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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – FIFTH SESSION (2026)

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE, AND FOREIGN
RELATIONS

REPORT ON THE INSPECTION VISIT TO THE KENYA EMBASSY IN CAIRO,
EGYPT

26TH – 30TH MARCH, 2026

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 28 JUL 2026	
DAY: Tuesday	
TABLED BY:	Vice-chairperson Hon. Maj. Bashir Abululghani, MP
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	Benson Inzofu



CLERK'S CHAMBERS
DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
NAIROBI

JULY, 2026

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
CBS	Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear
EAC	East African Community
GIU&GUC	German International University / German University in Cairo
HQ	Headquarters
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
IOM	International Organization for Migration
JCC	Joint Commission for Cooperation
JTC	Joint Trade Commission/Committee
MDAs	Ministries, Departments, and Agencies
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MoUs	Memoranda of Understanding
M.P.	Member of Parliament
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NIS	National Intelligence Service
PIT	Project Implementation Team
USD	United States Dollar

LEADER OF DELEGATION'S FOREWORD

The Kenya Embassy in Cairo occupies a strategic position in advancing Kenya's foreign policy and diplomatic interests across North Africa and the Middle East. With accreditation to Egypt, Jordan and Eritrea, the Mission serves as a critical platform for promoting Kenya's political, economic and security interests while safeguarding the welfare of thousands of Kenyans residing within its area of accreditation. The Committee's inspection visit provided an opportunity to assess the Mission's effectiveness in executing its mandate and identify opportunities for strengthening its operations.

The visit established that the Mission has made significant progress in strengthening bilateral relations with its countries of accreditation through high-level diplomatic engagements, implementation of Joint Commission for Cooperation frameworks, promotion of trade and investment, and support for educational and security cooperation. The Embassy has also played a central role in facilitating consular services, promoting Kenya's economic diplomacy agenda, and fostering stronger engagement with the Kenyan diaspora, whose contribution to national development continues to grow.

The Mission has effectively promoted Kenya's strategic interests by supporting initiatives aimed at expanding trade, attracting investment, strengthening regional security cooperation, and enhancing collaboration in sectors such as agriculture, education, renewable energy and tourism. Equally important has been the Embassy's role in facilitating scholarships, military and security training, and creating opportunities for greater economic integration between Kenya and its partner countries. The Committee further observed considerable potential to leverage Egypt's position as a regional logistics and commercial hub to expand Kenya's access to markets in North Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

Despite these achievements, the Mission continues to face significant operational challenges. These include inadequate financial and human resources, obsolete ICT equipment, reliance on leased premises, increasing demand for consular and diaspora services, and the absence of dedicated emergency support mechanisms for Kenyans in distress. The Committee also noted the need for stronger legal and labour protection frameworks for Kenyan migrant workers, enhanced institutional capacity, and accelerated acquisition of permanent diplomatic property to improve operational efficiency and reduce recurrent expenditure.

Strategically, the Committee observed that the Mission presents significant opportunities for deepening Kenya's diplomatic influence and economic engagement in North Africa and the wider Middle East. Strengthened bilateral cooperation, enhanced implementation of existing agreements, establishment of a resident diplomatic mission in Eritrea, and increased investment in economic

diplomacy will further position Kenya as a reliable regional partner while advancing national development priorities.

In conclusion, the Kenya Embassy in Cairo continues to deliver substantial diplomatic, economic and consular value despite operating under considerable resource constraints. The findings and recommendations contained in this Report are intended to strengthen the Mission's institutional capacity, improve service delivery to Kenyans abroad, and enhance Kenya's diplomatic and economic engagement within the region. Their implementation will enable the Mission to fully realise its mandate and reinforce Kenya's strategic interests across Egypt, Jordan and Eritrea.

Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P.

Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations

Leader of the Delegation

1.0 PREFACE

1.1 Introduction

2. The Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations undertook an oversight visit to the Kenya Embassy in Cairo, Egypt, in accordance with its mandate under Standing Order 216. The Committee is constitutionally mandated to investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the management, administration, operations, and financial performance of assigned ministries and departments. In this regard, the Committee exercises a critical oversight role to ensure accountability, efficiency, and alignment with national policy objectives.
3. The visit formed part of the Committee's approved work plan for the 2025/2026 financial year and was designed to provide Members with a firsthand understanding of the operational environment of the Mission. Specifically, the Committee sought to assess the effectiveness of the Embassy in delivering its mandate, including the provision of consular services, the promotion of economic diplomacy, the management of financial and physical resources, and the identification of challenges affecting its performance.
4. The visit also provided an opportunity for Members to engage directly with Mission staff, appreciate the unique diplomatic context within which the Embassy operates, and deepen their understanding of Kenya's foreign policy priorities in North Africa. This engagement was essential in informing future policy recommendations and budgetary considerations.

1.2 Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

5. The Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations is one of the Departmental Committees of the National Assembly established under Standing Order 216 whose mandates, pursuant to the Standing Order 216 (5) includes, among others, *to investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned ministries and departments.*

1.3 Committee Subjects

6. The subject matter of the Committee is stated in the Second Schedule of the National Assembly Standing Orders and includes, among others, *foreign relations, diplomatic and consular services, and international relations.*

7. In executing its mandate, the Committee oversees the following government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs):
- a) The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs;
 - b) The Ministry of Defence;
 - c) The State Department for East African Community Affairs (EAC); and
 - d) The National Intelligence Service (NIS).

1.4 Committee Membership

8. The Committee, initially constituted by the House on **27th October 2022** and reconstituted on **6th March 2025**, brings together a diverse and experienced team of legislators entrusted with steering the nation's Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Policy oversight agenda. Its membership is as follows:

Chairperson

Hon. Koech Nelson, CBS, M.P.

Belgut Constituency

UDA Party

Vice-Chairperson

Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, CBS, M.P.

Mandera North Constituency

UDM Party

Members

Hon. Odhiambo Millie G. Akoth, CBS, M.P.

Suba North Constituency

ODM Party

Hon. Joshua Kandie, M.P.

Baringo Central Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P.

Gilgil Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, M.P.

Kinangop Constituency

Jubilee Party

Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P.

Kamukunji Constituency

Jubilee Party

Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, M.P.

Sabatia Constituency

UDA Party

Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, M.P.

Kajiado Central Constituency

Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.

Shinyalu Constituency

ODM Party

Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, M.P.
Kitui County

WDM-K

Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P.
Central Imenti Constituency

UDA Party

ANC Party

Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.
Shinyalu Constituency

ANC Party

Hon. Muratha Anne Wanjiku, M.P.
Nominated Member

UDA Party

1.5 Committee Secretariat

9. The Committee Secretariat comprises the following technical staff:

Mr. Emmanuel Meldaki Muyodi

First Clerk Assistant/Head of Secretariat

Mr. Lenny Muchangi

Legal Counsel II

Mr. Bernard Njeru

Clerk Assistant III

Mr. Salat Ali

Principal Serjeant-at-Arms II

Mr. Edwin Machuki

Fiscal Analyst II

Ms. Fridah Ngari

Media Relations Officer III

Mr. Mark Mbuthia

Audio Recording Officer

Mr. Martin Sigei

Research Officer III

Mr. Alex Amwata

Hansard Reporter

Ms. Mary Kamande

Public Communication Officer III

1.6 Delegation

10. The delegation comprised of:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| (a) Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P. | - (Leader of Delegation) |
| (b) Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, M.P. | - Member |
| (c) Mr. Emmanuel Muyodi | - Assistant Clerk I (Delegation Secretary) |

2.0 THE KENYAN EMBASSY, CAIRO – EGYPT

2.1 Background and Mandate of the Embassy

11. The mandate of the Embassy is derived from that of the Ministry as contained in Executive Order No. 2 of 2023 authorizing it to lead in the execution of the nation's Foreign Policy and advise the Presidency on regional, continental and global affairs. Therefore, the mandate of the Embassy is guided by the following functions:
 - (i) Projection, Promotion and Protection of Kenya's Interests and image in Egypt, Jordan and Eritrea;
 - (ii) Management of Bilateral relations between Kenya and the countries of accreditation;
 - (iii) Strengthening of the Economic Cooperation, Trade and Investment Relations between Kenya and the countries of accreditation;
 - (iv) Facilitation and implementation of Joint Commissions and Joint Trade Committees with Egypt and other countries of accreditation;
 - (v) Support the State Department for Diaspora Affairs in leveraging the potential of the Kenyan diaspora in the countries of accreditation for national development;
 - (vi) Provision of Consular Services to Kenyans in the countries of accreditation;
 - (vii) Coordination of State and Official Visits to the countries of accreditation; and
 - (viii) Lobbying for support for Kenyan candidatures in international organizations.
12. The Vision of the Mission is to be a frontrunner in projecting, promoting and protecting Kenya's image and interests in Egypt and countries of accreditation. And our Mission is to enhance bilateral and economic relations between Kenya and Egypt, Eritrea, and Jordan through effective diplomatic engagement.

