

Kenya and Djibouti

Kenya Embassy, Djibouti City

Kenya and Djibouti maintain warm and enduring diplomatic relations anchored in mutual respect, shared strategic interests and robust people-to-people connections. Formal diplomatic ties were established on 27 June 1977, following Djibouti's independence, and have since deepened through sustained political dialogue, high-level visits and expanding cooperation across multiple sectors.

Kenya–Djibouti relations are rooted in a common vision for peace, security and stability in the Horn of Africa. Both countries are founding members of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and are members of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), frameworks through which they cooperate on regional integration, trade and economic development, as well as peace and security. Their collaboration reflects a shared commitment to sustainable development and strengthened regional and multilateral cooperation in Eastern Africa.

Bilateral engagement spans trade and investment, transport and logistics, tourism, energy, education, health, agriculture and cultural exchange. Djibouti's strategic position as a regional trade and logistics hub, with key ports and transport corridors, offers significant opportunities to expand commercial linkages with Kenya, including through enhanced connectivity and value-chain integration. Meanwhile, cooperation in education, youth empowerment, health, culture and tourism fosters stronger societal ties and shared development outcomes.

Kenya and Djibouti continue to consolidate institutional and people-to-people connections through regular government consultations, high-level exchanges, professional and academic linkages, cultural programmes and public–private sector collaboration. These interactions create platforms to identify emerging areas of partnership and translate the longstanding friendship between the two countries into tangible outcomes for the benefit of our people.

The Kenya–Djibouti partnership remains dynamic, with great potential for deeper cooperation across political, economic, social and cultural domains. By building on shared interests and complementary strengths, both countries are well positioned to advance mutual prosperity while contributing to a peaceful, stable and integrated Horn of Africa.

Instruments in force

- Agreement on Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investment (2018)
- Agreement on Mutual Visa Exemption for Diplomatic Passport Holders (2018)
- Agreement on Cooperation in Vocational Training Between Kenya and Djibouti (2018)
- MOU on Bilateral Cooperation in the Agriculture Sector (2018)
- Trade Agreement between Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Republic of Djibouti (2018)
- MOU on Cooperation in the Field of Tourism (2023)

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- MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Energy (2023)
- MOU on Technical Cooperation in the Development of Youth Affairs and the Arts (2023)
- MoU on Mutual Cooperation on Foreign Service (2023)
- Bilateral Air Services Agreement (BASA) (1984)