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*SNA*  
*14/1/25*

**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT- THIRD SESSION - 2025**

**DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE AND FOREIGN  
RELATIONS**

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**REPORT ON:**

**APPROVAL HEARINGS OF FOUR (4) PERSONS NOMINATED FOR APPOINTMENT  
TO THE OFFICES OF HIGH COMMISSIONER, AMBASSADOR, PERMANENT  
REPRESENTATIVES AND CONSUL-GENERAL**

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**CLERK'S CHAMBERS**

**DIRECTORATE OF DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEES**

**PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

**NAIROBI**

**JANUARY, 2025**

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 15 JAN 2025	DAY: THUR
TABLED BY:	HON NELSON KOECH (CHAIRPERSON)
CLERK-AT THE TABLE:	A. SHIBUKO

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADB	African Development Bank
ADC	Agricultural Development Corporation
AFCON	Africa Cup of Nations
BETA	Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
CAS	Chief Administrative Secretary
CBS	Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear
CARA	Council of African Residents in the Americas
CNSP	Countries with No Strategic Plans
CRF	Consolidated Revenue Fund
DCI	Directorate of Criminal Investigations
DPKO	Division of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations
EACC	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
EBS	Elder of the Order of the Burning Spear
EGH	Elder of the Golden Heart
EOP	Executive Office of the President
HELB	Higher Education Loans Board
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
KPLC	Kenya Power and Lighting Company
KRA	Kenya Revenue Authority
MSS	Multinational Security Support
NIS	National Intelligence Service
OCPD	Officer Commanding Police Division
OCS	Officer Commanding Police Station
OGW	Order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya
ODM	Orange Democratic Movement
ORPP	Office of the Registrar of Political Parties
UDA	United Democratic Alliance
UN	United Nations
UNAMSIL	United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UN-Habitat	United Nations Human Settlements Programme
UNON	United Nations Office at Nairobi
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNTAES	United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

## LIST OF ANNEXURES

- Annexure 1: Transmittal letter from H.E. the President regarding parliamentary approval of the nominees for appointment to the Foreign Service
- Annexure 2: Message from the Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly to the House regarding nomination of persons for appointment as High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, and Consul-General
- Annexure 3: Advertisement notifying the public of the approval hearing and submission of memoranda
- Annexure 4: Letters from the Clerk of the National Assembly inviting the nominees for the approval hearing
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- Annexure 6: Letters of clearance from EACC, KRA, DCI, ORPP and HELB
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- Annexure 8: Memoranda on the suitability of the nominees
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- Annexure 12: Letter from Dr. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, nominee for High Commissioner to Accra, Ghana withdrawing from the approval process.



## CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report details the proceedings of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations during the approval hearings of four (4) persons nominated for appointment as High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, and Consul-General. The purpose of the approval hearing was to ascertain the suitability of the nominees to discharge the responsibilities of the offices to which they had been nominated.

The Committee is established pursuant to Article 124 (1) of the Constitution and the National Assembly Standing Order 216. The National Assembly Standing Order 216 spells out the mandate of Departmental Committees which includes to: *vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 204 (that are done by the Committee on Appointments)*. Further, the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders mandates the Committee, among others, to oversee *foreign relations, diplomatic and consular services, and international relations*.

The Office of High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative and Consul-General is an office under the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs. The duties of the office, pursuant to Section 21 of the Foreign Service Act Cap 185E, are to: actively pursue the foreign policy objective of the Republic; act as the personal representative of the Head of State; act as an official representative of the Republic at official functions in the host country; be responsible for the management and administration of the Mission; and be accountable for any expenditure of the Mission.

All the nominees, save for Dr. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, who had withdrawn from the approval hearing hence her nomination lapsing, appeared before the Committee for approval hearings on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025. The Committee examined the nominees against the criteria set out in Section 7 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F.

Having conducted the approval hearings pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution; Sections 3 and 8 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F; Section 20 (2) of the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E and Standing Order 216(5)(f) of the National Assembly, the Committee recommends that the House approves all the nominees who appeared for approval hearings for appointment as Ambassador, Permanent Representative and Consul-General.

I take this opportunity to thank all the Members of the Committee for their input and valuable contributions during the approval hearings and preparation of this report. The Committee also appreciates the Offices of the Speaker and of the Clerk of the National Assembly for the technical support accorded to it during the exercise.

On behalf of the Committee and pursuant to Standing Order 199(6) of the National Assembly, it is now my duty and privilege to present to the House, the Report of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations on the Approval Hearings of three (3) Persons Nominated for Appointment to the Offices of Ambassadors, Permanent Representative and Consul-General.

**Hon. Nelson Koech, CBS, M.P.**

**Chairperson, Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations**

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Article 124(4)(a) of the Constitution provides that when a House of Parliament considers any appointment for which its approval is required under the Constitution or an Act of Parliament, the appointment shall be considered by a Committee of the relevant House.

Pursuant to Articles 132(2)(e) and Section 5 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, His Excellency the President forwarded to the Speaker of the National Assembly a notification of nomination containing the names and curricula vitae of four (4) persons for appointment to the positions of Ambassador, High Commissioner, Permanent Representative and Consul-General for consideration for approval by the National Assembly.

On **Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024**, and pursuant to Standing Order 42(2), the Speaker of the National Assembly caused the transmission of the Message from the President to every Member since the House was then on recess. Pursuant to Section 4 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, 2011 and Standing Order 216(5)(f), the nominees' names were referred to the Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations for vetting and reporting to the House within twenty-eight (28) days.

In accordance with Section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, the Clerk of the National Assembly placed an advertisement in the print media on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024**, inviting the public to submit memoranda by way of written statements on oath (*affidavit*) on the suitability or otherwise of each of the nominees in accordance with the provisions of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F.

The advertisement indicated that the submissions were to be received by **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025** at 5.00 pm. By the close of the submission deadline, the Committee had received one memorandum from Mr. Eliud Karanja Matindi opposing the approval of Hon. Ababu Namwamba as Permanent Representative to the UNEP/UNON (*Annexure 8*).

Additionally, the Clerk wrote to relevant agencies in compliance with the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution on Leadership and Integrity. All the agencies cleared the nominees and affirmed their good standing in matters tax compliance, criminal records, higher education loan repayments, political party affiliations and ethics and integrity.

Further, in fulfilment of the provisions of Article 118 of the Constitution, Section 6(4) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F and Standing Order 45(3) of the National Assembly, the Clerk of the National Assembly on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024**, notified the public through the print media that the Committee would conduct the approval hearings from **Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025**. Consequently, three nominees appeared before the Committee as scheduled for approval hearings on their suitability or otherwise for appointment.

The Committee observed that Dr. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, nominee for High Commissioner to Accra, Ghana, vide a letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (*Annexure 12*), notified the Clerk of the National Assembly of her withdrawal from the approval process pursuant to Section 6(10) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approvals) Act, Cap 7F, therefore, her nomination lapsed.