2.2 Kenya–Egypt Relations

13. Kenya and Egypt share a long-standing historical relationship that dates back to Kenya's struggle for independence, during which Egypt played a supportive role through initiatives such as Radio Free Africa operated from Cairo. Kenya's embassy in Cairo, being one of its earliest diplomatic missions after independence, underscores the strategic importance of this relationship.
14. Kenya and Egypt enjoy cordial relations and have resident Embassies in their respective capitals. Kenya/Egypt relations have been punctuated by high-level visits between the two countries. The highlight of these engagements includes the visit to Kenya by H.E. Abdel Fattah Al Sisi to attend the African Union Mid-Year Coordination Summit in July 2023 and

a visit by H.E. Mostafa Madbouly, Prime Minister, to attend the African Climate Summit that took place in Nairobi in September 2023. A state visit by Kenya's President, H.E. Dr. William Ruto, took place from 28th to 30th January 2025. Subsequently, a reciprocal visit is planned for May 2026 on the margins of the Africa France Conference in Nairobi.

15. There are a number of scholarships being offered by the Egyptian government through the Nile Basin Scholarship and the Egyptian Agency for Partnership and Development. The latest being the German International University (GIU&GUC) scholarships with 10 students already in their second month of study. These scholarships have benefited Kenyans greatly, especially in the medical and health care field, engineering and computer science. We have had quite a number of internal security and military officers being trained in areas of anti-terrorism and VIP protection.
16. To help boost bilateral ties, the two countries have held seven sessions of the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC). The last JCC was held in Nairobi, from 5th to 7th March 2024.

2.3 Kenya–Jordan Relations

17. Kenya and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan established diplomatic relations on 2nd November 1964, marking a long-standing partnership grounded in cooperation and shared interests. Despite the absence of a resident Kenyan Mission in Jordan, the Kenyan Embassy in Cairo effectively covers Jordan due to geographical proximity, while Jordan maintains a resident embassy in Nairobi, established in 2016.
18. Kenya and Jordan enjoy cordial relations characterized by strong economic and strategic linkages. Jordan regards Kenya as the third-largest non-Arab African market and as a strategic entry point into the African Great Lakes region. The signing of the Economic and Trade Agreement in December 2016 further strengthened this relationship by providing a framework for expanding trade and investment cooperation.
19. In the area of defence, the relationship between Kenya and Jordan is robust and strategic, driven by shared security concerns and mutual interests in counterterrorism. Over the years, the two countries have strengthened ties through joint military exercises, training programs, intelligence sharing, and high-level engagements. Notably, Jordan has trained over 60 Kenya Air Force officers in areas such as aviation, counterterrorism tactics, and specialized military skills, thereby enhancing Kenya's defence capabilities.

20. Kenya's participation in multinational initiatives such as Operation Gallant Phoenix underscores the depth of security collaboration between the two countries. Additionally, there exists significant potential for further cooperation in the defence industry and maritime security, particularly in leveraging Jordan's expertise in military technology.
21. With regard to the diaspora, there are over 3,000 Kenyan nationals in Jordan, predominantly engaged in unskilled labour and the hospitality sector. While this presents employment opportunities, it also raises concerns regarding labour rights, protection, and welfare.

2.4 Kenya–Eritrea Relations

22. The Committee observed that Kenya and Eritrea have experienced a significant improvement in diplomatic relations in recent years, particularly following the introduction of a visa-free regime in 2023. This development has re-invigorated economic and diplomatic engagement between the two countries and reflects a broader commitment to regional integration.
23. The Committee noted that both countries are focusing on enhancing cooperation in areas such as regional security, agriculture, energy, fisheries, transportation, water management, mining, tourism, and the blue economy. These sectors present considerable opportunities for trade and investment, particularly within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
24. The Committee further observed that discussions between William Ruto and President Isaias Afwerki have emphasized the need for closer diplomatic collaboration, including the establishment of a Kenyan embassy in Asmara. However, the Committee notes that Kenya currently does not have a resident mission in Eritrea and continues to serve the country through accreditation from Cairo.
25. The Committee observes that while there exists significant potential for strengthening bilateral relations, the absence of a resident diplomatic presence limits Kenya's ability to fully exploit these opportunities. There is therefore a need for structured engagement, enhanced connectivity, and sustained diplomatic presence to advance mutual economic interests.

2.5 Status of diaspora and consular affairs, including key interventions, challenges and areas requiring headquarters support

26. The Mission has lived up to expectations in terms of creating good linkages with the Diaspora and commitment to promoting the welfare of about 5,000 Kenyans resident in Egypt, Jordan and Eritrea.
27. To strengthen the relationship with the Kenyan living in countries of accreditation, the Mission held six consultative sessions with the Diaspora in Amman & Aqaba, Jordan between June, 2019 and June 2022. In addition, the Mission made efforts to solve various challenges faced by Kenyan students in Egypt.
28. The Mission offered timely consular services to the Diaspora and assistance to Kenyans in various situations of distress. Services offered by the Mission included: Continuous registration of Kenyans; Translation and authentication of official documents; Facilitation of assistance to Kenyans in distress (arrest, detention, sickness, and repatriation in the event of death) within the limits permitted by law. In the last 5 years, the Mission made 9 consular visits to Kenyans incarcerated at Al-Kanater Prison, and Facilitation and issuance of documents, including passports, emergency certificates, birth certificates for children born abroad, certificates of good conduct and certificates of no impediment to marriage.
29. The Kenyan (but not limited to Kenyan), diaspora in Egypt face significant challenges, including widespread discrimination, limited access to formal and legal employment, vulnerability to sexual and gender-based violence, and a lack of legal protection.

2.6 Opportunities for deepening diplomatic, trade, development and investment cooperation

30. Kenya and Egypt enjoy longstanding diplomatic relations founded on mutual respect, shared African priorities, and expanding economic cooperation. The existing bilateral frameworks, coupled with both countries' strategic positions as regional economic and political hubs, present significant opportunities to deepen collaboration in trade, investment, peace and security, agriculture, energy, education, and regional integration. By fully implementing existing agreements, leveraging continental initiatives such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and strengthening institutional cooperation, Kenya can expand market access, attract investment, enhance technology transfer, and advance its national development priorities while reinforcing its strategic partnership with Egypt.

