



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

IN THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

The Official Report of the Proceedings of the East African Legislative Assembly

64TH SITTING - THIRD ASSEMBLY: FIRST MEETING – THIRD SESSION

Thursday, 4 September 2014

The East African Legislative Assembly met at 10:15 a.m. in the Karimjee Hall in Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania

PRAYER

(The Speaker, Ms. Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, in the Chair)

(The Assembly was called to order)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker: Honourable members, I wish to welcome you to today's sitting. Allow me right from the onset in a special way to welcome His Lordship the Mayor of the City of Dar es Salaam; hon. Didas Masaburi. You are most welcome to EALA, your former place of interaction, abode, and assignment. We want to take the opportunity to extend our sympathies to you upon the demise of your dear mother and we mourn with you and pray that the Almighty God grants her soul eternal rest.

The mayor was not with us because he had lost his dear mother and he was up in Musoma but we are glad to see and receive him this morning. We have been very well received. The Rt. hon. Anna Makinda and the clerk received us so well and we have enjoyed ourselves while in Dar the city of peace. So thank you very much.

Honourable Members, the mayor as it is I think within their etiquette is offering us dinner this evening. I wish to take the opportunity to invite all of you, particularly those who are travelling tomorrow to make time. We are going to know much more about how he has related and worked with and widened and deepened the East African Community integration where he is. Welcome.

Again allow me to inform you, honourable members that we wish to recall that since 2009, under the Bureau of Speakers, the national assemblies and parliaments of the East African Community Partner States and EALA have been participating on an annual basis in the EAC inter Parliamentary games tournament.

On the part of EALA who acts as the coordinator and the secretariat to the Bureau of Speakers, we have been responsible for organising these games. This year 2014 the Rt. hon. Anna Makinda was elected the chairperson of the Speakers' forum and in the same meeting, it was resolved that this year 2014, EALA will host the 2014 EAC Inter Parliamentary Games tournament and it will be held in Arusha.

On the part of EALA, the commission have put in place a committee to organise and streamline these games and I wish to take the opportunity to announce this organising committee, which I want to request to set in motion immediately because we do not have a lot of time.

This committee constitutes hon. Isabelle Ndahayo, hon. Saole Ole Nkanae, hon. Dr Odette Nyiramilimo, hon. Dan Kidega and hon. Abdullah Mwinyi. The Office of the Clerk will in due course provide to the committee the details of the mandate and the other activities. However I want to mention that the preparations have already begun and on Friday we expect the organising teams from the five Partner States to be here.

In that respect, I want to request the current team captains who have been doing this work to attend these organising committees on the part of EALA along with the members of the organising committee and then they will be able to work through the preparations as they proceed. Thank you very much. (*Interjection*)

PAPERS

The Speaker: Procedure, hon. Dora Byamukama?

Ms Byamukama: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of procedure. I have looked at the Order Paper and considering that today is the last time that we sit in these chambers in this First Meeting of the Third Session, I have realised that an important activity has not been highlighted nor have I heard anything from your office on this particular activity.

Madam Speaker, I chair the Legal, Rules and Privileges Committee as is known and the members of this committee, if you will allow me to give background, who are hon. Jeremie-

The Speaker: What is the procedure now? Be brief because procedure should be brief.

Ms Byamukama: I will be brief but I want to give you some small context. The members who are on this committee are hon. Jeremie who is present, hon. Pareno, hon. Kiangoi, hon. Mathuki, hon. Kidega, hon. Maryam Ussi – (*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: Hon. Dora, this information is known to us. These are members of the Committee on Legal, Rules, and Privileges. This information is known to us. I want to know the procedure. What is the procedure?

Ms Byamukama: Allow me, because I do not speak as fast, to just articulate to you the context and I think it will be good for all of us to appreciate the context. So these members including hon. Abdul Karim, hon. Mwinyi, hon. Valerie and hon. Ngenzebuhoro are the members who attended a meeting on Tuesday. I had an apology from hon. Hafsa, I had no apology from hon. Taslima and hon. Mbidde, and I had an apology from hon. Christophe.

What I would like to say is that when this committee sat on Tuesday, one of the issues that was brought up in the meeting was that the report on the review of the rules was presented in Arusha in March 2014 this year, and during the debate, before we even started debating, hon. Zein raised a point that it would be good for the House to be given time to consider this issue more comprehensively. The debate was adjourned at that point and I insisted on a time frame, Madam Speaker. You graciously said that within one month this activity would be undertaken.

Madam Speaker, this is September 2014, and I would like to say that from March to date, there have been several efforts to ensure that this activity is brought back to the Order Paper. First and foremost, we had a meeting in Ngurudoto in July, a planning meeting which was attended by the chairpersons and the commission. I dutifully as a representative of the committee presented this issue as an urgent issue and an issue, which requires priority but later when the calendar came out, we discovered that this activity had been scheduled for December 14th to 16th.

So when we had a meeting on Tuesday, 2 September, and the committee was very concerned that one, what had been resolved upon in the House and what you had directed which was one month had not been honoured nor did we get an explanation as to why this had not been honoured.

Secondly, the committee also noted that this was very urgent, and like I had said in Ngurudoto when we had the planning meeting of the commission and the chairpersons in July 2014, instead of us undertaking team building, it would have been better for this House to review its Rules of Procedure so that we adopt these rules, and even understand them better because we have been seized with this matter since we began sitting in these chambers as far back as when we started our term of the Third Assembly.

So, the committee therefore resolved and directed me as their chairperson to write a letter to the commission as well as give them a copy on this particular issue, highlighting what I have just said. I did write, Madam Speaker – *(Interruption)* -

The Speaker: Thank you.

Ms Byamukama: Please bear with me. I did write, and I know the Commission sat yesterday, but I have not had any response. The committee had a simple plea. The committee proposes that we handle this activity on review of rules in the plenary sitting of October, that we take off the

first two or three days to handle this issue so that we can conclusively finish it and move on to any other business because according to the committee, it is a priority activity, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Dora for the detailed information. I think if we had an opportunity of team building, you would have been able to explain most of these aspects. It is true that the report of the Committee on Legal, Rules, and Privileges was tabled before the House, and it is also true that hon. Zein seconded it, but other members requested that we stand over the debate of this report until members have been given chance to internalise the rules; to read and research amongst other things so that the rules are not just for the Committee of Legal, Rules and Privileges, they are for the whole House and all members.

It is true that I gave a time frame and I gave a rider that the clerk must find funds to facilitate this training. I want to report that the Clerk, within the framework of the EALA partners was able to establish that our partners WFD will be able to avail us the funds towards the end of November. As you appreciate, towards the end of November we shall be concluding the plenary sitting in Nairobi. We shall have those activities including the activities of the Council of Ministers and Summit and then we will be embarking on the EALA games and many members will be participating, as you are aware.

So the best time was immediately after we finish the EALA tournament. With that in view, I think when you raised this matter in Ngurudoto, we explained to you. I did explain. It is unfortunate that at that time, it was accepted but later on I can see that there was no consensus on it but the item has been catered for.

The new proposal you are bringing, when the letter comes to the commission we shall be able to handle it accordingly. I have not seen the letter but when it comes, we shall be able to handle it accordingly. I thank you.

Next item – (*Interruption*) - Order to whom? That is not order. Hon. Zein that is not order, you should have given it to hon. Dora but she has already sat. Can we proceed? (*Interjection*) -You are seeking clarification from the Speaker? Okay.

Ms Byamukama: Madam Speaker, I would like to say very clearly that when I presented this issue in Ngurudoto - (*Interruption*)-

Mr Zein: Thank you, Madam Speaker, and thank you, Chair of Legal hon. Dora for accepting to receive information from me. The information that I seek to share with you and the House is that on that day, the 26th March after this matter appeared before the House and I had risen to request that we be given time, it was actually hon. Susan Nakawuki who stood up and moved a motion of adjournment. It was not me. It was hon. Susan Nakawuki who stood up and moved a motion of deferment under Rule 31 sub rule (c).

