The Secretary General WEEKLY NEWS

Deepening Integration, Widening Cooperation.

8TH AUGUST 2022

KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EAC SECRETARY GENERAL's OFFICE

- **East African Community dispatches Election Observation teams to observe Kenya´s General Elections**
- **H.E Jakaya Kikwete launches the EAC Election Observer Mission to the 2022 Kenya General Election**
- **EAC Delegation in South Korea to set ground for grand bilateral Economic and Social Cooperation**

EAC DISPATCHES ELECTION OBSERVATION TEAMS TO OBSERVE KENYA ´S GENERAL ELECTIONS

EAC Head of Mission H.E Jakaya Kikwete flags off the EAC Election Observation Mission to observe Kenya´s General Elections

The East African Community (EAC) has deployed 15 Election Observation Teams to observe Tuesday's General Election in the Republic of Kenya.

Flagging off the Election Observation Teams from the Head of the EAC-Election Observation Mission headquarters in Nairobi, H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, said that the observers had undergone training over the past five days to enable them undertake their responsibilities as International Observers and as EAC Observers.

Dr. Kikwete, who is also a former President of the United Republic of Tanzania, disclosed that the 52-strong EAC Observer Mission drawn from the EAC Partner States and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) had been deployed in 15 teams that will cover various counties in all the regions across the country.

The main task for our observers will be: to observe ongoing electoral campaigns; observe polling processes on the polling day including results management at the Polling Stations.

Further the observers will also observe tallying, announcement and declaration of results.Dr. Kikwete said that the observers are expected back at mission headquarters in Nairobi on 10th August, 2022, adding that the mission would then prepare a preliminary report on what it had observed during the electoral process.

"The field report will enable us to prepare a Preliminary Statement, which we will release on Thursday 11th August, 2022," he said. The Mission has engaged with state and non-state actors including the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission and the Kenya National Commission for Human Rights,.

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The Mission has also engaged the National Cohesion and Integration Commission, security agencies, political parties, political coalitions, the media, civil society and religious organisations.

Dr. Kikwete said that in the mission's assessment so far, it had observed a generally calm electoral, political and security environment.

"For this, we wish to thank the political leadership, the people of Kenya and the institutions responsible for electoral processes in the country. We appeal to all Kenyans, the various political coalitions, parties and independent candidates to maintain peace and aspire for a successful and peaceful election," he said, adding, that a peaceful and successful general election will be a win not just for Kenya but the entire East African Community.

Present at the flagging off ceremony were the Deputy Head of Mission and EALA MP, Hon. Fatuma Ndangiza, EAC Secretary General Hon. (Dr.) Peter Mathuki, EAC Partner States Ambassadors and High Commissioners to Kenya, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Eng. Steven Mlote, EALA MPs and Observers, and EAC Members of Staff.

H.E JAKAYA KIKWETE LAUNCHES THE EAC ELECTION OBSERVER MISSION TO THE 2022 KENYA GENERAL ELECTION

The East African Community (EAC) on Monday, 1st August officially launched the EAC Election Observation Mission, set to observe the upcoming General Elections in the Republic of Kenya.

The Head of the EAC Election Observation Mission is H.E Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Dr. Kikwete announced the mission comprises 52 observers drawn from key governance and independent institutions and civil society organizations across the EAC Partner States except Kenya. The mission will be in the country from 1st August 2022 and is set to depart on 12th August, 2022.

“We are here to assess the level of preparedness of the key electoral stakeholders for this election. We are also looking at the level of compliance of the electoral processes and management to the international, regional and national established laws, principles and practices,” he said.

Dr. Kikwete further said that the EAC Observer Mission will assess the adherence to the democratic principles of the EAC as enshrined in the Treaty.

“We are committed to offer objective recommendations for continuous improvement for the conduct of this general election,” he said.

The mission will build on the outcomes of the Joint African Union/EAC/IGAD/COMESA pre-election assessment conducted last month.EAC´s mandate to observe elections in Partner States, is governed by the Treaty & the EAC Principles for Observation and Evaluation of Elections.

Dr. Kikwete noted that as a region, EAC has a conviction that regional observation is critical to enhancing the credibility of the elections, reinforcing the work of domestic observer groups and enhancing public confidence in the entire electoral process.