31. The opportunities include:

- (i) **Leveraging Regional Leadership:** Kenya should capitalize on its position as a regional leader to champion peace and security initiatives, counter violent extremism, and promote intra-African trade through continental frameworks such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
- (ii) **Expanding Bilateral Trade:** Kenya should diversify and increase exports to Egypt by identifying new export products beyond tea, coffee, and horticultural produce. Egypt is currently Kenya's tenth-largest trading partner and the second-largest importer of Kenyan tea, presenting significant potential for expanding trade volumes.
- (iii) **Renewable Energy and Agricultural Cooperation:** Kenya should leverage Egypt's expertise in renewable energy, irrigation, agricultural technology, and water resource management to support the country's food security and clean energy agenda.
- (iv) **Implementation of Bilateral Agreements:** The full implementation of the existing Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and bilateral agreements would unlock new areas of cooperation. An effective implementation, monitoring, and follow-up mechanism should be established to ensure the realization of agreed commitments.
- (v) **Strengthening Institutional Cooperation:** Kenya should take advantage of the forthcoming Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) and Joint Trade Commission (JTC) meetings to identify new priority areas for collaboration across government sectors and strengthen bilateral engagement.
- (vi) **Regional Peace and Stability:** Kenya and Egypt have the potential to serve as strategic anchors for peace, security, and stability in Africa by strengthening cooperation on conflict prevention, mediation, and regional security initiatives amid evolving geopolitical challenges.
- (vii) **Agenda 2063 Monitoring and Reporting:** Kenya could benefit from Egypt's recognized best practices in monitoring, evaluation, and preparation of Agenda 2063 national implementation reports through technical cooperation and knowledge exchange.
- (viii) **Education and Human Capital Development:** Kenyan students should continue to take advantage of the 30 annual undergraduate scholarships offered by the Government of Egypt, as well as the numerous postgraduate scholarship opportunities available to African students in Egyptian universities.
- (ix) **Improved Air Connectivity:** The reinstatement of Kenya Airways direct flights to Cairo would significantly enhance trade, tourism, business travel, and connectivity. As a major aviation hub linking Africa with Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, Cairo would provide Kenyan businesses with greater access to international markets.
- (x) **Access to Special Economic Zones:** Kenya should pursue the allocation of warehousing and commercial space within Egypt's Special Economic Zones to facilitate the storage,

distribution, and re-export of Kenyan products into the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, thereby expanding export opportunities and regional market access.

2.7 Progress or impact of capital projects in the mission

32. The Mission does not have any ongoing projects. However, there was a directive from the government of Egypt that all Diplomatic Missions must relocate to the New Administrative Capital, progressively within a period of 5 years. To this end, the Embassy, in consultation with the HQ and Treasury, has identified suitable land in the Diplomatic Zone.
33. The Project Implementation team (PIT), a part of the team overseeing the structuring and implementation of advancing Kenya's diplomatic priorities, undertook to gather relevant information on matters related to the relocation of the Kenyan Embassy (Chancery/residence) to the Diplomatic Area/enclave in the New Administrative Capital. Negotiations on the purchase of land are ongoing.

2.8 Assets owned by the missions and evaluate their asset management plans

34. All staff housing, including the Ambassador's residence, is leased by the Embassy. In terms of transport, the Embassy owns a total of nine vehicles and one scooter; however, two of the vehicles and the scooter are earmarked for disposal, while two of the vehicles belong to affiliated agencies.
35. The Mission owns all furniture and electronic/IT equipment, but most of the furniture is old and worn. Additionally, the IT equipment, including computers, are over 10 years old and is now considered obsolete.

2.9 Meeting with the Kenyan Diaspora Community in Egypt

36. The Kenyan diaspora in Egypt is a well-organized and cohesive community consisting of approximately 650 registered members, with about 550 actively engaged in community initiatives and support programs. This level of organization has enabled the diaspora to establish a robust informal support system that operates as a first line of response in times of crisis.
37. The community plays a central role in providing essential services that include emergency medical assistance, legal support in cases involving law enforcement, and facilitation of repatriation processes for deceased members—often ensuring that remains are returned to

Kenya within a period of approximately ten days. Additionally, the diaspora extends financial and social support to orphans and vulnerable individuals within its network.

38. This framework reflects a strong culture of solidarity and mutual aid, where members collectively mobilize resources to address urgent needs. In many instances, diaspora members intervene immediately in crises, bridging gaps before formal assistance from the embassy is mobilized. While effective, this model places considerable financial and emotional strain on community leaders and active members who often bear the burden of coordinating and funding such interventions.

2.10 Challenges faced by Kenyans in Egypt

39. Access to healthcare remains a major challenge for the Kenyan diaspora in Egypt, particularly because emergency medical funding at the embassy level is limited. In urgent cases, community members often raise and pay hospital deposits and medical bills averaging USD 800 before external support can be secured, placing a heavy financial burden on individuals and diaspora leaders. Timely treatment often depends on rapid diaspora intervention, sometimes followed by embassy support. Undocumented Kenyans face even greater risks, as lack of proper documentation can limit access to healthcare and expose them to detention or deportation. Although the embassy has shown commitment in supporting emergency cases, limited funding continues to constrain its ability to respond promptly and comprehensively.
40. Further, legal and documentation challenges remain a major vulnerability for the Kenyan diaspora in Egypt. Many Kenyans lack valid residence permits or essential documents such as birth certificates and legal identification, exposing them to arrest, deportation, exploitation, and restricted access to employment, healthcare, and legal protection.
41. Deportation cases are reported every month, underscoring the urgency of the issue. Although the embassy and diaspora leadership have provided legal assistance and engaged local authorities, limited resources and systemic barriers persist, requiring stronger legal support and bilateral action to streamline documentation and reduce arrests and deportations.

2.11 Consular Services and Embassy Relations

42. The Kenyan Embassy in Egypt remains a key source of diaspora support, particularly through consular services such as passport processing, documentation assistance, emergency response, and follow-up on complaints. Diaspora feedback indicates improved efficiency, responsiveness, and trust, including in the handling of police misconduct and legal disputes.

43. The diaspora also commended embassy staff members for dedicated service and responsiveness. However, limited financial resources and growing demand continue to constrain the embassy's ability to fully address medical emergencies, legal challenges, and broader welfare needs. Overall, the relationship between the embassy and diaspora leadership is improving and has strengthened collaboration and service delivery.

2.12 Parliamentary Oversight and Strategic Engagement

44. The involvement of Parliament in diaspora affairs reflects a growing recognition of the importance of protecting and supporting Kenyans abroad. The parliamentary delegation's visit to Egypt was aimed at assessing embassy performance, understanding diaspora challenges, and identifying areas for policy intervention.
45. Hon. Yusuf Hassan, MP, drawing from over three decades of diaspora experience, acknowledged notable improvements in embassy engagement and service delivery. He emphasized the importance of sustained goodwill and collaboration between the government and diaspora communities.
46. The delegation underscored its commitment to:
- i. Advocating for increased resource allocation to foreign missions;
 - ii. Raising diaspora welfare issues within Parliament; and
 - iii. Following up on cases involving violence, injustice, or mistreatment.
47. Additionally, MPs highlighted the need for better data collection and reporting mechanisms to ensure that diaspora issues are systematically captured and addressed at the national level. They also encouraged the Kenyan diaspora in Egypt to strengthen their organizational structures and leverage their collective voice, drawing lessons from highly organized diaspora communities in regions such as North America.

2.13 Diaspora Organizational Development and Funding Needs

48. The sustainability of diaspora initiatives in Egypt is currently constrained by limited financial resources and lack of formal institutional structures. To address this, diaspora leaders have proposed the formal registration of their association as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO).

49. This transition is seen as a critical step toward:
- i. Enhancing credibility and institutional legitimacy;
 - ii. Accessing donor funding and grants; and
 - iii. Expanding the scope and impact of community programs.
50. The diaspora relies mainly on membership contributions and occasional embassy support, which are insufficient to meet growing needs in healthcare, legal aid, and social welfare. Although potential partners such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have expressed interest, no formal funding arrangements have been secured. The diaspora has therefore called on the embassy to support donor engagement, fundraising, and networking to sustain and expand assistance to vulnerable members.

