# TALKING POINTS FOR USE BY

# H.E. PROF. KITHURE KINDIKI, E.G.H., THE DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

IN HIGH-LEVEL BILATERAL MEETING WITH

## H.E. ABDELMADJID TEBBOUNE, PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

# ON THE MARGINS OF THE 4TH INTRA-AFRICAN TRADE FAIR (IATF2025) IN ALGIERS, ALGERIA

4TH-10TH SEPTEMBER, 2025

#### **SALUTATIONS & OPENING REMARKS**

- 1. Your Excellency, I bring you warm greetings from H.E. Dr. William Samoei Ruto, President of the Republic of Kenya, and from the people of Kenya.
- 2. It is a great honour for me to be here with you today. I thank you most sincerely for the warm hospitality extended to me and my delegation since our arrival. Our meeting is a clear reflection of the strong and enduring friendship between Kenya and Algeria.
- 3. Allow me, Your Excellency, to commend the Government of Algeria for the successful hosting of the Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF2025). The Fair represents a critical milestone in advancing

intra-African trade and economic integration under the **AfCFTA** framework.

4. For Kenya, the IATF provides a unique platform for our businesses to access a larger continental market of over 1.4 billion people, with a combined GDP exceeding USD 3.5 trillion. It also creates valuable opportunities for Kenyan enterprises to showcase their goods and services, attract investment, and establish strategic partnerships with counterparts across Africa, including here in Algeria.

#### **BILATERAL RELATIONS**

- 5. Kenya greatly values the cordial relations between our two countries. The establishment of our resident embassies in Algiers in 2015 and in Nairobi in 2018 marked important milestones in deepening our diplomatic engagement. We also appreciate the steady exchange of high-level visits over the years, which have significantly strengthened our cooperation.
- 6. Your Excellency, Algeria is a strategic partner to Kenya, particularly in the key sectors of trade and investment, education and technical training, energy (especially oil and gas), pharmaceuticals, and agriculture. We look forward to building on this partnership to advance mutually beneficial development and regional integration.
- 7. I am pleased that the Inaugural Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) will finally take place in Nairobi this November from 17th -

21st, 2025. We must work together to ensure that this forum concludes pending Memoranda of Understanding and accelerates the implementation of those already signed. The JCC will definitely elevate our bilateral relations to a higher level by enhancing cooperation, in Economic, Scientific, Technical, and Cultural, promoting mutual interests, and resolving challenges for a stronger partnership.

#### **ECONOMIC & TRADE COOPERATION**

#### Trade

8. Kenya is committed to enhancing its trade ties with Algeria, recognizing the considerable untapped potential between the two nations. In 2024, Kenyan exports to Algeria amounted to KSh 313.9 million, mainly consisting of cut flowers, coffee, and telephone sets,

while imports from Algeria totaled **KSh 5.74 billion**, dominated by **petroleum gas**, **other gaseous hydrocarbons**, **and nitrogenous fertilizers**. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) offers a strategic platform to deepen this partnership and unlock new opportunities for growth. In this context, I encourage **enhanced market access for Kenyan products** that can positively contribute to Algeria's supply chains.

9. Furthermore, Kenya is dedicated to strengthening cooperation through policy alignment to harmonize standards and regulations, improving transport and logistics infrastructure to facilitate the movement of goods and people, fostering sectoral collaboration including joint ventures and value chain integration, and sustaining diplomatic engagement to ensure structured dialogue and effective

follow-up. Together, these efforts will boost trade, reinforce economic ties, and promote shared prosperity for both nations.

### Agriculture

- 10. Following a request by His Excellency President William Samoei Ruto in February 2023, the Government of Algeria generously responded by donating 16,000 metric tonnes of fertilizer to Kenya in January 2024. This timely and impactful gesture was a true demonstration of African solidarity and brotherhood.
- 11. We remain deeply grateful to Your Excellency and the people of Algeria for this act of generosity, which greatly supported our national efforts to enhance food production and improve agricultural productivity.

12. Kenya is equally open to exploring further avenues for the importation of **Algerian fertilizer and other agricultural inputs**, as we work to strengthen our food systems and ensure sustainable agricultural development. We **believe** that cooperation in this vital sector can contribute significantly to food security in both our countries and across the continent.