The Speaker asked for seconders, and the seconders were hon. Kaahwa, hon. Zein, hon. Mbidde, hon. Kizigha, hon. Patricia, hon. Mumbi, hon. Kiangoi and then hon. Nakawuki after being seconded was given an opportunity to substantiate. In the wisdom of the chair, Madam Speaker, the question was put, but the chair of the Legal Committee wanted to raise the question of time

frame. And after she raised it, and after the question was accepted under your guidance, Madam Speaker, this is what you said: *“I think it is important that the issues raised by hon. Zein and hon. Byamukama are taken into account. What I noted in hon. Byamukama’s observation is that we need a time frame but what I also was able to pick from hon. Zein’s comment is that we may need to come out with a format which may need to be worked out particularly in areas where for instance mandates have been proposed to be changed maybe for election monitoring so that the House committees may be given a chance. I want to propose that we look at the time frame of one month.”*

Then hon. Byamukama interjects, *“Thank you, Madam Speaker. Yes, one month will be excellent, but mandates have not been changed. The issue of good governance, which was handed over to the Legal Committee in the Second Assembly, encompasses issues of political federation, which is also handled by the Committee on Regional Affairs. Your good office, Madam Speaker, has actually gotten us an activity, which is combining a view of this. So there is no new mandate in that particular area of election monitoring because we do not want to have contention on this matter. But I do agree that one month would be excellent. Maybe it could take a span from three to five days and then we could be able to internalise best as a whole House.”*

You, Madam Speaker said, *“Okay since time frame has been given, I think we leave the Office of the Clerk to work out the modalities and to feed us with the details.”* Nowhere is the question of money mentioned here, none whatsoever! *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you. That was the information, which you brought – *(Interruption)* -

Mr Zein: I want to finish my information, I do not think she has complained yet, which is for me to say that under parliamentary procedures, decorum and precedence, is that when a matter is decided in plenary and a date is fixed, if that matter is not able to be transacted within that time frame, the next time a Parliament sits, that matter would be brought back to Parliament for further direction. That matter has not come back to Parliament for further direction.

So, my understanding and this is the information I wanted to give is that this matter is absolutely ripe for further direction by this august House. There is no institution superior or bigger than plenary. Plenary is where decisions are made and plenary is where the will of the members is shown.

The Speaker: Hon. Zein, you were giving information and I think the information has been received, and I think you had better resume your seat and hon. Dora finishes her clarification.

Mr Zein: Madam Speaker, I am always law abiding, I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Dora, wind up please.

Ms Byamukama: Madam Speaker, I just wanted to seek clarification, and I think honourable - *(Interruption)* -

Mr Ogle: Thank you, hon. Dora for raising that issue. The information I wanted to give you is that I am one person in the commission who has relentlessly pursued this matter of review of the Rules. It is so critical and important and my suggestions then were that instead of WFD and donors, we could just allocate time, the House considers this matter so critical. We do not need funds from any partners. This matter could just be handled right before the next plenary. Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Ogle, I am happy that you said that you are one person in the commission. The commission constitutes of ten people, and we agree by consensus. (*Loud consultations*) So, when this issue was brought in the commission, and we go by consensus – (*interjection*) - Hon. Ogle, since this is the Commission and I am the Chairperson of the Commission, I want to give you true information. When you raised this issue, we said - we the other nine members thought that team building was very important for the members, and since we said team building was important for the members. That is why it was proposed.

When you came back, other members said that members might not wish to have team building, which is why the team-building item was cancelled. That does not relegate the fact that actually in the Commission we had agreed that we have team building. The Commission agreed it. So I want us to have it on record that one member said and nine members said let us have team building – (*Loud consultations*). Hon. Dora, proceed.

Ms Byamukama: Madam Speaker, actually I am coming to that particular point. My clarification is on his particular issue within the commission. Hon. Zein has given his position. We have other commissioners here, we have hon. Patricia, hon. Mike Sebalu, hon. Christophe- I do not know who I may have missed out- hon. Shy-Rose, hon. Jeremie who is also a member of the Legal Committee. We would like to hear from you succinctly on this particular issue.

Secondly, when you look at the agenda, since we came two weeks ago, it has been filled with many things, which are very important, but I would like to say that the issue of rules is a pending matter. (*Loud consultations*) Let me finish. I can see that for example there was time set aside for site seeing, time set aside for questions upon questions, there was even time set aside to visit the port and for the games. These are very important matters but I would like to say very clearly that the issue of the review of Rules of Procedure was adjourned a time frame was given. The issue of funds is not the cardinal point because members here are ready and willing, even if it takes one day; we start at 8 o'clock, we finish maybe at 6 o'clock, we go through the rules one by one, and we finish the exercise. So, I do not want us to use that excuse of funds because I know very well that the members are willing to finish off this activity.

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Dora. You sought clarification, so let me give you the clarification. Kindly take your seat. When hon. Zein read out the modality - the Clerk...I am happy he read it because maybe...when we talk about modalities, what is entailed in modalities? Parts of what is entailed in modalities are funds, venues amongst other things, and appropriateness in timing, amongst other things. I want to underscore that.

Secondly, I also want to mention that when the issue of rules was brought, it is not that it was not brought. It was actually fixed on the timetable. Hon. Dora you know very well that we have been

members of Parliament of Uganda. The issue of rules does not just involve two, three, or five people. It will also involve some other people with a little bit of bigger expertise to help other member who are not lawyers in going through this. That is the reason why we said, what is entailed? Because this is not the first time, we are dealing with rules. We are not the only Parliament who has dealt with rules so I want you to bear with us.

I am happy that you have mentioned that you have written to the commission. Let it come back to the commission. Let the commission look at it and we shall give you feedback. We shall be sitting in Kigali. Next item.

PAPERS

The following Papers were laid on the Table: -

(by the Chairperson, Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution) Mr. Zein Abubakar (Kenya):

The Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution and the African Leadership Centre Conference on East African Societies and Regional Security

(by Ms Patricia Hajabakiga (Rwanda):

The fourth bi-annual report of the EALA Commission for the period January to June 2014

The Speaker: Thank you, hon. Patricia Hajabakiga. That is the report of the Commission, honourable members. Take off time to look at it.

MOTION FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, TRADE, AND INVESTMENT ON THE EAC AVIATION SECTOR

The Speaker: Procedure on what? Let the chairperson first come on. That is the very reason we should have our Rules. *(Loud consultations)* Honourable chairperson...I urge members to read the very rules you want to amend. If you do not read them, you will not be able to proceed properly. *(Loud consultations)*

The Chairperson, Committee on Communication, Trade, and Investment (Ms Angela Kizigha) (Tanzania): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me the floor. I stand here on behalf of the Committee on Communication, Trade, and Investment.

Madam Speaker, you may recall that two days ago I laid on the table the report on oversight workshop on the East African Community Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA).

Madam Speaker and honourable members, I would like to declare in the House that it is true that we laid on the table and we agreed to bring this kind of oversight activities on Thursday today

and I would like to declare that Madam Speaker, as a committee and as the chairperson of this committee, we have not yet completed our activities.

For that matter, Madam Speaker and honourable members especially members of the committee, you have to allow us so that we can move during the next plenary so that we can proceed with our activities as we have been mandated. This is just because we seek clarification from honourable SG. He wants to include all civil aviation from all East African Partner States for their views so that we can come up with a more comprehensive report, which tackle all matters that are beyond CASSOA for the benefit of the bigger East African Community perspective. I beg to submit, Madam Speaker. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you. Secretary General, do you want to confirm?

The Secretary General of the EAC (Dr Richard Sezibera) (Ex-Officio): Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I wish to thank the chairperson of the committee for confirming what we discussed. Madam Speaker, I thank her because I was thinking of rising again but she saves me the responsibility of rising to seek for further adjustment.

Madam Speaker, let me say three things. One is that the report that was tabled before this House in my opinion should be recalled because clearly this report does not contain the full measure of the issues in the civil aviation sector and it has the potential to harm this sector in this community so I would urge that although that report was tabled, that it be recalled.

Second Madam Speaker, I was looking at the Order Paper and it says, report of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment on the EAC aviation sector-

The Speaker: Secretary General, I think the most important is that the chairperson has agreed that you are going to sit so when you go with the Committee of Communication, Trade, and Investment, you will be able to bring the right report.

Dr. Sezibera: No, Madam Speaker I have a problem, which I would like to share if you can allow me.

The Speaker: Proceed.

Dr. Sezibera: The Order Paper says report of the Committee on Communication, Trade, and Investment on the EAC aviation sector. This was the basis of my discussion with the committee.

Madam Speaker, the report that is now being circulated says report on the Committee on Communication, Trade, and Investment on oversight workshop on the EAC civil aviation in Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency (CASSOA). So, the report on the Order Paper, which was the basis of our discussion with the committee, and the report that is being circulated in this plenary are different and I have a problem.

Third Madam Speaker, the report that is now being circulated is different in content from the report that was circulated when I sought for adjournment.

Fourth Madam Speaker, when I sought for adjournment, we promised to bring this matter back to the plenary today. I did ask the head of Civil Aviation to make sure that he is in this plenary today. When I met, the understanding was that the committee would have met yesterday. The committee did not meet yesterday.

I was approached to say, could I amend the report? I declined, because the amendment that we and the Council were proposing are not matters of sentences and full stops. They are substantive issues we wanted to amend. So, I declined to amend this report. I requested that the committee meet, and I availed myself together with all the respective staff members to assist the committee. I availed myself to work with the committee to facilitate them; I availed to help the committee bring all relevant stakeholders for this. We agreed, Madam Speaker but I am shocked that this report despite this agreement is on the floor of this House.

I thought Madam Speaker that I should say that. With those remarks, Madam Speaker, I beg to support the chairperson.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. Are we generating debate out of this because I think we need to decide what the chairperson has brought along with the Secretary General to see whether we are proceeding to ask the chairperson to withdraw? It is not the Speaker who withdraws the report because it is not my report. It is the report of the chairperson so chairperson, proceed. You have heard- What is it?

Hon. Hajabakiga, you are a member of the committee.

Ms Hajabakiga: Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker for giving me the floor so I can give some clarification. We did carry out an activity in Entebbe. When we came back, we sat as a committee and looked at our report, and we realised that the report was not a good one, as it was not touching on the real issues we discussed while in Entebbe. So, we requested and even formed a sub-committee to help the Chairperson and the Clerk of that committee so that the report can be re-done. That was even before it was tabled in the House.

The committee never got an opportunity to look at that report again. To our surprise, it was brought and tabled in the House. It was sheer luck that the Secretary General raised the issue, so it was adjourned. Up to today, the committee has not sat to look at the report, which we requested to be re-done. Therefore, I second that this report be withdrawn because this is not a report of the committee. The committee of Communications, Trade, and Investment did not finalise this report. I thank you.

The Speaker: So chairperson, I think you should move to withdraw your report because it is your report not ours. Okay. You want to move a motion.

Mr Zein: Let me present myself Madam. Thank you very much – *(Interruption)* -

The Speaker: No, I think I need to be assisted because – *(Interruption)* -

Mr Zein: Yes, I am going to the rules. I will speak to the rule first.

Rule 31 of this House says the following motions may be moved without notice and under (j), any motion raising a question of privilege. I would like to raise a serious question of privilege, which is – (*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: Move the motion, you are not putting a question.

Mr Zein: Which is that I move that this report be not only recalled, I am moving that is expunged from the record of the Assembly and if I am seconded then I will justify this.

The Speaker: The motion on the floor is that the motion be expunged and it has been seconded. Can you justify?

Mr Zein: Thank you very much, Madam for your indulgence and I thank you from the bottom of my heart because this matter is so serious and has a potential of damaging the Community and the integration process irreparably and completely destroy the little credibility that this House still holds.

In my hands, Madam Speaker I hold two reports which might look similar but have different titles as explained by the Secretary General previously. Who authorised for them to be substituted? Do we have the pleasure and the latitude of sneaking in information and sneaking out information in Parliament?

One of the things that they were trying to cure was to remove the more scandalous allegation in the report. I am offended and I feel that this House should be outraged that the rights of this House have been abused.

The Secretary General who is the Chief Executive of the Community, the Cabinet which is represented by hon. Abdallah sitting in as Chair, Council met this committee, pleaded with them and said, it is not worthy of a parliamentary report to speak like this, making allegations without substantiation, without evidence, without sources. There are facts, figures, and statistics without forces. This cannot stand in a parliament.

Therefore, I would pray that this House agrees with my motion that this report is completely expunged.

The Speaker: Thank you. The motion on the floor is that the report of the Communication, Trade, and Investment Committee be expunged. I put the question.

(Question put and agreed to.)

The Speaker: Before we proceed, I just want to mention two things. One, that by the time we come to the august House, there are many discussions, which take place behind, and at times not everything comes here. Like a family, you may have issues behind there, so at times we do not need to put them on the floor. This is now in question to the chairperson of the committee, to the

committee members. As a Speaker, I receive reports from you and then I put them on the Order Paper. So, next time let us work internally before we come to the public to know who we are. Thank you very much. Next item.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY TO URGE THE EAC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO PUT IN PLACE MECHANISMS (INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES) TO HANDLE AND MANAGE THE EBOLA OUTBREAK IN THE REGION

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Tuesday, 2 September 2014)

The Speaker: Hon. Nakawuki. Honourable members, you recall that this debate was adjourned. So hon. Nakawuki proceed so that we conclude debate on this.

Ms Susan Nakawuki (Uganda): Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. Madam Speaker, I had a discussion with the Secretary General just a few days ago about this very motion and actually, he informed me that Council was sitting to discuss this very matter and that he was going to give me an update.

So much as when we adjourned, he had talked of a Thursday, I am begging through you, Madam Speaker his advice whether Council is through or we need to give it some more time for Council to finalise. I thank you.

The Speaker: Honourable Secretary General, you have been referred to so...

Dr. Sezibera: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Clearly I cannot speak to the motion but I would just inform the House that as I said, when this matter was introduced- No, I did not say it here. There will be a multi-sectoral meeting of ministers responsible for health, ministers responsible for civil aviation. This meeting is scheduled for the 17th September in Nairobi. At this meeting, we have also invited the federal republic of Ethiopia because in addition to Nairobi, which is the hub for East Africa, the other hub for our region is Addis Ababa and therefore the Federal Republic of Ethiopia has been invited.

The Democratic Republic of the Congo has been invited to this meeting for the reasons that you know, because of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the WHO have been invited through the Africa region based in Libreville. So, this meeting, which will discuss the report that came from CASSOA a few weeks ago and other emerging issues around Ebola will be held on the 17th September this year, and I think this House might benefit from the results of this meeting and we will faithfully share those result with the House. I beg to clarify, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, honourable Secretary General. Just to remind you that normally Parliament is informed through things like statements from the Council of Ministers. By the time a member brings a motion it means it is an issue of concern. I think it is important

that the Chair, Council organises to bring a statement which will put all this information that you are talking about to rest the hearts of the members and the East Africans on this issue.

