

# BUNGE LA AFRIKA MASHARIKI



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE EALA

ISSUE 10 AUGUST 2014



#### **LEGISLATIVE**

DAR to hold Plenary

#### REPRESENTATIVE

EALA takes sensitization to the publics

## **OVERSIGHT/BUDGET**

EALA Approves
USD 125 Million for
Financial Year 2014/15

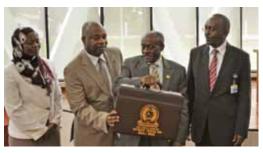
#### INSTITUTIONAL LINKAGES

Stakeholders call for harmony and stability to spur development in the region

SPEAKER'S CHAMBER	. 4
CLERK'S CHAMBER	. 5

6

# **EALA approves USD 125** Million for FY 2014/15



8

# **Partner States expected to** ratify Monetary Union



# **President Kenyatta assumes** EAC Chair, hits the road running



Four years down the road, region needs to bolster **Common Market Protocol** 

## **News Titbits**

# Stakeholders call for harmony & security to spur progress in the region



## **EALA Pictorial**

20

# **EAC Speakers' Bureau holds** one day meeting in Nairobi



# **EALA takes up sensitisation** of publics



24

# Entry of the EAC Monetary Union a welcome move



26

Tanzania's Union
@ 50 epitomizes
hope in the
realization of
EAC integration



28

# Human rights and security in Kenya and East Africa



30

## **Briefs from the National Assemblies**

32

## **Pillars of Integration will unite East Africans**

33

# EAC Integration-The role of Rotary as a non-state actor



ONE PEOPLE, ONE DESTINY



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#### **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**

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#### **EDITORIAL LEADER**

Mr. Bobi Odiko

## **EDITORIAL TEAM MEMBERS**

Ms. Aileen Mallya Mr. Florian Mutabazi

#### **CONTRIBUTORS**

Rt. Hon (Dr) Zziwa Nantongo Margaret Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema Hon Mike Kennedy Sebalu Hon ShyRose Bhanji Hussein Khalid & Salma Hemed Charles Bukuwa & Katamba Mohammed

## **DESIGN & LAYOUT**

Mr. Timothy Ojore

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Mr. Abdul Mukhtar Mr. Justino Liwali

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The East African Legislative Assembly, East African Community Headquarters, P.O. Box 1096, Arusha, Tanzania. Tel: +255-27-2162122

Fax: +255-27-2162179
Web: www.eala.org



# DESK OF THE HON. SPEAKER

Rt. Hon (Dr) Zziwa Nantongo Margaret

reetings and a very warm welcome to all our readers. I have the pleasure of introducing the 10th edition of the Bunge la Afrika Mashariki, your authoritative quarterly Newsletter that keeps you informed about developments at EALA and the EAC.

The region has continued to realise a number of developments. The beginning of 2014 was marked by positive news following the agreement to implement the Single Customs Territory which is one of the key regional integration priority policy interventions adopted to consolidate the EAC Customs Union.

Last Month, the region turned a new leaf as the Common Market Protocol turned four. With all the positives the Protocol offers, a number of challenges continue to be witnessed in the implementation of this important pillar of integration. Citizens complain that they cannot freely move to neighbouring states in search for jobs or start-up of businesses while exporters complain of duplicate checks at border points, as well as disparate quality and safety standards in different Partner States.

Political will thus remains fundamental in the dispensation as the Partner States implement the Protocol. Having signed the Monetary Union Protocol, last year, all Partner States were expected to have ratified the Protocol by the end of July 2014, setting the pace for the commencement of implementation of the pillar. Such gains give hope to the citizens of the region.

However, more engagement and multisectoral discussions are necessary in ensuring the effective implementation of the existing Protocols as well as in transforming EAC into an attractive and competitive

region to invest and conduct business. As I have indicated previously, another great milestone that will enhance trade and movement of goods and services is the removal of Non-Tariff Barriers and enhancing a free trade area.

We all note that the Region has earmarked a number of plans and this shall have to be realised through solid co-operation. The Summit has adopted a very clear list of priority projects in infrastructure, especially in road and rail transport, energy, ports and harbours as well as inland waterways. Another positive highlight of the first part of 2014 was the budgets rolled out by EAC Partner States' governments. The budgets in effect sought taxes to cushion the local industries on the one hand and encourage imports that support key sectors, such as infrastructure and energy, on the other, in a balancing act that gives fresh impetus to implementation of the Customs Union and the Common Market Protocols.

As the Legislative arm, EALA undertakes to exercise its mandate to enable the EAC progressively realise full integration. Towards this end, the Assembly continues to enact legislation that is relevant to strengthening of the Community. A strong and well functioning Assembly is a pre-requisite for the region (and the Partner States) to build a strong society based on socioeconomic transformation and its long term prosperity.

Bunge La Afrika Mashariki is your publication as well. We welcome short articles on relevant themes revolving around regional integration. We welcome your suggestions and undertake to integrate the same to make the publication even better and a must read for all East Africans.

# OFFICE OF THE CLERK

Mr. Kenneth Namboga Madete



warm welcome once again to the 10th edition of your flagship newsletter - the Bunge La Afrika Mashariki.

I am happy to report that the newsletter has gone full-cycle since inception and its production has remained consistent and released in a timely manner. The Editorial Advisory Committee which oversees the newsletter's production was recently strengthened with the addition of two new Members - Chairperson, Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema and Hon Saoli Ole Nkanae as you will see elsewhere in the bulletin. We welcome both Members on board and wish them all the best in steering the publication of the newsletter. I also congratulate the Chair Emeritus, Hon AbuBakr Ogle for a job well done.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly which has commenced its third year of operations is determined to ensure the integration process is strengthened. With the EAC at a defining moment as it deepens and widens integration, the role of the Assembly remains crucially hinged on provision of legislative services which needs to be undertaken with the much needed vibrancy and enthusiasm.

We are hopeful that EALA shall duly contribute to assisting the region realize the prospects of growth and

solid development. The Speaker has clearly identified the path that we must take. Focus on legislation towards consolidating the existing pillars: Customs Union and the Common Market while strategizing on realization of those anticipated namely; the Monetary Union and the Political Federation are vital.

The Assembly continues to liaise and closely collaborate with Organs and Institutions of the Community, the Private Sector, Civil Society and all other stakeholders in fulfilment of the Community's operational principle of being people-centred. We have recently completed our Annual Planning Meeting and written in it, sensitisation, as a key activity in the coming Financial Year.

In order to play its part for the EAC to be a strong economic bloc that is unrivalled in the continent, the EALA must withstand and overcome challenges and keep on track with regards to its anticipated roles. EALA should continue to take a more proactive stance by utilizing the competencies within towards influencing and sprouting the tenets of integration and holding Partner States more accountable on the implementation of their commitments.

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



n June 5, 2014, EALA debated and approved the EAC Budget totalling \$124, 216, 995. With it, EALA also passed the Appropriation Bill 2014 and the Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2014 respectively.

The object of the EAC Appropriation Bill, 2014 is to make provision for the appropriation out of the budget for the specified amount of money for the services and purposes of the Community for the financial year ending 30th of June 2015.

The 2014/2015 Budget is allocated to the Organs and Institutions of the EAC as follows; East African Community Secretariat (\$76,074,052), East African Legislative Assembly (\$15,489,836) and the East African Court of Justice (\$4,582,190). The Inter-University Council for East Africa shall receive (\$ 9,411,320), Lake Victoria Basin Commission (\$ 13,372,466) while \$ 2,813,771 is earmarked for the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation.

For the first time, three new EAC Institutions are also set to benefit. East African Science and Technology Commission shall receive (\$ 679,821), East African Kiswahili Commission (\$ 722,102) and the East African Health Research Commission (\$ 924,067).

The FY 2014/2015 Budget is to be financed by Partner State contributions through the Ministries of EAC (\$41,890,538); Partner States through other agencies (\$5,067,735); Development Partners support (\$73,180,446); IUCEA-Member University (\$ 375,190) Ministry of Education-IUCEA Headquarters \$1,247,037), General Reserve (\$ 2,102,828) and other income (\$205,850).

The acting Chair of the Council, Shem Bageine further moved a motion for the Supplementary Appropriation Bill (No 2), 2014 of USD 147,370. The said amount is required for the financial year ending 30th June 2014 for the expenditure of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission incurred on the USAID/EA Support to the co-ordination of the integrated population, health and Environment programme.

The budget debate followed the Budget Speech presented on June 4, 2014 by the Deputy Minister of EAC in the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon Dr. Abdalla Sadallah Abdallah.

The 2014/2015 Budget down from \$130 Million in the previous Financial Year, prioritizes operationalisation of the single Customs Territory including the setting up of an institutional framework to manage it, the full implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol with particular focus on free movement of goods, services, labour and capital as well as the implementation of the EAC Industrialisation policy.