Further, pursuant to Section 6(7) & (8) and Section 7 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, the Committee observed that all the three (3) nominees who appeared before it met the integrity threshold; demonstrated knowledge of topical, administrative and technical issues touching on the positions to which they had been nominated; and had the requisite abilities, academic qualifications and professional experience to be approved for appointment as Ambassador, Permanent Representative and Consul-General in accordance with Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution.

Having conducted the approval hearings pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution; Sections 3 and 8 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F; Section 20(2) of the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E and Standing Order 216(5)(f) of the National Assembly, **the Committee recommends that:**

**A. the House APPROVES the appointment of:**

- 1) Dr. Andrew Karanja, as the Ambassador, Brasilia, Brazil;**
- 2) Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH, as the Permanent Representative, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON); and**
- 3) Mr. Noor Gabow, CBS, as the Consul-General, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.**

## **1.0 PREFACE**

### **1.1 Introduction**

1. Pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution as read with Sections 20(2) and 22(2) (a) of the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E, His Excellency the President, through the Head of the Public Service and via the transmittal letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2024, transmitted to the Speaker of the National Assembly names of four (4) persons nominated for approval by the House for appointment as High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, and Consul-General.
2. Article 124(4)(a) of the Constitution provides that when a House of Parliament considers any appointment for which its approval is required under the Constitution or an Act of Parliament, the appointment shall be considered by a Committee of the relevant House.
3. This report details the proceedings of the Committee during the approval hearings of the four (4) persons nominated for appointment as High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, and Consul-General. The purpose of the approval hearing was to ascertain the suitability of the nominees to discharge the responsibilities of the offices to which they had been nominated.

### **1.2 Establishment and Mandate of the Committee**

3. The Departmental Committee on Defence Intelligence and Foreign Relations is one of the Departmental Committees of the National Assembly established under Standing Order 216 whose mandates, pursuant to the Standing Order 216 (5) includes, among others, *to vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any other law requires the National Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 204 (Committee on Appointments).*

### **1.3 Committee Subjects**

4. The subject matter of the Committee is stated in the Second Schedule of the National Assembly Standing Orders and includes, among others, *foreign relations, diplomatic and consular services, and international relations.*
5. In executing its mandate, the Committee oversees the following government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs):
  - a) The Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs;
  - b) The Ministry of Defence;
  - c) The State Department for East African Community Affairs (EAC); and
  - d) The National Intelligence Service (NIS).



## 1.4 Committee Membership

6. The Committee was constituted by the House on **27<sup>th</sup> October 2022** and comprises the following Members:

### **Chairperson**

**Hon. Nelson Koech, CBS, M.P.**

Belgut Constituency

**UDA Party**

### **Vice-Chairperson**

**Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, M.P.**

Mandera North Constituency

**UDM Party**

### **Members**

Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, EGH, M.P.

Gilgil Constituency

**UDA Party**

Hon. Joshua Kandie, M.P.

Baringo Central Constituency

**UDA Party**

Hon. Hassan Abdi Yusuf, EGH, M.P.

Kamkunji Constituency

**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, M.P.

Kinangop Constituency

**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Odhiambo Millie G. Akoth, M.P.

Suba North Constituency

**ODM Party**

Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, M.P.

Sabatia Constituency

**UDA Party**

Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, M.P.

Kajiado Central Constituency

**ODM Party**

Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.

Shinyalu Constituency

**ANC Party**

Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, MP

Kitui County

**WDM-K**

Hon. Mohamed A. Hussein, M.P.

Lagdera Constituency

**ODM Party**

Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P.

Imenti Central Constituency

**UDA Party**

Hon. Teresia Wanjiru Mwangi, M.P.

Nominated Member

**UDA Party**

Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, M.P.

Saboti Constituency

**ODM Party**

## **1.5 Committee Secretariat**

7. The Committee Secretariat comprises the following technical staff:

Mr. Dennis Mogare Ogechi  
**First Clerk Assistant/Head of Secretariat**

Mr. Daniel Ominde  
**Research Officer III**

Mr. Bernard Njeru  
**Clerk Assistant III**

Mr. Lenny Muchangi  
**Legal Counsel II**

Mr. Edwin Machuki  
**Fiscal Analyst III**

Mr. Salat Ali  
**Principal Serjeant-at-Arms**

Ms. Noelle Chelagat  
**Media Relations Officer II**

Mr. John Ng'ang'a  
**Audio Recording Officer**



## 2.0 BACKGROUND

### 2.1 The Office of High Commissioner/Ambassador/Permanent Representative/Consul-General

8. The Office of High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative and Consul-General is an office under the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs according to Executive Order No. 2 of 2023.
9. The duties of the office (Head of a Mission), pursuant to Section 21 of the Foreign Service Act Cap 185E, are to:
  - (a) actively pursue the foreign policy objective of the Republic in the host country;
  - (b) act as the personal representative of the Head of State in the host country;
  - (c) act as an official representative of the Republic at official functions in the host country;
  - (d) be responsible for the management and administration of the Mission and all members of the Foreign Service located at the Mission, including the locally engaged staff of the Mission; and
  - (e) be accountable for any expenditure of the Mission and ensure that the budget of the Mission is administered in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act, Cap 412A and all other applicable laws and regulations.
10. On appointment, Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution provides that *the President shall nominate and, with the approval of the National Assembly, appoint and may dismiss high commissioners, ambassadors and diplomatic and consular representatives*. Section 20 of the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E, reaffirms these constitutional provisions, designating the Office of a high commissioner, ambassador, diplomatic, or consular representative as a State office as per Article 260 of the Constitution.
11. Additionally, Section 20(2) of the Act provides that in accordance with Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution, the President shall nominate and, subject to approval by the National Assembly, appoint high commissioners, ambassadors, and diplomatic or consular representatives. Furthermore, Section 20(3) of the Act mandates that a nomination under subsection (2) should ensure a fair balance between career diplomats and other appointees, as well as represent the gender, regional, and other diversities of the Kenyan populace. Any individual nominated for appointment under subsection (2) must be a Kenyan citizen and possess reputable character and standing.

### 2.2 Notification of Nominations

12. Pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution as read with Sections 20(2) and 22(2)(e) of the Foreign Service Act Cap 185E, and Sections 3 and 5 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7, His Excellency the President, through the Head of the Public Service, transmitted to the Speaker of the National Assembly vide the transmittal letter dated **19<sup>th</sup> December, 2024**, referenced **EOP/CAB.26/4A/VOL.V/(74)** (*Annexure 1*), the names and curricula vitae of the following four (4) persons nominated for appointment as High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, or Consul-General:
  - 1) Ms. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, High Commissioner, Accra, Ghana;
  - 2) Dr. Andrew Karanja, Ambassador, Brasilia, Brazil;
  - 3) Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH, Permanent Representative to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON); and
  - 4) Mr. Noor Gabow, CBS, Consul-General, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

### 2.3 Notification to the House and Referral to the Committee

13. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 42(2) of the National Assembly, the Speaker, through a Communication dated Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024, informed Members of the President's Message (*Annexure 2*) on nomination of *inter alia*, four (4) persons for approval for appointment to the offices of High Commissioner, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, and Consul-General for approval by the National Assembly.
14. Pursuant to Section 8(1) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F and Standing Order 216(5)(f) as read with the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly, the names and curricula vitae of the nominees were referred to the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations for approval hearings, as required under Article 124(4)(a) of the Constitution, and reporting to the House on or before Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

