

# Chamber Quarterly

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**3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER**

**JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023**





FRIDAY 7TH JULY, 2023



## KNCCI protests over demolition of signages in Eldoret, term it primitive



The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry has protested over the move by Uasin Gishu county to demolish signages and advertising boards on business premises in Eldoret town. Chamber officials termed the action primitive and archaic saying it was done without any notices or consultation with those affected. The officials from the Uasin Gishu branch led by Dan Melly, Alice Njenga, Seth Ogutu and Boniface Mwangi said the move was a surprise. The officials said they have sought an audience with Governor Jonathan Bii over the demolitions and mistreatment of traders in Eldoret. "We had a good relationship with the Uasin Gishu county government but what happened to the business community is shameful and embarrassing, to say the least," Melly said. Chamber officials said they would demand full compensation for the affected traders who should have been involved. On Thursday Uasin Gishu county deployed bulldozers to demolish all business signages and advertising boards sparking an uproar from residents. [Read more](#)



FRIDAY 14TH JULY, 2023



## Don't arrest Azimio leaders, KNCCI tells government, calls for truce



The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) has expressed concern over the threat by the government to arrest top Azimio leaders, stating that it would cause significant damage and exacerbate the already dire situation for businesses. According to KNCCI, there is a lot of destruction caused by the Azimio protests on Wednesday, July,12, and arresting top Azimio leaders will only worsen the situation. Several Azimio leaders were arrested and interrogated during the Monday protest. ODM deputy party leader Wycliffe Oparanya and Mavoko Member of Parliament Patrick Makau were among those detained. Azimio Party leader, Raila Odinga canceled the planned Kamukunji rally over claims of attack. He, however, vowed that the opposition would not be cowed into caving in and that Azimio will resume protests on Wednesday, July 19 after five days of mourning the people who lost their lives in the protests.

Director of KNCCI James Wanjohi Njoroge emphasized that businesses have already suffered greatly, with billions of shillings lost, and urged Kenya Kwanza to speak to Azimio leaders to find amicable solutions to the issues that led to opposition protests instead of engaging in chest-thumping and escalating tensions. [Read more](#)



**WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY, 2023**

## Mombasa to set up container, truck yard in Jomvu

The Mombasa government has identified 200 acres in Jomvu where it plans to set up a container marshaling yard to decongest the port. A container or cargo marshaling yard is a temporary, in-transit storage area for containers and trucks. It expedites discharge operations by facilitating rapid and continuous movement of cargo and containers to or from the port. The yard will have capacity for more than 2,000 trucks daily and will have an advanced call system linked with the Kenya Ports Authority for efficient communication. On Tuesday, Governor Abdulswamad Nassir discussed the yard plan with Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry vice president Mustafa Ramadhan and Jomvu MP Badi Twalib. Ramadhan said traffic to and from the Mombasa port is increasing by the day and this prompted Governor Nassir to come up with the marshaling yard idea. “Basically, a marshaling yard tracks door-to-door dispatching of trucks and loading. It keeps the facility itself and the surrounding streets clear of truck traffic and maintains orderly flow,” Ramadhan said. [Read more](#)



**THURSDAY 27TH JULY, 2023**



## Kisumu Lost Ksh1.5 Billion During Azimio's 3 Day Protests

The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry [KNCCI] on Wednesday, July 26, revealed that Kisumu County lost Ksh 1.5 billion during the three-day anti-government protests staged by the Azimio Coalition. KNCCI Chairperson Israel Agina disclosed that this substantial loss was primarily attributed to the unfortunate incidents of shop looting, property damage, and the financial burden endured by sellers who had to close their business establishments during the demonstrations. “We lost business for not just three days but almost for a week. As you know Kisumu is a transport corridor and a lot of cargo passes through. Kisumu is also a consumer of goods from outside,”



Mr. Agina asserted. Additionally, the chairman issued a warning about the potential consequences of the ongoing demonstrations. He emphasized that if not effectively controlled, these protests could lead to even more losses by dissuading potential investors and tourists from visiting the Lake-side city. Traders in Kisumu have also expressed their frustrations over the political situation in the country stating that the demonstrations are hampering growth prospects. [Read more](#)



**WEDNESDAY 2ND AUGUST, 2023**



## KNCCI Ropes in Market Industry Players to Seal Skill Gaps



The Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) has rolled out a partnership with several private companies to equip local youth in Micro, Small and Medium enterprises (MSMEs) with hands-on skills in an industry setting. KNCCI has indicated that the venture is geared towards bridging the skills gap among the targeted beneficiaries by ensuring they were interned at relevant industries. Nakuru Branch KNCCI chairperson Said Ali said the program that will initially be rolled out in private manufacturing industries based in Kisumu, Nakuru, Mombasa and Nairobi Counties would explore a model, where the concerned interns are subjected to combination of theory and practical training in a real-life work environment through an interchange of training at their workplaces and in a company. Ali noted that lack of linkages between vocational training and industry was a major contributing factor to youth underemployment in the labour market. He stated that the private sector contends that involving the industry in technical training of the country's youth could help address the shortage of technical skills in the domestic and commercial sectors. [Read more](#)



**FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST, 2023**



## KNCCI calls for expansion of tax bracket



The implementation of the Finance Act will hurt these few formalized businesses, the Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) has said. Speaking in Mombasa Thursday evening, KNCCI president Erick Ruto said there is a need to ensure that all businesses in the country are formalized so that taxation is spread across estab-

lished business ventures. He officiated the Chamber Business Connect Dinner which brought together about 150 businesses in the county. "We are telling the business community that yes we are going to look at the effects of the Finance Act 2023 right now, but what we want to say is that government has to run its services and for it to do so it must be able to collect enough taxes", Ruto said. He added that there are few businesses in the country that are formalised, therefore in terms of collection of revenues and taxes, those few businesses are the ones being overtaxed to the last shilling. Ruto said that the chamber was looking into how they will help formalise more businesses especially those operating as Small and Micro-enterprises. [Read more](#)



**FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST, 2023**



## My aim is to make Mombasa Port beneficial to people – Nassir

Mombasa Governor Abdulswamad Nassir expressed his intention to ensure that the residents of Mombasa can benefit from the existence of the port. He was speaking during a networking dinner in Nyali hosted by the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Mombasa Chapter. "I hope to leave a legacy that involves the people of



Mombasa taking advantage of the port," he said. Nassir acknowledged that it has not been an easy journey to try and lay claim to the port, but he is determined to do so. Even if it means ring-fencing income generated or providing a service with the port of Mombasa, Nassir said will work towards ensuring that the money is ring-fenced for infrastructure development to help grow Mombasa. Furthermore, Nassir announced that they have advertised the construction of the County Aggregated Industrial Park, which is set to bring opportunities for chamber members to get space to grow their various industries. To strengthen the partnership, Nassir suggested having a Memorandum of Understanding between the National Chamber of Commerce and the County Government. [Read more](#)