2.14 Social Welfare and Protection Issues

51. Social protection mechanisms within the diaspora remain informal and largely dependent on voluntary contributions and community leadership, with leaders often personally supporting members in distress through hospital bills, repatriations, and assistance to vulnerable individuals. Cases involving violence, injury, or death have also exposed gaps in legal follow-up and justice mechanisms, with some matters unresolved due to limited capacity for sustained legal engagement.
52. The parliamentary delegation emphasized the need for:
- i. Structured reporting of such cases to Parliament;
 - ii. Strengthened legal advocacy frameworks; and
 - iii. Enhanced coordination between the embassy and local authorities
53. Improving social protection systems will require both increased government support and stronger institutional frameworks within the diaspora.

2.15 Community Engagement and Cultural Integration

54. Community engagement remains central to diaspora cohesion and identity, with Kenyans in Egypt participating in sports, religious activities, and social gatherings that foster unity and belonging. However, limited funding, logistical challenges, security concerns, inadequate facilities, and lack of transport constrain these initiatives, including institutions such as Soul Avestas Church. Greater support for cultural, religious, and recreational

activities would strengthen morale, preserve identity, and promote integration within the host country.

3.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

55. While conducting its oversight mandate during the visit to the Kenya Embassy in Egypt, the Committee observed as follows:

a) Consular and Services and Diaspora Welfare

- i. The Kenya Mission in Cairo is executing a broad and complex mandate that spans diplomatic engagement, economic cooperation, diaspora management, and consular services across three countries, namely Egypt, Jordan, and Eritrea. Further, while the Mission has demonstrated commendable commitment and adaptability in delivering on its mandate, the scope of its responsibilities has expanded significantly without a corresponding increase in institutional capacity, staffing, and financial resources. This has resulted in a situation where the Mission operates under considerable strain, often prioritizing urgent consular and humanitarian interventions at the expense of long-term strategic engagements.
- ii. The Mission has established strong linkages with the Kenyan diaspora and continues to provide essential consular services, including assistance in cases of arrest, detention, illness, and death. The Committee commends the Mission for its responsiveness, particularly in conducting prison visits and facilitating documentation services.
- iii. However, the Committee further observed that the increasing number of Kenyans in distress, particularly those lacking proper documentation, has placed a heavy burden on the Mission. The absence of a dedicated consular emergency fund, legal representation mechanisms, and safe accommodation facilities has resulted in reliance on diaspora contributions to support affected individuals. The Committee noted with concern that detainees often lack access to necessities such as food and medical care, thereby necessitating intervention by fellow Kenyans and well-wishers.
- iv. Kenyan nationals, particularly domestic workers and students, face significant vulnerabilities, including exploitation, discrimination, and gender-based violence. These challenges are compounded by limited legal protection and fear of reporting abuses due to possible reprisals.

b) Legal and Labour Frameworks

- i The absence of finalized bilateral labour agreements between Kenya and countries of accreditation has exposed Kenyan workers to exploitation and poor working conditions.

In particular, the Committee noted that a significant number of Kenyans in Jordan and Egypt are engaged in informal or unregulated employment, limiting their access to legal protection and social security.

- ii Further, many Kenyans lack valid documentation, thereby increasing their vulnerability to arrest, detention, and deportation. The legal processes in such cases are often prolonged and inaccessible due to language barriers and lack of legal representation.

c) Economic Diplomacy and Trade Promotion

- i. While the Mission is actively engaged in promoting trade and investment, Kenya's economic presence in Egypt remains limited and underdeveloped. Trade between the two countries is characterized by a significant imbalance, with Kenya exporting primarily raw commodities such as tea and coffee, while importing a wider range of manufactured goods.
- ii. The existing frameworks such as the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) and Joint Trade Committees (JTC) have not been fully operationalized to deliver tangible outcomes. Opportunities for export diversification, value addition, and market expansion remain largely untapped.
- iii. Egypt's strategic position as a regional logistics hub presents significant opportunities for Kenya, particularly in accessing markets in Europe and the Middle East. However, these opportunities have not been fully leveraged due to limited strategic planning and coordination.

d) Bilateral and Regional Relations

- i. Kenya enjoys strong diplomatic relations with Egypt, Jordan, and Eritrea, supported by high-level engagements and cooperation in areas such as security, education, and trade. However, these relations are not fully translated into measurable economic and developmental outcomes.
- ii. The absence of a resident diplomatic mission in Eritrea limits Kenya's ability to effectively engage and capitalize on emerging opportunities in that country. Similarly, while defence cooperation with Jordan is strong, there remains a gap in labour protection frameworks.

e) Infrastructure, Assets and Financial Management

- i. Mission operates entirely from leased premises, including the chancery, the Ambassador's residence, and staff housing. This arrangement increases recurrent expenditure and limits long-term sustainability. Further, most of the Mission's equipment, including ICT infrastructure, are obsolete and requires urgent replacement.
- ii. Financial constraints, including inadequate budget allocations and foreign exchange losses, significantly affect the Mission's operations. The absence of dedicated funding for consular services and diaspora welfare further exacerbates these challenges.

f) Institutional and Operational Challenges

- i. The Mission faces multiple operational challenges, including staffing shortages, lack of specialized personnel, and harsh climatic conditions. These challenges have a direct impact on service delivery and the overall effectiveness of the Mission.
- ii. The Mission is increasingly required to respond to complex humanitarian and security-related situations, including evacuation of distressed Kenyans from conflict zones, without adequate resources or institutional support.

g) Resilience, Unity, and Self-Organization

- i. The Kenyan diaspora in Egypt has demonstrated a high level of resilience in navigating a foreign socio-economic and legal environment. Despite limited institutional support, community members have organically formed support networks that provide financial assistance, information-sharing, and emotional support.
- ii. This unity has enabled them to respond collectively to crises such as medical emergencies, arrests, and deportation risks, reflecting strong social cohesion and adaptive capacity.

h) Improved Embassy Service Delivery and Engagement

The Kenyan Embassy in Egypt has made notable strides in enhancing its responsiveness and outreach to diaspora members. This includes more consistent communication, improved access to consular services, and greater willingness to engage with community

leadership. These efforts have strengthened trust between the diaspora and the mission, although further scaling is needed to meet growing demand.

i) Persistent Legal and Documentation Challenges

A significant proportion of diaspora members continue to face challenges related to visa status, residency permits, and identification documents. These issues often result in vulnerability to arrest, detention, or deportation. The complexity and cost of regularizing documentation in Egypt further exacerbate the situation, highlighting the need for more structured bilateral interventions.

j) Healthcare Financing Gaps

Access to affordable healthcare remains a major concern. Many diaspora members lack insurance coverage and are forced to rely on out-of-pocket payments or community fundraising during medical emergencies. This exposes individuals and families to financial instability and, in some cases, delays in accessing critical care.

k) Need for Organizational Formalization

While informal networks have been effective, the absence of a formally registered diaspora organization limits access to donor funding, partnerships, and structured engagement with institutions. Formalization would enhance accountability, transparency, and sustainability of diaspora-led initiatives.

l) Strategic Opportunity for Parliamentary Engagement

There is a growing recognition of the importance of diaspora issues within Kenya's legislative framework. Engagement with Parliament presents an opportunity to advocate for policy reforms, increased funding, and stronger institutional protections for Kenyans abroad. This can catalyze long-term systemic change.

4.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

56. To address the challenges identified and enhance the operational effectiveness of the Kenya Embassy in Egypt, the Committee makes several key recommendations as follows:

a) Strengthening Consular Services and Diaspora Protection

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, establish a dedicated Consular Emergency Fund to support Kenyans in distress abroad, including through the provision of legal aid, medical assistance, and repatriation services. Further, the Ministry should establish safe houses or temporary shelters for Kenyans facing abuse, exploitation, or displacement, with particular emphasis on protecting migrant domestic workers.
- ii. The Committee further recommends the development of a comprehensive diaspora protection policy to address systemic challenges affecting Kenyans abroad, including legal support, welfare services, and reporting mechanisms for abuse and exploitation.

b) Enhancement of Legal and Labour Frameworks

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, fast-track the finalisation and implementation of bilateral labour agreements with Egypt and Jordan to safeguard the rights, welfare, and working conditions of Kenyan migrant workers. Additionally, the Government should strengthen legal support systems within Kenyan missions to provide legal representation, advisory services, and consular assistance to Kenyans facing legal challenges abroad.
- ii. The Committee further recommends that the Kenya Mission in Cairo be designated as a registration centre for national identification documents and passports to facilitate access to essential government services and legal documentation for Kenyans residing in Egypt and the wider region.

c) Strengthening Economic Diplomacy and Trade Promotion

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for export diversification and market penetration in Egypt and the wider Middle East and North

Africa (MENA) region. The strategy should include measures to promote value addition, establish trade hubs, facilitate market access, and promote Kenyan products and services, including through Special Economic Zones.

- ii. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, operationalise the Joint Trade Commission with Egypt and ensure the effective implementation of existing bilateral trade and investment agreements to enhance economic cooperation, increase bilateral trade, and promote investment between the two countries.

d) Enhancing Bilateral and Regional Engagement

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, expedite the establishment of a resident diplomatic mission in Eritrea to strengthen bilateral relations, enhance political and economic cooperation, promote trade and investment, and improve the delivery of consular services to Kenyans in Eritrea.

e) Investment in Infrastructure

The Committee recommends that the National Treasury should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, allocate adequate resources for the acquisition of diplomatic properties, including chanceries, official residences, and staff housing, to reduce long-term expenditure associated with leasing.

In particular, the National Treasury, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, should prioritise the acquisition of land and the development of a chancery and official residence for the Kenya Mission in Cairo to facilitate its relocation to the Diplomatic Enclave in Egypt's New Administrative Capital, in line with the Government of Egypt's directive requiring diplomatic missions to relocate within the stipulated timeframe.

Further, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should expedite the conclusion of ongoing land acquisition negotiations and ensure timely implementation of the project. Additionally, the National Treasury and the Ministry should develop and implement a strategic programme for the acquisition and ownership of diplomatic properties by Kenyan missions abroad, prioritising high-cost duty stations and locations of strategic national interest.

f) Financial and Operational Constraints

- i. The Committee recommends that the National Treasury should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, enhance budgetary allocations to the Kenya Mission in Cairo to enable the effective execution of its expanded diplomatic, consular, and economic mandate. In collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, the National Treasury should also institute appropriate financial safeguards, including mechanisms to mitigate the adverse effects of foreign exchange fluctuations on the operations of Kenyan missions abroad.
- ii. The Committee further recommends that the enhanced budgetary allocation should provide for strengthened consular services, including healthcare assistance, legal aid, emergency response, and protection services for Kenyans in distress, particularly migrant workers. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should ensure that the Kenya Mission in Cairo is adequately resourced to deliver these services effectively.
- iii. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within three (3) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, recruit additional personnel for the Kenya Mission in Cairo, including officers with specialised expertise in legal, labour, and consular affairs, to strengthen institutional capacity and improve the delivery of diplomatic and consular services.

g) Strengthening Legal and Documentation Systems

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, strengthen bilateral engagement with the Government of Egypt to streamline visa, residency, work permit, and identification processes for Kenyan nationals. The Ministry should, through the Kenya Mission in Cairo and in collaboration with the relevant Egyptian authorities, establish structured coordination and referral mechanisms to facilitate timely documentation, resolve immigration-related challenges, and reduce cases of arrest, detention, and deportation. Further, the Ministry should strengthen partnerships with legal aid organisations and other relevant stakeholders to enhance legal assistance and the protection of Kenyans residing and working in Egypt.

h) Promoting Comprehensive Diaspora Registration

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, establish and operationalise a structured and continuous registration framework for Kenyan nationals residing in Egypt. The framework should be implemented through the Kenya Mission in Cairo, in collaboration with recognised Kenyan diaspora associations and other relevant stakeholders, to ensure comprehensive registration and regular updating of embassy records. This will enhance data accuracy, facilitate effective planning and service delivery, strengthen consular protection, and improve the Mission's capacity to respond promptly to emergencies involving Kenyan nationals.

SIGNED:  DATE: 28/07/2026

THE HON. NELSON KOECH, CBS, M.P.
CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE
AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 28 JUL 2026	
DAY: Tuesday	
TABLED BY:	Chair - chair person. Maj. Hon. Bashir Abdullahi, MP
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	Benson Inzofu

LIST OF ANNEXURES

ANNEXURE 1: SIGNED LIST OF MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE SITTING WHICH CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED THE REPORT

ANNEXURE 2: MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSIDERATION OF THE AGREEMENT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

ANNEXURE 1:

**SIGNED LIST OF MEMBERS WHO ATTENDED THE SITTING WHICH
CONSIDERED AND ADOPTED THE REPORT**



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
13TH PARLIAMENT – FIFTH SESSION- 2026

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE, AND
FOREIGN RELATIONS.

REPORT ADOPTION LIST

REPORT ON

INSPECTION VISIT TO THE KENYAN EMBASSY IN CAIRO, EGYPT

26TH – 30TH MARCH 2026.

We, Members of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations, have pursuant to Standing Order 199, adopted this Report and affix our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity today, **Thursday, 2nd July 2026.**

	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	The Hon. Koech Nelson, CBS, M.P. (Chairperson)	
2.	The Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, CBS, M.P. (Vice Chairperson)	
3.	The Hon. Odhiambo Millie Grace Akoth, CBS, M.P.	
4.	The Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P.	
5.	The Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P.	
6.	The Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, M.P.	
7.	The Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, M.P..	
8.	The Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P.	
9.	The Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, M.P.	
10.	The Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, M.P.	
11.	The Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, M.P.	
12.	The Hon. Muratha Anne Wanjiku, M.P.	
13.	The Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, M.P.	
14.	The Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.	
15.	The Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, M.P.	

ANNEXURE 2:

**MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON CONSIDERATION
OF THE AGREEMENT AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT**



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
13TH PARLIAMENT - FIFTH SESSION - 2026
DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES
DC - DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS

MINUTES OF THE 34TH SITTING OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS HELD ON THURSDAY, 2ND JULY 2026, AT NOON, IN COMMITTEE ROOM 20, 3RD FLOOR, BUNGE TOWER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

PRESENT

1. **The Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, CBS, M.P.** - Vice Chairperson
2. The Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P.
3. The Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P.
4. The Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, M.P.
5. The Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, M.P.
6. The Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P.
7. The Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, M.P.
8. The Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, M.P.

APOLOGIES

1. **The Hon. Koech Nelson, CBS, M.P.** - Chairperson
2. The Hon. Odhiambo Millie Grace Akoth, CBS, M.P.
3. The Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, M.P.
4. The Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, M.P.
5. The Hon. Muratha Anne Wanjiku, M.P.
6. The Hon. Lagova Sloya Clement, M.P.
7. The Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.

IN ATTENDANCE

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Mr. Emmanuel Muyodi | - | Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. Mr. Bernard Njeru | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 3. Mr. Martin Sigei | - | Research Officer III |
| 4. Mr. Salat Abdi | - | Principal Serjeant at Arms II |
| 5. Ms. Fridah Ngari | - | Media Relations Officer III |
| 6. Mr. Mark Mbuthia | - | Audio Officer |
| 7. Ms. Mary Kamande | - | Public Communications Officer III |
| 8. Mr. Alex Amwata | - | Hansard Reporter II |
| 9. Ms. Ifrah Musa | - | Attaché Clerk |
| 10. Mr. Khalid Abdi | - | Intern Clerk |

AGENDA

1. Preliminaries – Prayers, Adoption of the Agenda.
2. Communication from the Chair.
3. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting.
4. **Consideration and Adoption of reports on inspection visits to Kenyan diplomatic missions in:**
 - i. **Morocco,**
 - ii. **Egypt,**
 - iii. **France and the United Kingdom**
5. Any other Business.
6. Adjournment/Date of the next Sitting.

MIN.NO.DDC/DIFR/I 64/2026:

PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at 12.10 p.m. and prayer was said. The agenda above was unanimously adopted, having been proposed by Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P.

