



**MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE AND INDUSTRY
OFFICE OF THE CABINET SECRETARY**

PRESS RELEASE

**STATEMENT ON THE RULING IN THE MATTER ON THE KENYA –EU
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT**

1. Over the years, trade has positioned Kenya as a key logistical and economic hub in East Africa while promoting economic cooperation through market access, export diversification and foreign investments attraction. Given the importance of trade to the Kenyan economy, the ruling of the East Africa Court of Justice (EACJ), on **24th November 2025**, that suspended the implementation of the Kenya-EU EPA until the case by the Center for Law Economics and Policy (CELP East Africa)- a Non-State Actor entity, is heard and determined has caused uncertainty to our traders and the business community at large.
2. The Kenya -EU EPA is the lifeline of our booming exports and a source of livelihood to a large majority of Kenyans. This ambition is aligned with Kenya's national interest under Vision2030, the BETA plan and other national growth and job creation frameworks supporting the Government's commitment to sustainable growth and development.
3. The two trading partners enjoy a longstanding mutual partnership anchored on shared values of sustainable development and open markets. Last year Kenya exported goods worth USD 1.56 billion while importing goods worth USD 2.09 billion from the EU.

In addition, given the upward trajectory in overall exports, Kenya is keen to expand its markets within the EU.

4. The Government of Kenya wishes to confirm to its citizens and exporters that they will continue to access the EU market. We wish to assure all Kenyans, our trading partners as well as trading entities that Kenya will continue to trade with EU and steps are being taken to ensure continuity, predictability and protection of our existing commercial arrangements.
5. Towards this end, the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry is in consultation with the Office of the Attorney General and has already initiated immediate appropriate steps including but not limited to:
 - a. **Seeking redress for this ruling through the appropriate appellate mechanisms aimed at setting aside the injunctive orders and allowing the continued implementation of the EPA pending the hearing and determination of the reference;**
 - b. **Engaging with Partner States on the intention of Article 37 of the EAC Protocol that is meant to facilitate transparency and not prohibit sovereign trade action. The over-judicialization of Article 37 only encourages forum-shopping, reduces policy space making the EAC appear anti-development in the eyes of investors and external partners.**
6. The Government remains committed to provide certainty to exporters, investors, development and trading partners and assures all stakeholders that it will continue to safeguard the country's trade, investment and industrialization interests. The government will actively continue to engage all Partner

States and the EAC Secretariat to streamline the procedural requirements for conducting business for the EAC going forward.

7. As a founding member of the EAC, Kenya reaffirms its commitment to the principle of variable geometry which has, since the founding of the bloc, enabled Partner States to pursue differentiated integration pathways without undermining the collective growth and spirit of integration of the EAC.
8. Kenya will be hosting the EAC Summit soon where all critical issues touching on the State Parties to the EAC can be addressed at the highest level.

Hon. Lee Kinyanjui

Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry

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