



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## EU - Kenya joint statement

17 February 2022

Recalling that the trade and investment relations between the European Union and Kenya are an essential part of our Strategic Dialogue, today, we affirm our objective to implement the Economic Partnership Agreement between the EU and the East African Community initialled by all parties in 2014 and ratified by Kenya in 2016. To that end, and following the decision by the East African Community Heads of State Summit on 27 February 2021, the European Union and Kenya intend to negotiate and agree on an interim Economic Partnership Agreement.

The future EU-Kenya interim Economic Partnership Agreement, which will remain open for other EAC Partner States, will provide for liberalisation of trade in goods, accompanied by trade-related development cooperation with a view to boost sustainable economic growth and job creation.

Recalling that economic and social development and environmental protection are interdependent, mutually reinforcing and an integral part of our relationship, the EU and Kenya express their strong desire to discuss and integrate sustainable development in their trade and investment relations in order to promote sustainable growth and to achieve the objectives of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

To that end, the EU and Kenya agree to negotiate, as an integral part of their Economic Partnership Agreement, binding provisions on trade and sustainable development - building on the ACP-EU partnership acquis - which will be subject to an appropriate dispute settlement mechanism. The implementation of their Agreement will be backed and supported by the EU's development and cooperation tools.

On this basis, the leadership of both parties have welcomed the progress made in preparation of the text of the EU-Kenya interim Economic Partnership Agreement to be shared with Kenya, and instructed the joint task force, established under the Strategic Dialogue launched in June 2021, to complete the work on the EU-Kenya interim Economic Partnership Agreement, including its trade and sustainable development chapter, in order to pave the way for its signature and ratification.

The parties acknowledge Kenya's efforts towards sustainable development, green transition and digitalisation notably, as well as the objectives of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which will accompany the country's paradigm shift towards an economic model that combines sustainable growth and decent job creation with environmental conservation and climate-resilience. The parties confirm their common understanding that democratic governance, peace, security and human development, with a focus on women and youth, are important aspects of development cooperation and that the EU will support Kenya's national commitments towards this end.

Signed on behalf of the EU,

Signed on behalf of the Republic of  
Kenya,

Executive Vice-President  
Valdis Dombrovskis  
European Commission

Ambassador Raychelle Omamo, SC, EGH  
Cabinet Secretary  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs