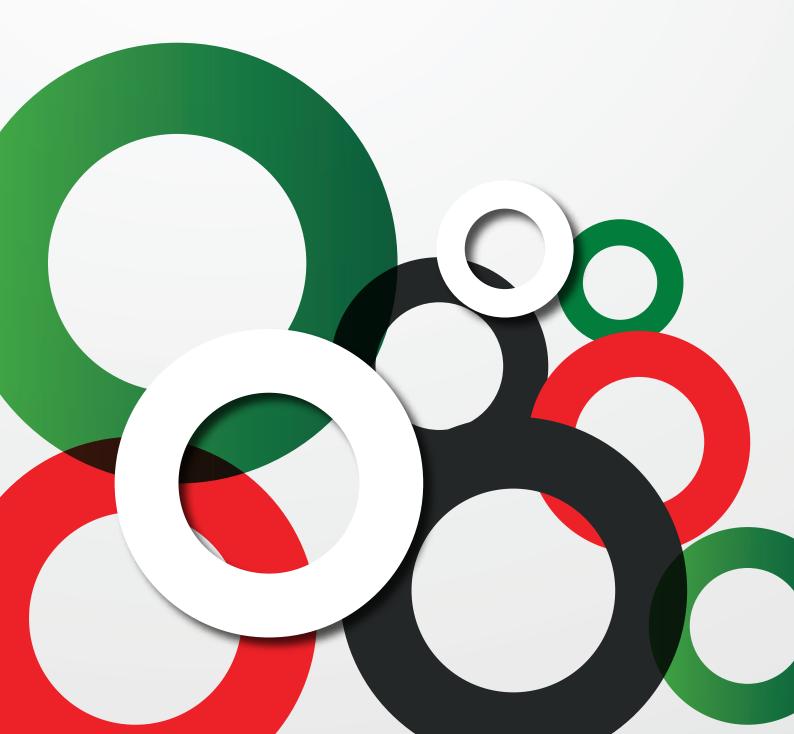


# Chamber Quarterly

## 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER

**JULY - SEPTEMBER 2022** 





SATURDAY 9TH JULY, 2022



#### Relief for traders as county moves to harmonise taxation

Business people have signed a tax harmonisation agreement with the county government that among other things seeks to eliminate double levies. Through their umbrella group, Kenya National Chamber of Com-



merce and Industry (KNCCI), the business people have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the county government to safeguard their enterprises. The agreement signed on Thursday will promote mutual co-operation and understanding between the county and the business community to especially avoid the thorny issues of double taxation and harsh penalties for delayed tax payment. Speaking during the signing ceremony, KNCCI Vihiga chapter's chair Dr Billy Nyonje said the agreement will provide a platform to support and strengthen trade and investment programmes across the county." This MoU will allow us to have collaboration with the county government that will help in promoting local-based business while also inviting foreign investors," said Nyonje. Read more



TUESDAY 12TH JULY, 2022



#### **Busia Business Community Calls For Peace**

Busia business community has urged politicians to exercise tolerance and hold peaceful campaigns ahead of the August 9 polls. They warned politicians against polarizing the county with tribalism and hooli-



ganism, saying it is a recipe for chaos. Led by Kenya National Chamber of Commerce Chairman Busia Chapter Sylvanus Abungu, they warned politicians against divisive politics and instead urged them to preach peace as they sold their agenda to Kenyans. "The stability of our country depends on a business-enabling environment that attracts investors hence generating revenue for our County. We appeal to all politicians in Busia to avoid hooliganism and other activities that appear a threat to matters of national security," said Abungu. The Asian business community under the chairmanship of Jaymin Patel echoed the sentiment of KNCC boss by challenging the youths to shun from destructive politics but rather deploy their energy in investment and promoting peaceful electioneering period. "Kenyans still need access to better healthcare services, education and decent income-generating activities. . Read more



FRIDAY 15TH JULY, 2022



### ABSA hosts women entrepreneurs for mentorship conference

Over 3,000 businesswomen from across Africa have benefited from a one-day mentorship conference organised by Absa. The conference held on Friday aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs with new perspectives, practical skills and strategic



insights to help them scale their businesses. Speaking during the event at a Nairobi hotel, Absa Bank's Business Banking director Elizabeth Wasunna affirmed the bank's ongoing efforts to empower women entrepreneurs with the necessary tools and resources to help achieve their dreams and aspirations. "Women entrepreneurship plays a key role in creating jobs and driving economic growth. As a bank, we firmly believe that creating equal opportunities for women in business is not only a question of gender equality, but also an economic priority," Wasunna said. She added that through networking forums such as InspireME, women entrepreneurs can receive the holistic support they need to build their leadership capabilities in addition to financial solutions that we avail to them. A 2020 International Trade Centre (ITC) study on the impact of Covid-19 on businesses in 136 countries indicated that nearly 62 per cent of women-led small businesses were severely impacted by the crisis, and that women-owned businesses were 27 percent more likely to close because of the pandemic. Read more



SUNDAY 24TH JULY, 2022



#### Commerce chamber urges peaceful campaigns in Turkana

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce Industry in Turkana branch has called political leaders to adopt



peaceful coexistence. Francis Edome, chief executive officer for KNCCI-Turkana, said they are advocating peaceful campaigns to foster a stable business environment. "During this electioneering period, the Turkana Chamber is advocating for peaceful campaigns to foster a stable business environment during and after the elections to ensure business continuity," Edome said. He said violence is usually witnessed during the electioneering period when the supporters of politicians engage in fights due to differences in opinions. Edome condemned the recent violence in Lodwar during the rally of Azimio led by Presidential candidate Raila Odinga where the ODM and Jubilee supporters clashed.

