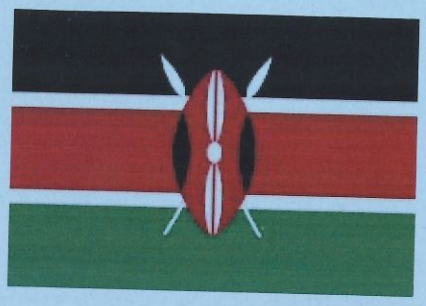

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA REPRESENTED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR DIASPORA AFFAIRS

AND

THE STATE OF NEBRASKA REPRESENTED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF NEBRASKA AS CHIEF PROTOCOL OFFICER

ON

ESTABLISHMENT OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DIASPORA AFFAIRS, STUDENTS AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING, SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

PREAMBLE

The Government of the Republic of Kenya (represented by the State Department for Diaspora Affairs) and the State of Nebraska (represented by the Office of the Secretary of State of Nebraska) (hereinafter jointly referred to as "Parties" and separately as a "Party"),

- **APPRECIATING** the bonds of friendship and cooperation existing between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the State of Nebraska;
- **DESIRING** to promote understanding and solidarity between their citizens as a basis for further economic and social cooperation, to encourage and develop their friendly relations through exchanging programs to benefit their diaspora community;
- **AIMING** at further strengthening their partnership and cooperation in the field of diaspora affairs;
- **DETERMINING** to jointly take appropriate steps to protect, engage and empower the diaspora in accordance with respective national/federal and state legislation;
- **RESPECTING** the rights and guarantees set forth in their respective national/federal laws and the relevant international treaties and conventions to which the Parties are members of;
- **RESOLVING** to set out provisions in this MOU which will form the basis of a dynamic diaspora affairs cooperation
- **UNDERLINING** the importance of fostering cooperation in promoting skilled labor mobility, technology advances and cultural exchange for mutual benefit;
- **CONVINCED** of the need to promote co-operation between Kenya and Nebraska through the exchange of students, apprentices, and young professionals seeking to enhance their training;
- **RECOGNIZING** the importance of international partnerships for economic growth, skills development, and technological innovation;
- **DESIROUS** of promoting and developing their cultural and tourism relations for their mutual benefit;
- **BEARING IN MIND** that trade in agricultural products stands to benefit the economic and social development of their citizens;
- **COMMITTED** to promoting fair and ethical labor practices and improving access to employment and training opportunities for Kenyan and Nebraskan citizens;

have reached the following understanding:

ARTICLE 1

OBJECTIVE

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aims to facilitate cooperation between the Government of Kenya and the Government of the State of Nebraska in diaspora affairs, skilled labor mobility, students and apprenticeship training, technology advances and cultural exchange, with the goal of promoting mutual benefits for both Parties.

The Parties endeavor to pursue effective student work-based learning approaches, including the expansion of high-quality apprenticeship programs that are industry-led and recognized. Further, enhance the skills and expertise of the citizens in their academic or occupational fields and to improve their knowledge of techniques, methodologies, and technology.

ARTICLE 2

AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Parties intend to cooperate in areas that may include, but are not limited to the following:

i. Partnership and collaboration between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the State of Nebraska in diaspora affairs.
ii. Encouraging the lawful mobility of students and apprentices.
iii. Promoting lawful temporary migration for reasons of vocational education and training and for the purpose of gainful employment including exploring possibilities for seasonal work.
iv. Cooperating on consular services.
v. Supporting student and teacher exchanges as well as conducting co-learning, teaching and joint research.
vi. Encouraging cultural exchange programs to promote understanding and shared experiences between the people of Kenya and Nebraska.
vii. Developing and enhancing tourism relations between the Parties.
viii. Promoting capacity building to address various issues regarding food and nutrition security, climate change, animal and plant health, agricultural inputs, value added products and trade.
ix. Encouraging those with knowledge to share best practices in livestock production.
x. Promoting joint investment ventures between private entrepreneurs.
xi. Any other areas mutually agreed upon.

ARTICLE 3

FORMS OF COOPERATION

3.1 **Diaspora** Affairs
Both Parties will work towards strengthening diaspora affairs relations and facilitating regular engagements between governments and stakeholders.

The Parties will facilitate the exchange of programs, information sharing on the best practices in the areas of diaspora diplomacy and exchange of experiences in diaspora engagement and management.

3.2 **Labor Mobility**
The Parties will encourage the establishment of fair and ethical recruitment practices.