### 2.4 Notification to the Public

15. Article 118 of the Constitution provides that Parliament shall facilitate public participation and involvement in the legislative business and other business of Parliament and its Committees. Further, Section 6(4) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F provides that the Clerk shall notify the public of the time and place for holding approval hearings at least seven days prior to the hearings.
16. Further, Section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F provides that *any person may, prior to the approval hearings and by written statement on oath, provide the Clerk with evidence contesting the suitability of a candidate to hold the office to which the candidate has been nominated.*
17. Pursuant to Article 118 of the Constitution as read with Section 6(9) of Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, the Clerk of the National Assembly placed an advertisement in the print media on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024** (*Annexure 3*) inviting the public to submit memoranda by way of written statement on oath (affidavit) on the suitability or otherwise of the nominees on or before **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2025** at 5.00 pm.
18. Further, through the same advertisement and pursuant to Article 118 of the Constitution, Section 6(4) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F and Standing Order 45(3) of the National Assembly, the Clerk of the National Assembly notified the general public that the approval hearings of the nominees would be conducted on **Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025** in **Committee Room 9, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Main Parliament Buildings from 9.00 a.m.**

### 2.5 Notification to the Nominees

19. On **Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> December 2024**, the Clerk of the National Assembly invited the nominees through letters dated **27<sup>th</sup> December 2024** (*Annexure 4*) and through an advertisement in the print media on **Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024** (*Annexure 3*), for the approval hearings in accordance with Section 6(3) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F.

### 2.6 Clearance and Compliance Requirements

20. On **Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> December 2024**, the Clerk of the National Assembly wrote to the EACC, KRA, DCI, HELB and ORPP (*Annexure 5*) requesting for reports with respect to the nominees on ethics and integrity, tax compliance, criminal records, higher education loan repayments and political party affiliations.
21. On ethics and integrity, the EACC through a letter **Ref. No. EACC.7/10/5 VOL. XXX (63)** dated **9<sup>th</sup> January 2025**, (*Annexure 6*) stated that it had not undertaken any investigations pursuant to its mandate against the nominees, or recommended the prosecution of any of them.

22. The KRA, through a letter **Ref. No. KRA/5/1002/5 (11829)**, dated **9<sup>th</sup> January 2025**, (*Annexure 6*), confirmed that all four (4) nominees were tax compliant.
23. The DCI, through a letter **Ref. No. DCI/CRO/SEC/6/7/2/A/VOL.XVI/8**, dated **7<sup>th</sup> January 2025** (*Annexure 6*), provided forensic fingerprint analysis of the nominees had been conducted in the criminal database and found that they had no previous criminal record.
24. The HELB, through a letter **Ref. No. HELB/RR/112009/V/350** dated **7<sup>th</sup> January 2025** (*Annexure 6*), indicated that all nominees were compliant.
25. The ORPP, through letters **Ref. No. RPP/ORG/34 Vol. VIII (13)** dated **6<sup>th</sup> January 2025** (*Annexure 6*) confirmed that the nominees were not officials of any registered political party.

## **2.7 Issues for Consideration during the Approval Hearings**

26. In conducting the approval hearings, the Committee was guided by Section 6(7) and (8) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F which provides that:
  - (7) *An approval hearing shall focus on a candidate's academic credentials, professional training and experience, personal integrity and background.*
  - (8) *The criteria specified in the Schedule shall be used by a Committee during an approval hearing for the purposes of vetting a candidate.*
27. Additionally, Section 7 of the Act provides that the issues for consideration by the relevant House of Parliament in relation to any nomination shall be:
  - (a) *the procedure used to arrive at the nominee;*
  - (b) *any constitutional or statutory requirements relating to the office in question; and*
  - (c) *the suitability of the nominee for the appointment proposed having regard to whether the nominee's abilities, experience and qualities meet the needs of the body to which nomination is being made.*

### **(a) Procedure for Nomination**

28. Article 132 (2)(e) of the Constitution confers upon the President the power to nominate and, with the approval of the National Assembly, appoint high commissioners, ambassadors and diplomatic and consular representatives.
29. Section 5(1) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F further requires the appointing authority, upon nominating a person for appointment, to notify the relevant House of Parliament.
30. In this regard, pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution and Section 5(1) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, the President notified the National Assembly of the nomination of four (4) persons for appointment to the offices of High Commissioners, Ambassadors, Permanent Representatives and Consul-General.

### **(b) Constitutional and Statutory Requirements**

31. In addition, the Constitution and various statutes guide on appointment of persons to public office. In determining the suitability of the nominees, the Committee was guided by the provisions discussed hereunder.
32. The provisions on leadership and integrity as outlined in Chapter Six of the Constitution. In particular, Article 73(2) of the Constitution provides that the guiding principles of leadership and integrity include:
  - (a) selection on the basis of personal integrity, competence and suitability, or election in free and fair elections;
  - (b) objectivity and impartiality in decision making, and in ensuring that decisions are not influenced by nepotism, favouritism, other improper motives or corrupt practices;
  - (c) selfless service based solely on the public interest, demonstrated by —



### **3.1.2 General and Mission-Specific Questions to the Nominee**

58. In order to assess the nominee's overall suitability for the position, the Committee posed questions to the nominee, on his suitability for appointment as the Ambassador of Kenya to Brasilia, Brazil, and the nominee responded as recorded hereunder:

#### ***On limited diplomatic experience***

59. The nominee acknowledged his background in research and academia, emphasizing his twelve-year tenure at the World Bank, where he operated in a diplomatically oriented environment and gained substantial diplomatic experience. He noted his active engagement with the diplomatic community in Kenya, including serving as co-chair of a committee comprising agricultural donors. Over the past eighteen years, he has maintained significant interactions with diplomats, particularly in negotiations related to agriculture. He highlighted his role as Chairperson of agricultural donors in Kenya in 2015 and his collaboration with international agencies such as USAID and ADB over the last fifteen to sixteen years, which, while not purely within the diplomatic realm, required close interaction with diplomats.

#### ***On articulation of government programmes to the public***

60. The nominee addressed concerns regarding low public confidence and trust, particularly in relation to the fertilizer subsidy program. He highlighted efforts to resolve reputational issues, ensuring timely disbursement of subsidized fertilizer and implementing measures to procure quality fertilizer on schedule. He emphasized that, during his tenure, fertilizer became both available and reliable in terms of quality. The nominee further noted key milestones achieved before his departure from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, including the dispatch of fertilizer to Narok and Bomet and unlocking the tea impasse in Mombasa. He stated that initiatives involving tea agencies are underway and will yield results in due course.
61. Regarding public communication, the nominee explained that he refrained from making statements during his tenure, as his focus was on addressing the challenges he inherited in the Ministry. He expressed confidence that his actions as Cabinet Secretary would speak for themselves. While acknowledging the importance of communication and public articulation of government agendas, the nominee admitted that it remains a significant challenge in government. He cited examples where misinformation, particularly on social media, distorted messages, such as claims about vaccination altering animal genetics. He shared lessons learned on the need for timely communication and proactive countering of misinformation, emphasizing that he would apply these insights moving forward. The nominee committed to ensuring improved communication strategies in his future role in Brazil.

