



## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

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

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

#### 138<sup>TH</sup> SITTING - THIRD ASSEMBLY: SIXTH MEETING – FOURTH SESSION

Thursday, 2 June 2016

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2:39 p.m. in the Chamber of the East African Legislative Assembly in Arusha, Tanzania.*

#### PRAYER

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

*(The Assembly was called to order)*

#### PAPERS

**The Chairperson, Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (Mr. Christophe Bazivamo):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay on the table the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the oversight activities on poaching done in Nairobi, Kenya from 18-19 August 2014 and Mwanza in Tanzania from 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> February 2016. I beg to lay.

#### BILL'S

##### FIRST READING

The East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016

#### MOTION

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan**

**Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read for the first time.

**The Speaker:** Seconder? Rt. hon. Kivejinja, hon. Counsel to the Community.

THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY APPROPRIATION BILL, 2016 READ FOR THE FIRST TIME

#### BILL'S

##### SECOND READING

The East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016

*(Debate interrupted on 17 March 2016 resumed)*

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, you will recall that in our meeting in Dar es Salaam, this Bill could not pass through because at the stage when we were considering the report of the committee, we

advised that the chair of the committee withdraw the report and this was done.

I would like to call first the honourable minister to appraise this House if there are new developments on this Bill before I call the Chair. Honourable Chair, Council of Ministers, this is the supplementary Bill. If there are no changes, you can just say so.

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr. Speaker, you recall that the Chairperson of the Council had already moved the motion for the second reading of the East African Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 and we had commenced the debate before it was interrupted on 17 March 2016.

The Council had a meeting with the committee and discussed the Bill and I think there is no disagreement.

**The Chairperson, Committee of General Purpose (Dr Odette Nyiramilimo) (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. As you reminded us, the General Purpose Committee had presented a report and the members of the committee found it a bit differing from what they had agreed because we did not have enough time to debate the report and agree on it.

I would like to ask one of the members to give me the fresh report and circulate it because I found that they had not given it so that when I read what we agreed upon, all members have it.

**The Speaker:** Do members have the committee report.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** I told the staff that there was an error so they have gone to bring a new report of the committee. I do not know why they are not distributing it.

Mr. Speaker, I will not go through the whole report because I had read it before the House. The only part I am going to go

through was the last interaction with the Council of Ministers and what we agreed upon which had been contentious while we were in Dar-es-Salaam.

Following the adjournment of debate of the report of the committee and the direction given by the Speaker, the committee held further consultations with the Council of Ministers. Consequently, the committee has developed the following position based on further consideration.

The committee is of the opinion that it required adequate time to examine the supplementary proposals. The committee was forced to work long hours and faced challenges in the final consideration of the committee report.

Consequently, the Assembly was not able to finalise the consideration of the supplementary budget. The situation was further complication by placing the approval session on the last day of plenary of the Assembly.

The committee therefore recommends that in future, adequate time should be allocated in the consideration of supplementary budget proposals by both the committee as well as by the Assembly.

Based on further consultations held by the committee with relevant organs and institutions of the Community affected by this supplementary and further consideration by the committee, now the committee recommends that:

- The Assembly accepts the recommendation of the Council on the supplementary budget;
- The Assembly accepts the commitment made to the Assembly on the request made by EALA for a supplementary budget;
- The Assembly should put in place modalities to act on the advice given by the Council including on the proposal of

rationalisation of the matters related to the terms and conditions of service of members;

- The Assembly now should approve the supplementary budget as proposed.

The committee having considered the supplementary request recommends that a supplementary budget amounting to \$ 1,569,941 be approved for appropriation for planned activities for the financial year 2015/2016.

This was our proposal, Mr Speaker and right now, my colleagues have received the report. They will see on the second page of this report where the money requested by the Council was to be appropriated and where this total amount came from.

Mr Speaker, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you Chairperson, Committee of General Purpose. I now propose the question that the East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read for the second time. Debate is open.

**Ms. Isabelle Ndahayo (Burundi):** Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me the floor. First of all I would like to thank the Chair of General Purpose Committee for this analysis they have done on this request from the Council. I support their recommendation in the report.

However, I would like to request the Council of Ministers to respect what they have decided on the request of EALA on the supplementary budget. I think we will see it thereafter when we will deal with the Appropriation Bill.

Before we adopt it, I would like to raise one issue regarding accountability and realism about the budget requested for, for the Kiswahili Commission, which is equal to \$85,000 for renovation.

According to my knowledge, this institution is still new, just a year old. I was

asking myself about \$85,000 worth of renovation for such a new institution. What type of renovation is meant here? Does this institution have a fixed asset, which is being renovated?

If the money, which is being paid, is not to renovate the property of this institution or the Community, is it rent for the office of this Community? These are the question that I would like to be given answers to so that we adopt knowing that his money is used for a good reason. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Isabelle. If there is no more debate, I will call the chair of the committee to respond before I call the Chair, Council.

**The Chairperson, Committee of General Purpose (Dr Odette Nyiramilimo) (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to thank hon. Isabelle for having shown her support for the report. I will respond to her that what we were told was that the East African Kiswahili Commission has been accorded premises in Zanzibar and they have to renovate to be able to work in this place. That is just for renovation. I think the Chair, Council will explain much better. Thank you.

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Do you mean that they have offered to the Kiswahili Commission a free building, and it is now the property of the Community, which means that they are only renovating it, or it is rented? That is the clarification that I think she wanted.

**The Speaker:** I think the Chair, Council will clarify this better. Can I now invite the Chair, Council to respond?

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Alphonse Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr Speaker, to clarify the use of the \$85,000 to Kiswahili Commission in Zanzibar, the Chair of the General Purpose Committee had said that the Zanzibar government offered this building.

However, if you had seen the building itself, it is old and that is why we needed this amount to make sure that this building is renovated and repaired so that those who are earmarked to work on that building can use it.

As to whether if we renovate this building it is going to belong to EAC, this is a matter of discussion but they have given it to us to use. If we take the charge of convincing them to give it to us, it will be at a later stage but so far, we know that we were given the building to use.

**Mr. Martin Ngoga (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I appreciate the fact that not all the relevant information may be available now but there must be some agreement that governs the status quo. We cannot be in a situation where we do not know how the situation stands. Is it just extended to us for a period? Is it going to be a property of the Community? There must be a status that can easily be defined and captured in a particular agreement that will govern our relationship with the owner of the premises. That document must exist, in my view.

**The Speaker:** Chair, Council, maybe you first wait a bit. There might be more clarification sought from hon. Zein.

**Mr. Zein Abubakar (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. My understanding is that they are seeking allocation to ensure that the building that was kindly designated for our use as a Community by the good government of Zanzibar allows us to put that building in the same status as other building that are hosting Community institutions.

This matter will be easily cured with a promise from the Council to share with this House the hosting agreements for all the institutions of the Community.

**Dr Martin Nduwimana (Burundi):** I wish to say that there are some institutions that are not given premises free. There are

institutions that rent right now and they are many.

**Dr Kolimba:** Mr Speaker, I would like to clarify the issue of the agreement. We have the agreement of using those premises free. Regarding the issue of giving information on all premises, which were given free, for the time being I cannot give that but I can confirm that we have the agreement of using it free, we are not renting it.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Chair. What the hon. Zein had requested was not for now but that Council may consider in due course to prepare a report to this House to give us the status of all institutions of EAC being hosted in Partner States; whether they have property, whether they are renting and whether they are given free building like what the government of Zanzibar has done, for which we must appreciate. We are very grateful. That report will come later. We are very appreciative to the government of Zanzibar.

Honourable members, I now put the question that the East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read the second time.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY  
SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION  
BILL, 2016 READ A SECOND TIME

## BILLS

### COMMITTEE STAGE

The East African Community  
supplementary Appropriation Bill,  
2016

Clause 1

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I propose the question that Clause 1 be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that Clause 1 be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Clause 2

**The Chairman:** I propose the question that Clause 2 be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that Clause 2 be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

The Schedule

**The Chairman:** I propose that the Schedule be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that the Schedule be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

The Memorandum

**The Chairman:** I propose that the Memorandum be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that the Memorandum be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

The Title

**The Chairman:** I propose the question that the Title be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that the Title be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**MOTION FOR THE HOUSE TO RESUME**

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr. Chair, I beg to move that the House do resume and the Committee of the Whole House reports thereto.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I put the question that the House do resume

and the Committee of the whole House do report thereto.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to report that the Committee of the whole House has considered the Bill entitled the East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 and passed it without amendments.

**MOTION FOR ADOPTION OF THE REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the report of the Committee of the whole House be adopted.

**The Speaker:** The motion is for adoption of the report of the Committee of the whole House. I now put the question that the report of the Committee of the whole House be adopted.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**BILL'S**

**THIRD READING**

The East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read for the third time and do pass.

**The Speaker:** Seconder? Honourable minister, hon. Counsel to the Community.

Honourable members, I now propose the question that the East African Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read a third time and do pass.

I now put the question that the East African Community Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read a third time and do pass.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Bill read a Third Time.

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT, 2016

**The Speaker:** I would like to congratulate the Chair, Council of Ministers and the members for passing this Bill that we could not pass in Dar-es-Salaam. Congratulations - *(Applause)*.

#### CONSIDERATION OF THE BUDGET OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/2017

*(Resumption of debate interrupted on Wednesday, 1 June 2016)*

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, you remember that the Chair, Council of Ministers moved a motion. We progressed to a committee report and the chair presented the committee report but in her communication, she communicated to this House that there is a very vital annex to the report and therefore, the debate that she needed to present. I now call upon the chairperson to refresh this House, present the annex and give a few highlights of the annex.

Has the annex, which you promised to submit, been distributed?

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** I think that the members do not have them yet. Let me again ask the staff to distribute them.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, this is very important. Actually, the chair of the

committee and the committee is putting the House in a dilemma because you may recall that yesterday, they could not conclude their report because of this annex and now we are supposed to be proceeding and we cannot do so without this annex.

I am under pressure to suspend the House for only ten minutes. Honourable colleagues, this is the issue of the main stay of the Budget where figures are being moved. We cannot debate this budget without this document; it is not fair to the House. Therefore, I suspend the House for only five minutes. Can you make sure that the document is available? House is suspended for five minutes.

*(The House was suspended)*

*(On resumption\_)*

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, I would like to apologise. I thought that the committee was almost done but by the time we were asking for the adjournment, they were still working. I hope that all the work has been done. Chair, proceed.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would say that the reason for this delay was that we had a meeting with the Council of Ministers this morning and it was a long meeting. That is the reason why when we finished the meeting after midday, we had to correct the document. We had hoped that they would be ready but now they are and therefore, I beg to lay on the table the documents, the supplementary and annexes that we had mentioned yesterday in the report of the committee. Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay.

*(Dr Nyiramilimo laid the documents on the Table)*

Mr. Speaker, the main discussion we had with the Council of Ministers on 2 June 2016 where the committee had proposed reallocation to the Budget estimates – The Deputy Prime Minister who was representing the whole Council in that

meeting was of the view that EALA could not reallocate across budget lines and cost centres of Organs and institutions of EAC.

That caused problems because we are considering Clause 132 of the Treaty. We are the organ to approve the Budget and therefore, there are issues that were brought in the House and where we think that the ministers will agree with us that these reallocations were necessary.

For example if you look at the annex 2(a) where we propose reallocation from the Secretariat to the Audit Commission. The Audit Commission, which is an independent body of the Budget, is housed in EALA to strengthen its independence but there is also a vote of its budget, which was under the Internal Audit of the Secretariat.

We propose that this money be reallocated to the main budget of the Audit Commission because the minister felt that the money should not move from one organ to the other.

We even advised, proposed and agreed that in future, a new vote should be created for the Audit Commission to have its total independence so that the budget is not under the Secretariat and not under EALA. For the time being, we had proposed \$22,500 to be given to the Audit Commission.

I think I do not need to go through all these proposed reallocations as honourable colleagues have the proposals and this shall be explained when we need to make any reallocation.

**The Speaker:** Chairperson, maybe to help the members that are not members of the committee, how many annexes do you have? Are they three? Just state what each one is talking about. From there, they can pick up.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would request hon. Mulengani to help me

to explain annex 2(a) and hon. Zein 2(b). Thank you.

**The Speaker:** If that be the case, honourable chair we shall proceed this way. They will do so by way of debate because the next stage is to move to debate.

I now propose that this House constitutes itself into (a) a Committee of Ways and Means to consider and approve the financial statements for the financial year 2016/2017 and (b) a Committee of Supply to consider and approve the estimates of expenditure for the Financial Year 2016/2017. Debate is open.

It is at this point that the request of the Chair can be attained. Hon. Mulengani, help explain the annexes.

**Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. In helping the Chair explain the proposed reallocation for the East African Community detailed Budget report for Financial Year 2016/2017 –

**The Speaker:** Hon. Mulengani, after you have helped the Chair, take this as a substantive floor that you have taken. You will go ahead and debate because in our Rules of Procedure, you cannot speak twice on an item.