MIN.NO.DDC/DIFR/I 65/2026:

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous sitting was deferred to a later date.

MIN.NO.DDC/DIFR/I 66/2026:

CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF REPORTS ON INSPECTION VISITS TO KENYAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS.

i. Report on inspection visit to Kenyan Diplomatic Mission in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco

The Committee, having considered the report on the inspection visit to the Kenyan diplomatic mission in Rabat, the Kingdom of Morocco, unanimously adopted the report with the following observations and recommendations having been proposed by Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, M.P.

OBSERVATIONS

The Committee observed as follows: -

a) Staffing and Human Resource Capacity

The Kenya Embassy in Rabat is operating with significant staffing gaps, lacking critical personnel such as a Translator, Clerk, Foreign Relations Officer, and Defence Attaché. This shortage has placed an excessive workload on the limited available staff, leading to operational strain and reduced efficiency. The absence of a Translator has particularly hindered effective communication in a predominantly French- and Arabic-speaking environment, affecting diplomatic engagement and service delivery. Additionally, the lack of

a structured staffing model during the establishment of the Mission has resulted in key positions not being filled from the outset, further compounding human resource challenges.

b) Financial Support and Budgetary Allocation

The Mission is facing persistent financial constraints due to inadequate budgetary allocations that do not reflect the actual cost of operations in Rabat, a relatively high-cost location. This has led to the accumulation of pending bills estimated at approximately KSh 23 million, indicating liquidity challenges and potential reputational risks with service providers. Furthermore, delays and insufficiencies in Foreign Service Allowances, medical cover, and staff welfare provisions have negatively affected staff morale and well-being. In some instances, officers are compelled to use personal funds to sustain essential operations, which is unsustainable and undermines institutional effectiveness.

c) Infrastructure and Asset Acquisition

The Mission currently operates without a permanent chancery or government-owned staff residences, relying heavily on rented premises. This has resulted in high and recurrent rental expenditures, which place a significant strain on the already constrained budget. The lack of permanent infrastructure also limits the Mission's ability to establish a stable and secure operational base. Additionally, the absence of a long-term property acquisition strategy for Missions in high-cost jurisdictions reflects a gap in strategic planning and asset management.

d) Air Connectivity and Transport Linkages

Air connectivity between Kenya and Morocco remains limited and inefficient, with no direct flights or formal Bilateral Air Services Agreement in place. This has created logistical challenges for travelers, increased travel time and costs, and reduced the frequency of exchanges between the two countries. The lack of code-sharing arrangements between Kenya Airways and Moroccan airlines further exacerbates the situation. These connectivity gaps hinder the growth of trade, tourism, and diplomatic engagement, ultimately limiting the full potential of bilateral relations.

e) Economic Diplomacy and Trade Promotion

The Mission's capacity to effectively promote trade and investment is constrained by the absence of a dedicated Commercial Attaché. This limits structured engagement with Moroccan businesses and reduces opportunities for market expansion for Kenyan exports such as tea and coffee. Additionally, delays in implementing strategic bilateral projects, including the proposed fertilizer processing plant in partnership with OCP Group, indicate slow progress in translating diplomatic relations into tangible economic outcomes. There is also a need to strengthen initiatives to diversify export markets and to facilitate stronger linkages between Kenyan and Moroccan private-sector actors.

f) Diaspora Engagement and Consular Services

The Mission lacks robust mechanisms for registering and engaging the Kenyan diaspora in Morocco, resulting in incomplete or outdated data on Kenyan nationals residing in the country. This limits the Mission's ability to plan and deliver targeted services effectively. Additionally, consular services are constrained by inadequate staffing and resources, affecting the Mission's responsiveness to cases involving undocumented migrants, distressed nationals, and emergencies. These gaps weaken the overall effectiveness of citizen support services.

g) Security and Staff Welfare

Security arrangements at both the chancery and official residences are insufficient, exposing staff and government property to potential risks associated with diplomatic postings. At the same time, staff welfare concerns persist due to delays in payment of allowances, inadequate medical coverage, and limited support for dependents' education. These challenges negatively impact staff morale, productivity, and overall well-being, which in turn affects the Mission's operational effectiveness.

h) Policy and Strategic Engagement

Engagement between Kenya and Morocco is not being fully leveraged to maximize diplomatic, economic, and geopolitical benefits. There are gaps in sustained high-level engagements, regular bilateral consultations, and participation in strategic multilateral platforms. Furthermore, Kenya's approach to foreign policy in North Africa appears insufficiently targeted, limiting its ability to capitalize on Morocco's strategic position as a gateway to Europe and North Africa. This reflects the need for a more coordinated and interest-driven engagement strategy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To address the challenges identified and enhance the operational effectiveness of the Kenya Embassy in Rabat, the Committee recommended as follows:

a) Staffing and Human Resource Capacity

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, address the staffing gaps at the Kenya Mission in Rabat by deploying critical personnel, including a Translator, Clerk, Foreign Relations Officer, and Defence Attaché. These positions are essential for strengthening operational efficiency, improving communication in a linguistically complex environment, and enhancing Kenya's diplomatic and security engagement with the Kingdom of Morocco.
- ii. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, develop and operationalise a structured staffing model for newly established Kenyan Missions to ensure that core positions are filled at the commencement of operations, thereby reducing over-reliance on limited personnel and minimizing operational strain.

b) Financial Support and Budgetary Allocation

The National Treasury should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, enhance budgetary allocations to the Kenya Mission in Rabat to adequately cater for outstanding financial obligations and operational requirements. This should include the settlement of pending bills estimated at approximately Ksh 23 million, full provision of Foreign Service Allowances, adequate funding for medical cover and staff welfare, and education benefits for staff dependants. The National Treasury should further ensure that future budget estimates for Kenyan Missions are aligned with actual operational costs, particularly in high-cost duty stations.

c) Infrastructure and Asset Acquisition

The National Treasury should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, allocate resources for the acquisition of a permanent chancery and staff residences for the Kenya Mission in Rabat. Further, the National Treasury, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, develop a phased diplomatic property acquisition strategy for Kenyan Missions located in high-cost jurisdictions to promote long-term sustainability and reduce expenditure on leased premises.

d) Air Connectivity and Transport Linkages

- i. The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, conclude negotiations on a Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) between Kenya and Morocco.
- ii. The Ministry of Roads and Transport, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority, Kenya Airways, and relevant Moroccan aviation authorities and airlines, should, within eighteen (18) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, facilitate code-sharing arrangements to improve air connectivity between Kenya and Morocco.
- iii. The Government should, within three (3) years of the adoption of this Report by the House, pursue the establishment of direct or near-direct scheduled passenger and cargo flights between Nairobi and Rabat or Casablanca to enhance trade, tourism, investment, and diplomatic engagement.

e) Economic Diplomacy and Trade Promotion

- i. The Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, deploy a Commercial Attaché to the Kenya Mission in Rabat to strengthen trade promotion, investment facilitation, and market access initiatives.
- ii. The Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, should, within eighteen (18) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, fast-track negotiations and implementation of the proposed fertiliser processing plant in Kenya in partnership with OCP Group. The Kenya Mission in Rabat should continue supporting market diversification for Kenyan exports, particularly tea and coffee, and facilitate commercial linkages between Kenyan and Moroccan private sector actors.

f) Diaspora Engagement and Consular Services

The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, establish and operationalise a structured diaspora registration and engagement framework through the Kenya Mission in Rabat to improve data management, consular service delivery, and emergency response. The Ministry should further provide adequate resources to strengthen consular assistance for undocumented migrants and Kenyans requiring emergency support.

g) Security and Staff Welfare

The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, make adequate budgetary provision for comprehensive security arrangements for the chancery and official residences and ensure timely payment of Foreign Service Allowances, provision of comprehensive medical cover, and education support for eligible staff dependants.

h) Policy and Strategic Engagement

The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, develop and implement a framework for sustained high-level bilateral engagement with the Kingdom of Morocco, including regular bilateral consultations, strengthened economic diplomacy, and enhanced participation in regional and multilateral forums. The Ministry should further adopt a more strategic and interest-driven approach to Kenya's engagement in North Africa, leveraging Morocco's geopolitical and economic position to advance Kenya's foreign policy and economic interests.

ii. *Report on inspection visit to Kenyan Diplomatic Mission in Cairo, the Arab Republic of Egypt*

The Committee, having considered the report on the inspection visit to the Kenyan diplomatic mission in Cairo, the Arab Republic of Egypt, unanimously adopted the report with the following observations and recommendations having been proposed by Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, M.P. and seconded by Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P.

