

AHK EASTERN AFRICA NOTICE BOARD

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No. 12 | 2025

Kenya



Delegation der Deutschen
Wirtschaft für Ostafrika
Delegation of German Industry
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CJ Koome urges the Executive and Parliament to enhance Judiciary budgetary allocation for optimal service delivery

Chief Justice Martha Koome has urged the Executive and Parliament, to enhance Judiciary's budgetary allocation to enable optimal delivery of its mandate and serve the public.

Speaking during the launch of the E-Judiciary Mobile Application, the Judiciary Innovations Compendium, and the Performance Management and Measurement Evaluation (PMMU) Report 2023–2024, the CJ said several courts continued to operate under serious constraints—including shortages of judges and judicial officers, heavy caseloads, inadequate infrastructure, and significant gaps in human and financial resources.

For more information, please click here:

<https://bit.ly/3Sa040K>

Highlights

- CJ Koome urges the Executive and Parliament to enhance Judiciary budgetary allocation for optimal service delivery
- Chief Justice Urges Parliament to Fast Track Tribunals Bill
- Over 100 Bomet Youths undergo IYF Empowerment Programme
- Recent Monetary and Financial Developments
- Co-op Bank's Q1 Profit Shoots By 6.8% to Ksh9.63 Billion on Strong Financial Performance
- Launch of the Huduma Serikali Initiative



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Chief Justice Urges Parliament to Fast Track Tribunals Bill

Chief Justice Martha Koome has urged Members of Parliament to fast track the enactment of the long pending Tribunals Bill, emphasizing its critical role in harmonising the operations of tribunals. Speaking at the launch of Kisumu Tribunals Shared Services, the CJ noted that the legislation will enhance legal clarity, and solidify the foundation upon which a coherent and effective tribunals system can be built nationwide. For more information, please click here:

<https://bit.ly/4dnEvmW>

Over 100 Bomet Youths undergo IYF Empowerment Programme

Over 100 youths from Bomet County graduated after undergoing training in a personal development empowerment programme, courtesy of the International Youth Fellowship (IYF) NGO, in partnership with the County Government, in a remarkable Free Weekend Academic event celebrated at the Centre for Devolved Governance (CDG), Bomet.

The graduation ceremony marked the successful completion of an intensive empowerment programme designed to nurture leadership, foster personal development, and inspire community service among the youth across the genders.

Through this initiative, participants were equipped with practical life skills and a renewed sense of purpose, in a move aimed at positioning them as catalysts for positive change within their communities.

For more information, please here:

<https://bit.ly/3SRvrxb>



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Co-op Bank's Q1 Profit Shoots By 6.8% to Ksh9.63 Billion on Strong Financial Performance

Co-op Bank has recorded another spectacular start to the year, making Ksh9.63 billion in profit before tax in the first three months of 2025. In comparison, Co-op Bank registered a profit before tax of Ksh9 billion in Q1 of 2024. The bank has announced a profit of Ksh6.9 billion after tax for the first quarter of 2025, covering January to March. This is a Ksh300 million increase from Ksh6.6 billion recorded in the same period last year. According to Co-op Bank, the rise in profit can be traced to growth in its assets, loans and advances, as well as customer deposits over the period. For more information please click here: <https://bit.ly/45ifHe6>

Launch of the Huduma Serikali Initiative

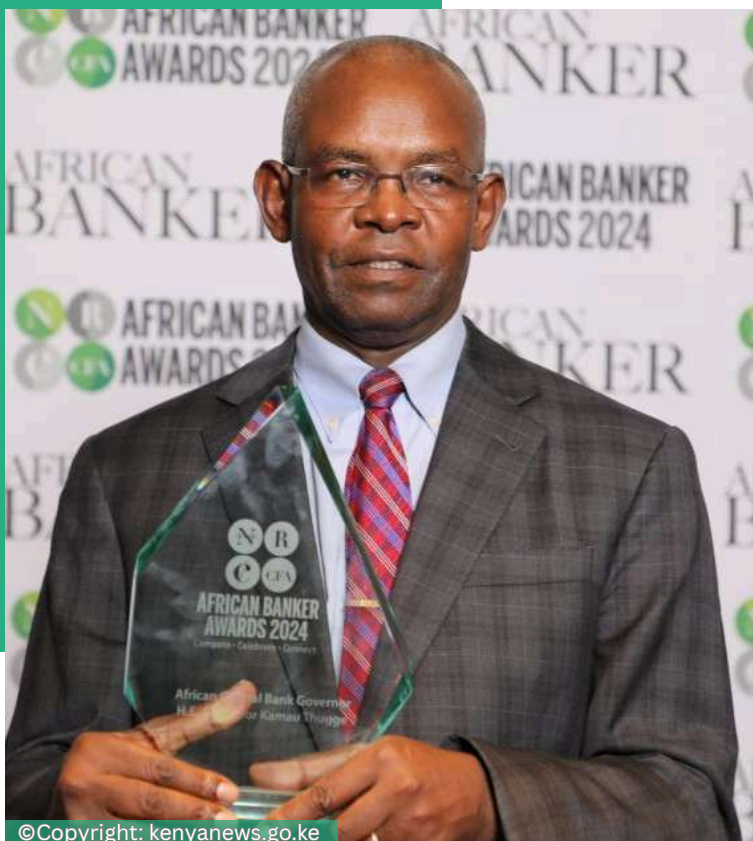
Joyous celebrations marked a major milestone for residents of Ashabito Sub-County in Mandera North, Mandera County as the Government officially launched public service operations in the newly gazetted administrative unit. The event, graced by Cabinet Secretary for Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes, Geoffrey Ruku, also unveiled the Huduma Smart Serikalini initiative (Mandera Edition) a bold step in the National Government's mission, through the Ministry, to bring efficient, timely, and responsive services closer to citizens.