The Committee also

recommends the need to

create a fund to enable

the implementation of

Summit directives, Council

decisions as well as EALA

recommendations to make

the bloc more

Prior to the debate, an attentive House received the Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the EAC Budget estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2013/14, presented by the Chair of the Accounts Committee, Hon Dr. Martin Nduwimana.

The Committee denotes some of the key achievements of the Financial Year 2013/2014 as instituting the framework for the operationalisation of the Single Customs Territory and that of the completion of the Technical negotiations of the East African Monetary Union Protocol.

Hon Nduwimana's report also mentions of the progress of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA), which is expected to be launched in June 2014. On infrastructure, a number of achievements include the completion of the detailed designs of the Arusha-Holili-Voi road and enactment of the One Stop

Border Post Bill and the Vehicle Load Control Bill which are currently undergoing assent.

The Committee further calls for contingency allocation for the Office of the Secretary General in order to properly anticipate unforeseen expenditure and recommends for the establishment of a budget line for periodic risk management and mitigating interventions.

It further avers on the need to strengthen the Corporate and Communications Department at the EAC and the allocation of more

funding earmarked for sensitisation.

The General Purpose Committee is also of the view that the Finance and Administration Committee of the Council is purely an Advisory arm and should act as such.

'It should make decisions that are only within its terms of reference as an Advisory body,' a section of the report says.

The Committee also recommends the need to create a fund to enable the implementation of Summit directives, Council decisions as well as EALA recommendations to make the bloc more effective.

In this regard, it recommends that the Council of Ministers needs to give the Secretary General flexibility to determine up to 2% of the budget for unplanned exigencies. As a matter of principle, the Committee is calling for measures to check on travel across all the Organs and Institutions of the EAC to ensure that it is necessary and transparent and adds value to the Community.



Hon Mike Sebalu (left), Jean Claude Nsengiyumva, Deputy Secretary General and EAC Secretariat officials pay keen attention



The Deputy Minister for EAC, United Republic of Tanzania, Hon Dr. Abdalla Saadala reads the Budget Speech

**COVER STORY** 

# **Partner States expected to** ratify Monetary Union

...United Republic of Tanzania already appends signature



The Heads of State at the signing ceremony of the Monetary Union Protocol

The East African

**Monetary Union is** 

the third stage of EAC

integration and will

2024.

he EAC region is set to embrace the Monetary Union Protocol by endorsing the instrument. The Protocol which was signed by the Summit

of the EAC Heads of State in Kampala, Uganda during the 15th Ordinary Summit on November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014, is the third pillar of integration.

The Protocol provides for a wide scope of co-operation in the monetary and financial sectors among the Partner States.

The United Republic of Tanzania single currency was the first Partner State to ratify regime by the Monetary Union Protocol. The endorsement took place on June 25th 2014. The Deputy Minister for East African Cooperation Hon. Dr Abdulla Saadalla was all smiles at the feat. Speaking in Dodoma, Dr Saadalla remarked that Tanzania was steadfast in the EAC integration process. "We have made a huge step and demonstrated

our commitment to EAC regional integration. We are not by any means a stumbling block to the regional integration," the Minister said. The next step is

to dispatch the instrument of ratification

to the EAC Secretary General by the Clerk of Tanzanian National Assembly as required by the Treaty for establishment of East African Community.

ultimately lead the five-During debate on member bloc to adopt a Protocol, majority of Members of the Tanzania **National** Parliament maintained that it was the right time to enter into the third stage of EAC integration process and remarked the country was thriving closer to realising macro-economic convergence criteria.

> "We are consistent in our commitments to meet and maintain all macro-economic convergence criteria stipulated in the Protocol. We are reaping the benefits

of sound economic policies no wonder we are among the top ten countries in Africa with an average of 7% GDP growth per annum," the Deputy Minister added.

Dr. Saadalla noted the members of Parliament were also convinced by the output generated by the government's newly created strategy-Big Results Now (BRN). The East African Monetary Union is the third stage of EAC integration and will ultimately lead the five-member bloc to adopt a single currency regime by 2024.

Under the Protocol, the EAC Partner States are expected to surrender monetary and exchange rates policies to the East African Central Bank leading to a single currency regime within the region, whereas National Central Banks will remain with the mandate of managing Fiscal policy, Fiscal discipline and harmonize them with the other Partner States' National Central Banks.

The Protocol will be implemented over a ten year period, subsequently leading to creation of regional financial institutions whose mandate will be to stabilize financial prices as well as monitoring, surveillance, statistics and enforcing compliance of all other macro finance matters, including buffering of any emerging economic shocks.

It is anticipated that the Monetary Union will eliminate the costs attendant to juggling different currencies, it thereby reduces transaction costs and minimizes inflation in the region, thus creating an economically stabilized region with a conducive environment for Direct Foreign Investment and uplifts the economic standards of its people.

Addressing EALA at a Sitting in Nairobi last year, President Uhuru Kenyatta lauded the Monetary Union Protocol as a strong signal to development. The President said the East African Monetary Union will send a strong statement of the region's long-term commitment to deepen regional investment. He said such a statement would assure investors that East Africa is a genuine single market and an attractive place for business.

Politically, he said the Monetary Union is a statement of Partner States' commitment to a shared destiny as East Africans and not just a group of neighbouring States. Upon ratification of the Monetary Union Protocol, the Partner States are expected to deposit the instrument with the Secretary General of the East African Community.



A section of the Council of Ministers. Hon Dr. Saadala stated that United Republic of Tanzania had already appended its signature ratifying the Monetary Union Protocol



One of the Banking institutions in the region. A common currency is expected in the next decade



EAC Secretary General, Amb Dr. Richard Sezibera. Under his watch, the groundwork for the Monetary Union is to be laid

## REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

# **President** Kenyatta assumes EAC **Chair, hits** the road running

ince H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta took over the mantle of the Chair of Summit of EAC Heads of State on November 30<sup>th</sup> 2013, a lot of progress has been realised in the integration process.

On the same day that Presiednt Uhuru took over the reins from President Yoweri Kaguta

Museveni., the Monetary Union Protocol was signed paving way for entry into the third tier of integration. Ratification of the instruments by the Partner States is an on-going exercise and is expected to be completed by end of July 2014.

will further facilitate trade President Uhuru Kenyatta was and the exchange emphatic that regional integration is a fundamental aspect of development. "As the current Chairman of EAC Heads of State Summit and President of the Republic of Kenya, am a committed East African, and I fully support the integration of East Africa, because it is only through unity that the citizens are assured of wealth creation, job creation and prosperity," H.E. Kenyatta was quoted as saying. In March 2014, the Chairperson of the Summit of the EAC Heads of State engaged the

staff of the Organs of the Community namely; the EAC Secretariat, the East African Legislative Assembly, and the East African Court of Justice in an interactive session at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

**President Kenyatta** 

has similarly advocated

for removal of restriction

on movement of labour,

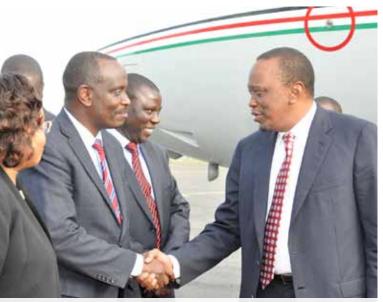
saying the free movement

of people within the region

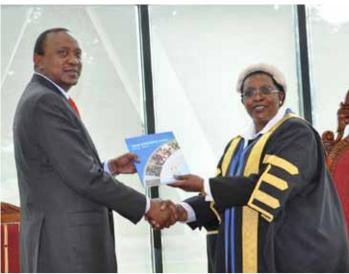
President Kenyatta, who travelled from Nairobi to Arusha on the refurbished Athi

> River-Namanga-Arusha Road, said "regional integration was a subject that was so close to his heart and that he strongly believes that the surest way to fast track economic development, eradicate poverty, and transform the region was through integration of people".

of ideas. The Head of State also delivered the State of EAC Address to the East African Legislative Assembly on March 25, 2014. The President maintained that it was important for the region to take advantage of the opportunities by fully embracing the Customs Union and the Common Market Protocols and at the advent of the Monetary Union, and challenged the Assembly to be steadfast in undertaking its mandate of Legislation,



KARIBU ARUSHA: EAC Secretary General Amb Dr. Richard Sezibera welcomes H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta to Arusha



ASANTE SANA: EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa presents a copy of the EALA Strategic Plan to President Uhuru Kenyatta shortly after he addressed the House

Oversight and Representation. President Kenyatta urged the EALA to do all it can to keep the integration process truly people-centred. He remarked the Assembly held the key to the well-being of the East African Community, adding that integration is on course.

President Kenyatta has similarly advocated for removal of restriction on movement of labour, saying the free movement of people within the region would further facilitate trade and the exchange of ideas. He singled out infrastructural development as an area that African countries should give priority to in order to facilitate connectivity and boost cross border trade and investment.

The EAC Secretary General, Amb. Sezibera has said since President Kenyatta was elected, he had shown his commitment to regional integration through projects undertaken by his Government. He cited the use of National Identity cards as travel documents within theregion, introduction of the Single Tourist Visa and building of the Standard Gauge Railway from Mombasa to Kigali and Bujumbura as some of the successes.