**MONDAY 7TH AUGUST, 2023**



## Kenya diversifies exports to enhance competitiveness

Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) President Erick Rutto has said that Africa is the main destination of Kenya's exports accounting for more



than 43 per cent of total exports. Dr Rutto who appeared before the committee Nairobi said that Kenya is ranked 103 in the world export among 250 trading partners with majority of its export destination being; Uganda, United States of America, Netherlands, Pakistan, Tanzania, United Kingdom and United Arab Emirates. The KNCCI President told the Senate Committee on Trade that 15 per cent of the East African Aggregation of exports comes from Kenya, as it is ranked second among the seven East African Community (EAC) member states after Democratic Republic of Congo. Major products exported by Kenya to the East Africa region include; coffee, tea, mineral fuels, live trees, edible fruits and nuts, iron and steel, pharmaceutical products, salts, soaps among others,” said Dr Rutto. He said that on the global scale Kenya has been increasing its exports to markets such as the European Union, United States, and China, which comprise of high quality agricultural products, particularly tea and coffee which have global demand. [Read more](#)



**TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST, 2023**



## Kenya loses Sh1.2b per hour of protests, chamber boss claims



Kenya is estimated to be losing about Sh1.2 billion every hour whenever the country is engulfed in a wave of protests. Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) president Eric Rutto expressed regrets that the private sector is usually the first casualty of such demonstrations. This is because most of their operations across the value chain are usually halted, he said. Rutto made the remarks while speaking in Mombasa at his first meeting with the chamber members at the coast. “Having carried out a survey during the demonstration that we had, there was an estimation that was almost like we were losing Sh1.2 billion every hour on the three days that there were demonstrations,” he said. He said as a private sector they don’t want any interruption of the economy, noting that before the demonstration most of the hotels in Nairobi and Mombasa were fully booked, an indication that investments were thriving and “manufacturers and suppliers were happy.”Rutto who was gracing a business networking event in Mombasa dubbed business connect, announced that the chamber is keen on supporting the private investments with the view of boosting intercounty trade across the country. [Read More](#)

**TUESDAY 8TH AUGUST, 2023**

## County and KNCCI Collaborate on Investment and Development



Taita Taveta County Government has entered into an agreement with Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) to formalise the involvement of private sector players in county development programmes. Governor Mr. Andrew Mwadime stated that his administration was keen on establishing strong Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to tap into the expertise and knowledge of the private sector as part of a long-term programme of opening up various underdeveloped sectors, including agriculture, water, mining, and livestock. The governor was speaking in Mwatate over the weekend during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the county and officials of KNCCI. Taita-Taveta Chapter noted that the private sector had the necessary structures to generate funding and liaise with investors who would exploit the opportunities available in the county. He gave his assurance that the county would create legislative and policy frameworks that would create a conducive and investor-friendly environment to boost investments and businesses. The meeting was also attended by the Deputy Governor, Ms. Christine Kilalo, the Advisor on Investment, Mr. Bill Lay, and scores of members of the KNCCI Taita-Taveta Chapter. [Read more](#)

**MONDAY 16TH AUGUST, 2023**

## Businesses already reaping big as governors event starts



Traders are positioning themselves to make the most out of the eighth devolution conference. Some distance from the Eldoret Sports Club, the main venue of the event, several eateries have been set up targeting hundreds of locals and visitors. Willy Kenei, the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Uasin Gishu chairman, said the conference provides a great opportunity for the local business community. “Business is thriving because of the ongoing conference in Eldoret. Traders have taken advantage to innovate means of gaining economic benefits from the Council of Governors (CoG) conference,” he said. “Although most space in hospitality facilities had been booked, there is still room for accommodation, an indication that Eldoret town has expanded.” He noted that prices for bed and breakfast booking had increased by about 75 per cent owing to the high demand.

Kenei lauded the decision to have the conference in Eldoret, noting that apart from hospitality facilities, other traders engaged in food production, decorations and branding, taxi and boda boda services and electronics, among others, are doing a booming business. [Read more](#)



**WEDNESDAY 23RD AUGUST, 2023**



## WorldSkills to honour 100 TVET students



At least 100 students from Kenya's Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions have a chance to represent the country during the WorldSkills International Competition that will be held in Lyon, France from next month. This follows the launch of WorldSkills Kenya National Competition 2023 in which the students will compete in 19 skill areas among them, mechatronics and welding. "We as a government are fully committed to promoting skills and talents of the youth of this country. The youth form an integral part of the Government's agenda and through this competition, we aim to inspire innovation, and empower the youth of Kenya to shape a brighter and more prosperous future," said John Tuwei, Acting Director, Directorate of TVET. Formed in 1950, in Spain, WorldSkills International has a membership of 85 countries. Kenya became the 84th member of WorldSkills International on October 13, 2020. Last year, Kenya bagged gold in the restaurant services category and a bronze in cooking during the WorldSkills Africa 2022 competition held in Namibia. [Read more](#)



**MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2023**



## Former KNCCI boss Kiprono Kittony shortlisted for global role

The former Chairman of the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) has been shortlisted to chair the World Chambers Federation (WCF). KNCCI is a member of the World Chamber Federation, an International Chamber of Commerce headquartered in Paris, France. It is the global umbrella body of Chamber movement worldwide. According to KNCCI President Erick Rutto, Kittony is a well-known business leader, widely accredited with the revival of the KNCCI. "We are pleased to announce the inclusion of the former KNCCI President on the final short-





list for the prestigious position of Chairperson — World Chamber Federation, Mr. Kiprono Kittony.” Rutto’s statement reads. “Mr. Kittony is a well-known business leader and is also the current Chairman of the Nairobi Securities Exchange and the former Vice Chair of the World Chamber Federation, among other roles He is widely accredited with the revival of the KNCCI.” [Read More](#)



**MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2023**



## Kenya and China bank on expo to boost trade

Kenya and China say they are committed to deepening ties in a bid to bridge the existing trade imbalance and attract more foreign direct investment (FDI). This comes as preparations for the 6th annual Kenya International Industrial Expo slated for September 21-23, 2023 pick up. Dubbed the ‘Kenya Import and Export Fair’, this year’s theme will



focus on driving growth in the country’s manufacturing sector through technology. Speaking at a media brief on Monday, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) president Erick Rutto said the expo provides an excellent platform for networking and collaboration for potential partners, suppliers, customers and investors. “The expo serves as a showcase for the latest innovations, techniques, trends, and industrial sectors majorly in machinery, construction, hardware, energy, and automobile,” Rutto said. According to KNCCI data, in 2021-2022, Kenya’s exports to China increased by seven per cent, where the country exported Sh240 million worth of goods and imported Sh3.8 billion. Rutto noted that this gives a trade imbalance of 1:16, meaning that for every container leaving Kenya for China, 16 containers leave China for Kenya. He said that there is a need to bridge the gap, as Chinese businesses continue to express interest in Kenyan products and services. [Read More](#)



**MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2023**



## Kenya eyes Sh5 billion direct investment from China through expo

Kenya is targeting additional Sh5 billion investment from China as the country prepares to host 200 businesses from the Asian nation in the upcoming Kenya International Indus-



trial Expo. Kenya Investment Authority (KenInvest) Managing Director June Chepkemei said foreign direct investment (FDI) from China currently stands at \$348 million (Sh48.7 billion) "and we want to increase that by 10 per cent." Ms Chepkemei noted that FDI from China is very important to Kenya's economy. She said the expo, which is being organised in conjunction with Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) and Afropeak Expo Kenya Ltd, will significantly catalyze the government's goal of injecting \$10 billion (Sh1.4 trillion) into the economy this year as FDI. "We are halfway in our journey and we hope this coming expo will see us convert at least 10 per cent of the exhibitors to actual investors." The KenInvest MD said projects such as industrial parks, which the government has allocated funds to be put up in all the 47 countries, provide a fertile ground for investors to set up their businesses, particularly in manufacturing and value addition. [Read More](#)



**MONDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER, 2023**



## Kenya to host 6th International Expo at Sarit Center

Kenya is set to host the 6th international export from 21-23 rd September, 2023 at Sarit Expo Center. The event is a partnership between AFRIPEAK EXPO and the Kenya Investment Authority – KENINVEST , Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry -KNCCI . The three day event will attract investors from across China and Africa. This comes as Kenya has announced plans to increase its direct foreign investments from China by 10 percent by December this year from the Current 341 million dollars in investment from the Asian nation .speaking during the media briefing, The managing Director of Kenya Investment Authority Ms June Chepkemei said the upcoming Kenya International Industrial Expo slated for the 21st to 23rd of this month at Sarit Center will provides Kenya the opportunity for more collaborations as Kenya seeks to foster a transition toward environmentally conscious industrial practice aligning with the Kenya kwanza plan for ensuring safe climate mitigation process. She also assured the investors that Kenya will utilize the business-to-business and business-to-consumer connections at exhibitions in order to fill the gap between the two countries. China is Kenya's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade rising rapidly from 186.37 million US Dollars in 2002 to 5.3 billion US dollars in 2018. [Read More](#)



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**THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2023**

# Sixth Kenya International Industrial Expo gets underway in Nairobi

The 6th Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE) started today on Thursday at the Sarit Expo Centre, Nairobi. The event is a partnership between Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited, Kenya Investment Authority and Kenya National Chambers of Commerce & Industry.

The three-day Expo aims at spurring growth in Kenya's Manufacturing sector through technology. This comes at a time that the country has proved to be ideal for local investors who gets opportunities to establish partnerships with their investors from China as a way of strengthening the economic ties between Kenya and the rest of the world. The exhibition has attracted over 200 companies internationally and 5000 merchants' professionals. Kenya National Chamber of Commerce has already been given a pavilion to show what Kenya can export to china, in order to bridge the disparity between Exports and imports from the country. Kenya has been exporting 20 times more than what it imports, which has been a challenge to the business community in Kenya. However through the export stakeholders will be able to balance trade between the two countries. Speaking during the opening of the event, Ronald Meru the Chair Economic Diplomacy Committee and Vice Chair KNCCI Nairobi Chapter, has urged Kenyans to grasp the opportunity given by the China government to focus on various exports such as service industry, against the norm of traders specializing in manufacturing sector. [Read More](#)



**THURSDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2023**

# Innovation key to industrial development

In today's rapidly evolving global landscape, innovation has emerged as an agenda of economic transformation. It is imperative for both the government and the private sector to prioritize transformative innovation as a pivotal component of their economic agenda. The Kenyan economy is on a growth trajectory, and for industries and businesses to remain competitive on the international stage, they must wholeheartedly embrace innovative practices.

However, it is crucial to recognize that innovation extends beyond the realm of technology. It encompasses modern approaches to delivering superior products and services, ensuring that they meet global standards while enhancing convenience for consumers. As the government strives to digitize services, it must acknowledge the growing importance of innovation in driving economic growth, job creation, and overall improvements in the quality of life for citizens across Africa.

Despite the continent's potential, Africa still lags behind other regions in terms of innovation, as indicated by the Global Innovation Index 2021. Nevertheless, there are shining examples and pockets of excellence, with Kenya emerging as a leader in this regard. In 2022, Kenya earned the distinction of being the third most innovative country in sub-Saharan Africa, trailing only South Africa and Mauritius. The nation has fostered a thriving ecosystem of innovation, boasting hubs and incubators like the I Hub, Nailab, and the Africa Technology and Innovative Accelerator (AFTIA), all dedicated to supporting startups and entrepreneurs.

Kenya's mobile technology sector has played a pivotal role in driving innovation, particularly in areas such as mobile banking, mobile health, and mobile education. These advancements are not only transforming Kenya's economic landscape but are also models that other African nations aspire to adopt.

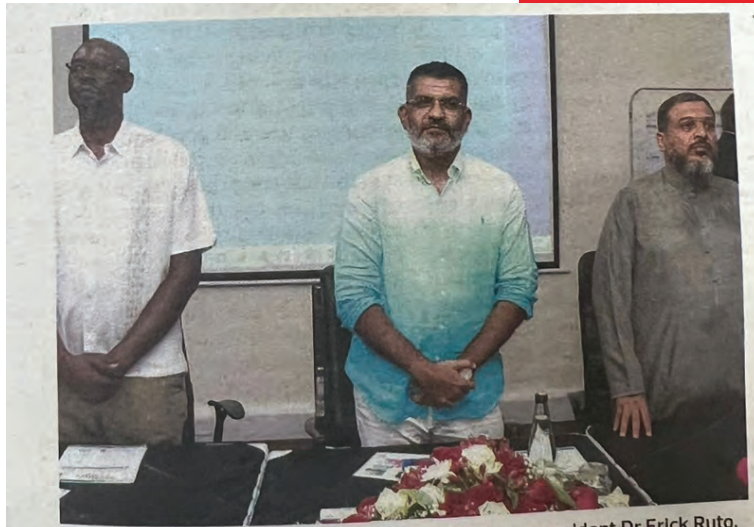
Fintech, or financial technology, has been a shining star in Kenya's innovative journey. The country has made significant strides in this sector, earning recognition as a leading fintech innovator in Africa. Kenya's robust mobile money ecosystem and a burgeoning culture of online entrepreneurship have propelled it to the forefront of fintech innovation. [Read More](#)



# MEDIA PICTORIALS

3rd Quarter July - Sept 2023

11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023



Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry president Dr Erick Ruto, Mombasa Governor Abdulswamad Nassir and KNNCI vice president Mustafa Ramadhan during Business Connect Summit in Mombasa on Thursday evening at Travellers Beach Hotel /JOHN CHESOLI

11<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

MEETING

## Uasin Gishu ready for devolution conference

Uasin Gishu Governor Jonathan Bii has assured residents they will reap big from the Devolution Conference set for next week.

Bii said preparations for the five-day conference are in high gear and that the county was ready to host more than 10,000 guests.

"We have put in place security measures, plans for adequate supply of water, transport services and other logistics. We have ensured that our hotels and other institutions are ready for the conference," said Bii.

He said streetlights and general sanitation had been improved ahead of the conference.

President William Ruto, his deputy Rigathi Gachagua, National Assembly Speaker Moses Wetang'ula and his Senate counterpart Amason Kingi are expected to attend the conference.

Others are Chief Justice Martha Koome and Opposition leader Raila Odinga.

"As Eldoret gears to attain city status, we will show our guests that we have capacity to host even international events. We are the home of champions. Apart from devolution conference, this county had already hosted international events like Eldoret City Marathon," added Bii.

Ahead of the conference, the county has embarked on facelift of its head-

quarters, upgrade of various roads and beautification of the Eldoret CBD.

The county has also moved to address concerns raised by local suppliers, who alleged that they had been sidelined.

One of the local suppliers who did not wish to be identified said they had tendered for the event, but they were not considered.