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me begin with the request by the Chair. Mr. Speaker, there is a document which is in matrix form. It is annex 2(a). On page 1, the committee is proposing reallocation of the total budget under the internal audit of \$22,500 to the cost centre of the Audit Commission on page 823 under the Office of the Clerk.

The activity here is to present the audit report of the EAC financial statement for the Financial Year 2014/2015 to Council by the Audit Commission. The committee deems it fit that this Budget, for purposes of creating independence of the Audit

Commission should be housed within the Audit Commission cost centre.

We are therefore proposing a total shift from that cost centre of Internal Audit to the cost centre, Audit Commission.

On page two, the committee is proposing to move a budget of \$12,600 from Internal Audit where it is preparing an activity description to attend the meeting of EALA Committee of Accounts as when deliberating on audited matters.

Mr. Speaker, the committee reflects on the resolution of this Assembly: Resolution EALA/RES/3/14 of 2013 specifically under 2(1) and (3) as moved by hon. Peter Mathuki on 29 August 2013 that, "The Assembly shall hold two sittings in Arusha at EAC headquarters namely (1) the Budget Session and (2) Review of the audited accounts."

Mr. Speaker, premised on this reason, the Committee of General Purpose, finds it unfit to budget for staff of the Secretariat to travel to present because we shall be in Arusha where they are actually housed.

So we are proposing a total shift of the budget to the Audit Commission:

One, to enable the Audit Commission be present during the audited accounts because the budget has provided for only six days but Mr Speaker and colleagues, the Accounts Committee sits for 14 days and the Audit Commission formed a basis of the technical arm of the Accounts Committee.

So even from our earlier resolution during the capacity building workshop report for EALA committee on Accounts that was held in Bujumbura between 3-6 August 2014, the committee adopted and the House adopted the committee recommendation that the Audit Commission should be present until we are tabling, debating and adopting the report of the Audit Commission.

We are therefore proposing that the US\$12,000 be shifted to the Audit Commission cost centre to enable it be present during the proceedings and the committee proceedings.

In (3) on page 3, the committee is proposing to reallocate the sum of \$54,500 that has been planned for the Secretary General and Counsel to the Community to attend five to six EALA meetings to participate in legislation processes.

Again based on the resolution of this Assembly, there will be two sittings of the Assembly in Arusha and therefore it does not call for planning for travelling of the Secretary General and his staff and the CTC to attend these meetings.

The committee proposes that this budget be reallocated as follows:

- Amount of \$16,800 to be reallocated to the Audit Commission.

Members will note that there are several allocations to the Audit Commission as we are trying to look for monies to sum up to get to at least 20 days for the Audit Commission: 14 in the committee and at least six days in the plenary.

We are also proposing that a sum of US\$37,700 will be posted to underfunded priorities that will come, as I will mention ahead.

The total budget of the Audit Commission that will have to be moved from the Secretary General's office or the East African Secretariat amounts to \$51,900. Therefore, the new Audit Commission budget line totals to \$368,000 plus the US\$51,900, which gives us a new total of \$419,900.

Mr. Speaker, on page 4, the committee is proposing that under the Directorate of Finance in the cost centre of accounts, they are also budgeting to present the audited financial statement to the Public Accounts



Committee of EALA amounting to US\$42,000.

Mr. Speaker, again, just like justified during the budget, under this audited financial statements to be presented, we are proposing that this be reallocated together with the US\$37,000 saved earlier which makes a total of US\$79,700 be reallocated to inter organ and institutions proposed for reallocation.

One such area is the East African Science and Technology Commission, which presented their budget, but through rationalisation at the Secretariat, they cut their budget that demands them to appear during statutory meetings by half. Therefore, when they appeared before the committee, we interrogated and they said they were unable to attend statutory meetings if the budget is left as is.

We are therefore proposing a reallocation of US\$34,700 to the cost centre of the East African Science and Technology Commission to enable them to attend statutory meetings.

We are also proposing a reallocation to cost centre; the East African Kiswahili Commission to cover very crucial issues that the Summit and the Council has pronounced itself on. These include, carrying out capacity assessment of Kiswahili institutions in each Partner State, they are requesting for US\$15,000.

To establish Kiswahili students and staff exchange programmes amongst and between education institutions. They are requesting for US\$15,000.

To initiate the process of developing Kiswahili as an EAC official language. Mr Speaker, if we adopted this, proceedings in this Chamber would be difficult to follow. Indeed, it is very pertinent that the General Purpose Committee is proposing a total reallocation of US\$45,000 to the Kiswahili Commission to be able to take on these activities.

Mr. Speaker, on page 5, the last one in the East African Secretariat, is the cost centre on Budget. The activity description is to present the draft budget endorsed by Council to the General Purposes Committee and the EALA plenary for adoption.

Mr. Speaker, in line with what I explained during the audited accounts for purposes of time, this activity, just like we are today, everything has been handled at the headquarters and no staff was provided with DSA, no staff got conference facilities, no air transport transfers and we think this money is available for reallocation.

Mr. Speaker, we are proposing an internal reallocation, as a committee, to send this money to the DSG Planning and Infrastructure on page 138 of the MTEF.

Mr. Speaker, the total amount to cover 15 members of the General Purposes Committee to attend the pre-budget conference – Under page 138 of the DSGP and I, they have allocated a zero budget for Members of Parliament to attend the pre-budget conference.

This is contrary to the resolution of the Second Assembly and that of the Third Assembly as has been the practice. We are proposing a movement of this amount of money to cater for that particular activity.

Mr. Speaker, the new proposed budget for this activity under DSG Planning and Infrastructure will be the current allocation of \$42,200 plus the \$32,600 making a total of \$74,800.

Mr. Speaker, lastly under the cost centre of planning and research, the activity is to hold meetings to monitor for implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol at the regional level.

Mr. Speaker, there is a budget of \$95,800. The committee is proposing an internal reallocation to the cost centre of M&E on

page 151 of the MTEF the entire amount and entire activity.

Mr. Speaker, it is the view of the committee that the activity as described in the MTEF is an M&E function. The committee also observes that to separate implementation and monitoring function, we need to move this amount of money to M&E but also to avert outcomes that may arise due to conflict of interest while carrying out the monitoring.

Mr. Speaker, under the cost centre of planning and research, the new budget therefore will be \$336,250 and the new budget under the M&E will be the sum of that one plus the previous allocation to give us \$425,800.

Mr. Speaker and members, I beg to present.

I now proceed to the East African Legislative Assembly reallocations as proposed by the General Purposes Committee. Under (1), annex 2(b), the committee is proposing that the fourth activity from all the six committees of the Assembly be frozen as follows:

On page 750; Accounts Committee. There was a proposed allocation of \$53,000.

On page 762 of the MTEF, there is a proposed allocation for both legal and regional committees an amount of \$113,050.

On page 79; General Purposes Committee, there is a total allocation of \$118,000 but the committee is proposing to reallocate \$53,000 from that committee.

On page 770; Communication, Trade and Investment, the committee is proposing a reallocation of \$58,250.

On page 790; Agriculture, the committee is proposing a reallocation of \$58,250. Under that activity, the sub total that we get is \$335,550.

The committee went further to look at the two sessions that will be taking place in Arusha and that is the Budget and the audited accounts. The committee realised that there was planning for staff of the Assembly to travel and attend these sessions.

The committee has looked at the tickets of the staff and there is \$1000, DSA for staff \$9,100, vehicle hire \$3000, giving us a total of \$13,000.

On page 774, General Purposes budget, the same thing happened. Staff had been planned for and there is a reduction of \$13,100.

Mr. Speaker, this second category gives us a sub total of \$26,200. The total proposed reallocation from the above – I would not like to call it a saving because indeed we are punitively releasing some of these monies to achieve certain objectives in the budget.

The total reallocation from the above is \$357,500.

Proposed expenditure for that saving or reallocation.

To the cost centre of Office of the Speaker, the activity is sensitisation. The amount initially provided was \$108,950. The committee proposes that we plan for a sensitisation of 12 days and that would cost approximately \$325,000 creating a deficit of sensitisation of \$216,050.

This will be covered from the savings mentioned earlier: \$357,500.

Mr. Speaker, it leaves us with a balance of \$141,450. The proposed action to this balance is that we reallocate an amount of \$20,000 – I beg your pardon; there was an audit attention that we did which proposed that we put aside \$10,000 and the balance would go somewhere else as I will read.

We allocate \$10,000 to EAPI, South Sudan we allocate \$27,000, and for purposes of the iPads, we allocate \$10,000. This gives a

total of \$47,000. The balance would be \$94,450 to be allocated as follows:

We are proposing an allocation to page 802 under the cost centre of the Office of the Clerk. The activity is to convene a bi-annual thematic meeting/network of the EAC national and the EALA parliamentary staff to enhance staff linkages with EAC national parliaments.

Mr. Speaker, the initial amount that had been allocated is zero. We thought that the decision of the Speakers' forum would need to be implemented and that was the justification.

We therefore have a balance of \$82,450. Maybe I will read the figures as is and come back to make the readjustments. Let me assume that EAPI is \$20,000 so that we proceed with the figures. Therefore the balance will be \$72,450 to be brought forward into the next category (2).

The committee looked at the following areas; saving from reducing costs of refreshments by \$10 across the board. Mr Speaker, the rate of the Community is \$35 per person. What the Assembly is doing is to deprive itself of \$35 to \$25 so that we are able to achieve other activities.

So we are saying that across the board in all our activities, where there is \$35 they will put \$25 so that we are able to cater for these other very urgent priorities.

Two, savings on reduction of procurement of attire for Speaker and staff. Again, Mr Speaker, this one is intended to ensure that we address other things but not to deprive. This is \$13,000.

Members, in (c) we have members attending national celebrations. We are proposing that we reduce this by \$30,000 and we are requesting our colleagues wherever we shall be in our Partner States, whenever there are national celebrations we attend to represent our colleagues that will not be present.

Indeed, we are proposing a reduction on retreat and luncheons and dignitaries by \$54,000. In (e) we are proposing a reduction to EALA attending special sittings of RECs with \$6,900.

In (f) we are proposing a reduction on the budget for provision of vehicles during plenary. Mr Speaker, ordinarily we budget for five and we are saying that we shall reduce the busses to two. So we are depriving ourselves of three buses during plenary time.

In (g), where they had proposed to facilitate members to attend Summit, we are proposing a deduction of \$8,800.

The Inter Parliamentary Games: It is the considered opinion of the committee that the Inter Parliamentary Games be reduced by \$56,000 and it is premised on a calculation of enabling only 25 members and staff – I think staff are usually 20 as well. I needed to look at the document further but we are proposing a reduction of \$56,000.

Under the Commission, the committee proposed that the activities of the Commission be added together. We used a working document. The committee proposed that out of the total budget of \$384,000 of the Commission, Commission be given \$279,435.

Mr. Speaker, there is a leaf attached on the document; that small matrix with very tiny figures through (a), (b), (c), (d) gives the breakdown of how the \$279,435 comes about. This will bring us to a figure of reallocation of \$104,556. When we sum up all the totals I have read from the balance brought forward and the various savings through (a) to (i). It gives us a grand total saving of \$503,715.

Mr. Speaker, proposed expenditure. Page 725; cost centre, Office of the Speaker. Activity: Sensitisation. Amount initially allocated was \$79,800. Again, in harmony with the previous sensitisation, the

committee is proposing 12 days of sensitisation equivalent to \$325,000. The deficit therefore from the allocated is \$245,200 to be reallocated from that grand total of \$503,715. It will give us a balance of \$258,515.

Mr. Speaker, the General Purposes Committee proposes to reallocate that balance as follows: To reallocate \$58,515 to the Committee on Regional Affairs to partake its Treaty mandate on the EAC progress report as will be laid by Council.

Lastly, (d) is the select committee on genocide; provision of \$200,000.

I beg to present, Mr. Speaker, the position of the General Purposes Committee. *(Applause)*

Mr. Speaker, as you said that I would not rise again, I just have a few things to say on the budget.

The budget has seen a zero growth of the Partner States' contribution but also the development partners have withdrawn or reduced their contributions. By and large, the predictable funding; funding from the Partner States has seen the entire Secretariat grow by 5 per cent and the other institutions have not grown at all. EALA has grown by 1 per cent and that is in the area of the predictable funding.

There are projects that are not performing generally but their importance is commendable. I will give an example of the project on APSA. It has done many things but there is no funding at all. Our concern as a committee, and it is not the first time for the Council to come out and say how much they can take on to fund some of these activities and the sustainability.

In the committee report, one important thing that I need to mention is the sectoral Council on Finance pronounced themselves on the issue of funding but also pronounced themselves on the penalties that they propose to evoke; Article 143 of the Treaty.

Maybe somehow it will bring a good response to remittances to both the Community organs and the institutions. By and large, Mr Speaker, I think it is a budget that if adopted with these modifications, will see us move to higher strides.

I want to stop here because I know that many people would like to speak on the budget. I thank you, Mr Speaker for the opportunity and thank you, Chairperson, For the Delegation.

**Ms Kessy Nderakindo (Tanzania):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. This is just to draw your attention to page one of the annex 2(b) where there is an error. If we take the sub total of \$335,550, add the \$26,200, we do not get \$357,500. Rather we get \$361,750. Therefore, we have less. It means that we have more by \$4250. I cannot recommend where it should be put but I will ask the Chair of the General Purpose Committee, together with hon. Mulengani to see where they can make use of this. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Kessy.

**Ms Maryam Ussi (Tanzania):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker for giving me way to speak and contribute on this year's budget.

I must first declare that I am a member of the General Purposes Committee and knowing that all the other members want to contribute, I will just contribute briefly on thing that I think were not in our report that I think might be of concern.

Mr Speaker, our budget has reduced from \$130 million from last year to \$110 million this year. The Partner States have promised to put on 47 per cent on their contribution.

My point is to highlight the key challenges that we faced on the 2015/2016 budget and to urge the Council of Ministers to look at this with a good eye.

One of the key challenges of last year's budget was delay in remittance of funds from Partner States. We have been saying this in all our recommendations that the legal time to remit funds is 31 December of that particular year of the budget which means that for this 2016/2017 budget, we are supposed to get money from Partner States; the full amount, on 31 December 2016.

My pledge to the Council of Ministers is that we have promised ourselves to contribute more and to take integration further. We should not be waiting for donor funding which is normally delayed. We cannot force someone who is helping you to remit the funds on time. What we can depend on is Partner States' funds so we do not expect Partner States also not to be remitted on time.

When we were looking at this year's budget as a committee, we are remaining with only two months before finishing this financial year 2015/2016 and the money from Partner States has still not been remitted fully.

A few days ago, hon. Ogle was saying that we are either in it fully on integration or we are not in. we should just put on paper that we want to move on with the integration process without showing. We must walk the walk instead of talking the talk. Partner States must remit funds in time so that the donors will see that we intend to move integration forward.

Mr Speaker, when I look at this year's budget, youth activities have not been given any consideration that they deserve. We know that in all our five Partner States, youth constitute a high percentage of our population. One of the main programs that were done in the last year's budget were activities to implement the development of a draft framework to facilitate a joint programme to encourage exchange of youth workers among the Partner States.

This is in accordance with Article 10(8) of the EAC Common Market Protocol.

However, in this year's budget, that activity has been given zero funding. So we are planning on one year, we are not implementing in the next year and I do not know if this activity will come again in the next year. So my plea to the Secretariat and the Council of Ministers is to include the youth who are the majority so that they know that we really intend to consider them in our activities and in the integration process.

During this plenary session, I have been speaking to many youth, including youth ambassadors and UN representatives of the youth who come here in Arusha for their own activities and they are eager to participate in our sensitisation program. They are eager to participate in all integration programmes but we do not consider them.

Lastly, before I finish, it is not good to congratulate ourselves but let us also congratulate ourselves for the saving that we have made in EALA. Let me also congratulate the new SG who has done a lot of saving in the Secretariat. He has reduced many travels in the Secretariat so it shows that as EALA and the Secretariat, we really intend to save so that our Community programmes go through.

Lastly, let me quickly talk about the Kiswahili Commission. Last year there was funding that was set aside for recruitment of EAC Kiswahili Commission staff but only four staff have been recruited although the money was set aside.

Mr Speaker, this Commission is the only identity that Zanzibaris, also known as Tanzanians of Zanzibari origin, have as their part in the integration process. It is in their country but I am wondering why recruitment has not gone through when the money was put aside. There are only four staff on this commission up to this moment.

My pledge to the Secretariat and to the Council of Ministers, that as part of the union, Zanzibar should see that they are participating in the integration process as well. When you are recruiting, consider them also in higher posts, they should not just be the sweepers and tea makes. There are many Zanzibaris who are qualified and they can take high positions in this commission.

So I urge the Council of Ministers to put this into consideration, as well as the Secretariat. When you are recruiting, advertise these posts freely and openly so that Zanzibaris who are qualified to take these posts should know and recruitment should be open so that they can apply. If they are not qualified for the posts, that is understandable but they should be considered.

I thank you, Mr Speaker and I support the Budget report.

**The Speaker:** Honourable colleagues, you may like to be reminded that we are debating the Budget speech by the minister, the chairperson's report and all the incidentals to the budgeting process.

By what the committee has given, I would like to remind this House that they have said that inter parliamentary games, by the proposed budget, will only be attended by about 25 members and not the whole House. That is what they have suggested and I want to bring to your attention.

**Ms Emerance Bucumi (Burundi):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker for giving me this opportunity to contribute on this motion. I declare that I am a member of the General Purposes Committee and let me first congratulate the Chair of the committee for the job well done. We have been here from 10 May scrutinising the EAC Budget and it was a hard exercise.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate all members of the General Purposes

Committee for the commitment and hardworking spirit.

Mr Speaker, through the Budget Speech presented by the Chair, Council and through the committee report, it is clear that the EAC Budget is decreasing year by year as members who spoke before me have already said.

I can go further and show how that Budget is decreasing since FY 2012/2013 and how the budget from the donors followed the same pace in decreasing. In 2012/2013, the EAC Budget was \$138 million while the budget from the donors was \$97 million. In 2013/2014, the EAC Budget was \$131 million while the budget from the donors was \$85 million. In 2014/2015, the EAC Budget as \$124 million while the budget from the donors was \$75 million. In 2015/2016, the EAC Budget was \$110 million while the budget from the donors was \$58 million. Now for the next financial year 2016/2017, the EAC Budget is only \$101 million while the budget from the donors is \$46 million.

By this you can see how the budget from the donors is decreasing by around 50 per cent of the total budget they used to give us as EAC region.

Mr Speaker, you may recall that every time we have debate don the Budget Speech, members worried about the future of this Community if nothing is done. They always raised this question: "What will happen if our development partners are no longer supporting this region?" This is happening now because they are decreasing their funding by 50 per cent of what they used to give us. This is not a good thing. Today you see that we are facing that concern that was raised before by members of this Parliament.

Mr Speaker, the decrease of 20 per cent of the Budget from the donors for the next financial year is very significant and if nothing is done, what will happen

tomorrow when we know that even some donors are dealing with their own problems?

Mr Speaker, my hope is that among the strategies for mitigating the expected challenges during the financial year 2016/2017, an alternative sustainable finance mechanism for more sustainable sources of funding is at its finalisation phase.

In addition, when you see how new institutions are being created, which is not bad, and yet the contributions from the Partner States is not increasing, I wonder how all projects and programs will be realised.

Some measures are truly necessary and I support them like the one to restrict the number of delegates to EAC meetings facilitated by the EAC Secretariat to only one delegate by Partner States. Mr Speaker, we need to be rational.

On the issue of quorum, when you look at the wastage of resources when a Partner State fails to attend a meeting and denies quorum, suppose today one Partner States denies us quorum and the second time another one does the same, the third time another does the same, how much money is the Community losing?

In this case it is not only money that is being wasted but also time and yet we are not moving in terms of development, we are doing what francophone people call, *marchaise plus*. I translate: we pretend moving while we are still on the same fence.

Mr Speaker, the Council of Ministers should review the rules relating to quorum so that we can save money for other purposes.

Without saying too much, Mr Speaker, I thank you once again and I support the motion.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Bucumi.

**Mr Jeremie Ngendakumana (Burundi):** I thank you, Mr Speaker. I just have two observations. The first one is about the reallocation and the second one is about the Budget in general.

About the reallocation, I would like to remind this House that EALA is a member of the Eastern Africa Association for Public Accounts Committees. This means that we have \$12,000 as unpaid arrears and last time when we met in Kigali and earlier in Sudan, I promised that this money should be paid in this financial year's budget.

Another issue is about the attendance of these meetings, which need about \$40,000. I would like to see \$28,000 allocated to the Committee on Accounts to be able to participate in those meetings but also to be able to pay the arrears.

That was on reallocation. Now I would like to come back to the Budget in general. Mr Speaker, the preparation of a budget is an exercise by which an entity comes up with a summary of intended or expected revenues and expenditure for a determined period of time.

The budget represents an action plan used to project the future income and expenses. For a budget to be helpful, it is made based on budget report performances. A budget is an important tool for management and there is need to stick to a budget, to live within the available means and to plan expenditures in accordance with the expected funds.

A clear awareness of how much money is expected to come in and consequently, full attention to how much can be spent is the essence of the budget. When an organisation does not expect to get enough resources to cover its needs, it will have either to cut back on spending or find an alternative source of funding.

Once those principles are observed, the management can build a budget that is practical to implement. To be practical and implementable, a budget must be realistic and flexible. A budget should, as much as possible, be a correct representation of an anticipated future or result. It should accurately represent what is anticipated to happen or what is actually expected to occur.

The capability to predict the future is based on past and present data and analysis of trends.

Mr Speaker, from those observations, let us have a look at the budget of the Community for the last three financial years and focus on how the expected revenue has been realised – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Clarification from hon. Ogle. Will you take it?

**Mr Ngendakumana:** Yes, I will take it.

**Mr Ogle:** I have to interrupt my good friend, hon. Jeremie. I thought he was contributing to the Budget and not giving us lectures on what the meaning of a budget is.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ogle, a member is deriving his point while giving a historical perspective and it is not in order for you to refer to him as giving a lecture.

**Mr Ngendakumana:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. During the last three years, beginning 2013/2014, from a total expected revenue of US\$133,349,402, the Community has been able to collect a total amount of \$58,991,085.

For the financial year ended June 2015, from US\$126,110,145 expected, only US\$61,332,492 has been collected.

About the current financial year, which is to be concluded by the end of this month, the availed data is as follows: By March 2016, the total expenditures are \$49,882,204 compared to an expected amount of \$88,532,610.

By extrapolation, the US\$49,882,204 collected in three quarters can be extrapolated and extended to US\$66,509,605 for the whole year.

Considering the trend line of the revenue of the Community for the last three years, US\$59,991,098 in 2014, US\$61,332,492 by June 2015, US\$66,509,605 expected by June 2016, one question comes in my mind: I cannot see the realism when from US\$66,509,605 expected from this financial year, we can plan and expect to get US\$102,334,589 in 2017. This is because the trend line of our budget does not justify a budget of US\$101 million when we have collected just US\$66 million this year.

The idea at hand is that our budget of this period in time, just like the previous one, is not realistic and does not represent what is actually expected to happen. So this budget is not based on the budget report performance. I would feel comfortable if this budget were about US\$70 million because from this financial year, we would have been able to collect \$66 million but from \$66 million, expecting to collect \$ 100 million, I think is not realistic.

Mr Speaker, I submit and I support the report.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Jeremie.

**Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very important debate. I would like to add my voice and congratulate the Committee on General Purpose for a job well done and for the clarity in the matters, it has presented.

I would like to raise a few issues because we are at a stage of transition whereby we have been given financial and administrative autonomy which is very important by the Council of Ministers and we are very grateful for this. Therefore, I would like to propose and I have consulted with hon. Mulengani who presented on this,



on some aspects, which we may need to look at and not to be too specific on.

For example when you look at page two and maybe in other places, you will find that the activity on sensitisation has been provided for and it says that the amount required is for 12 days sensitisation US\$325,000. This is okay but if you limit it to just 12 days, and yet for example you may have some other funders who have promised to partner with us in sensitisation, we may be holding ourselves back.

Therefore, what we could do is to put that amount as sensitisation and thereafter if we get any more then we will be able to see how we can increase the number of days and be able to have some flexibility and he has agreed with me because if you budget so tightly, even when you have funding for sensitisation coming from other sources, you may get tied by what has been presented in this particular report.

I have also seen South Sudan – I think it was three days. I think this will also be contingent on the Office of the Speaker and therefore, these are some of the areas where we may need a bit of flexibility to be able to allow some kind of internal reallocation.

Mr Speaker, apart from the issue of sensitisation and the specifics especially when it comes to days, I would like to move on to the issue of some of the principles which I think we discussed as a commission, let me say it bluntly, when it comes to committee activities.

If I am assured that this was followed, I would be very happy. I think the points that we made and these were made to the committees, was that all committees get the same funding for the same activities. For example, if it is oversight and everybody is getting US\$60,000 then this is done.

The other aspect we talked about was that all committees get sitting allowance for all the activities. If this is being catered for, I think this is all right.

We also took into account that there are some committees that have very specific mandates for example the General Purpose Committee, the Accounts Committee as well as, I think, Regional Affairs. I have seen Regional Affairs Committee- I do not know whether it is a new thing, I hope the chairperson is listening – I know that there is supposed to be a report, maybe it is the one on page three so I would like some clarity on these issues. If this is assured, I think this is okay because when you go into specifics and you tie the hands of the Assembly from using the financial and administrative powers given to be able to realistically budget on these aspects.

I would like to move on to a very important item, and this is the issue on games. Page 3, which is providing for the Inter Parliamentary Games US\$56,000 to cater for only 25 members, does not make sense. The aspect of Inter Parliamentary Games has been used for several reasons and you heard in the history of the East African Community from the First Lady of Uganda that Inter Parliamentary Games, especially football, was used in the integration process.

