

30 OCT 1997
G15-Profile
PROFILES OF G15 MEMBERS

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- Here are the thumbnail sketches of the Group of 15 developing countries' (G15) including Kenya which is to be admitted as a member country in this summit.

ALGERIA

Head of State: President Liamine Zeroual

Capital: Algiers

Area: 2,381,741 sq km

Location: Northwest Africa from the Mediterranean into Sahara Desert; neighbours Morocco on the west, Mauritania, Mali, Niger on the south, Libya, Tunisia on the east;

Population: 29 million; Language: Arabic, French, Berber dialects

Economy: -- US\$ 2 billion in food products (flour, sugar, milk, fats and dry beans), US\$ 1 billion in products used in agriculture (fertilizers, pesticides, machines and equipment), US\$ 3 billion in inputs and industrial equipment (60 % of inputs & 99 % of equipment are imported), US\$55 million of pharmaceutical products. Gross National Product (GNP) per capita: US\$1650 (1996) Reserves: US\$6.4 billion (July 1997), Exports (Average) : US\$13 billion, Imports (Average): US\$ 9 billion; -- 70 % of all Algerian exports are to Europe and 60 per cent of its imports are from the EU. The other trading partners of Algeria are France, Italy, US and Germany. GNP: US\$ 42 billion -- Agriculture (12 %), Industry (44 %), Services (44 per cent); Industries: Oil, light industries, food processing; Crops: Grains, wine-grapes, dates. Minerals: Mercury, iron, zinc, lead.

Major International Organisations: UN (FAO, IMF, WHO), Arab League and OPEC

ARGENTINA

Head of State: President Carlos Saul Menem

Capital: Buenos Aires

Area: 2,766,890 sq km

Location: Occupies most of southern South America. Neighbours: Chile on West, Bolivia, Paraguay on North, Brazil, Uruguay on Northeast;

Population: 34,292,742 (1995); Language: Spanish (official), English, Italian

Economy : Agriculture, hunting, forestry, fisheries, manufacturing, fuel. Industries: food processing, flour milling, chemicals, textiles, machinery, autos. Chief crops: grain, corn, grapes, linseed, sugar, tobacco, soya beans, citrus fruits. Minerals: oil, lead, zinc, iron, copper, tin, uranium; exports: US\$23.7 bilion (1996); import: US\$23.7 bilion (1996)

GDP : US\$303.060 million (1996)

Major International Organisations: UN (WHO, IMF, FAO, MERCOSUR (Latin American Cone Common Market)

BRAZIL

Head of State: President Fernando Henrique Cardoso

Capital : Brasilia

Area: 8,511,965 km

Location : Occupies eastern half of South America. Neighbours: French Guiana, Suriname, Guyana, Venezuela on north, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay, Argentina on west, Uruguay on south.

Population: 160,737,489 (1995); Language : Portuguese (official), Spanish, French, English

Economy : Industries: steel, autos, ships, petrochemical, machinery. Chief crops: coffee (largest grower), cotton, soybeans, sugar, cocoa, rice, corn, fruits. Minerals: chromium, iron, manganese, diamonds, gold, nickel, tin. World's fifth largest volume of FDI (US\$9.5 billion in 1996, estimated US\$15 billion in 1997), per capita income of US\$3,800

GDP : US\$745 bilion (1996)

Major International Organisations : UN and most of its specialised agencies, OAS, MERCOSUR.

CHILE

Head of State & Government: President Eduardo Frei Ruiz-Tagle

Capital : Santiago

Area: 756,950 sq km

Location: Occupies western coast of southern South America. Neighbours: Peru on north, Bolivia on northeast, Argentina on east.

Population: 14,161,216 (1995); Language : Spanish

Economy : Industries: fish processing, wood products. Chief crops: Grain, onions, beans, potatoes, peas. Minerals: copper (about half of export revenues), iodine (half world output), iron, coal, oil. Livestocks : cattle, sheep.

Exports: US\$15,296 billion (1996), Import: US\$16,523 billion (1996), GDP: US\$72,078 million (1996), GDP Per capita: US\$5,040 (1996);

GDP : US\$72,078 billion (1996), US\$76,400 (estimated in 1997).

Major International Organisations: UN and all of its specialised agencies, OAS

EGYPT

Head of State: President Hosni Mubarak

Capital: Cairo

Area: 1,001,450 sq km

Location: Northeast corner of Africa. Neighbours: Libya on West, Sudan on South, Israel on East.