"We believed that since Eldoret is hosting the conference, then as local suppliers we would be given chance to supply some goods and services," he said.

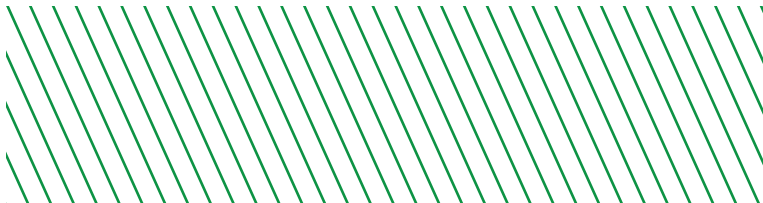
However, the Council of Governors downplayed the complaints from the local suppliers, arguing that few companies had capacity to provide supplies for such a huge forum.

"We had several engagements with local suppliers and agreed that some of the requirements had to be sourced from Nairobi," said CoG events coordinator James Kamau.

Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Uasin Gishu Chapter Chairman Willy Kenei said they had worked closely with CoG and Uasin Gishu County in organising the conference.

"Our business people have been largely involved, especially in supply of catering services," said Kenei.

[Peter Ochleg]



10<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

## Kenya moots new partnership with China in textile sector

In a significant move toward bolstering the local textile industry, a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was inked today between the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KNCCI) and the Kenya China Chamber of Commerce & Industry (KCCCI). This landmark agreement seeks to reinforce trade relations, enhance investments, and notably, generate a whopping 20,000 job opportunities for the youth in the textile sectors of Kilifi and Machakos Counties.

As Kenya grapples with the challenge of youth unemployment, this initiative represents a beacon of hope for many aspiring young professionals in the region, said The Chamber President Dr. Erick Ruto. The MoU outlines a broad framework

for partnership, emphasizing the mutual goal to deepen ties between the Kenyan and Chinese business communities, facilitate smoother business cooperation, and accelerate trade.

KCCCI Chairman Mr. Tim Chen Congcong noted that the organization serves as a pivotal bridge in strengthening the business cooperation between Kenya and China. Together, their combined efforts aim to spotlight the potential of the Kenyan textile industry and tap into the vast resources and expertise that Chinese businesses and investors bring to the table.

This strategic partnership promises more than just employment opportunities. By intertwining the strengths of both nations, it seeks to



Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) President Dr. Erick Rutto with Tim Chen chairman Congcong and Chamber.

boost capacity-building mechanisms, promote technological exchanges, and advocate for policies that foster investment and bilateral trade.

As stakeholders in the textile industry eagerly await the ripple effects of this collaboration, the broader implications for Kenya's socio-economic landscape remain undeniable. This partnership not only amplifies Kenya's commitment to industrial growth but also underlines the importance of international collaboration in shaping a brighter, more prosperous future.

The MoU was signed by the KNCCI Chamber President Dr. Erick Ruto, KCCCI Chairman Mr. Chen Congcong witnessed by KNCCI Company secretary Mr. Kihara Njunga and KCCCI Secretary Mr. Peter Waweru. [Gerard Nyele]

# MEDIA PICTORIALS

3rd Quarter July - Sept 2023

23<sup>th</sup> August, 2023



From left: World Skills Kenya Official Delegate Eric Ogur, Technical and Vocational Education and Training Director John Tuwei, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Nyanza Region Director Ken Onditi and Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry CEO Patrick Nyangweso launch the World skills Kenya National Competition 2023 at Fairmont the Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi.



From left: WorldSkills Kenya official delegate Eric Ogur, TVET director John Tuwei, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) Nyanza region director Ken Onditi and KNCCI chief executive Patrick Nyangweso during the launch of the WorldSkills Kenya National Competition 2023 at Fairmont the Norfolk Hotel in Nairobi yesterday.

23<sup>th</sup> August, 2023

7<sup>th</sup> September 2023



DR. ERICK RUTTO

The 2023 devolution calendar was one of Kenya's key highlights in August, especially its marking of 10 years since the onset of devolution.

Partners and stakeholders drew different takeaways from the conference. For the private sector, the Joint County Bankable Investment Projects Handbook caught our attention. The Handbook maps over 250 investment opportunities across the 47 Counties and in eight major sectors in line with the President's Bottom-up Economic Transformation Agenda.

Being the first of its kind, we commend the Council of Governors under the leadership of Governor Waigara for this initiative as it illustrates a commitment to private sector involvement in development plans, and a recognition of the role of the private sector in development at the county level.

The 93 pages of untapped investment opportunities detail public-private partnership (PPP) opportunities for all cadres of businesses from SMEs to blue-chip companies. The notion around PPPs has for a long time been that they are a preserve for big businesses, however, the Handbook features deals as small as Sh50 million which SMEs can jointly take on. International investors looking for huge ticket sizes can also have a piece of the cake as there are investment opportunities above Sh100 billion.



Dr. Erick Rutto, President Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry

To provide more context, allow me to highlight a few. First, Kericho County Referral Hospital is looking for a partner to put up an oncology center worth Sh350 million. In this case, a private hospital specialized in cancer treatment can equip, manage operations, and charge per service once the county government constructs the center. Second, Bungoma County published an opportunity to establish business incubation centers worth Sh60 million - private sector players in consulting and business hubs can develop the physical infrastructure on land provided by the county and manage the operation of the incubation center. Third, in the commercial real estate sector, Mombasa County is planning to develop industrial parks in Jomvu worth Sh1 billion - construction firms can set up the parks on County land, and handle the day-to-day operations.

Kenya now joins the league of countries such as the United States where PPPs are common at the state level. The private sector has longed for the devolution of PPPs as it has always been limited to the National Government. As such this presents us with an opportunity to share our innovations and best practices with the local governments. The private sector is incentivized to always perform at optimum by having to constantly innovate and transform. We all have expectations of improved government services and therein we have a role to play by sharing our learnings and ways of working through PPPs.

Majority of the published investment opportunities are in the agricultural sector, more specifically, the development of processing plants. MSMEs who represent the lion's share of businesses in the country mainly operate in the retail space. A strategic way in which these businesses can grow and become sustainable is by moving up the value chain; if you are a milk vendor, you move up and become a milk processor. However, the capital and stakeholder management required presents a barrier that MSMEs can break by leveraging the capabilities of county governments.

One of the most visible fruits of devolution is the growth of trading centers into towns and the emergence of peri-urban areas. Businesses that were

once domiciled in urban areas began operations upcountry following the changing trends in disposable income and customer preferences. Counties are the not-to-be-overlooked pockets of growth and this Handbook presents a pathway to partaking in that growth.

As the private sector gears up to take these opportunities, we call upon county governments to embrace different models of PPPs that safeguard both the interests of the county and that of the business with development being constant. We also challenge them to improve the ease of doing business in counties as it is a determining factor of whether investors take up these opportunities or not. The multiple and duplicate licenses has been a long-standing pain point for the private sector and as a sustainable solution, we propose a single county license that encompasses all permits and is acknowledged and respected by other county governments.

As we look to grow our country's economy by attracting both domestic and foreign investment, the private sector proposes the creation of a working government-private economic and investment council under the auspices of COG to market these opportunities as well as a point of engagement on the identification, development, and implementation of public-private partnerships.