The plans to build a crude oil pipeline running through Hoima in Uganda to Lamu, with a branch connecting it to South Sudan's oil fields are also laudable, the EAC Secretary General added.

On her part, the EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa urged President Kenyatta to carry on with the profound initiative of ensuring that a lasting solution to peace is found in South Sudan and the region. "Our hope and prayers is that both sides of the divide in South Sudan will give the talks a chance to



H.E Uhuru Kenyatta addresses the press after meeting with EAC Management and Staff in Arusha recently

cement peace. We laud you for the role you are playing in ensuring zero-sum politics do not undermine the negotiations and encourage you to remain steadfast", Speaker Zziwa added.

Rt. Hon Zziwa lauded the progress recorded in both the Republic of Kenya and at the EAC and said the region looked forward to more progress under the stewardship of President Uhuru Kenyatta.

"The timely reduction of the weighbridges and removal of roadblocks has led to speedy transportation. Today, it only takes 4 and ½ days for a trailer to travel from Mombasa to Malaba, a significant reduction from the previous 21 days", the Speaker said.

President Kenyatta is expected to hand over the Chair in November this year.

## REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

# Four years down the road, region needs to bolster the Gommon Market Protocol

s the region enters year four of the Common Market Protocol (CMP), careful analysis of the scorecard of this important pillar indicates that more could have been achieved. In this dispensation, political is key and remains fundamental as the Partner States implement the second important pillar of integration.

It has been stated over and again that the CMP is good for East Africans. The CMP is further considered a significant step towards the achievement of the next milestones in the integration process, namely, the Monetary Union and the EAC Political Federation.

The Protocol was entered into force on 1st July 2010, following ratification by all the five Partner States: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. The Common Market represents the second stage of the regional integration process (as defined by the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community). It



follows the Customs Union, which became fully-fledged in January 2010.

A Common Market is where member countries of a Regional Economic Community, in this case the Partner States of the EAC, agree among themselves to operate as a single market with free movement of people, services, labor and capital.

It is a legal and binding commitment to a deeper and stronger functional integration by member countries to remove all trade barriers on goods and services; and liberalization of movement of the factors of production.

There are a number of benefits that CMP brings for East Africans. Consumers are benefited by the single

market in the sense that the competitive environment brings them cheaper products, more efficient providers of products/services and also increased choice of products/services.

Other benefits include common and co-ordinated policies that increase efficiency especially in those countries that are behind in instituting good

A Common Market is

where member countries

of a Regional Economic

Community, in this case the

labor and

capital.

policies. In addition, the common regulatory regime and frameworks ensure that best practice within the regional framework is not only in place but adhered to.

Partner States of the EAC, In February this year, the agree among themselves to World Bank released a scorecard on the impact of the CMP in the operate as a single market with region. The scorecard analyses free movement of the degree of conformity of people, services, each EAC Partner States' laws and regulation to the EAC Common Market Protocol. The report reviews 683 laws and regulations relevant to the common market (124 in capital, 545 in services and 14 in goods) and several legal notices, reports and trade statistics.

The Report calls on Partner States to strengthen efforts to ensure complete elimination of tariffs and equivalent measures affecting intra-regional trade. Progress to eliminate restrictions has been slow, and some Partner States have introduced new measures despite their obligations under the EAC Common Market Protocol. "A lenient attitude toward exemptions is slowing the development of the common market", a section of the report reads.

Despite the continued efforts to remove NTBs, they keep re-emerging and these measures affect all products traded within the EAC. NTBs are mostly related to sanitary and phytosanitary measures, rules of origin, charges of equivalent effect to tariffs, and technical barriers to trade.

It is thus necessary to strengthen the monitoring of elimination of NTBs to avoid having "resolved NTBs" simply being replaced by other restrictive measures.

The free movement of services is considered vital to every economy's growth and competitiveness. This report shows that none of the Partner States has fully liberalized trade in services as agreed under the CMP. The analysis, which covered more than 500 laws and regulations for the selected services, identified 63 such inconsistent measures, also called non-conforming measures (NCMs). Professional services in engineering, accounting, telecommunications and architecture are most affected by the measures.

On free movement of capital, the scorecard underscores the importance of an integrated financial market in line with Article 24 of the CMP and urges the Partner States to speedily remove all

> It envisages benefits such as economic development, better governance and deeper and more liquid markets.

restrictions to free movement of capital.

Currently, only 2 out of the 20 capital operations are free in all Partner States. These are external borrowing by residents and repatriation of proceeds from sale of assets. All other 18 operations have at least 1 Partner State restricting the operation.

As we enter year four of the pillar, we need to strengthen integration. Monitoring helps address some of these constraints and thus contributes to good regional governance practices, such as openness, transparency, participation, accountability, effectiveness, and appropriateness.

The purpose of monitoring the implementation of regional integration arrangements is to ensure that Partner States comply with the assumed obligations.



# NEWSTITBITS

# Changes in Bunge La Afrika Mashariki Editorial Board



he EALA Commission has made two new changes on the Editorial Board of the Assembly's flagship magazine, Bunge la Afrika Mashariki. Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema (pictured) becomes the new Chairperson of the Editorial Advisory Committee. He replaces Hon AbuBakr Ogle who resigned in May 2014.

Also joining the Board is Hon Saoli Ole Nkanae. In his acceptance remarks, Hon Rwigema hailed the Committee and its previous leadership for the excellent job so far in overseeing production of the flagship magazine.

He remarked that the Publication would be enhanced and revamped as a marketing tool of the Assembly and in line with dynamic publishing standards. Outgoing Chairperson, Hon AbuBakr Ogle wished the new team well. 'I have understandably appeared synonymous with the magazine over the last two years. I now wish the new team and the prospective contributors good luck' Hon Ogle said. The Editorial Advisory Committee was appointed by the EALA Commission in April 2011 to oversee production of the Bunge La Afrika Mashariki Newsletter.

The Newsletter has proved to be an important avenue through which happenings at EALA, EAC, National Assemblies and related aspects are shared out in print with many stakeholders. The inaugural Committee, whose tenure was between April 2011 to June 2012 was chaired by Hon Jacqueline Muhongayire, later appointed Minister for EAC Affairs in the Republic of Rwanda. The Second Committee was appointed by the Commission of the 3rd Assembly in 2012.

# **Juba edges closer to Joining EAC ranks**

he Secretary General of the East African Community Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera visited Juba in mid-July to gain a better understanding of South Sudan's preparations as well as to provide Government officials with valuable guidance on the way forward for their negotiation to accede to the EAC.

Amb. Sezibera was accompanied by Hon. Wilbert Kaahwa, Counsel to the Community; Prof. John Ruhangisa, Registrar of the East African Court of Justice; Mr. Kenneth Madete, Clerk of the East African Legislative Assembly; Mr. Phillip Wambugu, Director Infrastructure; Kenneth Bagamuhunda, Director Customs; and other senior officials.

The EAC held discussions with H.E James Wani Igga, the Vice President; and met with Hon. Dr. Barnaba Marial Benjamin, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; and Hon. Aggrey Tisa Sabuni, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning.

Addressing media, the Secretary General said the Mission sought to share information with government officials on what needs to be done as the country prepares to start the negotiation to join the EAC.

Amb. Sezibera commended H.E. Salva Kiir Mayardit, the President of the Republic of South Sudan for appointing the High Level Committee to oversee the negotiations of South Sudan's accession to the EAC. He also hailed Hon. Dr. Barnaba Marial Benjamin, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; and Hon. Aggrey Tisa Sabuni, Minister of Finance and Economic Planning for being appointed to spearhead the process.

# **EALA** completes its **Planning meeting**

ALA has held its Planning meeting in Arusha, Tanzania. The meeting took place on July 13-17th, ■ 2014. In attendance were the EALA Commission, Chairpersons of the EALA Standing Committees and staff. The planning exercise is crucial in unpacking the annual legislative calendar to suit within EALA's overall legislative, oversight and representative functions. It is one of the single most important meeting which enables the entire EALA programme to be aligned with EAC's Development Strategy, the EALA Strategic Plan and the budgets. The overall objective of the Planning meeting was to develop a workplan to operationalise the annual legislative calendar and to programme committee activities to fulfil their respective mandates towards realisation of the overall EAC integration agenda.

The three day meeting was also supplemented by a team building/retreat activity of the EALA Commission to galvanise the EALA processes and entrench a spirit of togetherness. The retreat was conducted by the Speaker Emeritus of the Kenya National Assembly, Rt. Hon Kenneth Marende and a renowned motivational resource person, Dr Wale Akinyemi.

# **EALA Committees hit the** field

bout 18 activities are on the cards for EALA Committees between August and December this year. The Committees are expected to be engaged in various oversight and public hearing activities in the Partner States beginning the third of August. EALA has seven Standing Committees which are provided for under Article 78 of the Rules of Procedure. The Committees are the EALA Commission, Accounts Committee, Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges and the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investments. Others are the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, Committee on General Purpose and the Committee on Regional Affairs and conflict Resolution. Article 48 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, provides for the establishment of EALA Committees.

# **IUCEA**, China agree on construction terms

omen triumphed at this year's African Banker Awards 2014. Ms. Vivienne Yeda, Director General of the East African Development Bank, scooped the much-coveted award for African Banker of the Year according to a dispatch from the EADB website.

Elizabeth Mary Okello, Chairperson of the Kenya Women Finance Trust rounded up a strong performance for women bankers with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The winners of the eighth edition of African Banker magazine's African Banker Awards were announced at a prestigious ceremony attended on the 21st May at the Kigali Serena Hotel. Guests included HE Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda, who received a Special Recognition Award, and numerous ministers of finance and bank CEOs. The event is supported by the African Development Bank (AfDB), High Patron of the Awards, and took place during the week of the Bank's Annual Meetings.

The EADB is one of the institutions of the EAC and is headquartered in Kampala, Uganda. =

# **Dar to host EALA Plenary**

ar es Salaam is set to host the 1st Meeting of the 3rd Session of the 3rd Assembly. The Assembly meets on 24th August 2014 through to 5th September, 2014 at the Karimjee Hall. This will be the first time that the 3rd Assembly shall be holding its Plenary in Dar. H.E. Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete is expected to address the Assembly as is the practice when the Assembly meets in any Partner State.

The Plenary shall debate various Bills, motions and Resolutions. EALA which has adopted the Principle of rotation, currently holds six Plenary sessions in the Partner States. =

## REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

# **Stakeholders** call for harmony & security to spur progress in the region



ALA in collaboration with the African Leadership Centre (ALC) recently held a two day conference East African Societies and Regional Securities in Arusha, Tanzania. Stakeholders at the conference called for astute leadership, adherence to rule of law and relevant legislation to ascertain peaceful co-existence and security in the region. Consequently, EALA was urged to address critical areas that fall within its mandate and that address the borderland communities, the bulge on youth and natural resources.

It was indicated that the youth are a responsible constituency to stimulate development and that they need to be involved in decision making and legislative processes. The youth who constitute a large percentage of the EAC are clearly underserved by state presence, both politically and economically and this pre-disposes them to exist in near exclusion, general poverty and insecurity, a paper presented by academicians from the African Leadership Centre stated.

borderland communities, participants the meeting called for a shift of focus to ensure marginalized groupings are brought to the fore. There is need to creatively think about solutions that will correct the historical neglect and marginalization of distant borderland spaces that are the arena where insecurity is hatched, nurtured and executed.



Chair of the Regional Affairs Committee, Hon Abubakar Zein fields questions from the media

The conference further recommended that a specific legal framework on Conflict Prevention, Management Resolution (CPMR) targeting societies be developed. This can also be anchored by enactment of a relevant piece of legislation. On safety, the delegates reiterated the need for a nexus between human rights and the right to be secure in the midst of terrorism and instability in the region. Other emerging issues include the need to fully engage the non-state actors in negotiating instruments at the EAC and strengthening of Parliamentary diplomacy to address regional and global challenges. The conference was opened by the Chair of EALA's Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution, Hon Abubakar Zein. In his remarks, Hon Zein noted that partnerships were key in ensuring peace prevails and



Consequently, the EALA was urged to address critical areas that fall within its mandate and that address the borderland communities, the bulge on youth and natural resources.

Africa Leadership Centre Executive Director, Prof Funmi Olanisakin makes her address at the start of the meeting

lauded the on-going peace building initiatives in the region. Hon Zein underscored the need to embrace peace and stability as an integral part to the 2020 agenda and development in the region.

In attendance were EALA Members, EAC Secretariat officials, government officials of the Partner States, academicians, policy partners and representatives of the Civil Society Organisations.

The Executive Director of the African Leadership Centre, Dr Funmi Olonisakin maintained that it was necessary to bring to fore the security concerns of the people and places/locations.

'The security concerns of people in far off regions such as Wajir can became invariably connected to the security concerns of the populations in Nairobi, Arusha and Kampala through a single act of terror attack' the ALC boss said. On his part, the Peace and Security Expert at the EAC, Leonard Onyonyi told the participants that tackling insecurity continued to be a major priority of the EAC. He cited terrorism, poaching, and trafficking as some of the challenges the EAC is currently grappling with. Despite the benefits associated with the Common Market Protocol, the meeting was informed of the need to improve on citizen documentation as well as enhanced oversight of land and maritime boundaries.

> Mr. Onyonyi noted that the region had developed a Conflict Prevention Management Resolution (CPMR) mechanism with early warning and mediation systems.

> > Closing the conference, Speaker of

EALA, Rt. Hon (Dr) Margaret Nantongo Zziwa remarked that EALA would continue to build partnerships across East African societies to popularize the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security. The Speaker informed participants that issuesrevolvingonsecurityanddefencewould continue to pre-occupy and significantly so the global agenda in the wake of international terrorism. 'The UN Security Council under Resolution 1540 has urged Member States and regional blocs to upscale vigilance on issues of terrorism' remarked Hon Zziwa. 'Of recently, the EAC region has witnessed a wave of attacks by the Al Shabaab militia operating from bases

Mid-last year, a group of gunmen stormed the Westgate Shopping mall in Nairobi killing close to 70 people. We will also recall the impact of the twin bombings at the United States of America embassies in Dar es Salaam and Nairobi and the ugly attack at the Kyadondo Rugby Sports Club in Kampala a few years ago. These acts inflicted on the people of East Africa, caused untold suffering and loss of lives', the Speaker added.

in neighboring Somalia.

The objectives of the conference included analysing the emerging security priorities, needs and challenges in the region and to discuss the feasibility of a new vision on regional security and sustainable and peaceful coexistence.

It further anticipated the comprehension of the long-term transformations occurring within East African societies and the corresponding effects on regional security.

















# EALA PICTORIAL

- PLEASED TO MEET YOU: Uganda's Vice President, H.E. Edward Ssekandi meets with the Chair of the Council of Ministers, Hon Phyllis Kandie. Partner States contribution to the integration process is vital
- The Speaker of EALA, Rt Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, the Speaker Emeritus of the Kenya National Assembly, Rt. Hon Kenneth Marende and EALA Commissioner, Hon ShyRose Bhanji during the EALA Retreat held in Arusha
- Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema, Hon Yves Nsabimana and Hon Leonce Ndarubagiye in discussions in the Plenary hall in Arusha
- 4. Hon Martin Nduwimana, Chair of the Committee on General Purpose greets and meets with staff of the African Youth Trust (AYT) at a past function. The Youth are important stakeholders in the integration process
- 5. Hon Valerie Nyirahabineza makes her contribution on the floor of the House
- 6. I AGREE WITH YOU: EALA Commissioner, Hon Nusura Tiperu and EALA Staff Member, Emiliana Tuhoye in discussions
- 7. WE ARE THE CHAMPS! Netball team players of the United Republic of Tanzania display the trophy won in Uganda last year. The tournament is scheduled to be held in the United Republic of Tanzania later on in the year
- 8. The former Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania, Rt Hon Pius Msekwa (centre) recently visited EALA and the EAC. He was received by EALA Member, Hon Bernard Murunya and Senior Public Relations Officer, Bobi Odiko (left)
- The Clerk to the Assembly, Kenneth Madete (right) speaks to the Speaker of the Bomet County Assembly, Rt. Hon Godffrey Kipkorir Kipngetich as other Members of Assembly look on. EALA has over the past few months received several
- 10. A section of Members of the Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (ATNR) Committee visit a quarantine facility in Namanga, as part of the oversight activity assessing policies and constraints in the Livestock sub sector in EAC region
- 11. **CULTURAL ATTIRE**: (from left) Hon Bernard Mulengani, Hon AbuBakr Ogle and Hon Joseph Kiangoi don the Maasai attire during a visit to the Bomas Cultural Centre in Nairobi
- 12. **HOW ARE THE BOOKS?** EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa speaks to the EALA Accounts Assistant, Osmond Tumaniel. The Staff continue to be an important resource of the Assembly











## REGIONAL PERSPECTIVE

By Bobi Odiko

# **EAC Speakers' Bureau holds** one day meeting in Nairobi



...Rt. Hon Makinda elected Chairperson of Bureau

The EAPI Act came

into force last year

following the Assent by

Heads of State of the EAC

operationalization of the

Act has not yet

he EAC Bureau of Speakers has rallied its support for the full operationalization of the East African Parliamentary Institute (EAPI) in a move geared towards building institutional capacities of Legislators and Parliamentary staff in the region. The 9th Meeting of the Speakers Forum held in Nairobi on August 9, 2014, also elected the Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania. Rt. Hon Anna Makinda as its new Chairperson, taking over from the Speaker of the Kenya National Assembly, Rt. Hon Justin

taken effect. The EAPI instituted was following the Act passed September 2011. The Act inter alia establishes a mechanism for capacity and skills development to promote professionalism in Parliaments and National Assemblies.

