



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

IN THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

The Official Report of the Proceedings of the East African Legislative Assembly 122ND SITTING - THIRD ASSEMBLY: FOURTH MEETING – FOURTH SESSION

Thursday, 28 January 2016

The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2:30 p.m. in the Chamber of the Assembly, EAC Headquarters Building in Arusha, Tanzania

PRAYER

(The Speaker, Mr. Daniel Fred Kidega, in the Chair)

(The Assembly was called to order.)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker: Good afternoon, hon. Members. Hon. Members, I will beg your indulgence to make a few adjustments as per the published programme. You will notice that today, we should be receiving the Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution Committee Report. However, as you know, the Committee has been engaged in a very long exercise of public hearing on the petition by the civil society led by the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU) and has delayed the completion of that report. We have, therefore, adjusted the programme as published. Please, bear with us.

Secondly, as per our Rules of Procedure, I will also adjust the Order Paper. When we

reach Order No.3, we will skip it. The Mover has requested to have further consultations with the Speaker on the same matter. Hon. Members, we are, this afternoon, again, joined by East Africans who take the integration process very dearly. The Bachelor of Arts (BA) students from the MS Training Centre for Devolvement Cooperation led by Dr. Siphon Limbe.

You are most welcome. Please, rise up for recognition.

We are also joined by friends of East Africa, Mr. Moses Adam. You are most welcome. We, as an Assembly, take your visit very serious because the integration process is people centred. You are most welcome.

MOTION FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON A PETITION TO ADVOCATE FOR KEY ISSUES CONCERNING THE YOUTH IN THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:-

THAT, the report of the Committee on General purpose on a petition to advocate for key issues concerning the youth in the East African Community (EAC) be adopted.

I beg to move.

The Speaker: Where are the seconders?

(Several Members stood in their places to second the Motion)

The Speaker: Hon. Maryam, hon. Celestine, hon. Buccumi, Hon. Benard, hon. Valarie, hon. Kimbisa, hon. Bazivamo and all the Members standing.

Chairperson, proceed.

Dr. Nyiramilimo: Hon. Speaker, Sir, in accordance with the Treaty and the Rules of Procedure of EALA, the Assembly received and considered a petition to advocate for key issues concerning the youth in the EAC.

Introduction

Under the sphere of the EAC Nyerere Centre for Peace and Research (EAC-NCPR), this annual event started in 2012 and is organised by the EAC University Students Debate on Regional Integration through the Department of Political Affairs. The Debate aims at providing a regional platform to promote dialogue among university students and youth and interest them in advocating for regional integration.

Youth ambassadors are appointed at the end of the debate representing their Partner States. The team of youth ambassadors and the deputy youth ambassadors appointed during the EAC University Students Debate advocate for the EAC integration with responsibility of sensitising, educating and engaging their peers at the national level. This is the group that was appointed at the 3rd EAC University Students Debate that presented a petition to the Assembly on 23 March, 2015, in Bujumbura which was referred to the General Purpose Committee for consideration.

The Committee held a meeting with the youth ambassadors and the Council of Ministers on 26 November, 2015 as it had been decided in the Committee meeting that had taken place in Nairobi Kenya, on 5th October, 2015. The youth ambassadors were represented by:

1. Mr. Gilbert Ndayishimiye from the Republic of Burundi;
2. Mr. Gasparino Haule from the United Republic of Tanzania;
3. Mr. Robi Chacha from the Republic of Kenya;
4. Ms. Peace Mukazi Ndekezi from the Republic of Rwanda; and,
5. Mr. Jacob Eyeru form the Republic of Uganda.

Background and Consideration of the Petition for Issues of the Youth

The Petitioners reaffirm that sustained development of Africa rests with its youth and, therefore, requires their active and enlightened participation based on various charters including the African Youth Charter and the Bamako Declaration of 2005. The latter calls for empowerment of the youth by building their capacities, leadership and responsibility as well as gain access to information so that they are able to take up their rightful place and participate actively in decision-making and governance.

The youth further affirm among other issues that they need representation at the national and regional level giving an example of Rwanda which has a specific youth representation in the national parliament and in EALA. This, they premise on facts that they constitute 63 per cent of East African population therefore the need for representatives of the large percentage in the Partner States and at the regional level.

The petition to EALA therefore is as follows;

- (1) That the Partner States ensure the establishment of the National Youth Councils where they still do not exist;
- (2) That, EALA advocates for the operationalisation of the National Youth Councils so as to become more vibrant in their activities;
- (3) For EALA to urge the Council of Ministers to advocate for the establishment of the East African Youth Council;

They urge Partner States to adhere to the provisions of the African Youth Charter on Youth and appeal to the Partner States, National Assemblies to consider reserving slots for youth representation at the national level; and, urge EALA to allocate a specific officer to handle youth matters as they arise and a fully-fledged officer at the secretariat level.

Emerging Issues

After listening to the youth ambassadors, the Committee made the following observations.

The Committee expressed appreciation for the efforts of the youth ambassadors in advocating for issues of the youth and asserting their rightful place in the region.

The Committee advised the youth that while their efforts were appreciated, a change in strategy by first of all focussing on

developing their capacities and enhancing the qualities of their activities, aspirations, growth and interaction with society was necessary. This would further build up the impact of their involvement and interventions which impact would be registered to support their advocacy and lobby messages in the region.

Enhancement of capacity is also required first of all, at the national level, in their various youth organisations and avoidance of negative activities as a result of mobilisation and involvement of politics among other vices.

The Committee urged the youth representatives to advocate meaningfully at the national level and engage the executive to affirm the need to involve them in decision-making and governance which would impact positively on their development efforts and programmes at the national level.

The Committee further advises that the endeavours above would culminate into recognition that would be reflected at the regional level as a result of clear involvement and the need for inclusion and representation in all the Partner States.

This would also include possibilities of representation in the National Assemblies.

With regard to representation at the EALA level, the Committee assured the youth representatives that the Assembly has always been concerned about the role of the youth in the development of the region and had, through questions to the Council of Ministers, oversight visits to the Partner States, resolutions and Motions fully demonstrated this. Furthermore, the Committee assured the petitioners that the Assembly had a youthful member of parliament; hon. Straton, in addition to youthful members who have...you know who they are.

I have always advocated for issues of the youth. Generational equity has been a preoccupation of the Assembly with advocacy and recommendations towards entrenching the principle through children, the elderly and persons with disabilities among others.

With regard to the representation in EALA, in addition to having a Member representing the youth, the Committee observed that representation was already instituted but the question of numbers, given EALA's constitution was an issue for further debate. This debate, in respect to increasing numbers, had already been proposed by EALA in form of the amendment to the Treaty.

The Committee assured the youth representatives that while the petition was very welcome, the claims needed to be preceded by already instituted structures at the Partner States level where some countries have youth structures while others do not.

This, therefore, required that advocacy starts at the Partner States and would, if feasible, subsequently institute uniformity at the regional level. The representatives of the youth were encouraged to aim at starting at the grassroots level in their Partner States. Additionally, numbers would not necessary be a reflection of qualitative outputs and this should be a consideration as they embark on advocacy for increased numbers. Further consideration should be given to economic and effective performance and contribution of the youth within the Partner States economies vis-à-vis institutional reforms to see whether it is meaningful and satisfactory.

Submission by Council of Ministers

The Council of Ministers expressed appreciation for the commendable efforts of the youth ambassadors to advocate for issues of the youth. Notwithstanding the goodwill and favour that the youth enjoyed within the

Assembly and the Council, the Council of Ministers cautioned the youth representatives that the merits of increase in numbers needed to be considered carefully given that it required a degree of reform. While their numbers were considerable, work place experience, experience in politics and effective contribution in society also needed to be significantly visible.

The Council of Ministers encouraged the youth ambassadors to exert themselves towards improving their capacity by acquiring diverse experience and reflect their efforts at the national level before advocating for representation at the regional parliament.

With reference to the request for a desk at the EAC, the youth representatives were informed that the proposal was still being considered and a decision on it would be communicated.

Recommendations

First, the Assembly considers developing a clear framework to engage with the youth;

The Committee supports that future elections for Members of EALA reflect the provisions of Article 50 of the Treaty establishing the East African Community to reflect the diversity of citizens of the Partner States, specifically the fair representation of women, persons with disabilities and the youth.

The Committee recommends that the Council of Ministers give significant support to the youth in their endeavour particularly at the national level. This will give them the chance to utilise and realise their full potential. This will also deter them from being vulnerable to negative manipulation by people with negative or destructive intentions.

Four, the Committee recommends that the youth concentrate their efforts on enhancing their capacity, interactions and quality of

engagement so as to register significant gain which will lead gradually, to the recognition they seek at both national and regional levels.

Five, with regard to representation in national parliaments and the in the EALA, the Committee recommends that while structures existed in the Assembly and in some Partner States, the lobby for such institutional reforms should begin at the level of youth organisations and at the national level. This would create an impact that would facilitate desired reform.

Conclusion

Hon. Speaker, the Committee appreciates the opportunity to interact with petitioners on issues of diverse interest to the community and the opportunity afforded to the Committee by the Assembly to consider the petitions. The Committee applauds the petitioners for the noble cause of championing important aspects of integration. The youth ambassadors, on their part, expressed commitment to continue with advocacy for their rightful place in the community.

The Committee undertakes to continue its support to the petitioners and to follow up on issues discussed and always provide an opportunity to them to update the assembly on their gain and achievement.