So, I think it will be very important that they are informed. When they are not informed, they will move under the provisions within the rules. They seek information from you through motions, questions and that is why we proceed in the way we do. If a member feels that, there is a concern that is the only way he brings it out.

So you should maybe make an undertaking that in a certain timeframe you will give us this information so that we can either stand over it or withdraw it so that we get direction. That is what I would like to that I can make a ruling.

Dr. Sezibera: Madam Speaker, I cannot speak for the Council of Ministers.

The Speaker: Chair, Council.

The Assistant Minister for East African Cooperation, Tanzania (Mr Abdallah Saadalla): Madam Speaker, thank you for your leadership. I would like to give some contribution on this motion. I completely agree with the processes that have been taken and are on going with the Secretariat and the Council of Ministers.

Madam Speaker, allow me to give a very short statement so that I may clear the worries of the mover of this motion, hon. Nakawuki.

Madam Speaker, as honourable Secretary General said, there is a lot of multi sectoral collaboration in respect of ministries of communication, internal affairs, health and these are not only within the Partner States. They comprise all the regional and international global collaborations on controlling this condition.

So together with the on-going activities of controlling the hubs and inter mingling with the people from the affected areas as clearly stipulated by honourable Secretary General, there are currently activities in all of our borders; awareness activities and activities to prevent health workers and the people moving within the Community and outside the Community.

Madam Speaker, I will take this chance to commend all health workers working tirelessly to prevent this disease to get into our region and they are really working tirelessly.

Madam Speaker, it is the work and the job of the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare to prevent, and it is within the Treaty that we have to prevent our people on public health issues. The public health workers are now working tirelessly, day and night at all our borders, in all our local governments, in all our ministries -not here but even globally within Africa and internationally.

So, Madam Speaker, it is so hard to comprehend the motion that accounts authority like the Council that did not take any measures because this has been here since almost February and January. Our Partner States took a lot of action and I can just alert hon. Nakawuki is right in

saying that on perspectives of East African Community, there was no statement given. I can accept that but within the Partner States, globally and regionally, things are being undertaken and all measures are now on the ground, dynamically being taken very fast and as honourable Secretary General said, not only in the local perspectives but even internationally things are being collaborated to prevent this deadly disease from entering into our region.

Madam Speaker, I just have to say these words. God bless Africa and East Africa. Thank you so much.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I think by way of proceeding, I want to ask that you promise when you can bring a statement of information after all the multi sectoral discussions have taken place. Then hon. Nakawuki can either await that information or withdraw this motion because it has to find a way of exiting the Order Paper.

Dr. Saadalla: Madam Speaker, I believe that the Parliament is working all day long, 24 hours a day. So, we will sit down and make a very good, clear statement that what is currently on the ground at the level of Partner States and at the level of the Community and present it to the august House through the Secretariat as soon as possible after this session. Thank you so much.

The Speaker: Hon. Nakawuki, I think considering the information and the undertaking that a statement will be presented to this august House, I think we can proceed by standing over this motion or you withdrawing this motion on the condition that the minister has made an undertaking. Take the floor.

Ms Nakawuki: Thank you, Madam Speaker for your wise guidance, and thank you, Chair Council, but, Madam Speaker, I would rather have us stand over this motion, wait for the Sectoral Council, and maybe adopt the resolutions from the Sectoral Council. I thank you.

The Speaker: Okay, this report is stood over until we receive a statement from the Chair, Council. Proceed.

MOTION FOR THE CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION AND THE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP CENTRE CONFERENCE ON “EAST AFRICAN SOCIETIES AND REGIONAL SECURITY”

Mr. Zein Abubakar (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to move the motion that the *Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict resolution and the African leadership Centre conference on the “East African Societies and Regional Security”* be adopted. I beg to move.

The Speaker: Seconder? Hon. Sebalu, hon. Kabahizi, hon. Taslima, hon. Shy-Rose, hon. Abdul Karim Harelimana, hon. Sarah Bonaya, hon. Okumu and hon. Celestin Rwigema. Proceed.

Mr Zein: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This conference was organised by the committee with facilitation and help from the EALA Secretariat that is the Clerk’s office and the Speaker’s office. This conference was very technical in nature. I will just read the objectives.

Objectives

Madam Speaker, the conference was guided by the following objectives:-

- (a) To identify and analyse recent major societal transformations within societies in Eastern Africa (inclusive of the Greater Horn), and explore if, and how, they have coalesced to constitute regional security priorities;
- (b) To analyse the emerging narratives of security between the populations of the region and its governments, seeking in this analysis to identify convergences and divergences, and which, if any, of the regional institutions mediate articulated divergences;
- (c) To interrogate whether emerging priorities find adequate responses in existing regional security architecture, and, if not, identify the disconnects and propose feasible new regional security agenda and architecture;
- (d) To make recommendations that might facilitate EALA's capacity to legislate better and influence security and peace building initiatives in the region through parliamentary diplomacy.

Participants

Madam Speaker, Participation in this conference was by invitation by EALA. Apart from the ALC team, the participants were drawn from all five EAC Partner states. In addition to officials from other organs of the Community and EAC partner state governments, the conference also had representation from the regional media and academia. EALA was represented by members of the RACR, as well as chairs of EALA partner state chapters and of all its standing committees. ALC was represented by 7 of the 9 member Research Working Group on East African Societies and Regional Security. The conference did therefore provide an opportunity for stimulating intellectual engagement but in a context where the knowledge transfer into a policy space was immediate.

Programme

The two-day programme was divided into five working sessions and networking opportunities. The latter enabled the participants to informally continue the engagement which began in the first day's sessions and interact with other invited guests, including the chief guest, the EALA Speaker, Rt.Hon. Dr. Margaret Zziwa. Other speakers at the reception included representatives from the conference convenors, ALC and RACR, and event resource partners, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and The Association of European Parliamentarians with Africa (AWEPA).

Session I: Official Opening and Setting the Scene

Following his welcoming remarks which set the context for the conference, the Master of Ceremonies, Hon. Mike Sebalu, invited the Director of the ALC, Dr. 'Funmi Olonisakin and the Chair of the RACR, Hon. Abubakar Zein to make their introductory remarks. Hon. Zein proceeded to open the conference officially. Two presentations by Mr. Leonard Onyonyi, a Peace and Security Expert in the EAC Secretariat, and Dr. Godwin Murunga, Deputy Director of the ALC then set the scene by articulating the context of this partnership.

Mr. Onyonyi's presentation on the "The Status of Peace and Security in the East African Region" emphasised the importance that the EAC has placed on the question of security, given that it is imperative to facilitating, consolidating, and protecting regional integration. He noted that this becomes even more important as the Community achieves the benchmarks of a common currency and monetary union, and looks ahead to the ultimate goal of political federation. He singled out for mention Articles 123, 124 and 125 of the EAC Treaty that focus on the question of common foreign and security policies.

Mr. Onyonyi identified a number of security threats emanating from within (including unemployment, drug abuse, ethnic conflicts, food insecurity, cattle rustling and banditry, poaching, environmental degradation and governance challenges) and outside (including the influx of refugees, proliferation of small arms and light weapons, drugs and human trafficking, terrorism, and counterfeit drugs) the Community. He also discussed cyber-crime, counterfeit drugs and terrorism which are only now emerging within the region as major threats. He made the point that resources such as land which are a boon can also be a major source of conflict within and between partner states. All this leads to a situation that makes a regional approach to security even more of an imperative.

He outlined the measures that the EAC has taken in response to these threats, singling out for particular mention the establishment of the Sectorial Councils on Defence and Interstate Security;¹ the enactment of Protocols on Peace and Security and Co-operation in Defence, as well as the setting up of the Conflict, Prevention, and Management Response Mechanism. He also identified threat-specific measures, such as the setting up of thematic groups and specialised response centres.

