



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

STATEMENT BY HIS EXCELLENCY WILLIAM SAMOEI RUTO, PHD; C.G.H., PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE DEFENCE FORCES ON THE SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE NIGER

1. On Wednesday, Africa suffered a serious setback in its democratic gains, as the aspirations of the People of Niger for constitutional democracy were subverted by an unconstitutional change of government that deposed His Excellency Mohamed Bazoum, a democratically elected President.
2. The Republic of Kenya joins the rest of the world, to condemn in the strongest terms, this unconstitutional act that subverts democracy through a coup de' tat and calls for the immediate release of President Mohamed Bazoum, who is reportedly seized by members of the Presidential guard.
3. Throughout our continent's history, we have strived tirelessly to nurture the principles of democracy, aligning ourselves with the aspirations of the African people for freedom and self-determination. This fundamental norm is crystallized in Article 4(p) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which unequivocally condemns and rejects any unconstitutional change of government.

4. The government and people of Kenya earnestly urge all parties involved to refrain from further escalation that might jeopardize the lives and livelihoods of the people of Niger.
5. We call for the swift restoration of Constitutional rule, ensuring the protection of the population and a return to full civilian authority while upholding utmost respect for the country's institutions. In this moment of strife, we implore all parties to engage in constructive discourse to restore peace in this fraternal nation, which has steadfastly stood as a bulwark against terrorism and its agents in the Sahel region.
6. The resurgence of military coups and attempts to subvert the will of the people on our beloved continent demands a united and global response to hold those responsible accountable for their actions.
7. Let us stand together, as one, to reaffirm our commitment to democracy, liberty, and the progress we have achieved. We must remain vigilant, guarding against any slide back into dark days that threaten the hard-fought gains in democracy.
8. Kenya is willing to assist in resolving the conflict under the auspices of the African Union, should it be deemed appropriate.
9. Africa shall continue to shine as a beacon of hope and progress, and we shall never waver in our pursuit of a brighter future for all.
10. May peace and prosperity prevail across our great continent and beyond.

Thank you and God bless Africa.

28th JULY 2023

STATE HOUSE, MOMBASA.

