



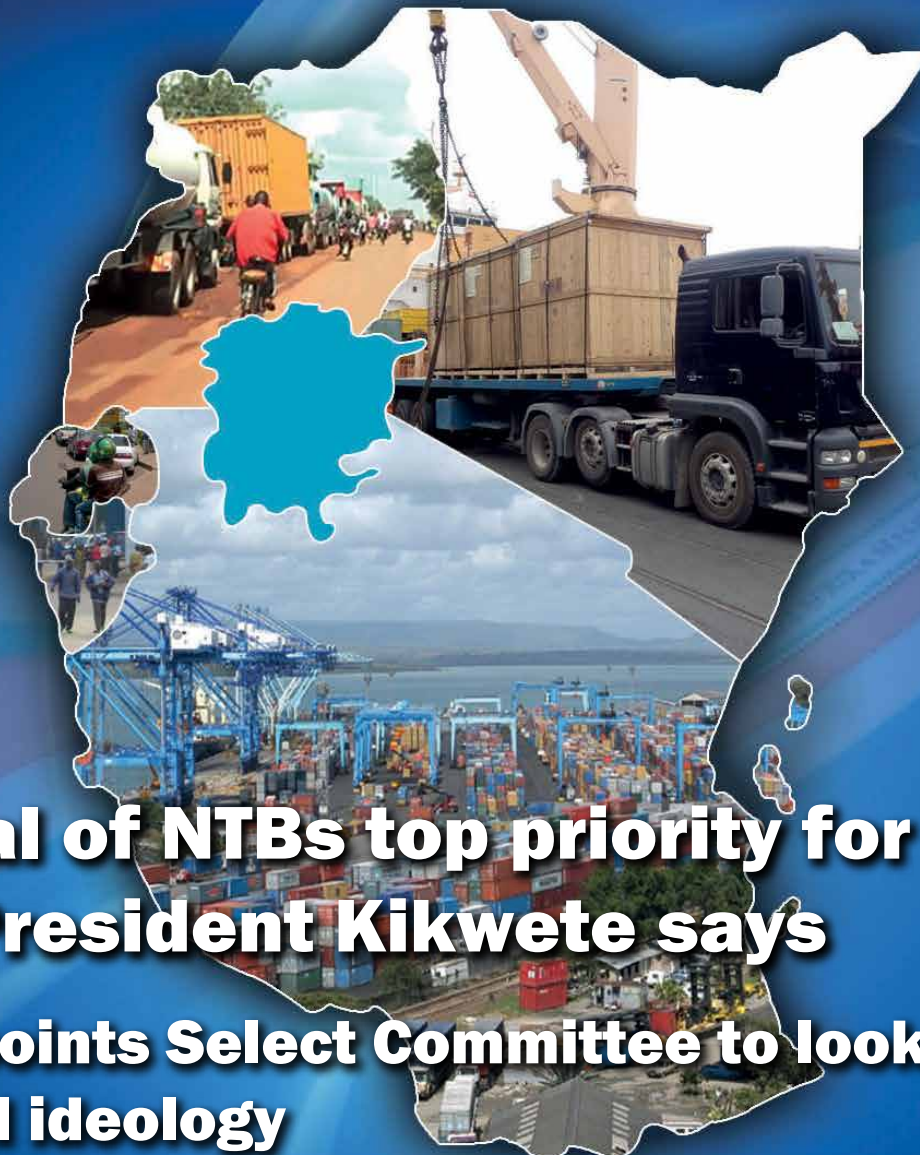
BUNGE LA AFRIKA MASHARIKI



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE EALA

ISSUE 12

APRIL 2015



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EALA appoints Select Committee to look into genocidal ideology

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ONE PEOPLE, ONE DESTINY



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Mr Kenneth Namboga Madete - Clerk, EALA

EDITORIAL LEADER

Mr. Bobi Odiko

EDITORIAL TEAM MEMBERS

- Ms. Aileen Mallya
- Mr. Florian Mutabazi

CONTRIBUTORS

- Hon Celestine Kabahizi
- Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema
- Hon (Dr) Zziwa Nantongo Margaret
- Hon AbuBakr Ogle
- Mr. Bobi Odiko
- Maria Ruhere
- Mr. Sam Ogwal

DESIGN & LAYOUT

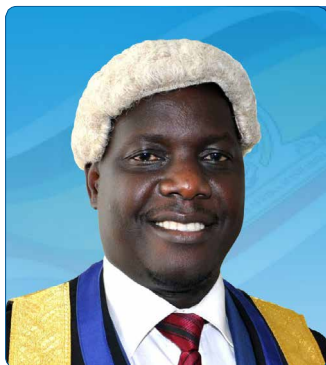
Mr. Timothy Ojore

PHOTOGRAPHY

- Mr. Abdul Mukhtar
- Mr. Justino Liwali

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The East African Legislative Assembly,
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 Tel: 255-27-2508240,
 Fax: 255-27-2503103
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DESK OF THE HON. SPEAKER

Rt Hon Dan Fred Kidega

Welcome to the 12th Edition of the *Bunge la Afrika Mashariki*. I take this opportunity to thank you all for the unequivocal support rendered to the Assembly as it undertakes its mandate. This month, I mark 100 days in office and while at it, I wish to note the positive scorecard realized so far.

As part of the renaissance of the Assembly, I proposed a three-pronged approach to re-invigorate the Assembly and to leverage its profile. Packed therein were the finalization of backlog of Bills and the quick enactment of new ones, re-construction of EALA's image and ensuring harmony and teamwork.

As you will see elsewhere, quite some progress has been realized as we carry on with our resurgence strategy. At the January Plenary, we passed three Bills, commuted six others to the relevant Committees and adopted three key Resolutions. At the March 2015 Plenary in Bujumbura, Burundi, we again passed three Bills. The Assembly has also taken key steps by looking inwards and in the process, adopted new Rules of Procedure for the House and Committees as well as a code of conduct for Members.

In its quest to enhance outreach, we have also recently conducted community engagements with the youths, workers and the employers. This is the first in a series of comprehensive engagements we hope to continuously undertake.

EALA remains dedicated to realising its mandate as underlined in the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC. I am upbeat about the on-going EAC institutional review and the zeal with which the integration path is taking. Stronger and effective Organs and Institutions of the Community will help deliver the region to the 'Promised Land'. At the same time, the region

must continuously look inwards towards addressing challenges that face integration.

At the fulcrum is the lack of awareness of the benefits of integration by EAC citizens, the Non-Tariff Barriers and the need to speedily implement the Council decisions. While delivering the State of EAC Address to EALA in March 2015, H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete was emphatic that the days of the Non-Tariff Barriers are over. I am pleased that one of the key Bills passed by EALA at that Sitting is the Elimination of the NTBs Bill, 2015, paving the way for complete annihilation of the NTBs.

It is our prayer that the Heads of State shall in the shortest time possible assent to the Bill to enable citizens to benefit from unhindered movement of goods and persons.

Inevitably, as we move along in the implementation of the pillars of integration which assume an incremental approach, we shall inevitably have to grapple with challenges. This is very much part and parcel of any development process. What is key however is the effort with which the players commit to the process.

On a sad note, the ugly face of terror again surfaced in the region where almost 150 innocent young stars' dreams were cut short by the callous acts of terrorists at the Garissa University College in Kenya. I must confess, I am one of those who has never comprehended the actual intentions of terrorists and what they intend to achieve through such acts.

I call upon our Governments to scale up efforts in combating terrorism. My sincere condolences go to the families, friends and the entire people of East Africa for the tragic losses of our children. 🇰🇪

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Mr. Kenneth Namboga Madete



Greetings to all our readers and a very warm welcome once again to the 12th edition of your esteemed magazine - the *Bunge La Afrika Mashariki*.

In this edition, we highlight a number of articles and briefs about the Sittings held in Arusha, Tanzania and Bujumbura, Burundi respectively, as well as a number of other activities of the Assembly during the last quarter – January –March, 2015.

The 3rd Assembly is now at its halfway mark, in its journey of service to the citizens of the region. The Assembly continues to implement its Strategic Plan with the overarching theme of a 'People-Centred Approach to Widening and Deepening of the EAC integration process.

EALA is committed to liaise and to closely collaborate with Organs and Institutions of the Community, the Private Sector, Civil Society and all others in fulfilment of the bloc's operational principle of being people-centred.

Just recently, as you will see elsewhere in the Newsletter, EALA received petitions from the youth and the workers, both of whom, continue to make significant contribution to the integration process in

terms of numbers and ideas. EALA intends to enhance closer collaboration with the National Assemblies to ensure deliberations that take place at EALA percolate into the Partner States.

It is anticipated that the full operationalization of Article 65 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC by all concerned shall enable the full realization of this noble objective.

As the life of the 3rd Assembly, continues, we re-dedicate our time to effectively serving East Africans to realise the vision of the founding fathers of integration through the hallmark anchored on legislation, oversight, representation and appropriation of the Community's budget.

We shall further do our level best to leverage sensitisation and awareness creation programmes to ensure that all stakeholders in the integration process appreciate and continue to be beneficiaries of the integration process.

We remain hopeful that through our hard work, we shall contribute to assist the region realize the prospects of growth and solid development.

I welcome you to this specific edition of the Bunge Magazine and hope that you shall find it pleasurable. 🇰🇪

President Kikwete delivers state of EAC address in Bujumbura

...Tells region to rid itself of NTBs and “nationalistic tendencies” in approach to integration



H.E. President Jakaya Kikwete signs the visitors book in Bujumbura, Burundi. Clerk to EALA, ...

The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, and Chair of EAC Heads of State H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete delivered the State of EAC Address on March 19th, 2015 in Bujumbura, Burundi.

The salient point of H.E. Kikwete’s address was on the removal of Non-Tariff Barriers with the Chair affirming the need to spare no efforts in ridding the region of the barriers to spur the integration process.

“The progress made so far, at the ports of Mombasa and Dar es Salaam and, on the Northern Corridor with regard to road blocks shows that it is possible to eliminate these non-tariff barriers. Measures are being taken in earnest to reduce road blocks on the Tanzania side of the Central Corridor. I am sure in the next few months we will notice a huge improvement”, President Kikwete said.

“Police check points have been reduced from 15 points to 6. Our aim is to reduce them to none except when need arises” H.E. Kikwete said. He stated that the Tanzania Revenue Authority had also reduced the checks

from 3 to zero along the central corridor and they would introduce weigh in motion technology.

The President informed the House that one such weighbridge was already installed in Vigwaza with another two on the way to Manyoni and Nyakahura on the central corridor.

“I am told with the current improvements alone, for a container to move from the port of Dar es Salaam to Kigali it takes 3 days from the previous 8 days. It takes 3 1/2 days to Bujumbura from the previous 8 days”, the President reiterated.

The President noted that improved infrastructure would bring down the costs of doing business. He said poor infrastructure had resulted in the upward and spiral effect of transportation costs resulting in skyrocketing of between 30-40% of the price of goods especially in the landlocked countries.

In attendance were high ranking government officials led by the 2nd Vice President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E. Gervais Rufyikiri, legislators, members of the

On the Common Market pillar, the Head of State lamented over its slow progress which he said was discouraging to the EAC citizens.



Umbura, Burundi as the Speaker, Rt. Hon Daniel F. Kidega (seated) and the Mr. Kenneth Madete look on

diplomatic corps and various stakeholders. President Kikwete was emphatic that the incremental approach of the integration process had been a great success. He said under the Customs Union, the region benefited from enhanced trade through the Common External Tariffs.

“Trade is now at 23 % over and above intra African trade figure of 12 %. There has been a 300% increase in the value of trade from, 2 billion US Dollars in 2005 to 6 billion US Dollars in 2014”, he said.

On the Common Market pillar, the Head of State lamented over its slow progress which he said was discouraging to the EAC citizens. He noted that the Common Market scorecard 2014 presented at the last EAC Summit in Nairobi shows more can be done.

He cited the example with regard to the free Movements of Services, where 63 measures out of 500 key sectoral laws and regulations of Partner States were identified to be inconsistent with the Common Market Protocol. 73 % of these are exclusively related to professional services. The President challenged the Partner States to embrace the wider picture of regional integration in their approach. In this regard, the Head of State lauded EALA for the introduction of the East African

Community Cross Border Legal Practice Bill (2014); the East African Community Electronic Transactions Bill 2014; and the East African Community Competition (Amendment) Bill (2015) and urged EALA to treat the Bills with the urgency deserved.

On the forthcoming elections in Burundi, the Head of State was categorical that the country should hold peaceful, free and fair elections. He remarked that any attempts to derail electioneering in the country would be inappropriate.

“I appeal to the citizens of the country to adhere to the constitution of Burundi, the electoral laws and the Arusha Accord”, President Kikwete remarked. He said that Tanzania would also vote at the plebiscite for the new constitution in April before the general elections in October.

In his welcoming remarks, the Speaker of the EALA, Rt. Hon Daniel F. Kidega remarked that the integration process was stronger given the political will and the commitment of various stakeholders in the process.

“The Private Sector and the Civil Society have on the one hand demanded and rightfully so, their place within the fulcrum of integration. On the other hand, they now play a watchdog role in line with the Articles 127 and 128 of the Treaty”, Rt Hon Kidega said.

The Speaker cited some of the benefits realized so far as the rising trade volumes which he said had witnessed growth by over 50% fetching the region an estimated USD 3.8 billion, up from 1.6 billion six years go.

“We have also realized an upward trend in Foreign Direct Investments in 2013 with an increase of 6.6% to 3.7 Billion dollars compared to what was registered a year before”, he said.

The Speaker further rooted for the full autonomy of the Assembly which he said would enable the legislature to undertake oversight more efficiently.

Speaker Kidega also called for an avenue through a regional dialogue or forum that brings together EALA and the Summit of Heads of State to a roundtable to interface. On elections, the Speaker urged the entire region to ensure credible, free and fair elections.

On institutional matters, the Speaker assured the Chair of the Summit that EALA had resolved its challenges and that it was back on track. Rt. Hon Kidega said the EALA had now adopted Rules of Procedure and a code of conduct to strengthen its governance system. The State of EAC Address is delivered annually to the EALA by the Chairperson of the EAC Heads of State. 🇪🇺

Bujumbura hosts EALA

...President Pierre Nkurunziza opens plenary, challenges Assembly to strengthen oversight and promises credible elections in Burundi



President Pierre Nkurunziza poses for a photo with EALA Members and guests who attended the special sitting in Bujumbura

The 5th Meeting of the 3rd Session of the 3rd Assembly was held on March 15th, -27th, 2015. President of the Republic of Burundi's H.E.

Pierre Nkurunziza opened the meeting on March 16th, 2015.

The President remarked that EALA had played a key role in bringing together the citizens of the region and hailed the Assembly for adhering to the principle of rotation in its meetings.

"We are all aware that EALA plays a key role in bringing the people of East Africa on board of the integration process, through the public hearings on Bills and the Nanyuki series that are conducted throughout the Region. It is crystal clear that the achievements by the EALA in this area would not have been possible without its Members' outstanding leadership", President Nkurunziza said.

In this regard, President Nkurunziza termed the launch of the Round Tables Programme on elections in Burundi on 15th January 2015 as fundamental.

The President further called on the Partner States to speedily implement the decisions of the Community.

"Another top priority is the speedy implementation of decisions at the EAC Partner States' level and the implementation of the Protocols and commitments agreed upon by Partner States, if the benefits of regional integration were to be achieved", President Nkurunziza said.

"It is imperative, therefore, that the EALA and the Council of Ministers collaborate more on mechanisms to initiate laws to enforce the rapid implementation of the Single Customs Territory and the Common Market Protocol so that East African citizens can reap benefits accruing from them" the President added.

On the forthcoming elections in Burundi, the Head of State was categorical that the country would hold



President Pierre Nkurunziza delivers his speech



GOOD TO SEE YOU: President Pierre Nkurunziza shakes hands with Hon Peter Mathuki as Hon Joseph Kiangoi looks on

peaceful, free and fair elections. He thanked the EAC for its contribution towards ensuring the polls are done in a peaceful manner.

“In this perspective, I wish to commend the joint initiative of the East African Community (EAC) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) aimed at supporting the consolidation of Democracy, Reconciliation and Tolerance among Burundians and Political Actors, in view to achieving transparent and credible 2015 Elections”, he said.

In this regard, President Nkurunziza termed the launch of the Round Tables Programme on elections in Burundi on 15th January 2015 as fundamental.

He said the occasion presented Burundians and eminent persons of the region with an opportunity to tackle issues related to elections and electoral processes

in view to consolidating regional stability through peaceful elections in Burundi.

The President announced that Parliamentary elections would be held on 26th May 2015, and Presidential elections, exactly a month later.

The Head of State further urged the Assembly to take collaboration with the National Assemblies to a higher notch.

“I have also been informed of progress made in the area of co-operation between the East African Legislative Assembly and National Parliaments of East African Community Partner States. I am of the strong view that such co-operation will continue to make it easy for the East African Community to work together and in doing so, be able to achieve integrated and harmonious development”, President Nkurunziza said.

He thus urged EALA to reinforce its oversight mandate so as to ensure the citizens of the region genuinely enjoy the fruits of integration and in so doing, contribute to the eradication of poverty and illiteracy in the region.

In his welcome remarks, the Speaker of the EALA, Rt. Hon Daniel F. Kidega noted that the Assembly’s meeting was taking place at an irreversible time in the regional integration process. He said EALA would strengthen its quest to enhance legislative, oversight and representative function with all due

diligence. The Speaker remarked that sensitization was key and cited the need to reach out to all stakeholders.

The Speaker wished the Republic of Burundi well in the forthcoming elections and urged the country to adhere to the principles of democratization and constitutionalism.

He mentioned that EALA would send a strong team as part of the EAC’s Elections Observer Mission when the country goes to the polls in May and June this year.

“This is a period to secure the future of the country through the ballot box. Elections anywhere tend to stir uncertainty, and investors traditionally withhold decision making until the aftermath, to see if and when the effect of any radical shift in policy becomes apparent. On behalf of EALA, let me wish you successful, peaceful and credible elections”, Rt. Hon Kidega said. 🇧🇮

We are back on track – EALA Speaker

In April, the EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Daniel F. Kidega marks 100 days of service in Office during which time, the Assembly has realized some progress. EALA Senior Public Relations Officer, Bobi Odiko (BO) caught up and posed few questions to the Speaker. Excerpts

BO: You have achieved the first 100 days since you took over the mantle of EALA leadership: How do you rate your performance and that of the Assembly?

Speaker: I think we have done well and we are back on track. We have held two Sittings in January and March 2015. We have passed a record six bills, commuted another six to the relevant committees and passed 3 Resolutions. We have been privileged to be addressed by H.E. Pierre Nkurunziza at the opening of the Plenary in Bujumbura and by H.E. Jakaya Kikwete at the State of EAC Address.

We are mending our image and closely also liaising with stakeholders. Two key stakeholders, the Trade Union and employers and the youth have presented petitions to EALA and the Assembly is addressing them.

With the support of my colleagues, we continue knocking on doors in the region to meet with different groups.

BO: What are your priority areas?

Speaker: Like I mentioned in my acceptance speech, I want to focus on three main areas during this period:

a) Re-constructing and revamping the image of EALA: which suffered a battering in the last few months. I want to emphasise and re-assure all stakeholders that we are fully committed to undertaking our mandate.

b) Taking EALA to the people: This shall be done by engaging the media as the vehicle and channel for outreach activities and by enhancing linkages with the Civil Society and the Private Sector. I would be happy to see us use every opportunity available to sell the integration agenda far and wide.



c) Reconciliation and re-uniting the Assembly: This is key so that we enhance teamwork and a unified and cordial environment.

BO: How big, do you think is the task ahead?

Speaker: It is a Herculean task ahead given the fact that we have to catch up with lost time and that all eyes shall be focusing on us. Nevertheless, it is not on one that is insurmountable. As a matter of fact, we are equal to the task. We are determined and believe that with team work and co-operation we shall deliver on the integration promise.

BO: How optimistic are you about delivering on your mandate?

Speaker: Oh yes, we are absolutely optimistic that we shall deliver. In any case, East Africans expect nothing less than upfront delivery. I maintain that the worst is over and we are now on a new slate.

BO: Your final word to east Africans out there?

Speaker: Let us keep hope alive. The integration process is the best thing that ever happened to our region. That said, I assure East Africans that EALA is back on track and that it will continue to fully serve their interests.