#### ***On qualification for appointment as the Ambassador of Kenya to Brazil***

62. The nominee highlighted Brazil's focus on agriculture and expressed his intention to utilize his background in agriculture, along with his expertise in areas such as green energy, to foster meaningful engagement and maximize opportunities between Kenya and Brazil. He committed to reviewing and leveraging the existing strategic plan and memoranda to strengthen bilateral cooperation. Additionally, the nominee emphasized his plan to work with the Kenyan diaspora in Latin America, particularly through the Council of African Residents in the Americas (CARA). He also pledged to enhance the activities of the Kenya in Latin America Association to expand Kenya's presence in the region.

#### ***On the nominee's short-lived tenure at the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development***

63. The nominee acknowledged that his tenure at the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development was brief, attributing the change to H.E. the President's considerations aimed at achieving political balance rather than reflecting on performance. He stated that he does not wish to second-guess the President's decision, as the appointing authority, to reassign him from

Cabinet Secretary to the role of Kenyan Ambassador to Brazil. The nominee expressed gratitude to H.E. the President for the nomination, emphasizing that it is a great honour to serve the country in a different capacity and pledging to dedicate himself to this new role.

***On the main achievements in the coffee sector and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development***

64. The nominee highlighted his role in advancing the Coffee Reforms Policy and the Coffee Bill 2024, ensuring they reached the Cabinet and the Houses of Parliament for consideration. However, he acknowledged that the coffee reform process remains incomplete. He also highlighted his efforts in ensuring that fertilizer was more accessible and subsidized.

***On the pillars of Kenya's Foreign Policy***

65. The nominee emphasized his intention to focus on economic and commercial diplomacy, highlighting Brazil's role as a manufacturing hub and noting that Marcopolo, a Brazilian motor company, already operates in Kenya. He outlined plans to leverage the Brazilian market for Kenyan tea and other agricultural products to boost exports and address the trade imbalance, aiming to make it more favourable to Kenya. He also identified environmental and climate diplomacy as a priority, expressing a commitment to cooperating with Brazil, which will host COP30, as a global leader in climate change and green energy initiatives. Additionally, the nominee discussed the diaspora pillar and proposed working to open up Brazil's labour market to Kenyan workers, particularly given Brazil's significant population of African descent. He noted that the Kenyan mission in Brazil is also accredited to Argentina, Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, and Uruguay, underscoring the broader regional opportunities for Kenya.

***On the strategy to address the negative trade balance between Kenya and Brazil***

66. The nominee outlined his plan to promote economic and commercial diplomacy to improve trade relations between Kenya and Brazil. Building on the efforts of his predecessor, he pledged to strengthen economic ties by introducing Kenyan tea to the Brazilian market and facilitating both inbound and outbound trade missions to promote Kenyan products in Brazil.

***On limited knowledge of Portuguese and other languages relevant to the Kenyan Mission in Brazil***

67. The nominee acknowledged that he does not speak Portuguese but committed to learning basic conversational Portuguese to facilitate interactions. He noted that, given his age, mastering the language entirely may not be feasible, and he plans to rely on interpreters and leverage technology to support effective communication.

***On technology transfer***

68. The nominee expressed his commitment to facilitating the acquisition and transfer of technology in agriculture, manufacturing, ICT, renewable energy, construction, and aviation. He noted that some of this technology is already in use, citing examples such as the Affordable Housing Programme and Kenya Airways. He also highlighted the presence of Brazilian companies already operating in Kenya as a foundation to further strengthen these efforts.

***On plans to assist Kenyan illegal immigrants held in Brazil***

69. The nominee pledged to facilitate the safe repatriation of Kenyan illegal immigrants in Brazil, ensuring the process adheres to international law.

***On technology transfer to improve Kenyan livestock***

70. The nominee identified the livestock sector as a high-potential area for growth and noted that a Kenyan team is already in Brazil studying embryo transfer technology, with the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) actively involved in the initiative. He highlighted Brazil's position as the world's largest beef exporter and underscored Kenya's opportunity to leverage Brazilian livestock technology. The nominee further observed that Kenya's primary challenge



in livestock production is not only genetics but also feeding, which accounts for approximately 60% of production costs. He committed to exploring Brazil's feeding mechanisms, including the use of soya beans, to address this issue and improve livestock productivity in Kenya.

***On the association of the Kenyan Livestock Vaccination Programme with Bill Gates***

71. The nominee clarified that livestock vaccination is an ongoing initiative in pastoral areas, aimed at coordinating vaccinations as part of a campaign to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease and improve access to better markets. He emphasized that the programme also seeks to enhance food safety by preventing the transmission of animal diseases to humans through meat consumption. He further explained that the vaccine used in the programme is produced locally in Embakasi, Kenya, by the Kenya Veterinary Vaccines Production Institute, with no external influences involved. The nominee reassured that there is nothing sinister about the vaccination initiative.

***On the Practical Application of the Nominee's Publications***

72. The nominee highlighted his contributions to coffee reforms and the enhancement, stabilization, and streamlining of the fertilizer subsidy programme. He noted, however, that his four-month tenure as Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development was too brief to fully demonstrate the practical application of his work.

***On BRICS***

73. The nominee acknowledged Brazil's role as a co-founder of BRICS and the G20, describing BRICS as a significant organization comprising countries with economic and developmental conditions similar to Kenya's. He expressed his intention to advocate for Kenya's membership in BRICS, positioning the country as a regional leader in East Africa.

***On defence cooperation with Brazil***

74. The nominee expressed his commitment to pursuing a Memorandum of Understanding between Kenya and Brazil to foster collaboration in defence and facilitate technology transfer in this sector.

**3.1.3 Committee's Observations on the Suitability of the Nominee**

75. The Committee, having reviewed the nominee's completed questionnaire, curriculum vitae and oral submission, made the following observations regarding his suitability for appointment as Ambassador to Brasilia, Brazil:
  - (1) **THAT**, in accordance with Article 78(1) and (2) of the Constitution, the nominee is eligible for appointment to State Office since he is a Kenyan citizen and does not hold dual citizenship.
  - (2) **THAT**, nominee possesses extensive work experience, having served in various capacities across both the public and private sectors, including as the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development in 2024. Additionally, he has demonstrated diplomatic skills through his engagements with the World Bank and interactions with diplomats during his tenure there.
  - (3) **THAT**, the nominee holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Development Economics and Policy, Wageningen University, Netherlands; Master of Science in Agricultural Economics, University of Nairobi, Kenya; Bachelor of Science in Agriculture, University of Nairobi; and Certificate in Development Oriented Research in Agriculture, International Centre for Development Oriented Research in Agriculture- Netherlands.
  - (4) **THAT**, the nominee meets the requirements of Chapter 6 of the Constitution on leadership and integrity having obtained clearances from EACC, KRA, DCI, ORPP and HELB.
  - (5) **THAT**, the nominee has neither been charged in a court of law nor adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of Parliament or any Commission of inquiry in the last three years.



