



JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ ISSUED BY HIS EXCELLENCY UHURU KENYATTA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND HIS EXCELLENCY EVARISTE NDAYISHIMIYE, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI ON THE OCCASION OF THE STATE VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA FROM 31ST MAY -1ST JUNE 2021

1. At the invitation of **His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta**, President of the Republic of Kenya, **His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye**, President of the Republic of Burundi, undertook a State Visit to the Republic of Kenya from 31st May to 1st June 2021.
2. His Excellency **President Evariste Ndayishimiye** led a high-level delegation from Burundi comprising Ministers, senior government officials, key leaders of the business community and a cultural troupe.
3. At the beginning of the bilateral meeting, the two Heads of State **paid tribute to the late His Excellency Pierre Nkurunziza, former President of the Republic of Burundi**. The leaders recognized his immense contribution towards reconciliation and re-construction of Burundi; re-awakening the spirit of patriotism; fostering and nurturing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries.
4. The two Heads of State, in a cordial atmosphere, held extensive consultations during which they re-affirmed their unwavering commitment to deepen the long-standing fraternal relations between Kenya and Burundi. They noted with deep satisfaction that the cooperation between the two countries lay on a foundation of shared values and principles aimed at fostering sustained growth and mutual prosperity.
5. **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta** congratulated **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye** for his resounding victory at the presidential elections, a testimony of the confidence bestowed on him by the people of Burundi and applauded him for his steadfast leadership since being sworn into the high office of the President of the Republic of Burundi in June 2020.
6. **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta**, recognized the great achievements made by **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, in fostering stability in the Republic of Burundi and his tireless efforts towards economic recovery, national reconciliation, promotion of the rule of law, democracy and good governance.



7. **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, President of the Republic of Burundi expressed his sincere gratitude to **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta**, the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya for standing in solidarity with the Government and the People of Burundi during its crisis period.
8. The two Heads of State acknowledged the enduring shared commitment of Kenya and Burundi to regional integration as exemplified by their current respective roles in the **East African Community (EAC) as Chair and Rapporteur**; and the two countries' membership of the AU Peace and Security Council; and as **AMISOM Troop Contributing Countries (TCC)** in advancing the course of peace, security and stability in Somalia and the region. In this regard the two leaders commended the Kenyan and Burundian troops in Somalia for their great sacrifice in defending peace, stability and the integrity of the region.
9. The two Heads of State welcomed the establishment of the **Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation (JPCC)** in 2008 that continues to lay out a framework of bilateral cooperation between the two countries in various sectors including: trade and investment; capacity building; agriculture; education; health; transport; cooperative development; tourism; defence and security; technical assistance; political consultations; sports, arts and culture for the mutual benefit of the two countries and their respective peoples.
10. To upscale the scope of cooperation, the two Heads of State presided over the successful signing of the following bilateral instruments: -
- i) MoU between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of Burundi on Political Consultations;
 - ii) MoU between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation of Burundi on Diplomatic Training;
 - iii) MoU on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries;
 - iv) MoU on Sports, Culture and Heritage;
 - v) MoU on Cooperative Development;
 - vi) MoU in the Area of Public Service.
 - vii) MoU on cooperation in the Field of Tourism

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'P'.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'A'.



11. **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta and His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, welcomed the convening of the Joint Business Forum in Kisumu on 31st May, 2021 and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the respective Chambers of Commerce. The Heads of State welcomed the commitments made by the business community to enhance cooperation explore opportunities to enhance bilateral trade and investment.

12. To **further strengthen and deepen the cooperation**, the two Heads of State underscored the urgent need to convene the next Session of the Joint Permanent Commission for Cooperation (JPCC). They therefore, directed that the Joint Technical Committees be convened immediately to conclude consultations, to allow the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the respective countries to convene the meeting of the JPCC in the next four months, and to put in place robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to ensure implementation of the agreed deliverables. The two Heads of State further directed the relevant Ministers to ensure immediate implementation of the MoUs and other instruments of cooperation to be signed in the near future.

13. In this regard, **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta and His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye** lauded Kenya's undertaking to fulfill its pledges immediately including: -

- i. ***Agriculture and Livestock***
50 heifers of which 10 were presented during the high-level bilateral meeting on 31st May 2021 and vaccines for Trypanosomiasis and straws for upgrade of breeds.
- ii. ***Capacity Building***
Training in disciplines of hospitality, agriculture and medicine in Kenyan institutions at local rates in line with the EAC protocols.
- iii. ***Scholarships***
Scholarships for training in Kenyan hospitality and agricultural institutions.



14. **On trade and investment**, both leaders underscored the immense untapped potential to expand trade and relations between the two countries in terms of both value and volume. In this regard, the two leaders directed the Ministers responsible for trade and investment to explore new areas of cooperation, and further **facilitate the review and improve respective countries' business environments in order to grow trade and investments between the two countries.**
15. The two Heads of State reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthen the spirit of solidarity not only between the two countries but also between the two peoples, and cooperation in the field of capacity building through South-South cooperation.
16. **The two Heads of State** welcomed the withdrawal of Burundi from the agenda of the United Nations Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council, as well as the lifting of the sanctions against Burundi by other partners. They therefore called on Burundi's partners that have not yet lifted the remaining sanctions imposed in 2015 to lift them immediately in order to boost the country's socio-economic development.
17. **On Regional Cooperation**, the leaders exchanged views on various development matters in the East African Community (EAC) and reaffirmed their commitment to continue working together in championing the EAC integration agenda and 6th EAC Development Strategy and initiatives under the auspices of COMESA and the ICGLR.
18. **On International Cooperation**, the two Heads of State reiterated their commitment to continue working closely at the level of the African Union (AU), as well as at the United Nations (UN), with a view to advancing the Common African Agenda for regional integration; peace, security and stability; fight against terrorism and violent extremism; climate change and Sustainable Development.
19. **The two Heads of State** noted the negative impacts of the prevailing COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledged the containment measures by the respective countries in the fight against the scourge, and further affirmed their commitment to continue working with the African Union and other global partners in mitigating the effects of the pandemic to safeguard their countries socio-economic development.



20. In the spirit of friendship and solidarity between the two countries, **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta**, President of the Republic of Kenya together with **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, President of the Republic of Burundi, as the Chief Guest, joined Kenyans in celebrating Madaraka Day on 1st June 2021 at Jomo Kenyatta International Stadium in Kisumu City.
21. At the conclusion of the State Visit, **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, President of the Republic of Burundi expressed gratitude and appreciation to **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta**, the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya for the warm reception and hospitality extended to him and his delegation during the State Visit.
22. As a testimony to the existing cordial relations, **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, extended an invitation to **His Excellency Uhuru Kenyatta**, to undertake a State Visit to the Republic of Burundi.
23. **His President Uhuru Kenyatta**, thanked **His Excellency President Evariste Ndayishimiye**, for undertaking a State Visit to Kenya and for his firm assurance to continue working closely to strengthen bilateral relations between Kenya and Burundi and for extending his personal goodwill and steadfast support to him as the current Chairperson of the East African Community. **His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta** graciously accepted the invitation extended to him and wished **His Excellency Evariste Ndayishimiye**, good health and long life; and conveyed best wishes of peace and stability to the people of Burundi.

STATE LODGE, KISUMU.

1st JUNE 2021.