance of larger powers in international affairs. Kenya has contributed significantly towards ensuring global peace, security and prosperity, contributing to United Nations Peace-Keeping Operations worldwide. It's global multilateral strategy seeks to enhance Kenya's role in the following four areas:

a) ***United Nations Reforms*:** Kenya supports the on-going efforts to reform and revitalize the United Nations to ensure *Systems-wide coherence* so as to increase its efficiency and effectiveness in addressing today's challenges. In particular, it supports the reform of the UN Security Council to make it more democratic and representative of the world. It re-affirms the status of the United Nations General Assembly as the pre-eminent policy-making organ of the United Nations as envisaged in the UN Charter. Kenya also supports measures intended to attain better representation of developing countries in the policy-making organs of International Financial Institutions, especially the Bretton Woods institutions (World Bank and the International Monetary Fund).

b) Kenya's diplomacy in the UN focuses on strengthening cooperation between the UN Security Council and African institutions, particularly the African Union. It seeks to promote peace and security in areas affected by conflict especially in the Great Lakes region and the Horn of Africa. A fundamental issue is to support a system of cooperation that enables the UN to provide financial, logical and military support to African

peacekeeping missions, and to work towards harmonization of the AU and UN systems. Equally important is the need to use the newly created UN Peace Building Commission (PBC) to mobilize resources for post conflict reconstruction and development and to strengthen Africa's rapid response capacity for conflict prevention and peacemaking.

c) ***Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)*:** Kenya is one of the 189 UN member countries, which in 2000 pledged to achieve the eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015 in order to create "a more prosperous and just world". Kenya is committed to the MDGs as reflected in its policy documents which seek to expand opportunities for wealth creation, employment and service delivery. In this respect, Kenya's Vision 2030 seeks to make Kenya a middle income industrialised country with high standards of living by 2030.

Kenya will form and support partnerships aimed at creating a more prosperous and just world and continuously encourage wealthy nations to live up to their pledge to commit 0.7% of their GDP to assist developing countries.

d) ***UN Presence in Kenya:*** Kenya is notably the only developing country that hosts the global headquarters of two United Nations programmes, UNEP and UN-Habitat established in 1972 and 1978 respectively. In 1996, the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON) was created in order to provide vital administrative and technical support services to UNEP, UN-Habitat and other UN agencies. Over the years though, there has been an increasing tendency to weaken UNEP as the global environmental institution through the creation and location of new environmental programmes away from UNEP. While UNON is an attractive station to work in, it has as yet to operate at the same level as other UN centres in Geneva and Vienna. The UNON expansion programme is welcome, much more needs to be done by the Government, through the newly created Permanent Representative's office to UNON which will also advise on the key support requirements and needs of UN systems in Nairobi including infrastructure and security, engaging G77 and African states to guard against the weakening of UNEP. It will facilitate the access to UN internship programmes by young Kenyans as well as aggressively pursue the recruitment of Kenyan professionals into the UN system.

e) ***UN Specialised Agencies***

***The World Trade Organization (WTO)*:** As a founder member of the WTO, Kenya continues to support global collective efforts to create a predictable, transparent and enabling environment for fair global trade. Towards this end, Kenya's multilateral diplomacy in the WTO continues to support the DOHA Round with a view to promoting fair trading practices, market access and the elimination of subsidies particularly in agriculture. We will continue to actively engage with the specialised agencies working with the UN for purposes of promoting Kenya's national interests, through active participation where accreditation already exists, and apply for accreditation to these organizations through Kenya Missions abroad. These agencies include FAO, IFAD, ITU, UNESCO, UNWTO, WHO, WIPO, UNIDO, ICAO, and ILO amongst others.

III. KENYA AND THE REST OF THE WORLD

69. As part of its foreign policy re-orientation, Kenya has succeeded in improving mutually beneficial bilateral networks and multilateral relations with other regions of the world. In particular, Kenya's revamped foreign policy has focused attention on the improvement of ties with traditional partners in Europe, North America and the Pacific rim while forging new networks with emerging Western and Eastern European economies, as well as with countries and regional groupings in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Middle East and Asia. Kenya has designed specific strategies to pursue its interests in the various geo-strategic regions of the world.

Europe, Old and New

70. ***European Union***: Member states of the European Union remain Kenya's strategic partners in economic and social development. Kenya has received significant support from the European Union following the signing of the National Indicative Programme for Co-operation with the European Community under the first Lomé Convention in 1976. As a member of the European Union/Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Partnership Agreements, Kenya has continued to play a leading role in the development of policies and discussions on ACP/EU framework of cooperation based on equity and fair trade.