He further underlined the importance of broader measures enhancing regional cooperation such as cross border co-operation and information sharing among member countries, and the adoption of international best practices through standardization of intelligence gathering training and procedures, and benchmark exchange visits. Finally, Mr. Onyonyi identified as the four critical security challenges currently facing the EAC:

1. The delay in the ratification of the EAC Peace and Security Protocol that has made it difficult for the member countries to effectively combat the threats.
2. Absence of an enabling institutional structure makes the implementation and enforcement of decision and agreements difficult.
3. Inadequate funds to support the various efforts of combating the threats facing the region, even though this ought to be addressed following a directive by the EAC Council of Ministers
4. Lack of citizens' data in the region makes co-operation and information sharing difficult, especially on transnational threats that affect the region.

Dr. Godwin Murunga outlined in his presentation the rationale and agenda for the joint ALC/EALA Programme on East African Societies and Regional Security. He pointed out that East Africa's streets and communities have become the locus for manifestations of a broad

spectrum of security concerns, with insecurity becoming a living, conscious reality for the average East African citizen, regardless of where they live. He noted that the current state of security alertness is a clear indicator of a major change-taking place within East African Societies in respect to issues of security provision. He therefore argued that understanding of the general condition of insecurity in the East African region, as elsewhere, must go beyond the obvious domains and ‘visible’ issues directly engaging to a deeper engagement with the “invisible” human security issues affecting societal perceptions and experience of insecurity. This would lead the region into a logical shift from a strictly state-centric approach to considerations of a complimentary society-centric approach. He revisited the aims of the conference in the context of the ALC/EALA partnership, setting the context for Session 2, and the presentation of the Background Paper.

Session II: Presentation of Background Paper

The Background Paper was presented by Dr. ‘Funmi Olonisakin, Dr. Godwin Murunga and Dr. Mshai Mwangola on behalf of the ALC Research Working Group on East African Societies and Regional Securities.

Dr. Olonisakin began by giving an overview of the paper, beginning with a summary of the security situation in East Africa. She demonstrated that insecurity in the region, in its broadest spectrum, has shifted from a primary focus on the security of the state to a shared focus with the security of the streets and communities, as the threat landscape shifts to the societies, which form the backbone of state resilience. She concurred with the previous speakers’ assessment that a lot of societal security concerns and issues have regional ramifications and implications, arguing that this therefore calls for a broader regional response system as opposed to the dominant historical approach in the region, which has privileged a more individualistic approach on a state-by-state basis.

She suggested an evaluation of existing regional instruments to see if and how their design responds to the present security environment. She explained that the paper would use the East African Protocol on Peace and Security as a case study, first to think about how such regional instruments might be adapted and modified to respond to the challenges outlined in the first session, and secondly, to explore the possibility of bringing into balance in such instruments the prioritisation of state security with comparable attention to the needs of East African societies and communities. Dr. Olonisakin spoke to the particular uniqueness of the EALA as a regional assembly, suggesting that regional blocs on the continent can learn much from each other to the benefit of African citizens in general. Given EALA’s strategic legislative advantage, that allows it to make regional laws, she challenged the body to lead the continent in providing a model for people-centred legislation that paid at least as much attention to the security priorities and needs of its citizens as it does to those of the state.

Having suggested a re-thinking of insecurity as a spectrum, she outlined an approach to the research engaging different sites of insecurity, of which the paper would engage three. She then spoke to the first of the three sites of insecurity highlighted in the paper – the youth bulge. According to statistical data available, it is projected that the population of young people in the Community will top 237 million by 2030, eliciting policy responses characterised generally by fear and anxiety of a dooms-day scenario. This is because of the dangerous potential inherent in

the intersections prevalent in environments as exist in the region, where a youth bulge matures in a context fraught with social exclusion enhancing the potential of violent conflict.

She noted that the majority of East African youth is under-served by the state presence, both politically and economically, predisposing a large percentage of the population to an existence in conditions of near exclusion, general poverty and growing insecurity. She argued the need to create zones and avenues in which questions of territoriality, citizenship, and migration are discussed, disputed and negotiated, noting that the question of the youth bulge is closely linked with that of borderland communities whereby both often find their citizenship questioned; their identities contested or even criminalized in some extreme instances and also their modes of livelihood considered suspect. She however emphasised the importance of also understanding youth as a diverse category, with many outside the “as risk” category, being themselves also “at risk”.

She also made the case for thinking of youth as also mediators of risk, at the forefront of those providing creative solutions to the threats facing the communities within which they live, encouraging an understanding of the borderland space at the intersection of the youth bulge, youth exclusion and frustration as a sphere as likely to produce innovation as violent conflict.

Dr. Murunga then followed up with a discussion of the second site – borderland communities. He explained that borderland communities, by virtue of the limited space they occupy, are groups that tend to live in environments whose fragility does not guarantee sustainable livelihood, and are thus prone to high levels of poverty. He noted that the issues affecting them are usually discussed extensively but normally end in disputes without any concrete solution offered. He demonstrated how many borderland communities have historically had to content with a suspicion of their allegiance to particular nation-states, with their citizenship under constant threat of contestation. This is both the cause and the consequence of their remoteness from the “centre” where the power of the state is located. They are therefore generally under-served by the state presence due to historical issues and other reasons. They are not only themselves often basically excluded from mainstream issues; their unique issues of concern are marginalized in national and state discourses, putting them at both the literal and figurative margins of the nation-state. This is illustrated in the area of security by the fact that these groups are often forced to provide security for themselves because there is no other real alternative.

However, he pointed out that recent developments have led to a shift in the historical status quo, in making the borderlands a key concern of the state. This is both in the positive, for example, with the discovery of abundant mineral resources within their sphere, as well as in the unnerving reality that many of the most militant insurgencies in the region have also been associated with these spaces. There is now growing appreciation of the need to understand that what takes place in remote places can have reverberations at the centre of state power and in everyday lives of ordinary people. Ironically, while this has brought borderland communities from the margins to the centre of public discourse, the negative slant with which mainstream society has historically viewed these communities has only been strengthened; increasing both the perception within the public sphere of these communities as alien-nations, and their own sense of exclusion and discrimination. There is therefore urgent need to creatively think about solutions that will correct the historical neglect and marginalization of distant borderland spaces facilitating their potential as a breeding ground for local, national and regional insecurity.

Dr. Mwangola began by acknowledging that discourse on natural resources – the third site of consideration - within the EAC has tended to affirm the important place of land, crop, aquatic, animal, and wildlife and forest resources within the region’s economy. This is evidenced by the naming of the relevant committee in EALA as the Agriculture, Tourism, and Natural Resource Committee. However, she argued that the recent developments in the discovery and exploitation of mineral resources demand that attention also be paid in the extractive industries, whose potential is growing exponentially driven by global demand especially from the Far East. She gave an overview of threats emerging in both these areas.

Focusing on the latter, she particularly singled out the inherent assumption and accompanying legislative provision in the mineral and energy industry that such resources belong to the state, which has the authority to allocate the land on which they are found, rather than to the local population. The consequent tug-of-war between the foreign investors dominating the industry and the state (which is most often seen as defender of its own interests and those of the investors) on one hand, and host communities on the other is an example of the potential divergence in the priorities of state and society, reflected in contrasting perspectives of (in)security. Citing examples of the rich mineral resources found in each partner state in the region, she discussed the security terrain within various sites with regard to the gender divide, artisanal mining and shared resources across borders, both within the Community and with neighbouring states, and gave some examples of responses by continental, regional and local institutions. She closed out this section with the reminder that any site containing a source of natural wealth inevitably holds the potential to provoke progress and developmental gains, as well as detrimental conflict and destabilisation.

