



# 13<sup>TH</sup> SUMMIT OF THE NORTHERN CORRIDOR INTEGRATION PROJECTS

## JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMONWEALTH SPEKE RESORT MUNYONYO

KAMPALA, UGANDA

23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL, 2016

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The 13<sup>TH</sup> Summit of the Northern Corridor Integration Projects was held in Kampala, Uganda on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2016. H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, host of the Summit, welcomed H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, President of the Republic of Kenya, and Hon. Aggrey Tisa Sabuni, Presidential Advisor on Economic Affairs, Republic of South Sudan.

In attendance were H.E. Debretsion Gebremichael, Deputy Prime Minister, Coordinator of Finance and Minister of ICT, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, Hon. Dr. Augustine P. Mahiga, Minister of Foreign Affairs, East African Community, Regional and International Cooperation, the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Jean Bosco Barege, Ambassador of the Republic of Burundi, Mr. Jean Pierre Massala, Charge d'Affaires of the Democratic Republic of Congo to Uganda, Mr. Gabriel Negatu, Regional Director, African Development Bank and Mr. Donat Bagula, Executive Secretary of the Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Coordination Authority (NCTTCA). The Private Sector Representatives from the Partner States were also in attendance.

The Heads of State congratulated H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on his re-election as President of Uganda, which attests to the confidence and trust the people of Uganda have in his leadership. Their Excellencies re-affirmed their commitment to advance further the regional integration agenda.

The Summit welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the various projects and reiterated their resolve to continue fast-tracking the Northern Corridor Integration Projects in order to accelerate regional integration and improve the livelihood of citizens. The Heads of State stressed the need to implement the projects with a sense of urgency and resolve outstanding issues by the 14<sup>th</sup> Summit.

The Heads of State considered the Report of the 13<sup>th</sup> Ministerial meeting, endorsed the recommendations contained therein and directed as follows:

- A. On Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) Development, the Summit welcomed the progress in the construction works of the Mombasa-Nairobi section which has reached seventy five per cent and is on course for completion in June 2017. The Heads of State noted the conclusion of the financing agreement for the Nairobi – Naivasha section slated for construction beginning in September 2016. They directed that the contractors for the Mombasa-Kampala section undertake operation of the section in the interim as the two Partner States build their local capacities.

The Heads of State directed that the bankable feasibility studies for the remaining Northern, Western, Southern, and Mirama –Kigali sections be expedited.

- B. **On ICT Infrastructure Development**, the Summit underscored the importance of ICT in promoting regional inter-connectivity. In this regard, they welcomed the development of a framework for regional data roaming with maximum retail tariff of USD 11 Cents per Megabyte and the maximum inter-operator tariff of USD 7 Cents per Megabyte. The Summit directed that the procurement of the traffic monitoring systems for detection of fraudulent calls (grey traffic) be fast-tracked.

The Heads of State welcomed the signing of a data sharing accessing framework. Their Excellencies directed Ministers of ICT, Finance and Central Bank Governors to expedite the harmonisation of Northern Corridor cross-border mobile financial services interoperability and report to the next Summit.

The Heads of State further noted the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation and information sharing by Ministers.

- C. **On Oil Refinery Development**, the Summit welcomed the decision by United Republic of Tanzania to invest in the shareholding of the Uganda oil refinery project.
- D. **On Crude Oil**, the Summit agreed that two crude oil pipelines on from Lokichar to Lamu and another from Hoima to Tanga, will be developed by Kenya and Uganda respectively. .
- E. **On Political Federation**, the Summit decided that the matter will be handled under the East African Community.
- F. **On Project Financing**, the Summit directed Ministers of Finance to establish harmonised financing models to facilitate the private sector's participation in the projects. Ministers of Finance in conjunction with Ministers of Energy were directed to engage the private sector on financing of the refined petroleum product pipeline through the Public Private Partnership model. The Heads of State directed Ministers of Finance to continue sourcing funds for other projects.
- G. **On Power Generation, Transmission and Interconnectivity**, the Summit directed Ministers to address the delays in completion of transmission lines, acquisition of land and way leaves which has hindered the commencement of power trade. The Summit further directed that a joint inspection be undertaken on construction of the 220 kV and 400 kV transmission lines to determine the progress and report to the next Summit. The Heads of State welcomed the commitment by African Development Bank to finance the feasibility study for the Olwiyo-Juba 400kV transmission line.

- H. On Air Space Management, the Summit directed Ministers of Transport to continue engaging the airline industry and stakeholders to enhance competition and to reduce the cost of air travel in the region.
- I. On Human Resource Capacity Building, the Summit appreciated the adoption of a Framework for offering scholarships to students in the Partner States' Centres of Excellence (CoEs) and directed Ministers to expedite review of the legal status of CoEs to enable them access and mobilize adequate funding.
- J. On Commodities Exchange, the Summit noted with appreciation progress towards developing interlinked trading platforms and a mechanism for promoting economies of scale and value addition.
- K. On Land for the Infrastructure Corridor, the Summit directed Ministers responsible for Land and Attorneys General to expedite the review and amendment of Land laws to facilitate easier acquisition of land for projects.
- L. On Immigration Tourism, Trade, Labour and Service, the Heads of State noted with appreciation the adoption of the Joint Schedule for Total Liberalisation of Free Movement of Labour and directed the schedule be implemented expeditiously. The Summit directed Ministers to develop strategies to address emerging threats of human trafficking and other transnational crimes.
- M. On Single Customs Territory (SCT), the Summit welcomed the harmonisation of the warehousing regime and expansion of the commodities under the Single Customs Territory. They directed that a strategy document on joint enforcement along the Northern Corridor be developed and presented to the 14<sup>th</sup> Summit.

The Summit noted the report of the Time Release Study by the Northern Corridor Transit Transport Coordination Authority (NCTTCA) which has recorded increased efficiency on the time it takes to move cargo from the Port of Mombasa to the inland destinations along the Northern Corridor.

The Summit directed Ministers responsible for Finance and Trade to ensure that shipping lines and insurance companies finalise and sign an agreement on elimination of cash deposits for containers.

- N. On Defence, Peace and Security Cooperation, the Heads of State directed Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Defence, Peace and Security to finalise the draft Accession Treaties to the Mutual Defence Pact as well as the Mutual Peace and Security Pact; Mechanism for Comprehensive Conflict and Dispute Resolution; and Draft Coordination Mechanism.

O. On Private Sector, the Summit noted the active participation and engagement of the private sector in the various clusters of the Northern Corridor integration projects. They welcomed the private sector's commitment to provide innovative financing options.


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

The next Summit will be held in Nairobi, Kenya at a date to be communicated.

Done in Kampala, Uganda on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2016.



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



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



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



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HON. AGGREY TISA SABUNI  
Presidential Advisor on Economic Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN