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The Kenya High Commission in the United Kingdom presents its compliments to the Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and all Diplomatic Missions accredited to the Court of St. James's and has the honour to forward the enclosed keynote address by Amb. Monica Juma, DPhil, CBS, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kenya during the official launch of Kenya's candidature in the Non-Permanent Category of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the period 2021/2022 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Kenya High Commission in the United Kingdom avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Protocol Directorate of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and all Diplomatic Missions accredited to the Court of St. James's the assurances of its highest consideration.

25th September 2019

**Foreign and Commonwealth Office
All Diplomatic Missions accredited to the Court of St. James's**

LONDON





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KEY NOTE ADDRESS

by

**Amb. Monica Juma, DPhil, CBS
Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Republic of Kenya**

during

**The Official Launch
of
Kenya's Candidature to the United Nations Security Council**

Monday, 16 September 2019

Sheraton Hotel



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

**Your Excellency, Gedu Andargachew, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the
Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia**

**Your Excellency, Moussa Faki, Chairperson of the African Union
Commission**

Honourable Ministers

**Excellencies Commissioners, Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives
and Members of the Diplomatic Corps,**

Ladies and Gentlemen.

1. I am delighted to welcome you to this auspicious day and thank you most sincerely for making time to gracing the launch of Kenya's campaign as the African Union endorsed candidate in the Non-Permanent category of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)m for the period 2021/2022.
2. I recognise the distinguished presence of my Brother, Gedu Andargachew, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia and other dear Colleagues, Honourable Ministers of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, my Brother Moussa Faki and Chairperson of the African Union Commission. Your presence reaffirms the deep bonds of friendship and partnership between our countries, underwrites the African Solidarity and gives expression to our shared commitment to advance Africa's common interests with greater passion, collaboration and dedication.
3. I also wish to introduce colleagues that accompanied me from Nairobi, Hon Adan Mohamed, Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of East African Cooperation and Regional Integration, Ambassador Raychelle Omamo,



Cabinet Secretary for Defence of the Republic of Kenya and Honourable Dido Rasso, Representing the Defence and Foreign Relations Committee of the National Parliament of Kenya, Ambassador Tom Amolo who is our Political and Diplomatic Secretary and Special Envoy on our Campaign for the UNSC Seat, among other senior officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

**Dear Friends, Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen**

4. Kenya is privileged to be the African Union candidate for a non-permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council. We accept this high calling with gratitude and a deep sense of purpose. In this regard, I want at this earliest moment to commend and congratulate the Permanent Representative Committee in general and particularly the Chair of the PRC, Ambassador Osama for executing the Executive Council Decision, that was endorsed by the Assembly in Niamey, Niger democratically, with fidelity, professionalism and in line with our rules of procedures. I convey the gratitude of my country and believe the final determination, reached on 21 August 2019, provides us now with a clear path that secures the solidarity and unity of our Union, and that will translate into ensuring that Kenya achieves the requisite global endorsement in June 2020. We understand fully that this endorsement is a responsibility that has been thrust on us in trust, by Africa. That it calls on Kenya to serve and faithfully defend the interests of our motherland, Africa.

5. Central to our definition and embodiment as a nation and member state of the African Union is a commitment to Pan-Africanism: the solid anvil on which our nation is forged and our foreign policy derived



from. I take this opportunity to confirm to you all our readiness to serve in the council in the pursuit of international peace and security, with an eye firmly focused on and drawn from our continent.

6. This historic commitment has translated into Kenya's strong engagement in the search for peace and security in the region, in Africa and globally. We believe the experience and competencies accumulated since we last served in the Council in 1997 to date, stand us well to add value to, and represent the African agenda in the premier decision-making organ of the United Nations – the Security Council.

Dear Friends, Excellencies
Ladies and Gentlemen

Africa is on a positive trajectory: An introspection

7. There is no doubt that **Africa has made considerable progress in addressing peace and security challenges.** The African Peace and Security Architecture has been instrumenting in guiding our work in creating the enabling environment for development. We have developed **functional early warning systems**, we have improved our use of **preventive diplomacy, engaged in peace-making, peace support operations, peace-building and post-conflict reconstruction and development processes.** **Combined these efforts continue to deliver** better outcomes – as we implement **African-inspired and African-led solutions.**
8. We have seen successes across the continent – most recently in Sudan. Last week ECOWAS in Ouagadougou has made a significant decision with a commitment of one billion U.S dollars for the Sahel



operation, in the horn of Africa we continue to see the benefits of rapprochement, we have been witness to a signature between the Government of Mozambique and Frelimo.

