Border Security Management: The Kenyan Experience

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Identifying and Understanding the latest and evolving Threats and Challenges for Border Agencies

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Introduction

❖ Borders are important security and growth points. Thus it is important to put in place border systems which guarantee ease of movement of people and goods, while protecting the state against social, economic, health and security risks that human mobility and trade generates.

What is Border Management?

❖ Border management may be defined as all legal and administrative measures a sovereign state undertakes to secure and safeguard its sovereignty and integrity of its territory.

Challenges in Border Management

❖Porous borders

❖Instability

❖Highly millitarised border communities

❖Absent government

❖Lack of capacity

❖Nomadic communities

Border Threats

❖ Human trafficking
❖ Terrorism
❖ Cattle rustling
❖ Banditry
❖ Contraband goods
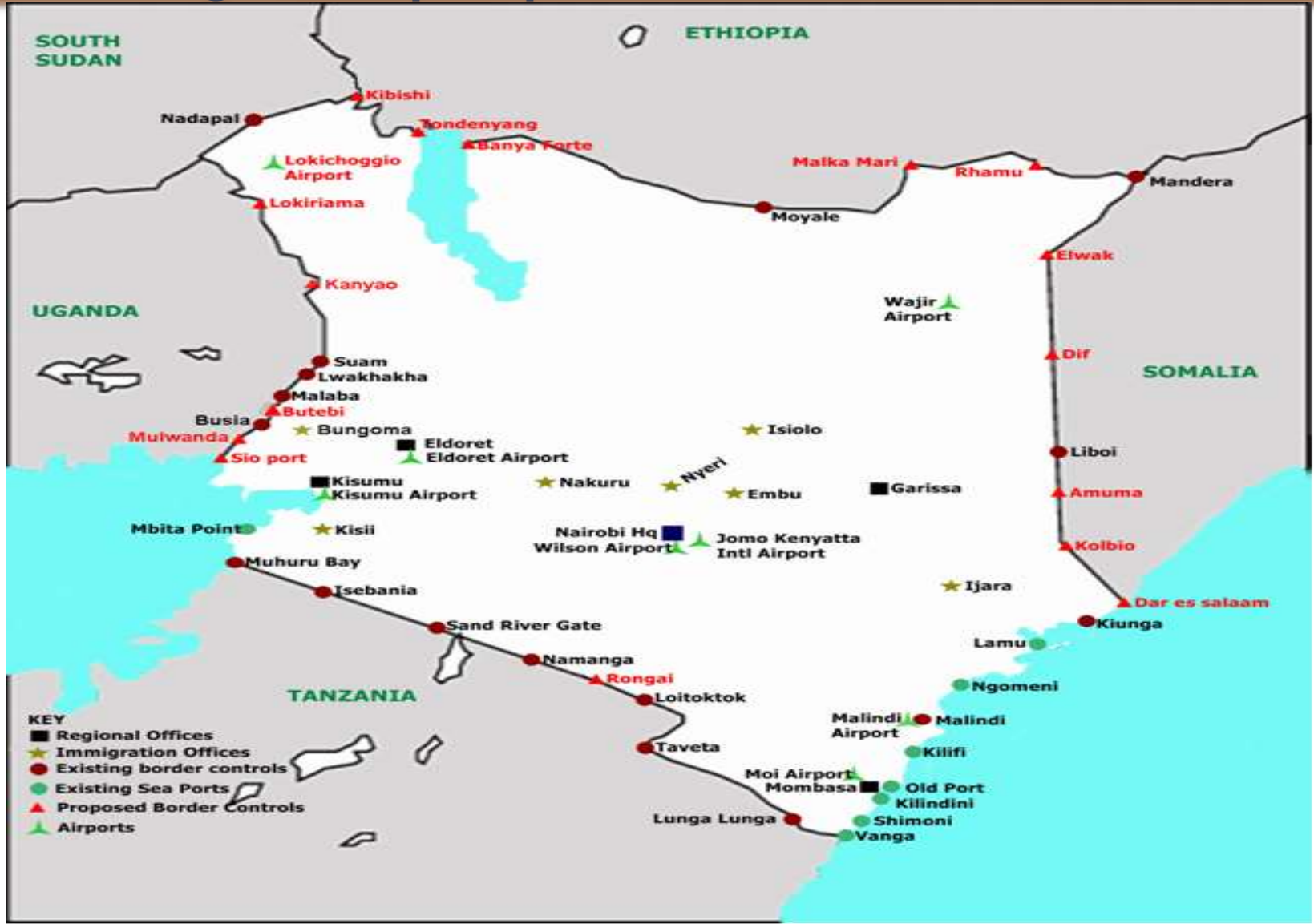❖ Forged travel documents
❖ Fake visas
❖ Communicable diseases

Role of the States

❖ The integrity of physical borders remains critical to effective border management.

❖ Even as international travel has increased exponentially, border management systems have had to contend with additional risks associated with these movements.

