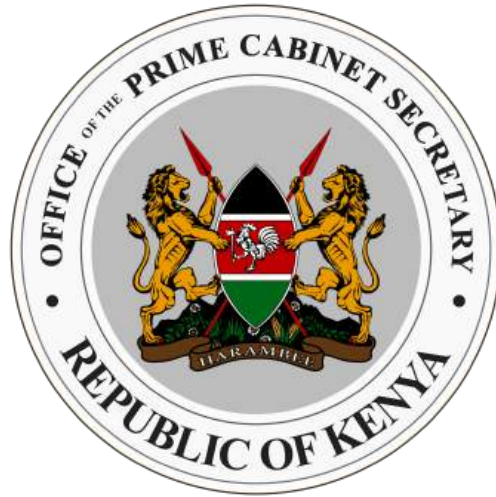




OFFICE OF THE PRIME CABINET SECRETARY  
AND MINISTRY OF FOREIGN  
& DIASPORA AFFAIRS



**STATEMENT BY H.E. DR. MUSALIA MUDAVADI, E.G.H.,  
PRIME CABINET SECRETARY AND CABINET SECRETARY  
FOR FOREIGN AND DIASPORA AFFAIRS DURING SESSION 3 AT  
THE NINTH TOKYO INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN  
DEVELOPMENT (TICAD 9) MINISTERIAL MEETING, TOKYO**

**AUGUST 25, 2024**



## **H.E. Ms. Kamikawa Yoko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan**

## **H.E. Mr. Salem Ould Merzoug, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mauritania**

### **Honorable Ministers and Heads of Delegation**

1. For the past 30 years Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) has consistently rallied the call for Africa's development. We appreciate this support from Japan.

2. In August 2016, Kenya proudly **hosted TICAD VI, the first ever held in Africa**. It is also worth noting that in 2008, Kenya's Prof. Miriam Were was the first recipient of the **Hideyo Noguchi Africa Prize award** which has now become part of TICAD activities. This speaks to Kenya's appreciation of the TICAD process.

3. Trade and investment play a critical role in propelling economic growth and poverty alleviation. Developing countries in Africa account for 18 per cent of the global population yet the Continent's contribution to global trade is less than three (3) percent.



4. The trade between Africa and Japan is fairly balanced. In 2023, the value of exports from Africa to Japan was estimated at 8.28 billion dollars while imports from Japan were estimated at 10.27 billion dollars, resulting in a deficit of 1.98 billion dollars in favour of Japan. The nature of trade imbalance between Africa and Japan remains of concern as Africa's exports to Japan were majorly unprocessed agricultural products and natural minerals while Japan's exports to Africa were finished products.

5. This is a call for Africa and Japan to tap into the immense opportunities to reverse this trade imbalance through promotion of value addition of our raw materials to scale up our mutual trade and investment.

6. Kenya is a leading destination in Africa for global Foreign Direct Investment. In 2022, FDI to Kenya was estimated at 759 million dollars, accounting for 20 percent of the FDI flows of 3.8 billion dollars to the East African Community. The presence of over 100 Japanese companies in Kenya in very strategic sectors attest to this achievement. This underlines our competitiveness as the financial and investment hub of the East African Community.



## Excellencies,

7. It is crucial to develop an **enabling ecosystem for start-ups across the African continent** aimed at creating a robust network of entrepreneurs working together to attract more FDI, foster innovation and address societal challenges. This could hold the key to revolutionizing global supply chains to make them equitable, inclusive, sustainable and responsive for all nations.

## Excellencies,

8. We remain alive to the emerging challenges which are interconnected to global crises including the war in Gaza, Russia-Ukraine conflict, the Red Sea crisis and increasing region-wide instability in the Middle East.
9. These **conflicts outside Africa have overshadowed Africa's escalating crises** including the war and humanitarian crisis in The Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo, and the resurgence of violent extremism in the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes Region.



10. Kenya calls for support for the ongoing Tumaini Mediation Initiative for South Sudan and the post African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) security architecture in the Federal Republic of Somalia to stem the resurgence of extremist groups.
  
11. More than ever before, we need to relook at one of the aims of TICAD, on **how to integrate African priorities into the international cooperation agenda of partners.**

## **Excellencies,**

12. Kenya appreciates Japan's continued support to African-led efforts, especially in quality infrastructural development as exemplified in projects like the Mombasa Southern Bypass project, Mombasa Gate Bridge and the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone geared towards regional connectivity and promotion of trade and investment. The iconic Bypass has opened up a parallel access spanning from Dar es Salaam in Tanzania to Lamu in Kenya thus providing a seamless road connectivity on the Continent that will go a long way in promoting intra trade within AfCFTA.



13. Further, I propose that we consider **funding and technology integration into agriculture**, to make the sector **adaptive to climate change**. There is also an urgent need to focus on youth and women's challenges from a South-South perspective. We need to **identify areas of quick wins that do not require huge resources but have high impact value**.
  
14. Africa therefore needs to **implement strategies** that will expand **regional and international trade** in support of the trade and investment objectives. The goal is to expand production, create employment opportunities and generate income in developing countries.
  
15. **On global governance**, collaborative action is necessary to strengthen the functions of the United Nations, including reforms of the Security Council and the International Financial Architecture. Japan and the AU can jointly play a greater role in **harmonizing various initiatives on reforms of the multilateral system**.
  
16. **As I conclude, let us appreciate that** developing countries are embracing public private partnerships to



promote sustainable development. Innovation and technology, therefore, can enable countries to harness the power of digital economy to advance an efficient, inclusive and sustainable future.

**I Thank you!**