9. Africa's efforts to embrace and **promote democratic practices have led to greater stability, good governance**, as well as political and social inclusion. Across the continent, we are making good progress in our governance. We have made steady progress since the Arusha Conference of 1990 dubbed "*Putting the People First*" which adopted the **African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and Transformation**. Between 2018 and 2019, we are looking at elections in 31 African countries - and these have progressed successfully. We are promoting growth and prosperity and settling internal differences peacefully through elections, open debate, accountable governance, and the rule of law.
10. We also continue to operationalise and **strengthened systems for compliance with international humanitarian law and international human rights law**, which have greatly aided humanitarian action on the Continent. The **African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons** in Africa, is a good example of how these efforts are bearing fruits. This Convention stands as the world's first-ever legally-binding instrument on internal displacement and has thankfully facilitated assistance to those with no power or abilities on their own to seek and acquire basic amenities for everyday living while upholding their human dignity.
11. I say this with a great sense of conviction, because as you are aware, Kenya has the distinction of being a refugee hosting nation



from across the region. At the height of conflict in some neighbouring countries, especially in the early 1990s, Kenya was receiving an average of five thousand people per day. It was and continues to be an overwhelming responsibility but we continue to offer a safe place to our brothers and sisters who are unable to return home owing to serious and indiscriminate threats to life. Today, many refugees we have hosted are able to return home, or transition to third countries, where they are able to make positive contributions to the development of the countries.

12. Africa continues to make her contribution to peacekeeping and support operations around the world. Today we have become the primary troop contributors. Of the 14 UN Peacekeeping missions current today, 7 are in Africa. These in addition to a number of AU and regional UNSC mandated peacekeeping operations on the continent.
13. In this regard, I wish to honour our heroes, the sons and daughters of Africa, who have paid the ultimate price in their memory, courage and sacrifice. They live on in every African heart! We also salute the men and women who have served and continue to serve in conflict to keep our lives and our freedoms secure.
14. We have also clarified our development trajectory through the adoption of vision 2063, which helped to shape the UN agenda 2030. The commitment of Africa to move together was further demonstrated by the adopted of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement, and a slew of other commitments.



15. Notwithstanding these positive developments, we must acknowledge that we continue to face complex challenges. Today, we have a young population that is restive and that we must assure a future for. We are still confronted with complex challenges of terrorism, extremisms, challenges of inclusive growth. These challenges are compounded by international trends and threats including international crimes – such as trafficking of drugs, humans, contra band etc.
16. The global scenario is not different. Intractable challenges to peace and security and vicious conflicts across the globe still persist. Existential threats loom around us. Weapons of mass destruction have remained an ever-present threat while the proliferation of small arms and light weapons has caused untold human suffering. Growing tendencies of narrow nationalism, trade war between major powers, techno threats including cyber insecurity, all combine to pose significant risks globally and to Africa in particular.
17. Furthermore, the impact of Climate Change including drought, desertification, and water scarcity are exacerbating existing vulnerabilities and amplifying conflicts.

Excellencies

Ladies and Gentlemen

18. **This state of play** spawns disruptions that generate anxiety, uncertainty and unpredictability. The situation in our view calls for more not less solidarity, more not less multilateral action, more not less concert of action.



19. Within this context, Kenya has outlined a ten-point agenda for its tenure in the UNSC, which I wish to outline quickly. From the African Union agenda 2063 that creates a critical nexus between peace and security, and development, we have themed our campaign agenda as – PEACE AND SECURITY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

20. Kenya has evolved a ten point for our term at the UN Security Council.
 - i. Kenya is committed to **build bridges** because peace and security is a collective effort. We are a strong advocate for a reformed, strengthened and representative United Nations rooted at the centre of a rules based international system. At a time of global instability and increased challenges to a peaceful global order, Kenya will actively promote a culture of peace, tolerance and of respect for human dignity and aspirations. We will work with the entire UN membership in moving forward the mandate of the Security Council and the reform agenda in an inclusive and consultative manner. We will seek to strengthen the cooperation and workings between the A3 and the AUPSC, between the Permanent and Non-Permanent Members of the UNSC, between the UNSC and other UN organs – the UN Peacebuilding Commission, the UNGA, between the UNSC and other peace and security structures – EUPSC, AUPSC, and regional mechanisms such as ECOWAS, IGAD etc.