BO: Thank you very much Mr Speaker

Speaker: Asante sana (thank you) Bobi! 🇸🇰

Rt Hon Kidega tells global Parliamentarians to take lead in post 2015 agenda

The curtains closed on the 132nd Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Hanoi, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with sustained call on legislators to take more ownership in the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). More than 700 MPs and 50 Speakers from 127 countries met in the Vietnamese capital on March 28th, 2015-April 1, 2015, under the theme: “The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning words into action”.

Addressing the congress, EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Daniel Kidega urged Parliaments to focus on a number of priorities for the post 2015 Development Agenda

including fighting inequalities and ending poverty. “One of the reasons the Millennium Development Goals were not fully realized, is pointed to ineffective Parliamentary action”, he said.

“I can guarantee you that the fate of the SDGs will be equally sealed if Parliaments do not enact their own action plans by which they should ensure that relevant laws are enacted to compel the Executive to act”.

The IPU Assembly was attended by Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, Rt. Hon Rebecca Kadaga and the Speaker of the Senate, Kenya, Rt. Hon Ekwe Ethuro. Parliament of Tanzania was represented by Hon Hamad



Rashid Mohamed and Hon Suzan Lyimo among others.

The IPU Resolution called for inter-State cooperation between intelligence and security forces to be developed so as to facilitate the exchange of information. Emergency measures are similarly needed to be adopted by United Nations entities to support West and Central African countries that are fighting the Boko Haram. 🇸🇩



EALA Speaker paid a courtesy call on the President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E. Pierre Nkurunziza in Bujumbura on March 13, 2015.

The President reiterated that Burundi was committed to the integration process and urged the Assembly to steady its mandate as it continues in its quest to serve East Africans. President Nkurunziza said citizens of the region had

Speaker holds talks with President Nkurunziza and President Kagame

continued to reap from the benefits of integration and that Summit of the EAC Heads of State was very keen to see all its directives implemented.

On his part, the Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Daniel Kidega expressed solidarity with the citizens of Burundi as they prepare for the forthcoming general elections. The Speaker remarked that it was vital for the country to remain calm, and peaceful. Present at the occasion was EALA Member and the Chair of the Burundi Chapter, Hon Hafsa Mossi.

Meeting with President Kagame

In February, 2015, the Speaker met

with President Paul Kagame of Rwanda on the sidelines of the Summit of Heads of State in Nairobi. President Kagame assured the EALA Speaker of support towards ensuring success of the integration process.

He advised the Assembly to maintain the principle of rotation in Partner States, noting that it played a key role in ensuring Members keep in touch with the population and contribute to unity among East Africans.

The President remarked that the integration process was now irreversible. 🇸🇩

NEWS TITBITS

There is strength in unity – Eng Futakamba tells LVBC stakeholders

The Chairperson of the Coordination Committee for Sectoral Council for Ministers Meeting on Lake Victoria Basin, (SECOM) Eng. Mbogo Futakamba, who is Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water, United Republic of Tanzania, has urged stakeholders in the water basin to focus on the integration agenda in “work and in deed”. Eng Futakamba addressed delegates during the 14th SECOM in Bujumbura, Burundi on 12th March 2015.

“The more the region unites, the lesser the challenges associated with the managing trans-boundary natural resources in the Lake Victoria Basin. Unity and purpose should be the guiding spirit for the successful and sustainable management of shared resources ecosystems in the basin,” he said. Present were Principal and Permanent Secretaries, Directors from Ministries with Environment,

Natural Resources and Water for the East African Community and LVBC Executives and staff.

SECOM provides the overall policy guidance and oversight to Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) as provided for in the Protocol for Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin

The Deputy Secretary General for the Productive and Social Sectors, Hon. Jesca Eriyo, commended LVBC for realising several milestones. She emphasized that wider stakeholder engagement is critical for the completion of LVBC programs and projects and successful regional integration. She lauded LVBC initiatives aimed at enabling free movement of people and investment in the region.

The LVBC Executive Secretary, Dr. Canisius Kanangire highlighted LVBC achievements specifically

the progress of programs and projects implementation, resource mobilization from Development Partners and administration and management successes. In the area of resource mobilization, he informed delegates that LVBC leadership is committed to turning the Lake Victoria waters into a more navigable, attractive for investment as evidenced by LVBC-AfDB negotiations that are likely culminate into funding for the Maritime Communication and Transport on Lake Victoria Project.

The project is expected to reduce accident related fatalities estimated at around 5,000 annually through improved weather forecast services around and on Lake Victoria, better transport, communication facilities and 16 rescue intervention stations in and around Lake Victoria.

Over 4 million East African depend on the lake for their livelihoods. 🇰🇪

EAC and U.S. sign a Co-operation Agreement on Trade Facilitation

Ministers from the East African Community (EAC) signed a Co-operation Agreement on Trade Facilitation, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Measures, and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) with the U.S. Trade Representative, Ambassador Michael Froman on 26 February, 2015 in Washington, D.C.

The Co-operation Agreement will increase trade-related capacity in the East African region, as well as deepen the economic ties between the EAC and the U.S.

This partnership will build on to the EAC’s work on customs reforms, which have already resulted in substantial reductions in the time and costs of moving goods across borders

within the EAC Partner States. During the signing ceremony Ambassador Froman announced that the United States will look into expanding ‘Trade Africa’ beyond the EAC borders to the rest of Africa. ‘Trade Africa’ is U.S. President Barack Obama’s initiative to support greater U.S.-Africa Trade and investment. 🇰🇪

EAC celebrates International Women's Day, raises awareness on women's rights and gender equality

The EAC Secretariat celebrated International Women's Day on March 8th, 2015 as part of its strategy to increase the participation of women in the EAC's regional integration process.

Under this year's theme 'Make it Happen,' the EAC staff with the Arusha City Council, Women Organisations and other guests, took part in a 'Walk for Gender Equality' around designated areas in Arusha town, visited the Maternity Unit of Mt. Meru Regional Hospital, launched the EAC International Women's website, and benefitted from various presentations and keynote addresses on women's rights and gender equality.

"International Women's Day is a time to reflect on the achievements that women in the EAC have attained in the last 20 years, as well as to identify the challenges that still impede their full potential," said Hon. Jesca Eriyo, EAC's Deputy Secretary General, Productive and Social Sectors.

'Make it Happen' stands as a global call for women and men to concretize Gender Equality, which is a follow up to the prepositions from the 20th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women held in Beijing in 1995.

Gender equality can only be attained when women and men enjoy the same rights and opportunities across all sectors of society, including economic participation and decision-making, and when the different behaviours, aspirations and needs of women and men are equally valued and favoured.

As a way of fulfilling their commitment to an East African Community where women are able to participate as equal partners, decision makers, and beneficiaries of the sustainable development of their societies, the EAC has created a Sectoral Council on Gender to handle gender issues by proposing legal and policy frameworks accordingly.

To this end, this would make meaningful and sustainable changes for women and girls. 🇸🇩

EACJ rules bloc can admit South Sudan

The East African Court of Justice First Instance Division on 27th February 2015, dismissed the case instituted by Uganda Traders Association of South Sudan seeking to stop EAC from granting Membership admission to South Sudan.

The case was prompted by the action of the Republic of South Sudan of applying to join as a Member the East African Community under Article 3(3) (b) of the EAC Treaty.

The Applicants, opposed the application on grounds that the Republic of South Sudan does not adhere to universally accepted principles of good governance, democracy, rule of law and observance of human rights and social justice as required under Article 3(3) (b) of the EAC Treaty.

The Applicants, Patrick Ntege Walusimbi, Dan Ssenga and Mohammed Waiga (all being Ugandan traders trading in the Republic of South Sudan through their company known as Uganda Traders Association of South Sudan Ltd) had sought a declaration that the Republic of South Sudan is not a fit and proper country to be granted membership in the EAC and an order that the Respondents should not grant membership to the Republic of South Sudan in the EAC.

The applicants named the Attorneys General of the Partner States and the Secretary General of the East African Community as respondents.

The Court in delivering the judgment held *inter alia* that, it is vested with jurisdiction to entertain the case and it has been persuaded and convinced by the Applicants that the case discloses a cause of action under Article 30(1) of the Treaty.

Furthermore, the Court held that, the process under scrutiny duly complied with the Treaty and the Protocol for Admission to the EAC; it further stated, the directive for the commencement of negotiations was grounded in the Summit's discretionary mandate as enshrined in Article 3(2) of the Protocol for Admission to the EAC, and it did not contravene the Treaty provisions. 🇸🇩



REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

By Bobi Odiko

EALA streamlines its governance instruments

Assembly employs new Rules of Procedure and code of conduct



Hon Valerie Nyirahabineza speaks before an attentive House



Hon Abdullah Mwinyi makes a point. EALA has adopted Rules of Procedure and a code of conduct

The Assembly has taken crucial steps to improve its governance systems following the adoption of Rules of Procedures of the Committees of the Assembly and a code of conduct for its Members.

The adoption of both sets of rules on March 26th, 2015, shall supplement the Rules of Procedure of the House which were debated and adopted on January 21, 2015 at the sitting in Arusha. The Rules of Procedure however took effect on March 17th, 2015 at the Bujumbura sitting. This followed the expiry of a motion filed by Hon Dora Byamukama for a transition period to allow for quality control and re-packaging of the Rules.

The Assembly has been keen to put in place a code of conduct and Rules of Procedure for its Standing Committees for the effective and efficient discharge of its duties as per Article 49(2) of the Treaty.

The objectives of establishing Rules of Procedure for Standing Committees are to cater for growth of the Assembly and its membership; provide for technological advancement; and address unforeseen incidents and developments.

In this regard, a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges met in Nairobi on February 1-7th, 2015, to develop drafts. The draft Committees Rules of Procedure and draft Code of Conduct for Members of the Assembly were then considered and adopted by the whole Committee in Bujumbura, Burundi on March 13-14, 2015.

While making his submissions, the Chair of the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges, Hon Peter Mathuki remarked that the Committee had employed various methods in its approach. He cited some of the means as the review of global literature on Codes of Conducts, Ethics and Integrity and the EAC Treaty.

The Committee further reviewed Partner States' National Parliaments' Rules of Procedure including Committees' Rules of Procedure and Code of Conducts; and the regional Parliaments Rules of Procedure similar to EALA.

In her submissions, Hon Judy Pareno said the process of establishing Rules of Procedure was diverse and had among others borrowed from the existing practices in the national assemblies and elsewhere and said this was healthy.

"I am happy that we have documented rules and some of the existing lapses that existed in Committees are now addressed in the Committee rules", Hon Pareno said.

