



REPUBLIC
OF KENYA

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the
Netherlands

POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS ON 19TH MARCH 2025

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

1. On the sidelines of the State Visit by His Majesty King Willem-Alexander and Her Majesty Queen Máxima of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to Kenya from 18th to 20th March, 2025, the Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, H.E. Dr. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, H.E. Caspar C. J. Veldkamp, led their respective delegations for bilateral political consultations on 19th March 2025.
2. The main purpose of the political consultations was to evaluate the status of bilateral relations between Kenya and the Netherlands, and explore new avenues for expanding cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels. The consultations were a follow-up on the MOU on political consultation that was signed on 12th of February 2024, to create a framework for structured bilateral engagement between Kenya and Netherlands across different sectors.
3. Both parties noted that the relations between Kenya and the Netherlands have grown along a sound and dynamic path over the last 60 years and committed to maintaining this trajectory.

Bilateral cooperation and Current Affairs

4. Both leaders recognized the milestones achieved through regular engagements including at the highest level as exemplified by President Ruto's visit to the Netherlands in May 2023 and the state visit by Their Majesties the King William-Alexander and Queen Maxima of the Netherlands that was underway during the political consultations.
5. They particularly noted the concrete deepening of ties between the two countries through the signing of various Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) during the State Visit, including amongst others:
 - An MoU establishing a Joint Trade Committee, setting up a framework for dialogue on cooperation on trade and investments between Kenya and the Netherlands.

MM

- An MoU renewing the Terms of Reference of the Agricultural Working Group, containing the framework for cooperation and partnership in the field of agriculture.
 - An MoU to enhance tourism between the two countries, particularly fostering collaboration on having more Dutch tourists visit Kenya and enhancing Dutch investments in the tourism sector in Kenya.
6. The leaders noted the growing partnership between the two countries in healthcare. They acknowledged Dutch support for Kenyan healthcare initiatives, including the pediatric oncology program at Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital in Eldoret and broader efforts towards advancing Universal Health Coverage.
 7. The leaders reaffirmed the importance of upholding and protecting fundamental human rights as enshrined in both nations' Constitutions, including the importance of legal protection and accountability.
 8. Both parties also encouraged cultural exchanges to strengthen people-to-people connections and support partnerships between cultural institutions, artists, and the creative industries.

Trade and investment

9. The leaders noted the centrality of agriculture as a pillar of bilateral cooperation and commended the Kenya-Netherlands Agricultural Working Group for spearheading partnerships in the sector. They also noted the positive impact of agricultural flagship programs supported by the Netherlands such as the Kenya Market-led programs in dairy, horticulture and aquaculture. The Netherlands pledged to continue to support Kenya in strengthening key value chains to boost Kenya's exports to the Netherlands and the European Union.
10. Both leaders expressed their commitment to strengthening economic and investment relations between the two countries and welcomed the strengthening of bilateral trade mechanisms, including the establishment of the Joint Trade Committee (JTC) to address trade barriers, enhance market access, and expand commercial ties.
11. They emphasized the need to leverage on the Kenya-EU Economic Partnership Agreement which came into force in July 2024 and agreed to partner to diversify Kenya's export portfolio beyond cut flowers to include high-potential sectors such as meat, live animals, fish, textiles and oilseeds.
12. Kenya and the Netherlands reaffirmed their commitment to fostering a business-friendly environment and strengthening partnerships in sustainable agriculture, water management, logistics, life science, health and renewable energy, in a responsible, inclusive and sustainable way.

mm



Development Cooperation

13. Both leaders recognized that the climate emergency is one of the most serious challenges of our time. They noted that climate change has triggered a myriad of impacts that are increasingly becoming evident with dire consequences to livelihoods, ecosystems and the economy, particularly in developing countries.
14. The Netherlands committed to continue supporting Kenya's efforts to enhance climate resilience by enhancing collaboration through initiatives such as the Financing Locally-Led Climate Action (FLLoCA) program being implemented in Marsabit, Isiolo and Garissa Counties. Further, the two parties agreed to partner in the area of forest management to strengthen Kenya's sustainable forest management and restoration initiatives.
15. The leaders reflected on the breadth of Kenya-Netherlands development cooperation in key sectors including water management, food security, human rights and the Rule of Law. They affirmed the importance of investing in public-private partnerships and discussed innovative financing mechanisms for development.