14<sup>th</sup> September 2023



## Nairobi readies for sixth expo

Nairobi is set to host over 200 foreign exhibitors and over 5000 businesses and investors during the upcoming Kenya International Industrial Expo (KIIE).

The exhibition which is entering its sixth edition has so far attracted 200 Chinese exhibitors from Shandong, Jiangxi, Henan, and Zhejiang provinces who will be attending the expo physically.

According to the organizers, the Kenyan pavilion will host over 30 selected local companies showcasing their products on this international platform.

"The expo is set to take place on September 21st -23rd at Sarit Expo Centre, Nairobi. It is an opportunity to continue marketing Kenya as an ideal investment destination for Chinese firms," said Gao Wei, Managing Director, of Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited.

"This expo seeks to connect local enterprises to the best technological growth from China. In a bid to support the government's initiative and promote more exports from Kenya".

The three-day event has been organised by Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited in partnership with Kenya Investment Authority and Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Under the theme 'Spurring the Economic Growth and transformation in Kenya through technology'.

The expo will focus mainly on climate Smart industrialisation which encompasses general machinery, construction machinery, hardware and tools, solar and green energy products, auto parts, chemical products, and medical equipment.

Kenya will be seeking to venture the Chinese market targeting products such as avocados, mangoes, coffee, tea, nuts, mining products among others.

According to Afripeak, over the past five years, the exhibition has received more than 7,000 professionals and merchants from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and other countries, with a turnover of around \$50 million.

Over the last decade, the Kenyan Investment

Authority (KenInvest) has registered and facilitated 313 Chinese investment projects with a total value of \$1.55 billion.

According to the Authority, "this shows that China has helped create employment for the locals and this expo stamps the bilateral trade ties that these two great countries share."

Dr Erick Rutto, President of Kenya National Chambers of Commerce and Industry termed the expo as key in helping the country achieve the industrialization dream under Vision 2030.

"This expo serves as a platform to showcase the latest innovations, technologies, and trends in the industrial sector," Rutto said.

According to data by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) the value of bilateral trade between China and Kenya has increased by 25 per cent.

The trade volume currently is valued at \$8.2 billion. The expo is expected contribute to more growth by connecting local enterprises to Chinese ones. [Gerard Nyele]



From left: Gao Wei, Afripeak Expo Kenya Ltd managing director, June Chepkemel managing director Kenya Investment Authority and Erick Rutto, President Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry. [Edward Kiplimo, Standard]

# MEDIA PICTORIALS

3rd Quarter July - Sept 2023

23<sup>rd</sup> September 2023

The Standard, Saturday, September 23, 2023

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## Nairobi expo promises traders new markets

According to expo organizers, economic growth will be achieved by connecting Kenyan small businesses with Chinese tech firms.

The expo enters its third and final day today.

**BY GERARD NYELE, NAIROBI**

The sixth Nairobi International expo is taking place in the Kenyan capital amid great fanfare.

The expo was launched with the stated goal of "Spurring the Economic Growth and transformation in Kenya through technology". This, according to expo organizers, will be done by connecting Kenyan small businesses with Chinese tech firms. The expo enters its third and final day today.

The main focus is on "promoting the Kenya-China import and export sectors" with the Kenyan government looking for the KITE to increase Chinese foreign direct investment (FDI) by as much as 10 per cent.



From left: Chair of the Economic Diplomacy Committee and Vice Chair KNCCI Nairobi Chapter Ronald Merau and Gao Wei, the Managing Director of Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited.

On exhibition are General Machinery, Construction Machinery, Hardware & Tools, Solar and New (green) Energy products, Auto Parts, Chemical Products, and medical Equipment.

The organizer Kenya International Trade Expo (KITE) says the expo is an opportunity to continue marketing Kenya as an ideal investment destination for Chinese firms.

The three-day event has been organized by Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited in partnership with Kenya Investment Authority and Kenya National Chambers of Commerce & Industry.

Kenya has been exporting 20 times more than what it imports, which has been a challenge to the business community in Kenya. However, through the expo stakeholders will be able to balance trade between the two countries.

Speaking during the opening of the event, Ronald Merau the Chair Economic Diplomacy Committee and Vice Chair KNCCI Nairobi Chapter, has urged Kenyans to grasp the opportunity given by the China government to focus on various exports such as service industry, against the norm of traders specializing in manufacturing sector.

The government has promised to ensure there is an enabling environment to the business community by creating one tax regime. The bottleneck in the tax system has been the major challenge to traders.

There will be benchmarking for traders in different sectors such as just Kall, whereby the government will support them to travel and learn from China.

According to Gao Wei the Managing Director of Afripeak Expo Kenya Limited, there has been a tremendous growth in participation at the expo.

This year's expo has attracted a lot of investors over 200 compared to last year's which recorded 118 traders.

Local investors have been urged to attend the three-day Expo where they will get the chance to network with investors from China and get exposed to international markets.

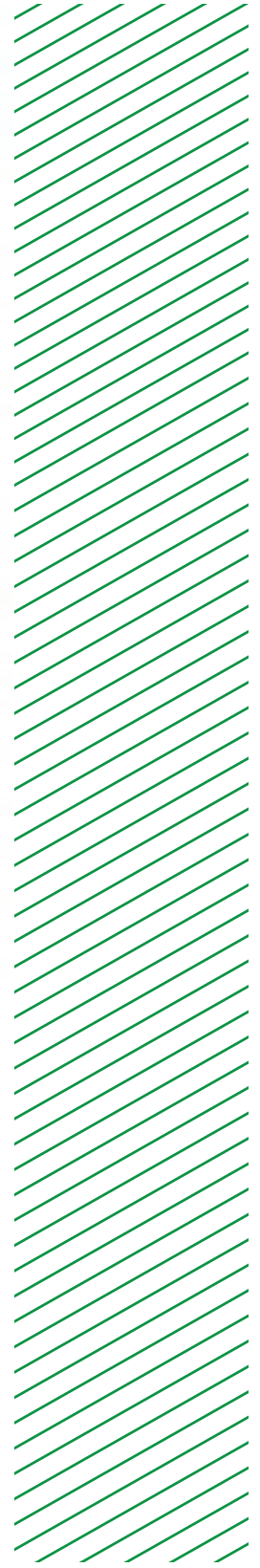
The expo has incorporated General Machinery, Construction Machinery, Hardware & Tools, solar and New (green) Energy products, Auto Parts, Chemical Products, and medical Equipment. The Green energy has been prioritized in the expo in order to ensure there is a safe environment.

Chair of the Economic Diplomacy Committee and Vice Chair KNCCI Nairobi Chapter Ronald Merau, also noted that Kenya national chamber of commerce and industry has opened an office in China, which will enable the Kenyan business community to conduct business in China.

Kenya traders and investors were also challenged to participate in the Canton Fair set to be held between October till November in China.

Kenyan traders have been urged to reach out to the Kenya national chamber of commerce and industry to participate in the exhibition and transact business.

Kenya will be seeking to venture the Chinese market targeting products such as: Avocados, Mangoes, Coffee, tea, nuts, mining products among others.



11<sup>th</sup> September 2023

PLAN

## Kittony keen on FDI's as he makes cut in World Chamber chair list

**MARTIN MWITA**/Attracting more Foreign Direct Investments to Kenya will be among key focus areas for renowned business leader Kiprono Kittony if elected chairperson of the World Chamber Federation, he has indicated.

The Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) chairman is also keen on driving growth in the value and volume of Kenya's exports, while creating more global business links.

Kittony has made the final list of candidates shortlisted for the position of Chairperson - World Chamber Federation (WCF). Other candidates in the final shortlist include Jean-Pierre Antelo (Bolivia), A. K. Azad (Bangladesh), Rifat Hisarcikloglu (Turkey) and Toki Mabogunje (Nigeria).

and Rim Slam (Egypt). Headquartered in Paris, France, the federation is the premier global umbrella body of the Chamber movement worldwide, whose Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) is a member.

"I am delighted to offer my candidature for the position of World Chamber Federation Chair. If successful, this will be a great opportunity to attract investors to Kenya and drive growth in the value and volume of our exports," Kittony said.

WCF director-global partnerships and development said the chairperson selection committee received a total of six candidates "from highly qualified individuals" for the position.

"The WCF chair selection committee is now examining all candidates, and we will keep you informed on the next steps in the election process," director, Julian Kassam said.

Kittony is a well-known business leader and the former president of KNCCI, a former vice chair of the World Chamber Federation, among other roles. He is credited with the revival of the KNCCI where he served two terms, ending leadership wrangles that had rocked the chamber in the 90s, and bringing it back to become a leading business lobby entity with global recognition.

"His candidacy has been endorsed widely and if he succeeds, he will be the first business leader from the continent to ascend to this position," chamber president Eric Rutto stated.



Nairobi Securities Exchange chairman Kiprono Kittony during a past media briefing/ FILE

# MEDIA PICTORIALS

## 3rd Quarter July - Sept 2023



Canary Group of Companies founder Patrick Masope-Crabbe with Kasapreko Company Ltd deputy MD Gregory Russel Pitt.

## FROM WEST TO EAST

by Alice Mburu

Giant Ghanaian beverage maker Kasapreko Company Ltd marked its entry into the East African market with an unveiling ceremony in Nairobi recently, riding on a flagship brand Alamo Bitters. The word Alamo comes from Ghana's native dialect used to refer to "my lover" or "intimate friend". The company enters into the regional market through Canary International Trading Company Limited a subsidiary of Canary Group of Companies, a giant distributor of food and beverage products. Canary Group of Companies founder Patrick Masope-Crabbe said that a business-to-business model is their adopted approach to the East African market. Also present were Ghana High Commissioner to Kenya Damotey Bedako Asare and Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) CEO Patrick Nyang'wa.

PO/Alice MBURU



Guests Diffu Montana and Maggy Kiarie.



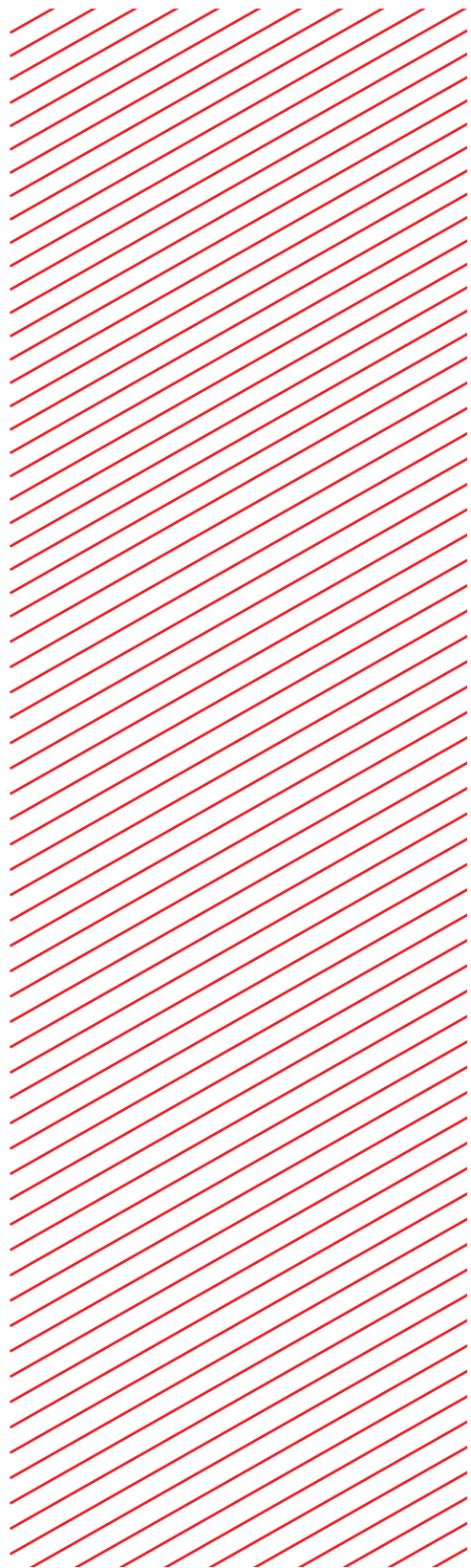
Ghana High Commissioner to Kenya Damotey Bedako Asare with KNCCI chief executive officer Patrick Nyang'wa.



Blackrock Capital Ltd chairman Kris Senanu with Nuzumo Obelenta III.



Former New Patriotic Party secretary general, John Bado, Ghana Export Promotion Authority Deputy CEO Samuel Dentu and managing partner Ricorp Eric Muthemi.







# 1<sup>ST</sup> WORLD SKILLS KENYA NATIONAL COMPETITION



Theme: Transforming the future with the power of skills

## Welcome to the inaugural skills competition

### MESSAGE FROM THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

It is with great pleasure that I take this opportunity to welcome all Kenyans to the inaugural WorldSkills Kenya National Competition and Innovation Week, an event organised under the auspices of WorldSkills International competition standards and the African Tech Challenge Season VIII, a joint venture between the Ministry of Education and AVIC International Holding Corporation.

WorldSkills competition is a global skills Olympics that seeks to improve the world with the power of skills by raising the profile and recognition of skilled people, and show how important skills are in achieving economic growth and personal success.



Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, CBS

The WorldSkills Competition is important tool for the government because it conveys the outcomes of a good TVET system.

At the Ministry of Education, we pioneered the admission of Kenya to the WorldSkills International Competition as the 84th member on October 13, 2020 so that we can use it as a vehicle for raising the awareness of technical and vocational skills and also inform Kenyans about the diversity of opportunities that may result through advancing skills development. The initiatives are aimed at raising the profile and acceptance of skills by our youth and appreciating TVET as a pathway for job creation and career development.

Therefore, organising this national skills competition is a statement and a huge milestone by WorldSkills Kenya, especially bringing together

the industry, development partners, government agencies in the Ministry of Education and line ministries, and other stakeholders in the TVET space, barely two years since Kenya joined the global competition.

The choice of the theme, “*Transforming the Future with the Power of Skills*”, resonates well with the Kenya Kwanza’s **Bottom-Up Economic Transformation Agenda (BETA)**, which is anchored on the President’s agenda of creating quality jobs for over 100,000 young people graduating from our TVETs every year directly in the construction sector, and indirectly through the production of building products.