OBSERVATIONS

The Committee observed as follows: -

a) Consular and Services and Diaspora Welfare

- i. The Kenya Mission in Cairo is executing a broad and complex mandate that spans diplomatic engagement, economic cooperation, diaspora management, and consular services across three countries, namely Egypt, Jordan, and Eritrea. Further, while the Mission has demonstrated commendable commitment and adaptability in delivering on its mandate, the scope of its responsibilities has expanded significantly without a corresponding increase in institutional capacity, staffing, and financial resources. This has resulted in a situation where the Mission operates under considerable strain, often prioritizing urgent consular and humanitarian interventions at the expense of long-term strategic engagements.
- ii. The Mission has established strong linkages with the Kenyan diaspora and continues to provide essential consular services, including assistance in cases of arrest, detention, illness, and death. The Committee commends the Mission for its responsiveness, particularly in conducting prison visits and facilitating documentation services.
- iii. However, the Committee further observed that the increasing number of Kenyans in distress, particularly those lacking proper documentation, has placed a heavy burden on the Mission. The absence of a dedicated consular emergency fund, legal representation mechanisms, and safe accommodation facilities has resulted in reliance on diaspora contributions to support affected individuals. The Committee noted with concern that

detainees often lack access to necessities such as food and medical care, thereby necessitating intervention by fellow Kenyans and well-wishers.

- iv. Kenyan nationals, particularly domestic workers and students, face significant vulnerabilities, including exploitation, discrimination, and gender-based violence. These challenges are compounded by limited legal protection and fear of reporting abuses due to possible reprisals.

b) Legal and Labour Frameworks

- i The absence of finalized bilateral labour agreements between Kenya and countries of accreditation has exposed Kenyan workers to exploitation and poor working conditions. In particular, the Committee noted that a significant number of Kenyans in Jordan and Egypt are engaged in informal or unregulated employment, limiting their access to legal protection and social security.
- ii Further, many Kenyans lack valid documentation, thereby increasing their vulnerability to arrest, detention, and deportation. The legal processes in such cases are often prolonged and inaccessible due to language barriers and lack of legal representation.

c) Economic Diplomacy and Trade Promotion

- i. While the Mission is actively engaged in promoting trade and investment, Kenya's economic presence in Egypt remains limited and underdeveloped. Trade between the two countries is characterized by a significant imbalance, with Kenya exporting primarily raw commodities such as tea and coffee, while importing a wider range of manufactured goods.
- ii. The existing frameworks such as the Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) and Joint Trade Committees (JTC) have not been fully operationalized to deliver tangible outcomes. Opportunities for export diversification, value addition, and market expansion remain largely untapped.
- iii. Egypt's strategic position as a regional logistics hub presents significant opportunities for Kenya, particularly in accessing markets in Europe and the Middle East. However, these opportunities have not been fully leveraged due to limited strategic planning and coordination.

d) Bilateral and Regional Relations

- i. cooperation with Jordan is strong, there remains a gap in labour protection frameworks. Kenya enjoys strong diplomatic relations with Egypt, Jordan, and Eritrea, supported by high-level engagements and cooperation in areas such as security, education, and trade. However, these relations are not fully translated into measurable economic and developmental outcomes.
- ii. The absence of a resident diplomatic mission in Eritrea limits Kenya's ability to effectively engage and capitalize on emerging opportunities in that country. Similarly, while defence

e) Infrastructure, Assets and Financial Management

- i. Mission operates entirely from leased premises, including the chancery, the Ambassador's residence, and staff housing. This arrangement increases recurrent expenditure and limits long-term sustainability. Further, most of the Mission's equipment, including ICT infrastructure, are obsolete and requires urgent replacement.
- ii. Financial constraints, including inadequate budget allocations and foreign exchange losses, significantly affect the Mission's operations. The absence of dedicated funding for consular services and diaspora welfare further exacerbates these challenges.

f) Institutional and Operational Challenges

- i. The Mission faces multiple operational challenges, including staffing shortages, lack of specialized personnel, and harsh climatic conditions. These challenges have a direct impact on service delivery and the overall effectiveness of the Mission.
- ii. The Mission is increasingly required to respond to complex humanitarian and security-related situations, including evacuation of distressed Kenyans from conflict zones, without adequate resources or institutional support.

g) Resilience, Unity, and Self-Organization

- i. The Kenyan diaspora in Egypt has demonstrated a high level of resilience in navigating a foreign socio-economic and legal environment. Despite limited institutional support, community members have organically formed support networks that provide financial assistance, information-sharing, and emotional support.
- ii. This unity has enabled them to respond collectively to crises such as medical emergencies, arrests, and deportation risks, reflecting strong social cohesion and adaptive capacity.

h) Improved Embassy Service Delivery and Engagement

The Kenyan Embassy in Egypt has made notable strides in enhancing its responsiveness and outreach to diaspora members. This includes more consistent communication, improved access to consular services, and greater willingness to engage with community leadership. These efforts have strengthened trust between the diaspora and the mission, although further scaling is needed to meet growing demand.

i) Persistent Legal and Documentation Challenges

A significant proportion of diaspora members continue to face challenges related to visa status, residency permits, and identification documents. These issues often result in vulnerability to arrest, detention, or deportation. The complexity and cost of regularizing documentation in Egypt further exacerbate the situation, highlighting the need for more structured bilateral interventions.

j) Healthcare Financing Gaps

Access to affordable healthcare remains a major concern. Many diaspora members lack insurance coverage and are forced to rely on out-of-pocket payments or community

fundraising during medical emergencies. This exposes individuals and families to financial instability and, in some cases, delays in accessing critical care.

k) Need for Organizational Formalization

While informal networks have been effective, the absence of a formally registered diaspora organization limits access to donor funding, partnerships, and structured engagement with institutions. Formalization would enhance accountability, transparency, and sustainability of diaspora-led initiatives.

l) Strategic Opportunity for Parliamentary Engagement

There was a growing recognition of the importance of diaspora issues within Kenya's legislative framework. Engagement with Parliament presents an opportunity to advocate for policy reforms, increased funding, and stronger institutional protections for Kenyans abroad. This can catalyze long-term systemic change.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To address the challenges identified and enhance the operational effectiveness of the Kenya Embassy in Egypt, the Committee recommended as follows:

a) Strengthening Consular Services and Diaspora Protection

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, establish a dedicated Consular Emergency Fund to support Kenyans in distress abroad, including through the provision of legal aid, medical assistance, and repatriation services. Further, the Ministry should establish safe houses or temporary shelters for Kenyans facing abuse, exploitation, or displacement, with particular emphasis on protecting migrant domestic workers.
- ii. The Committee further recommends the development of a comprehensive diaspora protection policy to address systemic challenges affecting Kenyans abroad, including legal support, welfare services, and reporting mechanisms for abuse and exploitation.

b) Enhancement of Legal and Labour Frameworks

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, fast-track the finalisation and implementation of bilateral labour agreements with Egypt and Jordan to safeguard the rights, welfare, and working conditions of Kenyan migrant workers. Additionally, the Government should strengthen legal support systems within Kenyan missions to provide legal representation, advisory services, and consular assistance to Kenyans facing legal challenges abroad.
- ii. The Committee further recommends that the Kenya Mission in Cairo be designated as a registration centre for national identification documents and passports to facilitate access to essential government services and legal documentation for Kenyans residing in Egypt and the wider region.

c) Strengthening Economic Diplomacy and Trade Promotion

- i. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for export diversification and market penetration in Egypt and the wider Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The strategy should include measures to promote value addition, establish trade hubs, facilitate market access, and promote Kenyan products and services, including through Special Economic Zones.
- ii. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, operationalize the Joint Trade Commission with Egypt and ensure the effective implementation of existing bilateral trade and investment agreements to enhance economic cooperation, increase bilateral trade, and promote investment between the two countries.

d) Enhancing Bilateral and Regional Engagement

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within twelve (12) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, expedite the establishment of a resident diplomatic mission in Eritrea to strengthen bilateral relations, enhance political and economic cooperation, promote trade and investment, and improve the delivery of consular services to Kenyans in Eritrea.

e) Investment in Infrastructure

The Committee recommends that the National Treasury should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, allocate adequate resources for the acquisition of diplomatic properties, including chanceries, official residences, and staff housing, to reduce long-term expenditure associated with leasing.

