

STATEMENT

By

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PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE
FORCES**

**DURING THE VIRTUAL SDG MOMENT SESSION
OF THE UNITED NATIONS 76TH GENERAL
ASSEMBLY**

ON

20TH SEPTEMBER 2021

The UN Secretary General, Mr. António Guterres,

Excellencies,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

1. I want to thank you, Secretary General, for convening this **2nd SDG Summit**. It provides us with a much-needed opportunity to give impetus to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The pandemic has stalled, and, in some cases, **reversed** the tremendous **gains** on achieving the SDGs.

2. I want today to reaffirm Kenya's commitment to the SDGs and to ensuring that

we maintain the implementation momentum that we started with.

3. Kenya developed a **Country SDG Roadmap** in 2016, which was then integrated with our national development agenda through our Medium-Term Plan.

4. Additionally, my Administration has sharpened the economic policy by prioritizing Action in sectors with the **greatest multiplier effect** on the economy, namely **Affordable Housing; Manufacturing; Universal Health Coverage; and Food Security and Nutrition.** These Actions are intended to **accelerate SDGs 2, 3, 8 and 11** and underpin progress on the rest of the goals that we have set.

5. We have made excellent progress on some of the SDGs, in particular, on education, gender, and climate change. On other SDGs, it remains work in progress. Under SDG 2, which aims to end hunger and achieve food security, we face headwinds because of the vagaries of the weather triggered by climate change.

6. Kenya has undertaken measures to promote sustainable cities and human settlements and undertaken, major housing and infrastructure upgrades to reduce the expansion of informal settlements as well as urban slums.

7. On climate change, we have taken measures to promote sustainable use of the **terrestrial ecosystem,** and embarked on **afforestation programme** to increase our forest cover **to 10 percent of our total land by 2022 and am glad to say that we are on track.**

8. My Administration has undertaken two **Voluntary National Reporting** assessments for the SDGs, which have found that priorities of my Administration adequately **cover SDGs targets.**

9. With **greater international solidarity,** we will build **back better, build back stronger** and **regain the momentum on achieving the SDGs.**

I Thank You.

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