I congratulate in advance the winners in various skill areas, both in African Tech Challenge and WorldSkills National Competition, and the team that will be picked to represent Kenya during the WorldSkills International Competition that will be held in Lyon, France, on September 10-15, 2024. I hope officials and the skills experts who will be involved in the exercise will select a team that will compete with the rest at the international stage in France and preserve the profile of our country as the home of champions. *Karibuni sana*

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, STATE DEPARTMENT FOR TVET

I am delighted to be part of this first ever WorldSkills Kenya National Competition and Innovation Week and the 8th Season of the African Tech Challenge; two competitions that celebrate acquisition of skills and excellence amongst our young people in vocational and technical training space, an area which is integral to enhancing our socio-economic transformation agenda as a country.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the TVET Authority, the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, EASTRIP, AVIC International in conjunction with the Ministry of Education and other partners, for the wonderful work they have done to put up this landmark skills competi-



Dr. Esther Thaara Muoria

tion, which as a Ministry we want to maintain as an annual event to celebrate the strides we have made in the sector; ranging from the varied

opportunities in the TVET sector to the industry driven skills, and more importantly, the interactive sessions amongst all the stakeholders in the sector.

I would also like to appreciate the choice of the theme, “*Transforming the Future with the Power of Skills*”, as it resonates well with the aspirations of the country’s development agenda and the government’s **Bottom Up Economic Transformation Agenda**.

The WorldSkills Kenya National Competition and ATC come at a time when the Government, through the Ministry of Education, is committed to reforming the TVET sector to ensure it plays the important role of providing relevant knowledge and skills. This will lead to the attainment of Kenya’s Vision 2030 of a newly industrialised nation offering high standards of life to its citizens. To achieve this, the country requires highly skilled and

innovative artisans and technicians to accelerate the growth of industries. The competition is a moment for our children in school, youth out of school, students, and the general public to experience the high level acquisition of skills by our trainees and the myriad opportunities in the TVET sector, and to network, share, and gain much information.

I thank everyone involved, including competitors, skills experts, sponsors, the exhibitors, and members of the public who will take their time off in the next three days to grace the occasion to learn, share and relish the many opportunities in the TVET Sector. I am optimistic that this skills competition will help participants to refocus their thinking towards innovations for human development. I believe this is one way of rebranding TVET and thus, making it more attractive towards prospective trainees.

### MESSAGE FROM THE CEO WORLD SKILLS KENYA AND DIRECTOR GENERAL TVET AUTHORITY

I take this opportunity to welcome you to the inaugural WorldSkills Kenya National Competition, a premier event for our young people to test their skills acquisition and benchmark against the best in the world.

The journey towards hosting this landmark competition started three years ago when Kenya, through the WorldSkills Kenya Secretariat, which is hosted at the TVET Authority, made an application to the WorldSkills International to join the global event. This was immediately after the conclusion of the competition held in Kazan, Russia, in August 2019. I attended the General Assembly and submitted Kenya’s application for consideration.

This prompted the then outgoing WSI President Simon Bartley to visit the country in February 2020 for a three-day orientation tour. He met



Dr. Kipkirui Langat, PhD, FIETK, MBS

senior government officials and gave the country a go ahead to complete the application process ahead of ratification by the WSI General Assembly later that year in Dublin, Ireland.

On **October 13, 2020**, Kenya was formally admitted to WorldSkills International as the 84th member, and

TVETA was designated by the government, through the Ministry of Education, to take responsibility for the leadership, management and daily operation of WorldSkills Kenya.

In August, 2021, WorldSkills Kenya organised a one-week pilot Mechanics Competition at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT). The competition, which attracted 13 TVET colleges, was aimed at offering the students a learning experience ahead of the National Skills Competition. The following year, Kenya assembled a team of four students, who participated in three skills areas at the WorldSkills Africa Competition held at Swakopmund in Namibia. More than 100 competitors from 10 African countries competed at the event. Kenya won a Gold medal in Restaurant Services and Bronze in Cooking.

This success gave WorldSkills Kenya and partners from the private sector and development organisations the confidence to stage a national compe-

tion and innovation. Hence the vent that starts today.

Over 150 students from our TVET institutions and universities will compete in 19 skill areas. The competitions will be hosted at the Kenya School of TVET (12 skill areas) Boma International Hospitality College (two skill areas), Dedan Kimathi University of Science and Technology (two skill areas), and Technical University of Kenya (also two skill areas). All these competitions **will run concurrently**.

Selected winners will be prepared to compete at the global event to be held in Lyon, France, on September 10-15, 2024.

Our next plans shall include creating more links with the industry locally and internationally to help organise and participate in both national and global skills competitions. We welcome everyone to join us in creating opportunities for the youth to acquire relevant skills for the industry and for Life Long Learning.

## Nurturing a skilled workforce through competition

### Message from GIZ

The WorldSkills Kenya National Competition spotlights the value and importance of technical and vocational careers. The event showcases the best of skills, technology, and innovation in diverse trades, reaffirming the vibrancy of skills-based education. Through hands-on challenges and cutting-edge technologies, participants gain invaluable experiences that equip them for real-world careers.

Over the years, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has played a pivotal role in shaping skills training within Kenya. Whether through forging strong industry collaborations with training institutions, industry placement and mentorship, supporting the development of industry-aligned curricula or bolstering the expertise of technical and vocational education and training educators, GIZ programmes have propelled transformation in skills training. Additional interventions have included promoting a combination of online, work-based and institution-based learning, catalysing gender empowerment, creating equal training opportunities for persons with disabilities, and fostering green TVET practices.

Over the years, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH has played a pivotal role in shaping skills training within Kenya.



GIZ recognises the profound impact that skills competitions can have on shaping the future workforce in line with international standards. Our support towards the skills competition signifies unwavering commitment to skill development, innovation, and the empowerment of Kenyan youth. Through our strategic investment in skill development and vocational training, GIZ actively addresses the critical challenge of skills mismatch, increases employability prospects, enhances productivity, advanced economic development, and promotes entrepreneurship.

The support towards the WorldSkills Kenya National Competition is provided through the ‘Promotion of Youth Employment and Vocational Training’ programme, implemented by GIZ on behalf of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). It’s a four-year programme that seeks to ensure inclusive and labour market relevant Dual TVET is integrated in the vocational training system in all regions of Kenya.

The programme remains committed to channelling resources into ventures that empower the Kenya’s youth and galvanize the growth of a skilled workforce that can drive Kenya’s economic progress and attainment of Vision 2030.



# 1<sup>ST</sup> WORLD SKILLS KENYA NATIONAL COMPETITION



KNCCI Growing your Business together

Theme: Transforming the future with the power of skills

## Competition provides a path for youth to build confidence and employable skills

### Message from the International Labour Organisation

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) acknowledges that skills development and lifelong learning are investments in the future. Global drivers, including technological changes, environmental and climate change, shifts in globalisation patterns, and demographic shifts, as well as crises such as the Covid-19 pandemic, are transforming societies, economies, and the world of work. Therefore, effective and inclusive skills and lifelong learning systems promote better responsiveness of skills supply to current and future labour market needs, and serve as key enablers of human development, full, productive, and freely chosen employment, and decent work for all, as reflected in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4, 5, and 8.

The WorldSkills Kenya National Competition provides a path for the youth to build confidence and employable skills, and advocate for their talents and rights at national, regional and global platforms for skills development and excellence.