Hon Mukasa Mbidde noted that the House had realized a milestone achievement by coming up with the Rules of Procedure of Committees of the Assembly and the code of conduct for members.

Hon Abubakar Zein urged the Members to champion good governance in all their dealings.

"We have to be a House of honour and integrity. We also need to be guided on how to extend our conduct as Members inside and outside the House. We need to pass it – but duty also demands that we implement it. This is part of our legacy that we are ready, able and willing to increase the levels of integrity in the House. We shall not look back," Hon Zein said.

The Rules of Procedures take into consideration a number of areas including functions of chairpersons, management and power of committees and issues of quorum.

The Code of Conduct for Members among other areas looks into the personal conduct of the Members emphasizing selflessness, integrity, objectivity and openness. All Members are expected to uphold the Code of Conduct in undertaking their duties. Article 49



Hon Mukasa Mbidde presents a report in the House

The Rules of Procedures take into consideration a number of areas including functions of chairpersons, management and power of committees and issues of quorum.

(g) of the Treaty provides that EALA shall make its Rules of Procedure and that of its Committees.

Salient points in the Rules of Procedure include the introduction and definition of the Commission as established under Section 3 of the Administration of EALA Act 2012. The Commission replaces the House Business Committee which hitherto performed similar roles. The Seat of the Assembly has also been retained as Arusha in line with Article 136 of the Treaty for the EAC following a vote by the House to retain Rule 2 as is.

The Rule 7 (9) on election of the Speaker was further amended to give it clarity. A Member shall now be elected Speaker when he or she is supported by votes of two thirds of the House. In event that there is only one candidate, the revised Rule 7(8) stipulates that the House shall subject the candidature to approval through the secret ballot in a move aimed at ensuring the will of the House is realized. In the past, a sole candidate would automatically be declared elected and conducted to the chair. On the converse, the Speaker of the House may also be removed upon a Resolution of the House. Herein, a motion for the same shall be tabled in the Assembly within 24 Hours of its receipt by the Clerk. It shall then be referred to the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges who shall investigate and report the findings to the House. 🇰🇪

Summary of proceedings at the 4th and 5th meeting of the 3rd assembly



Hon Christophe Bazivamo contributes to debate during the Plenary in Arusha

The two week Plenary in Bujumbura realized the following achievements:

1. Passed 3 Bills. They are the following:-
 - a) Elimination of NTBs Bill, 2015. This is a very key bill that will ensure free movement of persons and goods
 - b) EAC Customs Management (Amendment) Bill, 2015 to facilitate the implementation of the Single Customs Territory
 - c) The EAC Civic Education for Integration Bill, 2014 to enhance civic education in the region. Considered the EAC Cross Border Legal Practice Bill, 2014. The Bill shall be debated at the next sitting in May 2015
2. Passed and adopted 2 Reports; the Report of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment on oversight activity of the EAC Single Customs Territory (SCT) and the Report of the Accounts Committee on the EAC's audited accounts for the Financial Year ending 30th June 2013.
3. Received a number of reports that were tabled
4. Adopted the Rules of Procedures for the Committees of the Assembly and the Code of Conduct to govern future operations of the Assembly.
5. Received petitions from the East African Youth Council and the East African Trade Union Confederations, which were referred to the relevant Committees.

A SNAPSHOT OF ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE 4TH MEETING OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE 3RD ASSEMBLY

The two week Plenary in Nairobi realized the following achievements:-

1. Passed two key Bills;
 - a) The EAC Co-operative Societies Bill, 2014 that provides a legal framework for the Cooperative Societies to strengthen the sector. The Bill touches directly on the beneficiaries (cooperators and farmers), promotes unity and enhances problem solving within societies among other things.
 - b) The EAC Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2015 makes provision for supplementary expenditure of USD 2,040,520 to support programmes and projects of the Financial Year ending June 2015. The programmes include: supporting the ongoing efforts in reducing the impact of HIV and AIDS, observation and monitoring of elections in the region, development of the EAC Regional Food balance sheet as well as the needs and preparedness of the Partner States to implement the new generation E-Passport and a review of the existing passport issuance legal frameworks.

Six new Bills also sailed through the First Reading. They are:

- a) The EAC Electronic Transactions Bill 2014
The East Africa Science and Technology Commission, 2015
 - b) The EAC Competition (Amendment) Bill 2015
 - c) The EAC Customs Management (Amendment) Bill, 2015
 - d) The EAC Creative and Cultural Industries Bill 2015
 - e) The EAC Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers Bill, 2015
2. Adopted a number of reports including key one was on the EAC Financial Systems for the Year ended June 2013.
 3. Passed three Motions and Resolutions including:
 - a) **A Resolution for the establishment of the African Parliamentary Centre for Peace and Security (APCPS)** to focus on enhancing

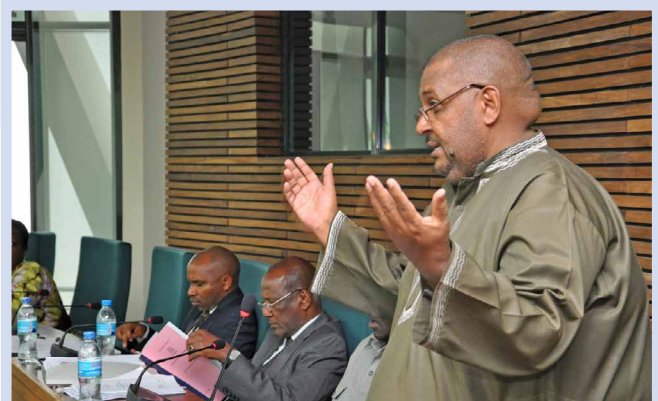
capacities to address peace and conflict transformation in the region.

- b) **A Resolution to establish a Select Committee on Genocide** to study and consider ways and means of combating, outlawing and preventing genocide.
 - c) **A Resolution urging the Partner States to adopt the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and good Governance.** This is a very crucial Resolution given the fact that the cycle of elections is on.
4. Elected of the EALA Commission in line with the Administration of EALA Act 2012.

The EALA Commission then nominated Members to the relevant six Committees.

Meetings were held with the Council of Ministers to deliberate on Council Bills and to review the Report of the Audit on the EAC Financial Statements for the Year ended 2013 and to look at other important matters of policy around the EAC.

5. As part and parcel of outreach, the Assembly also received the following delegations:
 - a) Members of the Commission, Parliament of Uganda who participated in our Sitzings as guests of the Assembly/Speaker
 - b) Committee of the Regional Integration, Kenya National Assembly.
 - c) Representatives of the East African Farmers Federation. 🇪🇺



Hon Abubakar Zein stresses a point as he contributes to debate in the House. EALA has been working to reduce on the backlog of activities





1. IN DISCUSSIONS: Hon Jeremie Ngendakumana (centre) makes a point as Hon Dr. Nderakindo Kessy (left) and Hon Isabelle Ndahayo pay keen attention
2. President Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete addresses the media as his host President Pierre Nkurunziza listens. President Kikwete was in Bujumbura to deliver the State of EAC Address to EALA
3. The Minister for EAC, United Republic of Tanzania, Hon Dr. Harrison Mwakyembe is sworn in as an Ex-Officio Member of EALA. Hon Dr. Mwakyembe was appointed in the cabinet reshuffle replacing Hon Samuel Sitta who moved to the Transport docket
4. The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, H.E. Joachim Gauck receives a gift from the EAC Secretary General, Amb Dr. Richard Sezibera when he visited the EAC in February 2015. In the same picture, the EALA Speaker, prepares to hand over a gift to the First Lady, H.E. Daniella Schadt
5. The EALA Commission holds a meeting in Arusha
6. Hon Dora Byamukama contributes to debate recently. EALA holds six sittings in the Partner States
7. EALA Senior Public Relations Officer, Bobi Odiko (right) talks to a section of Parliamentarians from the Kenya national Assembly. EALA and the National Assemblies collaborate closely to strengthen integration
8. Hon Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (in brown) gestures to the Speaker of the CEMAC Parliament, Rt. Hon Vincent Mavoungou- Bayou when the Parliamentarians visited EALA recently to familiarise themselves with its work
9. The President of the Senate of Rwanda, Rt. Hon Bernard Makuza shares a light moment with EALA Member, Hon Bernard Mulengani as Hon Pierre Clelestin Rwigema looks on
10. To be captioned shortly
11. The Minister for EAC, Uganda, Hon Shem Bageine reflects as Hon Nusura Tiperu (left) and EALA Senior Clerk Assistant, Beatrice Ndayizeye listen
12. CATCHING UP: Hon Straton Ndikuryayo (standing) talks to his colleagues, Hon Emanuel Nengo, Hon Valerie Nyirahbineza and Hon Sarah Bonaya





By Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema

Why the pillars of integration will unite East African countries

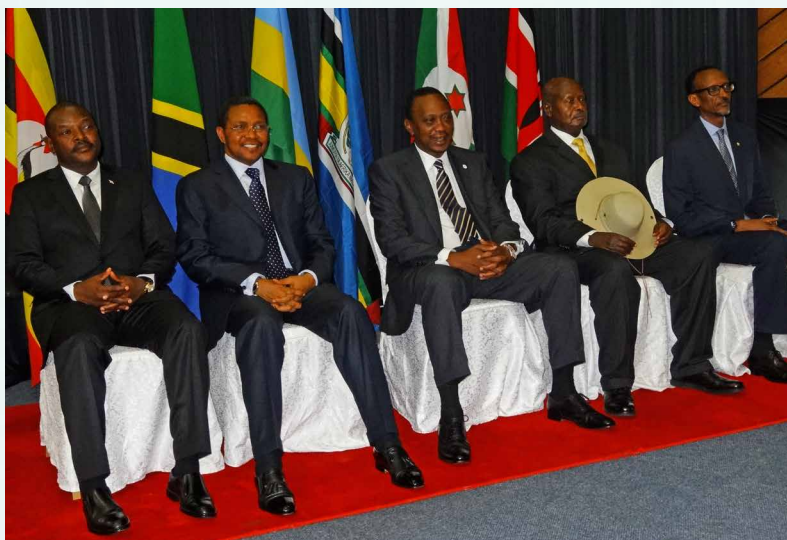
According to the article 5 of the Treaty, the sequence of events towards full integration of East Africa comprises of the establishment of a Customs Union, a Common Market, a Monetary Union and ultimately, a Political Federation.