Dr. Olonisakin then moved the discussion to the next section of the paper, which dealt with the implications of the discussion about EAC in general, and EALA in particular. Using the EAC Peace and Security Protocol as an example of a potential area of work, she noted that this was an instrument that, despite giving its primary focus to the traditional security concerns of states, also provides clear entry points for an engagement with societal priorities and understandings of security. The Protocol, in its generality, implies the security of society, and thus provides EALA with a clear agenda in its engagement with the protocol, based on its commitment to a “people-driven approach” in its affairs. She noted that EALA’s triple legislative, oversight, and representation mandate enables it to serve as an important mediator in critical societal spaces as well as an authentic connector between societal sites of insecurity and state response mechanisms. It can therefore play a significant role as both a convenor and facilitator of appropriate fora engaging these issues, and engage in parliamentary diplomacy in ways that national level institutions might not be able to.

Dr. Murunga concluded the presentation with the following recommendations:

- (a) That EAC should amplify the aspects of its Protocol on Peace and Security.
- (b) That EALA should build partnerships with select communities and actors across East African Societies to popularise the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security.
- (c) That EALA should outline an Agenda for people-centred security in East African Societies and a “Plan of Action” for its implementation.
- (d) That EALA should convene relevant non-state institutions including knowledge networks, community groups among others to propose implementation of a proposed Plan of Action

The robust discussion that followed the paper touched on the different sections of the paper. There was general agreement on EALA's immense potential as a regional institution with the mandate and ability to enhance peace and security in the region, leading to exploration of different ways in which EALA's people-centred approach could help to amplify society-centric focus on security. Several interventions focused on the EAC Peace and Security Protocol as well as on other instruments, processes, and opportunities available to members of EALA that could facilitate this. The discussion also highlighted areas for further research and elaboration with regard to the sites of insecurity articulated in the paper, with some calling for an expansion of the research to include other sites such as gender, and others seeking clarification on definitional and methodological points. An additional recommendation was put forth challenging ALC to become robustly involved in facilitating the integration of academic research on East Africa's regional peace and security into policy and public discourse within and outside EAC spaces.

Session III: Breakout Sessions

- (a) Three breakout sessions were held with a focus on each of the three sites of insecurity articulated in the paper. Each group discussed the following questions: What are the salient points for this site?
- (b) How does this site connect to the other sites?
- (c) What implications therefore for the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security?

And then came up with recommendations on the way forward on these sites, which were then presented in plenary.

The thematic group on The Youth Bulge, made the following recommendations:

- (a) Rethink narratives in education, especially in higher learning, to include investing in diversifying education opportunities, not only in vocational and entrepreneur skills, but more importantly on peace building including training on conflict resolution and prevention;
- (b) Harmonise national legal and policy instruments within the EAC region, consolidating and standardising legislation and laws relating to youth issues;
- (c) Adopt youth-centred governance approaches;
- (d) Manage mind-set and attitudes toward the youth;
- (e) Broaden platforms of engaging the youth, especially by tapping into social media.

The thematic group on Borderland Communities made the following recommendations:

- (a) Speed up the implementation of decision affecting regional borderland communities by enhancing cooperation between the three EAC arms of the Secretariat, EALA and the Council of Ministers.
- (b) Set up a follow-up EALA committee to monitor the implementation of decisions taken by the Assembly.
- (c) Push for laws within the EAC that foster trade and regional integration to move the region forward.

The thematic group on Natural Resources made the following recommendations:

- (a) Initiate a revision of the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security to include a mention of natural resources in Article 4 on conflict prevention, management and resolution issues of

natural resources, and to seek the inclusion of an additional article specifically dealing with issues of natural resources.

- (b) Initiate new legislation in EALA with the aim of regulating and controlling the exploration of the natural resources within the region as well as providing guidelines on the sustainable management of the environment.
- (c) Harmonise national legislation on natural resources in the region under the guidance of EALA to promote the welfare of people, particularly communities located in resource rich areas.
- (d) Conduct research on natural resource hot spots within the region to enable the capacity building and the development of legal concepts on resource ownership that will limit disputes pitting resource-rich local communities on one hand and governments and / or multi-nationals on the other.

Session IV: Recap of Day One / Recommendations

Day Two began with a re-cap of the previous day's sessions facilitated by Mr. Charles Kadonya, Senior Research Officer, EALA, followed by a plenary discussion of the issues raised. This was an opportunity to hear more from each of the chairs of the different EALA Committees and national chapters, as well as other participants, including the invited academics.

While some of the discussion revisited particular points from the background paper and the breakout sessions discussions, there was more emphasis in the interventions on the way forward. The RACR intends to develop a communiqué and legislation out of the emerging issues and recommendations identified in this session. These included the following:

1. That the ongoing EALA - ALC partnership includes a training and sensitisation component on peace and security matters at both regional and national level.
2. That EALA develops its capacity to engage in parliamentary diplomacy and in enhancing regional transparency and accountability mechanisms.
3. That EALA develops frameworks for dealing with regional peace and security issues and influencing the capacity of the regional legislative bodies to deal with global challenges
4. That EALA appreciates partner states for signing the EAC Peace and Security Protocol
5. That EALA commends the Republic of Rwanda and Republic of Uganda for having already ratified the EAC Peace and Security Protocol
6. That EALA urges the Republic of Burundi, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Kenya to ratify the EAC Peace and Security Protocol
7. That EALA identifies specific gaps in the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security and presents recommendations for its review
8. That EALA urges all partner states to ratify the EAC Cooperation on Defense Protocol
9. That EALA appreciates continued support by the Community to the Peace and Security Sector
10. That EALA urges the partner states for increased funding of the Peace and Security Sector of the Community
11. That EALA appreciates the role of the Summit, the Council and the Secretariat in laying the foundation for the establishment of an institutional framework for peace, security and stability in the region

12. That EALA enhances its role of promoting peace and security initiatives within the EAC, both in partnership with other EAC organs as well as with member state legislatures.
13. That EALA leads the effort to amend the EAC framework on conflict prevention, management, and resolution (CPMR) to instil a society-centric approach to security.
14. That EALA puts in place a committee to mirror the Government Assurances committees in some of the national parliaments to bring the EAC Council of Ministers to book in relation to implementation of the EAC legal instruments
15. That EALA appreciates the role of partners such as the Association of Parliamentarians for Africa (AWEPA), African Leadership Centre (ALC), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and the security sector generally
16. That ALC extends this work with EALA to include non-state actors with a view to facilitate the building of a critical mass of informed civic voices engaging regional issues of peace and security.

Session V: Official Closing

In their closing remarks, Both Hon. Zein and Dr. Olonisakin thanked all the participants and reiterated the commitment of their respective institutions to this partnership. Hon. Zein also officially proposed the change of name of the host EALA committee from the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution to reflect a broader mandate on Peace and Security.

The Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon. Dr. Margaret Zziwa, closed the conference. In her remarks, she noted the importance of the conference theme given the present historical global and regional context and restated EALA and EAC's commitment to prioritising issues of peace and security. Outlining some of the measures that the Community has taken in this regard, she took note of the recommendations that had emerged during the gathering, reiterating EALA's determination to follow through with appropriate measures. In thanking those who had contributed to the success of the gathering, she singled out the promising beginning to the partnership between EALA through its CRACR and ALC, expressing commitment to its growth and support.

Way Forward

The workshop closed with the undertaking from ALC and EALA to continue to develop this joint programme. Immediate output from this conference, and Phase 1 of the partnership:

1. Official Conference Report - EALA
2. Conference Communiqué - EALA
3. Policy Brief on the EAC Peace and Security Protocol - ALC
4. Publication of Background Paper - ALC
5. Book Proposal on "East African Societies and Regional Securities" – ALC
6. *Kujenga Amani* journal article
7. Articles in *the Bunge la Afrika Mashariki* Magazine

A meeting between the partnership principles was scheduled for the month of August. It reviewed the activities for Phase 1 (workshop and conference), agreed on the timeline for completion of Phase 1 deliverables, and planned for the next phase of the partnership.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Chairperson of the Committee of regional Affairs. I want to reiterate that the recommendations you make as committees become recommendations of the House after adoption. That is why it is very important to read them. If you can run through your report from page 10 to 11, you can see EALA although at that point you were the Committee of Regional Affairs. That is why it is important that they are captured and go on the *Hansard*.