When you look at this figure, it does not even cater for the meetings of the organising committees. Therefore, I think this is an issue that we have to look into very critically to be able to come to a figure, which would make sense.

From the last discussions, if my memory serves me well, Inter Parliamentary Games do not take less than \$400,000 so this is an amount that has to be sourced because even if you sent 25 members – (*Interruption*) -

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, hon. Dora for giving way. The figures that you see here are the ones that we are saving. So US\$56,000 is what we have removed from the Inter Parliamentary Games but what remains behind is approximately US\$ 300,000 plus if we look at the MTEF.

**Ms Byamukama:** Thank you very much, hon. Mulengani for that clarification because when you read it as is, it does not give that kind of clarification.

I will not go into the saving as I think it is very good to save but considering that we are having more games being played, I will leave it at this. I think that clarification puts my – *(Interruption)* -

**Mr. Joseph Kiangoi:** Thank you very much, hon. Dora. I pick from what hon. Mulengani just said. Does it still stand that just a specified number of members will participate or we can retain the formula of having everyone participating in the games because what we are removing is not a big amount that should justify almost half of the members not participating in the games.

**The Speaker:** I think some of those answers will come when the Chair is clarifying. If the Chair finds that she has limitations in terms of explanations and a member is better placed, I will give her the liberty to request the member to explain that to the House. Hon. Dora, proceed.

**Ms Byamukama:** Mr Speaker, I just wanted to say that in view of hon. Mulengani's explanation, then the words 'to cater for only 25 members' would not stand because you are saving from a budget which caters for all members and this is a saving from there. So if you are saying that this is a saving, then the brackets to cater for 25 members I think should be deleted because the principle is that all members should participate in Inter Parliamentary Games. That is one of the principles that we have put.

Mr. Speaker, I also see that we may need some more explanations. For example, when we look at the issue of iPads, this again I think is considered as a saving. I do not know from which particular budget line which maybe would have been more clear but the point is that there is a budget line which has US\$35,000 and therefore this

US\$10,000 was to be added to that particular budget line in order to cater for all members at a rate of about US\$1000.

As I said before, when you go to specifics in this kind of addendum and yet you do not specify for example the principles, which had been agreed upon, then we may lose sight of what we have already gained.

I would like to conclude with the issue of EAPI. We have had very good news on this issue and I think there is also a point to be made that Partner States' parliaments would like to contribute. This is not captured at all and I think it is an issue, which we need to follow up, as there is a commitment that has been made.

When it comes to the issue of genocide, there has also been a commitment that there will be some funding once the particular activity begins. I think this is what I captured earlier and therefore, we do not have to limit it to this because I think there was a proposal whereby the Council of Ministers had said that it could be carried forward.

So we still need to remind ourselves of the earlier proposal and not of what is available, nor of what we can get in case we have other people who would like to fund this.

In conclusion, I would like to say that when you look at this annex, I have no major problem with it as I said but my concern is that when you start talking about 12 days, 25 members, 3 days in South Sudan, we may be going into micromanagement which can actually be done and we realise the same objectives that we have set out to do.

In conclusion, Mr Speaker, I would like to make a small mention of the aspect which has been alluded to by my sister hon. Maryam. At the EAC level, and this is my ninth year and this is something that has challenged me and I would like to leave when it has been put to rest, we usually look

at the expenditure and we are not in charge at all of the revenue aspect.

In the national parliaments, you can increase on revenue with the government through taxation and otherwise but right here, I think the biggest challenge we have is how to bring to a conclusion this idea of alternative financing mechanisms.

I have many notes here and I know that directives have been made. I know that now there is a proposal for a hybrid but this is a suggestion that has been on since 2005 by the Audit Commission.

If you remember very well, during the course of this financial year and earlier, we have been in a crisis of some sort. I do not want to be an alarmist but we have been uncertain of having money for a plenary and even just being functional. The question that I asked before this House was whether this EAC is doing very well, and whether all of us are benefitting. In planning this is called a cash cow or a stag. Why are we starving this cash cow? Why aren't we funding it?

I would like to implore the Chair, Council of Ministers - and I know that with your mantra "*hapa ni kazi tu*", we will be able to ensure that we have this hybrid funding in place. This is the only way that we can be certain, and this is the only way that we can be confident that we are all committed to the integration of East African Community and in particular, moving towards Political Federation.

With these few comments, Mr Speaker, I would like to propose that these amendments be taken into account and that you allow me at some point to bring a motion so that we discuss this aspect of alternative financing mechanisms so that we can appreciate it better and so that we can speak with one voice. I thank you, sir.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Dora.

**Mr. Saole Ole Nkanae (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. From the onset, I think this House needs to demand that we have no option other than having all members of this House attending the games.

In the Speakers' Forum, you suggested that Parliament should increase the numbers. I hope that you are not rescinding on that.

Mr Speaker, may I now contribute to the speech of the Chair, Council. I thank her wonderful speech, which she gave at the opening. I would like to mention three things. One, it is now 10 years and thank God, the institutional review is out. We are told that there are recommendations from that report. The consultations took so long and a lot of money was spent.

I think it was the most expensive thing we undertook; for 10 years. It was called a cash cow. Hon. Kimbisa said, if this one comes out, let it be *mar bayne*. There is a tree, which can cure 40 sicknesses. Since it is now out and I congratulate the SG, Liberat Mfumukeko, for being admitted into this House and taking over from the previous SG.

Can we know how we are going to implement this thing, which has eaten a lot of our money? Is this House going to be involved? We hear that there is going to be an exodus of staff members; 31 of them moving from June to March next year. How are we going to take care of equity? How are we going to take care of seniority versus our six member states? Is Sudan going to be considered? When are they coming? We need to interrogate that report.

The other thing is the element of infrastructure. I have read the report and I have seen that there is a good report on roads, particularly in the three countries. There is the standard gauge railway. I am happy to report that at least 70 per cent of the Nairobi-Mombasa railway is complete. The Nairobi-Naivasha is on and there is

mention about Kampala-Malaba but no mention from Kampala to Kigali.

I do not know whether the cow, which was supposed to be a coalition of the willing, has been shelved. On the same note –

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ole Nkanae, for the purpose of our records, it must be made clear that what they call the coalition of the willing was a coinage of the media. There is no nomenclature of that sort in the books or the statutes of the East African Community.

What was happening in the Northern Corridor, which is now happening in the Central Corridor, was implementation of the variable geometry principle, which is in the Treaty. You can proceed from there.

**Mr. Nkanae:** Thank you for that clarification, Mr Speaker. I will not call it the coalition of the willing.

There was an agreement and we were told as a country – now I am talking about Kenya- to wait for another three years so that we can have Pakwach – I do not know whether Pakwach encompasses the Lakes Albert and Kyoga route coming to Isiolo and going to Lamu – (*Interruption*) -

**Mr. Mwinyi:** Mr Speaker, may I get clarification from my honourable friend as to how a pipeline from Uganda is relevant to the East African Community and the Treaty and the Budget. Isn't that a bi-lateral matter between Partner States?

**Mr Nkanae:** I do not agree with that interruption – (*Interruption*) -

**Ms Byamukama:** Mr Speaker, the information I would like to give is that the last time I heard the President of Uganda speak on this matter, he said that the oil resource is for all East Africans so I think this is not a bi-lateral matter and it is very important that we take it as an East African matter. I thank you.

**Mr. Nkanae:** Thank you for that information.

**Ms Byamukama:** I do remember that His Excellency Yoweri Museveni invited all East Africans to come and get shares in this oil. Thank you.

**Mr. Nkanae:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I hope I do not have limited time.

**The Speaker:** It is at your liberty to accept.

**Mr. Zein:** Mr Speaker, I particularly would like to inform my good friend, hon. Mwinyi, who is seated on my right, that it was part of the master plan of infrastructural development of the East African Community.

**Mr. Nkanae:** May I thank all members who have given me the information. Mr Speaker, that pipeline was supposed to have been done three years ago but we were told to wait as a country so that we can connect to the Kyoga route – I am not sure of the area.

However, recently I saw in the newspapers things to do with multi-nationals interfering with that arrangement, and they said that the other route is shorter through Iseeta-Dar es Salaam-Tanga. There was an incident and our minister was supposed to be here - An incident occurred in Tanga where an honourable minister, Charles Keter, was prohibited from going to Tanga harbour. As a result, the initial arrangement backfired. We need clarification as a country.

There is something to do with Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA) in this Budget; \$4.5 million and it is said that it is in our budget but it will appear in our Partner States. Who will account? Why should it be put in our budget and yet we are not going to be responsible? That question should be asked, as there is suspicion there.

With those few remarks, I beg to submit.

**Mr Pierre-Celestin Rwigema (Rwanda):**

Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me the floor. I would like to thank the Chair, Council for the speech on the Budget yesterday.

I would also like to thank the Chair of General Purpose Committee for the clarity of the Budget as presented today but I cannot forget my friend, hon. Mulengani who went through the data and gave a very strong and good presentation.

Mr Speaker, I rise to support this Budget and to give a few comments. My first comment is concerning the Budget performance. Budget performance cannot go beyond 60 per cent.

Hon. Jeremie, in his interrogation, was looking at how we can engage 60 per cent while the Budget is 100 per cent. In fact, you can ask yourself why you are giving a high budget when you are performing at 60 per cent. The problem is because of the contributions of our Partner States. I went through the report and I saw that Kenya was among the first contributors and paying almost 100 per cent. It has to be congratulated.

Other Partner States are at almost 60-70 per cent, there is even one Partner State now, which is not able to pay. Why? It is not paying because of critical problems and I was interested to go through the budget of the Secretariat, mainly the DSG on Political Federation to see what was given because if one Partner State is affected, the whole Community is affected. When it is affected, we can think that we are moving when we are not moving.

When I went through, I saw that what we think about East African Community Peace and Security Initiative, looking to see if there is some mediation resources, they are only given by the development partners and to see if there is promotion and participation for women and youth in conflict prevention but there is no amount.

I looked to see if there is promotion on dialogue, tolerance, peaceful coexistence but the money comes from the development partners.

This is for one or two Partner States, and it can be more and we can really be paralysed and the Community can fail to move.

Mr Speaker, I had seen – (*Interruption*) -

**Ms Byamukama:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I just wanted to inform my brother and colleague, hon. Rwigema and maybe remind the House that in the speech of the Chair, Council of Ministers, she made mention to the UN resolution 1325 and I remember cheering very much. This particular resolution specifically states what you have said, the inclusion of women in the peace and conflict resolution process.

Therefore, I would like to implore the honourable Chair, Council of Ministers, to give it consideration, if not now, in the near future. I thank you.

**Mr. Rwigema:** Thank you, hon. Dora. What you have said is correct. I went through the details and the amount for the provision of those activities and there is no amount given to those activities.

The budget is decreasing every year and this is normal because money is not coming in. This is not a good sign. When the budget is decreasing yearly, you cannot think that you are advancing, no. you have to advance when the budget is increasing. It becomes very dangerous when you see that the reserve account is sold out. This is very dangerous in the short term while waiting for the supplementary budget.

It is very dangerous economically and I would like to raise two other issues namely the one of 12 days for sensitisation. I remember in every speech of the heads of state that they insisted on the sensitisation matter. Last week when we were saying that it could even be done quarterly, 12 days

means it will be annual, which is not in the spirit of our heads of state.

Mr Speaker, I said that the budget performance is at 60 per cent, which means that there are some amounts affected in some way when they are not used efficiently. I cannot say that Inter Parliamentary Games can be penalised for that. I remember what was done in Kigali last time; it was really the best one. The games were very successful and I cannot even compare the message given to people by those games.

If there is a certain opportunity cost, what we are giving up cannot be compared equivalently to what we receive as sensitisation among our people.

Mr Speaker, again I thank you very much and I support this Budget. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Rwigema. Honourable members, if you want to catch the eye of the Speaker, you should stand up.

**Mr. Christophe Bazivamo (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I rise to support the report. First of all, let me thank the Council of Ministers for the good presentation of the Budget speech as well as the Chairperson of the committee for the report and hon. Mulengani for the details that he has given us as a member of the Committee of General Purposes. I also thank the committee members for the work well done.

Mr Speaker and honourable members, the Community is in a process of establishing the Monetary Union after they have signed the protocol towards that.

In the Budget Speech, the Council of Ministers has highlighted the fact that in this process of establishing the Monetary Union, there will be four institutes, which will be established. Among them, she has highlighted the East African Monetary Institute. She has spoken about the East African Statistics Bureau, the East African

Surveillance, Compliance and Enforcement Commission and the East African Financial Services Commission.

Mr Speaker, when you look into the different documents, which have been presented, especially when it comes to expenditures for the coming year 2016/2017, we do not see where some of these institutions for which she has rightly said that draft Bills establishing these institutions have been finalised. I wonder what will be done in 2016/2017 Financial Year if there is no Budget allocated to that.