The EAPI Act came into force last year following the Assent by Heads of State of the EAC Partner State.

However, the operationalization of the Act has not yet taken effect.

"Its commencement now needs to take effect so that other operations follow, and I urge the Speakers to follow up with the Ministers to ensure the

> same is done", the Speaker of the Kenya National Assembly, Rt. Hon Justin Muturi stated.

The meeting was attended by the EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, Rt Hon Justin Partner State. However, the Muturi, Speaker, Kenya National Assembly, Rt Hon Mukabalisa Donatille, Speaker of the Parliament of Rwanda, Chamber of Deputies, Rt. Hon Rebecca Kadaga, Speaker, Parliament of Uganda, Rt. Hon Ekwe Ethuro, Speaker of the Senate of Kenya, Rt. Hon Anna Makinda, Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania and the Deputy Speaker of the Burundi National Assembly, Hon Francois

Kabura. In attendance were the Clerks and senior staff

representing the National Assemblies and EALA.

Muturi.

In his opening remarks, Rt. Hon Justin Muturi acknowledged the contribution of the Speakers for their contribution to the cherished dream of a united East Africa.

"As heads of our respective Legislatures, we have a key role to play in fast tracking the integration process by, inter alia ensuring peace and security in the region as well as formulating Laws that target the prosperity of the region", Rt. Hon Muturi remarked.

He informed the Speakers that Kenya National Assembly had in August debated on a number of EAC issues including the Single Customs Territory, the 2nd Parliamentary Workshop on Climate Change, Annual Budget for the Year 2014/15 and the Internal Audit System of EAC institutions.

The Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa lauded the Speakers for supporting EALA to undertake its programmes in the capitals.

Rt. Hon Zziwa cited some of the activities undertaken as rotational Sittings in the Partner States, the Inter-Parliamentary Relations Seminar (Nanyuki Series) and the Inter-Parliamentary Games.

In her statement, Rt. Hon Anna Makinda noted that the EAC had made remarkable strides in the integration progress saying that there was no point of return. Rt. Hon Makinda noted that the United Republic of Tanzania had ratified the Monetary Union Protocol on June 28, 2014.

The Speaker of the Parliament of Rwanda, Rt. Hon Mukabalisa Donatille, on her part, remarked that her Assembly and country were totally committed to the integration process and were looking forward to the operationalization of key laws including the One Stop Border Post (OSBP).

She noted that Rwanda Parliament had a remarkable number of women in the Chamber of Deputies following the Parliamentary elections in September 2013 and this was pegged at 64%.

"This is an expression of the continued commitment and political will of Rwanda towards gender equality and women's empowerment", Hon Mukabalisa said.

The Second Deputy Speaker of the Burundi National Assembly, Hon Francois Kabura called for the strengthening of peace and security in the region and said Burundi had established the Truth and Reconciliation Committee (TRC) which would play a key role after the



JOB WELL DONE: The EAC Speakers depart the meeting venue. From left, Rt. Hon Rebecca Kadaga, Parliament of Uganda, Hon Francois Kabura, Second Deputy Speaker, Burundi National Assembly (back in spectacles). Centre, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa and Rt. Hon Justin Muturi. Front. Rt. Hon Anna Makinda and the Speaker of the Senate of Kenya, Rt. Hon Ekwe Ethuro (right)

2015 national elections. Hon Kabura remarked that his country was looking forward towards the improvement of the infrastructure especially that connecting to the Central Corridor to boost economic development of the region.

The Bureau of Speakers undertook to tighten collaboration of EALA and the National Assemblies as provided for under Article 65 of the Treaty. The meeting was informed that Parliaments had established Standing Committees solely responsible for EAC Affairs. Committees are charged with deliberating on matters of integration and to report back to the Assemblies

The meeting hailed the Assemblies for amending their respective Rules of Procedure to incorporate the harmonized Rules of Procedure on how to handle EALA business. Only the Burundi National Assembly is yet to finalise the process but the matter is set for completion soon according to the Deputy Speaker, Hon Kabura. All other Assemblies now have the modalities in place of bringing the business of EALA for respective debate.

On the Inter-Parliamentary Games, the Bureau of Speakers arrived at the decision to hold the said Games in Arusha, Tanzania with EALA playing as host. This is due to challenges in the respective calendars of the other Assemblies. Initially, it was anticipated that Parliament of Rwanda would host the Games. However, the suggested dates (Dec 7-14, 2014) coincide with Rwanda's National Consultative Dialogue, rendering it impossible for the Parliament to organize the Games.

The Bureau of Speakers further urged all Partner States to remove all NTBs and called for the matter to be addressed as a matter of urgency.



EALA Members pose with management of the University of Nairobi School of Medicine

# EALA takes up sensitisation of publics

...Holds successful Kenya tour

ast African Legislative Assembly (EALA) is to gear up sensitisation with key messages urging citizens to fully embrace regional integration. In the first quarter of the year, the legislators took the message to the Republic of Kenya where they toured five counties.

The ten-day tour was undertaken to enable EALA appreciate the diversity of the people and the development initiatives that Kenya has to offer to the region. At the same time, the legislators had the opportunity to directly interact with citizens and hear their views, aspirations and fears on the integration process.

In Mombasa County, EALA paid a courtesy call on the County Governor, H.E. Hassan Ali Joho where they seized



Mombasa Governor, H.E. Ali Hassan Joho chats with EALA Members when they paid him a courtesy call

the opportunity to sensitise Executives of the County Government. Governor Joho announced that Mombasa was set to launch a free port facility to facilitate trade and encouraged the EAC Partner States to make use of the facility. In Kilifi, the legislators met with the County Governor, H.E. Amason Kingi.

The Governor maintained that the EAC was non-reversible and challenged EALA to continue with its legislative and oversight activities. He noted that East Africans were looking forward to reaping the benefits that integration has to offer. Governor Kingi, a former Minister for East African Community remarked that his County Government was keen to see the full implementation of the pillars of integration.

The Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa said the Assembly would enhance its outreach activities with different stakeholders in order to



The Kilifi Governor H.E. Amason J. Kingi and the Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa

A section of Members at the Olkaria Geothermal project. EALA was in Kenya to sensitise the publics and to acquaint themselves of developments in the country

popularize integration. Present at the meeting were the Senator of Kilifi, Hon Stewart Madzayo, Speaker of the County Assembly of Kilifi, Rt. Hon Kadhua Jimmy Kahindi among other top county government officials.

In Nakuru County,

EALA visited the Olkaria

**Geothermal Project in** 

Naivasha and lauded the

contribution of the power

EALA also held meetings with the top leadership of the Lamu Port Southern Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor project, Project, Konza Techno City, Vision 2030 Secretariat as well as the Kenya Private Sector

Alliance (KEPSA) and the East African Business Council (EABC).

plant in meeting In Nakuru County, EALA visited the needs of the Olkaria Geothermal Project in the region. Naivasha and lauded the contribution of the power plant in meeting the needs of the region. The Assistant General Manager at the Olkaria Geothermal Project, Paul Ouma, remarked that the company would double its production of geothermal energy in the next four months.

Legislators called for concerted efforts to bridge the energy deficit in the region through the sustained use of clean and renewable energy noting that the energy sector had a fundamental role in unlocking the economies for the benefit of integration.

While in Nairobi, EALA met with academia at the University of Nairobi's College of Health Sciences. The legislators were met by the Principal of the College of Health Sciences, Prof Isaac Kibwage and the senior management team.

Prof Kibwage told the EALA that the University had continued to invest in academic research and in the management of HIV and AIDS.

"The University is spending time on research in a number of areas, paediatric care, national vaccines, Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT), circumcision practices, reduction of HIV transmission amongst risk populations among others", the don stated

> "I call on EALA to continue passing relevant legislation in the medical sector", he added.

The College of Health Sciences is currently rated first in Kenya and East Africa. It ranks at number 1167 out of the 22,000 Universities globally according to the Principal.

Chairman of EALA's General Purpose Committee, Dr. Martin Nduwimana, lauded the progress at the University and noted that home-grown solutions were key. EALA later met with Parliamentarians from the Kenya National Assembly and the Senate to push for the integration agenda.

In the meeting, EALA Members called on their counterparts to use every available opportunity to popularize the integration process in Kenya.

The Chairperson of the Regional Integration Committee at the Kenya National Assembly, Hon Florence Kajuju, urged the Partner States to take integration a notch higher by ensuring the full implementation of the Common Market Protocol. She cited the cross border legal practice which is necessary to enable the legal fraternity to practice as a priority. "I acknowledge that EALA is considering the EAC Cross border legal Practice Bill, 2014 and many are waiting to take advantage of the space", Hon Kajuju stated.



By Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema



# **Entry of the EAC Monetary** Union a welcome move

Benefits far outweigh the costs in my view

ast African Community now has the framework required to unlock the true promise of integration. It is expected to instigate enormous and transformational initiatives. On November 30, 2013, the EAC Heads of States signed the Monetary Union Protocol in Kampala, Uganda. The Protocol hopes to subsequently institutionalise the Monetary Union in ten years time.

