



## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

### IN THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

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

126<sup>th</sup> Sitting – Third Assembly, Fourth Session – Fifth Meeting

Tuesday, 8 March 2015

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2:45 p.m. in the Mt. Kilimanjaro Auditorium, Bank of Tanzania Building in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania*

#### PRAYER

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

*(The Assembly was called to order)*

**The Speaker:** Honourable Peter Mathuki, Chairperson of the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges.

#### PROCEDURAL MOTION

**The Chairperson of the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges (Mr Peter Mathuki):** Thank you, Rt. Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members.

*“WHEREAS Clause 1 of Article 55 of the Treaty establishing the East African Community provides that the meetings of the Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Assembly may appoint;*

*AND WHEREAS Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure provides that, the seat of the Assembly shall be at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania;*

*AND WHEREAS Sub Rule 5 of Rule 10 provides that the meetings of the Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Assembly may appoint and shall meet at least once every year at Arusha in the United Republic of Tanzania at a time to be determined by the Assembly;*

*NOW THEREFORE this Assembly do resolve as follows: Pursuant to the provisions of Sub Rule 5 of Rule 10 cited above, the Assembly shall hold sittings in the Auditorium Room of the Bank of Tanzania from today, Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 up to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2016.” Mr Speaker, I beg to move.*

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, Hon. Peter Mathuki. Seconded by Hon. Ussi, Hon. Kizigha, Hon. Kimbisa, Hon. Odette, Hon. Mbidde, Hon. Shy-Rose and all the Members standing. Proceed with your justification.

**Mr Mathuki:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would like to thank the Members that have supported this motion and I think again as I have already provided in my submission that we proceed to have our sittings in this place in the spirit of continuing to engage with all the stakeholders in the Community- engaging with the citizens of this Community. I am sure this will provide us with the opportunity of continuing to interact with those who are supposed to own the Community.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much Hon. Peter Mathuki.

Hon. Members, the motion before the House is that this House pursuant to the provisions of Article 55 (1) of the Treaty and Rule 10 (5) of the Rules of Procedure do resolve to hold sittings in Dar es Salaam in the United Republic of Tanzania. Debate is open.

Hon. Members, being that there is no Member rising to debate, there is no need for me to call the mover of the motion to respond. I, therefore, move straight to put the question to the motion.

The motion before the Assembly is that this House pursuant to the provisions of Article 55 (1) of the Treaty and Rule 10 (5) of the Rules of Procedure do resolve to hold sittings in Dar es Salaam in the United Republic of Tanzania.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

#### ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

**The Speaker:** Honourable Members, following the general elections held in the United Republic of Tanzania and the appointment of Ministers on the 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2015, His Excellency John Pombe Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania appointed Dr Augustine Mahiga

as the Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation in the United Republic of Tanzania – *(Applause)*.

He has indicated his desire to participate in the proceedings of the Assembly. However, in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of this Assembly, he cannot sit or participate in the proceedings of the House until he takes the Oath of Affirmation of Allegiance to the Treaty as a Member of the Assembly.

Rule 5 (5) specifically states that: *“When a Member first attends to take his or her seat other than at the first sitting of a new House, he or she shall be brought to the table by two Members and presented by them to the Speaker who shall then administer the Oath of Affirmation of Allegiance to him or her.”*

I, therefore, request any two Members who know Hon. Dr Augustine Mahiga to bring him to the table and present him before me to enable me administer the Oath of Allegiance.

The oath was administered to:

Dr. Augustine Phillip Mahiga

**The Speaker:** We welcome the new Member of the Assembly as he is being led by the two Members to take his seat as Chair, Council of Ministers. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate him upon being sworn in and assuming his seat as an Ex-Officio Member of this Assembly - *(Applause)*

We welcome you to the big family of East African Legislative Assembly. You have joined a team of very serious East Africans, committed to advancing the integration of our region. You are most welcome - *(Applause)*.

**The Speaker:** Honourable Members, amidst us today is Rt. Hon Kassim Majaliwa, the

Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania - *(Applause)*. In accordance with the provisions of Article 54 of the Treaty, I had invited His Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State to address this Assembly on the State of the EAC.

H.E. the President delegated the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister to represent him - *(Applause)*.

I would now like to make the following proclamation to welcome his presence, in this Assembly:

### **PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS Clause (1) of Article 54 of the Treaty provides that, the Speaker of the Assembly can invite any person to attend the Assembly notwithstanding that he or she is not a Member of the Assembly; if in his or her opinion the Business of the House renders his or her presence desirable.*

*AND WHEREAS in the opinion of the Speaker, the attendance and presence in the Assembly of the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania is desirable in accordance with the Business now before the Assembly.*

*NOW THEREFORE, It is with great pleasure and honour, on your behalf, Hon. Members to welcome the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania to this Assembly – (Applause).*

### **ADDRESS BY THE RT HON. KASSIM MAJALIWA, PRIME MINISTER OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**

### **WELCOME REMARKS BY THE SPEAKER OF EALA**

**The Speaker:** Rt. Hon. Majaliwa Kassim, Prime Minister of the United Republic of

Tanzania, Rt. Hon. Job Yosutino Ndugai, Speaker of the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania, Chairperson and Council Members of EAC, the Ministers of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Secretary General of the EAC, Hon. Members of EALA and Parliamentarians from the United Republic of Tanzania, Excellences Ambassadors and High Commissioners present, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish first of all to thank the Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai, the Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania and indeed the entire Government of the United Republic of Tanzania for accepting to host EALA for the duration of the Fifth Meeting of the Fourth Session of the Third Assembly.

This is the first official parliamentary engagement with the Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai beyond the inter-parliamentary relation seminar held in Dar-es-Salaam last week.

Let me take the earliest opportunity to congratulate the Rt. Hon Job Ndugai following his successful election as Speaker of the esteemed Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania - *(Applause)*. I would also like to give him the assurance of my and the Assembly's support during his tenure of office – *(Applause)*.

In the Commonwealth countries, Parliamentary Speakers play a crucial role in order to ensure the orderly flow of business. The Parliaments observe rules, procedures and traditions, and Speakers must oversee the same. Therefore, the die is cast, so to speak, for the Rt. Hon. Ndugai who must play the role of a parliamentary referee over the next five years.