Acknowledgment

The Committee would like to express its appreciation to the Rt. hon. Speaker for the opportunity to consider the petitions as well as the Council of Ministers and Secretary General of the EAC for the positive response and support. Special appreciation goes to the petitioners for the effort, initiative, commitment and advocacy as well as the valuable interaction with the Committee.

On a personal note, I would like to appreciate the active participation of the Members of the General Purpose Committee and the support given by EALA staff.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to move.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Dr. Odette, Chairperson of the Committee on General Purpose and the Committee Members.

Hon. Members, the Motion before this Assembly is

“THAT, the Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the Petition to advocate for key issues concerning the youth be adopted.”

Debate is open.

Yes, hon. Mulengani. I was getting worried that most Members have forgotten where they came from. At one point, all of us were youth. Thank you hon. Mulengani.

Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to declare my interests that I sit in the Committee on General Purpose. I was among the people who met the youth who came to present a petition. I just have a few issues to echo what my Chairperson has alluded to.

In my interaction with the youth, I envisage a challenge that youth ambassadors are pushing petitions but they are not putting in place mechanisms or structures of electing the youth at the regional level giving the complexities of multiparty dispensation within the Partner States. I also envisage a challenge that the youth ambassadors want to transform themselves to be the people who will be eligible to sit in this Assembly. In our discussion with the youth, and this is in the report, they seemed to thinking that we are not interesting in accommodating them at this level. So, I engaged with them and told them that most of us have been youth leaders. We

have gone through the youth fraternities in our countries and my immediate advice was that we needed them to grow their idea but also look at the formation of the Assembly.

The formation of the Assembly is such that each Partner State is represented by nine people. Whereas it goes further to say in the Treaty that representation will be as feasible as possible and to portray the character of the formation of, first of all the parliaments but also the interest groups of that parliament.

I gave an example of Uganda.

If you look at the Parliament of Uganda, you will see that the people who are elected directly as youth are only five members. When you go to distribute anything using the composition of the Parliament of Uganda which has almost 360 members, the slot for the youth would be 0.000 something, an amount which does not amount to a member. I also urged them to realise that there is need to request our Partner States to increase the numbers of youth representation in the House so that this could eventually transform into feasible election of youth in the Parliament.

The other point I raised is that we could also urge Partner States to consider this because the youth hold the future and they will carry forward the issues of integration. This also goes to the council to consider increasing the number of representation from nine to 15. That would create feasibility for the youth.

These are matters that are very important. We, as an Assembly, in the proposals of amendment of the Treaty, we will propose increment of representation so that the issue as addressed in the Treaty of feasibility is addressed.

I thank you for this opportunity to contribute to the report.

The Speaker: Thank you hon. Mulengani. Yes, hon. Straton.

Mr. Straton Ndikuryayo (Rwanda): Thank you, hon. Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity. First of all, I have not forgotten my point of entry into politics. I wanted to hear the views of the seconders which I have not heard. I take this opportunity to thank the Chairperson of the General Purpose Committee and the entire Committee of General Purpose and to extend my gratitude to the petitioners, my younger brothers and sisters who are pushing for a very important matters for our integration process.

This subject is not new in this House. During the second EALA, I was a Member of the General Purpose Committee. We had several interactions with different youth organisations. At the ministerial level. There were serious meetings regarding the matter of the youth. I remember that the Forum for the Ministries responsible for social development held in Kigali in September, 2008 is where we came up with many recommendations. I want to mention two or three.

One was to push for the establishment of the Sectorial Council on Gender, Youth, Children and Community Development which is in place now. The second one was to recommend to the Council the establishment of the East African Youth Council. What I know is that the East African Youth Policy is in place. The policy provides for the establishment of the East African Youth Council; the Council of Ministers should give us the progress of the implementation of the recommendations.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, at our level as a Parliament, we have had three years engagement with different youth. The first one was the Africa Youth Trust in Nairobi. They were also advocating for the same issues just like these petitioners. The second

one was the General Purpose Committee held in Kigali in 2010. This was on Policy Framework towards Improving the Status of Youth in East Africa which relates to this particular petition. We also dealt with the issue of unemployment of youth at the East African level.

I would like to support the comments by hon. Mulengani. I remember the words of the Emeritus Speaker of the Second EALA. During that process, he recommended that different youth representatives should focus on capacity building so that they could know what is going on at the East African level in different sectors and also advocate for youth in general and not for individuals. Furthermore, the recommendations were that they had to work as a group to bring on board all stakeholders from different Partner States including the Government agencies and civil society organisations so that they could reach a common understanding which can help the community to implement the East African Youth Policies and also to advocate further to have and engage the youth in different EAC Organs.

With those few comments, I support the report.

Ms. Maryam Ussi Yahya (Tanzania): Thank you hon. Speaker, Sir for giving me an opportunity to speak. However, I have only two points to make. I must first declare that I am a Member of the General Purpose Committee and for that reason, I may not have a lot to contribute since I was in the meeting with the youth.

Rt. hon. Speaker, I stand here to support what hon. Mulengani said, that it is time for the national parliaments to set aside, special slots, whatever numbers they decide, so that all the parties can participate in having youth slots. As the Chairperson said, EALA has some youthful Members. However, since they have not been elected to represent the

youth, then the youth may think that we are not representing them. We came here on general representation and not for the youth. We also came here to represent our Partner States and not specifically women issues. So, as the women and youth members of EALA, we may feel pressured to represent these special groups even though we have not been elected to represent these special group.

It is high time that these slots were given. The Treaty is there and there is no need of having any changes. The national parliaments can work around these issues to ensure that there are special slots for the youth. My other point is to the Council of Ministers. We have been talking about starting youth councils. However, we were also told that since there were institutional review taking place that could not be done. We would like to urge the Council of Ministers to help Partner States which do not have youth councils and which are party based to establish one. It is difficult for a youth councils to be established where there are no youth organisations at the national level. I support the report of the General Purpose Committee on this petition.

I also urge the Council of Ministers, when they are doing their institutional review to make sure that they have a youth desk so that the youth can represent their issues which they think should be included in the integration process. The youth – I know they are listening to us since this debate is being streamed live – should involve themselves with the integration process. They should make sure that they forward information on the areas that they need to be supported. If they have issues to bring to this Parliament, they should present it to their members who are here from their Partner States.

Currently, they do not have a slot but I am urging them to be active on integration matters. They cannot just be elected because

they belong to the youth bracket. They need to have some value that they are bringing on board. I am not looking down upon them but they must be interested in integration matters. They must be aware of issues so that when they go to their national parliaments to ask for slots, the national parliaments will also agree that there is need for them to be sent to EALA. Therefore, they cannot just be chosen because they are young. They need to bring on board some contribution to EALA.

Mr. Fred Mukasa-Mbidde (Uganda): Thank you hon. Speaker, Sir. This being my very first time during this session to present a submission, let me take this opportunity, first of all to thank you, the Council of Ministers, fellow members of this august House for having stood with me during the very trying moment when I lost my dear wife in an accident, hon. Susan Namuganda. That was a very trying moment, indeed, it still is. However, I had a lesson to learn; that what I am doing here is not a mere job but part of a family.

Hon. Speaker, the manner in which I look at this Assembly has completely changed. I know that I am dealing with a family now. I hope that that does not jeopardise my capacity of fighting a few proposals from the members of my family especially when I am required to do that. I am very grateful and feel at home.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, I support this report. I also want to propose an amendment to the second recommendation by the report on matters touching Article 50. This is merely to include, in very specific terms, that while the Council of Ministers are undertaking proposals for purpose of amending this Article, to specifically include the youth, under this Article so that they have representation as members of the EALA. The reason I am doing that is because I have personally had gone through litigation before

the East African Court of Justice (EACJ). I have also argued cases to interpret feasibility as my honourable colleague has said.

At one point in time, it was not feasible for my political party to have a member of parliament here. I had to come to court, argue out a case for one year and that is how it became feasible only that eventually I was tasked to be the representative.

With regard to feasibility in terms of the youth, if in terms of a very serious party like the Democratic Party, it took a court's decision to give us a slot here, the young people should know that they are yet to do more.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, you and I have heavily tried to engage the youth for purposes of including them in the affairs of the EAC and enhancing their awareness. We have clubs in universities and I do not know whether, in your busy schedule, you still criss-cross them. We used to criss-cross and at times I used to carry with me a few details regarding my political leaning to the young people.

We are all products of youth politics. Personally, I am, right from the time I was a youth winger, brigade commander and now a vice president of a political party. So, you have to grow. I am at a stage of political growth. The only problem is that we constantly tell the youth that they are leaders of tomorrow. The problem is that our leaders of today have maintained one major fact; that tomorrow never comes. That is why even this debate is lukewarm. Everybody looks at young people as their possible replacement. What we are doing now is to look at them as campaign materials. When somebody needs to run a successful campaign, they sit down to tabulate what they need. First, they need 100 note books for the polling agents; 20, 000 posters and probably 120 youth. The youth become part of campaign material and not substantive leaders.

The young people, at their subconscious level of their brains have also acclimatised to that description. They also think that they are campaign material. In fact when they are supporting a candidate, they do not ask why somebody is contesting. They just ask the candidates what they have for the young people. What do you, young people have for yourselves to begin with? I did not see any legislation that could assist me to get to where you are. Therefore, we must struggle for them because they do not have the necessary genetic make up to struggle independently. We need to ask them. When young people are debating in schools and we must thank the Nyerere Foundation because debate is the key foundation for the establishment of a cooperation in the East African region. All that is there regarding integration is about debate. These are all negotiations. If a country comes up with delegates who cannot talk, obviously, that country will go back with nothing. Debate is the key in terms of East Africanisation of our people.