"It has been with great dismay the Turkana County Chamber and the business community at large, have witnessed the increasing incidences of political intolerance that have taken place in Turkana County," he said. Read more



MONDAY 25TH JULY, 2022



## **Ministry of Health** pledges collaboration with the private sector

The Ministry of Health has pledged to partner with the private sector to accelerate ongoing reforms within the health sector. Speaking at a Nairobi hotel during a meeting with



members of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI), Health CS Mutahi Kagwe said collaborations and partnerships are critical tools for transformation as they make it possible to implement critical development projects. "You know the Swahili say, "one finger does not break a louse," through collaboration, we have seen the current government implement mega projects in different sectors of the economy," Kagwe submitted. He said the covid-19 pandemic saw the ministry of health work with various players in the private sector in fighting the pandemic as well as attaining Universal Health Coverage. Citing a programme implemented by the Ministry of Health in partnership with KNCCI between 2020 and 2021 to support the development and manufacturing of 7.5 Million PPEs as an incentive to promote local manufacturers and producers of fabric, Kagwe said the country has achieved spectacular results which is not only encouraging but, a stamp of approval for collaboration as a tool for economic transformation. Read more



**WEDNESDAY 27TH JULY, 2022** 





#### Kenya, UAE Agree to Extend Visit Visa to Six Months

Kenyans seeking to work in the United Arab Emirates can now heave a sigh of relief after the Arabian nation announced plans to extend the duration of visit visas to



six months. The timely intervention was sought by the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, being the umbrella body of the Kenya business community. In a consultative meeting held in a Nairobi hotel with the UAE Minister for Foreign Trade Than Ahmed Al Zeyoudi the Chamber President Richard Ngatia noted that the current one month visit visa granted to Kenyans visiting the UAE is not sufficient to progress meaningful business networking, considering the strategic market of Kenya as an entry point to the African market with the onset of the AfCFTA.

Zeyoudi assured the Chamber boss that Kenyan UAE visit visa to will be extended to a minimum six months stay with effect from September 2022. "This will guarantee ample time to strike trade deals between Kenyans and their UAE counterparts," he said. The Agreement will also mitigate trade barriers to ensure smooth exchange of goods and services. Read more



THURSDAY 28TH JULY, 2022



## Kenya banks on Iran for tea sales as **Pakistan cuts imports**

Kenya is considering increasing its tea export share to Iran and other countries in Asia to cover for expected low demand in Pakistan. Speaking during the Exporters forum held in Nairobi on Wednesday, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industries chairman Richard Ngatia said they are wooing Iran to increase its tea imports from the



current 56 per cent to 100 per cent. The Democratic Republic of Congo was identified to be of great potential as a tea export market as the average tea consumption is 10 cups per day. "Apart from Iran, we want to increase our share of export to United Arab Emirates, Malaysia and Egypt to cover for expected low demand in Pakistan that imports 50 per cent of our tea, "Ngatia said. Last month Pakistan asked its citizens to cut tea consumption to two cups daily as the country battles the highest inflation in four decades. According to the latest Export Performance report tea was among Kenya's export products to Pakistan that dropped in the year 2021 from Sh52.8 billion in 2020 to Sh51.4 billion in 2021. The Asian country seeks to cut high import bills as its foreign currency reserves continue to fall rapidly, putting pressure on the government to cut import costs and keep funds in the country. Read more



FRIDAY 29TH JULY, 2022



#### **Kisumu Transformed Into an Economic Investors Hub**

Kisumu has been transformed into a regional business hub owing to its elaborate infrastructure consisting of railway, road, water and air means of transportation. State Department for East Africa Community Principal Secretary Dr Kevit Desai has challenged the local business fraternity to fully



exploit the huge economic potential if they hope to boost trade between Kenya and its partner states as they implement proposed policy changes.

Desai said business transactions between member states will be greatly boosted if the entire population standing at over 300 million promotes legal and positive trade practices. He called upon farmers and other players in the agricultural sector to promote cotton growing if they hope to revamp the textile industry and put Kenya on the global map. The PS called for developing the capacity of local residents through training and to help them readily access the market after ensuring that they uphold the requisite standards.

**Read more** 



SATURAY 30TH JULY, 2022



#### **EAC Principal Secretary Meets KNCCI Officials**

The Principal Secretary for the State Department of East African Community Dr. Kevit Dessai has had a working session with the members of Kenya



Chamber of Commerce, representatives of Busia business community in the service industry, trade and cottage industries with a view to ensure progress of the opportunities within the county. Speaking to the press after a meeting with the stakeholders at the KNCCI office, Dr Dessai said Busia is one of the most thriving hubs of trade in the context of Kenya's economy and the East African community. The gains that Busia has made by increasing trading across borders by almost 40% in the last year is extremely significant and is part of almost 250 billion shillings' worth of trade,' he said, adding that there is need for the government to maximize on cross border trade. He stated that the achievements realized under the leadership of President Uhuru Kenyatta in terms of development within EAC is relevant to the transformation of Busia Chamber of Commerce and business fraternity adding that its uniqueness has been a multiplier effect as far as trade ecosystem and transformation in the entire region. Read more



THURSDAY 18TH AUGUST, 2022





The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) has asked business operators to resume their normal



activities after completion of the general elections. The institute through its board of directors noted that the business industry cannot take the risk of halting its operations for fear of election violence adding that the business community has just recovered from the Covid 19 pandemic. In a press briefing with the media, KNCCI Director Hasnain Meghji said that Kenya has suffered from severe drought; rising debt and inflation noting that the country's stability is critical to the wider region.