Already Rt. Hon. Ndugai has successfully steered the recent Parliamentary Sitting in Dodoma, Tanzania. I am confident that he will handle the role with dedication and commitment. Previously, as Deputy Speaker, from 2010 to 2015, Rt. Hon. Ndugai worked

tirelessly to steer debates. His experience, therefore, in Parliament is vast having served prior as a Member of Parliament for Kongwa Constituency since 2000.

In 2010, an analysis by Uwazi Twaweza using the parliamentary online information system or otherwise, police, named Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai as the most active MP in the Ninth Parliament of Tanzania - (*Applause*). I followed this analysis with some interest and attention and established that Rt. Hon. Ndugai had made 376 interventions including 29 basic questions, 60 supplementary questions and 287 contributions during the 20 sessions of the Ninth Parliament - (*Applause*). Hon. Colleagues, for those of us who have been in Parliament, this is something to take home. Congratulations, Sir.

This was well above the average contribution of 80 contributions per MP during the same period. If such good postings are anything to go by, then I can vouch that Parliament of Tanzania is expected to realise major milestones under the leadership of the Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai.

I am also confident that under your leadership, the Parliament of Tanzania shall make significant achievements and that its role as the legislature, oversight and representative body shall continue to be strengthened in the great republic.

I can further vouch that with you as the presiding officer of the House, we shall see far reaching reforms aimed at enhancing and ensuring effective service delivery to the citizens of this republic since Parliament is a representative institution of the people.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I wish you my unreserved support and every success in the coming years - (*Applause*).

I also take the opportunity to welcome Rt. Hon. Ndugai warmly to the EAC Bureau of Speakers, a platform through which we spearhead and intensify the linkages of EALA and the National Assemblies as stipulated in Articles 49 (2) and 65 of the Treaty of the Establishment of the East African Community.

I am also certain that we shall continue to benefit in many ways from the experience of Rt. Hon. Ndugai as we strengthen the Speakers' Bureau. At an opportune moment, I shall find time to appraise Rt. Hon. Ndugai on the developments as regards the Speakers' Bureau.

EALA is truly grateful for the spirit of sisterhood and looks forward to strengthening and solidifying the relationship between the Parliament of Tanzania and EALA even further in the future.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the former Speaker, Rt. Hon. Anna Makinda - (*Applause*) - for all the support and guidance that she rendered to EALA and wish her well in whatever duties she is undertaking.

With these few remarks, I now take this opportunity to invite my colleague and friend, the Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai, Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania to make his comments - (*Applause*).

**The Speaker, Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania (Mr Job Yosutino Ndugai):** Rt. Hon. Kassim Majaliwa, Prime Minister, United Republic of Tanzania, Majority Leader in the Parliament of Tanzania, Hon Daniel Kidega, Speaker, EALA, Ambassador Augustine Mahiga - Congratulations- Chairperson, the Council of Ministers, Mr Kenneth Madete, Clerk of the East African Legislative Assembly, Mr Secretary General, Members of EALA from Kenya, Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda and the

hosts Tanzania, invited guests, members of the press, Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a great pleasure for me to be invited to address you, Members of the East African Legislative Assembly.

I am delighted for your choice of Tanzania and Dar –es – Salaam in particular for hosting, not only this sitting, but also the Ninth Series of the Nanyuki Seminars, which you concluded recently - *(Applause)*.

We as Tanzanians are always grateful for your choice of Tanzania as a venue of your deliberations and as promised, we will try our best to accord all the necessary facilities to enable your sessions run smoothly - *(Applause)*.

We are here, after a meeting of Heads of State in Arusha, which concluded on a happy note, and that was the admission of a new member in the East African family, South Sudan - *(Applause)*. I am sure South Sudan's exciting journey to building a new nation out of the ashes of its tragic history will be boosted by joining the East African Community and subsequently the relevant Organs like EALA - *(Applause)*.

Your meeting here signifies a lot more than a mere sitting of the Legislative Assembly. It signifies meeting of turning in order to save the overall purpose forecasted when they decided to establish the Community.

In a book titled: *“The East African Community after 10 years,”* integration, which is a compilation of the very many presentations on the future of the East African Community, one presenter notes with caution that: *“One question is the optimal pace of integration. The East African Community now includes countries with a combined population of more than 130 million and further expansion of the Community is a real possibility. The challenge is how to balance the prospective*

*benefits of a larger Common Market against the greater complexity that comes with more diverse membership.”* That is the underlying reason for my call for you to be bolder in your deliberations for the success of our Community.

Boldness, Mr Speaker helps at times. For example, in the United States, as of now, there is a presidential candidate who is insulting almost everybody including the Pope and yet he is admired - *(Laughter)*.

Mr Speaker and fellow Colleagues, you have highly honoured me by inviting me to come and address this East African Legislative Assembly. I stand confidently and with conviction that in the very near future, East Africa through the efforts of our citizens will claim its rightful place in the continent as a full, equal and committed powerhouse where its people will thrive. All countries will be stable, prosperous and good governance; transparency, accountability practices and fighting corruption will be adhered to, to the letter. I am sure the best is yet to come.

I wish to conclude by saying that it has been my honour and privilege to address you this afternoon. Thank you for listening. God bless the East African Community. *Asanteni sana* – *(Applause)*.

**The Speaker:** Rt. Hon. Majaliwa Kassim, Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai, Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania, the Chairperson of the Council of EAC Ministers, the Secretary General of EAC, Hon. Members of EALA and the Parliament of Tanzania, Excellences Ambassadors and High Commissioners present, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, permit me, Rt. Hon. Prime Minister as I welcome you to come and address EALA at the commencement of the Fifth Meeting of the Fourth Session of the Third Assembly to wish

you a belated but prosperous and progressive 2016.

I thank H.E. John Pombe Magufuli for delegating to you the task, which is also your first official engagement with the Assembly since appointment as the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania - *(Applause)*. *Kwakweli hapa ni kazi tu!* *(Laughter)*

I congratulate you for your appointment and wish you well in your endeavour to lead the United Republic of Tanzania and the EAC region to greater heights.

Rt. Hon. Prime Ministers, the Members and I similarly congratulate H.E. Dr John Pombe Magufuli following his election as the Fifth President of the United Republic of Tanzania - *(Applause)*.