During our time in primary and secondary schools, we did not know what debate meant. Even when I went to Makerere, before I became the leader guild president that is the time when you, Mr. Speaker, were also a leader that meant nothing. In a whole university, you would only get elected as a guild president if only you convinced people that you could speak for 20 minutes without anybody understanding what you were saying. That was the only way that you had to be elected. We made sure that we adopted a language that was technical. We said ten words meaning the same thing without anyone picking anything. We used words like *obnoxious* and others which are technical. As young people, we used to take pride in this. However, the young people need to be assisted. How will we channel their path to greatness? They respected us by petitioning. They say that “respect paves way to your own greatness.” How will we handle this? We

cannot advise them to go back to their Partner States. To me that is a problem. They left their Partner States thinking that the real voice is here and that this is where to begin. We must begin to do something so that the Partner States can then follow. We need to amend Article 50 and specifically provide a slot for young people to occupy this Assembly.

Here, we have people who are within the description of youth. They are merely young. However, the youth must be an institution. These people must be elected pursuant to the organisation’s that are established. There should be a legal mechanism through which youth are governed in a partner state. In Uganda, we have a whole leadership structure of the youth. For somebody to be elected to come here, they are not asked their age so as to determine whether they belong to the youth bracket. That person may just be young and active to the extent that he vied in spite of his age. There must be a substantive way through which they can get here so as to have their plight represented.

If we do not look at the issue of the youth, there will be a problem. Handling matters to do with the youth is a security concern. This is purely security oriented. If we do not look at them merely because we do like them, we should look at them because we like ourselves. When you look at the meaning of the term *Al Shabaab*, you will see that it refers to the youth. So, if the youth can provide a fertile recruitment ground for terrorism activities, that means that their plight has not been recognised to an extent that they are part of us. In fact, they have established their own entity which has mysteriously culminated into something against us. That is why we have teams and groups which administer violence against aged people. The plight of the youth has to be looked into by all means, at least, in terms of security.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, my advice to the youth is that they must continue with this. One petition is not enough. Please, let them continue. The Council of Ministers are likely to have a meeting by around 22nd. Nobody has stopped the youth from carrying placards and reminding us what we should debate under Article 50. I am not saying that they should do that although I am not stopping them either. In my opinion, that is how we have done it as young people in terms of claiming our space. The youth, I have always told you, are the giraffes. When other animals see a giraffe running, they do not even ask why. They just follow because it is the one that sees far. You are expected to follow the right direction. The problem is that you are not all following a similar direction. So, that calls for a process of getting you together.

As I sit, my proposal for a recommendation if accepted by the Committee, would be that; while the Council of Ministers is looking at the possibility of amending Article 50, they should also include in specific terms a provision for elections for the youth to the East African Legislative Assembly.

Ms. Susan Nakawuki (Uganda): Thank you hon. Speaker, Sir. Allow me also to appreciate the Chairperson of the Committee on General Purpose which I am a member, for a job well done. I also appreciate the members of the youth fraternity for having brought this Motion before this august House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am glad that the youth have also come out of their comfortable zone to fight for their space. If you do not come out to fight for your space, no one will give it to you. So, first of all, you have to know what you want and then go for it.

When I was joining parliament, I really did not need someone to come and remind me of my rights. I joined parliament when I was 21 in Uganda and not as a youth member. I knew

that Ugandan Parliament had slots for the youth. However, they were not enough. We had about six slots. I wondered how to add onto the six slots to make them at least seven. Therefore, I went for a constituency which allowed me to add the slots of the youth.

I want to appreciate the Partner States. Most Partner States are doing something. Different parliaments have special slots for the youth even if they have to compete for them. There is a mechanism to ensure that the youth and their interests are represented in parliament to ensure that they are part of the decision-making process.

The Uganda and Rwandan parliaments and others which have youth slots also have youth councils. Right now, it is only one partner state which does not have a youth council. I am sure that after this debate we will not need to have another debate in establishing a youth council for a partner state.

I also would like to appreciate our Partner States in a way because in EALA, the youth are also represented. Their interests are also represented. I would like to allay the fears of my friends, the youth. Probably, they thought that they are orphaned in the EALA. However, they are not. If you go into the broad definition of youth, you will find that these group goes up to the age of 45. I am saying that different international conventions give the word different meanings. When you look at the age bracket of most of EALA Members, you will see that they fall in that category. I am 31, hon. Speaker. Therefore, I boldly fall there and I think I have done something to ensure that youth issues are taken care of.

There are also those who are youthful at heart. I have seen hon. Yves debating on issues concerning the youth. With regard to EALA, something is being done. It is, however, my considered view as a young person of the EAC, coming from my own

partner state, that there should be harmonisation of the practice of youth involvement. Let us have the youth being represented right from the grassroots level. I know that Ugandans spearheaded that; right from the grassroots, the youth are represented even in political parties. So, let us begin there and ensure that in our five Partner States, the youth are represented in parliament.

It is my plea to the Council of Ministers, that during the numerous meetings that they have, where they give strong council directives, that this issue be among the directive. All Partner States must have slots reserved for the youth. I would also like to request the Chairperson, Council of Ministers because I am informed that it is the United Republic of Tanzania which does not have a national youth council at the national level to look into this and have a youth council established as soon as possible – (Applause).

Allow me to also note that everybody knows the potential of the youth as my colleague, hon. Mbidde, has said. However, they take advantage of this potential. The youth are exploited. If you are keen, in all political arrangements like when elections are called, it is the youth who are called upon. If it is an issue of violence, it is the youth who are called to take part. I know that we have a lot of energy to dispose of. People exploit the youth but when it comes to decision-making, this becomes an issue and someone else has to make decisions for them. We also become comfortable saying that we are the leaders of tomorrow as hon. Mbidde said. I decided to defy that and said that I was a leader of today. I am sure that my colleagues are also saying the same thing. Let us make sure that instead of having the youth being exploited, they are taken on board at all levels of decision making.

It is also my plea, even to the Council of Ministers, that quality representation does

not just mean tokenism. We are not asking for a favour. We need real representation, real. Looking at the nine slots for EALA to begin with, are not enough. I did not come here under the slot of a youth. However, my age was a contributing factor. I came as an independent candidate because I had my own shade of opinion. I also came under women and under the youth. So, this was just a lump sum of issues. I know that we have hon. Straton who strictly came in as a representative of the youth. The credit goes to the Republic of Rwanda because they managed, within the small number to fix somebody. But this is not practical. If we are to go by every shade of opinion, and every group; women, persons with disability, farmers, those in the military, people from the business community, we would find that the numbers we have here are too small. Probably the EAC Council should look into doubling the numbers so that when we have the youth being represented in the Assembly, it will not just be by one member. We do not want people who will come as partially the youth and also other things. The voices of the young people will not be heard.

Finally, I know that we have political party leaders in this House. We have hon. Mbidde who is a deputy party president, hon. Peter Mathuki, the second in command here and Bazivamo Christophe, All these people are in top positions. Therefore, we need representation right from political party's level. When I go for the party primaries, the first thing I should ask for is the youth slot. In South Africa, Julius Malema caused mayhem in the ANC. He even decided to form his own political party which has members of the current parliament. These are all young people. I think that is where we should begin and take the plight of the youth forward.

I beg to support this petition.

Ms. Shy-Rose Sadrudin Bhanji (Tanzania): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to support the Motion. I support the Motion and at the same time the petition. This petition is a move towards the right direction. Maybe it is not necessarily for immediate implementation but for the future.

The youth constitute more than 50 per cent of our population and yet they do not have direct representation in EALA. I want to recognise the presence of the young members of parliament in EALA and the good contribution they have been making on behalf of the youth. I want to single out the Republic of Rwanda for setting aside a special slot for the youth. This is commendable and I think other countries need to follow that example. I think it is high time that we called upon member states to also establish youth councils. I have just learnt, I do not know whether it is true, probably the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers will confirm, that it is only Tanzania which is yet to implement the youth council directive. I will appreciate if the Chairperson, Council of Ministers will update this House regarding the issue of the youth councils.

Given the large percentage of the youth the slots in EALA will have more impact in our society because the youth are very active in different areas like the social media and different forums like the sports and culture. I believe that if there will be additional slots in EALA for the youth, then that will have a major impact on the EAC integration.

For us to accommodate such major demands from the youth slots, we will need to have an increase of EALA seats from nine to probably 12. I propose that, at least, two more seats be added to the slots we have in EALA.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this petition is a wakeup call to every member from the five Partner States. The youth are a very key and

important category of our community. Let us not forget them. Even though we have Members of the EALA who are still categorised at the youth, I strongly advocate for more seats in this Assembly.

Speaking about youth parliamentarians in our Partner States National Assemblies, I want to commend my party, CCM, for allocating six special seats for the youth. This is very commendable. Let me also take this opportunity to congratulate all the young people in Tanzania who contested for the parliamentary constituency elections and won. Today, Tanzania is represented – *(Interruption)* -

Mr. Abdullah Hassan Ally Mwinyi (Tanzania): On a point of information, hon. Speaker, Sir. Thank you hon. Shy-Rose. I just wanted to clarify those six and say that the youth also happen to be women. There are no young men among the six – *(Laughter)*.

Ms. Bhanji: Mr. Speaker, Siri want to thank my colleague and brother, hon. Mwinyi for the information. As I was saying, I commend the youth who contested in the parliamentary elections and constituencies from different political parties and made it to the Tanzanian Parliament. I wish them all the best. I hope and pray that when we go back to contest, they will vote for us. I support the Motion.