ILO has been partnering with WorldSkills Kenya and the TVET Authority in the past and this year, as we believe that it is important to raise the profile of skills development, provide a unique opportunity for individuals and trainers, and input global level standards as benchmarks into national systems to enhance quality.

The ILO's Skills Development Strategy has the overall goal of enabling the development of resilient systems based on social dialogue that provide inclusive access to high-quality skills development and lifelong learning opportunities for all. This is to promote human development, full, productive, and freely chosen employment, and decent work for all.

ILO plays a vital role in spearheading efforts to enhance market-driven skills development approaches through its Convention No. 142 on Human Resource Development, and its supplementary Recommendation No. 195. Both C142 and R195 encourage member states to adopt and develop comprehensive and coordinated skills development policies and programmes for technical and vocational guidance and training, closely linked with employment.

Ensuring inclusive access to skills development and lifelong learning is key to fostering diverse economies and societies, as it tackles gender segregation and discriminatory practices in the labour market, reduces the intergenerational transmission of inequalities, and facilitates the transition of workers and businesses to formality.

Integrated and comprehensive actions are therefore needed towards equal participation in lifelong learning, with special attention given to women, young people, migrants, refugees, and other persons and groups in vulnerable and disadvantaged situations.

# An ideal platform for you, the skilled youth, to shine



Dr. Erick Rutto  
Chamber President

The WorldSkills Kenya National Competition marks an unprecedented milestone in our nation's journey towards excellence and innovation. It is with immense pride that we announce Kenya's debut participation in the prestigious World Skills Competition, coordinated by WorldSkills Kenya in collaboration with the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA), Ministry of Education, Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KNCCI) and other partners, Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, Boma International College of Hospitality, and Technical University of Kenya.

The WorldSkills Kenya National Competition stands as a testament to the potential and capabilities of our youth. It is a global platform where young minds converge to display their mastery in various trades, crafts, and skills. This event transcends boundaries, fostering mutual friendship among nations while igniting the

flames of excellence and innovation.

At KNCCI, we recognise the power of youth in driving economic growth and fostering a culture of excellence. Our Youth Committee serves as a dynamic platform, propelling the aspirations of young minds, and the WorldSkills Kenya National Competition provides the perfect stage for them to shine.

KNCCI has been working closely with various youth-led organisations to foster a spirit of collaboration and networking. The World Skills Competition provides an ideal platform for these organisations to come together, share ideas, and build relationships that can have a lasting impact on their future endeavours.

Participating in the WorldSkills Kenya National Competition is not just about winning medals, but more about embracing growth and evolution. By joining this international competition, you are opening doors to unparalleled learning experiences, skill enhancement, and exposure to cutting-edge techniques. The skills

you acquire will not only propel your personal journey, but also contribute to the overall progress of our nation's workforce.

Our country is a treasure of talent and potential waiting to be unlocked. Participating in the Competition, you have the chance to shine on a global stage. Your expertise, passion, and dedication can demonstrate to the world the calibre of our workforce and the prowess of our industries.

To all the young leaders and members of youth-led organisations, I urge you to take full advantage of KNCCI's support and guidance. Let the WorldSkills Competition be your canvas to showcase your talents, leadership skills, and commitment to driving positive change in our nation.

As we embark on this remarkable journey together, remember that you are not just representing yourselves, but also the aspirations of our entire nation. With great pride and anticipation, I look forward to witnessing your success.

## KNCCI's enduring commitment to the future of WorldSkills Kenya Competition



Mr. Patrick Nyangweso  
Chief Executive Officer, KNCCI

I am honoured to cast our gaze into the promising future of this remarkable journey of championing for skills development and the Kenya National Chamber of Commerce and Industry's (KNCCI) unwavering commitment to its continuation.

The inaugural participation of Kenya in the WorldSkills Competition marks the beginning of a legacy that shall continue to shine through generations. KNCCI's commitment to fostering excellence and innovation amongst our youth is resolute, and we pledge to uphold this legacy with renewed vigour and dedication.

Our commitment goes beyond the present moment. It is an investment in the leaders of tomorrow. KNCCI envisions a future where our youth are not only skilled and accomplished, but are also empowered to drive transformative change. We are dedicated to supporting initiatives that encourage

skills development, entrepreneurship, and global exposure.

The Competition will adopt bottom-up approach, starting from the county level and progressing to the regional and national levels. KNCCI will also work in collaboration with the Micro and Small Enterprise Authority (MSEA) for promotion of exhibition for SMEs and Youth-led organisations as a wellspring of innovation.

Looking ahead, we envision the WorldSkills Competition as a springboard for greater engagement and international collaboration. KNCCI is committed to expanding our partnerships with global counterparts, fostering connections that will open doors to new opportunities, knowledge exchange, and cross-cultural learning.

Through training, mentorship, and exposure to cutting-edge practices, we aim to equip our youth with skills that are not only relevant but also fu-

ture-proof. By doing so, we hope to position Kenya as a hub of innovation and expertise on the global stage.

As we navigate this journey into the future, I invite all Industry players, organisations, and stakeholders to join hands with KNCCI. Let us collaborate, innovate, and envision a Kenya that stands at the forefront of skills development, economic growth, and global cooperation. Your involvement, support, and ideas are integral to shaping the path ahead on shared prosperity.

The future of the WorldSkills Competition in Kenya is vibrant and promising. Together with KNCCI's continued commitment and your unwavering support, we will create a legacy that transforms lives, industries, and our nation. With immense optimism and anticipation, let us march forward, confident that the seeds we sow today will yield bountiful harvests for generations to come.

## Why ATC is keen on this competition

Africa Tech Challenge (ATC), sponsored by AVIC International and organised by AVIC International, the Ministry of Education of Kenya, and China Education Association for International Exchange, is also in partnership with WorldSkills Kenya to select students who will represent the country in the CNC Lathe machining and Mechanical drawings and CAD software application.

ATC is based on skilled training and practical knowledge transfer. It aims

to improve the youth's technical skills through training and competition, taking into consideration that the unemployment rate among the youth in Kenya and the rest of Africa is due to the fact that they lack technical and practical skills. This therefore serves the mission of connecting the vocational education and industrial value chains, and eventually forming a new model for Chinese enterprises to handle their overseas CSR projects.

ATC Season VIII was launched on

July 24. There were 83 teams formed by 332 students participating in ATC Season VIII.

The participants are from Kenya, Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. The participants were trained for five weeks starting July 24. There are two competition events this year: CNC Lathe machining, which is conducted in the Technical University of Kenya, and Mechanical drawings and CAD software application, which is

conducted online through AVIC INTL Vocational Education Online Platform.


ATC Certificate will be issued to trainees who complete the training, including team leaders. Winning teams will be awarded with cash prize. Individual winners will be awarded with scholarships to study in China, and outstanding individuals will gain interview opportunities for internship.






 **Contact Us**


Kenya National Chamber of Commerce & Industry  
Heritan House, Ground Floor, Woodlands Road, Off  
Argwings Kodhek Road, Opposite Department Of  
Defence HQs, Hurlingham – Nairobi, Kenya  
P.O. Box 47024-00100

 +254 111 050 600

 [info@kenyachamber.or.ke](mailto:info@kenyachamber.or.ke)

 [www.kenyachamber.or.ke](http://www.kenyachamber.or.ke)

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