H.E. Dr Magufuli's victory in October 2015 is a step of great faith the people of the United Republic of Tanzania have in his leadership.

Before I venture on further, today is the International Women's Day whose theme is "Pledge for Parity." I congratulate women of all walks of life - *(Applause)* - Our mothers, our daughters, our sisters, but most importantly, our wives for bearing with us the make folks and more fundamentally for their contribution to political, economic and social transformation of the globe - *(Applause)*. You, the women all deserve to be celebrated on this day.

Today also presents an opportunity for you to deliver, Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, the State of the EAC Address, which is a unique and fundamental activity on the calendar of Community.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, in 2015 the Assembly held five sittings in line with its principle of rotation: in Bujumbura in March 2015; in Arusha in June 2015; in Kampala in

August 2015; in Nairobi in October 2015; and in Kigali in November 2015. Our last meeting was at our home in Arusha, which we consider not part of Tanzania in our work.

In totality we have, since 2015 to date enacted nine Bills, passed 13 resolutions and adopted 24 reports in addition to a number of questions posed to the Council of Ministers. We have also received five petitions on matters of concern to East Africans, three of which have been dispensed with.

At this Plenary Session, EALA shall debate on the EAC Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill, 2012, the EAC Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2015, and the EAC Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016. EALS will also analyse several oversight reports of its committees, debate crucial motions and pass resolutions.

The State of the EAC Address that you will shortly deliver sets the momentum and impetus for the integration process by reflecting on general policies that relate to the Community's progress while outlining the strategic challenges, which require attention.

The novelty of the State of the EAC Address dates back to the year 2008 when His Excellency Yoweri Museveni made the first inaugural address to this Assembly in Arusha and we thank him - *(Applause)*. The State of the EAC Address has since then been institutionalised and all Heads of State have continuously honoured their respective invitations - *(Applause)*. It is on this note that we express our appreciation to H.E. John Pombe Magufuli for delegating you to come and address us and you, therefore, will be the first Prime Minister to address this Assembly on the State of the Community Address.

The rotational nature of the State of the EAC Address also makes it unique. In most instances, the occasion calls upon the Chairperson of the Summit of the Heads of

State to traverse the region to a neighbouring State from where the EALA is sitting to deliver the speech. This very act exemplifies the progressive nature of our integration process.

It is in this vein that in March 2015, His Excellency Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete addressed EALA in Bujumbura, Burundi as the Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State. I wish to express my appreciation to H.E. Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete and wish him well in his retirement - *(Applause)*.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, the Assembly is sitting against a backdrop of the 17<sup>th</sup> Summit of the EAC Heads of State last week that made exciting pronouncements for the region. As an Assembly, we welcome the admission of the Republic of South Sudan and this move is expected to fortify our bloc - *(Applause)*. We look forward to such a time when the Assembly welcomes on board legislators from the Republic of South Sudan.

The launch of the international East African e-passport, which takes effect in January, 2017 is also laudable as well as we shall now enjoy freer and easier movement within and without the region.

There are also progressive steps to ban the importation of second hand clothes in a move that shall promote the local cotton textile, apparel and leather industry in the region and, therefore, creating jobs for our people - *(Applause)*.

I proffer my appreciation to the Summit of EAC Heads of State for accepting our proposal to take advantage of the Summit meeting as an opportune moment to assent to Bills of the Assembly in line with Article 63 of the EAC Treaty - *(Applause)*. Hon. Colleagues, you remember it has been our plea that we take advantage of the meetings of the Summit Heads of State to assent to Bills due to the challenge of the long periods

it takes to assent to Bills. This plea has been heeded to. We thank the Summit - *(Applause)*.

We are very grateful that the Summit of the EAC Heads of State in its wisdom has positively received the request thus setting a basis for efficiently assenting to the Bills.

Today, the EAC can lay a claim to be the fastest growing economic bloc on the continent and the world over the challenges notwithstanding.

I congratulate the Partner States for assenting to the One Stop Border Bill and the Axle Weight Control Bill, which were passed by EALA - *(Applause)*.

It is in the same vein that we laud the EAC Heads of State Summit to agreeing to a 10-year infrastructure development strategy, which among others lays emphasis on public private partnership investments in the railways, roads, ports and energy in the region. This puts our Community in a good state to strengthen the operations of our Customs Union and the Common Market.

It is, however, necessary for the EAC to instil quick interventions when it comes to the Common Market Protocol. As politicians, we feel the tenets of the Common Market Protocol have not been fully met over the last five years. A sticking area concerns that of the free movement of persons and the rights of residence. The East African Trade Union Confederation and the East African Employers Organisation did petition this Assembly on this matter of which we reacted and sent good recommendations to the Council of Ministers for attention.

It is comforting to note that the United Republic of Tanzania has committed to harmonise work and resident permits fees, forms and procedures and some initiatives are being undertaken in the review of

immigration regulations of 1997 by restructuring fees for providing preferential treatment to the citizens of EAC States. We thank the government for that. We pray the speedy interventions are undertaken to enable citizens of the region to benefit wholly from the opportunities there contained.

I note with great encouragement that the Republics of Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda did abolish work permit fees thus encouraging workers to move freely in search of opportunities – (*Applause*). Movement of citizens within the three countries have also been eased following the recent introduction of the inter-state passes. So far, this is working well and it is my firm belief that the modal should be in due course to serve as a case study that could be extrapolated in the entire region - (*Applause*).

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, we would like to see the citizens of Tanzania move to the rest of the EAC Partner States using inter-state passes or national identity cards - (*Applause*). In the same vein, we would like to see the EAC citizens of the other Partner States move into Tanzania using just inter-state passes or their national identity cards - (*Applause*). The integration is real and that is what this Assembly is demanding.

EALA hopes 2016 shall be a year of reflection where Partner States shall indeed commit to catching up with the lost ground on the other side while consolidating the gains so far achieved.

It is similarly necessary to deal with the bureaucratic processes, administrative restrictions, Non-Tariff Barriers and misuse of rules of origin principle among others, which hamper free movement of goods and services in this region.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, may I take this opportunity to congratulate you on the progress in the United Republic of Tanzania

since the new government came into power in October 2015 - (*Applause*). In the first 100 days of H.E. Dr John Pombe Magufuli's leadership, the country has realised major transformations, an indication that it is possible elsewhere.