The EU Commission supported Kenya's Economic Recovery Strategy (2003) aimed at ensuring sustainable economic growth and the creation of employment and wealth. The EU shares Kenya's belief that positive developments in the country will also benefit its neighbours. The Cotonou Agreement, which entered into force at the beginning of April 2003, provides a framework for Kenya-EU partnership over the next 20 years. Kenya will continue to actively participate in the negotiations with the EU on Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

71. ***The Commonwealth***: The Commonwealth, as a voluntary association of largely former British colonies, remains a useful tool for advancing Kenya's economic, social and cultural cooperation with member states, including through the Commonwealth Games. As part of its economic diplomacy, Kenya considers the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC) as a useful tool in supporting its governance, democracy, human rights, trade, investment, private sector development (PSD), and debt management goals as well as those of other EAC member states. Kenya also recognizes the Commonwealth Youth Fund (CYF) as an important instrument for cultural and development cooperation.

72. ***New European Partners***: Kenya's foreign policy is advancing on new frontiers of economic cooperation with non-traditional European partners. Emerging economies in Europe present enormous potential for expanded relations in trade, investment, tourism, and technology transfer. Kenya's hospitality and service industry is adjusting to the growing numbers of visitors from these countries which are also potential sources of investment, development and relief assistance. Kenya will enhance capacity of its newly established missions and expand its diplomatic presence in the region.

73. ***Eastern and Central Europe***: Another non-traditional frontier for Kenya's economic diplomacy is Central and Eastern Europe. Here recent shifts to political pluralism and market-oriented structures provide avenues for cooperation in such fields as education, culture, health and trade. Kenya will expand its diplomatic presence in the region.

The New Asia and Australasia Frontier

74. ***The Far East***: Kenya is implementing a "*Look East" policy* underpinned largely by economic considerations. The shift to the new 'Look East' policy is building upon and strengthening existing ties with traditional partners like Japan. As Kenya's valued development partner, Japan has been a major source of investment and the largest donor of assistance to Kenya. Owing to its strategic significance in Japan's diplomatic relations in Eastern Africa as a gateway to the region, Kenya has remained the largest recipient in Africa of Official Development Assistance (ODA) from Japan since 1986. The Tokyo International Conference on Africa's Development (TICAD) provides a key forum for Kenya's engagement with Japan.

75. ***South East Asia***: Through the new *"Look East''* policy, Kenya is also forging economic relations with emerging South East Asian economic giants like South Korea and Malaysia. Approximately 5000 South Korean nationals and at least 5 multinational companies are operating in Kenya. Malaysia has also emerged as Kenya's potential trading partner, exporting mainly palm oil, chemicals and chemical products, wood, rubber, metals, machinery, appliances, electrical and electronic goods and textiles.

76. ***China***: With regard to China, the goal of Kenya's foreign policy has been to expand bilateral political and economic ties, especially in the fields of economic development, trade, health, tourism and infrastructure construction. The volume of Kenya's bilateral trade with China reached a record high of US$480 million US dollars in 2005, although the trade heavily favoured China whose exports to Kenya amounted to US$460 million compared to its US$20 million worth of imports from Kenya. Over 20 Chinese companies are doing businesses in the country. The China-Kenya Investment Forum convened in March 2006, provided an entry point for Chinese investors to explore investment opportunities in Kenya and to meet potential Kenyan partners. Another entry point for Kenya's foreign policy towards China is the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), a platform established by China and African partners for collective consultation and dialogue as part of South-South Cooperation.

77. ***India***: Kenya's foreign policy is also focusing on strengthening existing bilateral economic cooperation with India, which has experienced a rapid expansion of trade with Africa in recent years. The signing of Indo-Kenya Trade Agreement in March 1981, Kenya and India accorded each other the Most Favoured Nation status. The India-Kenya Joint Trade Committee (JTC) and the India-Kenya Joint Business Council (JBC) remain key avenues of boosting the volume of trade with India. India is Kenya's potential source of technology in the engineering, electronics, pharmaceuticals, and information technology sectors, and a potential market for its mineral and agricultural products.

78. ***European Asia***: Another strategy of Kenya's *''Look East''* policy is to deepen relations with European Asia: Australia and New Zealand. New Zealand's bilateral trade with Kenya has remained low (amounting to $9 million in 2006), but there is a considerable opening for 'export education', especially for Kenya's postgraduate students who are able to apply for both Commonwealth and the New Zealand Development Scholarship schemes. New Zealand's geo-strategic interest in Kenya, particularly in its role in the search for peace in Somalia and Sudan, has opened new windows for strengthening cooperation.