EAC DELEGATION IN SOUTH KOREA TO SET GROUND FOR GRAND BILATERAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COOPERATION

The East African Community (EAC) has officially kick-started engagements with the Republic of Korea (ROK) on a grand economic and social cooperation between the EAC and South Korea.

The engagement, in the form of a bilateral cooperation seminar, was held at the Korea Chamber of Commerce (KCCI) in Seoul. This seminar is a follow-up of an earlier bilateral meeting held between the EAC Secretary General and South Korea's Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania earlier this year. The partnership seminar was convened under the theme: Exploring Economic Cooperation between the ROK and the EAC.

Officiating the event, on behalf of the EAC Secretary General as the Head of Delegation, the EAC Director of Trade, Al-hajji Rashid Kibowa, lauded the Government of Korea for taking interest in partnering with the EAC and facilitating the partnership seminar.

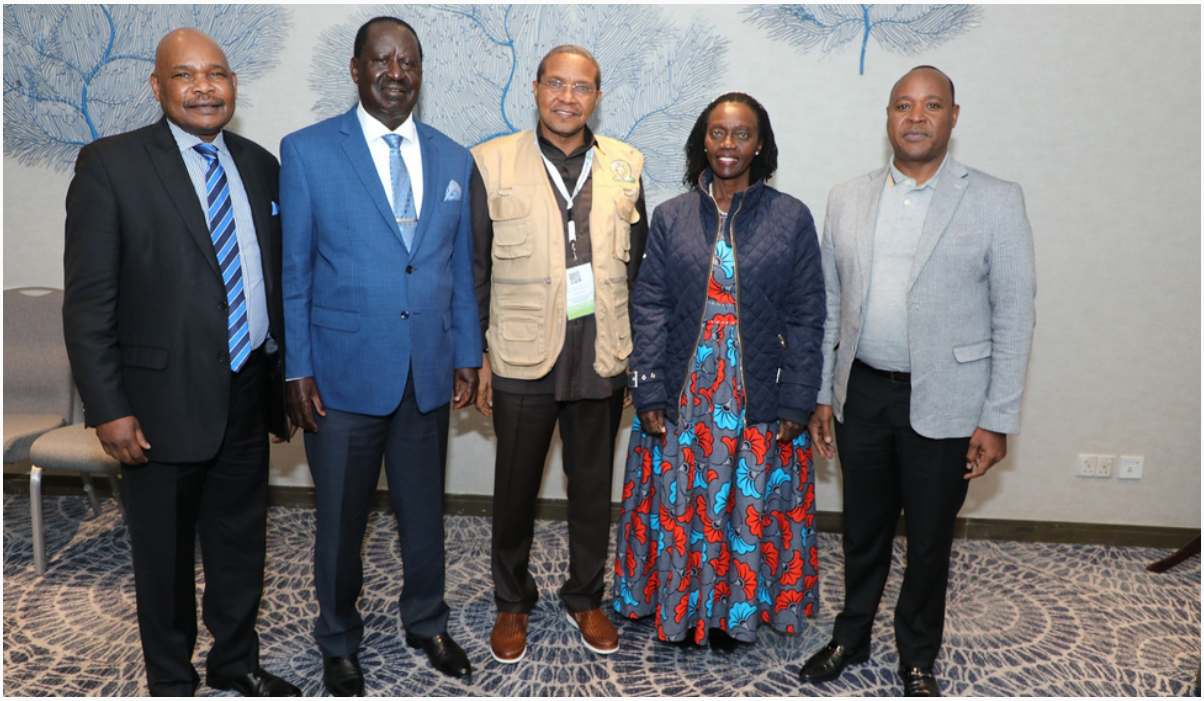
Mr.Kibowa highlighted that the EAC, is best placed to kick-start and become the entry point for South Korea's ambition to integrate with Africa.

He further noted the valuable role played by the private sector and other peoples' voices in boosting trade and investment in the region. "The expansion of the EAC following the admission of the Democratic Republic of Congo into the Community has not only substantially increased the market population but also the GDP of the EAC, thereby making the region an attractive trade and investment destination," he added.

The meeting agreed on a framework for further distillation of the presentations, discussions and the issues raised for further consideration by the EAC Council of Ministers and the Korean Government.

PICTORIALS

From left; EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki, Head of the EAC Election Observation Mission H.E Dr.Jakaya Kikwete, Kenya Kwanza Presidential Aspirant H.E William Ruto and the Deputy Head of Mission Hon. Fatuma Ndangiz.