- (6) **THAT**, the nominee does not hold office in any political party, a requirement under Article 77(2) of the Constitution and the Schedule of the Public Appointment (Parliamentary Approval) Cap 7F.
- (7) **THAT**, the nominee has never been dismissed from office under Article 75 of the Constitution for contravention of the provisions of Articles 75(1), Article 76, Article 77 and Article 78(2) of the Constitution.
- (8) **THAT**, the nominee demonstrated knowledge of topical, administrative and technical issues touching on the roles of a Head of Mission and has the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience to serve as Kenya's Ambassador to Brasilia, Brazil.

### **3.2 Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH - Nominee for Permanent Representative to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON)**

76. Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH appeared before the Committee on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 11.00 am and was vetted under oath pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution, the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E and the Standing Orders of the National Assembly. The Committee noted the following:

#### **3.2.1 Questions from the General Questionnaire**

##### ***Citizenship, Date and Place of Birth***

77. The nominee is a Kenyan Citizen born on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1973 in Busia County. He confirmed that he is a citizen of Kenya by birth and does not hold dual citizenship.

##### ***Academic and Professional Qualifications***

78. He holds a Masters of Law in International Legal Studies, American University, Washington College of Law, USA; Diploma in Legal Practice, Kenya School of Law; and Bachelor of Laws, University of Nairobi.

##### ***Employment Record and Work Experience***

79. The nominee has served as the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Ministry of Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports; Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs; Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) for the Foreign Affairs; Member of Parliament; and Chief Counsel, the Chambers of Justice.

##### ***Honours and awards***

80. The nominee was awarded the Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Award by the State Department, Government of the United States of America in 2005; Order of the Elder of the Golden Heart (EGH) 1<sup>st</sup> Class in 2012; African Inspiration Leadership Award by Voice Achievers of Netherlands in 2019; OLX Legislator of the Year Award in 2015; World Economic Forum, Roll of Distinguished Young Global Leaders 2009; and Global Social Justice award by Jubilee Netherlands in 2003.

##### ***Professional Association and Memberships***

81. The nominee is a member of the Law Society of Kenya, Fullbright Schollars, and Ababu Namwamba Foundation.

##### ***Published Writings***

82. The nominee has published the various academic papers and scholarly materials including:

- (i) Lift the Yoke-Debt Relief Campaign Blue Print.
- (j) Bridging the Gab: Analysis of Law and Policy on CNSP.
- (k) After the Promise: Governance Series.

##### ***Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations***

83. The nominee served as the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports; CAS Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Minister, Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs; Member of Parliament; Head of International Relations, Presidential Campaign Secretariat, UDA; Party Leader, Labour Party of Kenya; and Secretary-General, ODM.

***Income and Net worth***

84. The nominee estimated his net worth to be KShs. 500 million comprising of immovable properties, business, pension and listed shares. The nominee's sources of income include emoluments a Cabinet Secretary and pension.

***Potential Conflict of Interest***

85. The nominee declared that he does not have any persons, litigation, financial arrangement, matter or issue that would present a potential conflict of interest should he assume the position of Ambassador. The nominee stated that, should a conflict of interest arise during the discharge of his duties, he would declare the interest in writing to the appointing authority in accordance with the law.

***Pro-Bono, Charity Work or Donation to Charity***

86. The nominee through Ababu Namwamba Foundation has supported numerous philanthropic programmes, including scholarships that pay school fees for needy students, empowering youth through sports an arts talent development and community development project support.

***Integrity***

87. The nominee stated that he has neither been charged in a court of law nor adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of Parliament or any Commission of Inquiry in the last three years. The nominee has never been dismissed or otherwise removed from office for contravention of the provisions of Article 75 of the Constitution.

**3.2.2 General and Mission-Specific Questions to the Nominee**

88. In order to assess the nominee's overall suitability for the position, the Committee posed questions to the nominee, on his suitability for appointment as the Permanent Representative to UNEP/UNON in Nairobi, Kenya, and the nominee responded as recorded hereunder:

***On the threats to rule-based global order***

89. The nominee emphasized Kenya's consistent and progressive stance on multilateralism and the rule-based global order, underscoring the country's commitment to the inviolability of boundaries and sovereignty of states. He affirmed that Kenya should continue upholding these principles despite ongoing threats, stressing the role of the UN in safeguarding borders and sovereignty. The nominee noted that the UN is committed to avoiding the pitfalls of the League of Nations and highlighted the critical responsibility of the UN Security Council in maintaining these principles. He pledged to contribute to supporting Kenya's position and the UN's efforts in this regard.

***On the architecture of the UN Mission(s) in Nairobi***

90. The nominee highlighted that Kenya hosts a dual mission in Nairobi, comprising UNEP/UNON and UN-Habitat, and concurred with a previous report of the Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations on the need to harmonize Kenya's representation to these UN offices. He emphasized that merging the missions would enhance administrative efficiency and align with the practice of many other countries, which operate a single mission accredited to UNEP, UNON, UN-Habitat, and Kenya in Nairobi. The nominee urged the Committee to recommend that the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs implement its recommendation in the *Report on the Familiarization Visit to the Kenya Mission to the United Nations Offices*

in Nairobi (UNON) 2011, to establish a single mission. He noted that such a move would not only streamline operations but also result in significant cost savings.

***On whether the nominee feels demoted having served as a Cabinet Secretary and being appointed as a Permanent Representative under the same administration***

91. In response, the nominee quoted Martin Luther King Jr., stating, *"If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well."* He emphasized his belief in embracing any assignment given and performing it to the best of his ability. The nominee described UN as the collective conscience of humanity and noted its role as the focal point for addressing global challenges. He highlighted the unique status of UNON as the only one of the four UN headquarters that coordinates UN activities globally, underlining its critical importance.
92. The nominee clarified that his nomination as Kenya's Permanent Representative to UNEP/UNON is not a demotion but a reassignment, expressing confidence in his ability to execute the role effectively, given his background and understanding of the UN system. He revealed that he had personally discussed the role with H.E. the President prior to his appointment and is fully aware of the importance UNON holds for the President and Kenya. He concluded by affirming his commitment to delivering in the role.

***On the integration of UNEP into Kenya's Agenda***

93. The nominee observed that UNEP and UNON often appear detached from Kenya's domestic agenda, unlike the other UN headquarters in New York, Geneva, and Vienna. He emphasized the need for Kenya to elevate the stature of the Nairobi headquarters, particularly by strengthening representation and aligning the missions with Kenya's strategic national interests. The nominee pledged to actively contribute to enhancing the integration of UNEP and UNON into Kenya's priorities, working to bridge the gap between national interests and the programmes of the headquarters.

