



**EASF DIRECTOR, AMB. ISSIMAIL CHANFI'S REMARKS
DURING THE HAND OVER CEREMONY OF
THE EASF FORCE HEADQUARTERS' START UP KIT**

3rd DECEMBER, 2015

KCB LEADERSHIP TRAINING CENTRE, KAREN

- 1. Our Chief Guest.....**
- 2. Your Excellency Amb Mette Knudsen of the Embassy of the Kingdom of Denmark**
- 3. Your Excellency the Representative of the UK High Commissioner in Kenya**
- 4. Your Excellency's Ambassadors of the EASF Member States to the Republic of Kenya**
- 5. The Chief of Defence Forces – Kenya Defence Forces**
- 6. Director Defence Staff College**
- 7. Defence Attaches'**
- 8. EASF Staff**
- 9. Technical Advisors**
- 10. Members of the Press,**
- 11. All Protocols Observed**
- 12. Ladies and Gentlemen**

Good Morning!

It is with great pleasure and honour that I welcome you all to this Handover Ceremony of the EASF Force Headquarters Startup Kit.

I know that all of you distinguished guests have made a huge effort to be with us today to witness this handover ceremony.

We are deeply humbled and appreciative of your presence and offer you our most grateful welcome.

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

This day of Thursday 3rd December 2015, will be a memorable day for EASF.

We are gathered here today, to witness the handover to the EASF Secretariat, a Startup Kit worth Four Hundred and Forty Nine Thousand, Seven Hundred and Nine United States Dollars **(USD 449,709.00)**

This precious donation is given to the EASF by two of our Partners, the Government of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, of the United Kingdom, and the Government of Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II of the Kingdom of Denmark.

The United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Denmark ladies and gentlemen, have been with us throughout this journey and have supported the progress and development of EASF through the years. They have availed the much needed technical, financial and logistical support to our Organisation, making possible the positive advancement of EASF to its current strategic status. We truly appreciate this immense support, and we express our heartfelt gratitude to Her Royal Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and her Government, and Her Majesty Queen Margrethe II and her Government, for their tremendous support.

Distinguished Guests

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The donation of this Force Headquarter Startup Kit comes at a very opportune time. It is handed over to us as we engage in the preparation for the deployment of our Force. This donation fills the gap that existed and will make easier the move of EASF in theatre of operation. It will add much needed capacity for the effective deployment of the EASF.

EASF, as you already know, is an integrated standby force. After ten years of preparations, it is now ready to undertake its task, to realise its vision, missions and mandate.

We take this opportunity to thank all the Partners and Friends of EASF, for making this journey with us since 2004, and for their renewed commitment to engage the EASF in this post-Full Operational Capability period.

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

We owe much gratitude to all the EASF Member States. They have shown their total commitment to the realization of the vision, missions and mandate of EASF. They have spared no effort and have taken every needed step to ensure that the EASF

attains maturity in line with the APSA Programme and the African Union Roadmaps.

We owe them the pride that we all have today, of an EASF fully operational, ready for the task assigned. We further thank them for making sure that our common dream becomes a reality.

I remain convinced that with our joint efforts, we will definitely contribute more to peace, security and stability in the region, the continent and the world at large. Together, we will surely make a difference.

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to thank you once again for honouring this important ceremony.

Our sincere thanks and gratitude to the people and Government of the United Kingdom and the Kingdom of Denmark.

Today, another milestone is achieved in the operationalization of EASF.

I Thank you.