

## **Kenyan Diaspora in Ireland,**

### **Fellow Kenyans,**

#### **Greetings from the Embassy of Kenya in Dublin,**

As we celebrate 58 years of our independence we need to reflect on our past, present and focus on the future. Indeed, our independence was earned through pain and suffering, we therefore take time to salute our gallant freedom fighters who fought to ensure we became a sovereign nation. It is their efforts and sacrifices that enables us today to '*kujivunia kuwa mkenya.*'

We have made great strides as a country in the economic, political and social fronts, these makes our country a respectable leader in the international fora. This year for example, Kenya was elected a Non-Permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. At the same time our country and is known for its democratic principles and credentials are evident in holding successful elections every five years. Kenya is lauded within the Eastern Africa region and Africa at large for her leadership in peace keeping and resolution of conflicts. Kenya is seen by many to offer leadership in the region in the midst of obtaining conflicts.

I am pleased to also inform you of the various positions that Kenyans have been placed in International Organizations. Notably, Prof Phoebe Okowa was elected to United Nations International Law Commission for the term 2023 to 2027 - Prof. Okowa is Professor of Public International Law, John Omo was successfully elected as the new Secretary General of the African Telecommunications Union (ATU), for a four-year term. John Omo was the Director of Legal Services at the Communications Authority of Kenya and DCI Director George Kinoti was also elected as a member of the Interpol Executive Committee for a three-year term to name but a few. I wish to inform you that Cabinet Secretary, Dr. Amb. Monica Juma is currently running for the position of Secretary General of the Commonwealth. A position we believe will bring a lot of good for Kenya. The Government of the Republic of Kenya is keen to secure elective positions in strategic policy organs and decision-making bodies of regional and international organizations, at both country and individual levels.

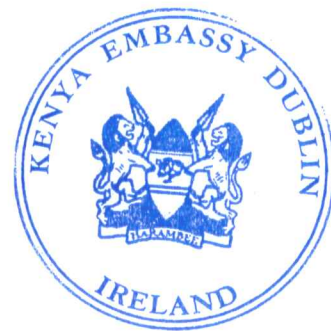
Ireland's relations with Kenya are warm and cordial. Kenya and Ireland established diplomatic relations in 1979. Kenya and Ireland have excellent bilateral relations, built on strong historical ties and cooperation, beginning with the presence of Irish Missionaries over the last century in Kenya. The two countries also enjoy strong relations based on common interests and cooperation in areas of trade, agriculture and food security, education, and development, among others. As part of this cooperation, Kenya and Ireland were tasked by UN in 2014 to come up with the SDGs which were finalised and adopted and are now operational globally. During the UNSC elections, Kenya and Ireland were both candidates and the two countries supported each other and won the seats. Recently, Kenya and Ireland on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021 signed an agreement to eradicate double taxation of incomes or gains arising in one country and paid to

residents of the other country. The National Treasury invited Kenyans in August 2021 for their views before this was effected.

Fellow Kenyans, you are the Shujaas and patriots of Kenya, I salute you for your dedication to your mother land, Kenya. My office's resolve is to continue to work with you. I wish to draw your attention to the Government's commitment to support the Diaspora. I am delighted to inform you that the Diaspora Policy is under review to make it more effective and beneficial to the Diaspora. I take note that remittances from the Diaspora has over time continued to contribute to the overall development of Kenya. These remittances also go a long way in helping our families back home in terms of socio-economic and educational development. I therefore urge that you maintain your unity and togetherness, and play your role in Nation building.

It is my great pleasure on behalf of the Embassy of Kenya in Dublin to wish you all a most joyous Jamhuri Day and wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**H.E Michael Mubea**  
**AMBASSADOR**



**Embassy of the Republic of Kenya**  
**Dublin**  
**December 12 2021**