A Customs Union is essentially a joint administration of a Common External Tariff in an environment of zero Internal Tariff as well as elimination of all Non-Tariff Barriers to cross-border trade among the Partner States. A Common Market calls for free movement of goods and services and all factors of production. A Monetary Union, cuts cross-border transaction costs through a single currency regime. A Political Federation is imperative in this united and global environment. Once implemented, the three primary pillars should lay the ground for the Political Federation and unite all East Africans.

It should be noted that every level of regional integration requires enforcement of some key components for an optimal and inclusive integration. The main keys areas, I can cite include the following core components:

1. **Political will:** as the process of integration deepens fears and anxiety on the process persists as integration is sometimes perceived to infringe on Partner States' national sovereignty. There is lack of willingness to sacrifice sovereignty for economic development.

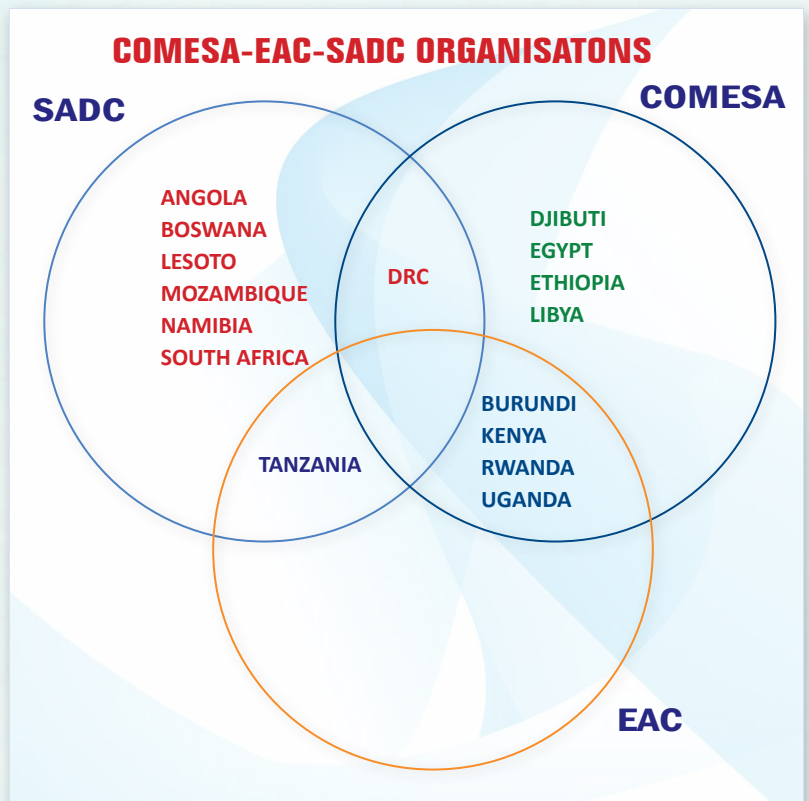
Borrowing from the words of His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni: "moving forward, we must pull our collective strengths together as



a Community if we are to remain relevant in the fiercely globalized world and not be content with our dwarf status as individual Partner States on our own". This may require that Partner States cede or pull together part of their sovereignty and place it in our trusted regional institutions if we are to deliver on the promises of the EAC's founding fathers. This requires structural transformation of regional policies, institutional arrangements and capacity developments to support the common goals. Lack of commitment by the leaders is one of the key reasons for the collapse of the EAC in 1977. During the 9th Northern Corridor Integration Summit that brought together the host President Paul Kagame, Uganda's Yoweri Museveni, Salva Kiir of South Sudan, EAC Chair and Tanzania President Jakaya Kikwete, Burundi 2nd Vice President, Dr. Gervais Rufyikiri and Ethiopia's Foreign Affairs Minister Tedros Adhanom, the Rwandan President said that

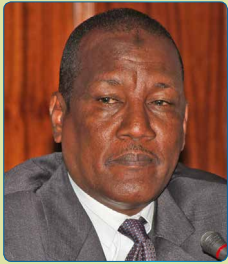
with political goodwill of the leaders in the region, the objectives of Corridor initiative would be met.

2. **Commitment to Institution Building:** the Summit should politically empower the EAC Secretariat to ensure that states, firms and individuals comply with their obligations under the EAC Treaty. The success or failure of EAC's integration depends on citizens' collective responsibility. There is no doubt that one of the greatest challenges to implementation of the directives, decisions, Protocols and EALA Acts is the slow pace at which Partner States are moving towards the review, amendments and harmonization of their national laws to align them to those of the Community.
3. **Trade Facilitation:** During the 9th Northern Corridor Integration Summit in **Kigali March 7, 2015**, President Uhuru Kenyatta said that greater inter-connectivity in the EAC will increase Partner States' ability to trade with each other. He added that better infrastructure would also boost competitiveness and attractiveness of the economies of countries in the region. In fact, there are significant level of structural constraints to the free flow of goods and services, movement of people, and fragmented trade regulation among Partner States. Complicated and slow customs procedures and disparate health and safety or technical standards still exist despite the Common Market coming into force. Since little capital is needed to start an informal business, it attracts and helps numerous people in EAC to start business and generate their own income. This cross border practice evades a significant number of business transaction costs and offers relatively cheaper goods and services to consumers.
4. **Regional Networking:** Networking unites EAC citizens by improving regional education, enabling those involved in similar labor and business activities in neighboring Partner States to benefit from each other's experiences, exert peer pressure to raise standards, and encourage the spread and the adoption of best practices within the EAC space.
5. **Multiplicity of Memberships for Partner States:** For unity and cohesion, Partner States have to coordinate



regional integration initiatives within EAC Common Market and have to void multiplicity of memberships of regional blocs and this for building a block for deeper integration. Partner States should resist being in different regional configurations of parallel regional integrations initiatives. This is considered as a stumbling rather than building block for unity and deeper integration. Even if for geopolitical reasons multiple memberships can be useful, EAC Partner States could develop coordination mechanisms that precede such membership. Currently, four EAC Partner States are part of COMESA bloc and one EAC Partner State is member of SADC bloc.

6. **Regulatory Harmonization and Coordination:** Partner States have to act in unison in order to create regional 'public goods'. These goods include law enforcement, public health policies harmonization, property rights enforcement, financial market regulations, coordination of cross-border transport networks, scientific research on infrastructure and environmental protection. If these public goods are delivered at the supranational level, they will provide more cohesion and unity within the Community. In conclusion, I think that the unity of EAC and the sustainability of the Political Federation will depend on the extent to which developmental goals are achieved. 🇸🇩



By Hon AbuBakr Ogle

Destination Mogadishu; Why EALA should be involved in regional security



The Committee of Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution recently toyed with the idea of a possible visit to the Somali capital, Mogadishu, as part of its oversight activity to appreciate the much-hyped African Peace and Security Architecture. The very idea alone predictably, ignited a considerable debate ranging from securing Members' safety to the value addition of such unprecedented outing, if at all.

Why not? After all, Mogadishu has often been referred to, or perhaps still, remains the most dangerous city in the world, a-not-so-enviable record this ancient coastal town has held, as is with the rest of the war-torn Horn of Africa nation, for the past quarter century!

Violence is routine in all parts of Somalia, whether perpetrated by suicide bombers, so-called jihadists, assassins, soldiers both in the service of the weak but daring Government administration and the huge peace-keeping contingents, and even most astonishingly, on behalf of the judiciary as it literally, executes its own form of instance justice.

I ventured out to this kind of country sometimes ago, in the company of brothers Ali, Kab and Abdulkarim on an essential business trip. I also took mental solace in the presence in Mogadishu of Hon. Lydia Wanyoto, a former EALA veteran who is presently serving as the Deputy Head of the African Peace Keeping Mission in Somalia, otherwise called AMISOM.

But I would later quickly realize that Madam Wanyoto had an office "Inside The Wire," of Mogadishu's airport's relatively secure compound – something akin to Somalia's version of Iraq's Green Zone – and she, like the whole peacekeeping contingent and fellow bureaucrats, were indeed, far detached from whatever was going on within the sprawling, war-scarred city itself.

The nearly 10-kilometre stretch where the AMISOM Secretariat and military base lay, is entirely encircled by blast barriers and a dense razor wire fence and defended by mean looking AU soldiers, mainly drawn from Uganda and Burundi. By any countenance, it is considered the safest place in Mogadishu, yet on Christmas Day last

year; *Al-Shabaab* gunmen launched a 36-hour assault that left nine AU soldiers and three foreign contractors dead.

Up the north of the serene beachfront is yet another 4-kilometre base of a bizarre expatriate ecosystem of muscled and tattooed private security contractors, ambitious young diplomats, jaded aid workers, furtive spies, uniformed soldiers who are non-AMISOM members, and businessmen with unusually high-risk threshold. It was the unofficial Diplomatic Quarters of Mogadishu.

The entire stretch that covers the combined international airport area, military and diplomatic quarters, has four blast walls set back 20 meters from an outer perimeter with an observatory towers.

Like they will describe in the western media, these so-called Wild West Fort, are manned by Ugandan private security guards armed with AK47 assault rifles and belt-fed PKM machine guns.

Yet, amidst all these fears and realistic threats, Mogadishu is a thriving melting pot of all sorts of business activity. The glaring lack of central authority to manage and regulate the affairs of the Somalis, it appears, has conversely given rise to a booming and cut-throat but very uniquely organized commercial environment.

The famous “Bakarah” market in central Mogadishu has the latest stocks of electronic gadgets and classic apparels from virtually all the Oriental destinations, pharmaceutical products and designer leather products from Europe as well as trendy jeans and Mac laptops and latest apple accessories from the US.

Mogadishu’s nightlife is equally enchanting. We attended a glamorous wedding reception in one of the central suburbs of the city whose huge attendance and fabulous display would be an illustration of Somalis acclaimed character as one of Africa’s finest innovative and enterprising peoples.

These comparisons may on the face of it, appear to be a tale of two extremes, depending on the makers’ perspective. I can nonetheless, safely posit that



Hon AbuBakr Ogle (right) with the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Jakaya M. Kikwete and Hon Dr. James Ndahiro. Somalia has made application to join the EAC

I can nonetheless, safely posit that Mogadishu, and the Horn of Africa nation, is certainly not the “hermit kingdom” where few have gone and never returned.

Mogadishu, and the Horn of Africa nation, is certainly not the “hermit kingdom” where few have gone and never returned. Somalia is much less a jungle entity and den of hand-choppers and throat-slitters, as is often depicted in misleading western media channels.