The Monetary Union is the third pillar, following the Customs Union and Common Market. It is an agreement among EAC Partner States to establish one EAC Central Bank with mandate to issue a single currency, integrated banking and financial systems, harmonized financial laws, regulation and procedures, integrated payment systems, single convergence criteria and regional statistics body.

The Protocol envisages stability of exchange rates, promoting intra-EAC trade through harmonized payment systems and deepening economic integration. It further hopes to realize: establishment of a zone of monetary stability across the region.

The two main instruments of the EAC monetary system are the EAC currency unit and the exchange rate mechanism. The EAC currency unit must be a basket currency constructed as a weighted average of the currencies of the EAC Partner States.

The weights have to be based on each currency's relative Growth National Product (GNP) and shared intra -EAC trade. The EAC currency unit serves as the accountability unit of the EAC and will play an important role in the collective management of exchange rates. In practice, the exchange rate mechanism is based on a parity system, where par values among currencies compare to the EAC currency unit. By 2024, the EAC Partner States would have drawn a conclusive financial strategy vesting in fixed exchange rates policies and amalgamated Partner States' currencies and subsequently adopted a common EAC currency.

The EAC Monetary Union is a logical extension of the EAC monetary system and the EAC currency unit will be the pre-cursor of the future denominated currency. The EAC Central Bank whose primary objectives are to maintain financial prices stability as well as monitoring, surveillance and enforcing compliance of the regional macro finance matters, will be located in one of the Partner States. It shall be solely responsible for the issuance of common currency and conducting monetary policy in the EAC currency zone.

The EAC Central Bank will control policies that determine the value of EAC currency and insulate the monetary policy from political pressures leading to inflation and subsequent currency devaluation. National Central Banks would then function pretty much like regional member banks of the EAC Federal Reserve System.

Obviously, the EAC Monetary Union gives a due consideration to appropriate economic indicators and specifically, each Partner States shall strive to:

- 1. maintain its currency within prescribed exchange rate ranges of the EAC exchange rate mechanism, achieve a high degree of price stability,
- 2. keep the ratio of government budget deficits to gross domestic product (GDP) at lowest level for example below 3.5%.
- 3. keep gross public debts below a common agreed percentage of the GDP, for example 50% of the GDP.

The EAC Heads of States signed the Monetary Union because they believed the benefits from such a union would outweigh the associated costs. It is then important to understand the potential benefits and costs of the Monetary Union.

The most direct and immediate benefits are reduced transaction costs and the elimination of exchange rate uncertainty. For instance, if a Kenyan citizen travels through all EAC countries, having KSH10,000 and in the process changes the amount in each country but refrains from actually spending it, she/he would return home with the half of the original amount.

Hence, the development of a common currency among EAC Partner States substantially reduces transactions costs and makes it easier to engage in trade. This would fasten economic integration in the region and expand financial markets size to achieve boosted trade and greater economies of scale.

Such savings would accrue to practically all economic agents, benefiting simple citizens, companies and governments. EAC economic agents should also benefits from rate uncertainty.

Increased price transparency will promote Africa wide competition, exerting a downward pressure on prices. Reduced transaction costs and the elimination of currency risk together will have the net effect

The common

currency and the

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and non-EAC companies

can raise money at

favorable

rates.

of promoting cross-border investment and trade within the EAC currency zone.

The common currency and the integration of EAC financial markets will pave the way for an EAC capital market in which both EAC and non-EAC companies can raise money at favorable rates. Sharing a common currency further promotes political cooperation and peace at the EAC.

Economic interdependence and co-operation

between Partner States would replace nationalistic rivalries but spur healthier competition. Moreover, for EAC to establish a common currency, a strong economic bond is necessary calling for development.

The main constraint facing the Monetary Union lies in the loss of independence in monetary and exchange rate policy. Suppose Rwanda, a country heavily dependent on the coffee industry, faces a sudden drop in world coffee prices, its economy would be severely hurt leading to unemployment and income decline while scarcely affecting other EAC currency zone countries.

If Rwanda had maintained monetary independence (which is not the case when the Monetary Union takes effect), the country would consider lowering domestic interest rates to stimulate the weak economy as well as letting the Rwandan Francs depreciate to boost foreigners demand for Rwandan products.

The EAC Monetary Union represents historical development of real significance. East African people, businesses and capital are now liberated to allow for prosperity and development.

The region is expected to benefit from increased trade opportunities and spur additional reasons to pitch tent in the EAC bloc.







# Tanzania's Union @ 50 epitomizes hope in the realization of EAC integration



The founding father of Tanganyika, H.E. Julius Nyerere and the founding father of Zanzibar, H.E. Abeid Amani Karume. Together, they agreed to establish the Union

n April this year, the United Republic of Tanzania celebrated its Jubilee (50th) Anniversary. The occasion was momentous for the United Republic of Tanzania, born as the result of the unification of Tanganyika and the Zanzibar islands, after attaining independence from British rule. As EALA we take the opportunity to congratulate H.E. Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete and the people of the United Republic of Tanzania for achieving the feat.

It is gratifying to note that the Union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar has endured for five decades. It emanates from the spirit of Pan-Africanism which the founding fathers, H.E.Julius Kambarage Nyerere and H.E. Abeid Karume embraced. These two leaders were aware of their respective national interests but decided to come together soon after attaining their hard won freedom. The leaders had to put self interest on the side paving way for the foundation of the Union.

Ideally, Zanzibaris and those from the Mainland are one people. They were separated by colonial boundaries but have over time inter-married and visit each other almost daily. At least 1.4 Million people annually travel in and from the two parts of the Union through the sea while over 400,000 passengers travel by air.

The founding fathers enjoyed good mutual relations, something that their successors have lived to emulate. Today, relations continue to be warm and this is cardinal for sustaining the Union. Beyond the history, the Government has committed to resolve the problems that exist within the Union including the constitutional ones



A section of the celebrations at the Uhuru Stadium (inset) President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete

On reflection,

over the past five

decades since attaining

self-rule from Britain in

1961, the United Republic

of Tanzania has registered

many achievements in the

social, economic

and political

spheres.

which shall be addressed when a new constitutional order is in place.

The occasion at the Uhuru Stadium thus provided an opportunity to celebrate the Union's existence,

reflect on challenges and posit on the way forward by engaging in justifiable

collective self-congratulation.

The historic event was attended by Presidents Pierre Nkurunziza of Burundi, Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya, King Majest Letsle of Lesotho and King Mswati of Swaziland.

Also in attendance were Zambian Vice President, Guy Scott, and former Presidents of Zambia, Rupia Banda; Namibia, Sam Nujoma; Tanzania, Benjamin Mkapa; and Kenya, Mwai Kibaki.

Ethiopia's Foreign Minister, Dr. Tedros Adhanom, as well as envoys from Ghana and Eritrea attended. The commemorations were accompanied by a parade and decorated by traditional dances from different regions, processions, as well as military parades.

In his remarks, President, Dr Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, described the Union as a "bold decision" and that its existence 50 years after it was born is evidence to African leaders and beyond that it is possible to have Union Governments in Africa. The President hailed African leaders for their solidarity over the years, their attendance and participation in the celebrations marking the anniversary.

On reflection, over the past five decades since attaining self-rule from Britain in 1961, the United Republic of Tanzania has registered many achievements in the social, economic and political spheres.

The citizens have co-existed peacefully and are largely harmonious, earning United Republic of Tanzania the distinction of being a model of stability in a continent where civil strife is rife. Another big score is that

> three Presidents bequeathed the reins of power to their respective successors and retired peacefully.

> > It is pleasing to note that the multiparty political system has since July 1993 functioned relatively successfully in a turbulent region and continent, for which Tanzania has earned accolades.

Economically, key indicators for Education, Health, Water services, and Infrastructure development are promising

despite existing gaps and challenges. Also noteworthy are initiatives to explore gas, coal and tourism which are vital for the region's development. Sea transport has been improved with a view to enhancing efficiency and reducing accidents and encumbrances.

The Union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar is testimony that it is possible to have a functional East African Federation, and it is also evidence that it is possible to have the United States of Africa.

We in EALA and the EAC, salute the Union for remaining steadfast to the ideals of integration, there are certainly vital lessons we may pick such as unity in diversity and enhancing the power of consensus building among others.

I take the opportunity to congratulate the United Republic of Tanzania upon achieving its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I wish the leadership, Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete and his Government well as they continue to steer the country to greater heights.