Mr. Adam Omar Kimbisa (Tanzania): Thank you hon. Speaker for giving me the Floor. I agree with you that all of us, at one stage, were young. We have not forgotten that as much as ageing is catching up with us very fast. I was actually thinking about bringing a petition. How can we just consider one group? There are special groups for women, you, the disabled but there is not special group for the elderly which I belong. *(Laughter)*

Very soon, I will ensure that people of my age bring a petition. That is very important.

Indeed, as you said, all of us were young at one time. Hon. Susan, I was also a leader of the youth and I have climbed slowly and surely to the position of a central committee member of my party and Chairperson of a very important region, Dodoma.

Hon. Speaker, I agree that the young people form the majority of the population in all our Partner States. I also agree that they are the most vibrant group. I know that my country has a slot for the young people. Unfortunately, this is only available for women as my colleagues have said. It is high time that some slots are set aside in this parliament. My only concern is that the youth are only interested in high political echelons. I want to branch a bit aside. Why are we not addressing the issue of education for the youth? I am talking about free education from primary to secondary school and higher education like post graduate. They should give scholarships. I know that when you are young and do not have good educational background, your political career is most of the time questionable. A good number of you here achieved good educational standards. That is why we have these positions. I am also encouraging the youth not to look for political echelons. They should also encourage us to think seriously about their education. They should also think about their economic empowerment. When one is not economically strong, it may be difficult for them to get some of these positions, especially in Africa.

The issue of employment is also important. Apart from asking for higher positions – *(Interruption)* -

Dr. Kessy Perpetua Nderakindo (Tanzania): On a point of information. I would like to give information to *Mheshimiwa* Kimbisa that the youth cannot fight for those rights that he is talking about unless they get a position in a decision-

making body and that is why they are petitioning us. *(Applause)*

Mr. Kimbisa: I completely disagree with her. They can fight for themselves and there are also other people who can fight for them. We are parents. Our children did not fight for their education. We made sure that we educated our children. So, this is two way. I agree that we need to encourage our youth and ensure that they get positions in the political arena. However, we need to encourage them to come up with issues which they can build up to become strong good leaders especially in education, economic empowerment and employment.

The Speaker: Hon. Mwinyi, do you want to say something? I will then ask the Chairperson, Council of Ministers to respond to a few issues raised by the Members in the debate.

Mr. Abdullah Hassan Ally Mwinyi (Tanzania): Thank you hon. Speaker, Sir. I will be very concise. The debate was winding down and I stood up late. However, I would like to lend my support to this report and to encourage Partner States that do not have youth councils to ensure that they set them up. I know that in Tanzania, in the draft constitution, there was a very elaborate framework for a national youth council. So, hopefully, that will come in the future.

That having been said, with regard to EALA, if you read Article 51 recommendation number two, you could actually believe that the youth are actually mentioned. However, the Treaty does not mention about this. Let me quote Article 50 for clarification.

“The National Assembly of each Partner State shall elect, not from among its members, nine members of the assembly, who shall represent as much as it is feasible the various political parties represented in the National Assembly, shades of opinion,

gender and other special group in that Partner State, in accordance with such procedure as the National Assembly of each Partner State may determine.”

The youth have not specifically been mentioned although it can be inferred. If you look at the history of the EALA, although the youth have not been mentioned directly, almost every partner state in the groupings that have come to EALA have had a youth representative. That may have been by chance but it has worked out. I know that during the First EALA, we had a gentleman called Dr. Norman Sigala who was quite youthful. We also had Beatrice Shelukindo in the second EALA. I was also quite youthful, believe it or not. In EALA three, we have Maryam who is quite youthful. However, I understand the argument that we need to put a structure that will ensure youth representation. That having been said, with the numbers we have and all issues taken into consideration, it is not always easy to gain youth representation unless it is directly stipulated. With nine members, we are talking about them representing shades of opinion, gender and social interest groups.

For instance, in Tanzania, we are a United Republic. We have a special interest group that is different from other countries. This is the other side of the union. Were it not for that special interest group, some of us would not have been here. The numbers, in terms of a Treaty amendment, should be proposed so that we increase the number of members from nine to 15. That gained a lot of support. One of the arguments was based on balance from all the sectors. If we had 15 members of EALA, no country would have an excuse not to have youth representation or even representation in the case of *Mzee* Leonce and Kimbisa; the elderly gentlemen in the community.

With those brief remarks, I request an amendment on Clause 2 of the recommendation. I do not know whether I am reading this wrongly. If you read it, you would think that the youth are taken care of in Article 50 of the Treaty but they are not. Article 50 of the Treaty establishing the East African Community reflects the diversity of citizens of the Partner States specifically the fair representation of women, persons with disabilities and the youth. That gives the wrong characterisation of what Article 50 stipulates.

It is inferred in the shades of opinions that the youth would be part of that. I will ask for Treaty amendment to increase the current nine members to 15 and to specifically quote the youth as one of the shades of opinions that are required. I beg to move.

Mr. Peter Mathuki (Kenya): Thank you hon. Speaker, Sir. I stand in solidarity with the youth. You will remember that when I received this petition, we were together in Bujumbura and, therefore, was with you in this spirit. I stand briefly to support this very important report and petition and, of course, congratulate the Chairperson and the Committee of General Purpose for processing this important petition which is very important.

I was looking through some of the issues raised in the petition. I wished it had gone further to ask whether there was an existing policy under the EAC regarding the youth. That is very important. We seem to be concentrating a lot in the slots and politics surrounding all this issue. I am not discouraging anyone but as you know, as I do, politics is not just a cup of milk. Politics is hard stuff. I know that the youth have the energy to penetrate and work hard to secure whatever they need to achieve in politics. I am sure that there are many areas which they need to focus on, for instance, business. I am

aware that in some Partner States, there are policies on how to handle the youth. Some Partner States have a policy where 30 percentage of all government procurement jobs are given to the youth. We have that in Kenya where 30 per cent of all the opportunities in business and in procurement go to the youth. Therefore, it would be very important for the committee to consider saying that the EAC should ensure that there is an existing policy on youth. The EAC Secretariat should ensure that there is an existing policy regarding the youth. The EAC Secretariat should ensure that the opportunities that exist in business are also extended to the youth.

As you know, 70 per cent of our population, in all the Partner States, is made up of the youth. The aged as my Rt. hon. friend, hon. Kimbisa was referring to, form only 5 per cent of the population. So, 5 per cent, politically speaking in terms of numbers is something different altogether. Therefore, it is important to invest in this very important generation, the youth. Not only are they our future but also very important in terms of the business we are involved in; politics. But I wish hon. Kimbisa well. All of us are headed there. I am sure that once we also get hold of the youth and support them, they will also support the elderly. That is not something to worry about. Very important is the policy framework at the EAC.

The Council of Ministers may want to speak about this to ensure that in case some Partner States do not have youth councils, we harmonise this. The youth should be given recognition. We could even give them observer status at the EAC. We need to have a slot for the youth. Whenever the EAC have a meeting, we need to give them observer status so that they come and listen to the issues that are taking place and the discussions at the EAC because they are basically the future. How do we start talking

in conferences everywhere and making decisions for the future whereas the youth are not represented? That is not fair. It is only fair and a high time that the Council of Ministers took up this challenge. They should put in place a mechanism that will ensure that the youth in this region are protected and their interests taken care of.

I thank you and support this Motion.

The Speaker: I will now invite the Chairperson, Council of Ministers to make her comments before the Chairperson responds.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Agnes Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-Officio): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will respond to a few issues which were raised in this petition report. The first issue is about the formation of the East African Youth, Women and Children Council. I will report to the Members that the formation of this Council is ongoing and a team of experts was given this work to do. We expect that in the coming year, 2016/2017 they will convene a meeting to discuss a framework of this council.

Second is the issue of the East African Youth Policy which will assist the Council and Members of the Community to regulate and handle issues of the youth. This policy is informed by the Youth African Charter of 2006. This is on the table of the Minister. Once it is ready, we will include the concerns raised by the Members of this Assembly.

With regard to issues of the youth, this is an issue that was discussed in one of the Council meetings. This was during the 18th meeting of the council. We expect, in the coming financial year, 2016/2017 to come up with a Bill that will be dealing with women, children and the youth. The Secretariat is taking care of that.

On the issue of the current status of the youth council in Tanzania, as you know, the Parliament of Tanzania passed the Youth Council Bill. For the time being, Tanzanians are in the process of developing regulations. When this is completed, we will bring it up in the Council meeting. There is an issue that was raised by hon. Susan and hon. Shy-Rose. Hon. Susan wanted to know when Tanzania will establish the youth council. I have already responded to that. Hon. Shy-Rose should be informed that we normally have slots for members of parliament to represent the youth. As you are aware, we passed this in 2015 Bill of harmonising to see how the youth can be represented in parliament.

All the other recommendations which were made in this report will be forwarded to the Council for consideration.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Chairperson, Council of Ministers. I will now invite the Chairperson of the Committee to respond before I put the question.

Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I will start by thanking all the members who gave some input to this report. These are hon. Mulengani, hon. Stratton, hon. Maryam, hon. Mbidde, hon. Nakawuki, hon. Shy-Rose, hon. Kimbisa, hon. Mwinyi, hon. Mathuki and the Chairperson, Dr. Suzan Kolimba.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank all these members for their input. I will consider the amendment that was proposed by hon. Mbidde and hon. Mwinyi. This is the same with recommendation number two. The Committee wishes to see the youth having a special place in the elections of EALA. We had made a recommendation to the National Parliaments.