It therefore begs the question: Have we sat on our laurels for far too long? Have we depended on other

reckless narratives and as a result failed to decipher and manage our own immediate and regional interests? Should we not change tact and confront our security challenges? The American Social Anthropologist, Lee Ross profoundly coined the phrase, “fundamental attribution error.”

Indeed, nowhere is this today more prevalent than in our navel-gazing fear of ‘wannabe’ terrorists and a bunch of thugs and blood-drenched ranks, operating in the name of *Al-Shabaab*, who are not at all driven by any religious fervor or faith, but have curved Somalia into their theatre of operations.

It is in East Africa’s interest to reclaim our potential member of the EAC family from the jaws of these rogues. Kenyan, Ugandan and Burundi forces are doing just that.

Of course EALA needs to appreciate the African Peace and Security Architecture! There would have been no better concrete experience than the place that has a direct bearing on the Community.

Besides, Somalia’s application to join the EAC family dates back to 1974, in the words of President Jakaya Kikwete recently! 🇸🇴



REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

By Maria Ruhere

Terrorism in the region: let us all unite in halting Al-Shabab

Nearly all countries in East Africa have been victims of terrorist acts. The region has experienced prolonged and severe intra and interstate conflict leading to instability, poverty and political isolation that makes it vulnerable to terrorist exploitation. Then the continued existence of porous borders allow for extensive and uncontrolled movement of people, illegal weapons, and this coupled with pervasive corruption, weak law enforcement enhance terrorism.

Some countries in the region have served at various times as terrorist safe havens, staging areas or transit points. For instance Sudan became a safe haven for Islamic extremist groups in the early 1990s when the Sudanese government actively supported the activities of terrorist groups. Osama bin Laden used Sudan as a base

of operations beginning in 1992 to support various jihad efforts around the world before he was expelled in May 1996.

Al Shabaab (means the youth in Arabic) is a hybrid of a local focused Islamist insurgent group and a transnational terrorist affiliate of Al-Qaeda whose predecessor was al-Ittihad al-Islami (AIAI), which worked to create an Islamist emirate in Somalia. It was in part, funded by former Al Qaeda leader, Osama bin Laden, according to the Council on Foreign Relations that was formed in 2004 as the militant wing of the Islamic Courts Union (ICU).

The group is fighting an insurgency against the internationally recognized Somali Federal Government, which is based in Somalia's capital, Mogadishu. Al Shabaab has targeted African Union Mission in Somalia

(AMISOM) peacekeepers for their support of the federal government. It is instructive to note that Republics of Uganda, Burundi and Kenya have sent its troops into Somali territory, where they have joined the African Union force battling the militants.

The absences of central authority in Somalia have provided an enabling environment for Al Shabaab whose top leaders and fighters have benefited from training with other terrorist groups abroad.

They employ extremist intimidation and terror tactics designed to instill fear in the population. Al Qaeda and other foreign groups have provided training, equipment and support to the group. Al Shabaab is on record to have conducted kidnappings, shootings and targeted political assassinations, not only of Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia officials but also journalists, civil society activists and aid workers.

Al Shabaab's use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and suicide bombers is a new dimension in the context of Somali conflict, tactics of urban warfare that have been successfully used by terrorists in Iraq and elsewhere.

The EAC region is not safe either with Al-Shabab having staged numerous attacks in the Partner States.

The latest 2nd April 2015 massacre at Garissa University, near the border with Somalia, is the bloodiest so far. At least 147 people died when gunmen stormed the university at dawn. Previously the worst attack was on Nairobi's Westgate shopping center on 21st September 2013, when at least 68 people died.

Terrorism is something that can be stopped. Anna Lindh, a Swedish Social Democratic Politician and a Member of Parliament who was assassinated on 11th September, 2003 in Stockholm, Sweden was years before quoted as saying "Terrorism can never be accepted. We must fight it together, with methods that do not compromise our respect for the rule of law and human rights or are used as an excuse for others to do so".

When a terrible act occurs, it is important that the act does not go unpunished. If the terrorists believe that they can successfully attack us and escape without harm, they will become bolder and more dangerous. It is important to stop them quickly.

It can be done as long as everyone comes together and plays their part to ensure the country's and region's safety. It is my hope and prayer that EALA in particular and the EAC in general must now play a more significant role in combating terrorism. 🇰🇪

Young people's interests are often disregarded in public policy or frequently overlooked in the public policy sphere in favor of more powerful groups of interest.



Kenyans hold candles and flowers as they listen to the names of each of the victims of the Garissa attack being read out aloud, during a vigil at Uhuru Park, Nairobi



By Hon (Dr) Zziwa Nantongo Margaret

My afternoon well spent with H.E. Ben W. Mkapa



H.E. Benjamin William Mkapa, former President of the United Republic of Tanzania in discussions with the former Speaker of EALA, Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa

On September 5th, 2014, I had the privilege of paying a courtesy visit to the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, His Excellency Benjamin William Mkapa at his residence in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Hon. Charles Nyerere Makongoro, a Member of EALA accompanied and a representative of the Clerk, Mr. Enoch Musiime, Research Officer, EALA, accompanied me.

In his remarks, His Excellency Mkapa, emphatically said that he is a strong proponent of the EAC integration and that is why together with his colleagues, President Arap Moi of Kenya and President Yoweri K. Museveni of Uganda made a lot of sacrifices to revive

the East African Community, which had collapsed in 1977. Mkapa lauded the current Summit of the Heads of State of EAC for the strides that they have taken so far in the realization of the EAC integration.

He further noted that the process of full integration takes time, challenging, and it may bear least benefits in short term although it will always be fruitful in long term and realizes more benefits for future generations.

Mkapa recollected that during the negotiations of the EAC Customs Territory, and the issue of Common External Tariff (CET), people had a lot of fears and reservations that respective

His Excellency noted that EALA is looked at with higher regard and commands respect and reputation as far as EAC integration is concerned.

countries would tremendously lose revenue, but to the contrary, statistics indicate that revenues for the EAC countries have increased as a result of the Customs Union implementation.

He recalled and quoted the words of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere during the struggle for Tanzania's independence, where had to say that "...Better we delay our independence so that we first unite our people..."

He said that East Africans look at the Community Organs and Institutions with high hope and faith in the implementation of the integration process. On this note he was particularly concerned about EALA's previous day (September 4, 2015) adjournment of its proceedings prematurely due to lack of quorum. His Excellency noted that EALA is looked at with higher regard and commands respect and reputation as far as EAC integration is concerned. He therefore advised that the EAC Organs and Institutions not to provide room for the skeptics to criticize the whole integration agenda.

He remarked that for the integration spirit to be fully realized, serious sacrifices must be made. He therefore encouraged EALA together with all other Organs and institutions including all stakeholders to make fundamental sacrifices that are above other interests to ensure full integration of East Africans.

His Excellency applauded the gender equality that is depicted in the region, he mentioned particularly that it was a great honour for the EAC to have a female Speaker for the East African Legislative Assembly and that opportunity should be maximally utilized.

I appreciated most sincerely His Excellency Benjamin Mkapa for his efforts both before and after the revival of the East African Community as a founding member saying that current East Africa is built on the foundation they laid.

In addition I thanked him most sincerely for the words of wisdom that builds the strength of EALA as a regional Parliament. In the same breath, I

informed Mr. Mkapa that EALA as a House has previously been blessed with the addresses from other Founding Members of East African Community, therefore at an appropriate time EALA will extend invitation to Mkapa to address the House as well.

I also reiterated the efforts made by the current Summit of the Heads of State of EAC especially in the areas of trade facilitation and infrastructure development such as Energy, Roads and Railways, reduction of Non Tariff Barriers on the Northern and Central Corridors among very many others including the Monetary Union implementation process.

Finally, I reaffirmed that EALA is duty-bound and is committed to the EAC Integration agenda by fulfilling its mandate. 🇪🇺



H.E. Benjamin William Mkapa admires EALA documents presented by the former Speaker, Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa as Hon Makongoro Nyerere (left) and Enoch Musiime, Research Officer, EALA, look on



H.E. Benjamin William Mkapa and the EALA delegation admire a wall painting



REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

By Sam Ogwal

Youth a key stakeholder for a better EAC

In youth we learn; in age we understand

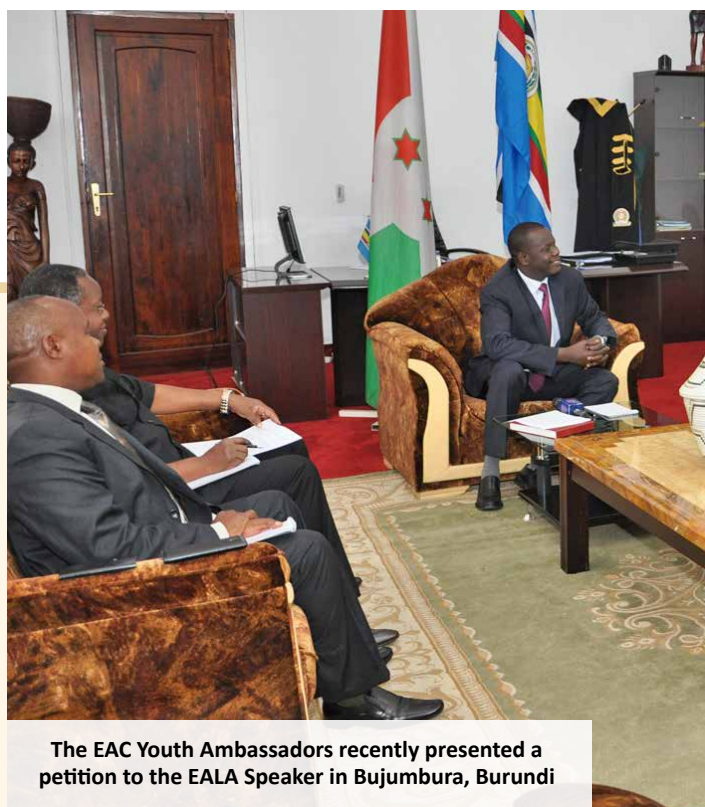
There is no doubt that, almost every turn has a good and bad side to it. This is sometimes visible. As many people have mentioned, in many cities around the globe that the rates of unemployment are increasing unexpectedly while the rate of youth participation in leadership is too minimal.

Many people believe that, wisely chosen decisions on youths agenda is the best way to control unemployment and crimes in EAC region on the one hand and to enhance decision making on the other.