***On the nominee's most important contributions to the Ministry of Sports***

94. The nominee highlighted his role in advancing sports reforms during H.E. President Kibaki's administration, noting that he spearheaded the enactment of the Sports Act while serving as Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs and as a Member of Parliament. In H.E. President Ruto's administration, he highlighted his efforts to elevate the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Sports, and the Arts by focusing on talent as an economic resource. He cited initiatives aimed at generating employment, promoting infrastructural development, and identifying talent through the Talanta Hela Programme. He also noted the construction and completion of multiple stadia which has positively impacted the sector and placed Kenya in a global platform, for instance, AFCON.

***On the role of UNEP in ensuring a clean and healthy environment in Kenyan cities***

95. The nominee committed to enhancing the visibility of UNEP and UNON while working collaboratively with Members of Parliament to ensure these institutions deliver tangible environmental benefits to Kenyan constituencies.

***On contribution to debt management***

96. The nominee emphasized his advocacy for the prudent utilization of resources at the Cabinet level and his support for a fair credit system to promote sustainable debt management.

***On earning a place in the World Economic Forum Roll of Distinguished Young Global Leaders***

97. The nominee highlighted his efforts in championing a uniform credit system that drew global attention, which included conducting campaigns at various universities around the world. He



also noted his contribution to social justice by filing cases advocating for the right to education for HIV-positive children.

***On the role played to lobby for Kenya to occupy higher ranks***

98. The nominee highlighted his efforts in lobbying for Kenya to secure a position as a non-permanent member of UNSC. He also noted his support for other Kenyans seeking similar prestigious roles.

***On insufficient details regarding the nominee's deferred income and future benefits***

99. The nominee disclosed that he holds shares in Safaricom, Cooperative Bank, and KPLC. He explained that it is not ordinarily possible to predict the exact benefits that will accrue from such investments.

***On the nominee's sources of income***

100. The nominee stated that his income comprised of emoluments from his position of Cabinet Secretary broken down as follows: Salary – KES 19,460,000; Gratuity – KES 2,500,000; Allowances (Perdiem) – 15,000,000; Pension – 2,310,000.

***On combating climate change***

101. The nominee emphasized Kenya's commitment to addressing climate change through initiatives such as the carbon credit system and other interventions. He pledged to contribute to these efforts, including supporting Kenya's BETA target of planting 15 billion trees by 2032. He highlighted UNEP's focus on the *UN Global Plastics Treaty* and affirmed his intention to actively engage in advancing this agenda. The nominee further committed to enhancing Kenya's representation and visibility in UNEP, UNON, and other UN agencies. He also expressed his determination to explore opportunities within these organizations to empower young people.

***On the Paralympic team issue and allegations of a condescending attitude towards public officers***

102. The nominee stated that he addressed the issues concerning the Paralympic team before the National Assembly, where it was determined that the allegations were unfounded and adequately resolved. He highlighted his contributions to the Ministry of Youth Affairs, Sports, and the Arts, including elevating its stature and improving infrastructure such as Talanta, Nyayo, Kanduyi, and Kasarani stadia. Regarding a letter, he authored to the National Assembly, which was perceived as condescending, the nominee explained that he had withdrawn the letter, issued an apology, and resolved the matter to the House's satisfaction. He affirmed his commitment to maintaining proper etiquette and respect in his dealings with the House and other public entities, pledging to uphold the highest standards of professionalism.

**3.2.3 Committee's Observations on the Suitability of the Nominee**

103. The Committee, having reviewed the nominee's completed questionnaire, curriculum vitae and oral submission, made the following observations regarding his suitability for appointment as Permanent Representative to UNEP/UNON:
- (1) **THAT**, in accordance with Article 78(1) and (2) of the Constitution, the nominee is eligible for appointment to a State Office since he is a Kenyan citizen and does not hold dual citizenship.
  - (2) **THAT**, the nominee possesses extensive experience in foreign relations, having served as the Chief Administrative Secretary (CAS) at the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, 2018-2022. Further, he has served as the Head of International Relations at the UDA presidential campaign secretariat, 2022. In addition, he has represented Kenya at UNGA and

interacted with the officers that support the ecosystem of UNEP/UNON including the Director-General, UNON and the Executive Director, UNEP.

- (3) **THAT**, the nominee holds a Masters of Law in International Legal Studies from American University, Washington College of Law, USA; a Diploma in Legal Practice from the Kenya School of Law; and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Nairobi.
- (4) **THAT**, the nominee meets the requirements of Chapter 6 of the Constitution on leadership and integrity having obtained clearances from EACC, KRA, DCI, ORPP and HELB.
- (5) **THAT**, the nominee has neither been charged in a court of law nor adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of Parliament or any Commission of inquiry in the last three years.
- (6) **THAT**, the nominee does not hold office in any political party, a requirement under Article 77(2) of the Constitution and the Schedule of the Public Appointment (Parliamentary Approval) Cap 7F.
- (7) **THAT**, the nominee has never been dismissed from office under Article 75 of the Constitution for contravention of the provisions of Articles 75(1), Article 76, Article 77 and Article 78(2) of the Constitution.
- (8) **THAT**, the nominee demonstrated extensive knowledge of topical, administrative and technical issues touching on the roles of a Head of Mission and foreign relations generally. He has the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience to serve as Kenya's Permanent Representative to UNEP/UNON.

### **3.3 Mr. Noor Gabow, CBS – Nominee for Consul-General to Port-au-Prince, Haiti**

104. Mr. Noor Gabow, CBS appeared before the Committee on Friday, 10th January 2025 at 12.00 noon and was vetted under oath pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution, the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E and the Standing Orders of the National Assembly. The Committee noted the following:

#### **3.3.1 Questions from the General Questionnaire**

##### ***Citizenship, Date and Place of Birth***

105. The nominee is a Kenyan Citizen and was born in Wajir County in 1967. He confirmed that he does not hold dual citizenship.

##### ***Academic and Professional Qualifications***

106. The nominee holds a Master of Governance, Peace, and Security Studies, African Nazarene University; Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Penology, Maasai Mara University; International Strategic Leadership Programme (Level 7), Bramshill College of Policing, UK; Certificate in Governance and Public Management, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology; Certificate in Strategic Leadership, Kenya Institute of Administration; Police Work and Law Enforcement, Kiganjo Police College; and Peace Support Operations, Swedish Armed Forces International Command, Stockholm.

##### ***Employment Record and Work Experience***

107. The nominee is currently serving as an Advisor in the Ministry of Interior and National Administration. The nominee has also served as the Deputy Inspector General of the Administration Police; Commandant, Kenya Police College; Director of Planning Police Headquarters; Chief Fleet Management Officer; Chief Instructor, Kenya Police College/Deputy Commandant; Deputy Provincial Police Officer- North Eastern Province; Staff Officer Operations Police Headquarters; UN Police Advisor to the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Mission Manager in the Police Division of the DPKO at UN Headquarters in New York, overseeing missions UNAMSIL; Deputy OCPD- Gigiri, Nairobi; OCS – Parklands,



Nairobi; Instructor at Kiganjo Police Training College; Police Monitor and Investigator with the UNTAES; OCS - Maseno and Papondeti; and Crime Branch, Kisumu Police Station.