3.3 **Economic Development and Investment**
The Parties will encourage collaboration on economic development initiatives, including investment promotion, joint business ventures, and trade missions.

3.4 **Skills and Technology Transfer**
The Parties will engage in initiatives to transfer skills and technology, focusing on workforce upskilling training, technological innovation, and entrepreneurial support. Programs may include technical and vocational training, and professional exchange programs.

3.5 **Twinning Academic Institutions**
The parties will work toward establishing partnerships and twinning arrangements between universities, colleges, and research institutions in Kenya and Nebraska. This collaboration may include joint academic programs, faculty and student and teacher exchanges, and shared research initiatives to foster global academic excellence and innovation.

3.6 **Cultural Exchange**
The Parties will cooperate in cultural exchange through:

- Promotion of educational partnerships, cultural festivals and the arts, and youth exchange programs to foster mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's heritage.
- Facilitate holding of seminars and symposiums on the development of cultural industries and heritage, exchange of experts for sharing experiences, studies and appraisals.
- Encourage cooperation in the fields of publishing institutions through the exchange of information, experiences and exchange of librarians, and undertaking working visits to relevant libraries and documentation centers in their respective countries.

- Promote cooperation between their relevant institutions in the fields of conservation, restoration and preservation of cultural property and protection of cultural heritage.

ARTICLE 4

IMPLEMENTATION AND COORDINATION

The Parties designate the State Department for Diaspora Affairs of Kenya and the Office of the Secretary of State of Nebraska as the implementing agencies of this MOU.

The Parties will establish a Joint Implementation Committee to coordinate activities under this MOU. This Committee will be responsible for:

i. Developing the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this MOU.
ii. Monitoring and evaluating the implementation of this MOU.
iii. Facilitating communication and collaboration between relevant institutions and stakeholders.
iv. Making recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of cooperation under this MOU.

ARTICLE 5

SETTLEMENT OF DIFFERENCES

Any differences arising from the interpretation or implementation of this MOU will be resolved amicably through consultations between the Parties through the Joint Implementation Committee.

ARTICLE 6

APPLICABLE LAWS

The conduct and implementation of activities within this MOU will be governed by domestic laws of the Party where the activity takes place.

ARTICLE 7

LEGAL STATUS

This MOU constitutes a statement of the mutual intentions of the Parties with respect to its contents and does not constitute or create any legal obligations binding on either Party.

ARTICLE 8

AMENDMENTS

This MOU may be amended from time to time by mutual written consent of the parties. Any such amendments will come into effect on such a date as will be determined by the Parties and will form an integral part of this MOU.

ARTICLE 9

BASIC PRINCIPLES OF IMPLEMENTATION

The Parties will adhere to the internationally accepted principles and values during the implementation of this MOU consistent with and subject to their applicable domestic laws.

ARTICLE 10

CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties acknowledge that information shared pursuant to this MOU may be disclosed to third parties. The State of Nebraska is subject to public records laws and may be legally required to disclose information related to this MOU.

ARTICLE 11

FUNDING

Unless otherwise agreed in writing, each party will bear its own cost of implementation of activities under this MOU, the conduct of which activities will be subject to the availability of funds and other resources of the Parties.

ARTICLE 12

CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

Written communications, if any, will be sent to the following:

a. **The State Department for Diaspora Affairs**

The Principal Secretary
State Department for Diaspora Affairs
P. O. Box 316, Upper hill Chambers
NAIROBI – REPUBLIC OF KENYA

b. **The State of Nebraska, USA**

Robert Evnen
Nebraska Secretary of State
P.O. Box 94608
Lincoln, NE 68508

ARTICLE 13

TERMINATION

Either party may, terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by written notification to the other Party through diplomatic channels. Such.

i. notification will become effective six months after its receipt by the other party.

ii. Any on-going activities at the time of termination arising out of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be carried out to their logical conclusion as if the Memorandum of Understanding were still valid.

iii. In the event of this Memorandum of Understanding being terminated, each Party shall be solely responsible for the payment of any expenses it has incurred pursuant to the termination.

Article 14
COMING INTO EFFECT AND DURATION

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect upon signature of the Parties and will remain valid and effective until it is terminated in accordance with Article 13.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this MOU by their respective authorized representatives and it is signed in two (2) original copies in English for equal content on the dates and places indicated below.

Signed in duplicate at Nairobi on this 2nd day of September, in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Five.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Roseline Kathure Njogu, CBS
Principal Secretary
State Department for Diaspora Affairs

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF NEBRASKA

Robert Evnen
Nebraska Secretary of State