❖ Such risks which include terrorist attacks, human smuggling and illegal immigration have exposed weaknesses in the state's ability to manage borders effectively.

❖ The last decade has seen huge governments' investments to implement new border management frameworks.

Border Architecture in Kenya.

❖ Kenya has a borderline of 4013 km and a coastline of 536 km.

❖ The country borders five countries, namely **Somalia** 682 km, **Ethiopia** 861 km, **South Sudan** 232 km, **Uganda** 933 km and **Tanzania** 769 km.

❖ Along this borderline are 34 ports of entry. **(**15 land, 8 airports, 11 sea ports including Kisumu Pier and Muhuru Bay.

Existing and proposed Border Points

Gazetted Border Points, Airports and Seaports

The entry and exit of persons into/out of Kenya is authorized only at gazetted Border Points, Airports and Sea Ports.

The following are gazetted points of entry and exit:

- **Airports:** Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Moi International Airport, Kisumu International Airport, Eldoret International Airport Wajir Airport, Lokichoggio Airport, Wilson Airport and Malindi Airport.

- **Sea Ports:** Shimoni, Kilindini, Old Port, Lamu, Kiunga, Mbita Point, Kisumu Pier, Vanga

- **Land borders:** Busia, Malaba, Lwakhakha, Suam, Namanga, Taita Taveta, Isebania, Lunga Lunga, Mandera, Moyale, Nadapal, Loitoktok, Garissa, Muhuru bay, Ijara and Liboi.
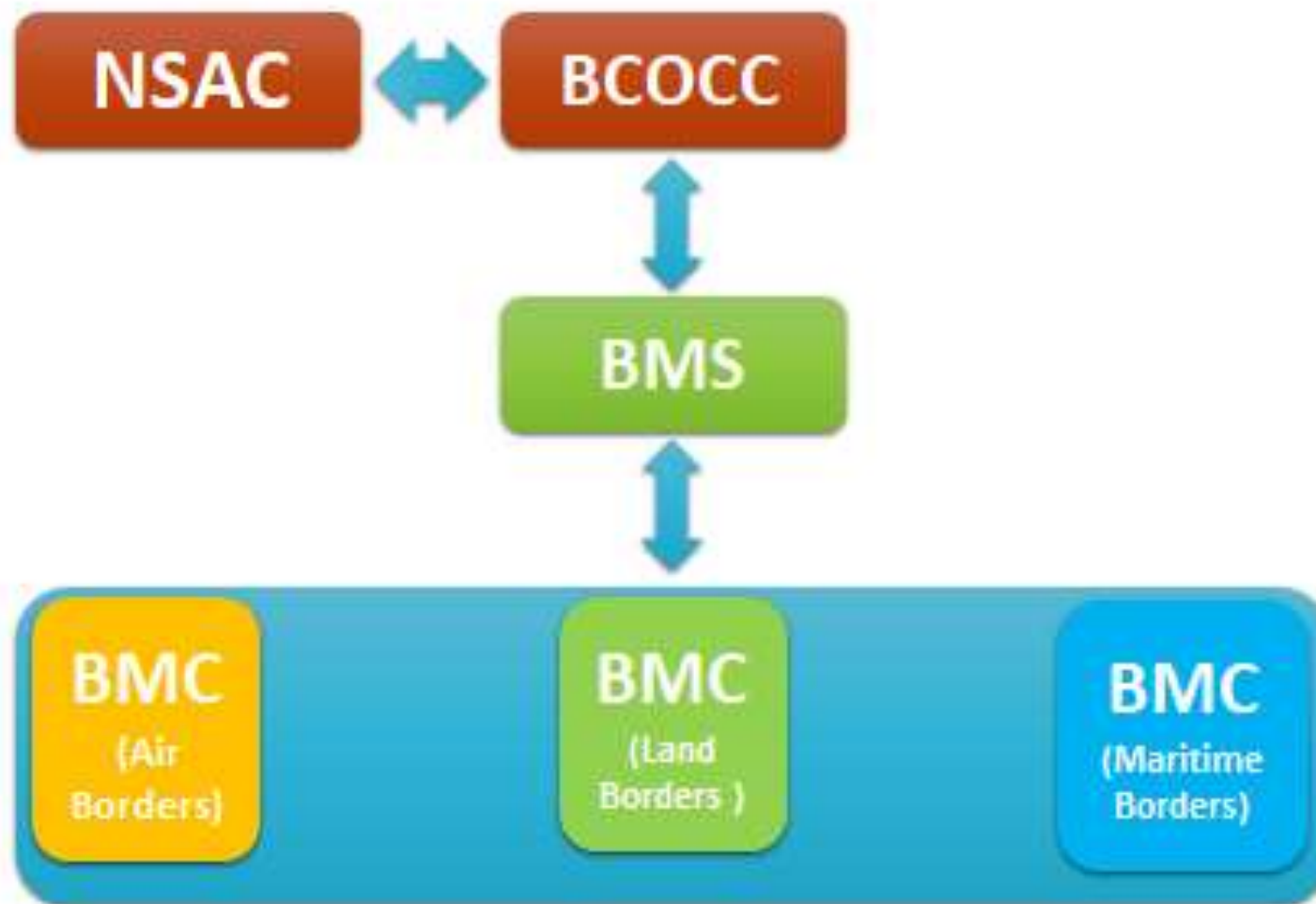
Objectives of the Kenya Border Policy

❖ facilitate efficient entry and exit from Kenya, travellers who meet entry and exit requirements

❖ aid in detection and prevention of entry and exit of mala fide travellers.

