



Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kenya
To the United Nations, New York
Security Council 2021-2022

EXPLANATION OF VOTE FOR THE RENEWAL OF THE MANDATE
OF 2140(2014)

MONDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 2022

STATEMENT BY AMB. MARTIN KIMANI – PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE

Thank you, Mr. President,

1. We have voted for the renewal of the 2140(2014) sanctions regime.
2. We have done so because we are committed to strengthening the resolution and enable it to respond more effectively to the evolving threats.
3. We note that despite multiple diplomatic engagements, regrettable military escalations have undermined these efforts.

4. It is imperative to ensure that those that engage in indiscriminate attacks on civilian and civilian infrastructure in Yemen and from Yemen into other countries in the region such as the UAE and Saudi Arabia are held to account. Measures including sanctions should be instituted to impede their capacity to undertake such terrorist acts.
5. We are aware that sanctions can have negative implications on humanitarian access. As such, effort should be made to ensure that humanitarian access is not impeded.
6. Kenya is alarmed by the increasing trend of transnational terrorist attacks by groups engaged in national peace processes. In this case, the attacks by the Houthis on civilian targets in the UAE and Saudi Arabia cross an acceptable threshold.
7. The Houthi control of populations and manipulation of the humanitarian space must not be given support by the Security Council.
8. Surely, we are aware by now that attacks on civilians and civilian objects are some of the greatest drivers of humanitarian crisis.

9. Counter terrorism and supporting humanitarian action are not in conflict. Carveouts must be designed to enable them to work together. And humanitarian organisations must be enabled to better operate in the space to limit exploitation.
10. As for concerns about the definition of terrorism being lacking. Terrorism is recognisable at the intuitive human level. An attack on an airport using missiles, as the Houthis did in UAE surely counts as terrorism.
11. The shooting of dozens in Westgate Mall in Kenya in 2013 surely is terrorism and does not need an agreed United Nations definition to count as terrorism.
12. It is time for the Security Council to limit the incentives of such groups to launch cross-border attacks as a way to add attention and leverage to their national positions.
13. Sanctions such as these being leveled today help reinforce to these groups that they will need to cease external attacks as legitimate political actors.
14. The same case applies to Al Shabaab which this Security Council treats as a political spoiler. But what point of political spoiling is their attack on hotels, malls and schools in Kenya.

15. Finally, Kenya reaffirms its unwavering solidarity with the people of Yemen and stand ready to support all endeavours aimed at securing their safety and well-being.

I thank you, Mr. President