Secondly, I think there could be one very important correction you may have to look at on your official closing where you say, hon. Zein also officially announced the change of the name of the EALA committee. I think you proposed.

Mr Zein: I corrected that Madam from here. The record of *Hansard* will show that I proposed so that is what should be in the *Hansard*.

The Speaker: Okay, that is very important. I was there and I think I remember. So, it should be that you proposed otherwise- Thank you.

Honourable members, I thank hon. Zein for the report of the Committee of Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution. Honourable members, the motion on the floor is that the report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the workshop held between the committee and the African leadership centre on the East African societies and regional security be adopted. Debate is open.

Mr. Mike Sebalu (Uganda): Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. I just want to welcome in our traditional way a new member of EALA from the republic of Rwanda, honourable minister you are very much welcome. EALA is a very friendly institution, you will enjoy your tour of duty as a minister in charge of East African Affairs, and we will give you all the support that you need. We will be available to show you nice places in the different capitals where we have been and you will enjoy your work. So, you are most welcome, honourable Minister.

Madam Speaker, as you announced the other day, we had a Rotary Cancer run in Kampala, and over the weekend, I took off time to go and receive His Excellency Al Hassan Mwinyi who was the chief runner. In the same spirit, I want to thank the honourable members who contributed because as the organising committee, we managed to raise some money, which was given to the cancer ward in the names of the Chief runner. So, your contributions went to what the chief runner pledged and it was \$ 20,000. We managed to contribute something like US\$ 2,500 from this House, which is acknowledged and appreciated by the chief runner.

Madam Speaker, I rise to support this report and declare that I am a member of the committee and to appreciate hon. Zein for engaging with work that had been generated in earlier committee engagements. You will appreciate that in the Second Assembly, we held a similar meeting in Bujumbura, and at that time, I was the chair of the committee and a very able chair at that. So, we generated very good outputs, and they were picked by hon. Abdul Karim Harelimana. He undertook and we were able to implement some of them. There were also others carried forward. So, the succession plan of the committee of Regional Affairs is exemplary, all of us chairpersons emeritus remain members of the same committee, and I want to declare that I intend to stay in the same committee in the next round.

Madam Speaker, we also want to appreciate the partnerships that have been generated by hon. Zein including the Africa leadership Centre, the one we partnered with in order to host this very important conference. This conference was particularly important in that we were engaging a knowledge based organisation that has concentrated on matters of doing research on a wide range of issues that are very critical to the integration process of East Africa. And, definitely, their partnership is going to be very productive for us in terms of engagement, in terms of focus and also building capacity so that we are leaders in the region with a knowledge base. We do not want to engage issues without deep knowledge and analysis so that our outputs add value to the process not to have the effect of undermining the process.

So that is exactly what we undertook and definitely the outcomes are there for everyone to see.

Madam Speaker, another very important aspect regarding this particular conference was to do with engagement with our strategic plan. You will appreciate that our strategic plan puts emphasis on people centeredness and we engaged this very subject from the viewpoint of societies, which is going beyond the state actors and putting emphasis on non-state actors. This was critical. When you look at the sites that we engaged, the youth bulge, borderland communities, natural resources all indicate the role of non-state actors in the issues that we are engaged in.

Madam Speaker, we came up with a number of recommendations and I want to say that the engagement was highly technical and the quality of the output was equally good. I want to appreciate the technical people that made presentations.

Madam Speaker, on page nine you will appreciate we looked at the different sites, youth bulge, borderland communities and natural resources. When we get to the youth bulge, it is a big issue. The statistics, which have been quoted by the chair, are serious and here we emphasise the issue of mindset. Mind set towards the youth, that is the leaders, the parents and the community but we want to add that the mind set for the youth themselves in terms of what they perceive themselves to be, being a tool that is used in elections. You find that in all acts that are not quite palatable, you find if you have conflict, violence, majority of the people who are going to be pushed are young people. If you have any kind of dirty work to be done, some of the people that engage use the youth to manage that. So, the mindset and attitude of the youth is something we need to look at.

Finally Madam Speaker, the issue of natural resources. We will appreciate that many of the conflicts are resource-based conflicts and the fact that we are getting more and more resources being got in our region, the potential for them to cause conflict cannot be underestimated. So in the peace and security protocol, that amendment then comes handy for us to consider because we cannot run away from the fact that the potential for conflict is possible.

Finally, I am happy to note that the peace and security protocol is being implemented. There are discussions of creating a peace and security committee. Those are laudable engagements, and the signing of the Peace and Security Protocol by the countries that have already done so is

appreciated and we want to call upon the other countries so that full implementation is undertaken.

Madam Speaker, I beg to support the Motion.

Ms Sarah Bonaya (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me this chance. I will start by thanking the Tanzanian parliament and government for this great opportunity as this is my first time to speak in this august House. We have really appreciated your hospitality especially hon. Shy-Rose and other Tanzanian members who went out of their way to make our stay here a success.

I would also want to congratulate the new minister from Rwanda for being appointed to this august House, you are very welcome, we are proud of women in leadership.

Madam Speaker, I would like to contribute to this very important agenda of peace and security in the region. I also want to declare my interest, I am a member of this committee, and the issues of peace and security in other parts of the world are major priorities to be addressed by government all over the world. This is because without security, nothing else works. So it is good that this committee has undertaken this very important activity and has given this report to the House.

I would also want to put the effect and impact of climate change on peace and security. I come from an area where we have been exposed to insecurity from ... up to now especially the farming communities where they are agro or livestock keepers. Actually, they are bound to suffer even more in the coming years and we need to address these issues alongside security because we always get persistent complaints based on resource conflicts, pasture, and water, which keep on diminishing by the day. Unless measures are taken to curb this, where we are also getting from farmers who move to cities because their crops have failed, this also lead to insecurity so we need to look at climate change and its effect.

The other major issue is IT and its effect. It provides both threat and opportunity to peace and security in the region because if we choose to use the social media and telecommunication to promote peace, it is a very strong avenue for us to use to maintain peace and security, but it can also be detrimental if we do not regulate it properly to ensure that – Because it is one the fastest and it has multiplier effect to global level.

We all remember what happened in the Arab uprising and we need to put measures in place to look into issues of cyber-crime and IT and telecommunication. In general, conflicts, especially in Africa have risen from the traditional format to more technical where vehicles are being used as opposed to old practices of spears and people walking on foot to go and raid. Now even the most rural communities have access to technology and that complicates our situation even more.

The other issues that we need to look at are the governance issues in our states. There is the issue of governance, where politics at national and regional levels have a trickle-down effect on communities at the lower level because people want their ideologies to be adopted. And whoever is not with the ruling class has to be pressured into line. So we need to look at issues of governance especially in the East African region so that we do not have winner takes it all. We

need to learn to work in a manner that we live like brothers and we give each other opportunity because we all have something to offer at the end of the day.

The high level of poverty and illiteracy where the majority of East Africans live below the poverty line and they are illiterate and susceptible to be misguided and misled. We also need to work on issues of poverty eradication and education of the public. Thank you, Madam Speaker, and I support the motion.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will take hon. Shy-Rose. Order, hon. Patricia.

Ms Hajabakiga: Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I rise on a point of order on the issue of quorum. In the House right now, we have Partner States that are not represented. And even in terms of numbers, we are not even 22.