Peace and Security

16. The two countries reiterated their commitment to regional peace and security, emphasizing the importance of knowledge exchange, capacity building, and technical cooperation in counterterrorism and combating organized crime. They also welcomed the upcoming signing of a Letter of Intent on Defence Cooperation, marking a significant step in strengthening bilateral security collaboration.
17. The Netherlands commended Kenya for her commitment to promoting peace and stability within the Horn of Africa and Great Lakes regions, and its leadership of the Multinational Security Mission in Haiti. Kenya appreciated the support by the Netherlands, especially through the International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC), to enhance capacity for peace building in the region.

Multilateral Cooperation

18. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to addressing global challenges through collective action, emphasizing the need for strengthened and reformed multilateral institutions.
19. The two leaders noted that Kenya and the Netherlands shared an unequivocal commitment to a rules-based international and multilateral system, and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. They noted that both countries uphold

mm



the principles of national sovereignty and territorial integrity, and the protection of human rights, as cornerstones of peaceful coexistence between countries.

20. They emphasized their commitment to contributing to international peace and security, environmental sustainability and inclusive digital transformation. The Netherlands congratulated Kenya on its election to the Human Rights Council for the period 2025-27, and being also a member for the period 2024-2026, pledged to partner with Kenya in the Council to promote respect for human rights globally.

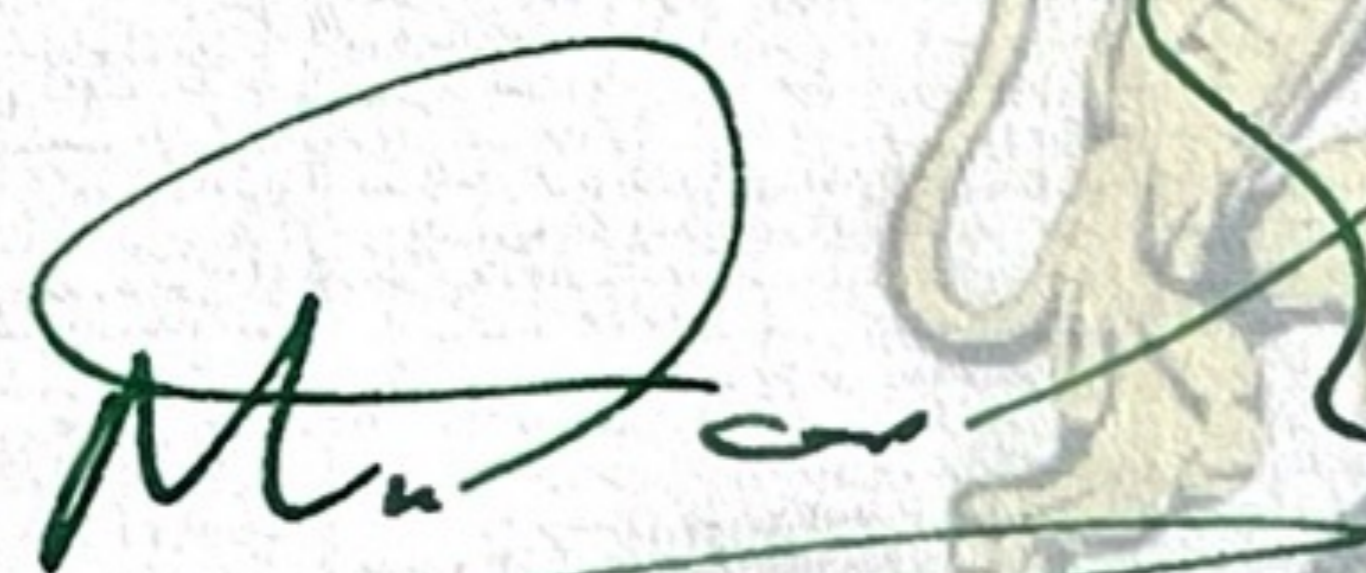
Conclusion

21. Kenya and the Netherlands pledged to further strengthen cooperation across all sectors and to continue engaging through established mechanisms to ensure the full implementation of the agreed-upon initiatives.


Issued at Nairobi on this 19th day of March 2025

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
NETHERLANDS



.....
H.E DR. MUSALIA MUDAVADI, EGH,
PRIME CABINET SECRETARY AND
CABINET SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN
AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS



.....
H.E CASPAR C.J. VELDKAMP
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS