



OFFICE OF THE  
DEPUTY PRESIDENT

**CLOSING REMARKS OF H.E RIGATHI GACHAGUA, EGH,  
DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA,  
DURING THE DIASPORA INVESTMENT CONFERENCE AT  
KENYATTA INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTRE,  
NAIROBI, ON DECEMBER 15, 2023 AT 10:00 AM**

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**The Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Musalia Mudavadi;**

**The Principal Secretary, State Department for Diaspora Affairs, Roseline Njogu;**

**The Leadership of the Diaspora Community;**

**Distinguished Members of the Diaspora Community;**

**Representatives of the Private Sector;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**It is a pleasure addressing this gathering of our people, who live and work in the Diaspora.**

**This is the apex of a string of conversations I have had with Kenyans during my assignments outside the country. In most of those occasions, I have had the opportunity to speak with you on the Government's development agenda.**

**I have done so because it is your right to know what your Government is doing and therefore, it is our responsibility to keep you informed.**

**This gives you a deeper understanding of our strategic priorities for better contribution.**

**Being the first Conference since we established the State Department for Diaspora Affairs, this dialogue with the Government is another moment to agree on solid actions. We are working to improve your experience abroad, as you invest back home.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**The Diaspora Community is an important plug to the country's economy. Your remittances have been significant in stabilising our economy.**

**In 2022, the remittances surpassed 4billion US Dollars. Our strategy is to double this number in the next few years.**

**That is what informs this three-day Conference, in which we have had moments to identify ways of enhancing the existing collaboration among the Government, the Private Sector and the Diaspora Community in increasing the investment portfolio.**

**We want an assured and streamlined investment environment at home. With this, you can do more.**

**Thus, we are excited that beyond identifying investment opportunities, there has been a robust review of the legal, policy and regulating frameworks.**

**There has also been extensive networking with peers in the areas of interest. The theme of the Conference: *Tujenge Kenya; Bridging Borders, Building Futures*, captures our vision of propelling Kenya.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Through the State Department for Diaspora Affairs, the Ruto Administration takes seriously the outcome of this Conference.**

**The President has appointed ambassadors and Heads of Mission to various States across the globe. As they assume or resume duty starting January, they are properly briefed to work closely with Kenyans in the Diaspora.**

**They are well-guided to make your stay abroad very productive. That is how you will make more money to invest home and support implementation of our development Plan.**



**The Ruto Administration emphasises economic diplomacy. That is why contracts of Ambassadors and Heads of Mission are now pegged on the economic gain we make from their posting.**

**This is what will also determine their suitability to continue being our representatives.**

**Our President, H.E Dr William Ruto has held a meeting with the envoys.**

***(I plan to host them next week for a follow-up conversation).***

**This tells you how resolute we are in ensuring efficiency and effectiveness of our Embassies and Missions for a stronger, better and productive Diaspora Community.**

**We ask you to work closely with them in marketing Brand Kenya. The ripple effect of all these will be, enhanced foreign currency reserves, creation of more jobs, among others for a stronger and resilient economy.**

**In the same breath, we urge you to be our country's ambassadors while abroad.**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**I wish to thank the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, and specifically the State Department for Diaspora Affairs for this insightful Conference. Besides, your work has been outstanding.**

**I congratulate you all for participating in this key dialogue.**

**ASANTENI SANA  
HAPPY HOLIDAYS**