



EFF STATEMENT ON THE PROTESTS IN KENYA

Monday, 24 June 2024.

The Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) notes with great concern the recent events in Kenya surrounding the proposed 2024 Finance Bill. We stand in solidarity with the people of Kenya who are bravely protesting against this exploitative legislation that seeks to impose severe tax .

The Bill, which aims to raise \$2.7 billion in additional taxes, will undoubtedly raise the cost of living and production, further burdening the people of Kenya, who like us, are already living under dire economic conditions.

The 2024 Finance Bill is the result of a recommendation from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank to the Kenyan Government. This is therefore, part of a broader problem faced by many developing nations under the yoke of the IMF and World Bank loans.

The IMF and World Bank have a notorious history of undermining the sovereignty of developing countries through their oppressive loan conditions, and treating African economies like lab rats for neoliberal templates.

These Bretton Woods institutions serve as instruments of re-colonisation and infantilisation of the African continent, using Africa as a pawn in geopolitical wars going on, and imposing austerity measures that cripple growth and development, leading to widespread poverty and social unrest to justify the establishment of US military bases in the continent.

When the EFF marched to the Parliament of South Africa on the 23rd of February 2022, we highlighted the damaging effects of South Africa's R11.4 Billion loan from

the IMF, which came with restrictive conditions that impose adverse economic and political policies on our country.

The EFF stands firmly for economic freedom and the establishment of robust social welfare safety nets. The protests in Kenya are a clear indication that the people are rejecting policies that exacerbate their suffering and demand a government that serves their well-being.

We further note our concern on the violent crackdown on peaceful protesters, which has resulted in at least 200 injuries and over 100 arrests. The use of tear gas, water cannons, and rubber bullets against citizens exercising their right to protest is unacceptable. We urge the Kenyan Government to stand down the police and respect the people's right to peaceful assembly. All those who have been arrested should be released immediately.

The EFF will continue to support the fight for economic justice. We commend the bravery of the Kenyan protesters and stand with them in their peaceful protest against the recommendation of the World Bank and IMF to the Kenyan Government to impose exploitative legislation that seeks to impose crippling tax .

ISSUED BY THE ECONOMIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS

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