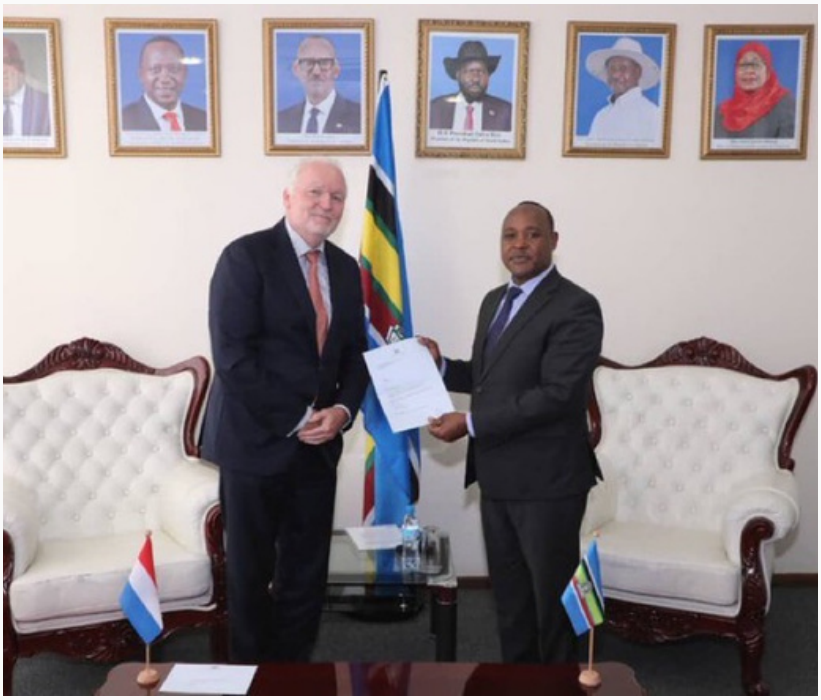
From left; Azimio la Umoja Presidential Campaign Spokesman Prof Makau Mutua, Azimio la Umoja Presidential aspirant Rt. Hon Raila Odinga, Head of the EAC Election Observation Mission H.E Dr.Jakaya Kikwete, Azimio la Umoja Deputy President aspirant Hon.Martha Karua and EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki.

- The EAC Election Observation Team joined other Heads of Mission from the African Union, The Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa, Common Wealth, European Union and COMESA in a meeting with 2 of Kenya's Presidential contenders to confer on the upcoming General Elections.
- In his remarks, Dr. Kikwete said that in the mission's assessment so far, it had observed a generally calm electoral, political and security environment and called on the aspirants to maintain peace and aspire for a successful and peaceful election.

PICTORIALS

From left; EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki, Head of the EAC Election Observation Mission H.E Dr.Jakaya Kikwete and Former Nigeria President H.E Goodluck Jonathan who´s also the Head of the Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa (EISA) in Nairobi, Kenya.

Right, EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki, Head of the EAC Election Observation Mission H.E Dr.Jakaya Kikwete and Former President of Sierra Leone - H.E Ernest Bai Koroma who´s heading the African Union Election #Observation Mission



From left; The Ambassador of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Republic of Tanzania and EAC, H.E Wiebe de Boer presents his credentials to the EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki at the EAC HQ in Arusha, Tanzania.

Right: The High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to the United Republic of Tanzania and the EAC , Amb. Muhammad Saleem pays a farewell courtesy visit to EAC Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

- EAC dispatches 15 observation teams ahead of Kenyan general election
- East Africa won't sleep well until Kenya counts the votes
- East Africa Regional business to rise by 11% in 2023
- The scramble for seats as race to EALA hots up
- Kenya ready to vote for a new government as election day nears
- Safaricom surrenders Sh1.5bn in tariffs deal
- Uganda's European Union envoy pushes for mature oil discourse
- Tanzania's growing potential as fuel prices bite
- Rwanda's Fuel prices continue to rise despite govt subsidies
- Bars, restaurants, homes to be beefed up with beef after ban lift in Burundi
- South Sudan's transitional period extended for 24 months
- DR Congo calls for UN spokesman to leave

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Ongoing: EAC Election Observer Mission, Republic of Kenya

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