Speaking at the vibrant ceremony, CS Ruku reaffirmed the government's unwavering commitment to decentralizing public services and making them accessible. For more information please click here:

<https://bit.ly/43rNuPu>



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Recent Monetary and Financial Developments

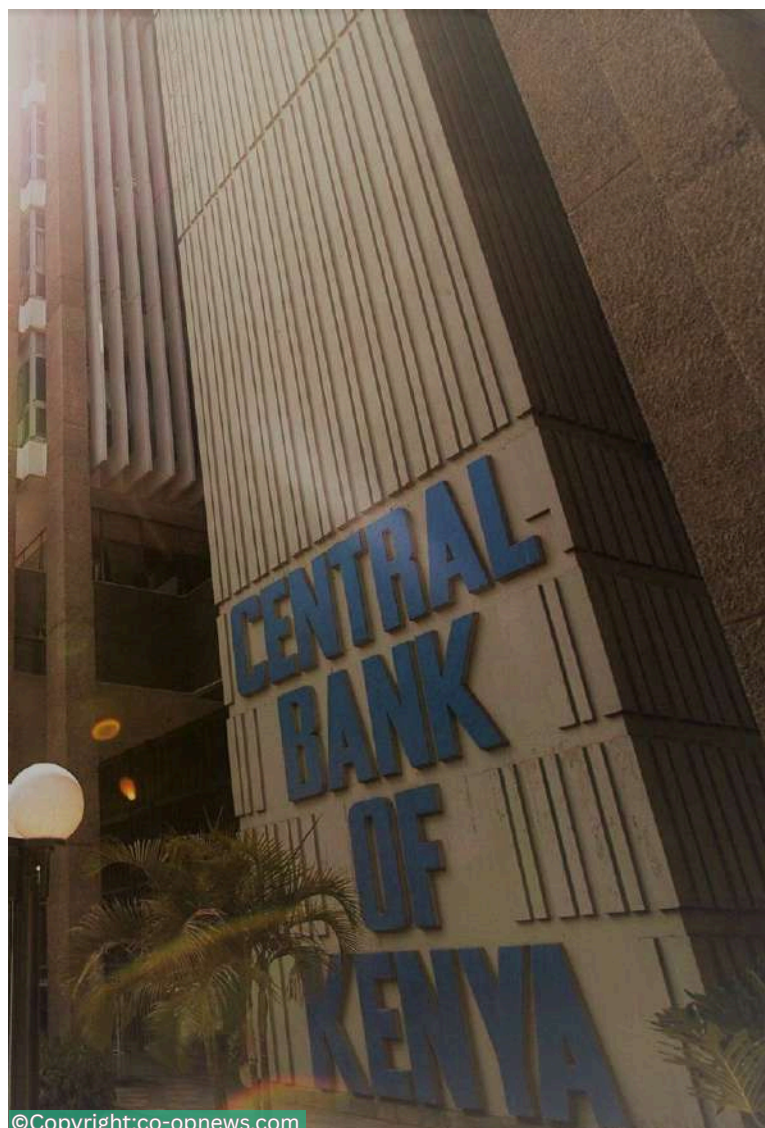
Exchange Rates:

The Kenya Shilling remained relatively stable against major international and regional currencies during the week ending May 15, reflecting continued confidence in the local currency and supportive market conditions. On May 15, the Shilling exchanged at KSh 129.25 per US dollar, a slight appreciation compared to KSh 129.27 recorded on May 8. This marginal movement indicates a steady foreign exchange environment, supported by balanced demand and supply dynamics in the foreign exchange market.

