



STATEMENT BY H.E DR. MONICA K.JUMA
ON THE OCCASION OF
THE PRESENTATION OF LETTERS OF CREDENCE
TO HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT GIRMAI WOLDE
GIORGIS, PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA

29TH JUNE 2010

KENYA EMBASSY
ADDIS ABABA

Your Excellency, President Girmai Wolde Giorgis:

It is an honour and privilege to convey the very best compliments of my Head of State, His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki, the Government and the People of the Republic of Kenya to Your Excellency, for your personal well being, and through you to the Government and People of Ethiopia for peace and prosperity of this great Nation. In this regard, I wish to extend my congratulations for a successful election, held in May 2010, which reaffirmed Ethiopia's commitment to democratic ideals.

The Government of Kenya is committed to deepen the already strong existing ties between our two countries at all levels: our excellent bilateral relations; on geo-strategic issues that impact Ethiopia and Kenya, and at the level of our joint efforts to strengthen multilateral politics and systems. I personally view the privilege to serve as Kenya's next Ambassador to Ethiopia as a call to add value to a special friendship that is grounded on long and deep historical ties. Today, on this solemn occasion, I would like to reiterate this commitment.

Your Excellency,

I have instructions from President Kibaki to focus attention on work that invigorates the shape and content of our bilateral ties. In this regard, Kenya is prioritizing infrastructural development in an effort to speedily and efficiently link our two countries. Work on the north road from Moyale to Ethiopia has commenced and is expected to be completed in the near future.

We have also commenced work on the Second Corridor whose components include the development of a world class port and oil refinery at Lamu; a pipeline; the development of three resort cities in Lamu, Isiolo and south of Lake Turkana; and the development of a rail and road network. The approval by the African Development Bank Group of a \$326 million loan to finance this road corridor involves the construction and tarring of 438 km road in two

sections, from Merille River-Marsabit-Turbi in Kenya and from Ageremariam-Yabelo-Mega in Ethiopia, as well as the construction of a One-Stop-Border-Post. Once completed, this project will bring multiple benefits to Kenya and Ethiopia in terms of: a) Improving transportation between Kenya and Ethiopia; c) Reducing transport and shipping costs; c) Transit time for imports and exports; d) Increasing the volume of Ethiopian goods transiting through the Mombasa and Lamu Ports in Kenya; e) Promoting trade and regional integration and d) increasing intra-regional trade between Ethiopia and Kenya as well as the Eastern and Horn of Africa regions. Overall, easy movements of goods, services as well as our peoples will further strengthen existing friendships between our two countries.

We wish to comment Ethiopia for the milestones it has attained towards the development of renewable hydro-electric power, an aspiration that is shared by Kenya. We fully support the development of the Gilgel Gibe project and are undertaking all necessary measures to ensure the fulfilment of our obligations in regard to Gibe III in particular. In view of this, I wish to inform you of a planned visit by our government's delegation, in early July 2010 for a session to review progress, with a view to ensuring scheduled completion of the same.

The state of security along our borders continues to improve owing to the efficacy of various mechanisms developed with the framework of the Joint Border Commission. I will endeavour to continue these engagements as a means of creating enabling environment to accelerate joint programmes that improve sustainable livelihoods for our peoples.

I am also tasked with exploring modalities of enhancing complementarity and beneficiation in sectors of mutual interest including aviation, agriculture, tourism as well as cultural exchanges, and to draw on good practices, such as progress made in the empowerment of women in high level decision making, in Ethiopia for replication in Kenya.

We note the work that has gone towards the conclusion of the Joint Commission of Cooperation between our two countries and look forward to the convening of the next Joint Ministerial Committee in order to elaborate the specificities of the various elements of our bilateral relations.

Your Excellency,

Our two countries continue to forge a valuable strategic partnership on matters of mutual concern that have implications for our nations and region such as threats of terrorism, instability and the imperative to forge closer integration in the greater horn of Africa, as a basis for driving the economic growth of our countries and peoples.

Beyond the region, Kenya remains steadfast in regard to common positions forged within the African Union, relating to Peace and Security, the Millennium Development Goals and democratic governance, among others. In this regard, we fully support Ethiopia's leadership, through H.E the Prime Minister, Meles Zenawi, in the Conference of the Ten Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC), and look forward to continue forging common positions on matters of mutual concern within the international arena.

Your Excellency,

I now have the honour, to present to you, the Letter of Recall of my Predecessor, Ambassador Franklin Esipila, and My Letter of Credence by which His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki has appointment and bestowed confidence on me to serve as Kenya's next Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Ethiopia. I want to assure you of my commitment to do my very best to further strengthen the ties between our two countries. Allow me to ask you, Your Excellency, to confer on me the same trust you bequeathed my predecessor.

Thank You, Your Excellency.