Revenue collection has doubled from TShs. 900 billion to an average of TShs. 1.4 trillion per month - (*Applause*) - while you have similarly enhanced efficiency in service delivery in government institutions. Further to this, we are appreciative of the government's desire and the renewed spirit to tackle the fight against corruption head on - (*Applause*). This Assembly does embrace the paradigm of "*Hapa kazi tu*".

His Excellency Dr Magufuli's leadership under the mantra of *hapa kazi tu* has continued to being an inspiration to many given its focus towards addressing national and regional issues. EALA too adds its voice in lauding you for the great achievements and the commitment you have to the integration.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, before I invite you to address this Assembly, may I briefly take this opportunity to introduce some of our dignitaries we invited to join us in this plenary meeting. I will start with our good friends, the former Members of the Assembly who served this region so dearly - (*Applause*). I request them to stand up.

Hon. Colleagues, amidst us is Hon. Mama Kate Kamba - (*Applause*). She was more than a legislator in the Second and First Assembly. Every itchy issues that could have come from our domestic setting was always heaped on her table - (*Laughter*). We thank you Mama for the good work and we wish you well wherever you are.

We have Hon. Dr George Francis Nangale. Dr Nangale was a prolific advocate of environment, agriculture and natural resources - (*Applause*). He dearly served us



as the Chair of that very Committee. Thank you very much, Sir and we wish you well.

Other Members should have joined us but I know during our stay in this great republic, they will join us and we shall recognise their contribution to the regional contribution. We wish them well.

Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, we are also joined by the EAC Youth Ambassadors Platform led by the Youth Ambassador, United Republic of Tanzania, Raphael and the team. *(Applause)* You are most welcome and we thank Hon. Dr Sezibera for pushing the contribution of the youth in the integration process. This is one of your landmarks that you will leave with us - *(Applause)*. Thank you so much.

We have the representative of the Norwegian Embassy who has also joined us. You are welcome, Sir - *(Applause)*.

We have Her Excellency High Commissioners – Ms Dorothy Hyuha, High Commissioner of Uganda to Tanzania. We thank you for joining us. She is a seasoned politician from Uganda and now a diplomat - *(Applause)*.

We have H.E. Ambassador Kyelawo Ali Mwakwere - *(Applause)* - my very good friend the Kenyan High Commissioner to the United Republic of Tanzania. You are most welcome. I thank you so much for heeding to our invitation.

I am also informed that Members of Parliament from the National Parliament of Uganda join us. *(Applause)* You are most welcome, Hon. Members. Members of Parliament from the National Parliament of Tanzania could also join us. If they are there, please rise for recognition - *(Applause)*. Thank you.

Finally, Rt. Hon. Prime Minister, it is with great pleasure and honour that I execute my humble duty to welcome you to address this august Assembly today, Tuesday the 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2016. I thank you for your kind attention, Ladies and Gentlemen. Thank you. *(Applause)*

#### THE STATE OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY ADDRESS

**The Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania (Rt. Hon. Kassim Majaliwa):** Rt. Hon. Daniel Fred Kidega, Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly; Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai, Speaker of Tanzania Parliament; Honourable Chairperson of the Council of Ministers; Honourable Members of the East African Legislative Assembly; Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen.

Let me begin by thanking you, Rt. Hon. Daniel Fred Kidega, for accepting me to grace this Fifth Meeting of the Fourth Session of the Third Assembly on the State of the East African Community. I also thank the Speaker of the Tanzania Parliament, Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai for the gracious hospitality in facilitating the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) to transact its business here in Dar-es-Salaam – *(Applause)*.

As some of you might be aware, His Excellency, Dr. John Pombe Magufuli, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania had agreed to attend this meeting personally in his capacity as Chairperson of the Summit of the East African Community (EAC) Heads of State. However due to equally other important engagements, His

Excellency President is unable to fulfil this commitment. Given the importance of this Meeting, he has appointed me to represent him. His Excellency President sends warm greetings to you Mr. Speaker, and to all Members of the East African Legislative

Assembly. He wishes you every success of this Meeting.

Honourable Speaker, allow me also to congratulate you sincerely on your leadership both in the East African Legislative Assembly and in the East African Community. We all look into you for strategic direction and wisdom to steer the affairs of this House to greatest heights possible. I wish you the best of luck and assure you of my personal support as well as that of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania in discharging your noble duty. Whatever way you think, I or we can be useful, please let us know – *(Applause)*.

Honourable Speaker, I am here today because of the noble decision you and the Honourable Members of this august House took some time back to institute and maintain an annual event for Chairperson of the Heads of States of the East African Community Partner States to address this meeting. I therefore, thank you, for affording me this rare opportunity to address this august Assembly and share my thoughts with the distinguished Members about the East African Community and the East African integration process.

#### State of Customs and Trade in the Region

Honourable Speaker, when the Community was revived in 1999, we committed ourselves to integrate stage-by-stage basis beginning with a Customs Union through the Common Market, Monetary Union and ultimately a Political Federation. As we meet today, it is encouraging to note that the Community has made progress towards that lofty agenda.

#### Implementation of a Single Customs Territory (SCT)

Honourable Speaker, it is heart-warming; indeed, to note that implementation of the Customs Union, which started in 2005, has

been a success. Indeed, goods, which meet the criteria of Rule of Origin (RoO), have been moving across borders without paying taxes. However, Non-Tariffs Barriers (NTBs) remain a challenge.

Implementation of Single Customs Territory (SCT), which initially commenced on a pilot basis along the Northern and Central corridors in 2014, was consolidated in 2015 through finalization of key operational instruments entailing: revision of business manuals; development of Monitoring and Evaluation Tool; Framework for Deployment of Staff in other Partner States; and revision of the Enforcement and Compliance Framework. To ensure real time flow of information and minimum clearance time for goods, Ports and customs system interconnectivity has been further enhanced.

Honourable Speaker, the Partner States Customs Administration are progressively expanding the scope of goods covered under the single Customs Territory (SCT). A turnaround of 3 to 4 days has been realized along the Central Corridor in tandem with the reduction in turnaround time realized on the Northern Corridor. Customs officers from Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi are deployed and they are operating in Kenya and Tanzania. Likewise, Tanzania has officers deployed in Nairobi and Mombasa. The flexibility in deployment of Customs Officers has further eased clearance of goods such that goods move directly from points of dispatch in a Partner State to the owner's premises in another Partner State without going through further Customs checks.

