

10<sup>TH</sup> NORTHERN CORRIDOR INTEGRATION PROJECTS SUMMIT

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMONWEALTH RESORT MUNYONYO

KAMPALA, UGANDA

6<sup>TH</sup> JUNE, 2015

At the invitation of H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, Hon. Kuol Manyang Juuk, Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs, representing H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, President of the Republic of South Sudan, and Amb. Alain Aime Nyamitwe, Minister of External Relations & International Cooperation representing H.E. Pierre Nkurunziza, President of the Republic of Burundi, held the 10<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Northern Corridor Integration Projects in a warm and cordial atmosphere, on 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2015, in Kampala, Uganda.

In attendance as Observers were Hon. Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia , Dr. Richard Sezibera, Secretary General of the East African Community (EAC), Mr. Donat Bagula, Executive Secretary of the Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Coordination Authority (NCTTCA). The United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo were represented by Senior Officials. The East African Business Council and Representatives of the Private Sector from the Partner States were also in attendance.

Two years on, the Heads of State appreciated the progress in implementation of the various projects under the Northern Corridor Initiative and reiterated their collective resolve to continue working together to widen and deepen the integration of the Region through fast-tracking implementation. The Summit therefore directed the establishment of the Northern Corridor Implementation Authority to coordinate and follow-up implementation of decisions.

The Heads of State welcomed the commitment expressed by the Private Sector to partner with Governments of the Northern Corridor Member States in the realization of the vision and goals of transforming the regional economy through the Public-Private Sector Partnership in the delivery of the flagship projects.

The Summit welcomed the signing of Agreement on Total Liberalization of Free Movement of Labour, Agreement on Total Liberalization of Free Movement of Services, Memorandum of Understanding with EPC Contractor for the Western and Southern Routes of the Standard Gauge Railway, the Memorandum of Understanding on Foreign Policy Coordination as well as Memorandum of Understanding on Cyber Security.

The Summit launched the NCIP Web Portal that will facilitate communication and dissemination of information on the Northern Corridor Integration Projects.

The Summit condemned the Garissa University attack in April 2015, conveyed condolences to the bereaved families and to the Government of Kenya, and further expressed their determination to jointly address the terrorism threat posed by extremist forces in the region.

The Heads of State considered the Ministerial Report, endorsed the recommendations contained therein and directed as follows:

- A. On **Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) Development**, the Summit noted the signing by Uganda of the USD3.32 Billion Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract with China Harbour & Engineering Company (CHEC) for the Northern & Eastern Route of the SGR. The Summit was appraised of the steady progress made in the construction of the Mombasa-Nairobi Section of the SGR and directed Partner States to finalise bankable project proposals for SGR and submit to EXIM Bank of China before the next Summit.
- B. On **Oil Refinery Development**, the Summit noted the progress made by Uganda in the establishment of the National Oil Company and its subsidiary National Refinery Company to enable formation of a Special Purpose Vehicle and called on the remaining Partner States to confirm their Public Share Participation in the Project.
- C. On **Political Federation**, the Summit decided to refer the process to the EAC Organs and report during the EAC Summit in November 2015.
- D. On **Single Customs Territory (SCT)**, the Summit considered the NCTTCA study and noted with appreciation the substantial gains that have been achieved since the implementation of SCT. The Summit called upon the Revenue Authorities and other stakeholders of the Partner States to continuously improve their performance on cargo clearance time and costs and work towards the minimum indicators identified by the NCTTCA study. The Summit also extended the warehouse rent waiver by 60 days to facilitate the clearance of overstayed cargo at the Port of Mombasa.
- E. On **Human Resource Capacity Building**, the Summit directed the Ministers to prioritize funding for the Centres of Excellence (CoEs) during the Financial Year 2015/2016 and to offer scholarships to students from Partner States enrolled in the CoEs.
- F. On **Power Generation, Transmission and Interconnectivity**, the Summit reiterated the urgent need to observe the timelines for completion of the infrastructure that will facilitate power trade between the Partner States.
- G. On **Commodities Exchange**, the Summit noted the progress made in the areas of Legal and regulatory framework, warehousing receipt system, and harmonization of standards and directed the Ministers to ensure value addition in agricultural products and develop regional trading platforms in commodities.

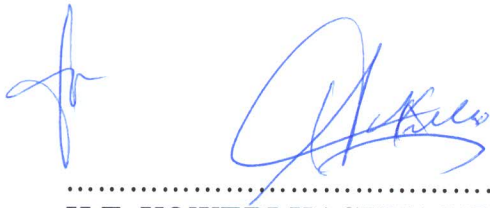
- H. On **Tourism**, the Summit acknowledged the accolades attained by the Partner States during major international tourism events and encouraged the Ministers responsible for Tourism to continue collaborating in promoting the Region as one destination.
- I. On **Defence, Peace and Security Cooperation**, the Summit noted the operationalization of the Joint Intelligence Centre (JIC) in Nairobi and reaffirmed their commitment to jointly address the security threats in the region, including terrorism.
- J. On **Land and Infrastructure Corridor**, the Summit directed the use of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms in settlement of land acquisition disputes.
- K. On **Air Space Management**, the Summit was appraised of the challenges facing the national carriers and directed the Sector Ministers to strategically address the issue of competition and expedite the establishment of the Northern Corridor airspace bloc.

The Heads of State and their Representatives thanked their host, H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, for the warm welcome and excellent hospitality accorded to them and their respective delegations during their stay in Kampala.

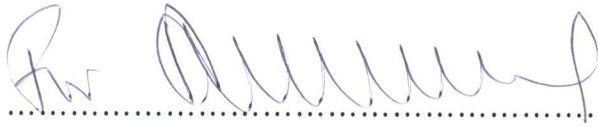
The next Summit will be held in Nairobi, Kenya in two months time.

Done in Kampala, Uganda, on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 2015.

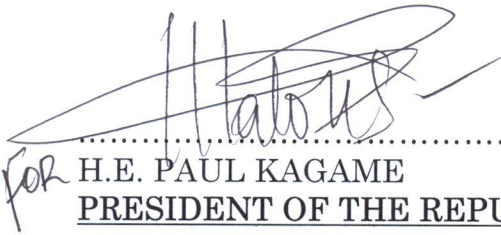
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H.E. YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



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H.E. UHURU KENYATTA  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA



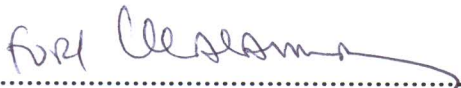
for

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H.E. PAUL KAGAME  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



FOR

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H.E. SALVA KIIR MAYARDIT  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN



for

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H.E. PIERRE NKURUNZIZA  
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI

Alain Aime MANITWE  
Minister of External Relations &  
International Cooperation