Terrorism in Kenya

and at the East African

governments

By Hussein Khalid and Salma Hemed

uman rights are entitlements owed to each person by their virtue of being human. It matters not whether the person is rich or poor, black or white, disabled or able bodied, as long as they qualify to be called human beings, then they are entitled to their rights. Community in general has The four characteristics of human rights are that they are inalienable, interdependent, universal indivisible.

of the day. The inalienability of human rights means that no person, institution or state can give a person any right as they are not theirs to give out in the first place. Rights are automatic to each human being. Any denial of a right is considered as an infringement. Through the law, rights can only be limited but cannot be taken

away wholesomely. While each person has rights, the exercise of any right automatically also bestows a responsibility on the person not to over indulge to the extent of violating the

> right(s) of another person or group of persons. To every right, there is an equal and corresponding responsibility.

slowly but steadily become Terrorism in Kenya and at the a major concern for the East African Community in general has slowly but steadily become a major concern for the Governments of the day. Every other day, we witness terror incidences in different parts of the region, some with catastrophic results. Such was the case in 2010 where an attack at a local pub in Kampala where patrons were watching a football match resulted in 74 deaths.

In 2013, the Westgate Mall terror attack in Nairobi resulted in 67 deaths. Very recently in Arusha – the headquarter of the EAC – there have been a series of attacks in churches, restaurants and rallies which have also resulted in several deaths. In all these incidences, lives have been lost and property worth millions of shillings destroyed.

Human Rights and Security has now become the major talking point in the region. How do we ensure security for our people while at the same time ensure the rights of all, including suspects of insecurity/terrorism? The right to security of person is enshrined in both international and local instruments.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) under Article 9.1 guarantees the right to security. The Kenyan Constitution provides for the right to freedom and security of person in Article 29 while in the United Republic of Tanzania, Article 16

of the Constitution provides for the right to privacy and personal security.

The same instruments also provide for the rights of suspects/arrested persons besides clearly providing for the freedom against torture, cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. The ICCPR provides in Articles 9.2 and 9.3 respectively for the rights of an arrested person and the right to a fair hearing.

The Constitution of Kenya Articles 49 and 50, provide for the rights of arrested persons and the right to a fair hearing. Similarly, the Constitution of Uganda provides in Article 4 (2) and article 8 the rights of an arrested person and the right to a fair hearing. So clearly, in both international and local instruments, the right to security for citizens are clearly stipulated as well as the rights of those suspected to have interfered with this right to security of citizens. The question for the EAC governments, police and people now becomes, how do we balance between these rights?

It is clear that balancing between security and human rights is not an easy thing to do. However, this must be the way to go for the East African region. Promotion and protection of human rights must be our core principle because it is the violation of human rights that eventually ends up fuelling insecurity.

We must make use of the local, particularly, regional institutions in the furtherance of human rights and security. As an organisation, HAKI Africa sees the East African Community, particularly the East Africa Legislative Assembly, playing a major role in this regard.

As the region moves towards integration, we must begin making use of regional instruments as tools to guide rule of law and respect for furtherance human rights principles. The time has come for the region, through EALA, to develop the first regional human rights and security instrument that will be binding to all its Partner States.

Editors Note: HAKI Africa is a Non-Profit Organisation based in Mombasa County in Kenya. Hussein Khalid is the Executive Director while Salma Hemed is Programme Officer within the same institution.



Police Brutality: Human rights should be respected

# **BRIEFS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES**

# **UGANDA**

# Security changes at Parliament of Uganda

By Charles Bukuwa and Katamba Mohammed

arliament of Uganda has instituted new security measures intended improve security in its precincts..

The move follows an incident in June where two youths beat the Parliament security, smuggling piglets into its precincts alarming legislators about the state of their security while in the House. The youths together with Police officers manning



Parliamentary security officials and police undertaking a surveillance exercise. Security has now been beefed up

the main entrance to Parliament were subsequently detained. There were also revelations by Army representative, Gen. Julius Oketta that terrorists were planning to attack Parliamentary installations in the region.

The State Minister for Internal Affairs Hon. James Baba informed the House that the Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. Amama Mbabazi, had con-

> vened a meeting together with the Inspector General of Police and other security agencies to discuss the issue of Members' security.

> The IGP together with Kampala Metropolitan Police Commander, Andrew Felix Kawesi and heads of Parliament Police

Directorate later toured the precincts of Parliament.

The Clerk to Parliament, Mrs Jane Kibirige later issued a circular with the new security measures. Among these is the use of the south wing entry gate for MPs only. Staff and visitors will access through the north wing. The circular also entails that all vehicles accessing Parliament would undergo a thorough security checks. The Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, appealed to legislators to cooperate with Parliament Police to ensure security in the Parliament precincts.

The authors work in the Public **Relations Division of the Parliament** of Uganda



## **KENYA**

# **Kenya's Cabinet Secretaries to respond to Parliamentary questions**

he Kenya National Assembly is set to review its rules to allow Cabinet Secretaries into the House to respond to Members' questions. The Motion for amendment to the Rules was recently moved by Ruaraka Member, Hon T.J. Kajwang. Kenyans re-wrote the Constitution in 2010 to approve a Presidential system whose highlights include a Cabinet picked outside Parliament. As a result, Cabinet Secretaries were to interact with Parliament through Committees.

This is unlike the Parliamentary system where, the Cabinet is picked from among MPs, as had been the case for Kenya since independence, thus question time in the House offers opportunity for Ministers to address Members' concerns. Under Article 153 of the Constitution, Cabinet Secretaries are expected to provide Parliament with full and regular reports concerning matters

under their control. The House has designated a spot - the Civil Service Bench - from where they shall give their responses to Members' questions. This means, in the strictest sense that the CSs will not be part of the House.

The Speaker would meanwhile have the discretion to decide which questions fit the Bill of 'national importance' before they are placed before the relevant ministry. =

## BURUNDI

# **BNA resumes sessions**

he Speaker of Burundi National Assembly (BNA), Rt. Hon Pie Ntavyohanyuma opened the Ordinary Parliamentary Session at Kigobe on June 2, 2014. Rt. Hon Ntavyohanyuma reiterated that BNA would debate 12 pieces of legislation during the period in session in addition to other key deliverables. According

to a dispatch obtained from the official Parliamentary website, Rt. Hon Ntavyohanyuma also seized the opportunity to thank the Government, the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), political parties, media, and the CSOs for their commitment to ensure peaceful and successful 2015 polls. In attendance at the ceremony were the Vice President of Burundi, the Burundi Ombudsman, Members of the Parliament and Senate, members of the diplomatic corps and Government officials. The June session is traditionally opened on the first Monday in accordance with Article 174, Paragraph 1 of Burundi's Constitution.



# RWANDA

# **WIP Summit held in Rwanda**

arliament οf Rwanda hosted the Women in **Parliamentarians** Summit (WIP) on July 2, 2014, attracting 180 Parliamentarians from 51 countries globally.

The Speaker of the Rwanda Chamber of Deputies, Rt Hon. Mukabalisa Donatille, welcomed participants to the Summit. In her opening remarks, Rt. Hon Mukabalisa lauded the role of women and their contribution to national development. "In our more recent history, Rwandan women joined their brothers in the political and military struggle to liberate our country. After the genocide, women continued to play a visible role in peace building national reconstruction, contributing significantly renewing recognise Rwanda. We their immense contribution and salute their courage", she remarked. Hon. Silvana Koch-Mehrin, Founder of WIP lauded Rwanda as a world leader in closing the gender gap.

The President of the Republic of Rwanda, HE Paul Kagame and Prime Minister of Norway, HE Erna Solberg graced the 3rd day of the Summit. WIP is a Zurich based independent, international and non-partisan foundation established to advance society by building a network between Women in Parliaments.



# **MANZANIA**

# Law on Govt budget spending in the offing

arliament of Tanzania has put together a proposed law designed to ensure discipline in budget management.

The draft Bill seeks to consolidate Parliament's oversight role in the management of the national budget.

The draft bill places additional responsibilities and controls on the Minister of Finance and Government Officers when it comes to

overall budget management, developing specific conditions for preparation of financial instruments and ensuring deadlines for submission of dockets for Parliamentary debate.

The proposed law also proposes a set of new institutions to oversee general management of the budget, the national debt, loans, grants and contingency funds. The Bill further introduces enforcement provisions that set penalties against errant officials.

If enacted, the Finance Minister will have to table periodic reports on national debt management before Parliament and a national debt management office will be established within the Treasury to maximise public debt management and control borrowing.



By Hon ShyRose Bhanji

# Pillars of Integration will unite East Africans

he East African Community was established in 2000 by three Partner States namely Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda; who were later in 2007, joined by the Republics of Burundi and Rwanda.

After an impasse of some 23 years resultant from the collapse of the previous EAC, the three Presidents Daniel Arap Moi, Ally Hassan Mwinyi and Yoweri Museveni launched the new EAC with a lot of zeal and a clear vision to restore co-operation, free trade and movement of the people. All Partner States established a Customs Union in 2005, a Common Market in 2010 and the East African Monetary Union Protocol signed in 2013. The Political Federation is anticipated later.

So far, the two pillars namely Customs Union and Common Market have brought remarkable progress in different areas including trade and investments in our region. In this enabling environment, today we can see private investors such as Nakumatt and Uchumi from Kenya operating in Partner States. Nakumatt has recently launched operations in Dar es Salaam. The opening of the supermarkets not only creates employment but also empowers manufacturers and farmers in the region.



