

Kenyatta: ICC a Toy of Western Imperial Powers

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta addressed the Oct. 12 African Union Heads of State Special Session, and denounced the ICC as having been turned into a toy of Western imperial interests, and not what the original signers thought it was going to be:

"The ICC has been reduced into a painfully farcical pantomime, a travesty that adds insult to the injury of victims. It stopped being the home of justice the day it became the toy of declining imperial powers."

Kenyatta charged the ICC with being contemptuous of the AU, since all AU objections have been rejected, while unsubstantiated claims by Western-supported civil society activists are taken as a basis for the Court's actions.

He singled out the United States and United Kingdom for using the ICC against African countries, but noted that those countries would never submit to such procedures themselves:

"The British Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said at the time, that the International Criminal Court was not set up to bring to book Prime Ministers of the United Kingdom or Presidents of the United States. Had someone other than a Western leader said those fateful words, the word 'impunity' would have been thrown at them with an emphatic alacrity."

He also singled out the use of the ICC as a tool for U.S.-U.K. policies, i.e., colonize Africa:

"The threat of prosecution usually suffices to have pliant countries execute policies favorable to these countries. Through it, regime-change sleights of hand have been attempted in Africa. A number of them have succeeded."

—Douglas DeGroot