

MEETING WITH THE VISITING GERMAN MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND ECONOMIC AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Statement by Mr. Henry Rotich, Cabinet Secretary, of the National Treasury,

9th February 2017, Thursday at 8.30 a.m

Intercontinental Hotel, NAIROBI

Your Excellency Dr Frank –Walter Steinmeier German Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs

Your Excellency Dr. Gerd Muller, German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development

**Members of the German Delegation,
Senior National Government Officials,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

1. **Your Excellences,** Let me begin by welcoming you and members of your delegation to Kenya. We are happy to host your delegation and commend the organizers of the German/Africa Business Summit. This summit has provided us with valuable opportunity to review our bilateral cooperation.

2. **Ladies and Gentlemen;** On behalf of the people and the Government of Kenya, I wish to express our heartfelt appreciation for the support we have received from the people and Government of the Federal Republic of Germany over the years towards our economic Development Agenda.

3. In order to accelerate socio-economic growth and expand the levels of employment and reduce poverty, the Government of Kenya with support from our Development Partners among them the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has channeled enormous resources towards the Development of infrastructure, in particular, roads, water health energy, agriculture, education and good Governance among other critical areas.

4. **Your Excellencies**, The bilateral Cooperation between the two countries has grown tremendously over the years since 1961. This is evident from the increasing partnership and financial support we have received from the German Government through KfW and GIZ finance various programmes and projects in the country in the sectors which are key in the realization of Vision 2030.

5. The cumulative commitment made by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany from 1961 when our collaboration commenced amounts to Euros 1,681,177,424 (equivalent to Kshs. 188.391, 733.419).

6. **Ladies and gentlemen;** the two Governments in September 2016 held bilateral negotiations in Berlin, Germany during which a commitment of Euros 252.5 million was made.

7. The two year programme running from 2017 to 2018 will cover the sectors which have been receiving German funding and a newly introduced programme on Vocational Training. The two Letters of Declaration of intent we have just signed today are for the establishment of a vocational training centre in Ruiru and a university modeled along the German University of applied sciences

8. **Ladies and gentlemen;** at the beginning, the two institutions will be established within existing institutions in Ruiru for vocational training and possibly one of the relevant institutions in the country for the university of applied sciences.

9. This support is not only critical but also timely as it will address some of the major challenges facing this country. Specifically the unemployment for our youth and the lack of relevant skills labour labour market.

10. **You're Excellences;** Let me conclude by thanking you for coming and reiterating the Kenya Government's commitment to work closely with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on issues of mutual interest.

THANK YOU.

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