



**HEADQUARTERS
KENYA DEFENCE FORCES**

**HEADQUARTERS
UNITED STATES AFRICA COMMAND**



August 14, 2025

Dear Chiefs of Defense,

Thank you for your participation in the African Chiefs of Defense Conference 2025 in Nairobi. Whether in person, via a representative, or from afar, our gathering of African military leaders was successful because of your commitment to our shared interest in strengthening partnerships and shaping the security environment in Africa. As we look to the future, we wanted to share the opportunities we identified together for achieving the theme of this year's conference: "Strengthening African Security, Sustaining Unity of Effort."

First and foremost, we can look to **RENEW AND EXPAND SECURITY PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS AFRICA AND WORLDWIDE**. Coordination among an ever-growing community of actors, regional organizations, civil society, private sector, academic institutions, and local communities will multiply our ability to tackle emerging threats. We must find spaces to pool intellectual and financial capital across borders to ensure operations and force development are adequately resourced, even in resource constrained environments.

Our strengthened security partnerships will allow us to advance on the following opportunities.

A COMMON VISION FOR SECURITY WITH A SHARED RESOLVE TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION. Internally, we can focus on the policies, procedures, and outputs associated with increased inter-and intragovernmental integration -- information sharing frameworks, standardization of training equipment and operations doctrine, joint bilateral and multilateral operations, resource mobilization to mitigate disparities and improve capabilities. Externally, we can revitalize multilateralism, working to overcome increasing distrust amongst member states, geopolitical tensions, and the risk of group indecision. No one country can address terrorism, pandemic prevention, and the handling of humanitarian crises on its own. These shared threats demand shared responses.

INSPIRING INNOVATION AGAINST EMERGING THREATS. We must collaborate to develop comprehensive strategies to counter emerging threats and the rapidly evolving security landscape from the operational effects of a changing environment to cyber-attacks to new tactics from terrorist groups and other malign actors using inexpensive technology to undermine security and stability. Encouraging creativity and experimentation with technology within your ranks including innovation cells and mechanisms to reward those breakthroughs will be key. Sharing those insights among our militaries will position us to leverage each other's successes and lessons learned.



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STRENGTHENING DEFENSE INSTITUTIONS. Let each of us focus on the structural enablers of effective militaries: professionalizing our human capital to include our enlisted ranks through international forums like the African Senior Enlisted Leader Conference, empowering multiagency operations, cooperative international partnerships, and thriving civil military relations. These efforts demonstrate to our people that we have security solutions beyond just fire power.

And we will encourage our international partners to **PROMOTE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP IN SECURING THE AFRICAN CONTINENT.** An African-led, whole of society approach to peace and security requires only modest investment from international partners. African militaries will continue to lead and collaborate on efforts to secure a more stable Africa.

We look forward to continuing our discussions over the coming months, culminating in the African Chiefs of Defense Conference 2026, where we will assess our collective progress in building a more resilient and prosperous Africa. Now is the moment to press forward together to maximize opportunities and achieve our shared security objectives.

Yours Faithfully,

C M Kahariri
General
Chief of Defence Forces

Sincerely,

M.E. Langley
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commander, U.S. Africa Command