Do we plan to delay implementation as in most cases seen when it comes to the implementation of the Common Market Protocol? I would like some clarification on the first two institutions: the Monetary Institute and the Institute for Statistics. What is planned in this year if there is no budget allocated to that? Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank You, Hon. Bazivamo.

**Mr. Chris Opoka-Okumu (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. First of all, allow me to congratulate the Chairperson, Council of Ministers for the very good Budget Speech that she gave and thank the Chairperson and members of the Committee on General Purpose for the good report that they have made.

I just want to comment briefly on the issue of the priorities that were set out. We have key priorities such as full implementation of the Single Customs Territory, enhanced implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol and several other key priorities that have been set out.

Mr Speaker, we have these very important key priorities and yet at the same time, the budget for the Community has gone down. The budget of seven organs and institutions of the Community have gone down. How are they going to carry out these activities effectively?

We have got very lofty ideals that we need to implement including the full implementation of the Common Market, the Monetary Union that has alluded to by my good friend hon. Bazivamo, we have got our eyes set on the Political Federation, work is already on going in making the groundwork to the Constitution and so forth. All this entails many activities. Money is down, remittances from the Partner States – there is only one country that has paid 100 per cent and that is Kenya. They need to be proud of that. The other countries have very low remittances.

Council of Ministers, you are the ones who are the implementers of some of these things in the Partner States. I urge that you make a very important point that we may not achieve the priorities that we have set out. We may not achieve the movement from Customs Union, Common Market, Monetary Union and Political Federation if that is the way we are taking our priorities in terms of remittance of funds.

You have seen that there has been a move backwards by the development partners as has been ably highlighted by hon. Bucumi when she spoke earlier. So what are we going to do to achieve the lofty objectives, ideals and programs set out in the Treaty but as developed from time to time?

It is very important that we become self-reliant and find out ways and means to finance our programs and activities.

Coming to the report and proposed allocations made by the Committee on General Purpose, I agree with my good friend hon. Dora about the issue of 12 days on sensitisation. We have been on sensitisation and we saw how grateful the people of East Africa were to receive EALA and to inform them of what was going on in the Community. We have seen how they associate EALA to be the face of the Community. How are we now saying that in the next financial year we need only 12 days?

We sensitise in the capital cities. His Excellency John Pombe Magufuli, in his address to us in Dar es Salaam said it is the integration of people. Ours is integration of people so the people that need to be informed are the people down in the villages of the East African region. Therefore, saying that we are going to sensitise for 12 days is a joke.

Secondly, I agree with my colleagues who spoke before me about the Inter Parliamentary Games. This is meant to have the inter relationship, the bonding between the different parliaments. We are only 45 people here. The other parliaments are in hundreds and they bring in a big number. We have already passed a resolution here before that every member should attend. We have increased the number of games. Twenty-five people? When we go to the tag of war, so many people are lined up. Football needs not less than 15 people. The same applies to Netball and Hockey.

Therefore, I think that limiting it to 25 members is not good and I call upon honourable members of this House to oppose that and vote against it.

Mr Speaker, those are some of the issues that I needed to raise. One thing that I need to say clearly is that I thank the Committee of General Purpose for this but also I believe that the Commission sent to the Committee of General Purpose some representatives to meet with them but it seems that what the Commission had decided was ignored when they were considering this reallocation.

The Commission, under the Administration of EALA Act, is in charge of the budget of EALA. Yes, the Committee of General Purpose handles the budget of all institutions including that of EALA but the one that presents the needs and priorities of East African Legislative Assembly is the Commission. This is under the law.

Mr Speaker, with those remarks, I beg to support the speech and the presentation by the chairperson – *(Interruption)* -

**The Speaker:** Honourable, would you like to have clarification from hon. Ogle?

**Mr. Okumu-Opoka:** I do not need the clarification because I was concluding. I support the report of the Committee of General Purpose. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Chris.

**Ms Isabelle Ndahayo (Burundi):** Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me the floor. First of all, allow me to thank the Committee on General Purpose for the scrutinising work they did on the budget.

Before I give my comments on the Budget Speech, I will start with the presentation done by the Chairperson of the Committee on General Purpose and completed by hon. Mulengani.

Mr Speaker, I am sorry to disagree with the Chairperson and the members of the General Purpose Committee on some of the issues raised in their report. I am raising this not because I am a commissioner but because of objectivity.

The work of the Commission is not limited to planning and review of provisions and the performance of EALA. The Commission has a mandate, as stipulated in the Administration of EALA Act, 2012, Article 4 and the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, provision 83(5). This Administration of EALA Act takes cognisance of the role of the Commission so I do not understand why we have to reduce the days of the Commission during plenary.

These days are meant to do planning and evaluation of the plenary but if you look at the work we do in the Commission, it is not only limited – *(Interruption)* -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ogle is on the floor with a point of order.

**Mr. Ogle:** Mr Speaker, is the member in order to refer to a Commission mandate being evaluating members of this Assembly? If that is the case, where is it indicated in the Act?

**The Speaker:** I beg your pardon.

**Mr. Ogle:** Mr Speaker, she referred to the Commission's mandate being, among other things, evaluating this Assembly. Where is that provided for? Is she in order to mislead the House?

**The Speaker:** I think the honourable member meant planning. Honourable, can you please clarify clearly to hon. Ogle?

**Ms Ndahayo:** I said that the meetings, which the Commission used to have, were for planning and evaluation of the – *(Interruption)* -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ogle, you are not on the floor. Hon. Isabelle, proceed.

**Ms Ndahayo:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. When we meet, we do not limit ourselves to planning and evaluation of what we have done in the plenary. We have to do other mandates of the Commission as stipulated in all those instruments that I have mentioned.

Therefore, I think the proposal made by the Committee on General Purpose is not reasonable. Otherwise, we will not be able to do our work as we are requested to as the managing body of this Assembly.

Mr Speaker, let me go to the Budget Speech made by the Chair, Council. As you know, I will not leave the debate without talking about the rural population of the East African Community who live by agriculture and this is almost 80 per cent of the population of the East African Community.



I will not talk about the budget allocated to the agriculture sector as I used to because I have hope that it is now time for implementation, as they have said. It is no longer a theory but implementation. We are going to see the result of the planned activities that we used to see.

I would like to say that I salute all initiatives that have been made on the EAC aflatoxin control and prevention. It is good but there is a need to do more especially in raising awareness of the people because aflatoxins are already a threat to our lives in the East African Community. As we delay to react, we put our people in danger.

I would like to ask the Council of Ministers to take this issue very seriously. When we raise the issue of aflatoxins, some people will say, people need food; we had better die tomorrow instead of dying today. However, the food we need is safe food and it is possible to do better. The only solution is through sensitisation. People need to know how they can behave towards these aflatoxins.

This budget should give priority to this issue; people must know about this. Most of the conditions that increase the likelihood of aflatoxins in humans include unavailability of food. Of course, this is a problem but there are also environmental conditions that favour the development of fungus in crops and other commodities. Therefore, it is preventable because we can ameliorate this. When people are aware of this threat, they can change and ameliorate this condition.

In addition, in the region, we need a regulatory system for aflatoxin monitoring and control and it is easy to deal with this but we keep on sticking to the theory and other documents instead of going to implementation in order to save lives.

Therefore, I am requesting for money for sensitisation to save people's lives regarding aflatoxin issues.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, as we debate, let us be mindful of time.

**Ms Ndahayo:** Mr Speaker, I cannot conclude without talking about the peace and security sector. I have seen that it has been given priority in this Budget because we know that this has a very important role to play in order to achieve our goals. Without peace, we cannot assume to realise what we are planning here.

If there is political instability, no good governance and stable security across the region, we cannot achieve our goals. We cannot have joint programs and projects if there is no security. We cannot have a joint management committee on one-stop border posts if there is no mutual understanding between Partner States. There is no joint cross border eco-system management, no control of proliferation of small arms and weapons.

If we look at this Budget, most priority activities in this sector are expected to be funded by donors. This is a problem. It seems that it is not a priority of our integration. Therefore, I would like to ask the Community to give priority to this peace and security sector.

Mr Speaker, I would like to join my colleagues on the issue of sensitisation. I would like to say that taking into consideration the findings of our last sensitisation in Partner States, we need to go and sensitise people further. Therefore, I support the idea of increasing and getting more money for sensitisation for the East African Community so that we can play our role and represent people. There is no way we can raise their feelings without knowing them. The only way we can know their feelings is to be in touch with them through sensitisation.

I would therefore like to say that this report should also continue to consider the importance of sensitisation. I would like to ask the Committee on General Purpose to

come back on the issue that I have raised and to give power to the Commission of this Assembly as the powers were given by the Assembly. Thank you.

**Mr. Mike Sebalu (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I want to join colleagues in congratulating the Chair, Council. She put in quite a bit of serious energy to get through the Budget. It was a lengthy document but she did justice to it in terms of presentation so congratulations, Madam Chair of the Council.

Mr. Speaker, I am a proponent of a good budget for all concerned for a collective good of the entire Community. My view is that if we do sectional bargaining here, we risk losing the big picture of a working Community so let us look at a good budget for all concerned for collective good, collective performance and realising the dream for the East African people because I do not want to see a situation where individual committees come to bargain here. That will not be desirable.

The committee concerned, I think, had an opportunity to listen to different committees because we have organs and institutions that are not represented here so if we sit here and do sectional bargaining, what about the Lake Victoria Commission which is in Kisumu? When will they be heard? So let us be collective, let us look at the big picture, let us be leaders of the Community and let us consider matters of equity in terms of good governance.

I am going to deal with one issue and it is what determines the EAC Budget. We need to interrogate this question because at the end of the day, that is where we are having a problem; the resource envelope. Is it elastic or inelastic? Does the money available determine it or we also look at the planned activities? Which narrative do we use in order to arrive at a working budget for the good of the Community?

We need to look at certain variables. We have increased membership. We have been five member states; we are now six member states. Definitely once that is concluded, it has a bearing on the budget and when you are budgeting you need to do projections because what is it that is going to be done within the next financial year to work out arrangements of formalising a new member? Does it have a bearing on the budget?

We also have increased scope of duties because we have an integration arrangement that has pillars. Whenever we move from one pillar to another, definitely it necessitates creation of certain institutions and necessitates certain activities to be undertaken.

That presupposes that the budgeting should be progressively incremental to cater for those unforeseen and projected activities. How do you balance the equation of increased membership where it appears, increased scope and increased depth of engagement as the integration goes near?

As you move towards Political Federation for instance, you are likely to have much more activities undertaken. We are now engaged with monitoring and a lot has to be done at that level; institutional framework, legal framework and engagements at various levels in depth. How do you manage that with decreased funding? It becomes a bit of a disturbing scenario. How do you manage increased membership, increased depth, increased scope and yet the funding is decreasing? It creates a certain jinx that we need to look at seriously if we are to move on a sustainable basis.

That brings me to the question of alternative funding mechanisms. That is something we need to give serious debate. Actually, this idea of debating the small divisions we are having is a sideshow. The real crux of the matter is to deal with the funding mechanisms because with a good

envelope, you will not be able to bargain for your own, you bargain for everybody.

So let us deal with the real questions that need the attention of the day. To me that is where the debate should be. The study was undertaken, we need to get the outcome, evaluated for purposes of implementation and there are examples like ECOWAS, which is working well with arrangements that are not like ours. Why are we stuck with the arrangement that I find to be archaic? The cost of even collecting the money is a problem because compliance is almost zero. We need to get an arrangement that is predictable, sustainable and reliable but the arrangement that we have at the moment is the issue and the debate should be around that subject.

Otherwise, we are going to have bad blood for the small envelope and yet we can live in peace and harmony with a sizeable chunk of funding arrangement whereby we will say each one of us has our share and it comes to a matter of simply accountability. You have been given money, what have you done instead of bargaining here for small things. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Mike Sebalu saying that dividing poverty is very difficult.

**Mr. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro (Burundi):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. After the intervention of hon. Isabelle, I could refrain but on that issue she has raised concerning the Commission, I wanted to remind us that the law guides the Commission and as far as the law is not amended, let us implement it as it is.

Article 4 of the EALA Administration –  
(*Interruption*) -

**Dr Ndahiro:** Mr Speaker, I would like to give my colleague information on the budgeting process. The Budget Act and not the Act he is referring to guide us. Thank you.

**Ms Byamukama:** I would like to give clarification that much as the Budget is guided by the Budget Act, the Budget Act cannot commit an illegality otherwise it can be challenged. So yes we have other laws and therefore when we budget, they must take into account the other laws which are in existence. The Budget Act cannot stand alone and that is my understanding of the law. Thank you.

**Mr. Ngenzebuhoro:** Thank you, hon. Dora.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ndahiro, you cannot answer this because you are not on the floor, this is just clarification. Hon. Frederic, proceed.

**Mr. Ngenzebuhoro:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I wanted to say exactly what hon. Dora has said. When you are dealing with the Budget law, we do not ignore other laws that govern the Community.

Once again, that Act, especially in sections 4 and 9 are very clear. To the extent that they are not already amended, as it is the proposal today, we must implement them. We cannot put the cart before the horse. That is what I wanted to say. Let us implement it. When it is time to amend it, we will do so.

