

REMARKS BY ROADS AND TRANSPORT CABINET SECRETARY DAVIS CHIRCHIR DURING SIGNING OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT CEREMONY BETWEEN THE KENYA PORTS AUTHORITY AND THE AFREXIMBANK AT THE PORT OF MOMBASA ON FRIDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY ,2025

Your Excellency, Hon. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, C.G.H.,
President and Commander - in- Chief of the Defense
Forces of the Republic of Kenya.

His Excellency, Hon Professor Kindiki Kithure, E.G.H., Deputy President of the
Republic of Kenya.

H.E Abdulswamad Nassir, Governor of Mombasa County
My Fellow Cabinet Secretaries.

Principal Secretaries.

Hon. Benjamin Tayari, Chairman and Board of Directors of Kenya Ports Authority
Captain Wiliam Ruto Managing Director Kenya Ports Authority

Members of Staff of KPA

Distinguished guests Ladie & Gentlemen.

Good morning,

Your Excellency. It is indeed a great privilege for us that you have created time to preside over the signing of the lease agreement between the Kenya Ports Authority and the Afreximbank for the development of an integrated industrial park at the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone (SEZ).

Your Excellency. Your presence today is a strong testament to the value and importance you and the government attach to industrialization, especially to the investors at the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone.

Your Excellency. The Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone is a key part of our nation's industrialization agenda. For too long, Kenya has aspired to become a manufacturing leader, an innovation hub, and a leading player in value-added exports. Therefore, the Dongo Kundu (SEZ) project presents a bold and strategic step toward realizing that vision.

Foremost, I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Afreximbank and our development partners for choosing to invest in our country. Their contributions are particularly timely as we work to attract even more investment into our Special Economic Zones.

At the Ministry, we're excited about the project as it is poised to be a catalyst for transformative change. It provides a unique combination of benefits, including connectivity to the port, proximity to regional markets, and a streamlined regulatory environment designed to attract both domestic and foreign investment.

To us, the Dongo Kundu SEZ is much more than just a physical space; it's an engine for job creation, skills development, and technology transfer. As the ministry, we will play our role as a transport enabler to encourage the growth of key industries, from manufacturing and logistics to Agro-processing and renewable energy.

Your Excellency. May I also take this opportunity to laud the Kenya Ports Authority for the crucial part it has played in the project, including finalizing the compensation process for the persons affected by the project and its active role in drawing the investors across various sectors in the economic zone, including petrochemicals, oil and gas, Agro-processing, green energy, water desalination, and service provision, all of which align with our country's focus on creating job opportunities.

Your Excellency. At the ministry, we are committed to ensuring that we sustain performance through equipping the port of Mombasa and supporting the capacity expansion programs aimed at making our port become a hub of trade in the region.

Equally, we endeavour to fully support the development of the Dongo Kundu (SEZ) project that requires a concerted effort from all stakeholders to promote potential investors.

We firmly believe that the signing of this lease agreement opens an avenue to attract more investments to boost our export industries so that we can compete with international trade.

Your Excellency. As I conclude, allow me to mention that the Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone is not just another project; it's an investment in the future of Kenya. Let's come together to unlock the full potential of this crucial asset and help transform Kenya into an economic powerhouse.

Thank you and God bless you.