#### Development of One Stop Border Posts

Honourable Speaker, the Community has adopted the use of One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) as a trade facilitation concept to minimize delays at cross border points on major transport corridors in the Region, often because of poor facilities, manual processes,

lengthy and unintegrated procedures and poor traffic flow. It entails combining two stops and consolidating functions in a single public facility for exiting one Country and entering another. The effect is reduced travel time for passengers and freight vehicles.

Out of 15 borders earmarked to operate as One Stop Border Posts in the Region, seven (7) have been completed and four (4) are operating as One Stop Boarder Posts using bilateral agreements. The seven are Gasenyi/Nemba; Ruhwa; LungaLunga/Horohoro; Holili/Taveta; Isebania/Sirari; Kagitumba/Mirama Hills, and Rusumo. The four that are operational are; Gasenyi/Nemba; Rhuwa; Holili/Taveta and Rusumo. Five (5) border stations, which are almost completed, are Namanga, Busia, Malaba, Mutukula, and Kobero/Kabanga. Work has also commenced on Katuna/Gatuna.

### **Intra-EAC Trade**

Honourable Speaker, with the improved infrastructure in place, intra East African Community trade is expected to register phenomenon increase in the next few years. Trade is now at 23 percent, over and above intra African trade figure of 12 percent. There has been a 300 Percent increase in the value of trade from, 2 Billion US Dollars in 2005 to 6 Billion US Dollars in 2014. These numbers, coupled with the combined EAC GDP of 110.3 Billion US Dollars with an average annual rate of growth of 2.6 Percent makes our Region a formidable trade and economic block in Africa.

### **Private Sector**

Honourable Speaker, we regard the Private Sector as the engine of growth and development in our Region. I am happy to report that the private Sector in the Region has developed a Code of Conduct for Business together with its Rules and

procedures as an initiative aimed at enhancing ethical business practices in the areas of Human Rights, Labour Standards, Environment, and Anti-corruption. As you are all aware, corruption and unethical business practices are the major hindrance to economic growth within our Community. Corruption in its many forms includes graft, extortion, embezzlement and bribery.

According to the African Union, Africa loses \$150 Billion due to corruption every year. Corruption and bureaucracy have been identified as the key factors that hinder movement of goods between the borders of EAC Countries.

In this regards, we commend the East African Business Council for developing the Code of Conduct and Ethics to promote anti-corruption and business ethics and integrity within the East African Community. The East African Business Council members have signed commitment to the ethical standards, which will guide stakeholders, employees, shareholders/investors, suppliers, contractors and agents to be actively involved in promoting integrity and corruption prevention.

### **Non-Tariffs Barriers (NTBs)**

Honourable Speaker, as I mentioned before, non-tariffs barriers remain a challenge and it is incumbent upon us, therefore, to ensure that all remaining non-tariff barriers to trade are removed in the East African region. We all admit that we have done very well in eliminating tariff related barriers; we must resolve to do away with the remaining ones. Commendable work has been and continues to be done to address the transport related ones such as road blocks, weigh bridges and other check points on the roads as well as customs red-tape at Ports and exit points.

The progress made so far, at the ports of Mombasa and Dar-es-Salaam and, on the

Northern and Central Corridors with regard to roadblocks shows that it is possible to eliminate these non-tariff barriers. Measures are being taken in earnest to reduce roadblocks on the Tanzania side of the Central Corridor whereby Police roadblocks and Inspection centres have been reduced from over 50 along the central corridor to five. The roadblocks or inspection centres that remain are Mikese Weighbridge (Morogoro); Nala weighbridge (Dodoma); Njuki weighbridge (Singida); Mwendakulima weighbridge (Shinyanga) and Nyakahura weighbridge (Kagera). The focus is to have three inspection points to be centred at the three proposed weighbridges (Vigwaza-Coastal Region, Manyoni-Singida Region and Nyakanazi-Kagera Region).

Mr Speaker, at the regional level, the EAC Non-Tariff Barrier law was enacted in 2015 and was assented to by the Heads of State. The objectives of this Act were to assess, enhance and facilitate trade by removing conditions that affect and distort trading in goods in the Community creating an environment, which is conducive to trade in the Community and effective movement of goods within the Community, and removing restrictions that make importation and exportation within the Community and outside difficult or costly.

The EAC Competition Authority has been established and the Council will soon appoint commissioners from the Partner States in accordance with Section 38 of the EAC Competition Act.

### **Regional Infrastructure Program**

Hon Speaker, with the recognition that the provision of basic regional infrastructure is inadequate, reliable energy supply are a prerequisite of regional integration and development. The EAC is front rolling the implementation of the East African Power Master Plan among the other regional plans

that have been identified in the critical areas of roads and railways. Preparations in this regard are advantaged on a comprehensive mobilisation for resources from the public and private sector, both local and foreign investors for the development of the identified priority projects in the regional infrastructure.

These projects, which have received the encouragement of our development partners are in roads, requiring investments to the tune of US\$ 20 million; railways rehabilitation and extensions under the East African Railways Development Master Plan require US\$ 30 billion, Civil aviation including operations of airlines and airports to the cost of US\$ 15 billion; Maritime development including expansion of ports and new ports development to cost US \$ 10 billion and implementation of the East African Power Plant Master Plan including power generation, construction interconnectors and scaling up existing infrastructure will cost US \$ 5 billion. In total, a cost of over US \$ 80 billion worth of investment is needed to be raised.

The case of development of regulations for the wheel axle load control and the open stop border posts, Hon. Speaker, I am happy to report that following the enactment of the One Stop Border Post Bill and the Vehicle Load Control Bill by this august Assembly in April, 2013 and May, 2013 respectively, all the Partner States have assented to the Bills. The Acts will enhance trade facilitation and protect the region's road infrastructure from any destruction by overloaded trucks.

The EAC will be the fifth regional economic community in Africa have common laws and standard for one stop border post and vehicle load control cooperation - *(Applause)*.

Harmonisation of long distance freight and bus driver training, licensing standards

The Community has developed harmonised training curriculum for long distance freight and bus drivers. Once adopted, the curriculum will provide a regional standard for training, certification and licencing for long distance drivers who are critical in the economic development of our Partner States. This means that to enhance drivers' skills and to contribute to the reduction of road traffic accidents in the region.

### **Progress on the Standard Gauge Railway Projects**

Hon. Speaker, Partner States are actively engaged in the standard gauge railway projects. In Kenya, the overall physical completion of Phase I –Mombasa – Nairobi was 40 percent as of September 2015 with over 200 kilometres out of 472 kilometres of formation completed ready to receive the permanent way. Imported mechanised laying equipment is already on the site for laying slippers and rails. Commercial agreements for laying Nairobi-Naivasha Section have been signed and construction was launched in September 2015.

In Uganda, the Tororo-Pakwach and the Pakwach–Gulu–Atiak–Nimule –Juba line will be upgraded to the standard gauge railway. Preliminary designs and feasibility designs are underway. Engineering, procurement and construction contract was signed between the Government of Uganda and China Harbour Engineering Company on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Construction is expected to commence in 2016 - (*Applause*).

This also applies to the Malaba- Kampala – Kasese line and the Kasese- Bihanga-Kigali –Bujumbura line and Kasese –Kisangani line.

In Tanzania, development of Rwinza-Musingati railway line is ongoing. (*Applause*) A memorandum of understanding was signed with the Government of Burundi

on 12 March 2014 and the feasibility study and design of the line commenced in March 2015.

With regard to the Dar –es-Salaam – Isaka-Kigali –Keza- Bitega – Musongati railway line, feasibility and detailed design was completed in 2014 and trans-sectional drives are already engaged.

Nineteen applications for expression of interest for public private partnerships in finance, design, building, maintaining and operation were received in August 2015. The expressions of interest have been evaluated and forwarded for no objection.

Studies are ongoing for the Tanga-Mwambani –Arusha – Musoma with spurs to Mgingo and Mparusha linking to New Kampala Port at Busasa via Lake Victoria. There is still more to be done to secure enhanced investments and funding for the East African Infrastructure Program and Projects.

### **The State of EAC Common Market**

Hon. Speaker, as is stipulated in the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the Common Market is the next stage after the Customs Union. As you may recall, the Common Market Protocol was signed in 2009 and came into force in 2010. This Common Market is what answers the very question about movement of people, capital and services within the region.

The implementation of the Common Market Protocol is at the heart of the EAC's integration agenda and as such, there is need to fast track its implementation - (*Applause*). The following key achievements have been registered by the respective Partner States under the Common Market Protocol.

## Republic of Burundi:

- 1) Burundi continues according zero custom tariff on goods originating and traded among the EAC Partner States.
- 2) Registration of the total value of goods exported or imported by Burundi to or from the EAC Partner States and accorded Community the Burundi Revenue Authority conducts tariff treatment regularly and the system of registration has been improved.
- 3) The total value of import from the rest of the world by Burundi as well as the value of goods from the EAC Partner States that were not charged internal tariff for each financial or semi-financial year are registered through the system developed by OBR.
- 4) The Republic of Burundi does not impose bi Non-Tariff Barriers - (*Applause*).
- 5) Burundi has enacted laws and administrative procedures that guarantee citizens of other EAC Partner States a six months period of stay in the country.
- 6) Burundi continues to recognise the academic qualifications, experience obtained in essence and the experience obtained from the workers from EAC Partner States. (*Applause*)

## The Republic of Uganda

- 1) They reduced the number of Non-Tariff Barriers from five to three during the period of January to June 2015.
- 2) The value of goods from the Partner States are accorded zero tariff treatment grew up to 90 percent.
- 3) 359 East African Community standards on traded goods have been adopted and have been applied
- 4) With regard to operationalisation of the East African Community Competition Act, Cabinet passed the principles of competition and Consumers Protection Bill.

## The United Republic of Tanzania

- 1) Certificates of origin are now issued electronically in the spirit of reducing the cost of doing business. The system cuts down the time taken to process the certificate of origin by 50 percent - (*Applause*).
- 2) Continued facilitation of the free movement of goods from other EAC Partner States by according zero customs tariff on all goods originating as per EAC rules of origin.
- 3) Continued to facilitate the free movement of services and persons from other EAC Partner States by according EAC citizens with six months stay as visitors in Tanzania.
- 4) Recorded an increase of 176 tariff lines from 4445 out of 5393.
- 5) Non-Tariff Barriers were reduced from 13 from January to June 2014 to seven within January and June 2015.
- 6) A total of 3222 simplified certificates of origin were issued by June 2015 as compared to 2355 certificates issued in 2014.
- 7) The number business titles registered doubled as compared to five business entities registered by June 2014.
- 8) Have amended the Capital Markets and Securities for investors. Regulation, 2003 (3G) No. 338 published on 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 of which Section 3, foreign investors are allowed to purchase securities if listed companies.
- 9) Removed restrictions in the Capital Market on the secondary trading of bonds.
- 10) Enacted a non-citizen employment regulatory Act of 2015, which caters for EAC Common Market Protocol.
- 11) Amended the Immigration Regulation of 1987 to reflect the provision of EAC Common Market Protocol.

### The Republic of Kenya

- 1) Initiated the development of a sms based Non-Tariff Barriers reporting system to facilitate reporting and subsequent elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers. The system is expected to be in place by 30 June 2016. Two bilateral meetings with the Republic of Uganda and the Republic of Tanzania were held to consider the outstanding Non-Tariff Barriers.
- 2) To enhance economic and monetary policy coordination, national laws that need to be amended to conform to the protocol on the Establishment of the East African Community Monetary Union Protocol have been identified. As part of this, the Draft Commission of Kenya Bill, 2014 Section 72, which provides for 4 ½ months import cover have been prepared to amend Section 26 (1) of the Commercial Bank of Kenya (CBK) Act, which provides for four months of import covers. This will ensure that CBK Act is in line with Article 6 (2) (d) of the protocol, which provides for a cover of 4.5 months of import.
- 3) The implementation of Capital Market's features exchanges Regulation 2013 is ongoing. The Capital Markets licensing for further brokers and conduct of business draft regulations have been developed. This, therefore, means that Kenya has regulatory framework on sell or issues derivate products.
- 4) To enhance development of integration of financial – prime payment settlement system- the Central Bank of Kenya in January 2015 took over the settlement of cash and securities transactions, previously done by Central Depository and Settlement Corporation (CDSC) and select commercial banks after trading at National Security Exchange (NSE). This now allows settlement of all capital markets transactions to be executed through Commercial Banks of Kenya's

Real Time Gross Settlement System and Kenya Payment and Settlement System (KEPSS).

