

WELCOME REMARKS FOR USE BY HON. HENRY ROTICH, EGH CABINET SECRETARY TO THE NATIONAL TREASURY DURING THE GERMAN – AFRICA BUSINESS SUMMIT FORUM IN NAIROBI, ON 9TH FEBRUARY, 2017

- **H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, CGH, President and Commander- in - Chief of the Defence Forces of the Republic of Kenya;**
- **Government Ministers of the Federal Republic of Germany**
- **Government Ministers and representatives from other African countries;**
- **Prof Dr Heinz-Walter Große, Chairman of Sub-Saharan Africa Initiative of German Business (SAFRI)**
- **Business Executives from German. Kenya and other African countries**
- **Distinguished Guests**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen**

1. It gives me great pleasure and honour to be here at this important event and I wish to take this opportunity to thank the organizers of the German - Africa Business Summit for holding this Event in Nairobi. I also wish to welcome all the delegates from German and other African countries to Nairobi.

2. I do believe that it is because of the warm and cordial relations between Kenya and Germany that this Summit is taking place in our Capital, Nairobi. Germany was the first country to recognise Kenya on her independence in 1963, and both countries having resident missions in each other's capital.

3. **Ladies and Gentlemen**, Global relations have undergone tremendous transformation since the turn of the 21st Century, with trade and economic relations being at the forefront. This event underlines the paradigm shift in international engagements which are now anchored on trade and investment.

These engagements are paramount in ensuring that our nations move up the economic value chain, create a sustainable economies and attract Foreign Investment with the view to enhancing their competitive edge in the global marketplace.

4. The Summit brings together over 460 private sector and government delegates from Germany, several African countries and as well as Kenya. The holding of this Event in Africa signifies the increasing interest of German companies in the continent's economic growth as well the importance of our Continent in global business relations. The Summit will provide Germany businesses with information about Africa and the opportunities available for investment in and doing business across various sectors in the continent. I am certain that delegates from our continent will have the opportunity to gain understanding about doing business with Germany and also interact with their Germany counterparts.

5. **Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen** our desire is that the interactions emanating from this forum will facilitate constructive engagement that will enable the business community from both Africa and Germany to forge closer ties aimed at growing our economies and strengthening our friendship.

6. With these remarks, allow me Your Excellency to invite you to address the gathering

Thank you.