



**JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF THE 3RD BILATERAL TRADE MEETING BETWEEN
THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
OF ETHIOPIA ON THE SIMPLIFIED TRADE REGIME**

17TH APRIL, 2025

MOMBASA, KENYA.

1. Pursuant to the 2nd bilateral meeting between the Republic of Kenya and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia held from 15th -17th June, 2023 in Ethiopia, the Ministers responsible for trade of the two countries met in Mombasa from 16th -17th April, 2025.
2. The meeting was co-chaired by Hon. Lee Kinyanjui, Cabinet Secretary for Investments, Trade and Industry of the Republic of Kenya and H.E Dr. Kassahun Gofe, Minister of Trade and Regional Integration of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.
3. In attendance were; Senior Government Officials from the Ministry of Trade and Regional integration, and relevant stakeholders from Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, while Kenyan delegation was composed of officials from Ministries, Departments, and Agencies as well as a representative from the private sector.
4. The meeting considered the bracketed issues in the draft Simplified Trade Regime and the common list of products and underscored the

importance of concluding the negotiations to kickstart the implementation of the STR to accelerate trade between the border communities of the two countries.

5. The meeting considered the key outstanding issues which include: *Areas of Border Trade, Trading Threshold, Travel Frequency and the Common List of Products.*
6. Overall, the Ministers meeting agreed as follows;
 - 6.1 That the border area for Ethiopia be 50km from the common border while for Kenya side the border area should be 100Kms from the common border.
 - 6.2 That the value of threshold be 1000 USD with a frequency of 4 times per month.
 - 6.3 Both parties agreed on a common list of Products.
7. Details of the deliberations are contained in the matrix of the agreed minutes.
8. Further, the meeting agreed to collaborate on the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area. Both parties agreed to develop a Memorandum of Understanding to fast-track the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area between the Republic of Kenya and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The Ethiopian side agreed to initiate and exchange the draft instrument.

Done in Mombasa, Kenya, on this the 17th day of April, 2025

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**HON. LEE KINYANJUI
CABINET SECRETARY,
MINISTRY OF INVESTMENTS, TRADE &
INDUSTRY**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

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**H.E. DR. KASSAHUN GOFE,
MINISTER OF TRADE AND
REGIONAL INTEGRATION**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
REPUBLIC FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA**