INTERVENTION POINTS FOR THE INFORMAL INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE ON THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT – TUESDAY 12TH JULY 2011

Thank you Mr. President.
Thank you Panelists,

- Kenya embraced the concept of the Responsibility to Protect because we deplore any violence perpetrated against any population, whether by a national, regional or international force.

- We welcome the Secretary General’s report as it attempts to bring a balance between regional and international dynamics on the responsibility to protect.

- For Kenya the principal Responsibility to Protect remains welcome and necessary.

- However, Mr. President the limited experience that we have so far had with the concept of responsibility to protect has been at best worrisome, and at worst, deeply disconcerting.

- The cause for concern has been primarily in its application. The poor application of the concept as witnessed in some recent events is driven more by a lack of global understanding and agreement on the definition, application, limits and scope of the responsibility to protect, particularly at international level.

- It is clear therefore that we need global standards that are common to all and that are transparent, collective and universal. In this regard the Secretary-General’s report is most welcome.
• Most importantly there should be a balance between national and international responsibilities.

• We believe the primary responsibility on the application of responsibility to protect lies with the state and thus the sovereignty and integrity of the state must not only be a requisite part but the international community must be able to extract compliance from the concerned state without resort to force.

• Any regionalization/internalization of action responsibility to protect should be agreed at regional level first and then cascade into international action, in order to have a collective agreement on any undertaking on the concept.

• It is imperative that the responsibility to protect is not applied in a discriminatory manner to any group of the action that exacerbate, the suffering of any group is clearly not acceptable.

• Implementation of the responsibility to protect must go hand in glove with the offer of peace and humanitarian assistance.

• Any implementation should only use impact of force as a last resort and only with clear and irrefutable collective agreement that a clear danger to human lives is imminent and undeterrable.

• There should be no selective and/or prejudicial action that affects large swathes of the population, because we should never appear to condone collective punishment in the pursuit of individual perpetrators of injustices.