

ADDRESS

BY

H.E. HON. WILLIAM S. BUTO, F.G.H. DEPUTY PRESIDENT OF THE

DURING THE

CO-CHAIRING OF THE ROUNDTABLE ON:

"INTERNATIONAL ACTION AND CO-OPERATION ON REFUGEES AND

**MIGRANTS AND ISSUES RELATED TO DISPLACEMENT: THE WAY
AHEAD"**

AT THE

**HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO ADDRESS
LARGE MOVEMENTS OF REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS**

1. This High Level Plenary session affords us an opportunity to reflect on our collective efforts in responding to the escalating humanitarian tragedy of large-scale movements of refugees and migrants.

As we assemble here today, 90% of the world's 20 million forced

migrants and refugees are hosted in 10 developing countries. Nothing

can better demonstrate the failure of international burden-sharing

than this reality. It is time to find a way to share the burden of

5. Since independence, Kenya has been host to refugees and asylum seekers from tens of countries, with Somalia giving the largest number for the longest time – more than two-and-half decades. This protracted situation has evolved into a complex crisis posing peculiar challenges to us as a host country.

6. The hosting of large numbers of refugees in socio-economically and ecologically fragile areas has led to over-exploitation of scarce resources and acute environmental degradation. In turn, this has exerted stress on the livelihoods of host communities, and in some

refugees. For long, the areas hosting refugee populations have been conduits of contraband, impacting negatively on our economy.

7. More recently, the Dadaab Refugee complex has lost its humanitarian character and been appropriated by terrorists and their

9. Owing to these concerns, and considering our investment in the improvement in Somalia's security situation, the Government of Kenya announced its decision to close the Dadaab Refugee Complex

and facilitate the repatriation of Somali refugees, within the framework of the 2013 Tripartite Agreement. We have also set up an elaborate structure that is interacting continuously with the Government of Somalia and the UNHCR on all aspects of the repatriation.

the repatriation. We have engaged a number of development partners including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, Arab Development Bank to create an enabling environment for the Somalia Government to receive its people.

11. Mr. Chairman

The repatriation process is complex and requires solidarity with the

role in Somalia's stabilization and guaranteeing the safe return of its people.

12. The success of AMISOM to date is a demonstration of the

