

Remarks During a Tour of the Power Africa Innovation Fair in Nairobi July 25, 2015

Now, one other thing I want to point out: So our Power Africa initiative has been leveraging private capital to invest in electrification all across the continent. And our preliminary goal was 10,000 megawatts; now we're looking at 30,000 megawatts, and we're well on our way.

Some of those megawatts are going to be generated by very traditional power plants and the traditional financing and large-scale capital. But part of what all these folks represent is the creativity of recognizing that there are going to be a lot of ways of generating power and a lot of different distribution mechanisms. And the models that we have in the United States may not always be perfectly adaptable to a rural region of a country, where you might wait 20 years before you get all the power lines in.

Moreover, part of what's taking place is, because—you notice these solar panels—this is an opportunity for countries like Africa to leapfrog over dirty energy and immediately go to clean energy. And so this mix of traditional products—or traditional products combined with these innovative ways of both producing

energy and distributing it is why we think this is going to be such a promising initiative over the next several years.

There was an article, I think a while back, about, well, how much electricity has Power Africa actually produced lately? And I would just point out that if you wanted to start a power plant in the United States, it doesn't take a year to get that done. In fact, what's happening is, is that financing, the transactions have been completed, plans are underway, and the work that is being done now, we're going to start seeing thousands, then ten of thousands, then hundreds of thousands, and then ultimately millions of households all across this continent with electrical power that can boost productivity and economic growth all across the continent.

So it's really promising. We're really excited about it. All right.

NOTE: The President spoke at 11:36 a.m. at the United Nations Compound.

Remarks Prior to a Meeting With President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya in Nairobi July 25, 2015

President Kenyatta. Mr. President, once again, on a more formal basis, let me take this opportunity on behalf of my Government, the people of the Republic of Kenya, to really warmly welcome you to Kenya on this visit that is alongside the GES meeting which we both just opened this morning, and to say that we're all very excited and happy to have you here as the first U.S. President to visit Kenyan soil while in office; to say the people of Kenya are excited, to say that this is a very, very clear and strong indication of the solid relationship that has existed between our two countries, founded very strongly on deeply shared values, which we hope that this visit will further deepen as we continue with our deliberations.

The U.S. has been a very strong supporter of Kenya at the time of our independence. Our independence Constitution is framed around principles and lessons learned from the U.S. Thurgood Marshall and others were very key in supporting Kenya at that time. And really, as I will say—and I've stated before—you've also been a strong supporter of our move not only to secure and to prosper our country, but also to deepen democracy, good governance, and trade between our two nations.

So I strongly believe that this is a great time and a great opportunity for us to move along those lines. Kenya, Africa as a whole, is at a great and opportune time. Things are changing. This is a great opportunity for Africa to re-

ally leapfrog and really take root as a middle-income country, as you said earlier. Our middle class is growing. Our economy is stabilizing. Our devolution has managed to reach us to have a much more equitable basis for our growth and development, which is one of the major challenges that we've had in the past.

But at the same time, we recognize the various challenges that confront us, which I believe that, working together, we will be able to overcome and resolve. Key amongst those are the security issues related around the terror threat that faces Kenya—but not just faces Kenya, and the globe—and our strong belief that we will be able to deal with this. No single country can deal with this problem alone. We need to partner with the realization that it is a global threat that knows no boundaries. And ultimately, it is the close partnership that we put together against all people of good will across all nations that will help us overcome this challenge. We are grateful for the support that we have continued to receive from your government in this fight, and we look forward to further—even further cooperation.

Cooperation in the fields of governance, again, this is a key area where we strongly believe that we can learn from your own examples and lessons to help us strengthen our own governance structures and institutions. Other areas also include trade. We, as Kenya, and indeed, as Africa, are grateful for the extension of AGOA. We believe that this is something that can go a long way towards further deepening our trade relations. We're very happy to see an increased interest also in investment—or American investment in Kenya. In the ICT sector, we're working very closely in the health sector, the urban transportation sector—these are some of the areas where we see a deepened partnership.

