

AROUND THE WORLD

H.E. Mr. Volkan Bozkır
President of the United Nations General Assembly



KENYA

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NAIROBI, KENYA

Kenya is host to the largest UN presence outside New York and Geneva. I was honored to be received by the President, H.E Mr. Uhuru Kenyatta. I commended President Kenyatta for his efforts to strengthen multilateralism and for hosting the UN's substantial presence in Nairobi, including through the COVID-19 pandemic.



I had the privilege of delivering remarks at the opening segment of the High-Level Mid-Term Review Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Representatives to UN-Habitat. I welcomed UN-Habitat's efforts to support global, national and city-level response plans, particularly in urban areas and called on world leaders to prioritize sustainable urbanization.



I also met with Mr. Keriako Tobiko, Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Forestry, Ms. Farida Karoney, Cabinet Secretary for Lands and Physical Planning, as well as Ms. Zainab Hawa Bangura, the Under-Secretary-General and Director-General of the United Nations Office in Nairobi, Ms. Maimunah Mohd Sharif, the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of UN-Habitat, Ms. Inger Andersen, the Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme, Ms. Agnes Kalibata, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General to the 2021 Food Systems Summit as well as the representatives of the UN Country Team in Kenya. I thanked them for their ambition in accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.



KARURA FOREST, MICHUKI MEMORIAL PARK AND NAIROBI NATIONAL MUSEUM

I visited the Karura Forest which proves that preserving the natural and promoting urbanization are not mutually exclusive, and participated in the forest's Adopt-a-Forest initiative. I also had the privilege of visiting another of Nairobi's glorious urban green spaces, the Michuki Memorial Park, a space that only 10 years ago contained 20,000 tonnes of waste. These excursions demonstrated excellent examples of environmental conservation and the New Urban Agenda in action. Lastly, It was also great to visit the Nairobi National Museum and learn more about Kenya's rich heritage.