79. Kenya enjoys a positive relationship with Australia, although with limited commercial relations. Common membership of the United Nations, the Commonwealth, the WTO and the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Cooperation (IOR-ARC) has sustained these relations.

Nonetheless, Australia's interest in the Kenyan mining sector has increased recently. Kenya can also access the growing Australian market for the export of educational services, especially in the areas of agricultural technology.

80. To fully exploit the vast potential for cooperation with the fast-growing Asian economies, Kenya's foreign policy has actively promoted participation in multilateral cooperation forums like the East African Community-Asian Forum, the G-15 Countries, the ASEAN, the Asia-Africa Sub-Regional Organizations Conference, the New Asian-African Strategic Partnership (NAASP) and the Asia-Africa Summit. The emergence of the IOR-ARC has also provided Kenya with a powerful instrument of cooperation in the larger region. Further, participation in these forums has enabled Kenya to benchmark on the experiences of Asian countries which have contributed to their phenomenal economic progress.

The Americas, North and South

81. ***United States and Canada***: Kenya has always valued its bilateral relations with the United States of America and Canada with which it has shared democratic values. More than 5,000 US citizens live in Kenya, as many as 25,000 others visit the country annually and American business investment has stood at an estimated $285 million.

82. Since 2001, the United States and Kenya have forged close strategic, political and economic ties. They have also strengthened cooperation in the combating of international terrorism in the Horn of Africa and the Indian Ocean seaboard. A sizeable portion of 1.8 million Kenyans abroad live and work in the United States and Canada, both of which have their huge populations of peoples of African ancestry. Besides expanding access to training in highly specialized areas, Kenya's foreign policy is focusing on ways of tapping into the ever-expanding Kenyan and African Diaspora in North America.

83. ***Latin America and the Caribbean***: Despite its historical ties and cordial relations with Caribbean and Latin American states, Kenya's diplomatic entry into the region is a very recent development. Kenya signed the Brazil-Kenya Joint Commission for Cooperation and opened an embassy in Brasilia, Brazil in 2006—it's first in the region. This is part of Kenya's effort to finding ways of deepening bilateral political and commercial ties with the region's strongest economy.

84. Kenya's foreign policy interests in Latin America and the Caribbean region are in the spheres of education, culture, technical cooperation, health, agriculture, environment and tapping into its large African Diaspora. Cuba provides profound lessons that can guide Kenya's efforts to develop its health and welfare sectors. As vehicles of its foreign policy in the region, Kenya will consider seeking observer status in the Organization of the American States (OAS), the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and other regional groupings.

The Middle East

85. ***The Arab World***: The countries of the Middle East have strategic political and economic importance to Kenya. Apart from shared historical and cultural ties, the region has become a major market for Kenyan exports, remains the principle supplier of Kenya's petroleum oil requirements and an employment market for Kenyans. The strengthening of ties with the region is a priority for Kenya's foreign policy as part of its economic diplomacy. With billions of dollars now flowing from the Arab world to Africa, Kenya's foreign policy orientation is to tap into the Middle East as an emerging source of investment, and development assistance to finance the

construction of roads, rail, airports and ports. Kenya will also explore measures of boosting trade relations with key countries in the Middle East such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, now contributing to only three per cent of Kenya's exports.

86. ***Israel***: Kenya has enjoyed sustained development cooperation with Israel despite their on-and-off political relations. The Israeli "Gadna" experience of enlisting the youth for national service most specifically in agriculture inspired the creation of the Kenya National Youth Service. The two countries continue to share technology on agriculture in semi-arid zones. This cooperation has been extended to training in medicine particularly through MASHAV— the Center for International Cooperation. The Israeli Defense Force rescue teams responded impressively when Kenya was struck by terrorists in 1998. Israel is involved in building Kenya's local capacity for disaster management. Furthermore, attracting development assistance to support infrastructural development and investments from Israel, especially in the areas of horticulture and tourism, is Kenya's new focus.

87. On the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Kenya supports the peaceful co-existence of two sovereign states: the State of Israel and that of Palestine. Achieving lasting peace will depend on respecting the mutual co-existence between Israel and Palestine. In this regard, Kenya supports the implementation of the "Road Map" Plan by the US, EU, the Russian Federation and the UN to achieve a Comprehensive Peace Agreement. The Arab League provides an important entry point for Kenya's political engagement in the Middle East. The League is also becoming a key partner in addressing conflicts in Somalia, Sudan and other Muslim states which are its members.

