

SPEECH BY THE KPA MANAGING DIRECTOR CAPT. WILLIAM K. RUTO AFNI, MBS, DURING THE CORPORATE GOLF TOURNAMENT AT THE MUTHAIGA GOLF CLUB ON FRIDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2025.

- **Distinguished Guests,**
- **Muthaiga Golf Captain**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Good evening.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the Kenya Ports Authority-Corporate Golf Dinner here at the Muthaiga Golf Club.

I would like to begin by conveying my sincere appreciation for honoring our invitation to participate in our Corporate Golf Tournament. To the golfers, it is my hope that you had enjoyable moments on the links.

As you are aware, the KPA Corporate Golf Tournament is a significant sporting event in our annual calendar. This is because other than having a good time on a round of golf, this event also provides an opportunity to engage with you on your emerging business needs, gather your feedback and share updates on developments in ports, shipping and logistics industry which directly impacts our business. A gathering like this not only advances our good relations but also helps us enhance service delivery and improve our business.

The evolution of our ports

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ports are crucial elements of shipping, serving as the starting and ending points of transit. They have been an integral part of the maritime trade since the start of civilization.

As global trade expands, Ports have also been evolving with technological advancements and service development to cope with the rising needs and demands of the modern world.

Today, ports are not only supporting supply chains but are also transitioning into smart hubs that embrace digitalization and automation, sustainable operations, and intermodal connectivity in their business models.

At Kenya Ports Authority, we are cognizant of these trends and have remained committed to ensuring that our ports are efficient, secure, and competitive in the face of global evolution.

Our stakeholders of over thirty years can attest the Port of Mombasa's evolution since the 1990s and the significant progress we have made in modernising port infrastructure.

Port initiatives

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Having said this, you are all aware that, as an Authority, our primary objective is to facilitate efficient and seamless connectivity to both maritime and inland transportation networks, thereby effectively facilitating the swift and cost-effective movement of cargo.

As the biggest port in East and Central Africa, we have a responsibility to serve not only our local needs but the regional needs as well. We continue to invest in modern infrastructure, reliable logistics, streamlined port procedures, skilled workforce, secure operations, and the effective use of technology to manage information and cargo – initiatives that support economic growth and supply chain resilience.

To demonstrate our commitment, we have completed some infrastructure development initiatives with some currently underway:

- The construction of the Shimoni Fish Port in Kwale is now complete, marking a significant milestone in harnessing the Blue Economy.
- In our ongoing equipment modernisation program, we recently acquired ten Rubber Tyred gantry cranes, and terminal tractors.

- The construction of berth 19B at the Port of Mombasa is underway to enhance port capacity by a further 350,000TEUs.
- Construction of phase one of the Homabay Pier is complete, with the development of other small ports in Nyanza ongoing. KPA was recently handed over land by the County Government of Siaya for the construction of Usenge Pier, which is set to commence soon.
- We have progressed the rollout of the new Terminal Operating System (TOS) to enhance cargo handling.
- We are advancing the construction of Dongo Kundu Berth One to support the activities of the anticipated Dongo Kundu Special Economic Zone.
- To better serve clients in the DRC and bring port services closer to them, we are opening a new liaison office in Goma.

These are among the many initiatives we are undertaking to enhance the efficiency of our port facilities across the country and improve your experiences as our customers.

Port performance January-June 2025

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I now take this opportunity to also highlight our port performance. Last year, you may recall the Port of Mombasa recorded a remarkable 14 per cent increase in cargo throughput, hitting 40.99 million metric tonnes up from 35.98 million metric tonnes in 2023. Container traffic also soared by 24 per cent, with 2.005 million TEUs recorded in 2024, up from 1.6 million TEUs in 2023. I am pleased to report that this positive momentum has been sustained into 2025.

From January to June 2025, the Port of Mombasa already posted promising results in both cargo throughput and container traffic. During the period the Port handled 21.3 million metric tonnes, an increase from

19.7 million Metric tonnes during the same period in 2024, representing a growth of 1.6 million metric tonnes or 8.1%.

In container traffic, the port processed 1,012,949 TEUs compared to 948,983 TEUs in the same timeframe last year, representing an increase of 63,966 TEUs or 6.7%. Notably, both imports and exports posted significant growth, with imports up by 48,793 TEUs (13.4%) and exports rising by 50,572 TEUs (14.4%).

Against this backdrop and the impressive results attained, we are excited and optimistic about the promising performance ahead.

Lamu port performance

I wish to also appraise you of the commendable performance of the Port of Lamu, which has shown steady growth this year. Lamu has witnessed increasing ship traffic, signaling a positive trajectory for this expansive and modern port.

Recently, the Port received MV Nagoya Express, with a length overall of 335 -metres which is the longest vessel ever to dock at an East African port, in a game-changing moment for regional maritime trade.

In the month of August, between 4th and 31st , the port received a record 32 vessels, out of which 13 were container vessels, and the rest were conventional cargo and fishing vessels.

More business is expected for Lamu as shipping lines pledge to increase calls to the port and introduce regular services, ensuring vessels call on a daily and weekly schedule.

International Association of Ports and Harbours

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Kenya Ports Authority has also demonstrated exemplary leadership on the global stage. We are a recognized member of the International

Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH), a leading global trade association for port authorities and operators with over 230 port-related ports and 167 port-related businesses.

As a regular member, KPA actively participates in global dialogues on port operations, resilience, and innovation, and we consistently engage in IAPH Sustainability Awards competitions.

One of our projects, the Mangrove Restoration Program for Ocean Protection and Increased Forest Cover, has been selected as a finalist under the Environmental Care category. This is a prestigious recognition, considering the competition attracted 556 submissions from around the world. Being named among the top three global initiatives in this field reflects our commitment to environmental stewardship and community engagement. Today happens to be the final day of voting, we therefore urge you to vote for Kenya Ports Authority to help us bring this award home.

We have placed a QR Code on the tables, which you can quickly scan to vote for Kenya Ports Authority.

Locally, we also take pride in nurturing our employees' talents and improving their mental and physical wellness through sports. KPA has over the years participated in the Kenya Communications Sports Organisation (Kecoso) Games, where this year the Authority emerged runners up, in the highly competitive tournament that was staged in Embu County.

I am also proud to inform you that in line with our Corporate Social Investment Program- Tunahusika, today we donated food items to Mji wa Huruma; a home that cares for our senior citizens.

Closing remarks

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I conclude, I reaffirm our commitment to increased collaboration.

As management, we are always ready to engage with you and listen to your concerns and work together to improve the business environment and port services. I would like to extend hearty congratulations to all the tournament winners and participants. Thank you to Muthaiga Golf Club for hosting us.

May God Bless you all.