In particular, the National Treasury, in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, should prioritize the acquisition of land and the development of a chancery and official residence for the Kenya Mission in Cairo to facilitate its relocation to the Diplomatic Enclave in Egypt's New Administrative Capital, in line with the Government of Egypt's directive requiring diplomatic missions to relocate within the stipulated timeframe.

Further, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should expedite the conclusion of ongoing land acquisition negotiations and ensure timely implementation of the project. Additionally, the National Treasury and the Ministry should develop and implement a strategic programme for the acquisition and ownership of diplomatic properties by Kenyan missions abroad, prioritising high-cost duty stations and locations of strategic national interest.

f) Financial and Operational Constraints

- i. The Committee recommends that the National Treasury should, in the Financial Year 2027/2028, enhance budgetary allocations to the Kenya Mission in Cairo to enable the effective execution of its expanded diplomatic, consular, and economic mandate. In collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, the National Treasury should also institute appropriate financial safeguards, including mechanisms to mitigate the adverse effects of foreign exchange fluctuations on the operations of Kenyan missions abroad.
- ii. The Committee further recommends that the enhanced budgetary allocation should provide for strengthened consular services, including healthcare assistance, legal aid, emergency response, and protection services for Kenyans in distress, particularly migrant workers. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should ensure that the Kenya Mission in Cairo is adequately resourced to deliver these services effectively.
- iii. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within three (3) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, recruit additional personnel for the Kenya Mission in Cairo, including officers with specialized expertise in legal, labour, and consular affairs, to strengthen institutional capacity and improve the delivery of diplomatic and consular services.

g) Strengthening Legal and Documentation Systems

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, strengthen bilateral engagement with the Government of Egypt to streamline visa, residency, work permit, and identification processes for Kenyan nationals. The Ministry should, through the Kenya Mission in Cairo and in collaboration with the relevant Egyptian authorities, establish structured coordination and referral mechanisms to facilitate timely documentation, resolve immigration-related challenges, and reduce cases of arrest, detention, and deportation. Further, the Ministry should strengthen partnerships with legal aid organisations and other relevant stakeholders to enhance legal assistance and the protection of Kenyans residing and working in Egypt.

h) Promoting Comprehensive Diaspora Registration

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, establish and operationalize a structured and continuous registration framework for Kenyan nationals residing in Egypt. The framework should be implemented through the Kenya Mission in Cairo, in collaboration with recognized Kenyan diaspora associations and other relevant stakeholders, to ensure comprehensive registration and regular updating of embassy records. This will enhance data accuracy, facilitate effective planning and service delivery, strengthen consular protection, and improve the Mission's capacity to respond promptly to emergencies involving Kenyan nationals.

iii. Report on inspection visit to Kenyan Diplomatic Missions in Paris, French Republic and London, United Kingdom.

The Committee, having considered the report on the inspection visit to the Kenyan diplomatic missions in Paris, French Republic and London, United Kingdom, unanimously adopted the report, with the following observations and recommendations proposed by Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P., and seconded by Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P.

OBSERVATIONS

The Committee observed as follows: -

General Observations

1. The Committee noted that the Missions in Paris and London remain pivotal in advancing Kenya's bilateral, multilateral, and economic diplomacy.
2. Both Missions have achieved significant milestones, including defence cooperation agreements, support for Kenya's international candidatures, and facilitation of high-level summits.
3. Persistent challenges undermine effective service delivery, notably foreign exchange losses, delayed budget disbursements, and deteriorating infrastructure.
4. Diaspora engagement has improved through digital platforms and mobile consular services, though fragmentation in France limits cohesion compared to Portugal and Serbia.
5. Trade balances remain unfavorable in France and the UK, underscoring the need for stronger economic diplomacy and targeted export promotion.
6. Both Missions demonstrate innovation in consular service delivery but require enhanced resources and structural support to fully implement their mandates.

Specific Observations

(i) Paris Mission:

1. France remains Kenya's 5th largest investor, with relations strengthened through high-level exchanges, defence cooperation, and support for Kenya's international candidatures.
2. Accreditation to Portugal, Monaco, Serbia, and the Holy See expands Kenya's diplomatic footprint, though relations with Serbia were strained by Kosovo recognition.
3. Online appointment systems and mobile consular services have improved efficiency, but the diaspora in France remains fragmented.
4. The Chancery and Official Residence are in poor condition, requiring urgent renovations estimated at Kshs.145 million and Kshs.88 million respectively. Current allocations only cover urgent repairs.
5. Trade balance favors France (exports USD 113m vs imports USD 235m), despite facilitation of business delegations and tourism promotion.

(ii) London Mission:

1. UK has a huge Kenyan Diaspora Community that is very organized. This was witnessed during the engagement of the delegation with the Community, where they even have regional representatives and leaders.
2. Foreign exchange losses due to budgeting in one currency and execution in another significantly reduce effective spending power.
3. The acquisition of the London Chancery is a value-for-money investment that Kenya has made because it presents significant benefits, particularly in terms of asset appreciation and reduction of operational risks.
4. Accreditation is limited to the UK, but multilateral coverage includes the Commonwealth Secretariat and IMO.
5. The 2021 Defence Cooperation Agreement (DCA) remains unratified due to unresolved issues, raising legal concerns over BATUK's training framework.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee recommends that the State Department for Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with the National Treasury, ensure the timely release of exchequer funds to Missions abroad, noting that delays in disbursements continue to undermine effective service delivery and the execution of their mandates.
2. The Committee further recommends that, in the FY 2026/27 Budget, the State Department for Foreign Affairs and the National Treasury provide adequate funding for renovation works at the Paris and London Missions to safeguard Government properties and protect the investments already made.
3. The Committee recommends that, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report by the House, the National Treasury, in collaboration with the State Department for Foreign Affairs, amend the budgeting framework to cushion Missions against foreign exchange losses that erode their operational capacity.
4. The Committee recommends that, within six (6) months of the adoption of this Report, the State Department for Foreign Affairs and the National Treasury initiate measures to harmonize the Public Finance Management and Procurement Laws with the legal frameworks of host countries, thereby easing the Missions' ability to undertake financial and procurement functions in compliance with both jurisdictions.
5. The Committee further recommends that, through Parliamentary Diplomacy, the Defence Committee schedule an engagement with its counterpart in the United Kingdom to resolve outstanding issues and facilitate the ratification of the 2021 Defence Cooperation Agreement.
6. The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should spearhead the implementation of the recommendations contained in this report and apprise the National Assembly of the implementation status within ninety (90) days from the date of adoption of the report by the House.

MIN.NO.DDC/DIFR/167/2026

**ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF
THE NEXT MEETING**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on notice.

SIGNED:

DATE:28/07/26.....

**THE HON. NELSON KOECH, CBS, M.P.
CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE,
INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN RELATIONS.**