It is therefore vital for the region to focus on young people as a pre-requisite to foster for a stronger, committed, respectful and people-centered EAC.

Article 120(c) of the EAC Treaty recognizes the necessity of engaging young people towards a united region. However, it is quite clear that the level of their participation in regional integration is still questionable. I should therefore put it that the institutions and the Partner States have a key role to play in attainment of balanced participation.

According to the report released by African Union, about 75% of the African population are under age of 35 years while another 54.2% suffer from the brunt occasioned by high level of illiteracy, poverty, unemployment, HIV/AIDS, substance abuse, discrimination and forced engagement in armed conflict.



The EAC Youth Ambassadors recently presented a petition to the EALA Speaker in Bujumbura, Burundi

In all regions of the world, young people have to address increased unemployment and insecurity at work, greater family instability, and reductions in social welfare programs as well as uncertainty and risk. Effective strategies are needed to resolve these concerns. Young people have a body of experience unique to their situation, and they have views and ideas that derive from this experience.

They are social actors with skills and capacities to bring about constructive resolutions to their own problems. Too often, though, there is a failure or even refusal to recognize such effort. Much as government policies have a direct or indirect impact on young people, it is developed and delivered largely without forecasting the impact on their day-to-day lives or their present and future well-being.

To begin with, EALA and EAC would consider the mechanisms and structures through which young people can engage with them. The first being how proactively Youth Councils could make use of these structures to bring young people in to decision-making.

Next I consider how proactively youth take advantage of existing opportunities to engage with the EAC and finally identifying the key challenges to greater and more meaningful youth engagement and makes recommendations, most of them suggested by the



Young people's interests are often disregarded in public policy or frequently overlooked in the public policy sphere in favor of more powerful groups of interest.



A section of the youth from the EAC. Youth are a key stakeholder group in the integration process

stakeholders consulted, for improving the quality and level of youth engagement. Regarding the mechanisms, processes and structures for youth participation in governance, research finds that there are a number of different levels and platforms through which young people can theoretically engage with the Youth councils both directly and indirectly through intermediaries. The extent to which young people are able to take advantage of these opportunities in practice largely depends on the comparative strength and initiative of EALA and the capacity of young people to engage with them.

Young people's interests are often disregarded in public policy or frequently overlooked in the public policy sphere in favor of more powerful groups of

interest. In very few countries in the world do we find traces of real analysis on public expenditure to assess whether the proportion spent on children and young people and their well-being reflects either their levels of need or their representation within the community?

Actions detrimental to the well-being of young people occur not only through deliberate abuse or neglect. Adults across the professional spectrum have been responsible for decisions, policies and actions that have been inappropriate and sometimes actively harmful to young people, even when the underlying intention

has been to promote their welfare. These actions are characterized by a consistent failure to consult or involve young people themselves.

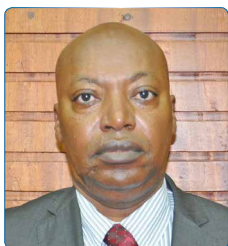
Evidence is not hard to come by; it is not uncommon to find cases in which young people are placed in large institutions that give insufficient attention to their emotional and psychological well-being.

If young people are not involved in the development of the laws, policies and programs that affect them, even well-intentioned actions on the part of adults will often fail to protect their best interests.

In conclusion, while there are many positive signs that young people are increasingly engaging in decision-making at the EAC level, it is also clear that youth participation is not uniform and in some areas EAC-youth interaction is very weak.

While there are some encouraging examples of strong, dynamic youth representatives participating effectively in EAC Youths decision-making, this tends to be the exception rather than the norm and more often youth engagement is low level and sometimes tokenistic. Making meaningful and effective youth participation in governance a reality requires the combined effort of local and national government, civil society and donors. As EAC continues on an upward trajectory of social and economic development, and as democratic principles take root, ensuring young people are given a say in decision-making should be prioritized. 🇺🇦

Sam Ogwal is the EAC Youth Ambassador to Uganda and the Country Director for IHAV foundation Africa, a fourth year student at Makerere university pursuing Bachelor of science in telecommunication Engineering.



By Hon Celestine Kabahizi

Bujumbura session was busy – but EALA also welcomed on board Hon Martin Ngoga



Hon Celestine Kabahizi contributes to debate on the floor of the House. EALA's plate over the last sittings have been extremely busy

will advise government and its institutions on accountability as well as political and socio-economic orientations while offering solutions to challenges faced.

On behalf of the EALA Rwanda Chapter, and in my personal capacity, I take this opportunity to thank the Government of Rwanda for elevating the wise person of Hon Harelimana to such an important political apex.

In the same vein, Hon Martin Ngoga, joins the Legislative arm of EAC at the right moment.

After swearing in, Hon Martin Ngoga took his seat in Parliament and at that juncture in his

The 5th Meeting of the 3rd Session of the Assembly held in Bujumbura on 15th-27th March, 2015 was extremely busy. But one of the highlights of the Sitting was the swearing in of EALA's newest Member, Hon Martin Ngoga.

Hon Ngoga's election followed the resignation (for personal reasons) by Hon Harelimana Abdulkarim in early February. I wish to inform all readers through the Bunge la Afrika Mashariki magazine that immediately upon his return home, Hon Harelimana was nominated by the Cabinet chaired by Rwanda's President, His Excellency Paul Kagame, as one of the seven eminent persons of the Rwandan Elders Advisory Council that

maiden speech gave insightful contributions into the deliberations in the House, demonstrating his ability as a highly experienced person. His past experience includes service as Prosecutor at the provincial level in Rwanda and rising all the way to be the country's Prosecutor General. In addition, his international exposure and diplomatic posting at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda in Arusha as Rwanda's envoy will definitely be a boost as he joins the EALA family. Hon Ngoga is also optimistic that he shall strive to do his best.

Hon Martin Ngoga's stature in the region rose when he was elected Chair of the East African Association of General Prosecutors at its Second meeting in 2001. Hon

Ngoga was born in 1968 in Tanzania. Upon completion of his law degree, he joined an internship programme in government before returning home. Of recent, Hon Ngoga is remembered to have chaired the Commission of Inquiry investigating accusations of genocide denial in a documentary titled the 'Untold Story' by the British Broadcasting Corporation which intended to distort facts of 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

His arrival coincided with key deliberations of EALA in Bujumbura. At the Sitting, two Bills and two key reports were debated and passed. The EAC Cross Border Legal Practice Bill, 2014 which seeks to provide for the conduct and regulation of cross-border legal practice in East African Community and the EAC Civic Education for Integration Bill 2014 were enacted by the Assembly. The EAC Customs Management (amendment) Act 2004 which seeks to facilitate discharge of the functions of the Directorate of Customs and Trade especially procedures that facilitate the implementation of the bloc's Single Customs Territory was also passed.

The Report of the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges on the Rules of Procedures of Standing Committees of the Assembly and Code of Conduct for the Members of the Assembly were adopted. A key article in the Code of Conduct and one which resulted in prolonged debate concerns the forfeiture of allowances

for any Member who is absent from a sitting of the Assembly, a Committee or of another scheduled activity of the Assembly. This is in line with rule 93 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

The Report of Accounts Committee for the Financial Year ended 30th June 2013 was debated and passed. In addition, EALA, received two petitions, the first from the EAC Youth Ambassadors and the second from the East African Trade Union Confederation – both of which

were commuted to the relevant Committees for redress. As you may be aware, a petition is basically a request for action. The right to petition Parliament is right of citizens since it is one of the ways an individual or a group can directly place grievances before Parliament.

Another key activity of the Burundi Plenary was the State of EAC address delivered by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Chairperson of the EAC Head of State Summit HE Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete. The Address has set the pace by giving the Community impetus and direction.

Pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 1 of Article 5 of the EAC Treaty, Partner States undertake to establish a Customs Union, a Common Market, a Monetary Union and ultimately, a Political Federation.

Some commendable success has been realized in the stages being implemented so far. The score-card on the

State of EAC and the State of East Africa Report 2013 by Society of International Development (SID) remind us that Partner States are behind schedule in reviewing and amending national laws in accordance with the Common Market Protocol.

A recent report of the Council of Ministers indicates that implementation decisions and agreements of various Organs and Institutions stands at 75.8% for Kenya, 75.7% (Rwanda), 66% (Tanzania), 56.5% (Burundi) and Uganda 48.1%. This impedes progress in integration process. In the regard, it would be key for EALA to institutionalize mechanisms of tracking the implementation of decisions and agreements reached. 🇪🇺

Hon Martin Ngoga's stature in the region rose when he was elected Chair of East African Association of General Prosecutors at its second meeting in 2001.



Hon Martin Ngoga signs the oath shortly after his swearing in as a Member of the EALA

BRIEFS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES

UGANDA

Parliament receives Auditor General's Report



The Auditor General, Mr. John Muwanga presented the 2014 Annual Audit Report to the Deputy Speaker, Rt. Hon. Jacob Oulanyah in Parliament on 31st March 2015. Rt. Hon. Oulanyah commended the Office of the Auditor General for delivering the report on time. *“There are very few institutions that are able to honour deadlines and I am*

very pleased with your office for the timely delivery,” he said.

The Auditor General highlighted the key issues that raise concern under the Central and Local Government Audits. He pointed out that in the Central Government the contingency provision for court awards have risen from Ushs 2.2 Trillion to Ushs 4.3 Trillion; Court awards and compensations have risen up Ushs 442 Billion, while some Projects are under-absorbing government funds. He further stated the report had established procurement anomalies, unaccounted for Funds, under collection of local revenue and understaffing in the Local Government

Audits. *“It is our constitutional mandate to provide the Parliament with an Annual Audit Report,”* Mr. Muwanga said.

The report is divided into five volumes that include; Performance of the Office of the Auditor General, Central Government Audits for Ministries and Ministerial agencies, Central Government Audits for Public entities funded by Government, Local Government Audits and Value for Money Audit Reports. Rt. Hon. Oulanyah however, noted that the Parliament was facing a number of challenges especially concerning the issues of backlog resulting into a delay in expediting certain tasks. 🇺🇬

KENYA

Senate Speaker Ekwe Ethuro Assumes Office as Sitting President of FP-ICGLR

Speaker of the Senate, Rt. Hon. Ekwee Ethuro assumed office in January as President of the Forum of Parliaments of Member States of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR).

Outgoing President and Speaker of the Burundi National Assembly, Rt. Hon Pie Ntavyohanuma handed over the mantle to Rt. Hon Ethuro.