- 5) Facilitated free movement of workers, persons and service suppliers to move across the region in line with the provision of the Protocol; and lastly,
- 6) Kenya prepared a draft policy on harmonization of national laws. The decision to develop this document is informed by the need for Kenya as a country to have a system in place to facilitate informed and effective harmonization and approximation of laws to be in line with EAC Treaty and other international obligations.

### The Republic of Rwanda

- 1) Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) imposed by Rwanda were eliminated; In the Legal and Judicial sector, the Investment Code, Law No. 006/2015 of 28 March 2015 was enacted in May 2015;
- 2) Harmonisation of monetary financial statistics and financial soundness indicator for example, Rwanda has disaggregated the CIF data into three components namely cost, insurance and freight.
- 3) Harmonisation of demographic and other social statistics. For example, Rwanda has adopted the modern method such as use of multiple sampling frames and data capture tools for undertaking agricultural survey and census.

### Challenges in the Common Market

- 1) Mr Speaker, while implementing the EAC Common Market Protocol, all the Partner States are facing a few common challenges. For example, the issuance of electronic certificate of origin has not been adopted regionally.

- 2) The annex on mutual recognition of academic and professional qualifications is still a work in progress that needs to be fast tracked.
- 3) The slow pace of harmonisation of national laws into the EAC context has hampered the implementation of Common Market Protocol commitments.

The Summit has urged the Council of Ministers to address these challenges urgently to make the EAC market a reality.

#### Enhancing Democracy, Peace, Security and Stability

Mr Speaker, subscribing to the ideals of democracy, good governance, human rights and rule of law are critical tenets of the East African Community. We all agree that better governed Partner States contribute to a prosperous region. It is also true that badly governed Partner States frustrate the integration process. It impedes trade cooperation as well as movement of people, goods, services and capital. Moreover, it deters investment and makes the region unfavourable destination for tourism, investment and trade.

Mr Speaker, peace, security and stability must and should continue to be high on our agenda. I am happy that as I address this august House, our region is peaceful, secure and stable. Democratic values and institutions continue to take root and shape in our countries. Since last year, this year and next year, East African Partner States have been and will be holding elections. Let the elections in our region be credible, free and fair which abide and respect the Constitution and the relevant laws of the Partner States. Our citizens should come out of these electoral processes in peace and united as one nation and one people.

Mr Speaker, our region is not without security challenges. Terrorism and trans-sectional crimes are security challenges facing the region, which require a regional response for effective control and success.

I am glad that efforts are on going at the regional level to address these challenges. There is a closer cooperation between the defence and security organs of our respective countries. They share intelligence and have undertaken joint or coordinated actions. This is very much welcome and we should encourage it. It is important that our region remains seized with the peace and security agenda for it to determine the sustainability and future of EAC.

The role of East African Legislative Assembly in the integration process

Mr Speaker, this esteemed House is one of the important pillars of our Community. The organ carries the voice and aspirations of our people. This is where people's interests are raised, aggregated and translated into laws. Since ours is a people's integration, this Ouse is at the heart of our integration agenda.

I commend the good work being done by this House about its core function namely legislative, oversight and representation. This is evidenced by a number of Bills that were passed by this House during the last financial year which include the EAC Integration Bill dealing with education in 2014, the EAC Cooperative Societies Bill, 2014; the EAC Creative and Cultural Industry Bill, 2015; the EAC Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers Bill, 2015; and the EAC Electronic Transactions Bill, 2015.

It could not be possible for the EAC to achieve so much within this short period of its existence without the good work being done by EALA.

Many of the Bills passed by this House and the resolutions adopted have contributed



significantly towards advancing the EAC integration process.

Mr Speaker, considering that the Community is people centred and market driven, this Assembly must continue to be people's Assembly and you must be seen to be spending more time deliberating on issues of concern to the people of East Africa.

I appreciate the effort you are making in reaching out of your respective national parliaments, governments and various interest groups.

I am aware also that during this meeting, you will be undertaking several outreach and sensitisation activities. This is the way to do. You have to do more of this all over East Africa. This way you will increase people's awareness and hence the relevance of this Parliament and the Community to them.

#### The East African Court of Justice

Mr Speaker, I am glad to report that with the extension of the jurisdiction of the East African Court of Justice in February 2015, the court is now ready to handle trade and investment related matters as well as issues associated with the East African Monetary Union. The extension of the jurisdiction of the court has enhanced confidence of the East African citizens in a legal system.

In East Africa's integration challenges and way forward, during the past few years, the EAC region experienced major threats to its development, peace and security concerns. The food and fuel crisis, the rise of pirates in the Indian Ocean and waters of the East African coast, the terrorist threats posed by the Al Shabaab militia operating from bases in Somalia served as a wakeup call on the need to expedite and deepen East African integration on all of the fronts including the economic, social and political fronts.

At the problematic level, there are several challenges affecting negatively on the integration agenda. Some of these include resource availability to implement regional development programs that are critical for attracting investment in the region by reducing the cost of doing business. For example railway and road networks linking EAC Partner States and reliable energy, domestication of national laws to conform to the EAC Common Market Protocol to enable citizens to enjoy the rights and freedom in the protocol and its subsequent implementation

Mr Speaker, a major challenge is on the removal of non-tariff barriers or restriction other than customs duties or tariffs and other specific market requirements that make exportation of products difficult and costly within the region.

Lastly, inadequate sensitisation and awareness of the benefits of regional integration among the ordinary citizens in the region

The Summit of EAC heads of state together with the Council of Ministers and all the organs and institutions are already addressing some of these challenges. As leaders, we need to intensify sensitisation and awareness creation among our people for them to realise the full benefit of the integration process.

The EAC Secretariat, EALA and the Ministers responsible for EAC Affairs in the Partner States have a prime role to contribute to the sensitisation and mobilisation of the East African citizenry towards the integration agenda.