"We appeal to the citizens and the business community in Mombasa County to resume their normal daily activities following the conclusion of the August 9, general elections as the county has been peaceful with normalcy resuming slowly contrary to what many expected," said Meghji. He added that the institution and other stakeholders made significant efforts to ensure peaceful elections, current political dynamics particularly the shifting political alliances and the country's post-independence history of election related violence which had many citizens speculate about the prospect of tumultuous elections. On his part, Godfrey Samora said that KNCCI expects the incoming government to put in place policies that will be able to open up the environment for good business to thrive. Read more



TUESDAY 23RD AUGUST, 2022



#### Sound labour laws attract over 200 nationalities to UAE

The law against discrimination and hatred passed in 2015 has opened the United Arab Emirates (UAE ) to international labour, with more than 200 nationalities now in the country. It prohibits discrimination based on religion, caste, faith, doctrine, race, colour, or ethnic



origin." Many societal efforts of the UAE continue to attract a highly skilled workforce and foreign investment. To begin the transition to a post-hydrocarbon economy, an economy of knowledge and new technologies, the country needs international talent," UAE said in a statement. The passage of this law has seen the number of Kenyans working in the region rise in the past five years, with limited cases of harassment. The UAE is Kenya's fifth largest export destination and the 4th largest import source. The number of Kenyans working in the country has increased by almost three folds from 36,000 in 2010. A majority of this number, work in the hospitality, aviation and security sectors. Other sectors include medical, construction, engineering and telecommunications. Last year, the Arabian nation announced plans to extend the duration of work visas from a month to six months. This was after an intervention by the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Read more



**MONDAY 29TH AUGUST, 2022** 



#### Kenya Agro Expo to Scale Up Growth Within the Agribusiness Sector

Speaking at his Nairobi office KNCCI Nairobi Chapter Chairman Julius Opio said the event is part of the Chamber's commitment to



enhance inter-country trade by helping local SMEs interact with foreign countries and also tap into their technological prowess.

The three-day expo is set to take place from September 2-4 at Sarit Centre-Nairobi with some of the key areas of focus being Agro, dairy and poultry, grains and storage, food and flavors, biscuits, cakes, packaging and processing machines, and plastics. "We have increasingly called for the reduction of prices of farm inputs and increased investments in agricultural technology as a step towards encouraging increased mechanization of farming in rural Kenya. For the agro-processing and related value addition business ventures, the Chamber has embarked on encouraging foreign direct investments through the Agro Food Park model, "said Opio.The Agro Food Park model essentially brings farmers, input suppliers, processors, retailers, wholesalers, exporters, and other business service providers and links agricultural production to the market.

**Read More** 



**MONDAY 29TH AUGUST, 2022** 



## **Government-Driven Business Reforms To Spur Development**

The government has launched extensive business reforms across the country in an exercise aimed at creating a conducive investment environment for local and foreign investors in counties as a way of promoting industrial

growth and manufacturing amongst the devolved units. Through the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development (MEAC), the government has identified ten counties for piloting the reforms spearheaded by Directorate of Business Reforms and Transformation (BRT) with an aim of bolstering Kenya's competitiveness as a choice destination for investors. Principal Secretary (PS) for East African Community Kevit Desai, said the government was working closely with key stakeholders including experts from Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) and trade experts to create enabling business ecosystems to spur local investments and expand the existing markets. The reforms, he added, will touch on various areas of trade including business legislations and licensing, policy frameworks, tax regimes, trade levies and incentives for investors." Read more



TUESDAY 30TH AUGUST, 2022

#### **Entrepreneurs to** share experiences at AgroFoodpack expo

Local entrepreneurs in agricultural and manufacturing sectors will share experiences with peers from over 15

foreign countries that will be exhibiting at the AgroFoodpack Expo in Nairobi. The three day expo has been organised by the Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and industry(KNCCI) in conjunction with the Dubai-based MXM Exhibitors.

The session will commence on September 2 at the Sarit Centre. Commenting on the programme, KNCCI chairman Julius Opio said that the initiative will also aim at tapping the technological prowess in the Agricultural sector while promoting the inter-country trade. "We have increasingly called for the reduction of prices of farm inputs and increased investments in agricultural technology as a step towards encouraging increased mechanization of farming in rural Kenya,"Opio said.He further notes that the chamber has embarked on encouraging foreign direct investments through the Agro Food Park model to bolster the agro-processing and related value addition business ventures. Read more



FRIDAY 2ND SEPTEMBER, 2022





#### **Modernize farming** to tame hunger threat

Farmers have been urged to adopt new agricultural technologies to tame rising food shortage. Speaking at the opening ceremony of the AgroFoodpack Expo, the Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry(KNCCI) Nairobi chapter termed technology and mechanization as the future of agriculture. The three-day expo intends to provide farmers,



manufacturers and peers with new ideas ranging from farm automation to indoor vertical farming as well as precision agriculture and bee vectoring technologies. It also aims to urge stakeholders to leverage technologies such as solar-powered smart irrigation systems and digital platforms for agri-advice to ensure better decision-making in all farming practices. KNCCI Nairobi Chapter chairman Julius Opio said there is a need to liberate the country from the rising threat of hunger occasioned by the changing climate and high cost of living backed by inflation. "As the world over is embracing innovation and technology to curb food crisis, this event is indeed timely, and as a country, we need to accelerate our efforts to modernize farming practices," Opio said. Almost 3.5 million people are facing severe hunger in the country according to the UN's Reliefweb report. Read more



**SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



## **KNCCI Emphasizes** On Need Of **Modernizing Farming During Agro Expo**



The Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) and MXM Exhibitors, a Dubai-based event organizer firm are hosting an AgroFoodPack expo that aims to accelerate efforts to modernize farming practices thus liberating the country from rising threats of hunger.