Population: 60 million; Language : Arabic (official), English, French.

Economy : Agriculture, industry, tourism and petroleum; Industries: textiles, chemicals, petrochemicals, food processing, cement. Chief crops: Cotton (one of the largest producers), rice, beans, fruits, grain, sugar, corn. Minerals: Oil, phosphates, iron, manganese, limestone. Livestock: cattle, sheep, fish catch.

Total Exports to Malaysia: RM18 million (1996); total imports from Malaysia: RM605 million (1996)

GDP: (1992) US\$41.2 bln

Currency and Exchange rate: Egyptian Pound

Major International Organisations: UN (IMF, World Bank, GATT) OAU.

INDIA

Head of State: President Shankar Dayal Sharma
Head of Government: Prime Minister Inder Kumar Gujral
Capital : New Delhi
Area: 3,166,427.81 sq km

Location: occupies most of the Indian subcontinent in South Asia.
Neighbours: Pakistan on west, China, Nepal, Bhutan on north, Myanmar, Bangladesh on east.

Population: 919,903,000 (1995); Language : 16 languages, including Hindi (official) and English (associate language).

Economy : Industries: Textiles, steel, processed foods, cement, machinery, chemicals, fertilizers, autos. Chief crops : rice, grains, coffee, sugar cane, cotton, copra, jute. Minerals: chromium, coal, iron, bauxite, oil. Livestock : cattle, sheep, fish catch.

GDP : (1993) US\$240 bln

Major International Organisations: UN (IMF, World Bank).

INDONESIA

Head of State: President Suharto
Capital : Jakarta
Area: 1,919,324.68 sq km

Locations: Archipelago Southeast Asia along the equator. Neighbours: Malaysia on North, Papua New Guinea on east.

Population: 200,410,000 (1995): Language : Bahasa Indonesia (official), English, Dutch, Javanese.

Economy : Industries: food processing, textiles, cement, light industry. Chief crops: Rice, coffee, sugar. Minerals : nickel, tin, oil, bauxite, copper, natural gas. Crude oil reserves: (1991)" 10.7 bln. Other resources : rubber. Livestock : cattle.

GDP : US\$619.4 billion

Export: US\$41.3 billion; Import: US\$31.4 billion

Major International Organisations: UN and all of its specialised agencies, ASEAN, OPEC.

JAMAICA

Head of State: Queen Elizabeth II, represented by Gov-Gen Howard Cooke.
Head of Government: Prime Minister Percival J. Patterson
Capital: Kingston

Area: 10,991.96 sq km

Locations: In the West Indies. Neighbours: nearest are Cuba on North, Haiti on East.

Population : 2,574,291 (1995); Language : English (official), Jamaican Creole

Economy : Bauxite (account for more than half of exports) and tourism. Export: US\$1.2 billion (1994); Commodity : Sugar, Banana, rum. Import: US\$2.2 billion (1994). Commodity: machinery, transport component, construction materials, fuel, food and chemical. Livestock : (1991) Cattle, goats.

GDP: (1992): US\$3.7 bln

Major International Organisations : UN (World Bank, GATT) OAS

MALAYSIA

Head of State: Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Ja'afar; Head of Government: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad

Capital: Kuala Lumpur

Area: 330,442.56 sq km; Location: On the south east tip of Asia, plus the north coast of the island Borneo; neighbour -- Thailand on north and Singapore on south of peninsula; Brunei on north and Indonesia on south of East Malaysia;

Population: 20,560,000 (1996); Language: Malay (official), English, Chinese, Tamil

Economy: Industries: rubber goods, steel, electronics; Crops: palm oil, copra, rice, pepper; Minerals: tin, iron;

GDP: US\$42.77 billion (RM141.139 billion); GDP per capita: US\$3,667 (RM\$12,102)

Major International Organisations: UN (World Bank, IMF, GATT), OIC, ASEAN.

MEXICO

Head of State: President Dr Ernesto Zedillo

Capital: Mexico City.