The proposal by hon. Mwinyi and hon. Mbidde is that the Treaty be amended to raise the number of representatives so that it

clearly stipulates that the youth and persons with disabilities are duly represented. Hon. Mwinyi had added the numbers from nine to 15. I do not know whether to take this number or just give a recommendation for the number to be raised so that we have some special slots for the youth. The Committee agrees with the amendment.

The rest was just debate and comments which were very positive. I thank everybody who supported the Motion and the youth petition. We are all concerned about the youth.

The Speaker: Thank you hon. Odette, Chairperson, Committee on General Purpose. Hon. Members, the Motion before this Assembly is

THAT, the report of the Committee on General Purpose on the petition to advocate for key issues concerning the youth as amended be adopted.

(Question put and agreed to)

I would like to congratulate the Chairperson and Members of the Committee on General Purpose for processing this petition. This is the second petition that has been brought to this Assembly and which has so far been processed by the same committee. I congratulate you and thank you for the good work.

The Assembly will communicate with the petitioners regarding the response to their petition.

**MOTION FOR LEAVE OF THE HOUSE
FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A
PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILL**

**THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
SECTIONAL PROPERTIES BILL, 2016.**

Dr. James Ndahiro (Rwanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, consistent with Article 59 of the Treaty establishing the East African Community, and consistent with Rule 64(1) of our Rules of Procedure, I would like to move a Motion –

THAT, this House grants Hon. (Dr.) James Ndahiro leave to introduce a Bill entitled the *East African Community Sectional Properties Bill, 2016*.

(The Bill was seconded by hon. Yves, hon. Sarah, hon. Kessy and hon. Celestine)

The Speaker: Hon. Ndahiro, proceed with the Motion and justify it.

Dr. Ndahiro: Thank you Hon. Speaker, Sir. We are all aware that we have a Common Market Protocol that came into force in 2010. According to Article 13 of the same protocol, Partner States agreed to facilitate the right of establishment, the free movement of capital so as to ease both social and economic development of our people in search of opportunities within the market.

We are all aware that the essence of a common market is to enlarge both the processes of demand and supply. While conceiving this Bill, we were mindful of all the Articles in the Common Market Protocol particularly Article 15. I will not go into the details of the legal implications but at an appropriate time, I will request you to allow the Chairperson of our Committee to give further justification. I just want to focus on the spirit of this law. Why did we think it was important to introduce a Bill of this nature at this time?

Opportunities are not limited to one particular area. They cross borders and we consistently encourage investors into our region and give more attention to domestic investors. That has been the political direction by all the Partner States. In order to facilitate movement of capital, right of establishment, people move in search of opportunities, higher returns, jobs and it is in this spirit that the Bill will allow domestic investors to explore opportunities within the market and where returns make sense to them. You cannot stop an investor from investing around Lake Victoria and at the same time around Lake Tanganyika and in Mombasa because it is the same market. It is also important to understand that each year, we graduate engineers. Out of those engineers, there are some who take up entrepreneurship and become private sector developers. Those developers should not be limited to their political or geographical boundaries. They should be allowed to develop properties around the region, save them around the region and manage them around the region. They should also plan according to the demand and the numbers that we have in the market which is 135 million people.

What we have currently is national legislation that requires harmonisation in terms of procedure, processes and other things. For instance, if you own a property in Uganda today and you are Rwandese and the property is used for earning rent, you are, first of all, subjected to paying VAT on the land. You are also subjected to stay in Uganda. If you sell your property in Uganda, your capital gain will be 30 per cent whereas the capital gain in Rwanda is 5 per cent. Maybe those are details. However, we should consider harmonisation if we have to attract domestic capital and allow it to flow freely in the region. We at least have to abide and use the same rules.

It is not only the developers but also governments. We know that our capital cities have a lot of slum areas. Every politician would like to see those areas rejuvenated. The only models that have been tested to help governments to rejuvenate such areas is the use of loans. Instead of evicting people from the slums, you should allow them to organise themselves so that you attract capital and build houses according to the government's plan. You can turn the slum into a very good residential area. This is possible and has been done elsewhere. I do not see why we cannot do it in our community. People put land together, commercial buildings are put up and apartments are built at an affordable cost. In some areas, these apartments have been given out at no cost at all.

I am trying to demonstrate that this Bill is not only useful to investors, developers but also to governments. It is useful also in terms of revenue collection. When you have proper urban planning, good settlement areas, addresses, it becomes easier for business to flourish. The distribution of good and communication becomes easy. I am sure that many people are wondering why a Bill of this nature is being introduced when we have our domestic laws. The Bill talks about properties. I am aware about the sensitivity surrounding land. All that sensitivity was considered and we still have room to sit as a Committee together with the stakeholders who include governments so that we agree on a position and a piece of legislation that will help everybody and bring about consistency and improve the settlement of our people including the business environment. This will also cut down the cost of establishment in the region. Once we agree in principle, this Bill will come to operationalise the Common Market Protocol without contradicting it but taking into consideration the needs and aspirations of East Africans.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, with your indulgence, I would like you to permit the Chairperson of the Committee to give further legal justification. Otherwise, I call upon all Members to support it and grant me leave to move the Bill.

Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you so much Dr. Ndahiro. The Chairperson will make submission by way of debate as per our Rules of Procedure. You are seeking leave and not dealing with the Bill. The Motion before the Assembly is;

THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Article 59(1) of the Treaty and Rule 64(1) of the Rules of our Procedure, the Assembly do grant leave to hon. (Dr.) Ndahiro to introduce a Private Members Bill entitled, *the East African Sectional Properties Bill, 2016*.

Debate is open. It is at this point that the Chairperson can be given a chance. We are not dealing with the Bill. We are just granting leave. Unless there are some controversial aspects.

Mr. Abdullah Hassan Ally Mwinyi (Tanzania): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand in support of this Bill. I would like to highlight things which are very clear. First, there is nothing controversial. This is just for clarity. This Bill relates directly to matters dealing with land. There is always an immediate response that land is not part of the Treaty nor Common Market Protocol. That having been said, ownership and investment in land in all the Partner States in the EAC is permissible provided the investors are in compliance with the national Partner State laws. On that front, I would like to direct my brother here that when it comes to dealing with matters of land and ownership, this Bill can be extremely successful provided there

are linkages with national Partner State regulations and laws.

The Speaker: Hon. Members I will put the question to this request by way of Motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

MOTION

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY TO CONGRATULATE ITS MEMBERS AND STAFF FOR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE AT THE SIXTH INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GAMES 2015 IN KIGALI, RWANDA

Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda): Hon. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that this Assembly do resolve to congratulate its Members and staff for exemplary performance at the sixth Inter-Parliamentary Games, 2015.

The Speaker: Hon. Bazivamo, hon. Mbidde, hon. Sarah and hon. Yves seconded.

(Several hon. Members stood in their places to second the Motion)

Mr. Mulengani: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a Motion for a resolution of the Assembly to congratulate its members and staff for an exemplary performance at the sixth Inter-Parliamentary Games, 2015 in Kigali Rwanda.

Pursuant to provisions of Article 49(2)(a) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the East African Community Inter-Parliamentary Games is a key aspect of building relations between the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and the National Assemblies in the EAC region.

Recognising the decision by the EAC Speakers Forum in 2009 to institutionalise the Inter-Parliamentary Games as an annual activity while employing the principle of

rotation and by urging all National Assemblies and Parliaments to have a budget line to facilitate their respective teams to participate annually;

Whereas Article 119 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community obliges the Partner State to promote close cooperation amongst themselves in culture and sports, with respect to;

The promotion and enhancement of diverse sports activities;

The development of mass media programmes on matters that will promote the development of culture and sports within the community, and whereas through the Inter-Parliamentary Games, Members of Parliament have enhanced the interaction with the citizenry of Partner States, leveraged sensitisation of the EAC citizens and has contributed to the health of Members and staff;

Recalling that the EAC Inter-Parliamentary Games Tournament has been held six times to date and this is the first time, in the entire history of the tournament, that EAC/EALA won gold medals and a trophy in football;

Noting that, to retain the trophy for keeps, the EAC/EALA should win the next two subsequent football tournaments;

Further noting that the Inter-Parliamentary Games Tournament has realised benefits in the EAC integration matters as evidenced by the growing interests and increased participation from the Members and staff;

Appreciating the Speakers' Bureau for budgetary support leading to the introduction of different sporting disciplines including football, netball, volleyball, golf, tug of war and athletics, while encouraging the participation of all National Assemblies and Parliaments in all the above, I beg to move

that the Third Assembly, in its Fourth Sitting, Fourth Meeting do resolve to:

Congratulate its football team for defeating the Parliament of Uganda 4-3 on penalties to be declared the champions of the sixth Inter-Parliamentary Football Game.

Congratulate the other teams of EALA for significant improvements in their performance and as well as participation of other National Assemblies which was exhibited with high level of discipline attributed to the pre-conference tournament message;

That the Assembly do provide time in every Plenary for Members and staff to engage in training and friendly matches since the disciplines have increased and with additional resources, the teams can then be involved in other tournaments besides the Inter-Parliamentary Games as a means of enhancing outreach in the Partner States.

Explore avenues for additional resources for initiating a better organised training regime of EALA Members and staff given uniqueness in the way it conducts its work that does not enable Members to stay together during the year.

Explore avenues for forming regional parliamentary teams that can play in future with their counterparts in other Regional Economic Communities and integration; and, lastly, congratulate the host country, Republic of Rwanda for the adequate preparations and organising committees for delivering yet another successful tournament.