Speaking during the official opening of the 2022 AgroFoodPack International Trade Fair at Sarit Centre, KNCCI Nairobi Chapter Chairman Julius Opio noted that other countries in the world have embraced innovation and technology in farming, a move they have implemented to counter the rising threat of food insecurity which is also attributed to the change in climate world over. He further underscored that the place of technology and innovation in farming cannot be ignored as the expo will provide farmers with knowledge ranging from farm automation, indoor vertical farming, precision agriculture as well as bee vectoring technologies."It is important to note that mechanization in the agro-food sector and related industries remains a key pillar of agriculture in Kenya. Nevertheless, despite agriculture's 33 per cent contribution to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), we have over time observed a worrying trend," stated Opio. Read more



**SATURDAY 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



#### Chinese tech to spur solar energy uptake in Kenya

Kenya's business community said Friday that it will tap Chinese technology in order to accelerate its uptake of solar energy. Julius Opio, Chairman of Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Nairobi County told journalists in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya that China has been identified as a partner for



high-quality affordable equipment for the production of renewable energy. "The initiative will see light industries and commercial enterprises adopt solar energy in order to reduce Kenya's carbon footprint," Opio said during an agro-expo. Opio said that Kenya's business community is keen to play a role to ensure that the country meets its commitment to the Paris climate agreement on reducing greenhouse emissions. He added that reliance on Chinese solar production technology will enable Kenya to tap into its abundant sunshine resources. Opio observed that the adoption of renewable energy by Kenya's enterprises is also expected to boost the competitiveness of Kenyan-made goods. "Kenya currently has a high cost of electricity which is passed on by manufacturers to its clients," he revealed. Read more



SUNDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER, 2022



#### **Nassir promises** conducive business environment in **Mombasa**



Mombasa governor-elect Abdulswamad Nassir has promised to improve the business environment once he is sworn in on September 15.He promised to lower the cost of doing business by collapsing various trade licenses into one. Nassir spoke during a dinner with members of the Mombasa business community organised by the Kenya Chambers of Commerce and Industry Mombasa chapter on Friday."I have already asked my county team to go through the fees and come up with a one-stop figure. This means you only pay for one license."Instead of one business paying for health, fire and other county charges, these will all be included in one permit," he said. The governor-elect said he will set up a business directorate in the Office of the Governor, whose job will be to ensure there is the ease of doing business. The directorate, he said, shall be reporting directly to him giving him weekly reports."We have begun discussions around having a single permit, which means going forward, you will not necessarily have to pay something different for trade license, health, or for fire safety compliance," Nassir said. He also promised to have quarterly engagements with the business community. Read more



**MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



#### Trade talks between Kenya, DRC and Morocco await top court verdict



Trade talks between Mombasa businessmen and their counterparts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Morocco will resume after the Supreme Court verdict on the presidential election petitions today. The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Mombasa Chapter Chairperson Ramadhan Mustafa said there are a lot of pending trade talks between the three countries. He noted that investors from Kinshasa, DRC's capital, are looking forward to starting manufacturing goods in Mombasa in partnership with some Kenyan companies to serve the country's huge market of 20 million people. "Actualisations of memorandum of understandings (MOUs) have already been signed and we are waiting to get over the election process," said Mustafa. "We have seen a lot of interest from companies in DRC that want to set up base in Mombasa since they import 85 per cent of their consumable goods." Mustafa said the uncertainty of the political situation was bad for business. "We hope for closure in this process, whichever way the Supreme Court sees it fit. Once we are past that ... life and business have to continue as people need to put food on the table," he said. Read more



**MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



#### Mombasa's Governor-Elect Pledges **Business Friendly Environment**

Mombasa Governor-elect Abdulswamad Nassir has pledged to create a conducive business environment for investment. Nassir pledged to lower the cost of doing business by collapsing business licenses to one document. He has assured of his commitment to creating a conducive business environment and supporting people with innovative ideas towards boosting the economic fortune of the coastal city. The Governor-elect said his Administration will have policies geared towards creating an enabling business environment to enhance investments and industrialization. He said there is a need to reduce the cost of doing business in the county in a bid to boost local and foreign investments. The Governor said this during a business community networking dinner with members of the Mombasa business



community organized by the Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) at Jumeirah Beachfront Hotel. He was accompanied by Andrew Mwadime, Governor of Taita Taveta County for this inaugural business networking dinner. The Governor outlined his plan for the economic revival of Mombasa County, the management of emerging issues related to port services and the management of public debt at County level. Read more



**MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



### **Restore investor** confidence, Mombasa traders urge Nassir

The Mombasa business community has urged Governor-elect Abdulswamad Nassir to run a transparent



government that will restore investor confidence. The traders, under the membership of the Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry, also want the new administration to ensure land owners in Mombasa are protected. They also seek to be facilitated to develop their properties in a clean city and the pending bills debacle addressed. KNCCI Mombasa chairman Mustafa Ramadhan in a four-page document said Mombasa has always had a diverse economy based on trade and commerce, tourism and manufacturing. However, none of these sectors is as prosperous because they have been affected by regional and intra-national instability and conflict, external shocks and poor management of national resources." Mombasa should be a prosperous city, offering plentiful economic opportunities to its population."In practice, however, Mombasa has not yet realised its potential; services and infrastructure are increasingly inadequate and about a quarter of its households fall below an absolute poverty line," Ramadhan said. Read more



**WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



## **Nassir moves to** clear Mombasa garbage menace

Mombasa Governor-elect Abdulswamad Nassir has hit the ground running trying to resolve the garbage menace, which has bedevilled the coastal town for years. On Tuesday, Nassir led a



high-level delegation to the Mwakirunge dumpsite in Kisauni constituency on a fact-finding mission. Nassir said there is a need to understand the challenges at the dumpsite in order to be able to offer the best solution. "Before we are sworn in on September 15, I found it prudent to come here and understand what is happening so that we can all agree on the best solution. "As you can see, there is garbage all over even blocking the access road leading to the designated dumping site. The good news is that I have already talked to Kerra and hopefully construction of the road from Kiembeni to here will begin soon," he said. The Mwakirunge dumpsite is currently facing legal tussles from the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority and residents, who are calling for its closure. In May the Mombasa High Court ordered the county government to stop depositing waste at the site. Mombasa Lands and Environment court judge Lucas Naikuni issued the orders on May 11 after petitioner Ainea Ragen moved to court. Read more



TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2022



## **Great expectations:** Low cost of living, **CBC** review top wishlist to president-elect



Kenyans from Coast to Western have high hopes for incoming president William Ruto as he takes the oath of office today. In his in-tray of what residents want to be treated as a priority, there is a slew of issues that they believe would improve their lives if addressed as soon as possible. Residents expect the incoming president's leadership to reduce the cost of living, which has resulted in a large number of them losing jobs after companies that employed them closed down due to production costs. Most residents in Kisumu are optimistic that president Ruto's government will lead to a better economy through his leadership. Kenyans believe the new government will prioritise the needs of ordinary citizens, despite the fact that they are struggling to keep up with daily increases in basic household item prices.

Mark Otieno, a shopkeeper, said while the new government is not what he had hoped for, he has accepted the outcome and is eager to see what Ruto has in store for a better Kenya." If you can't fight them, join them," the old adage goes. "I am ready and willing to join the working team, and if the new government gives us that, why not?" Read more



**WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



#### Kilifi tourism players expect boom after smooth transition

Tourism players in Kilifi county have expressed optimism the industry will experience a boom after the formation of new county and national governments. The stakeholders said they have high hopes for President William Ruto and particularly Governor Gideon Mung'aro who has experience in the tourism sector. They spoke during the monthly



clean-up organised by the Progress Welfare Association of Malindi. The exercise brings together different stakeholders from the business community, hoteliers, school children and their teachers and Islamic leaders, among others. The exercise is aimed at making Malindi greener and cleaner. During this month's clean-up, Italians who normally participate in the exercise but travelled during the Covid-19 pandemic came back with pledges to continue supporting the programme. The spokesman of the Italian community in Kilifi county Freddie Di Curatolo said they were happy as a community for witnessing a peaceful election and transition. Curatolo said reservations were still ongoing though there is still a problem with the increased costs of jet fuel which has made flights expensive. Read more



TUESDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER, 2022



### Mung'aro promises to push for Malindi airport expansion

Kilifi County Governor Gideon Mung'aro has pledged to push for the upgrading of the Malindi International Airport infrastructure and the development of an international convention centre to boost tourism in the



region. Mung'aro also said he will enhance waste management, improvement of general infrastructure and drainage, and the development of a Beach Management Policy. Addressing the Malindi business community during a thanks-giving dinner they had organized for him following his victory, he said the county will also develop an international sports complex, which will bolster sports, tourism and talent development.

Further, he said the British government is set to begin a grand project of upgrading the town infrastructure from drainage, sewerage system, and beautification of the town which will be a game changer for the resort city. Mung'aro challenged the hoteliers to be innovative in the development of new products that will make Kilifi more attractive in the global market, given that only 13 out of the more than 400 hotels are star-rated in the regionIn Kilifi, he said plans are underway to establish Kilifi medical training and referral hospital at Pwani University which will be established on an 89-acre parcel of land after the institution was approved to begin offering courses of medicine. Read more



**WEDNESDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



## Kenya-India Join **Hands To Promote Textile Industry**

The India International Textile Machinery Exhibition Society (ITME) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Kenya National Chamber of Com-



merce and Industry (KNCCI), aimed at building new opportunities for growth in the industry. The networking program seeks to raise the share of the sector to Gross Domestic Product from the current 8.3 per cent to 15 per cent through Agro-Processing, Textiles and Apparels Leather Processing, Assembly of automotive components as well as electronics, Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals, metals and engineering products for domestic and export markets. Industrialization, Trade and Enterprise Development Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina said the collaboration will create an environment, where Kenyan companies and business entities will get to interact, engage and network with ITME in an effort to create bilateral business relations amongst the two nations. In a speech read on her behalf by the Ministry's Deputy Director for Industries, Business Environment and Private Sector Development Patricia Aruwa, the CS noted that the Textiles and Apparel sector is an important contributor to Kenya's overall economy. Read more



SUNDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2022



#### Kenya, India partner to boost textile industry

Kenya and India have partnered to promote trade and investment in the textile and manufacturing industry. The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry has signed a deal with an Indian company to facilitate this. KNCCI will become an official partner in the preparation and planning of the of India International Textile and Manufacturing Expo. This is set to take



place in India from December 8 to 13. In his inauguration speech, President William Ruto singled out the textiles and apparel sector.

"This will start with the Dongo Kundu and Naivasha Industrial Parks," he said. Industrialisation CS Betty Maina said the textiles and apparel sector is estimated to account for six per cent of the overall manufacturing sector. The sector contributes 0.6 per cent to Kenya's GDP. "With a large and well-established apparel subsector, Kenya has become a leading exporter in Africa and top exporter to the US under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)," the CS said. Read more



TUESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2022





#### **ASEAN Ambassadors** join hands with KNCCI to enhance trade and investment



The Ambassador of Thailand together with Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Ambassadors in Nairobi joining hands with Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) to enhance trade and investment.