Mr Speaker, in conclusion let me state that the EAC should remain constant in its orientation as a decisive organisation with clear, result focused appreciation of the mission in practical, measurable and

demonstrable interventions. In our pursuit of the regional program, we must leave no doubt as to our seriousness of purpose and commitment to protect our sovereignty and promote peace, security, stability and development in the East African region.

Our singular resolve must be to ensure the sustainability of our enlarged Community. Let me reiterate that the EAC is today positioned to overcome many of the challenges that confront it and decisively move to a higher stage of integration. We need to be bold and resolute in our commitment and resolve.

Once again, I thank the Assembly for its contributions to the cause of East African unity and development and I thank the honourable Speaker for accepting me to address this august gathering.

There is no doubt that with determination and consistency of purpose, we shall overcome all obstacles and take our region to great heights of achievement.

Finally, let me reaffirm my government's commitment and support to East African integration development processes.

With these many words, I thank you once again, Mr Speaker and all members of this Assembly for the invitation and wish the Fifth Meeting of the Fourth Session of the Third Assembly great success. Thank you for your attention.

**The Speaker:** Rt. honourable Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Rt. hon. Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania, honourable Chair, Council of Ministers and the ministers, honourable colleagues, I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our guests this afternoon, especially to the

Prime Minister and the Speaker for their expose to this Assembly.

Rt. hon. Prime Minister, we are very grateful for the deep exposure to the gains and challenges that live with us in this Community. We have taken with great concern your concern on the issues of sensitisation of our people to understand the gains and the integration process.

I would like to give you the assurance that in the month of April, EALA will be out of offices. EALA will be doing sensitisation in the population. The month of April, EALA will be in the field with East Africans. I thank you so much and I give you the assurance of our commitment as an Assembly.

Allow me to invite one of us, hon. Judith Pareno to move a vote of thanks on our behalf.

### VOTE OF THANKS

**Ms Judith Pareno (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Rt. hon. Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, the Rt. hon. Majaliwa Kassim Majaliwa, the Rt. hon. Speaker of EALA, hon. Dan Kidega, the Rt. hon. Speaker of the United Republic of Tanzania, Job Ndugai, fellow members of Parliament, all protocols observed, I am Judith Pareno, an East African from Kenya.

It is with great pleasure that I take this humble duty to pass a vote of thanks to the Rt. hon. Prime Minister and through you Sir, to His Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency John Pombe Magufuli. For gracing this occasion, we say thank you.

Thank you, Rt. hon. Prime Minister for opening the Fifth Meeting of the Fourth

Session of the Third Assembly and for delivering the State of EAC Address.

Before I go into the details of this address, *naomba ruhusa tukusifu na tukupongeze kwa kazi nzuri anayoifanya nchini Tanzania. Nitarudi kimombo kidogo.*

Sir, allow me to mention but just a few because there are so many and we cannot enumerate all that you have done for this republic. We congratulate you and celebrate you for having been elected the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania.

In you sir, His Excellency the President has made a perfect choice. In you Sir, we see a natural leader who has risen from the ranks of being a teacher in Lindi District in the 1980s to a district commissioner between 2006 to 2010, to Parliament in 2010 and served as Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office for regional administration and local government between 2010 and 2015. Congratulations sir for your service to this nation. Some of us would like to emulate that kind of service.

Looking at your address today, it is said once a teacher, always a teacher. Your address today to us is yet another session to us as legislators and to East Africans at large. We appreciate deeply the development of the code of conduct and say that it is a milestone to development. Obviously as you say, goes to the roots to uproot the vice of corruption in this Partner State.

We share in your belief that the non-tariff barriers can actually be eliminated and we affirm our support. Within our mandate, we shall endeavour to realise what you have just said that we can actually eliminate non-tariff barriers.

As an Assembly, we thank the Summit for the assent to the Bills that you just mentioned. Some of them, if I can mention the One Stop Border Post Bill, the Axle Load Control Bill and ours is to urge for more assent of the Bills that we pass as an Assembly. We ask for your intervention and we appreciate the achievements on infrastructure and the Common Market Protocol. We appreciate your concerns on peace and security and we are happy to note as an Assembly that the Peace and Security Protocol has been signed by the Partner States.

This has been a hindrance to many of our duties. Many a time we do Bills and we keep hoping that the Peace and Security Protocol would be signed, the Bill would easily be passing through.

We also, as our Speaker has mentioned, have severally taken note of your concerns and the Summit concerns about the sensitisation of East Africans. Our Speaker has just mentioned that we shall be declaring certain times in this Assembly as sensitisation programmes for the East Africans.

Of course, it is important to note that at times we might want to do the sensitisation but the funding is lacking. We know we have a friend in the integration field in you, both in you and in our President of the Republic of Tanzania. We note your commitment and appreciate it.

*Nakuhakikishia kwamba tumelewa na kufurahia kauli mbiu ya hapa kazi tuu. Tutaiga mfano huu na kuchapa kazi hapa East Africa. Mungu akubariki, akupe nguvu na maisha marefu na ya kutumikia nchi yetu na Muungano wetu wa Afrika Mashariki, Asante.*

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much hon. Pareno for the great vote of thanks that you have done on behalf of the Assembly.

Honourable colleagues, before I adjourn it is our tradition that we recognise our colleagues who have come from Partner States by name.

By the time I recognised them, the list of members had not yet reached me. Join me in welcoming hon. Rosemary Namugwanya, Member of Parliament from the Republic of Uganda, hon. Sarah Nakawunde from the Republic of Uganda Parliament, hon. DR Peter Eriaku from the same Parliament of Uganda and my good friend hon. Twaha Kivumbi from the national Parliament of Uganda plus the staff that has accompanied them. You are most welcome.

Honourable members, before I adjourn, I have a few announcements. We will be going for a joint photo session that the Sergeant-at-Arms shall direct us to. Thereafter I invite you – You know for the first time we have invited coldness to Dar es Salaam as EALA. Therefore, the Office of the Speaker has organised tea to warm you up in this cold Dar es Salaam this evening. So you are invited to tea after the photo session. I thank you so much, House stands adjourned to tomorrow 2.30 p.m.

*(The House rose at 4.31 p.m. and adjourned to Wednesday, 9 March 2016 at 2.30 p.m.)*