Money Market:

The domestic money market maintained adequate liquidity during the week under review, with open market operations by the Central Bank of Kenya remaining active to manage short-term liquidity fluctuations. Commercial banks' excess reserves stood at KSh 17.4 billion, above the 3.25 percent cash reserves requirement (CRR), indicating sufficient liquidity buffers in the banking sector. The average interbank rate slightly declined to 9.85 percent on May 15, from 9.90 percent on May 8, signaling stable interbank funding conditions. Notably, the average number of interbank transactions rose to 17 deals from 15 in the previous week, while the average value of interbank trades increased to KSh 9.4 billion, up from KSh 8.92 billion. These developments reflect active liquidity distribution among financial institutions.

Find the detailed report on the financial developments for the previous week here: <https://bit.ly/3HksPFy>



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Tanzania



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Africa Waste is Health Report – Now Available!

The Africa Waste is Wealth Series II Report, released in May 2025, presents a comprehensive analysis of Africa's escalating waste management challenges and the continent's potential to transform waste into economic value through circular economy practices. Building upon the discussions and commitments from the Africa Waste is Wealth Conference held in Nairobi in October 2024, the report emphasizes the urgent need for integrated waste management strategies across Africa.

Key Highlights from the Report

- **Waste Generation:** Africa generates over 140 million tonnes of waste yearly, but less than 11% is recovered, despite 80% being recyclable or organic.
- **Economic Potential:** With the right investments and policies, the sector could unlock over USD 8 billion annually and create 400,000+ jobs.

For more information, please click here:

<https://bit.ly/4mmF6cJ>

Highlights

- Africa Waste is Health Report – Now Available!
- Tanzania Tables 1.24tr/- Budget for Agricultural Transformation
- Tanzania Reduces Fees and Charges to Boost Local Investment in Tourism Sector

Partners





Tanzania Tables 1.24tri/- Budget for Agricultural Transformation

After press release in Dodoma, The Ministry of Agriculture has tabled 1.24tri/- budget for the 2025/2026 financial year, with a clear focus on accelerating growth in the sector through implementation of the Tanzania Agriculture Master Plan 2050.

Presenting the budget estimates in Parliament, Agriculture Minister Hussein Bashe said the funds will support key initiatives aimed at boosting food security, export potential, and resilience to climate change.

For more information, please click here: <https://bit.ly/3Fl2wi4>

Tanzania Reduces Fees and Charges to Boost Local Investment in Tourism Sector

After press release in Dodoma, the government has announced new reforms to improve the business environment in the tourism sector, focusing on easing costs for local investors. Presenting the 2025/26 budget, Tourism Minister Dr Pindi Chana revealed reduced licensing fees and waived park entry charges for licensed tour guides.

The reforms aim to eliminate regulatory barriers and promote local participation through frameworks like the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC). The ministry has requested Sh359.98 billion for 2025/26, prioritizing development and conservation. For more information Please click here: <https://bit.ly/44OaU44>



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Uganda



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Uganda Emerges as one of East Africa's Economic Front-Runners in 2024

Uganda achieved a 5.7% real GDP growth rate in 2024, surpassing Kenya's 4.7% and South Sudan's 4.2%, according to the 2025 Economic Survey by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS).

This performance positions Uganda among the top growth rate performers in the East African Community (EAC), trailing only Rwanda (7.0%) and Tanzania (6.1%).

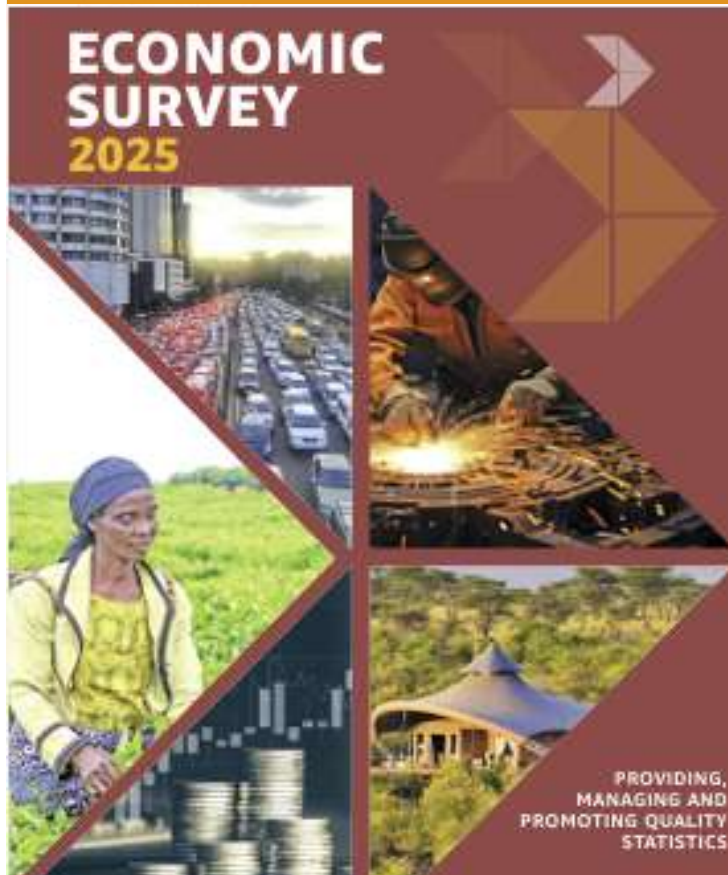
Notably, Uganda remained Kenya's largest African export market, importing goods worth KSh 125.9 billion in 2024, nearly double Tanzania's KSh 67.2 billion.