Rt. Hon Ethuro was elected through consensus by Member States' Parliaments as President-elect during the 4th Ordinary Session

of the FP-ICGLR held in Bujumbura in 2013.

During his one year term, Rt. Hon. Ethuro's overall duty shall be the management of the Forum and shall be the political and diplomatic representative of the Forum. As President he will also be expected to chair the Plenary Assembly of the FP-ICGLR which is the Supreme Organ of the Forum. The Plenary Assembly has the authority to deliberate on all matters relating to the powers and duties of the Forum. *“I am greatly humbled by the honour of being*

elected the President of the PF-ICGLR at this Fifth Ordinary Session of the Plenary Assembly of the Forum of Parliaments of Member States of the International Conference,” he said.

The FP-ICGLR is an Inter-Parliamentary Organization bringing together 12 African Parliaments in the Great Lakes Region consisting of Angola, Burundi, Central African Republic, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. 🇰🇪


BURUNDI

BNA approves Bill to join WIPO

Burundi National Assembly has unanimously passed a Bill granting the Republic of Burundi accession to the Treaty of the World Organization of Intellectual property (WIPO) on copyright.

The debate took place at the Burundi National Assembly on March 11th, 2015. Under the arrangement,

Burundi shall now enjoy copyright rights in the digital environment as well as allow and encourage the creation of works, their consumption and marketing.

The Bill roots for protection of copyrights and trademarks in order to avoid unfair competition. Minister of Commerce, Industry Posts and Tourism, Madame Marie Rose

Nizigyimana urged the legislators to accede to the WIPO Copyright Treaty saying it would strengthen the Burundi Copyright and Neighboring Rights Office (OBDA) in protection of trademarks.

She noted that OBDA was based on the premise of the Berne Convention and the Paris Convention on industrial property. 🇧🇮


RWANDA

Senate mulls over education for all

The Committee on Social Affairs, Human Rights and Petitions in the Senate of Rwanda, presented a report on Education for All on March 26th, 2015.

The Senate presided over by Rt Hon Bernard Makuza, President of Senate received the report which envisages basic and compulsory education for all Rwandan children aged between 7

and 12 years old. The report envisages promotion of gender equality in schools and decreasing illiteracy at the lowest possible level as well as that of providing quality education.

The report cites a number of challenges that should be addressed like lack of funding to support Pre-school education in rural areas thus incapacitating parents to fund

and run them on their own. This is considered challenging because early childhood education is a cradle for the country. In order to ensure continual improvement of quality in education, the plenary sitting called for a consultative meeting between the Senate, the Ministry of Education, and other government officials to strategise on handling challenges. 🇷🇼


TANZANIA

Bunge passes key Bill on tax

Parliament of Tanzania has passed the Tax Administration Bill, 2014, with a view to easing the management of tax and enforcement of related laws by the Tanzania Revenue Authority.

The new Bill will also introduce a currency point system in tax administration and provide matters incidental thereto. The Bill was read in November 2014 for the second time by Finance Minister, Saada Mkuya

Salum. The Bill further provides for harmonised and streamlined penalties and offences that cater for any tax law administered by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

It also covers offences and penalties for failure to maintain documents, filing returns, making false or misleading statements, aiding and abetting in commission of offences for the purpose of putting in place stringent enforcement measures.

The new law will also provide for the powers of search and seizure of premises and assets for purposes of tax recovery and prevention of tax evasion.

The Bill further provides in this part for powers to publish tax offenders for purposes of discouraging commission of tax offences and voluntary tax compliance.

The Bill now awaits assent by the President, H.E. Jakaya Kikwete. 🇹🇿

EALA appoints select committee to look into genocide and genocide ideology

At the Plenary Sitting in Arusha, Tanzania, EALA passed a Resolution to form a select Committee on Genocide. The Committee shall look at the security impact on the Community of genocide ideology including genocide denial.

The Resolution moved on January 28th, 2015 by the Hon AbuBakr Ogle and unanimously supported by Members, gives the EALA Commission the go-ahead to nominate seven persons consisting of at least one Member from each Partner State.

The Select Committee is charged with considering ways and means of combating, outlawing and preventing genocide. It shall make proposals on how EALA and other Institutions of the EAC can provide leadership in the fight and prevention of genocide. This should include the development of instruments and institutional capacity in the Community. The Select Committee has three months from the time of its appointment to execute its mandate. The Resolution was supported by Members who contributed including Hon Christopher Bazivamo, Hon Dora Byamukama, Hon Abubakar Zein, Hon Patricia Hajabakiga, Hon Mumbi Ngaru, Hon Hafsa Mossi and Hon Mike Sebalu.

Rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure allows the House at any time upon a motion to appoint a Select Committee to be nominated by the Commission for the consideration or investigation of such matter(s) as the House may refer to it and to report the same to the House.

In August 2013, EALA passed an initial resolution on the matter where it also urged the Summit of EAC Heads of State to institute mechanisms to stop the perpetuation of genocide ideology and denial in the region and to take appropriate action.

The Resolution according to Hon Ogle is buoyed by the fact that the Summit is entitled to review the state of peace, security and good governance in accordance with Article 11 of the EAC Treaty.



Rwandans lay wreaths in remembrance of those whose lives were lost following the genocide against the Tutsi

At the same time, under Article 124 of the Treaty, the Partner States undertake to co-operate and to enhance handling of joint measures for maintaining and promoting peace and security. Genocide denial is often defined as an attempt to deny or minimise the scale and severity of an incidence of genocide.

The EAC region has suffered from the negative impact of genocide. Last year, the Republic of Rwanda commemorated the 20th Anniversary of the Genocide against the Tutsi. In 1994, the entire globe watched in trepidation as the Republic of Rwanda went up in flames. Thousands of lives were lost, homes demolished and economies desiccated as genocidiars descended on peace-loving Rwandans with machetes, knives, axes, guns and clubs.

Analysts contend that the international community came on board, albeit late, by establishing the United Nations International Court of Rwanda to try suspects accused of masterminding the genocide. The country also sought for reparation and justice as close to two million people were arraigned and sentenced by the 'Gacaca' Courts, a community justice system set up between 2001 and 2012 to try those involved in the genocide against the Tutsi. 🇷🇼



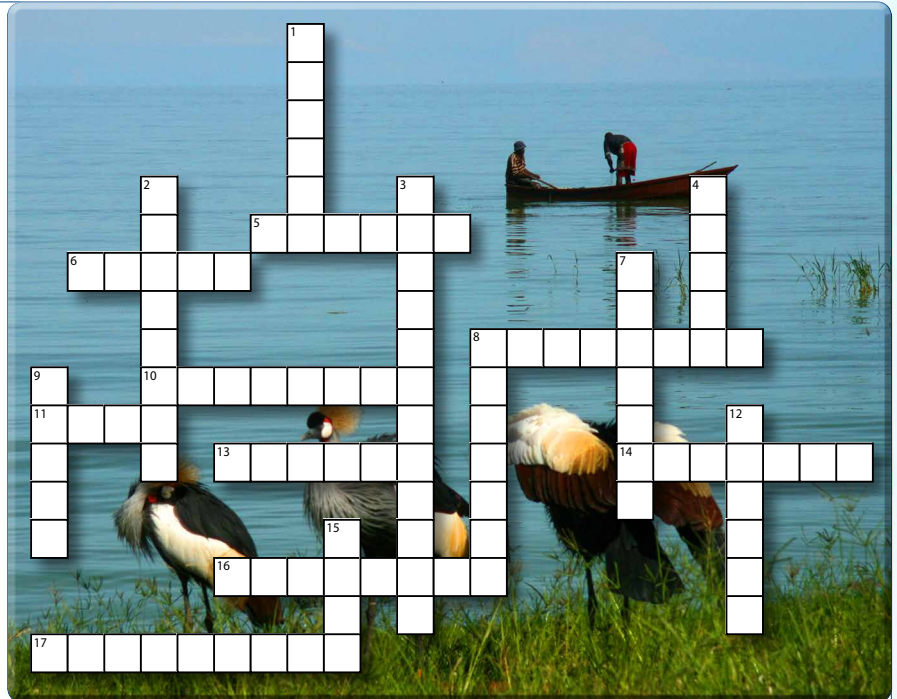
EALA CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- 5. Institution of the EAC charged with overseeing civil aviation safety and security issues
- 6. Asian country accredited envoy to the EAC in May 2011
- 8. LVBC programme funded by ADF to improve water sanitation
- 10. Chapter in the EAC Treaty that focuses on Cooperation in Environment and Natural Resources Management
- 11. Regional organisation working closely with EAC to address matters concerning drought and climate change in the region
- 13. EADB officially launched its operations in this Partner State in November 2010
- 14. Partner State that will host 13th Ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State
- 16. Last name of new EAC Secretary General
- 17. Surname of new Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC) Executive Secretary

DOWN

- 1. This REC joined with EAC and SADC to form the Tripartite framework
- 2. First fully fledged One Stop Border Post in Africa opened in November 2009



- 3. EAC entered this phase of integration on 1 July 2010
- 4. Town through which the proposed Natural Gas pipeline from Dar es Salaam to Mombasa will pass
- 7. Ugandan town hosted 5th East African Petroleum Conference
- 8. Surname of newly appointed EACJ Judge of the First Instance division
- 9. Seat of the EAC institution charged with managing the fisheries resources of Lake Victoria in a coordinated manner
- 12. New EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning & Infrastructure
- 15. Maximum period of tenure for EAC Secretary General (years)

**SZREAIBE KBUKUU MTNAMKROMCEO DWAARN OASASC NALAELO EVFI ENTINENE ASEMOC CIHRNDUU TNAAG
CIHAN IDGA NIAJJ KNNGIRAEA TAWSVALN TENEEBB DUNBIRU**

EAC.....Tweets

Compiled by Bobi Odiko



EACJ Judges' Training on Emerging Trends in Arbitration Sets Off:
East African Court of Justice Arusha 16 April 2015

@jumuiya



EACJ Appellate Division Restores Walk to Work Application:
East African Court of Justice Arusha, 15 April 201

@jumuiya



EAC-GIZ Sensitization Workshops to Bridge Gap in Cross Border
Trade: ...EAC-GIZ sensitisation workshops...

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Globe turns Attention to SDGs As 132nd IPU Assembly Closes
Curtains in Hanoi: ...EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Kidega...

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SAUTI YA EALA



ONE PEOPLE, ONE DESTINY