I beg to move.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the Motion before this Assembly is;

THAT, the Assembly resolves to congratulate its members and staff for an

exemplary performance at the sixth Inter-Parliamentary Games, 2015.

Debate it open.

Mr. Christophe Bazivamo (Rwanda): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, for this opportunity. I rise to support this Motion and to thank hon. Mulengani for bringing it. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take this occasion to thank all players for their active participation especially footballers who gave us victory. *(Applause)*

I want, in a special way, to thank you and to congratulate you for delivering on your commitment to engage with your colleagues of National Parliaments of Partner States towards ensuring discipline during the Inter-Parliamentary Games. As you may recall, in the past, the manner in which these games were being handled was not good. We did not feel that we should continue with the games because they were characterised by indiscipline and at times calling for disintegration instead of integration.

The Inter-Parliamentary Games were a success especially if you consider the discipline of football. You achieved your target. I thank you for the preconference that was held before the games. This is an activity that we should always take into consideration even in future because it had a lot of impact.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these games are important because they are part of the sensitisation programmes of the EAC which EALA has a big role to play. I also advocate, strongly, for the games to be sustained and strengthened. I look forward to see more disciplines being included in the games and more participation. The numbers of the participants from the Prather States should grow so that we have the five parliaments together so that the games play the role of mobilising East Africans to be one people.

The games go a long way in sensitising the National Parliaments about EALA. These games do not only give us an opportunity to meet as members of parliament but also an avenue for the media at the national and regional level to mobilise East Africans towards integration. The media uses this opportunity to sensitise people about the EAC and to think about the benefits they can find in pushing forward the process of integration.

I support the Motion and thank you once again.

Mr. Isabelle Ndahayo (Burundi): Thank you hon. Speaker for giving me the Floor. I rise to support the Motion. This is a Motion which brings an issue I am always interested in. I support the recommendation by this Motion of having trainings during each plenary session. This is not because it will help us perform better than we performed but because it has health benefits. The games help to develop inter-relations between Members and staff. This is the only occasion we have to interact with staff members.

The other issue is that the Inter-Parliamentary Games should not just be held to develop a relationship between EALA and National Assemblies. This is a good opportunity for EALA to sensitise East African citizens. This should be an opportunity to pass a message to them. I remember how the games were conducted in Kigali last year and the other year when we were here in Arusha. Apart from Members of Parliament, we did not have citizens coming to spectate the games. We should think about inviting the citizens so that they also know what we are doing. We should involve citizens so that the games are not only for parliamentarians. We should use the opportunity to bring along our citizens and to preach the message of integration. This is the time we should tell them that EALA exists.

I support that we should have more disciplines. I would like to add one; swimming, which is a good sport. I support.

Mr. Frederic Ngenzeuhoro (Burundi): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I will be very brief. I would like to thank and congratulate all the players who were involved in the Inter-Parliamentary Games. That was a good moment especially for those who are not used to attending such sporting activities. There were many disciplines and this was very interesting. I would like to thank the EALA Team for the good performance.

I also want to ask my friend, hon. Mulengani, to take in a small amendment. I do not understand what is important about beating Uganda on a score of 4-3 which was on penalties anyway. Having participated in the games was good enough and that was the most important thing. That is my proposal. The House will decide. I do not understand why we should be enthusiastic about that performance and mentioning the Parliament of Uganda.

Mr. Joseph Ombasa Kiangoi (Kenya): Thank you hon. Speaker for the opportunity. I stand to support this Motion and to say that the staging of these games enables us to implement and be in compliance with the provisions of the Treaty. That is mentioned in Article 119.

Secondly, these games bring us together; legislatures from all over the region. This is a process of integration of leaders. These leaders represent different areas and constituencies in East Africa. The multiply effect in the integration process and the sensitisation that arises from this games is very high and effective. Thirdly, I want to congratulate you and the Commission of this Assembly for enabling all the Members of the Assembly to attend these games. The numbers gave moral support to the players and, hence the victory.

You may want to ask yourself why we have not won in the past and why we have won this time. This is because everybody was there and cheering. That is very important. I noticed that many Members were not playing but were very active in the field. I was very excited about that. Going forward, we need to encourage this policy and look for more funding to support this activity.

Finally, we need to encourage the organisers, while congratulating them, to up their organisational abilities so that when these games are organised, everybody in this Assembly is on board. Nobody should feel as if they have been discriminated against. We should move ahead as one unit and one people of this Assembly who are concerned about their activities.

Mr. Celestin Rwigema Pierre (Rwanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand to support the Motion and to congratulate Members who participated in the games. I also congratulate you, hon. Speaker, for two things. Those who saw you playing volleyball and football felt encouraged. That is the reason why we are strong together because you motivate us a lot.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the Inter-Parliamentary Games a strong way of sensitising our people. However, we have to see how to improve on the number of disciplines and include games like swimming which are very good. It was the first time that we had volleyball and I saw that the Kenyan team was quite equipped. It was obvious that they would win automatically. They had good shoes and there was no comparison with us. We should get the right gear.

The magazine *Bunge la Afrika Mashariki* of today is a bit disappointing and I want to apologise for that. We needed to have a picture of our team being given the trophy. That has to appear in the next publication. I also have a comment on two other issues.

Hon. Mulengani has to see how to improve our medical insurance scheme. The AAR card does not help me when I am in Kigali. I have to pay for my treatment and that is a serious problem. While I am there, anything can happen. We have to see how to get a new contract during the time that the games are being held especially when we are in an area that is not covered by the insurance company. You can develop problems anywhere. The best place that one can even access good healthcare is Five Star Hospital. You cannot access healthcare anywhere else. You cannot even go to a pharmacy to buy medicine. This Motion has also given me an opportunity to see how the Clerk can focus on this matter for the sake of Members.

Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity. I also rise to support this Motion and to congratulate our parliament. I congratulate our Speaker who championed our teams. That is why we got very many medals. For the first time in my life, I also have a medal at home to show that I participate.

Hon. Valerie is asking me where her medal is. She should have been there when we were being given the medals.

We faced some challenges during the Inter-Parliamentary Games as EALA. Raising enough numbers for our teams was a big challenge especially for the new games that were introduced. These are games like volleyball and golf. For volleyball, we faced a very big challenge and I want to thank the teams that played with us and who did not even care even when we had more staff members than the EALA Members contrary to what we had agreed upon during the planning meeting.

The women who played volleyball had not played the game before, probably one had practiced it in high school. That is why I

should apologise for having lost in all the games that we played. However, we tried our best and I want to congratulate our captain hon. Hafsa Mossi who unfortunately had to leave before the end of the game because she got an injury. We had very many injuries.

I want to make a proposal that we train more. That is under recommendations number three and four. Probably we should train more at every plenary session. I had hope that during this plenary session, we would practice and train. However, so far, people have been doing that on their own in the morning. Next week, we should try to form our teams and to train.

My other proposal is that we had some people with special needs in our parliaments. In the National Parliaments, we had people with disabilities. Here in EALA, we have people with disabilities. As you know, there are games which are categorised under the Paralympics and we should also bring along our members on board.

The Speaker: Hon. Dr. Odette, nowadays they are preferably referred to as people with special needs and not necessary disabilities. They have unique names.

Dr. Nyiramilimo: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir for that guidance. I was talking about people with special needs. I think that if I am still in the next coordinating committee, we shall plan for this category of people so that we see what games they can participate in. Even if I am not there, that should be considered by those who will be there.

The Speaker: I now invite hon. Mulengani to respond and to bring the trophy and lay it on the Table.

Mr. Mulengani: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I want to recognise my colleagues who have debated on this Motion. I know that even those who did not stand up to speak,

they are in support of this Motion. It is because of time that we only had a few talking; hon. Bazivamo, hon. Isabelle, hon. Ngenzebuhoro, hon. Kiangoi, hon. Celestin and hon. Odette.

In response and the justification for this issue is that most of the issues have been raised by my colleagues. However, I want to first handle the issue of hon. Ngenzebuhoro who was requesting for an amendment. I do not see any problem in mentioning the scores. We can redraft the Motion to say that we congratulate this football team for emerging champions in the Sixth Inter-Parliamentary Football Games where they met with the Parliament of Uganda. It is important that we mention that country that we encountered. It is very important. I do not see why we run away from the facts. I think that sounds better because we did not play on our own. We played with a certain team and that should be mentioned. It is good to recognise that it is the team that went to the finals with us.

We can make that amendment with your permission. The issue of Isabelle proposing swimming as one of the games to be added that is under the mandate of the Speakers' Bureau. You have not spoken to me but you addressed it to the right person who sits in the decision-making table.

The roles of the Inter-Parliamentary Games have been mentioned. I do not need to over emphasise this. As our team take part, this becomes part of integration. Most of you alluded to that in your submission. We use it as a sensitisation tool. In the community, one popular organ is the Assembly and it is because of such activities that we engage in, in addition to the rotation that we do. This builds cohesion between the members of parliament and it makes us understand one another's way of reasoning and ways of addressing issues. We also get to know how others quarrel and we even fight at times,

which we discourage. We also get to know one another. When we are seated here in this House, you will find very few citizens. However, when you go to the football and netball grounds, you find very many citizens coming not watch.

Football plays a key central role in marketing integration. This has informed the existence of the community to citizens. I thank Members who participated in the games. *Aluta continua*. We still have the hustle of retaining the trophy and encouraging other disciplines which have not brought trophies to work harder so that next time they bring trophies to this House.