On 5 September 2022, Ms. Sasirit Tangulrat, the Ambassador of Thailand to Kenya together with the ASEAN Ambassadors to Kenya, consisting of the Indonesian, Malaysian, and the Philippine Ambassadors, paid a joint call on Mr. Richard Ngatia, the President of Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) to discuss the promotion of trade and investment between ASEAN region and Kenya. The President of KNCCI encouraged the ASEAN business sector to explore trade and business opportunities in Kenya. He reiterated Kenya's strategic location as the logistical hub of East Africa. Kenya's Mombasa port has been the largest port of East Africa for decades. In addition, a number of multinational corporations (MNC) like Google, Toyota, IBM, and Coca Cola, are located in Kenya. More importantly, Kenya is a member of a number of regional economic blocs, including East African Community (EAC), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and a member of the world's largest free trade area, which is the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) covering a population of over 1.2 billion of Africa. At the end of the meeting, both sides determined to co-organize the events to increase trade and investment values in the coming years. **Read more** 



**WEDNESDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



### **Textile firms urged to** adopt new technology to boost productivity

Players in the textile sector have been urged to embrace new technologies so as to enhance their global competitiveness and strengthen the total value chain.



Industrialisation Cabinet Secretary Betty Maina said technology and equipment upgrade are critical to the sector's ability to capitalise on the shifting demands of global buyers."Companies that source from Africa are beginning to push factories to utilise technologies that are both more efficient and better for the environment. This need has challenged leading suppliers in Africa to reconsider their processes and how to most effectively "retool" in response to the new industry paradigm," she said. Maina said the evolving dynamics of the industry, which includes emphasis for "fast fashion", is forcing the industry to look at how to get products to market quickly and efficiently to meet rapidly changing tastes and styles. The CS who is also in charge of trade and enterprise development was speaking during a networking programme organised by the India International Textile Machinery Exhibition Society in Nairobi. Read more



THURSDAY 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2022



#### Kenya, Egypt target increased bilateral trade during October forum



Kenya and Egypt are targeting to increase bilateral trade between the two nations during the upcoming Egypt Kenya Business Bridge Forum slated for next month. The forum which is being organized in collaboration with the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) and the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) comes on the heels of a the Egypt – Kenya Business Matching Forum held in January this year as the two Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) member states seek collaboration in areas related to trade liberalization and investment promotion. "The forum seeks to develop links between more than 34 leading Egyptian manufacturers with trade opportunities and to build valuable contacts with their Kenyan counterparts, as well as connecting Kenyan business communities eyeing the Egyptian market with the right trade partners," said Khalid El Abyad, Egypt Ambassador to Kenya. According to Abyad, the Egyptian trade mission will be led through Egyptian Commercial Services (ECS) at Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) which is designed to help interested Kenyan Companies and traders to get in touch with the right counterparts in Egypt. Read more



**MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER, 2022** 



### Governor Sakaja announces Nairobi Festival to be held every year



Nairobi Governor Johnson Sakaja has called for the amendment of laws that inhibit photography, videography and filming in the city. Sakaja said there are many archaic laws that hamper creativity and innovation which need to be done away with. "When we say we want to be pro-business it is not just passive to stop harassment of traders but we want to be proactive to facilitate and promote businesses," he said. Sakaja, who spoke when officials from the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) today paid him a courtesy call, also announced an annual event in the city dubbed Nairobi Festival. The governor said the fete would be held every December, after Jamhuri Day, to display and celebrate the "vibe of the city". "In December, we will set aside some streets to display culture, food, creativity and have the Nganya awards for the best-done matatus, have rugby, football, and basketball tournaments and many other activities," he said. Sakaja welcomed the partnership with the chamber of commerce to improve the ease of doing business. "Business people should spend more time doing business and not chasing compliance issues," he said.KNCCI Nairobi Chapter Chairman Julius Opiyo said there are a number of international firms that want to invest in Nairobi, including one for assembling electric motorcycles. Read more



TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER, 2022



### **Exporters asked to** take advantage of Kenya-Uk trade pact



market demand to boost the economic partnership between the states. The cooperation which was signed in January 2020, sought to increase the country's market share in UK's fresh produce imports. Despite the UK being Kenya's fifth top export destination, after Uganda, Pakistan, USA and the Netherlands, a report by Oversees Development Institute (ODI) says the trade between the two nations has remained stagnant. Speaking at a Kenya-UK trade forum in London early this month, Kenya's high commissioner to UK, Manoah Esipisu said the country is committed to making sure the partnership bears fruit. The UK has has been one of Kenya's most important trading partners, absorbing most of its tea, cut flowers and fresh vegetables exports. Its market accounts for 43 per cent of total exports of vegetables from Kenya as well as 9 per cent of cut flowers. Statistics from Department for International Trade sows the total trade in goods and services between the two states was at Sh 143.1 billion in the four quarters to the end of guarter one of 2022. Read more



TUESDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER, 2022



## **USAID** engages counties to boost sanitation, menstrual hygiene



USAID Kenya Western Sanitation Project has organised a workshop to strengthen and initiate dialogue between counties and the private sector to enhance access to improved sanitation and menstrual hygiene.he two-day workshop at Ciala Resort is on Private Sector Engagement in Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM). The workshop's theme is catalysing private sector participation and investment in sanitation and menstrual hygiene market space within the target counties. Its objective includes understanding the entrepreneurs' perceived barriers and risks in engaging in sanitation and MHM businesses. They also aim to build stronger partnerships between USAID WKSP, the private sector and county governments towards improved managed sanitation and menstrual hygiene management. Participants in the workshop include the counties of Busia, Bungoma, Homa Bay, Kakamega, Kisii, Kisumu, Migori and Siaya, the Lake Region Economic Bloc and the United States Agency for International Development. Read more



**WEDNESDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER,2022** 



#### Channel funds to menstrual health, **KNCCI** tells businesses



Businesses have been urged to consider channelling most of their resources to issues surrounding menstrual health in the

knowledge that good hygiene and sanitation are vital for general wellness and economic wellbeing. President of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI), Richard Ngatia, says that the private sector has the capacity and know-how to develop new and innovative products to solve common sanitation challenges such as access to clean water, waste disposal and menstrual hygiene management. Speaking in Kisumu during the launch of a workshop to deliberate on Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene (WASH), Ngatia urged private businesses to take WASH seriously saying that it presents a lot of opportunities in construction and plumbing services, enterprises, sanitary pad manufacturers and provision of water recycling companies. "Pursuant to SDG 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, investment in WASH will bridge financial gaps in achieving sanitation targets, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations," Ngatia said. The KNCCI boss also said that WASH presents opportunities in chemical supplies and opportunities to artisans and technicians since they will be contracted to build water and sanitation facilities. Read more



THURSDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2022



## Kenya seeks bigger piece of UK fresh produce market



Kenya's fresh produce exporters have been urged to take advantage of the Kenya-UK economic partnership that was signed in January 2020 to increase their market share in Britain's imports. Kenya's High Commissioner to the UK Manoah Esipisu said Kenya is committed to making sure the partnership bears fruit. "We think we have done all the right things in Kenya to sustain a level of commitment to building what is necessary to foster growth to build our infrastructure, to continue to work on our ICT, our tourism infrastructure, and committing to work on value addition," he said during a Kenya-UK trade forum in London on Monday. Participants at the forum organised by Bramex Logistics and the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) discussed the various opportunities in the economic partnership. Statistics indicate that Kenya's exports to the UK stood at about Sh49.5 billion. Of these, 43 per cent comprised vegetables and nine per cent were flowers. Despite the UK being Kenya's fifth top export destination – after Uganda, Pakistan, the US and The Netherlands – a report by Oversees Development Institute (ODI) said trade between the two nations remains relatively stagnant. KNCCI chief executive, Mombasa Chapter, James Kitavi said the UK has been one of Kenya's strongest trading partners. Read more

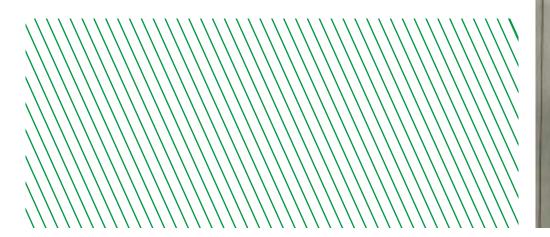
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#### 2nd Quarter July - September 2022



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Speaking during all-experted for uncholder Mayods on Netbers day, Keonga National Chamber of Commercial Registrant Chamber of Commercial Registrant Chamber of Commercial Registrant Regist Security Sec





#### BRIEFLY

#### Firms urged to invest in hygiene

Kern's National Chamber of Com-merce and Industry (KNCCI) has urged businesses to consider chan nelling more resources to issues surroundingmenstrual health. Speaking in Kisumu during the taunch of a workshop to deliberate on issues in do with Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene (WASH), KNCCI President Richard Ngutia (pictored) said the private sector has the capacity and know-how to develop new and annovative products that can help solve common sanitation challenges such as access to clean water, waste disposal and menstrual hygiene management. 'Po ant to SDG 6 on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, investment in VOASH will bridge financial gaps in achieving sanitation targets, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable. situations," he said.

-Alvin Onyango



#### PARTNERSHIP Trade lobby in credit deal with Dubai

Kenyan businesses exporting or importing goods from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) market will benefit credit of up to Sh20 million for capital injection, following a new partnership between Etihad insurance and the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The chamber said it had already been accorded an office space in Dubai and would also be supporting its members flastrack Visa processing when handling beginess in the region. **Peter Misuru** 

## MEDIA PICTORIALS







+ 26 THE-STAR CO KE Ministry September 5-2022

#### **COUNTIES COAST**

#### REVIVING ECONOMY

#### Nassir promises conducive environment for business

BY ONNANGO OCHIENG! / Morrilluna giri error elect Abdultssamad Nastr his promised to improve the business erretromment once he is worn in on-

the promined to lower the cost of doing bustness by collapsing surious trade licenses moi nese

Nasstrapider during a dinner with members of the Mornhau business community organised by the Kernya. Chambers of Commerce and Indus my Monthesa chapter on Friday.

I have already asked my county team to go through the tres and

means you only pay for one license. "Instead of one business paying for health, the and other county charges. durse will all he trichided in one per mit." he said

The governor elect said he will set up a husiness directorate in the Office of the Governor, whose job will be to emute there is the easy of

The directorate, he want, shall be reporting directly to him giving him. society reports.

We have begun discussions

around having a single permit. which means going forward, you will not necessarily have to pay corrections different for teads license. health, or for tire safety compliance

He also promised to have quarter ly engagements with the business, community

"Our first agenda is to revive the economy of the country and there to no tass way to begin this than by en gaging the scakeholders," Nassir said.

The governor elect also promised so push for the Open Skies Policy. at the Min International Airport in Mombaus, to boost interitational

He said the contary cannot afford to have an arryorf that was upgrailed. with a figure exceeding 5h7 billion and to only allowed to receive the

There a feeling that with the right presidency, things are going to be extremely smooth.