Area: 1,958.21 sq km; Location: In southern North America, neighbours -- United States on the north and Guatemala, Belize on the south;

Population: 91,200,000 (1996); Language: Spanish (official), Amerindian languages

Economy: Industries: Steel, chemicals, electric goods, textiles, rubber, petroleum, tourism; Crops: Cotton, coffee, wheat, rice, sugar cane, vegetables, corn; Minerals: Silver, lead, zinc, gold, oil, natural gas;

GDP: US\$634 billion; GDP per capita: US\$6,700

Major International Organisations: UN (IMF, GATT), OAS

NIGERIA

Head of State and Government: Gen Sani Abacha

Capital: Abuja

Area: 923,772.71 sq km; Location: On the south coast of West Africa; neighbours -- Benin on west, Niger on north, Chad, Cameroon on east;

Population: 105,000,000 (1996); Language: English (official), Hausa, Yoruba, Ibo.

Economy: Industries: Crude oil (95 percent of export), food processing, assembly of vehicles, textiles; Crops: Cocoa (main export crop), tobacco, palm products, peanuts, cotton, soybean; Minerals: Oil, gas, coal, iron, limestone, columbium, tin; Export earnings: US\$7.8 billion per annum

GDP: US\$45 billion (1997); GDP per capita: US\$450

Major International Organisations: UN (GATT, IMO, WHO), OPEC, OAU.

PERU

Head of State: President Alberto Fujimori

Head of Government: Prime Minister Efrain Goldenberg

Capital: Lima

Area: 1,285,222.75 sq km; Location: On the Pacific coast of South America, neighbours -- Ecuador, Colombia on north, Brazil, Bolivia on east, Chile on south.

Population: 24 million (1995); Language: Spanish, Quechua (both official), Aymara.

Economy: Industries: fish meal, mineral processing, light industries, textiles; Crops: cotton, sugar, coffee, corn; Minerals: copper, lead,

molybdenum, silver, zinc, iron, oil; Services: tourism; Exports: US\$ 6,500 billion (projected 1997); Imports: US\$ 8,000 billion (projected 1997)

GDP: US\$50.2 billion; GDP per capita: US\$ 2,024.

Major International Organisations: UN and all of its specialised agencies, OAS.

SENEGAL

Head of State: President Abdou Diouf

Head of Government: Habib Thiam

Capital: Dakar

Area: 1,285,222.75 sq km; Location: Western Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean; neighbours -- Mauritania on north, Mali on east, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau on south, Gambia surrounded on three sides.

Population: 8,731,000 (1995); Language: French (official), Wolof, Serer, Peul, Tukulor, others.

Economy: Industries: food processing, fishing; Crops: peanuts, millet, rice; Minerals: phosphates

GDP: US\$12.3 billion (1993)

Major International Organisations: UN and all its specialised agencies, OAU.

VENEZUELA

Head of State: President Dr Rafael Caldera

Capital: Caracas

Area: 352,144 sq km; Location: On the Caribbean coast of South America, neighbours -- Colombia on west, Brazil on south, Guyana on east.

Population: 22,000,000 (1996); Language: Spanish (official)

Economy: Industries: steel, oil products, textiles, containers, papers; Crops: coffee, rice, fruits, sugar; Minerals: oil, iron, (extensive reserve and production), gold.

GDP: About US\$60 billion

Major International Organisation: UN (IMF, WHO, FAO), OAS, OPEC.

ZIMBABWE

Head of State: President Robert Mugabe

Capital: Harare

Area: 390,758.48 sq km; Location: In southern Africa, neighbours -- Zambia on north, Botswana on west, South Africa on south, Mozambique on east.

Population: 11 million (1996); Language: English (official), Shona, Sindebele.

Economy: Industries: clothing, chemicals, light industries; Crops: tobacco, sugar, cotton, corn, wheat; Minerals: chromium, gold, nickel, asbestos, copper, iron, coal.

GDP: US\$7.2 billion (1997); GDP per capita: US\$800

Major International Organisations: UN (IMF, World Bank), OAU, Commonwealth of Nations

KENYA

Head of State: President Daniel arap Moi

Capital: Nairobi

Area: 582,648.99 sq km; Location: On Indian Ocean, coast of east

Africa, neighbours -- Uganda on west, Tanzania on south, Somalia on east, Ethiopia, Sudan on north.

Population: 28,241,000 (1995); Language: Swahili, English (both official), Kikuyu, Luhya, Luo, Meru.

Economy: Industries: tourism, light industry, petroleum products; Crops: coffee, corn, tea, cereals, cotton, sisal; Minerals: gold, limestone, diatomite, salt, barytes, magnesite, feldspar, sapphires, fluorspar, garnets.

GDP: US\$33.1 billion (1994)

Major International Organisations: UN and all its specialised agencies, OAU, Commonwealth of Nations. -- BERNAMA

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