

Our history

Kenya Embassy, Washington D.C.

The Embassy of the Republic of Kenya in Washington, D.C. was established on 1st March 1964, shortly after Kenya attained independence on 12th December 1963, with the mandate to promote, protect, and project Kenya's political, economic, and social interests in the United States of America. Since its inception, the Embassy has played a central role in nurturing and advancing the enduring bilateral relationship between Kenya and the United States, while positioning Kenya as a credible and influential actor on the global stage through strategic diplomacy and international cooperation.

In the early decades following independence, the Embassy was instrumental in strengthening bilateral engagement across key sectors, including trade, development assistance, education, and regional security. Kenya's engagement with the African American community, particularly during the civil rights era, contributed to deepening people-to-people ties and enhancing diplomatic goodwill. Over time, the Embassy facilitated critical partnerships that supported Kenya's development priorities, including infrastructure expansion, health programs, and governance reforms, with significant support from the United States.

The Embassy has consistently supported high-level engagements, facilitating official visits by successive Kenyan leaders, including Presidents Daniel Arap Moi, Mwai Kibaki, Uhuru Kenyatta, and William Ruto. These engagements have reinforced strategic cooperation and yielded key bilateral agreements across trade, security, climate action, and development. Notably, in August 2018, Kenya–United States relations were elevated to a Strategic Partnership, anchored on four pillars: economic prosperity and trade, defense cooperation, governance and civilian security, and multilateral and regional affairs, with a fifth pillar on health cooperation subsequently incorporated under the Bilateral Strategic Dialogue framework.

The Embassy is concurrently accredited to Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador, and Nicaragua on a non-resident basis. It also represents Kenya's interests at key international financial institutions, including the World Bank Group, the International Monetary Fund, and the International Finance Corporation.