



**INTERNATIONAL
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International Coffee Council
124th Session
25 – 29 March 2019
Nairobi, Kenya

**Remarks by the Hon. Mwangi Kiunjuri,
Mgh, Egh, Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of
Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and
Irrigation, made at the opening ceremony of
the 124th Session of the Council**

Your Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya, Hon. Uhuru Kenyatta,
Cabinet Ministers from our neighbouring countries,
Colleague Cabinet Secretaries,
Chairperson & the CEO of the International Coffee Organization,
Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps,
Hon. Governors,
Hon. Senators and MPs,
Our Distinguished Coffee Farmers and Stakeholders,
ICO Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me immense pleasure to have Kenya play host to the 124th Session of the International Coffee Council (ICO) meeting here in Nairobi.

It is a great honour and a testimony of our commitment towards ensuring a better performing coffee sector both locally and internationally.

Your Excellency,

Your presence here today speaks of your personal commitment, interest and support for the coffee sector. I thank you on behalf of all the stakeholders.

Mine this morning is very brief. It is to assure you and the coffee industry stakeholders that the interventions the Ministries of Agriculture and Trade have begun making are poised to make a turnaround for the benefit of our farmers.

Your Excellency,

Today's Council meetings provide us with another platform to further engage and explore policy solutions towards the prevailing coffee industry challenges, especially those related to accessing international markets.

Doing so are delegates from the ICO Member countries, eager to engage and represent their respective countries and make this session a success.

In their midst are our government officials who include members of the National Assembly, the Senate and fellow Cabinet Secretaries.

Our county governments are also represented by Governors and their Executive members in charge of agriculture, trade and related docket.

Their unwavering support to coffee production has kept us on the world map and we salute them.

We also have dignitaries & diplomats from member countries who are eager to facilitate and promote coffee in their respective countries and regions.

Last but not least I thank the Development Partners for their continued support and goodwill to the industry in Kenya.

Finally, Your Excellency, it is now my humble duty to invite you to address the audience and officially open the 124th Session of the International Coffee Council meetings.