For more information, please click here:

<https://bit.ly/4jP6eiU>

Highlights

- Uganda Emerges as one of East Africa's Economic Front-Runners in 2024
- Uganda Reinstates Military Trials for Civilians





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Uganda Reinstates Military Trials for Civilians

The Parliament of Uganda has passed the Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (Amendment) Bill, 2024, a controversial piece of legislation that reintroduces provisions permitting the trial of civilians in military courts for specific military-related offences. This move marks a significant shift in Uganda's legal and judicial framework, especially in light of a landmark 2022 Supreme Court ruling that had declared the practice unconstitutional, citing violations of fair trial rights and due process. The passing of the amendment follows intense debate and public scrutiny over the role of military courts in civilian justice.

Proponents of the bill argue that it is a necessary step to protect national security and address crimes that threaten the integrity of the armed forces and the state. They contend that certain offences — such as espionage, terrorism, illegal possession of firearms, and other acts with military implications — require specialized judicial processes that the military courts are equipped to handle.

However, the bill has sparked widespread concern among human rights groups, civil society organizations, and opposition members of Parliament. Critics warn that reviving the military's jurisdiction over civilians risks eroding constitutional safeguards and could open the door to political persecution, arbitrary arrests, and the suppression of dissenting voices. They argue that such provisions may be used to target journalists, activists, and government critics under the guise of national security.

For more information please click here:

<https://bit.ly/45l8dHj>



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Ethiopia



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ID4Africa AGM Opens in Addis Ababa, Showcasing Digital ID Progress and International Collaboration

The ID4Africa Annual General Meeting (AGM) has officially kicked off in Addis Ababa, running through May 23. The event brings together African governments, development partners, and technology leaders to accelerate the development of secure and inclusive digital identity systems across the continent. Ethiopia is a key highlight this year, showcasing its transition to a national digital ID platform that has already enrolled over 15 million people, with a goal of reaching 90 million. The system is enhancing access to vital services—particularly for women, youth, and displaced communities—and has enabled digital transactions totaling 9.6 trillion Birr. It is also being integrated across critical sectors such as finance, healthcare, and education. The AGM has attracted strong international participation, including from Germany. AHK Eastern Africa is facilitating partnerships for German companies, and Desko GmbH, a leading provider of identity verification solutions, participated in the event.

Highlights

- ID4Africa AGM Opens in Addis Ababa, Showcasing Digital ID Progress and International Collaboration
- Ethiopian Airlines Expands Fleet with Major GE Aerospace Engine Deals
- Ethiopia Joins EIB's Greening Financial Systems Program to Advance Climate Resilience





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Ethiopian Airlines Expands Fleet with Major GE Aerospace Engine Deals

Ethiopian Airlines has signed key agreements with GE Aerospace to power its growing widebody fleet, selecting GEnx-1B engines for 11 new Boeing 787-9s and reaffirming its order of GE9X engines for eight Boeing 777-9s, with options for six more. The deals expand its GEnx-powered fleet from 19 to 30 aircraft and include long-term maintenance agreements. The GE9X is the most powerful and fuel-efficient engine in its class, while the GEnx is GE's top-selling high-thrust engine, powering two-thirds of 787s worldwide. Both engines are certified for Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) blends, aligning with Ethiopian's focus on efficiency, sustainability, and advanced technology. For more information, please click here:

<https://bit.ly/45n9JJ0>

Ethiopia Joins EIB's Greening Financial Systems Program to Advance Climate Resilience

Ethiopia has officially joined the European Investment Bank's (EIB) Greening Financial Systems (GFS) Program, a climate resilience initiative funded by Germany through the International Climate Initiative (IKI). Announced at the Ethiopia Finance Forum, the program aims to support the National Bank of Ethiopia (NBE) in integrating climate risks into financial regulation, enhancing climate-related disclosures, and developing the country's first National Green Taxonomy to guide sustainable investments. The initiative is designed to strengthen the financial sector's ability to manage climate risks, mobilize green finance, and align with international sustainability standards. For more information, please click here: <https://bit.ly/3SbI9H0>



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