#### ***Honors and awards***

108. The nominee was awarded the Chief of the Order of the Burning Spear (C.B.S.); Elder of the Burning Spear (EBS); Order of the Grand Warrior of Kenya (OGW); 10 years of Nyayo Era; 20 Years of Nyayo Era; 25 Years of Independence; UN medal (UNTAES); UN medal (UNAMSIL); and UN medal (UN Headquarters, New York).

#### ***Professional Association and Memberships***

109. The nominee is not a member of any professional association.

#### ***Published Writings***

110. The nominee has published the following two academic papers and scholarly materials including:
- (a) The Correlation between Motor Vehicle Lease Program and the Efficiency of the Police Operations in Kayole Sub-County in Nairobi.
  - (b) Counter-Terrorism Measures in Selected Universities in Nairobi County.

#### ***Public Office, Political Activities and Affiliations***

111. The nominee has been a civil servant for the past thirty-six years and held the position of Deputy Inspector-General of the Administrative Police. The nominee has never been an official of any political party.

#### ***Income and Net worth***

112. The nominee estimated his net worth to be Kshs. 128.5 million comprising immovable properties, business, livestock and listed shares. The nominee's sources of income include rental income, the sale of farm produce and the sale of livestock.

#### ***Potential Conflict of Interest***

113. The nominee declared that he does not have any persons, litigation, financial arrangement, matter or issue that would present a potential conflict of interest should he assume the position of Ambassador. The nominee stated that should a conflict of interest arise during the discharge of his duties, he would declare the interest in writing to the appointing authority in accordance with the law.

#### ***Integrity***

114. The nominee stated that he has neither been charged in a court of law nor adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of Parliament or any Commission of Inquiry in the last three years. The nominee has never been dismissed or otherwise removed from office for contravention of the provisions of Article 75 of the Constitution.

### **3.3.2 General and Mission-Specific Questions to the Nominee**

115. In order to assess the nominee's overall suitability for the position, the Committee posed questions to the nominee, on his suitability for appointment as the Consul-General of Kenya to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and the nominee responded as recorded hereunder:

#### ***On the need for a Mission in Haiti***

116. The nominee explained that Kenya recognized the necessity of assisting Haiti in restoring peace and stability. He noted that he was dispatched to Haiti, accompanied by technical security experts, to assess the situation ahead of the deployment of Kenyan officers. The nominee highlighted that Kenya has sent some of its best officers from the General Service Unit, Border Police Unit, and Anti-Stock Theft Unit to Haiti, who are working alongside officers from Jamaica, Guatemala, and 4,000 Haitian officers.



117. He reported that, within its first three months, the MSS Mission has secured key installations such as the airport, port, and police training academy, while also clearing several roadblocks. The nominee further noted that the 400 Kenyan officers deployed have made significant progress, including training 600 Haitian officers to assist in efforts to free Haiti from gang control. He credited the MSS Mission with enabling the reopening of the only hospital in Port-au-Prince. The nominee emphasized that establishing a Kenyan Mission in Haiti would ensure that issues raised by Kenyan officers deployed under the MSS Mission are addressed effectively, thereby supporting their operations and Kenya's broader objectives in the region.

***On the nominee's diplomatic experience***

118. The nominee highlighted his extensive diplomatic experience, having worked at the United Nations headquarters in New York as well as in Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Ethiopia. He noted that the primary focus of Kenya's Mission in Haiti is peace diplomacy, underscoring the relevance of his background in contributing to the mission's objectives.

***On the possible language barrier***

119. The nominee clarified that the 400 officers deployed to Haiti under the Multinational Security Support (MSS) Mission underwent six months of training in Creole and French to address potential language barriers. He also emphasized that the MSS Mission operates as a multilingual team, ensuring effective communication and coordination.

***On the nominee's achievements in the National Police Service***

120. The nominee highlighted his early leadership experience, serving as a station commander in Maseno and Nyakach at the age of 21. He also noted his nine-year tenure as a trainer, during which he trained over 20,000 officers. As the Deputy Inspector General, the nominee spearheaded significant structural reforms, including creating synergy between the Administrative Police Service and the Kenya Police Service. He further developed specialized units such as the Border Police Unit, the Anti-Stock Theft Unit, and the Anti-Terrorism Police Unit.

***On the welfare of Kenyan officers deployed to Haiti***

121. The nominee affirmed that the officers deployed to Haiti have received their payments and emphasized that their welfare remains a priority for the mission. He further noted that efforts are underway to establish a Peace Fund to support the officers.

***On other areas of cooperation with Haiti***

122. The nominee noted that both Haiti and Kenya are members of the Global South and active participants in Global-South cooperation. He highlighted Haiti's potential for bilateral and trade partnerships, pointing out that an existing agreement provides a foundation for further collaboration. The nominee identified opportunities for Kenya to export products such as coffee and tea to Haiti while also exploring additional areas of cooperation. He emphasized Kenya's leadership role in the implementation of UNSC Resolution 299/2023, under which Kenya is tasked with providing 1,000 police officers out of the required 2,500 for the MSS Mission.
123. Furthermore, the nominee suggested expanding Kenya's export markets to include Haiti and the broader Central American region, focusing on products like tea, textiles, and coffee. Drawing parallels with Kenya's successful support for peace restoration in South Sudan, he highlighted that many Kenyans are currently working there, illustrating the country's capacity for impactful international cooperation.

***On the incidents at the Bomas of Kenya in 2022***

124. The nominee stated that he was in charge of the Bomas of Kenya during the 2022 events and was recognized with an award for ensuring peace and order during that period.

***On rumours about Kenyan officers deployed to Haiti Leaving the Service***

125. The nominee dismissed rumors that Kenyan officers deployed to Haiti are leaving the mission, affirming that all officers are being paid and none has exited the service. He commended their excellent performance, highlighting their successful efforts in securing key installations such as the airport, the port, and the State House in Haiti. He emphasized the need to continue supporting the officers to sustain their mission.

***On the location of the Kenyan Mission in Haiti***

126. The nominee confirmed that the Kenyan Mission in Haiti will be based in Port-au-Prince, where over thirty other embassies are currently located. He expressed optimism about the prospects for the country.