Secondly, regarding the issue of Inter Parliamentary Games, I totally support the idea of hon. Nkanae. Mr Speaker, you may recall that at a certain time, this same proposal was made where some were proposed to participate and others were excluded. This Assembly decided to have all the members on board because the objective of this Inter Parliamentary Games is not to gain medals. It is mainly to integrate and when you are in that field, you must take into account all those persons and every member. We do what we can. That is why I totally support the idea of hon. Nkanae.

With that, I thank you very much.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Frederic.

**Mr. Straton Ndikuryayo (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I would like to congratulate the Chair, Council of Ministers for the good budget and the Chair of General Purpose Committee and the entire committee for a well-elaborated report.

Mr Speaker, I would like to start from the last point raised by hon. Frederic on the issue of Inter Parliamentary Games. We can say that this idea from the General Purpose Committee was done in good faith. It was because of budget constraints because they do not have enough money for the whole Assembly. If we agree as the House to bring on board all members, it is also better to guide the Chair of the General Purpose Committee and the entire committee on where we can get the money to accommodate all members of the Assembly.

My second point is on the issue of the TMEA budget, which has been alluded to by hon. Nkanae where the Chair, Council raised that TMEA will provide \$4.5 million to support three different activities: one for Customs Union, another for Common Market Protocol and the third for institutional strengthening.

Furthermore, she said that the money would pass via national budgets. Therefore, I would like to ask whether this budget is part of the total budget of the Community or not.

My third point is on the issue of the Treaty. Article 120(c) of the Treaty gives the importance of disadvantaged and marginalised groups including children, the youth, the elderly and persons with disability. Yesterday we passed a very crucial and important law on people with disabilities and now as we debate the Budget, hon. Maryam touched on the issue of youth in this region.

Mr Speaker, I was checking in the Budget on page 95 and I think this Article falls

under the gender and community development and civil society in the Office of the Deputy Secretary General, Productive and Social Sectors. When you look into the Budget in this big MTEF on page 95, you will find that there is only \$ 138,000 total budget for that unit.

Mr Speaker, we have the East African Community policy in place, which also provides for the establishment of the East African Youth Council and other EAC councils but what I know is that that unit is under staffed. As such, they do not give it enough priority even to implement that policy.

The issue I want to raise here to the Council of Ministers is that recently on 26 March 2016 in Kigali, the sectoral Council on Gender, Youth, Children, Social Protection and Community Development met in Kigali and approved the process for forming those regional councils.

I went through this Budget and there is no provision of the Budget to implement this Council decision. I would like to hear from the Chair on when this Budget will come to implement their decision. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, honourable.

**Mr. Joseph Kiangoi (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker for the opportunity. I would also like to thank the Chair, Council for her presentation on this Budget. I would like to thank the Chair of the committee for her presentation also.

Let me associate myself with the sentiments of other honourable members that budgets should grow yearly because the activities of the Community are also increasing. When you find them diminishing or remaining static then one wonders, as hon. Sebalu said, how we can achieve the objectives of this Community. We should be serious, Partner States should be committed to the principles of the Community and to ensure

that the Community's programs are undertaken efficiently and fast tracked.

Mr Speaker, we can do it because I am sure that with commitment, Partner States can do it. Therefore, I urge the Chair, Council to take this sentiment to the Summit so that they can increase funding for the Community.

Mr Speaker, reliance on donor funding has never grown any economy. Donor funding cannot grow any economy. The people give you money when they have excess money. When they do not have, they provide for their people first. So we should not be thinking of donor funding all the time.

Mr Speaker, if that was done then we would not have this situation where the Council promises that they will provide for the select committee on genocide and they do not provide. They promise that they will provide for sensitisation and they do not provide. This situation is putting us in an awkward position because we are not advancing.

Mr Speaker, we are left to scramble for the very little money that is available to the extent of going into reallocations, which, as we can see, is not very comfortable, here.

The Commission did meet with the Committee of General Purpose and the Commission gave priorities of the activities that were necessary in respect of EALA. I am happy to note that they have taken on board sensitisation. However, there was no interference with the resolution of this House or the generally accepted principle of this House that all members are entitled to attend the Inter Parliamentary Games. There was no such understanding.

Therefore, they have done it on their own and all members want to go, not with the principle of equity, but integration demands that members do attend and mix with other members so that they can fast track integration or it can be effected.

How can it be effected? How do we meet with the other members when we select about 20 and leave others behind yet we are only 45? We should not be comparing ourselves with the Partner States.

Mr Speaker, I am personally opposed to that issue of the games and I am for the idea that all members, as generally agreed by this House, would be able to attend the games.

Another aspect is the contested provisions of the Administration of EALA Act. Mr Speaker, the Act is in place and when it is in place, it provides that the Commission shall hold not less than six meetings. How does the Committee of General Purpose sit and then say that there will only be four Commission meetings? That is going against the letter of the law. They provide that there will be one-day meetings. There are no one-day meetings. The minimum days that the meetings can have are a day of travel, the day of the meeting and day of departure. One cannot say that there will be a one-day meeting.

Mr Speaker, those are some of the things that we are now scrambling for because of insufficient funding. However, we need to correct those issues because these are proposals from the General Purpose Committee. I am personally opposed to those two aspects. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Kiangoi. Honourable members, mine is total commitment that we will be here. Proceed.

**Ms Judith Pareno (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I rise to make my comments on the speech, the report and the estimates as presented by all.

Mr Speaker, I would like to say that I am first of all concerned about a recommendation by the Committee of General Purpose as presented in this report. They recommend to the Council that in view of the financial autonomy, they lead in

making instruments that guide those who have given autonomy and I think that is on page 57 of your report. That is of great concern for me because Council is part of the Executive.

This is an Assembly that has been given financial and administrative autonomy and then you go back to the Executive to tell them, make for us the instrument to use our powers.

Mr Speaker, I wish to submit that that recommendation should be expunged if this Assembly does recognise what it means to have financial and administrative autonomy - *(Interruption)* -

**Ms Byamukama:** Mr Speaker, I would like to add further information by referring to Article 16 of the Treaty, which is on effects of regulations, directives, decisions and recommendations of the Council. It reads as follows: *“Subject to the provisions of this Treaty, the regulations, directives and decisions of Council, taken or given, in pursuance of the provisions of this Treaty shall be binding on the Partner States, on all organs and institutions of the Community other than the Summit, the Court and the Assembly within their jurisdictions and on those to whom they may under this Treaty be addressed.”*

Mr Speaker, the rationale for this is premised on the fundamental principles of the Treaty, which include good governance, and as we move towards separation of powers, this is why we are being allowed to have financial and administrative autonomy because it is in line with this. I thank you.

**Mr. Ogle:** Mr Speaker, the clarification I want to seek is, much as we have been seeking for this financial and administrative autonomy is it true that at this moment and in this day, we have that autonomy. We do not.

**Ms Pareno:** Mr Speaker, as far as I know, I have a decision that I have personally read of the Council; a communication from the

Council giving us financial and administrative autonomy. I do submit that it is for us to interpret that autonomy, look at the rest of the Assemblies- this is not the First Assembly – and how they exercise such financial and administrative autonomy.

I do submit that in view of separation of powers, as guided by the hon. Dora, in view of the principle of separation of powers, in view of a decision that you have your own administrative and financial autonomy, you cannot make a recommendation like this one that says, we urge the Council, which is the Executive, to develop the necessary instruments that will allow for the proper implementation of the administrative and financial autonomy.

I do submit that it is us, as an Assembly, it is the EACJ to sit and interpret for themselves how to exercise the financial and administrative autonomy.

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Hon. Pareno, I would like to give you information. Both in the EAC strategic plan and EALA strategic plan, we have been crying and asking about the financial and administrative autonomy of both the court and the Assembly. I just wanted to give you information so I do not understand why we should fight our own when we have been asking for it.

**Ms Pareno:** That is very relevant information, Mr Speaker. Therefore, in short I am saying that I propose that we expunge the recommendation that is on page 38 otherwise this is a recommendation that is supposed to curtail the powers that have been given by the same Council. So I think we have a mandate to do the instruments, as much as we can, looking at the precedents that exist in our Partner States. I rest on that one.

Mr Speaker, on the issue of the Commission, it did propose and I was one of those who appeared before the committee, under their own mandate and

under our own mandate. We did make certain proposals and I am happy to say that I have noted that some of them have been carried forth in the proposed budget.

The fourth activity we said should be considered and we should do sensitisation, which has also been carried forward. The issue of iPads, the issue of EAPI, the issue of South Sudan - We actually proposed certain savings, which have been carried forward by this committee, and I thank them for having considered some of these proposals. They have even improved some of them and that is welcome for us.

Mr Speaker, there is a time that we sat as the chairs of committees and the Commission of this Assembly and we passed a principle, which is minuted that as we operate, we must have a principle of equity and equality.

Mr Speaker, if the chair could clarify to me and be able to tell us, which I believe they should have done, that we have used this same principle all across because we are all working, we are all entitled to that then I would be comfortable because I looked briefly – I am sorry I was a bit mean because I looked at the EALA bit although I also looked at other portions.

When I looked at the EALA, I was able to detect, with the addition that hon. Mulengani was seeking, that there is a provision for pre-budget for General Purpose Committee and I was able to see about six activities for the General Purpose Committee.

The principle was, let us have equality. I counted a few others and saw three activities. We should all look at that principle. Mr Speaker, you remember when we started proposing in this budget and it was a proposal of the Commission that even sitting allowances should be improved for all members and it has been done across all committees. It was never there, some committees used to have sitting allowance

in certain areas; others did not have in certain areas. We wanted equity for all of us to operate in the same vein. Therefore, I expect that this should reflect the same for the smooth running of all of us.

My proposal is that as we pass this budget, the EALA budget should be subjected to rationalisation as proposed by the Commission. We made a presentation to the committee, it is here in writing and I hope that they were given a copy and I am sure they considered this because I have seen some of the things that we considered.

However, over and above the rationalisation aspect of all committee activities is an important one for the smooth running of this Assembly. I believe that there is nobody who would want to challenge if all of us operated equally, got the same rights equally because that is what the provisions of our terms entail – *(Interruption)* -

**Ms Byamukama:** Mr Speaker, noting that we are getting to 6.30 and observing that my good friend and sister, hon. Pareno was still submitting and we wanted her submission to be legal according to our rules, I would like to move, in accordance with rule 12 that we extend the time for this particular plenary until you deem it wise for us to conclude.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Honourable members, the motion on the floor is – You know, our Rules of Procedure limit us to 6.30 p.m. as the closure of our working hours. Hon. Dora has moved, according to our Rules of Procedure that we extend this debate and hon. Zein has seconded it. Let me hear a procedural issue.

**Mr. Nkanae:** Mr Speaker, I agree with hon. Dora that we extend but we are tired. Let it be limited to the Budget process only.

**The Speaker:** Those are details. Honourable members, I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Pareno, resume the floor. However, you should know that we are working with time constraints.

**Ms Pareno:** Mr Speaker, I am concluding. Why I was insisting on the issue of rationalisation is for us not to go into the micro management of activities and what hon. Sebalu had brought across that you are defending this, another one is defending this. I think that this principle is one that we have adopted in this Assembly and it is a principle that will guide us across if what we want is fairness and proper smooth running. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, to shed some clarity on this, you all know very well that when the budget of the Community is passed, we as an Assembly retreat in a planning meeting, which includes all chairpersons and the Commission to see how we move and implement the budget within the financial year. That planning meeting is not taking place now in these Chambers. Thank you.

**Ms Sarah Bonaya (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me the floor. I would like to start by thanking the General Purpose Committee for the job well done. Mr Speaker, please protect me.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, let us listen in silence to our colleague.

**Ms Bonaya:** I would like to start by congratulating the General Purpose Committee and the Secretariat for the good work that they have done in presenting to us this budget. I would also like to congratulate the Chair, Council of Ministers for the good Budget Speech that she has given to us.

Mr Speaker, my area of concern mainly is one. As we all know, this region is trying to sum up a huge market for trade among itself and with the rest of the world. We have huge infrastructure developments that we have put in place and in which we have invested but apparently, as long as we have

not put any money or prioritised industrialisation, we will still be a big group of consumers because the highways will only bring us goods from abroad and we will not have produced anything of our own.

The Council of Ministers in 2012, in directive number 18, gave this as a priority and said that industrialisation should be undertaken as a priority issue and that there is need for an urgent industrialisation policy, research, technological, and innovation advancements in the region but our budget hardly reflects this.

The Summit also in its last meeting in Arusha literally banned use of *mitumba* clothes and for us to do away with *mitumba*. We need to develop our cotton production sector. We also need to advance our textile industries and yet our budget does not show support for industrialisation and value addition for goods from our region.

The other issue is that we have always been complaining about the Council of Ministers not coming to attend to urgent matters. I do not think that we have given them adequate financing to be able to have enough meetings to attend to our issues that are pending.