IV. KEY INSTITUTIONS AND INSTRUMENTS

88. To attain Kenya's Foreign Policy objectives and priorities, the following institutions are fundamental:

a) The Executive
   - (i) The Presidency
   - (ii) The Cabinet

b) Parliament

c) Ministry of Foreign Affairs
   - (i) Office of the Minister;
   - (ii) Bilateral missions;
   - (iii) Multilateral missions; and
   - (iv) Foreign Service Institute.

89. Further, the following instruments are important to the realization of these objectives and priorities:

a) Offices of Retired Heads of State/ Government and other Statesmen;
b) National Security Advisory Committee (NSAC);
c) Parliamentary Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations;
d) The Kenya Fund for Technical Cooperation;

e) Former Ambassadors and Senior Diplomats
f) Ambassadors at Large and Goodwill Ambassadors;
g) Immigration Policies and instruments;
h) Special diplomatic zones

90. The effective and efficient implementation of this policy assumes four necessary and sufficient conditions: a multi-dimensional foreign affairs machinery that works in tandem with the objectives of this policy; sustained support for the policy, its objectives and strategies being applied for their pursuit; rationalization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and its foreign missions and an effective communications strategy.

91. The envisaged efficient 'foreign policy machine' requires:

a) Coherence, coordination and synergy across government ministries, to ensure that decisions and operations by the different government agencies are guided by the same vision, mission, objectives and principles in their engagement in international affairs. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the mandate to coordinate government's external relations;

b) Availability of adequate resources, both financial and material, for the execution of the mandate elaborated in the policy;

c) A fully operational Foreign Service Institute with a mandate to develop a cadre of well-trained professional officers equipped with the requisite and appropriate skills and experience to execute the Ministry's mandate. Where necessary, this capacity will be outsourced beyond the government. Further, the Foreign Service Institute will enter into strategic partnerships in this regard;

d) The development of a comprehensive communications strategy that is pro-active and positive to effectively clarify and disseminate information about foreign policy options and choices to the various publics that we serve; and

e) Availability of relevant and appropriate technology particularly Information and Communication Technology (ICT*)* to improve the efficiency of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ensure effective coordination with missions abroad and other government ministries and departments.

92. The Government will establish the Kenya Fund for Technical Co-operation to promote regional understanding and build mutually beneficial relationships. The Fund will serve as an effective tool in strengthening regional relations. It will provide support in peace and security initiatives, post-conflict reconstruction and development, humanitarian assistance and technical cooperation.

93. Sustained support is critical to the effective implementation of this policy. This requires continuous engagement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other key stakeholders. Support for the policy by political parties, members of parliament and other political players is particularly critical to ensure a degree of legitimacy across all

various sectors of the government. Similarly, backing of the policy by the parliament will guarantee commensurate budget allocation to effectively implement this foreign policy. Further, ensuring sustained support and legitimacy for the policy and the choices that Kenya makes regarding external affairs also requires broad-based public support.

94. The execution of this policy presupposes a clear definition of the roles of the various missions, underlining the strategic value of specific countries and regions. It also demands comprehensive strategies and work plans for each area, country and region that is of interest to Kenya. Finally, the implementation of this policy presupposes the development of an effective communications strategy to proactively inform, clarify and elaborate Kenya's foreign policy options and choices.

CONCLUSION

In nearly five decades now, Kenya's foreign policy has had remarkable achievements in preserving and pursuing the principles inherited from the founding fathers of our Republic with consistency and conviction. While these achievements are difficult to enumerate in quantifiable terms, they are vividly reflected in the recognition and respect that Kenya continues to enjoy internationally. Despite confronting a myriad of challenges in the development of bilateral relations and participation in multilateral forums where our national interests are pursued, the principles of Kenya's foreign policy have stood the test of time. This is a tribute to the dynamic character of Kenya's foreign policy which has enabled it to respond to changing developments in the diplomatic arena. To cope with the radical changes and an increasingly complex and competitive international environment, a paradigm shift in Kenya's world view and a robust foreign policy has become imperative. This is in order to successfully pursue Kenya's interests, objectives, priorities and strategies. This foreign policy has been conceived as a flexible tool that will require review from time to time to ensure its relevance and to keep pace with a fast-changing global arena.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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NAIROBI