**3.3.3 Committee's Observations on the Suitability of the Nominee**

127. The Committee, having reviewed the nominee's completed questionnaire, curriculum vitae and oral submission, made the following observations regarding his suitability for appointment as Consul-General to Port-au-Prince, Haiti:
- (1) **THAT**, in accordance with Article 78(1) and (2) of the Constitution, the nominee is eligible for appointment to State Office since he is a Kenyan citizen and does not hold dual citizenship.
  - (2) **THAT**, the nominee possesses extensive experience in foreign relations and security, having served in various capacities, including as Deputy Inspector General of the Administration Police, a UN Police Advisor to the African Union in Addis Ababa, and a Mission Manager in the Police Division of the DPKO at UN Headquarters in New York. He has also worked in key UN peacekeeping missions in Sierra Leone and Liberia. His background reflects a deep understanding of international cooperation and security diplomacy.
  - (3) **THAT**, the nominee holds a Master of Governance, Peace, and Security Studies from African Nazarene University; Bachelor of Arts in Criminology and Penology from Maasai Mara University; and has completed additional professional qualifications, including the International Strategic Leadership Programme (Level 7) at Bramshill College of Policing, UK, as well as certificates in Governance and Public Management, Strategic Leadership, and Peace Support Operations.
  - (4) **THAT**, the nominee meets the requirements of Chapter 6 of the Constitution on leadership and integrity having obtained clearances from EACC, KRA, DCI, ORPP and HELB.
  - (5) **THAT**, the nominee has neither been charged in a court of law nor adversely mentioned in any investigatory report of Parliament or any Commission of inquiry in the last three years.
  - (6) **THAT**, the nominee does not hold office in any political party, a requirement under Article 77(2) of the Constitution and the Schedule of the Public Appointment (Parliamentary Approval) Cap 7F.
  - (7) **THAT**, the nominee has never been dismissed from office under Article 75 of the Constitution for contravention of the provisions of Articles 75(1), Article 76, Article 77 and Article 78(2) of the Constitution.
  - (8) **THAT**, the nominee has demonstrated knowledge of administrative and technical issues pertinent to his role, particularly in peace diplomacy and mission leadership and has the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience to serve as Kenya's Consul-General to Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

#### 4.0 COMMITTEE'S GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

128. The Committee, having considered the nominees' academic credentials and professional qualifications, work and professional experience, personal integrity, as well as their performance during the approval hearing, made the following general observations:

- 1) Dr. Margaret Nyambura Ndung'u, nominee for High Commissioner to Accra, Ghana, vide a letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025 (*Annexure 12*), notified the Clerk of the National Assembly of her withdrawal from the approval process pursuant to Section 6(10) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approvals) Act, Cap 7F, therefore, her nomination lapsed.
- 2) All the nominees who appeared before the Committee are Kenyan citizens and do not hold dual citizenship in conformity with Article 78 of the Constitution.
- 3) All the nominees who appeared before the Committee committed not to participate in any other gainful employment while serving as State officers as required by Article 77(1) of the Constitution.
- 4) In accordance with Article 77(2) of the Constitution and the Schedule of the Public Appointment (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F, none of the nominees holds office in any political party.
- 5) The nominees indicated compliance with Articles 75 and 76 of the Constitution on the conduct and financial probity of State officers. They indicated the nonexistence of potential conflict of interest and committed to declare any should it arise.
- 6) By the set deadline of receipt of memoranda from members of the public, the Committee had received one submission from Mr. Eliud Karanja Matindi opposing the approval of Hon. Ababu Namwamba as Permanent Representative to the UNEP/UNON. However, the Committee noted that the allegations that Hon. Ababu Namwamba was not suited to hold any other State Office after his dismissal as a Cabinet Secretary on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2024 was inconsistent with the Constitution since he was not dismissed under Article 75 of the Constitution.
- 7) The nominees who presented their academic and professional credentials and made oral submissions during the approval hearings, demonstrated their suitability for appointment in accordance with the provisions of Section 6(7) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F.
- 8) The recurring trend of nominees declining to attend approval hearings in parliament implies a lapse in the due diligence process by the authorities responsible for recommending individuals to the appointing authority. The Committee noted with dismay the successive decline by two nominees to appear for vetting with respect to the position of High Commissioner to Accra, Ghana.



## 5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

130. Having conducted the approval hearings pursuant to Article 132(2)(e) of the Constitution; Sections 3 and 8 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, Cap 7F; Section 20 (2) of the Foreign Service Act, Cap 185E and Standing Order 216(5)(f) of the National Assembly, **the Committee recommends that the House:**

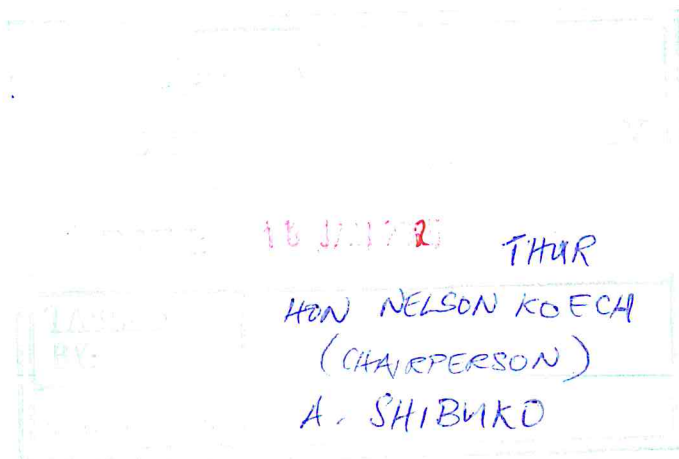
**A. APPROVES the appointment of:**

- 1) **Dr. Andrew Karanja, as the Ambassador, Brasilia, Brazil;**
- 2) **Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH, as the Permanent Representative, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)/United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON); and**
- 3) **Mr. Noor Gabow, CBS, as the Consul-General, Port-au-Prince, Haiti.**

**B.** Urges the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, alongside the Chief of Staff and Head of the Public Service to enhance the rigor of their due diligence processes and ensure nominees are consulted, concur and are ready to serve the country to avoid incidents of nominees turning down the nominations.

SIGNED: ..... DATE: 14/01/25

**THE HON. NELSON KOECH, CBS, M.P.**  
**CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE**  
**AND FOREIGN RELATIONS**





**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> PARLIAMENT – THIRD SESSION-2025**  
**DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, INTELLIGENCE, AND**  
**FOREIGN RELATIONS.**  
**REPORT ADOPTION LIST**

**REPORT ON APPROVAL HEARINGS OF FOUR (4) PERSONS NOMINATED FOR  
APPOINTMENT TO THE OFFICES OF HIGH COMMISSIONER, AMBASSADOR,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES AND CONSUL-GENERAL.**

We, Members of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence, and Foreign Relations, have pursuant to Standing Order 199, adopted this Report and affix our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity today, **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**

	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	The Hon. Koech Nelson, CBS, M.P. (Chairperson)	
2.	The Hon. Maj. (Rtd.) Sheikh Abdullahi Bashir, MP (Vice Chairperson)	
3.	The Hon. Yusuf Hassan Abdi, CBS, M.P.	
4.	The Hon. Wanjira Martha Wangari, CBS, M.P.	
5.	The Hon. Odhiambo Millie Grace Akoth, M.P.	
6.	The Hon. Kanchory Elijah Memusi, M.P.	
7.	The Hon. (Dr.) Kasalu Irene Muthoni, M.P.	
8.	The Hon. Kirima Moses Nguchine, M.P.	
9.	The Hon. Kandie Joshua Chepyegon, M.P.	
10.	The Hon. Kwenya Thuku Zachary, M.P.	
11.	The Hon. Luyai Caleb Amisi, M.P.	
12.	The Hon. Teresia Wanjiru Mwangi, M.P.	
13.	The Hon. Logova Sloya Clement, M.P.	
14.	The Hon. Ikana Fredrick Lusuli, M.P.	
15.	The Hon. Mohamed Abdikadir Hussein, M.P.	