Another sector that has been neglected is the natural resources and tourism sector. I can see that tourism has not been given anything. If we worked on these sectors very well, they would be cash earners for this region but we do not seem to look at all these despite the dwindling resources from our partners. I think it is high time that we learned to put our money where it matters most so that we can get good returns on the proceeds.

The other issue is the East African Court of Justice. We have talked of trying to expand and bringing access of this court to the people of the region. It looks like their budget is also very much constrained and there is need for us to look into how to



support the court to be more accessible to the people of the region. Thank you very much.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Sarah.

**Mr. Abubakar Zein (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I know I should start with the pleasantries of thanking the Council of Ministers and all the organs and institutions of the Community but my soul is troubled because now I am forced to speak more about EALA, which was not my intention to speak about.

I was intending to speak more about others because my good friend, the father of twins; *salongo*, hon. Sebalu was sharing with me when we were having a cup of tea the long traditions of Africans that says that a father or a mother, when they are apportioning food to be eaten will think of the children first and themselves last.

I say this with great pain because we in EALA occupy a unique and important position in the budgeting process of the Community. We not only approve the budget of the Community that involves many other organs and institutions of this great Community but we also approve our own. I believe and I want to pray and beg my colleagues, the honourable members of this House that we should conduct ourselves with dignity and honour that is befitting of Parliament.

When Parliament is allocating resources to others, it cannot be seen to be allocating itself more than the others are. I accept the principle of equality and equity but that principle must be applied to all organs and institutions of the Community; not only EALA and not only the Commission.

I submit to this august House that we are charged with a higher responsibility to do our work in such a way that we will be beyond reproach like Caesar's wife. If Caesar's wife is even contemplated not to be as clean as she is supposed to be then the

state is ruined and we should not be in that position.

I start with the position, which was recommended by the committee, crafting very carefully, choosing each and every word very carefully. It says, on page 38 of our report, "The committee recommends to the Assembly to urge the Council to cause..." I want it to be understood. "To urge the Council to cause". Not to do it itself but to cause "to be developed, the necessary instruments that will allow for the proper implementation of the administrative and financial autonomy, not only to EALA but to the East African Court of Justice."

What does the committee mean by this? It means, do not say you heard that the Summit spoke to this matter. These are serious things; they are not done through hearing. They are done through instruments.

It is the domain of the Summit to make that decision. Once the Summit has made that decision, it is incumbent upon us to pray that the Council will work with the Summit to cause to be prepared the necessary instruments, which will give power to the East African Court of Justice and to the East African Legislative Assembly.

As we speak, the instruments give the power to the Secretary General to be the accounting officer of the Community. That is a Treaty matter, and it should not be handled casually. Rather, it should be handled with care and with written information that is legal, is within the Treaty, respects Community law and that is authoritative. That is what we mean by instruments.

Anybody who is against the causing to be developed the necessary instruments is going to do two things: one, possibly delay this financial and administrative autonomy that we crave and demand and pray and ask for. Nothing that will delay is in the interest

of the East African Legislative Assembly or the interest of the East African Court of Justice.

Secondly, if these instruments are not developed, it will remain a quotation of the Summit. Anybody who knows something different and thinks that EALA, on its own, can develop these instruments, I wish them luck but when I wish luck, I also need to share information.

The Administration of EALA Act provides in section 18, *“The Commission shall recommend to the Council, the financial rules and regulations of the Community as are necessary for the efficient discharge of the function of the Assembly.”* This we were given by law through Council. Have we acted on it? Can anybody in good conscience stand in this House and say, we have met the prayers in section 18 and we as the Commission have submitted rules to the Council.

We have sat on this, one-year, two years and some months and here we are thinking that we can develop instruments quickly. Do what you are granted by law to do first – *(Interruption)* -

**Ms Byamukama:** Mr Speaker, I would like to clarify to my good friend hon. Zein that the words ‘to cause’ can be interpreted in two days. It can be proactivity and we take from practice, from the laws that we have and we develop what we think can be good instruments. Together with the Council of Ministers because we cannot work independently – Much as we seek for independence, we will be able to have faster results. Therefore, I do not think that we are talking at cross-purposes. I think what we are doing is that the committee is helping us to cause and pressurise from the other side the Council of Ministers but we are also saying that it is upon us to be proactive and come up with results.

I would like to talk a little bit about where this originated.

**The Speaker:** Just go to your clarification.

**Ms Byamukama:** The issue of a financial and administrative autonomy was started in hon. Dr Mwapachu’s time and now, I remember he even wrote a letter and it was a Council decision whereby EALA was given sub-accounting status and from there, EALA was enabled to have its own accounts.

We went ahead and asked for interpretation when it came to appointment of officers of the Assembly. Actually, the aspect of recommendation under Article 49 was given a wider purview than what the English dictionary provides for. It was given a purview for the Commissions to be able to be part of the process of drafting terms of reference or even agreeing to them, reviewing, confirming as well as maybe promoting in certain cases.

The clarification is that this is an on-going process. The EAC already has financial rules and regulations. It is an on-going process so I do not want us to seem as if we have done nothing; it is a relatively new phenomenon and comments like hon. Zein’s are welcome.

The clarification I wanted to give was just that background. I thank you.

**Mr. Zein:** Mr Speaker, I welcome the submissions of hon. Dora with a clean and open heart. What I was addressing was that I had sentiments that we should be expunged from the records and I am responding that if you expunge, you not only put the gun and shoot your foot. No, you put it on your head and blow yourself. That is what I was referring to.

What has been said by hon. Dora is noble and we should accept it. It is in harmony with what the committee has proposed in that formulation but let me add two things that I wanted to say before hon. Dora gave that good clarification. One, as we speak, EALA has sub accounting status donated by the honourable Secretary General, hon.

Mfumukeko. I would have expected us to be running and saying, we also need an internal audit function to go with it.

This is because rights must come with responsibilities – (*Interruption*). You know I cannot refuse information from the gracious lady, hon. Hajabakiga.

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Thank you, hon. Zein for giving ay. I just wanted to say that the issue of internal audit has been requested for a very long time and I hope and believe that under the institutional review, it will be provided along with that autonomy. I just wanted to give that information.

**Mr. Zein:** I thank the great lady who has guided us in many good ways and I agree with that information but let me continue with my line of thinking.

I was saying that rights must come with responsibilities – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Zein I would also like you to help us because you know we are operating in extra time. Let us limit our debate to the Budget because there are three members who want to speak, we have not gone to the Committee of Ways and Means and the Committee of the whole House. There is a long process left so please debate but be conscious of time.

**Mr. Zein:** I thank you, sir. You know me. From the time I joined this, I declared that I am law abiding. Every time you speak, I sit down. When you guide me, I follow.

Since the others have put on record certain things, they cannot be left unchallenged. What I will try to do is to hasten in my challenging. Thank you, sir.

Let me say two last things. One, if it is desirable that we adopt the approach that was given by hon. Dora, which I agree with, then it is desirable not to take into account what hon. Pareno said. I am glad that she is walking when I am speaking because then

we understand each other that we will not expunge.

If somebody feels that their conscience has moved them to expunge, let them move a motion, let them be seconded and supported and then we put a vote. If it is the desire of the majority that we do the wrong thing, so be it.

However, let me make the last point – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Zein, we will not allow the majority to do the wrong thing. That is why there is a Speaker to guide the debate. Secondly, one of the reasons why we have the Counsel to the Community in this Assembly as an ex-officio is to keep check on whatever we do to make sure that we are doing everything within the purview and rim of the EAC Acts, laws and the Treaty. Thank you.

**Mr. Zein:** Thank you for those assurances because I have a whole catalogue of parliaments that were possessed by something other than noble intentions and many times pass the wrong things and then the court had to go and say, what you have passed is not kosher, is not halal, is not right. So I take your guidance that this is a different Parliament and we will not allow wrong things to be done by the power of the majority or as they say in Kenya, tyranny. I am against any type of tyranny.

Let me go to the question of the difference of interpretation between the Commission and the committee. We are grateful that the Commission sent a delegation and representation to our committee. In their representation, they quoted for us the EALA Administration Act. During the interaction, a specific question was put to the delegation in relation to section 4(g) and section 17(a) and (b) of the EALA Administration Act.

I do not want to go and read them but the import of those two is that the Commission has power to case to be prepared estimates

or the Assembly and also if you read 17(b), it has the power to alter those estimates from the chair of committees.

They were asked specifically, are these two powers in 4(g) and 17(a) and (b) limited by time? The answer was, no. we said to them so that we did not misunderstand each other, that no, in our considered view, they are limited by time and there is a cut-off date. We read to them and it is important for me to read this section of the Budget Act. It was the contention of the committee that the EALA Administration Act, which only gives us powers – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Zein, I beg to guide on this. We do not need to take this budgeting process to a matter of seeing whether there is a conflict of role between the General Purpose Committee and the Commission. If there is need for such clarity to be put on the table, we can find time to do it very effectively. The Counsel to the Community will help us in defining that.

I think the crafters of the Budget Act and the EALA Administration Act and our Rules of Procedure and the Treaty are there to guide us to see how we work. So for now, in the interest of time, if there was some weak relationship in terms of interpretation of roles or powers of the Commission and that of the Committee of General Purpose can we push that to another time and deal with it separately.

This is because that is a fundamental thing, which is ongoing. It will be important for even the next budgeting process. You can comment on it but I will take that matter up with the Counsel to the Community. Thank you.

**Mr. Zein:** Thank you, sir. As I said, Mr Speaker, I am a law abiding citizen so I am guided but save to say one little thing, if you permit me.

I did not start this debate. Those who said on the record of Parliament that the committee was creating an illegality – you

cannot allow such a serious charge to stand but I am guided that we will have an opportune time, we will have – (*Interruption*) -

**Ms Byamukama:** I think I am the one who talked about an illegality and according to the law that I studied very well, the latter law on a particular subject matter takes precedence. So we can get all the interpretation that we need but I was basing it on what I know as interpretation under the law.

Therefore, if the EALA Administration Act came in after the Budget Act and stated otherwise, that is what it is but I stand to be guided because I am not God. That is what I understand it to mean.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. There is a point of procedure.

**Mr. Zein:** Mr Speaker, once a clarification has been raised – (*Interruption*) -

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Mr Speaker, as hon. Dora moved for the extension of time, hon. Ole Nkanae requested that people restrict themselves to the matters of the Budget so that we can finish this work and go. Is it right that we continue to debate and argue on matters, which are completely outside the Budget? I am just requesting that we should concentrate. And since you have also ruled on the matter, please let us try to finish. We are already tired.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, I know there are so many incidentals; issues that have come up during the committee engagements and even in this debate which raise a lot of things to be debated but let us, in the interest of time, stick to the main budget issues so that we dispose of this Appropriation Bill.

Hon. Zein, please summarise.

**Mr. Zein:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. When a clarification is sought then a door is open for me to give clarification so I have been

given a small door. I will not use it too badly; I will say only three things.

When there is a conflict between a law and the Treaty, the Treaty prevails.

Two, it is not just about dates and I must admit that I am a layman not a lawyer. When one law is talking about only the Assembly's budget and another one talks about the Community budget, the one about the Community budget supersedes.

The last point I wanted to make on this matter so that I do not repeat myself is I concede to the point you have given and the direction. We as a committee had even prepared a written opinion on this matter and we said we would not attach it here so that we can go the route you are saying. So I am leaving that but let me talk about the principle of equality and equity.

**The Speaker:** One minute, hon. Zein because there are so many members who want to speak. Nobody should interfere with your debate, do not give way.

**Mr. Zein:** Okay, I will not give way. Clarification is not my domain, information is. If anybody wants to give me information, please hold back, I will not accept it.

On the question of equality and equity, it is a beautiful principle and I subscribe to them quickly but I say that you cannot use the principle of equality and equity and ignore what the Treaty says. So the principle of equality and equity must be informed by Treaty, by law, by the development plans of the Community, by the priorities set by Council of Ministers as those guiding the budgeting process, must be informed by the agreements in the pre-Budget conference and also by good governance. I submit, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Tiperu, please take the floor. If you could help us to be brief, the better.

**Ms Nusura Tiperu (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. Since I did not get the opportunity the last time to congratulate the honourable minister from Uganda, I want to use this chance to congratulate him on his appointment and to say that the House is blessed to have him because of the wealth of knowledge that he has.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to thank the Chair, Council for ably reading the Budget, which is properly explained with all the abbreviations, made and I must say that I enjoyed one of them which way written BEA, BEA that is by East Africa, build East Africa.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, can we listen in silence to the honourable colleague?

**Ms Tiperu:** Mr Speaker, it was a long day when the Budget was read and I just wanted to say on a lighter note that the parliamentary practice, though not written, is that after a long Budget session, normally people go out and internalise the Budget over a cocktail. I would pray that in future, precedence is set that after a long session like what we had, we would have internalised all these issues over a cup of tea and we would not be having problems –

**The Speaker:** I hope Chair, Council has taken note.

**Ms Tiperu:** These are all indications that we did not have that time to interface and discuss the budget allocations.

Mr Speaker, I want to associate myself with the priorities that the minister read in the Budget particularly enhanced implementation of the Common Market Protocol, enhanced productivity, institutional strengthening, among others. I support those priorities and I pray that we all look towards full implementation of those priorities that were laid.