In our last encounters since the inception of the regular annual meetings for these games, we had never received any trophy. I am leaving this Assembly next year and it would have been sad for me to have been at the centre of these arrangements and not carried a trophy. I felt very good even sustaining a very serious injury when we won. I should have taken off to go back home but I said no, I need to belong to the team. I resorted to being Gladiola on the bench while my colleagues were on the pitch.

I want to thank our elderly colleagues. We do not go to exhibit talent but to market the existence of the Assembly in the community. None of us is a very serious footballer. All we want is to show presence and that the Assembly exists. I want to thank hon. Emanuel Nengo in particular. As much as he was injured, he struggled and stayed on the pitch for us to get the trophy. Thank you for the spirit hon. Nengo.

Some other colleagues were also injured as well; hon Straton was also injured but persevered so that we could take the trophy whether with blood or not. I am requesting that as much as we have a picture showing the games, probably they should put up a picture showing us taking the trophy on the walls in

this building. It is good to put pictures which represent the parliament. The pictures out there have nothing to do with the parliament and the court. We only see the secretariat. At times, I wonder whether the community is all about the secretariat. It would have been good if we also saw pictures of our Speakers and the pictures of the President of the court. We are also contributing to the integration process.

Lastly, we sat in this Chamber in May last year to consider the EAC budget. During that time, amendments were brought and we did reallocations on the Appropriations Act. This one demanded that an equivalent of \$540,590 be transferred from the secretariat to the Assembly on the dates we agreed upon. To date, I am informed and aware, being in the budget committee and being an interested party that the money has never been given to the Assembly.

I request the Council to explain to us the current situation. The information I have was given when we were going for the games. I do not know about the current position. If the situation is still as it was, the Council should brief this House before we enter into the main budget. This may bring a lot of challenge in consideration of the budget process for the community. Why do we not respect laws that are passed in this House? Why has this not been effected to date? I also would like to lay a similar document that I laid on the Table during that debate in case the Council may have misplaced their document. This one contains the figures that are supposed to be removed. This may also help the Chairperson of the Council whom since yesterday when we were debating seemed not to have a written hand over. Probably she will use this document to follow up on this law that was passed in this House.

With that, I thank Members for supporting the Motion. This trophy will be kept here for

one year. It will go back during the next competition. That is why we said that we should work hard so that we retain it for the second time and the third time so that we have it for keeps in the Assembly.

The Speaker: I invite you to bring the trophy in front.

(Hon. Mulengani laid the trophy and the document on the Table)

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Mulengani. The Motion before the Assembly is:

THAT, the Assembly do resolve to congratulate its Members and staff for their exemplary performance at the Sixth Inter-Parliamentary Games, 2015.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Speaker: I take this opportunity to congratulate hon. Mulengani, not only for the Motion but also for the role that he played during the entire process. In spite of breaking his hand, he kept the team. We thank him for the commitment. This Motion is very clear. Every Plenary we will be having practice. The Office of the Clerk must work to make sure that this happens and the various leaders of various disciplines who were constituted to coordinate the same.

Mr. Mulengani: Mr. Speaker, I seek your guidance on a procedural matter. There are issues that have been raised during the Motion which we thought that the Council of Ministers could comment on. I stand guided.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, as you may realise, the issues you raised are work in progress. They are mainly of budgetary nature. You have laid the document on the Floor. The Council of Ministers is not obliged to answer orally regarding the Motion. She could follow it up because it is now on the Floor. The most important thing

is that we are now on another agenda item. We will follow up the situation from where we are.

Thank you, proceed.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

QUESTION REF: EALA/PQ/OA/3/53/2014

SENSITISATION OF EAST AFRICANS REGARDING THE EAC INTEGRATION AGENDA

Hon. Shy-Rose Sadrudin Bhanji asked the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers to the EAC;

Sensitisation of East Africans is critical in the pursuit of the EAC integration agenda as it focusses on a people-centred approach. However, not much is being done in this area owing to the fact that the common *mwananchi* and other stakeholders have continued to manifest their ignorance about the EAC integration agenda;

Could the Chairperson of the Council inform this House of more innovative efforts to sensitise East Africans, particularly in the rural areas?

Considering that the EAC Media Summit is a good strategy and yet the key deliverables do not fully achieve the desired outcomes since it covers less depth and details about EAC affairs. Is the Council ready to create regional Editor's Forum as well as National Editors Forum whose meetings could be graced by the Ministers and the EAC Executives to discuss integration issues?

Is the Chairperson of the Council ready to put in place a mechanism for the Chairperson and the Ministers, MPs, the Secretary General and other Heads of Organs and Institutions to regularly visit media Houses to address East Africans?

What mechanisms are in place to ensure that the Ministers, the Secretary General, the Speaker, Judge President and the Heads of Institutions follow suit to be active on the social media just like our Heads of States?

Aware that live television coverage of EALA Plenary sessions will go a long way in popularising the EAC, is the Chairperson of the Council, the Secretary General and the Corporate Affairs and Communications Department ready to mobilise funds to enable the Secretariat to undertake live television coverage of EALA Plenary sessions other than the web streaming? Is so, when can this begin?

What efforts have been undertaken to find out how much it costs to air live coverage of EALA Bunge session and how much does the one television station charge to air live Bunge coverage in every Partner State?

What is the EAC policy on print media information sharing in the airlines industry and could the secretariat develop a policy for regional airlines to carry copies or a range of leading newspapers of all the EAC Partner States on the regional flights?

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Agnes Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-Officio): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must thank hon. Shy-Rose Bhanji for raising the question on sensitisation of the East African people on regional integration issues which are central to the fulfilment of shared vision of creating a people centred community. Sensitisation of the East African citizens in regional integration will not be done by the Council of Ministers alone. The Minister for East African Affairs in the Partner States, the organs of the Community including the EALA, the institutions as well as the private sector must join hands to undertake this noble cause.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, several innovative efforts to sensitise East Africans particularly in the rural areas have been put in place. For example, airing of the East African Community public education campaign on community radio station. The example related to the above matter the secretariat and individual Partner States are now reaching out to secondary schools in the rural areas. For example, in May last year, the secretariat carried out a six day pilot sensitisation programme in four districts of Kagera region namely; Karagwe, Kyerwa, Misenyi and Ngara in the United Republic of Tanzania. During that programme, the secretariat managed to reach out to five secondary schools and sensitised over 500 students and conducted live radio talk shows in two community radio stations; Fadeso Community Radio in Karagwe District and Radio Kwizela in Ngara. We interacted with religious leaders and border official and business people and passengers at Mutukura Border between Tanzania and Uganda.

We intend to replicate such innovative initiatives to other rural areas in the East African Community. The Secretariat and Partner States are already engaging the East African youth ambassadors who are based in all Partner States to use their networks of students from institutions of higher learning whenever they are on vacation to reach out to the rural communities. We also intend to bring on board local leaders and influential people such as musicians as East African goodwill ambassadors to give the East African mileage. In addition to that, East African youth clubs have been set up in secondary schools and other institutions of higher learning and they are doing a good job in the EAC sensitisation.

Joint cross border community sensitisation workshop programmes have already been conducted in Rusumo along Tanzania and Rwanda border and in Kyaka between

Uganda and Rwanda, in Makamba along Tanzania and Burundi border, in Sirare and Isebania between Tanzania and Kenya whereby border communities and cross border traders were sensitised on EAC integration especially on the Common Market Protocol, its freedoms, opportunities and benefits. We are planning to exhaust more shared borders and communities within the region once funds are secured for the activities.

Plans are underway to use the mobile cinemas in rural areas especially in community centres. All places close to the market or worship houses to showcase short films or documentaries concerning the East African integration agenda. The Secretariat has also prepared short documentaries and is in the process of finalising comic booklets on EAC integration to reach out to the rural communities. More documentaries and materials targeting the rural areas are in the process of being produced for this purpose and will be translated into different languages. A number of ministries of the East African Affairs in Partner States are already holding awareness raising weeks in November on annual basis.

Partner States are also considering the establishment of the East African Community awareness raising national committees to address among others, how to effectively reach out and sensitise citizens in the rural areas on the EAC integration. The ministries of the EAC affairs in the Partner States are also training local government officials such as the district and divisional officers from rural areas on the East African integration agenda, the opportunities available as well as benefits so that they can in turn educate people in the rural areas through convening public forums.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, on the second part of the question, I wish to clarify that the summit

media have fully achieved the desired outcome integration agenda. I wish to report to this august House that since their launch in 2007, the annual East African Media Summit has continued to bring together media regulations owners and chief executive officers; media executives, publishers and editors in the EAC to discuss the role of the media in the regional integration process under various themes.

The Secretariat has worked out concrete mechanisms for collaboration for media industry. We have witnessed increased coverage and publicity of the integration issues by media houses voluntarily allocating sufficient space and air time on the East African regional initiatives.

The CEOs of the leading dailies in the Partner States have already directed their editorial to allocate more space to the EAC integration stories. The same thing is going on with the electronic and the private media houses. The feasibility of the integration issues in the media has been up scaled during this media summit.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, I take this early opportunity to thank the media houses for the good work they have been doing. We urge them to double their efforts to reach out to a much larger community especially in the rural areas where the large part of the people live and need to understand more about the community and its benefits.

Last year, the EAC and the East African Business Council Summit in Kampala, Uganda, an interim committee was formed by the media owners and editors to organise and eventually to take ownership of the process of the organisation of the EAC Media Summit. The Committee is working on it and we are looking forward to getting some proposals from them on the way forward. It will be wiser to have unified forums such as the East African Business Council, East

African Community and the East African Business Council Media Summit or whatever shape it may take in the future and consolidate it to achieve the lustre of the objectives of the EAC integration process. It is better for us to consolidate what we had already started on. As the integration is widening and deepening, we will also consider new avenues such as the Editors Forum, Civil Society Media, Journalists Forum, Women and Media platform, environment forum and writers' platform among others which should address all critical players in the integration process.