Either way as long as there is that element of common growth desire any single person should be able to understand that we need to have open skies policies here in Mom tura," Namu said.

He said he is to talks with four its creations that ward to set up Merring Incention, Conferences and Exhibit tions facilities to Mondusa that o boost tosorium in Mombasa and the

Nassir also promised that he will continue the light and push to return port operations (see is to Mortsheau

He said the directive requiring business people with KRA pins reg rotered outside Mondasa to pick up their cargo from National was totally



Abdub without Nation during a driver on Friday /ONTANGO DCHIENG

#### Trade talks between Kenya, DRC and Morocco await top court verdict

and their counterparts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Morocco will ume after the Supreme Court worder on the

resumm after the superint court wroter on the presidential election peritions today. The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and inclustry (KNCCI) Mombasa Chapter Chair-person Rumachan Muscafa said there are a lot of pending trade talks between the three coun-

He noted that investors from Kinshasa, DRCs capital, are looking forward to starting manu-latining goods in Mombasa in partnership with some Krayan companies to serve the country's huge market of 20 million people. "Actualisa-tions of insurerandum of understandings (MOUs) have already been signed and we are scalling to get over the election process," said Moustals. "We have seen a loc of interest from companies in DBC that want to set up hase in Mombass since they import 85 per cent of their consummable goods." consumable goods.

Mustafa and uncertainty of the political situ-dation was bad for business. "We hope for climare in this process, whichever way the Supress Court sees it fit. Once we are past that, afte and business have to continue as people need to put food on the table," he said.

Minitals was opening thirting a meeting with Mumbious governor elect, Abbidiovamus Massic, who requisited to meet the business commission to understand issues affecting them. Mostats said the manufacturing pode will be transported in Kinschin by see because it is far cheaper than transporting them by tracks.

#### Comporative advantage

The Chair said there is a need for a co-The class said the tell past for a conversa-tion about the compensive advantage Mornhaus-has in the production of goods as the signatory of the East African Free Trade Movement (EAFT). It would like to see manufacturing

being done from the hinterland, and Menula.

Traders from the legistics manufacturing construction, shopping, and legi among other sections met with the new crossly loss to discuss their issues and create a platform for future

their bases and create a station for future engagements. 
Mr Ministafa welcomed the proposal by Nassie to have a single beainness permit across at the businesses in place of the many licenses that made business affiliable in Monthaua.

He said talks are undersoy to fine businesses, pay 16 hastafaments, for the single business permit. "Cloackin flowers."

## MEDIA PICTORIALS







#### Kenya-India to build new opportunities for growth in Textile and Machinery

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

omy

"It is estimated to account for six per cent of the overall manufacturing sector and to contribute 0.6 per cent to Kenya's GDP with Kenya being a leading exporter in Arsica and top exporter to the United States under the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)," said Ms. Maina. She said the ITME 2022 which is slated for the 8th to

She said the ITME 2022 which is slated for the 8th to 13th December 2022 is unique in its kind of Exhibitions, as it strengthens the industry by scalating Textile manufacturing, supporting in building state of the art manufacturing infrastructure by Technology up-gradation, fostering Innovation, facilitating Exchange of Knowledge and encouraging Foreign Direct Investments and Joint Ventures.

The CS noted that Technology is a critical component bence the need for East Africa to mirror the Srl Lankan model, whereby speed and automation are paramount for greater backward integration.

"We are grateful that ITME seeks to attract and bring players linked to the Kenyan Textile Industry, create an environment where Kenyan companies and business entities will get to infernet, engage and network thus building B2B engagements and boost economic growth," she added. The CS noted that Kenya is

The CS noted that Kenya is the largest apparel exporter for cut, make and trim (CMT) in the region, with the highest level of productivity.

She stated that the appetite for textiles technology upgradation seems to be largest in Kenya, with companies looking to upgrade their machinery across the textiles

In Kenya, she added, garment-making machinery and related auxiliary machines are in highest demand, followed by finishing machinery consisting of printing and digital printing, washing and dyeing

She said that Indian technology is better represented in Kenya, perhaps given the recent massive modernization of the Kenyan Rivatex East Africa Limited textiles mill-which now has the capacity to produce 70, 000 meters of labric per day.

In his remarks the President of the KNCCI Richard Ngatia sald it is a remarkable opportunity for both Kenyan and Indian Investors in the Textile and Manufacturing Industry to promote trade and investment for mutual benefit. Mr. Ngatia urged private investors to take advantage of the MOU to increase their levels of investment in Manufacturing and Textile Industry.

"It is therefore our sole responsibility to ensure that we derive substantial benefit out of the Upcoming Expo as Kenya aims to increase the industry investment from 350m to 2bn Dollars and create 500,000 cotton jobs and 100,000 new apparel jobs," said Ngatia.

India ITME Chairman Mr. S. Hari Shankar suid India is the World's second largest textile Industry and ITME 2022 brings maximum market opportuni ties to interact with the biggest and the best of the machinery manufactures in the industry.

He said India ITME 2022 is expected to host more than 1500 exhibitors from Austria, Belgium, China, Czech Republie, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, United States of America among others in 22 Chanters.

"I urge Kenyans to take advantage of the exhibition themed "Explore the Soul of Textiles" for it could mark a beginning of stronger Bilateral trade and Investment activities in the Textile sector between India and Kenya," said Shaniar.

## MEDIA PICTORIALS







COUNTIES COAST

THE-STARLOOME

#### Restore investor confidence, Mombasa traders urge Nassir

Coastal county is grappling with pending bills in excess of Sh4,29 billion





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