### Air Service Agreement (BASA)

13. Your Excellency, I wish to also highlight the need to strengthen our connectivity through air transport. Kenya and Algeria concluded the Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) on 7th December 2016,

which was initialled by both sides, along with a Memorandum of Understanding on the frequency of flights. This agreement laid the foundation for establishing direct air links between our two countries, with a view to enhancing movement of people, goods, and services.

14.It is now time to operationalize the **Bilateral Air Services Agreement**. The commencement of direct flights between Kenya and Algeria will **significantly improve connectivity**, **facilitate trade and tourism**, and

foster stronger people-to-people ties. Direct air links will not only reduce travel time and costs but also serve as a catalyst for deeper economic and cultural exchanges between our nations. Kenya remains ready to engage with Algeria on the necessary steps to activate this important agreement for the mutual benefit of our citizens and businesses.

### **Energy Cooperation**

15. Your Excellency, Kenya is also keen to deepen strategic cooperation with Algeria in the oil, gas, and energy sectors. This partnership is of great importance to Kenya's ambition to achieve energy security,

**accelerate industrialization,** and **support** a transition to a more sustainable and diversified energy mix.

16.To this end, Kenya and Algeria signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Area of Oil, Gas and Power on 25th February 2015. This agreement provided the framework for long-term collaboration, and its implementation has been driven by the Joint Working Group (JWG) established by both sides.

17. So far, the Joint Working Group has convened three times. The first session was held virtually on 17th April 2023, marking a strong commitment to revitalizing our technical cooperation in energy.

- 18. The **second session** took place from **7th to 15th May 2024**, when a Kenyan technical delegation visited Algeria. During the visit, the team toured major oil and gas installations managed by **SONELGAZ** and
  - **SONATRACH**, gaining first-hand insight into Algeria's **operational** capacity, technological advancement, and regulatory frameworks.
- 19. The third session was held from 16th to 22nd February 2025 in Nairobi, during which the Algerian technical delegation reciprocated the visit and engaged in productive exchanges with Kenyan

counterparts on energy infrastructure, policy, and investment opportunities.

#### EDUCATION, YOUTH & HEALTH

- 20. We thank Algeria for the generous scholarships extended to Kenyan students. These scholarships present a strategic opportunity for Kenya to strengthen national capacity in priority sectors including medicine, petroleum engineering, pharmaceuticals, oil and gas, petroleum engineering, maritime studies, computer engineering and mining.
  - engineering, maritime studies, computer engineering and mining. Leveraging this partnership can significantly contribute to the country's human capital development. Currently, 118 Kenyan

students are enrolled in Algerian universities, with 29 having recently graduated, including 26 with master's degrees.

**21.**We also appreciate Algeria's commitment to **youth empowerment**, including your proposal to support the construction of a **sports** stadium in Kenya.

#### **PEACE & SECURITY**

22. On Western Sahara, Kenya reaffirms its commitment to a peaceful, just, and lasting resolution of the conflict, in line with the principles of the UN Charter and the African Union.

- 23. Kenya supports the United Nations-led process, including the role of MINURSO, and calls for a mutually acceptable political solution that respects the right to self-determination, as reaffirmed in UN Security Council Resolution 2654 (2022). Kenya urges all parties to engage constructively, avoid actions that escalate tensions, and uphold international law. Peace and stability in Western Sahara remain critical to regional and continental security.
- 24. We also thank Algeria for the generous contribution of **USD** 100,000 to the Kenya-led Multinational Security Support Mission in Haiti.

#### **MULTILATERAL COOPERATION**

- 25. We are grateful for Algeria's unwavering support in multilateral engagements, including your endorsement of Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga for the Chairpersonship of the African Union Commission. We also congratulate Ambassador Salma Malika on her election as Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission.
- 26. Your Excellency, Kenya is committed to working with Algeria to build a stronger and more dynamic partnership. Together, let us

continue advancing the unity and prosperity of our two nations and of our continent. We look forward to welcoming you to Nairobi for an official state visit in the near future.

Thank you.