The Speaker: Like which Partner State is not represented?

Ms Hajabakiga: I do not see anybody from the Republic of Burundi.

The Speaker: Republic of Burundi?

Ms Hajabakiga: on the issue of numbers, we are not the number required for the House, I see only hon. Leonce from the Republic of Burundi, and there is only one who has just entered.

The Speaker: Well I assumed people had gone to the washroom and they were washing themselves. (*Interjection*) - Sit down, hon. Shy-Rose, because this is a point of order. Sergeant, can I have the list so that I can establish whether I have a quorum?

Okay I will start with:

Hon. Bucumi Emerance

Hon. Hafsa Mossi - she apologised that her daughter is sick.

Hon. Ndahayo Isabelle – she apologised. She is sick and undergoing medical treatment in Nairobi.

Hon. Ndarubagiye Leonce – okay.

Hon. Dr Martin Nduwimana- he apologised yesterday that his wife is still in Nairobi in hospital. So he went to hospital.

Hon. Nengo Emmanuel- is absent.

Hon. Ngendakumana Jeremie - he was in the House a few minutes ago.

Hon. Ngenzebuhoro Frederic –

Hon. Nsabimana Yves -

The Republic of Kenya:

Hon. Abisai Nancy - I saw her walking out, I think she is around.

Hon. Abubakar Zein Abubakar - present.

Hon. Bonaya Talaso Sarah - present.

Hon. Mathuki Peter – I am not aware where he is.

Hon. Mumbi Ng'aru -

Hon Nkanae Ole - present.
 Hon Ogle Abubakar - I saw him walk out. Okay
 Hon. Ombasa Kiangoi - I did not see him yesterday and today.
 Hon. Pareno Judy- present.

The Republic of Rwanda:

Hon. Christophe Bazivamo - present.
 Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga - present.
 Hon. Harelimana Abdul Karim - present.
 Hon. Celestin Kabahizi - I thought he was there. Maybe he has walked out.
 Hon. Dr Ndahiro James - I have not seen him this morning.
 Hon. Ndikuryayo Straton - I thought I saw him, I do not know where he is.
 Hon. Nyirahabineza Valerie - she is present.
 Hon. Dr Nyiramilimo Odette - I saw her...Okay, she is not in the House.
 Hon. Rwigema Pierre Celestin - present.

The United Republic of Tanzania:

Hon. Bhanji Sadrudin Shy-Rose - we are taking the moment. You are present.
 Hon. Kimbisa Omar Adam - he took apology.
 Hon. Kizigha Angela - I saw her a few minutes ago.
 Hon. Murunya Bernard - present.
 Hon. Mwinyi Al Hassan Abdullah - present.
 Hon. Dr Kessy Perpetua Nderakindo -
 Hon. Nyerere Charles Makongoro - present.
 Hon. Taslima Issa Twaha - present.
 Hon. Yahya Ussi Maryam- present.

The United Republic of Uganda – (*Laughter*) - Oh, I think we aspire to be united also. The Republic of Uganda:

Hon. Byamukama Dora - she was here, where is she? Okay.
 Hon. Kidega Daniel Fred - he is not here.
 Hon. Mukasa Mbidde – not here. Sick? Okay.
 Hon. Mulengani Bernard – present.
 Hon. Susan Nakawuki - present.
 Hon. Opoka Okumu Chris - present.
 Hon. Sebalu Kennedy - he just debated; where is he?
 Hon. Tiperu Nusura – Okay, she mentioned to me that her daughter was sick but I thought she would write formerly because that is normally what happens.

Rule 84...I think I should read this rule today because many members tend to forget that we do have rules. They want to amend them but they forget that we do have the rules. Rule 84 categorically states - and I wish to read it:

Rule 84(1) *“Every member shall, during the session of the Assembly or any special sitting, attend the sitting of the House unless leave of absence has been granted to him or her by the Speaker.*

(2) Except with the permission of the Speaker in writing, a member shall not absent himself or herself from the sittings especially seven consecutive meetings during which period the House will be in sitting.”

You can also go and look at (3) because it also has what shall be done in case you are absent. So I thought I should read that because many members have had a tendency of writing to the Clerk thinking that it is the Clerk who grants permission to members which is not right. The members of staff can seek permission from the Clerk not members of Parliament.

Now from the roll call, from Burundi I still have one member; the Republic of Kenya there are six members present; the Republic of Rwanda, Celestin is back. Okay. We have five members present; the United Republic of Tanzania we have six members present; the Republic of Uganda we have four, plus another one member present. The Republic of Burundi has one member. I suspend the House for 15 minutes. The House stands suspended.

*(The House was suspended at 12:05 p.m. and resumed at 12.30)
(On resumption, the Speaker presiding_)*

The Speaker: Honourable members, by the time we suspended the sitting, we were still struggling with the issue of quorum. Now I proceed again to re-establish whether we have quorum and then we shall be able to see whether to proceed or otherwise. I will take the roll call because that is the most feasible way to establish whether members are present.

The Republic of Burundi:

Hon. Bucumi Emerance - absent.
 Hon. Hafsa Mossi - is not here.
 Hon. Ndahayo Isabelle – is not here.
 Hon. Ndarubagiye Leonce – present.
 Hon. Dr Martin Nduwimana- not here.
 Hon. Nengo Emmanuel- is not here.
 Hon. Ngendakumana Jeremie - not here.
 Hon. Ngenzebuhoro Frederic – not here.
 Hon. Nsabimana Yves - not here.

The Republic of Kenya:

Hon. Abisai Nancy - present.
 Hon. Abubakar Zein Abubakar - present.
 Hon. Bonaya Sarah - present.
 Hon. Mathuki Peter – he is not here.
 Hon. Mumbi Ng’aru - present.
 Hon Nkanae Ole - present. Okay, he is on the other side. He normally sits on this side.
 Hon Ogle Abubakar- present.
 Hon. Ombasa Kiangoi- he is not here.
 Hon. Pareno Judy - present.

The Republic of Rwanda:

Hon. Christophe Bazivamo - present.
Hon. Hajabakiga- present.
Hon. Celestin Kabahizi -
Hon. Dr Ndahiro James- he is not here.
Hon. Ndikuryayo Straton-
Hon. Nyirahabineza Valerie- not here.
Hon. Dr Nyiramilimo Odette- not here.
Hon. Rwigema Pierre Celestin- he was here, what happened? Okay.
Hon. Abdul Karim- he was here, not here.

The United Republic of Tanzania:

Hon. Bhanji Sadrudin Shy-Rose- present.
Hon. Kimbisa Omar Adam- he is not here.
Hon. Kizigha Angela- she is here.
Hon. Murunya Bernard- he is here.
Hon. Mwinyi Al Hassan Abdullah- he is here.
Hon. Dr Kessy Perpetua Nderakindo- is not here.
Hon. Nyerere Charles Makongoro- is here.
Hon. Taslima Issa Twaha- is here.
Hon. Yahya Ussi Maryam- present.

The Republic of Uganda

Hon. Byamukama Dora- she is present.
Hon. Kidega - he is absent.
Hon. Mukasa Mbidde – he is absent. Mbidde is sick.
Hon. Mulengani Bernard –
Hon. Susan Nakawuki-
Hon. Opoka Okumu Chris- present.
Hon. Sebalu Mike Kennedy- present.
Hon. Tiperu Nusura- is absent.
Hon. Zziwa

From the Republic of Burundi, we have one member. From the Republic of Kenya, we have seven members. From the Republic of Rwanda, we have two members. From the United Republic of Tanzania we have seven members and from the Republic of Uganda, we have six plus one members.

It is the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of Rwanda who have denied this House quorum. The House stands adjourned *sine die*.

(The House rose at 12:35 p.m. and was adjourned sine die.)