Likewise, from Tanzania, we have seen Azam Ltd, Mohammed Enterprises (T) Limited and others operating in Partner States and offering quality and competitive pricing for products. In terms of news and information dissemination, we commend Dr. Reginald Mengi for enduring stiff yet healthy competition thus enabling his media; ITV, EATV/Radio access all parts of East Africa. All these entrepreneurs have fully exploited the East African market of over 140 million people. Today, there is a good growth of trade and investments not only for large companies but also small and medium scale enterprises. The latter though need support and capacity building.

According to 2011 East African Trade Report, Tanzania sold 60 % of its exports to Kenya with mosquito nets, plastic goods, tea, transformers and paper being the main products. Further, Kenya imported about 60% of goods from the entire region making it the market leader. Likewise, the introduction of the Single Customs Territory in the region is a viable and commendable move as it will enhance trade and help business community.

The benefits of SCT include reduction of costs of doing business by eliminating duplication of processes at the boarders. It is highly commendable and gratifying to note that after over ten years of the EAC, we have finally arrived at a point where we now see progress.

As a way forward, in order for the majority of the people in East Africa to fully utilise and exploit the vast opportunities of integration pillars there is an urgent need to sensitize the populace. Sensitisation must reach East Africans living in the remote corners such as Mtwara, Mtukula, Kabanga, Marsabit and others.

This will result in a Community of East Africans becoming People Centred and Market Driven as founding Fathers envisaged and as per the Treaty of EAC.



By Hon Mike Kennedy Sebalu

# **EAC** Integration- The role of Rotary as a non-state actor

he EALA Strategic Plan 2013/2018 passed by the 3rd Assembly was such an innovative narrative that it had the effect of realigning EALA in terms of focus and repositioning it in terms of outreach while transforming it into an efficient, effective and people centered regional legislature.

In essence EALA should engage more and create better linkages with non-state actors in the regional integration process of the EAC. There exist many nonstate actors impacting on the East African people from a regional perspective, thereby creating a sense of cross border solidarity and unity of purpose. These have been reflected in various arrangements that include among others, regional NGOS, Associations, professional bodies, think- tanks and clubs.

One such organization and arrangement that stands out as being unique in outlook, membership and work method is Rotary. Rotary is an international humanitarian service organization whose membership is made up of business and professional leaders who are united in the ideal of service. These leaders whose motto is "service above self" volunteer their expertise, compassion and power to improve their communities and the plight of their people.

Rotary is a worldwide network of more than 34,000 clubs made up of individuals who channel their passions into social causes that change lives and improve communities. In East Africa, Rotary is alive and active in all five Partner States with varying degrees of concentration and scope of coverage. Besides, Rotary Clubs that are spread across the region are credited for a number of projects impacting immensely on the welfare of the disadvantaged East African people. No wonder that, EALA is on record for having passed a Resolution



Hon Mike Sebalu (partially hidden), Chair of the Cancer Run 2014 registers the District Governor, Harish Bhatt as a Rotary Club Official looks on. The Cancer Run is set for Aug 31, 2014

paying glowing tribute to Rotary for what it has been able to do in the region.

From a Rotary perspective EAC Partner States are configured under District arrangements in the following manner i.e. D9150-Burundi and Rwanda, D9211 Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania and D9212, Kenya. This article highlights District 9211 comprising of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania because it appears to be the most outstanding in terms of visibility, viability and activity.

This District is under the leadership of a very dynamic and inspiring District Governor (DG) Harish Bhatt from the Rotary Club of Bahari Dar es salaam, Tanzania. DG Harish Bhatt officially succeeded DG Emmanuel Katongole of Uganda on 1st July 2014 and is in the process of undertaking his tour of duty that has seen him visit a good number of clubs in Uganda. The Rotary club of Bukoto for which i am a Past President is one of those already visited. As a DG Harish Bhatt has exhibited a high degree of inspirational leadership



A graphical representation of the Rotary Cancer Ward at St Francis Nsambya once completed

which has endeared him to all the clubs that he has visited so far.

The DG's visits have added a lot of value to the clubs. His advice to the clubs to undertake big and impactful projects is of mutual benefit to the needy people of D9211, whom Rotary serves. It is indeed of great interest for EALA to note that the only service organization whose top goal and dedication is to eradicate polio worldwide is Rotary. Rotary in collaboration with WHO, UNICEF, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is close to eliminating Polio having achieved 99 percent reduction in polio worldwide since 1985. East Africa is no exception in this regard. It is no secret at all that Rotary has taken lead in dealing with major humanitarian issues affecting people around the world. Maternal and child health, clean water and sanitation, literacy and education, and disease prevention and treatment are among Rotary's areas of focus. Rotary's credibility, transparency and accountability have made it attractive to strike partnership with.

Due to the challenge of sustainable funding for humanitarian interventions, certain creative initiatives have been undertaken in D9211 to bridge the funding gaps. As a result two fundraising events initiated in the two countries are worth of mention. These are the Uganda Rotary Cancer run which falls on every last Sunday of August and the Dar Marathon which is hosted on the 14th October, the Nyerere day.

H.E Ali Hassan Mwinyi the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania has always participated in the Dar Marathon with proceeds contributing to undertaking many projects in Tanzania. This October, another edition of the Marathon will be hosted and all people of goodwill are invited. However, the Dar Marathon will be preceded by the Uganda Rotary Cancer run in Kampala where the chief runner will this time round be H.E Ali Hassan Mwinyi. Indeed the organizing committee for which I am Chair wanted

to find out what makes the former President tick. His presence and participation has already excited Ugandans so much so that a record crowd of about 30,000 is expected to turn up for the run.

This run is expected to raise the money needed for completion of an ultra-modern cancer ward at Nsambya hospital in Kampala. This specialized ward will be available to serve East Africa, Africa and beyond. Besides fundraising, the two events are also used to showcase Rotary, what it does and what it stands for. In this regard these events have become reciprocal in nature where delegations from either country are in attendance and vice versa. For that matter on August 31 all roads and flights will lead to Kololo in Kampala and on 14th October 2014, a good turn will deserve another as roads and flights will this time lead to Dar for the Dar marathon. In the same light H.E Ali Hassan Mwinyi as a senior East African citizen in fulfilment of the EAC objective of widening and deepening integration lends his good name to the cause for humanity. This is so because the well being of the East African people is central in the integration agenda. H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi is simply identifying with Rotarians across borders whose common aspiration is service above self. In Rotary we are united in the ideal of service and this knows no borders, race, tribe, religion or gender. Let us all be in Kampala and Dar es salaam respectively, to give company to our senior statesman and former Head of State H.E Ali Hassan Mwinyi as he identifies himself with such noble and worthy causes of Rotary.

Run for your health and run to enhance the welfare of those in need!



Former President of The United Republic of Tanzania, H.E Ali Hassan Mwinyi (centre) receives information about the new X-ray machine donated to the Rotary Pediatric Oncology ward in Dar es Salaam. H.E. Mwinyi shall grace the occasion as a Chief guest and Marathon participant in the Rotary cancer Run 2014 in Uganda

# EALA CROSSWORD PUZZLI

#### **ACROSS**

- 4. Partner State to host regional forensic referral center (6)
- 5. Current Chair of the East African Community Heads of State Summit? (6)
- 8. Institution charged with ensuring the development of safe and secure civil aviation system in the EAC region (6)
- 9. Country that hosted the 5th East Africa Media Summit (6)
- 11. Maximum period of tenure for Secretary General (yrs) (4)
- 13. First name of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of Political Federation (6)
- 15. Organ of the EAC tasked with ensuring that Community law is interpreted and implemented (4)
- 16. Joined with EAC and SADC to form the Tripartitie Framework (6)
- 17. Immediate past Judge President of the east African Court of Justice (7)

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Surname of the first Secretary General of the revived East African Community (8)
- 2. Headquarters of the Inter-University Council of East Africa (7)
- 3. Surname of the current Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly? (5)



- 7. Chosen name for the EAC Arts & Culture Festival (8)
- 10. LVBC programme funded by ADF to improve water sanitation (8)
- 12. The policy-making Organ of Community (7)
- 14. Institution of the East African Community hosted in Kenya (4)

CHARLES UGANDA KENYATTA COUNCIL KAMPALA NSEKELA CASSOA FIVE JAMAFEST LVWATSAN EACJ LVBC RWANDA MUTHAURA ZZIWA COMESA RICHARD EALA LVFO KENYA VOLTER FOUR



Compiled by Bobi Odiko



Seeking your tips good people ... How can the East African Community engage and interest rural people about regional integration?

@jumuiya



Secretary General on Straight Talk Africa: U.S Africa Leaders Summit: Investing in the Next Generation:

@jumuiya



"Dynamic, Vibrant, Educated, Young African Middle Class - an asset for Africa"

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# SAUTI YA EALA













ONE PEOPLE, ONE DESTINY