❖ identify and manage the risks to Kenya arising from those travellers who do not meet entry requirements,

❖ enhance national and regional security by effectively enforcing the entry and exit legislation and related regulations,

❖ safeguard the security and safety of citizens, residents and national assets.

❖ promote inter-agency; and cross border cooperation and coordination in border management.

Coordinated and Cross Border Border Management

❖ Effective border management requires inter agency and international cooperation and information sharing between immigration and other law enforcement agencies at the national, regional and international level.

❖ For any international cooperation to be effective, governments must first ensure that there is a good level of cooperation and communication within its own borders.

❖ To achieve coordinated border management in Kenya, various laws were amended, establishing **Border Control and Operations Coordination Committee (BCOCC)** thus forming Border Management Secretariat (BMS) and Border Management Committees (BMCs) border security governance structures.

❖ Various law enforcement agencies and those with a role in and around the border ensure that there is effective and efficient management of regular and irregular migration flows by working together and coordinating border activities and operations.

Kenya Border Security – Governance Structure

BCOCC Membership

Principal Secretary,	Interior – Chair
Principal Secretary,	Health
Inspector General,	National Police Service
Director General,	NIS
Commissioner General,	KRA
Director,	Immigration
Managing Director,	KPA
Managing Director,	KAA
Managing Director,	KEBS
Director General,	KMA
Director,	KEPHIS

Co-Opted Members

❖ Kenya Defense Forces
❖ Attorney General
❖ PS, Transport
❖ Director, EAC Affairs
❖ Director, Anti- Counterfeit Agency
❖ Director, KWS

Functions of BCOCC

❖ Formulation of policies and programmes for the management and control designated ports of entry.

❖ Co-ordination of the exchange of information between respective agencies responsible for the security and management of the borders at ports of entry.

❖ Ensure compliance with standards by the respective agencies

❖ Ensure effective and efficient management of operations at ports of entry.

❖ Exercise oversight authority over operations of the respective agencies.

❖ Perform such functions as may be conferred on it.

Functions of BMS

❖ Implement BCOCC policies and programs - serves as a secretariat

❖ Link between BCOCC and BMCs

❖ Provide reports to BCOCC from BMCs

❖ Coordinate information sharing nationally

❖ Share best practices among BMCs/JOCs

Functions of BMCs

1. Coordinate border operation at POEs
2. Implement directive of BCOCC (at the POEs) given through the BMS.
2. Conduct BMC meetings fortnightly and submit minutes to BMS promptly.
3. Maintain regular consultation with BMS on border issues.
4. Avail to BMS any relevant report on border issues.
5. Advise BMS on emerging border trends and possible solutions to border challenges

Functions of Joint Operations Centre (JOC)

❖ An operational arm of the BMC

❖ Targeting of threats - emanating from movement of persons and cargo across borders

❖ Collection, analysis and dissemination of information

❖ Implementation of BMC and BCOCC directives

Objectives of the Joint Operations Centre (JOC)

❖ To develop strategies to counter threats at the border

❖ To enhance sharing of information

❖ To optimize available resources - involves multi-agency joint investments in equipment, facilities, IT systems, databases, expertise and other common resources.

❖ To create synergy among Border Control and Security Agencies information

One Stop Border Post(OSPB)

❖ The East African Community Partner States in 2010, enacted a law establishing the One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs).

❖ The objective of this legislation was to legalize the opening and operation of OSBPs at border control points of adjoining Partner States.

❖ OSBP concept refers to a border operational framework where the number of stops made by travelers or goods at a border point is reduced to one from the traditional two-stop arrangement.

❖ OSBPs combine the border control activities of adjoining countries at a single location in each direction.

❖ This concept comprises the streamlining of parallel processes and technologies enabling different government agencies from both adjoining states to effectively work together

Benefits of One Stop Border Post

❖ Reduction of clearance duration which in turn reduces transport costs

❖ Improved revenue collection as a result of faster turnaround time for mobility of goods and persons across the borders

❖ Streamlined and harmonized border procedures reducing duplications and bureaucracies

❖ Enhanced interagency cooperation

❖ Improved working environment including improved use of technology

Challenges of One Stop Border Post

❖ Overemphasis on physical facilities rather than "software

❖ Need for streamlining of processes and procedures

❖ Challenges in actualizing Joint controls

❖ Resistance to change

❖ Lack of OSBP budget

❖ Managing local border communities expectations

❖ Various issues related to private sector participation in OSBPs including small scale traders

- THANK YOU