- ii. **Promote Regional Peace and Security** challenges do not respect geographic boundaries, we have a deep conviction peace is a shared responsibility. We will bring our wealth of experience in preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping, conflict resolution and post conflict reconstruction to the Security Council in all African theatres of conflict especially the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes Region, the Sahel, North and Central Africa. We will use our position at the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council to build appropriate linkages for collaboration and harmonised action.
- iii. Kenya holds the conviction that peace, security and stability cannot be enjoyed without **Justice, Human Rights and Democracy**. Africa and the world will secure peace and security for prosperity by nurturing ideal conditions for the promotion and protection of human rights and through championing a people centred, sustainable development approach peace.
- iv. Kenya has actively engaged in global and regional efforts for peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution by contributing more than 40,000 troops and other personnel to peacekeeping operations in over 40 countries. We believe Peace operations are important expressions of multilateralism in action and will advocate for greater collaboration in **Global Peace Keeping Operations**. We will also seek to have the Security Council provide African peace-enforcing and counter-terrorism operations with strong and clear mandates backed by sufficient, predictable and sustainable financial support.



- v. Kenya recognises the crucial link between **Women, Peace and Security** and has endeavoured to leverage gender perspectives in seeking lasting solutions to peace and security. Women are change agents and catalysts for peace. The Women, Peace and Security Agenda has the potential to radically transform the global quest for peace. It is a commitment to have a democratic decision-making, to promote gender justice and to enhance women's meaningful participation in peace processes. When women are at the table when negotiations are taking place, their interests and lived experiences are fully reflected in peace processes - they are considered in recovery efforts in the aftermath in conflict.
- vi. **Humanitarian action - to respond to crisis and emergencies caused by human and natural factors.** Kenya is hosting over 600,000 refugees. We are alive to the challenges faced by persons unable to return home owing to serious and indiscriminate threats to life and livelihood. We shall use our seat at the Council to seek lasting solutions to challenges faced by refugees and displaced persons.
- vii. Kenya has a long and distinguished tradition in conservation and environmental protection. With your support, we will use the seat at the Security Council and position as host country for the United Nations Environmental Programme to highlight how climate change threatens the security situation in the Sahel and other parts of Africa. We will seek lasting solutions to the security implications of **climate change**.



- viii. Kenya recognises that the youth play a significant role in maintenance and promotion of peace and security. Kenya will promote the **empowerment and inclusion of youth** as agents of peace, security and development. We seek to give the youth a greater voice in decision-making at the local, national, regional and international levels and to participate fully in peace processes and dispute resolutions. The UN unanimously endorsed His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta as the Global Champion of the Young People's Agenda, we will champion the cause of youth opportunity and hope not as a favour, but rather as the necessary, undeniable, embrace of our collective future.
- ix. Kenya has played a leading role in promoting **inclusive and sustainable development** in the region and beyond. Kenya co-chaired the 13th Session of the Open Working Group that successfully adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets, as well as the inter-governmental negotiation process on the 2030 Agenda for Development. Kenya will work with others to prioritize issues of Africa's development, peace and stability. We will seek to create necessary synergies between UN's 2030 Agenda and the AU's Agenda 2063.
- x. Kenya is a frontline state in **the fight against terrorism and violent extremism** and remains steadfast in building partnerships for a strategic and operational approach to prevent and combat terrorism and violent extremism.



**Friends,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

21. At a time of great global uncertainty and increased strife, Kenya will be Africa Union's dependable interlocutor - a steadfast advocate of our great continent.

22. Our ultimate goal is to cultivate a climate of trust and transparency and harmonize all voices; to promote the respect for international rules and norms; factor sensitivity to each other's interests; advance peaceful resolution of conflicts; and deliver increased cooperation in global peace and security efforts.

23. I have launched this campaign in Addis Ababa today because we are an African candidate, making Kenya your candidate. We seek your support - all of you, for Africa.

Support Africa! Vote Kenya!

24. **It is now my duty and privilege** to officially launch Kenya's campaign logo and to declare our campaign for a non-permanent seat at the United Nations Security Council officially started.

25. **(Logo Launch Video Plays)**

**MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
NAIROBI**

14 September 2019