So I think with those brief introductory remarks, I'd like maybe just to introduce you to those who are on the table, starting with Ann Waiguru at the end there, who is our Cabinet Secretary for Devolution. And we have Judy Wakhungu, who is our Cabinet Secretary for Environment. We have General Nkaiisery, Retired, who is our Cabinet Secretary for Interi-

or. We have Amina Mohamed, our Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs. My able Deputy, Mr. William Ruto; our Cabinet Secretary Henry Rotich for Finance at the Treasury; our Cabinet Secretary for Health, also currently standing in for Infrastructure; our Cabinet Secretary for Defense, Raychelle Omamo; our Cabinet Secretary for Commerce and Industrialization Adan Mohammed.

And to really, once again, say it's a great pleasure to have you here, Mr. President, and we hope you will enjoy your stay. And we look forward to fruitful deliberations and discussions with yourself and your team.

Welcome, Mr. President.

President Obama. Well, Mr. President, thank you so much for the warm welcome. Thanks to your delegation and all those who put in so much time and effort in arranging our visit. I know it's busy when I come to town—*[laughter]*—and I very much appreciate all the efforts that have been made. People could not have been more warm and more gracious. And most importantly, I think it promises to be a very productive meeting, because, obviously, the people of both Kenya and the United States, they want to see not only good feelings, but good outcomes. And I think we've done the preparations to make that happen.

I'll be very brief; I know we're going to have a press conference later. I'll just say this. Kenya is on the move. One of the purposes of my trip is to once again remind my fellow countrymen that we take an interest in Africa because what happens in Africa is going to impact the world.

Some of the fastest growing economies are in Africa. Some of our closest partners are in Africa. The challenges of terrorism are ones that have to be addressed, but the opportunities for growth and prosperity and people-to-people exchanges and tourism and scientific and educational exchanges, those are the things that the people of Africa are most hungry for, and no place better exemplifies the possibilities and opportunities than Kenya, which has grown at an extraordinary pace over the last decade and has been able to make a transition away from ethnicity and division

towards an increasing sense of national unity, which I think has contributed to this growth.

And we want to be partners in this process, not out of charity, but because we see opportunity. We think that enhanced trade, enhanced investment, enhanced cooperation in our security services—all those things will benefit Americans and help create American jobs, and help create growth and opportunity back home. And the Global Entrepreneurial Summit that you have been hosting shows how hungry this next generation is for a new model of relations that is focused on the future and not just the past.

I am very excited about what we can accomplish together. And I think that this visit and these meetings will allow us to take the already

strong relationship that we have between our two countries and really put in place concrete plans and timetables to get things done. And it's just an added benefit for me that it happens to be also a place that I love, and it gives me a chance to see old friends and make some new ones.

So thank you so much for your hospitality. And we'll see you guys at the press conference. [*Laughter*]

NOTE: President Obama spoke at approximately 2:55 p.m. at the State House. In his remarks, President Kenyatta referred to Cabinet Secretary for Health James Wainaina Macharia of Kenya.

The President's News Conference With President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya in Nairobi

July 25, 2015

President Kenyatta. Please be seated. Thank you. Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Let me begin by saying that we have had an excellent afternoon where we've had very frank and, indeed, very fruitful discussions with President Obama on a variety of issues of mutual interest both to Kenya and the United States. This follows the signing of agreements covering areas of mutual interest such as security, visa reciprocity, and the development cooperation, amongst other things.

Our discussions affirmed that Kenya and the United States share deep values in many areas of critical interest. And naturally, therefore, our peoples and governments speak the same language on many issues. Kenya is an open, democratic society, underpinned by an embrace of democracy. We are deepening that democracy while fighting global terrorists who seek to destroy our way of life. Left undefeated, they will redraw the international system and make room for violent extremism and tyranny.

We agreed together that we can build a future in which our people of all faiths, cultures live peacefully together, with the rights of indi-

viduals and minorities protected and those in power held to account—held to account by strong and inclusive institutions. I also expressed to President Obama that without building shared prosperity, our vision of a secure Africa and, indeed, a stable world will remain a fragile dream.

It is for this reason that Kenya, an increasingly dynamic country, is continuously opening new trade and investment frontiers across the world. I conveyed the hope that during his tenure in office, the United States would look to develop a strong strategic partnership with Africa built on shared values and interests. I also expressed the hope that his visit would allow him and the people of the United States to gain an even deeper insight on Africa's challenges. And this will enable them to see these challenges as an expression of great opportunities that are available here.

The United States is a country of entrepreneurs with the unique capacity to build transformative businesses, and I hope that these entrepreneurs and investors will recognize and act on the immense opportunities Kenya and Africa present. And in this regard, I also ex-