These forums exist at the national levels at the Ministries of the East African Affairs and the Secretariat is already collaborating with some of them and what we need to do it to strengthen that collaboration.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, regarding the media visits, let me take this opportunity to enlighten this august House that whenever there has been opportunity, I as the Chairperson, of the East African Ministers of the Partner States and the East African Secretary General and other heads of organs and institutions have engaged the media houses and journalists. Even our Partner States and Heads of States engage the media at every meeting and the summit. The East African Secretariat is also organises Press briefings involving the East African Community leaders. The idea of regular media visits may be good. However, it is good to also note that frequent visits by the media may not be that productive.

Hon. Speaker, on the issue of social media, it is important to appreciate the critical role this can play in reaching out to East Africans citizens especially the youth. We are in the process of developing a social media strategy aimed at facilitating the development of social media content regarding what people care about and what they can relate to. This content must be relevant to lives of people,

sociable and content which can be supported by work is on the ground. The content may not be planned, it may not have been studied about or even accurate. There is need for capacity building within the East African Community Secretariat to implement this strategy.

I commend Members of this august House who have been very active on the social media.

Regarding the television coverage, allow me to confirm that one of the effective ways of reaching out to the citizens of East Africa is through mass media. It must be recorded and positively that the Council is committed to outreach and increasingly looking towards broadcasting to enhance and leverage the EAC profile while influencing and agitating the various publics regarding their duties and functions. I wish to inform this august House that the initiative to set up a mobile broadcasting unit for the Assembly was mooted by the Second Assembly to enhance its visibility. The original idea was to transmit to East Africans the EALA Sessions and its activities and enable outside broadcasting and access free air broadcasting thus attracting interested television stations to pick up the signal.

I am aware that EALA is yet to realise the full establishment of a unit although it has sourced and acquired key equipment for phase one. I wish to add that this is a long term investment for the Assembly and the East African Community in general. Due to constraints in funding, the best approach for EALA is to continue asking for it as it is already being done.

The best strategy for getting a mobile broadcasting unit and seeking live broadcast through a television station is commendable.

On the question of funding television stations to televise the proceedings of EALA, permit

me to state the obvious fact that broadcasting or televising is business and an expensive affair. The stiff competition for airwaves arises out of the high demand for the content and the various competing interests. This is against the limited media outlet existing within the region. At the moment, some of the Partner States have their arrangements with national broadcasters which today have semi-autonomous status to televise the parliamentary proceedings. The said parliaments also foot the associated costs of the live coverage.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, the costs range from about \$65,000 per session which is for a private station in Burundi to around, \$285,000 in case of a national broadcaster in Kenya. It is also possible that over the two weeks plenary period of the EALA, slightly discounted rates may be given.

This is a matter which will give importance to integration. The Council will be interested to pursue this with relevant Partner States to budget for the same. However, given the constraints in funding, I am afraid that the matter may be on the cards for a little longer. However, the aspect could still be explored by the Council in the coming financial year.

Hon. Speaker, in principle, additional funds are necessary and more in terms of sensitisation. I understand that in the next Financial Year, 2016/2017 and subsequently, 2017/2018, we shall explore the strategies and modalities of seeking funds for partial broadcast coverage. A matter of pursuant in the interim may be to interest the television stations, national and private so that they can consider setting aside airtime for airing news on integration.

In this regard, I would like to thank EALA for their visit of EALA to IPP in August, 2014 and the participation in different talk shows in Dar es Salaam. We can engage the media through structured and sustained partnership.

We intend to replicate these initiatives in Partner States whenever EALA is sitting.

Despite the budgetary constraints, the Council and the Secretariat have endeavoured to tabulate the cost of airing EALA vis-à-vis doing so in the Partner States. The cost of airing the live coverage of EALA sessions varies from Partner States to Partner States. For example, in the United Republic of Tanzania, for us to air all the six plenary sessions in the government owned TBC assuming that each session will last about three to four hours, we need a total of Tshs153,872,000,000 only which is approximately \$93,255. With regard to the private star television station, this will cost us approximately \$91,000. In the Republic of Kenya, the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) charges about Kshs1,000,000,000 per hour and for hours for the six Plenary. It would cost about Kshs24 million which is approximately \$282,353. This amount has to be paid with an additional 16 per cent VAT. We have not received costing from the other Partner States.

Hon. Speaker, in this effort, for it to disseminate information on its policies and programmes, the EAC carries out communication activities that cut across the region. Much of this communication is targeted to the specific audience; either via direct contact channels such as emails, events and conferences or the mass media. We will explore the possibility of partnering with the airlines plying the regional routes as well as other firms which have established communication infrastructures like telecommunication companies with billboards and buses among others to reach out to the EAC people. Most of these initiatives will be prioritised during the Financial Year 2017/2018.

Hon. Speaker, Sir, with regard to having regional airlines carrying copies or leading

newspapers of Partner States in the regional flights, it will be difficult for the Secretariat to undertake such activities because the Secretariat is not the owner of the newspapers.

However, attempts have been made to use the regional airlines to distribute the Bunge and the Community magazine.

I beg to submit.

The Speaker: Thank you hon. Minister for the elaborate response. Hon. Shy-Rose, do you have follow up questions?

Ms. Shy-Rose Sadrudin Bhanji (Tanzania): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I wish to commend the Chairperson, Council of Ministers for a very elaborate answer. I have two supplementary questions.

One, I stand to be corrected, I remember that in this august House, we allocated funds for sensitisation. However, until now, we have not used up that money. I would like to know that happened to the funds.

Number two is about part “g” of the question. The EAC policy on print media information sharing in the media industry and whether the Secretariat could develop a policy for regional airlines to carry out copies of this;

I think the Secretariat is not proactive. They could easily arrange a meeting with airline officials and request them to ensure that they carry regional newspapers. I do not feel good when I feel using Kenya Airways and –
(*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: Hon. Shy-Rose, you may want to appreciate the response of the Minister that media houses are private entities, private businesses and how they make money and the channel of distribution of their news articles. That will be very difficult but, please, ask your supplementary question.

Ms. Bhanji: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. However, I disagree with you.

The Speaker: Hon. Shy-Rose, you do not disagree with the Speaker. The Speaker just guides you.

Ms. Bhanji: Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg your pardon. My apologies.

I am requesting the Secretariat to be proactive. This is possible. There is no harm in arranging a meeting with airline officials and requesting them to supply the dailies. It would be good to see newspapers from Tanzania like the *Citizen*, *Mwananchi* or the *Times* of Rwanda. We only find the Kenya newspapers in this airline. There is no integration spirit in this industry.

The Speaker: Hon. Shy-Rose, the rules require that you raise supplementary questions. The Speaker will guide you. When you are leaving one capital to another, the airlines have the newspapers of where they are originating from. However, I agree with you.

Ms. Bhanji: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I agree with you. If they are coming from Dar es Salaam, then they should have newspapers from Tanzania. Could the Secretariat arrange a meeting with airline officials so that newspapers of the five Partner States can be supplied in the airlines so that passengers learn a thing or two about the Partner States?

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Agnes Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-Officio): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank hon. Shy-Rose for the supplementary questions. In the first one, she wants to know whether funds which were allocated for sensitisation have been used. She said that she is not aware of whether the funds were used.

I would like to take her to my response in the first paragraph. When I was talking about the Secretariat in advocating for the issues of the EAC like in Kagera, that is how some of the funds were used. I also said that we have been conducting sensitisation in different areas. That is another area where we have been spending money. On the issue of arranging a meeting with the owners of the airlines, we will take up her advice. However, if this can be done free without us having to pay anything, we will be happy to help. Otherwise, we will still continue to look for money to advocate for issues of the EAC.

The Speaker: Thank you hon. Deputy Minister. Hon. Shy-Rose, in the interest of time, take one minute.

Ms. Bhanji: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. Could the Chairperson, Council of Ministers tell this august House the EALA Members who were involved in the sensitisation tours?

Mr. Fred Mukasa Mbidde (Uganda): On a point of procedure, Mr. Speaker, Sir. This is in relation to Rule 21(4) and (5). Sub rule 21(4) says that a question will not be raised as a pretext for debate. That has occasionally been violated here.

With regard to 21(5) is that a supplementary question must only arise within the precincts of the substantive question.

You cannot ask beyond what the substantive question provided for.

The Speaker: Hon. Mbidde has raised a very substantive question. This is important for all of us. When you raise a question to the Council of Ministers, a follow up or supplementary question should be for clarification on the substantive matter that the Minister is addressing herself to. But on this matter, I will give leverage to the Minister because a sensitisation issue was raised, on a light note, to tell us whether Members of

EALA were involved in the sensitisation exercise. Just say yes or no.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Agnes Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-Officio): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will request that I lay the information on the Table during the next session.

The Speaker: The Minister has undertaken to lay on the Table of this House a detailed programme of the implementation of the sensitisation programme. Thank you hon. Minister.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Hon. Members, fully aware that the day preceding this one is a weekend, allow us to end the business of today at this point. Thank you so much for your input and indulgence and all the good work you have done. I now adjourn the House until Tuesday, 2 February, 2.30 p.m.

The House stands adjourned.

The House rose at 5.20 p.m. adjourned until Tuesday, 2 February 2016 at 2.30 p.m.