



**JOINT STATEMENT BY KENYAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY
UNDER THE MKENYA DAIMA UMBRELLA
FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF KENYA'S 2017 ELECTIONS**



(Seated L-R) Ms. Rita Kavashe, KEPSA Vice-Chair, Eng. Patrick Obath, Mkenya Daima Vice Chair, Mr. Kiprono Kittony, Chairman Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry and Dr. Hanningtone Gaya, PhD, EBS, Chairman - Media Owners Association together with Kenya business leaders

The Kenyan Business Community, under the Mkenya Daima umbrella, congratulates H. E. Uhuru Kenyatta on his re-election as Kenya's President for a further 5-year term. We also congratulate H. E. William Ruto, who will serve a second 5-year term as Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya.

We congratulate all other successful aspirants: County Governors, Senators, Members of Parliament, County Women's Representatives, and Members of County Assemblies.

We continue to urge all Kenyans to go back to their daily routine activities, in line with what has been the case with many since immediately after the voting exercise was over.

Electoral contests, like sports, produce winners and losers, and to those who lost this time, we applaud your efforts, and the gracious way in which many have conceded, pledging to work with those who were successful. For those electoral contests that need any kind of resolution, we recognize that there are constitutional avenues and urge that these be pursued to conclusion. This is definitely the way forward for our country.

As a business community, we deal with all the layers of Government represented by these elected officials throughout Kenya, and we look forward to continued fruitful engagement.



Business is a major stakeholder in Kenya, and it behoves us to speak out on major national issues. All indications are that the elections at all levels, from MCA right up to Presidential, were free, fair and credible. This has inspired great confidence within the business community.

However, we also are aware that human perfection is impossible, which is why we, the people of Kenya, have established institutions such as the Judiciary to settle any electoral disputes.

Our interaction with the Judiciary gives us confidence that it possesses the necessary independence and impartiality to adjudicate all election cases fairly and expeditiously. Indeed the frequent and active resort to the Courts by various parties involved in the electoral process in the pre-election period is immediate evidence of the confidence that political players have in our Judiciary. Therefore we urge all who are aggrieved by the election outcomes to follow laid down processes and procedures in seeking redress. Further, we ask that Kenyans maintain peace and calm during this period, and allow the judicial system to exercise its functions.

As we move forward, the business community is keen to play its full role in our country's journey towards middle income status. We are heartened by, and take the cue from, the President's acceptance speech, which stresses the paramount objective of building a prosperous and united country, based on inclusivity, merit, hard work

and honesty, and one in which the less able, for whatever reason, are also welcome as full members of society. We are also fully aligned with the President's message of magnanimity, of the need to heal divisions that have hitherto held us back.

The business community will continue fully supporting and working with the Government in accelerating job creation, empowering our youth and promoting large and small enterprises, and doing all these in ways that do not harm our environment, or otherwise endanger Kenyans. To achieve these goals, business needs Government to continue its push to remove barriers to doing business, most importantly reductions in critical input costs such as power and transport. We need continued policy consistency in fiscal and regulatory policy.

Finally the business community recognizes the poisonous effect that corruption has had on our economic prospects and national values for decades, and we stand ready to continue to work with Government, and with other stakeholders in Kenya, in combatting this vice. We are fully behind the President's 2015 declaration of corruption as a national security threat, and we also expect that those who perpetuate economic crimes will be dealt with formally and expeditiously without fear of favour.

The journey ahead for Kenya is long, but it is one business is willing and able to undertake, by playing its rightful role as a partner to and alongside National and County governments. We are ready, confident and rearing to go!

God bless Kenya.