I am also happy with the budget in a special way because it was able to touch on the

issue of railway development. I come from Uganda and as a land locked country, when you touch on railways, you have touched on what as a country, we would want to achieve in this integration process.

So many of our people are anxious to see their food commodities reaching the ports but without an effective railway system, this is not yet realised. So, we pray that the dream of having an enhanced railway system in the region is realised during our time so that commodities that are grown in the region like maize, rice, beans, sugar can be accessed by all our Partner States within and for export outside the region.

It is embarrassing to date to find that you have a country like Tanzania having issues of sugar when there could be surplus sugar in one of the countries within the region. So I pray that in the next budget, an issue like facilitating production of food commodities and facilitating trade of those food commodities is taken as a priority by the Secretariat because people are looking at regional trade especially as far as grains are concerned.

I also wish to say that I am an ardent supporter of the East African parliamentary games and I want to associate myself with all those colleges who said that all members must participate. As you know, the next parliamentary games will take place in Kenya. It will be at a time when we shall also be having the Nanyuki Seminar in Kenya. We will also be having our session in Kenya. It will therefore be very hard for you to decide among the 45 members who will remain and who will not because I know that most of the members would love to participate.

It does not mean that we will all be in the field. Some of the members are morale boosters, some are doctors during the games, some of the members, and just their presence in the field is an attraction and a form of sensitisation for integration.

I will give an example of *Mheshimiwa* Mandela who is in this House. You know who he is; our colleague from Tanzania; *Mheshimiwa* Taslima. Whenever he is on the field, people scream and say, Mandela with a ball.

So the intention of these parliamentary games was to make us interact and sensitise the people that we have *Jumuiya* and it is time for us to move as a single entity. Therefore, excluding others is not good. It is also not good for a person like me, or like hon. Martin here, to begin lobbying to be among the 25. It does not sound honourable or parliamentary.

I hope that this matter is taken seriously and that the reallocations that were done be ignored and I hope that the responsibility of the Commission as is given in the Cat be put back to where it is supposed to be so that they sit back to see how best the monies allotted to Parliament can be utilised.

Mr. Speaker, I served in the second East African Legislative Assembly and during that time, we used to have the House Business Committee. We have now transformed from the House Business Committee to a Commission, which means Parliament is growing and in this process of growing, there could be mistakes that can be undertaken. It is therefore upon us to look at the Act that was set up to establish the Commission and see whether the powers given to it are right or there is a problem with it.

However, looking at the powers that are written here, I see no problem with the minister's proposal on the sittings of the Commission, the committees, plenary as has been indicated. The minister put in clearly in her submission that she will focus on institutional building so making the committees and the Commission work or have time to plan for us is part of building the institution.

Therefore, I pray that we agree that they continue doing so. We want to thank them because when the Commission sat under your wise guidance, Mr. Speaker and decided to allocate money for sensitisation, nobody complained. Therefore, we cannot have double standards by being happy on one end and unhappy on the other side.

I am speaking as the chairperson of the EALA Uganda chapter. Each country agreed on having two members, I have no problem with the members from Uganda. If there is a problem with them, I will make this House know that we are dissatisfied with them but as far as I am speaking now, I pray that they continue working for the House, working for all our benefits and when planning, planning for all organs as hon. Sebalu had said. If there are challenges, we shall amend the Act.

Mr Speaker, since the minister made mention of the issue of institutional strengthening, I would love the ministers to tell me how soon the institutional review will be concluded. So many East Africans are out there hoping to work in the Community but they cannot because of the so-called long awaited institutional review.

Many of the Secretariat workers are over worked because we are still under staffed. Many of the organs are not functioning as they are supposed to because many departments are not yet filled – (Interruption) -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Tiperu is referring to the implementation of the report because the review has been concluded.

**Ms Tiperu:** Thank you for the correction, Mr. Speaker. I would pray that that report is implemented very fast and I would love, that the Council gets a closer look at the proposed draft. This is because I am beginning to wonder. You have a situation whereby you have a Secretary General with many responsibilities and with the ability to

have one of his deputies sitting in for him in case of any activity.

However, we are faced with a scenario where you have one Secretary General. He cannot ask our brother Bukuku to sit in here for him. Should we continue having the DSGs in the gallery? I am beginning to think we need an analysis as to whether we should have the SG seated alone or the SG with his team seated so that if he is not here, he can be assisted.

This is because we have great men and women in the names of the DSGs who would be sitting here and offering us solutions to some of the issues that we are raising but because they do not have the platform to stand like me and say a word, they have been denied.

Mr Speaker, with those few remarks, I beg to stop here and I would like to say that I fully support the Budget as has been read. *Asanteni sana.*

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Tiperu. I have a written appeal from hon. Mumbi, hon. Ngoga and hon. Angella. You have two minutes each.

**Ms Agnes Mumbi Ng'aru (Kenya):** Mr Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I will not take a lot of time; probably not even two minutes.

I would like to say thank you very much that the motion that I proposed in Dar es Salaam has been implemented. There is a lot of gratitude from all corners.

Secondly, for the first time in our four years, the atmosphere in this House today about the Budget is talking about ourselves. Thank you, members –

**The Speaker:** Honourable colleagues, this is clear. EALA is one of the organs of the Community and its budget should be scrutinised and looked into like any other organ. So there is no way that there is supposed to be any unique treatment of

EALA budget being looked into. The purpose for this House is to look into the totality of the Budget of the Community and pass it so we are doing the right thing. There is nothing unique here, proceed, honourable.

**Ms Mumbi:** Mr Speaker, in the budget of 2012, most of us were new. We sat and listened and it was not controversial. Our second budget was in Kampala. I was a member of the Commission and let me tell the rest of the members that we literally threatened the Secretary-General and the Chair, Council, hon. Shem Bageine about the enhancement of members' something through a study that the Commission had done – something from hon. Patricia and the Commission.

In the third budget, we were in this Assembly and we almost went to this time. The Secretary-General then was very uncomfortable, the media were waiting outside there because we had also threatened that we were not going to pass this budget.

Today, although we are celebrating doing the Budget for the whole Assembly, you do not need to be a professor to know that EALA has a problem. So – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Mumbi, this cannot be left un-clarified on the record of this House. If there is a problem of EALA in the budget, you have to come out clearly. We do not speak in speculation in this Assembly; we must speak with facts.

**Ms Mumbi:** Mr Speaker, I am trying to beat the time but there is a problem within the Commission, and there is a problem within the organisation regarding how work has been arranged.

My last submission so that we make this easier is, can we have a comparison between what has been used since the time this Commission took over for the last one year and what the other Commission had

done? The picture will be as clear as day and night. I submit, thank you.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, this must be made clear. The history of this Assembly is clear. In the last two and a half years of this House, we passed two laws. This Assembly passed only two Acts. In the last one year, we have passed over 10 laws. The output should be commensurate to the engagement and I think these are clear facts.

**Mr. Martin Ngoga (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I also seek to be protected.

I will suffer the same fate that late comers suffer and I do not want to be repetitive. I just want to associate myself with some of the contributions that have been made here, particularly what hon. Bucumi said and it is good that she spoke first. She took us through the history of our budgeting, our dependence on donors and how it is depleting with time and what it means are mainly two things.

One, it is happening, not as per our wishes but in a way it is reminding us of the way we should be deliberately planning because our planning should be such that we become less dependent on donors and that is how we should be focused. At some point in time, we should be able to sustain ourselves because it is not predictable what their next challenge or excuse will be.

Therefore, I understand that in the Budget Speech, the issue of sustainable financing was emphasised but I would want to see, at some point, clarification given on whether this is given a specific timeline because it is within our minutes. A decision on how we can sustain ourselves does not depend on the wishes of the donors. It is our own political decision that we can make and we can give it a timeline, if we have to phase it or otherwise.

We have to find a solution because we cannot continue to be dependent even if donors were continuing to support. Even if



their support was increased, as a matter of dignity, we must be focused on becoming self-reliant.

Therefore, I think it is a very important point that she raised; taking us through this chronology and reminding us that we are operating in a very delicate situation.

Another thing that comes along with that is we have to change the way we do things. I note with deep interest and express my support to the commitment that the Secretary-General has already made on how he is going to improve the issues of discipline in terms of how we spend but also issues of accountability. In this area, I am hoping that we shall be able to see policies in place and deliberate decisions taken on how there is going to be strengthening of internal monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, internal auditing and the Audit Commission which must be dependent and have a separate vote at some point in the future.

Those are the initial processes, which we hope the Secretary General will be able to elaborate in detail and he has our support. We have to start spending wisely and be able to get value for money for what we spend. This is the sentiment across the Partner States. This has been clear from every member of the Summit when they address us and what they are trying to implement in their own countries.

Therefore, we cannot go a different way, we have to make sure that we spend wisely, we are accountable and we are able to get value for money. All these must be structures. There must a structured way to be sure that these processes are carried out and they are able to produce the tangible results that we can see.

Therefore, Secretary-General, you have our support. You have the support of this House. This House wants you to use this budget as a starting point on how we can do things differently in terms of how we are

going to spend, how we are going to follow through and in terms of how we are going to follow a different direction.

During the Budget Speech, we were able to see that programmes are implemented at an average of 50 per cent because of liquidity challenges. So if we continue that way, we cannot lead anywhere.

Mr. Speaker, in order for that to happening a sustainable way, the issue that has been spoken about; the institutional review process is what will give structural days for these policies to be implemented and this must be expedited. We hope that the Council will be able to tell us how soon we are going to start implementing the institutional review, especially the areas that will help issues of accountability and all we have said in terms of our ambition of how we want to change the way we have been operating.

Lastly Mr Speaker, we need a legal framework that hon. Zein alluded to; one that will ensure issues of accountability. I know the honourable member is making some effort and he has the support of this House to put in place a law on fighting corruption. This is just one law but there are a set of laws that must come along with fighting corruption: issues of whistleblowing and other related laws.

In Rwanda, when we were enacting these set of laws, we called them laws of good governance so we need that and possibly, the Council can take over this task. We the members will help. A member is coming up with a Private Member's Bill. Some of us are considering bringing others but the Council can still take this over so that we can have a set of laws that ensure issues of good governance and accountability. We must create a legal framework to be able to realise our aspirations and ambitions.

Community against another. There could be some misunderstandings here and there and that is part of the process. We have another

forum where we can correct mistakes but I am suggesting that we take the proposal as it was brought and when we retreat, the Commission and the Audit Committee can deal with other areas where we think we have to change. Thank you very much, Mr Speaker.

**Ms Angela Charles Kizigha (Tanzania):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I will try to be as brief as possible. Before I proceed, allow me to pay tribute to His Excellency Benjamin Mkapa, a former President of the United Republic of Tanzania for the peace talks and reconciliation of Burundi.

Mr Speaker, coming back to the Budget 2016/2017 briefly, as we can see, it has decreased by \$ 10 million. If that is the case, I wanted to ask the Council of Ministers if he could confirm to this House that the Kiswahili Commission, the Science and Technology Commission and the Health Research Commission are going to work during the Financial Year 2016/2017.

This is because I am worried that the money, which was already set aside, will be maybe catered for salaries and administrative costs with new institutions that are expected to undertake their mandate after recruiting, their offices, executive and new staff. If that is the case, how are we going to work? We want to hear from the Council of Ministers.

Secondly, during the sensitisation, many East Africans wanted Kiswahili to be a second language of the Community and I think all of us are interested here so we need to know. Because of this Budget, can the Council of Ministers inform this House if the amount allocated for the Kiswahili Commission will answer the call of our people in East Africa?

Lastly, Mr Speaker, I would like to put a question to the Council of Ministers to inform this House also when the Partner States are going to fulfil their responsibility

of remitting their contribution to the Community 2016/2017 and the status of the contributions to each Partner State. Otherwise, I support the Budget. I thank you.

**The Speaker:** I now invite the Chair.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would like to thank all the members. I will not mention all the names but I thank all of you because you supported the report. I will go to some clarifications that I should give.

Mr Speaker, when we were dealing with this Budget, as you heard from the many challenges that members here stated, be it from our committee or the other members, this Budget was really decreasing while our Community is growing and that was a very big concern.

If I go to the questions that were raised and that I should respond to because the other questions were mainly directed to the Chair, Council about EALA budget proposals, of course we respected the equality and equity of committees, of members and wherever we tried to reduce the Budget from all the committees including the Commission, that was to try to fund those areas that were unfunded and that we wish could all be funded.

These are the sensitisation which is something that we all said should be carried out because the East Africans need to know what is East African Community, what these organs are doing for them and what we want East Africa to be in the near future.

In doing that, we had to try to find the funding within our own organs because even discussing with the representative of the Chair, Council of Ministers, we agreed that we would not be able to try to find money within any other organ because everywhere the budget is scarce.

We tried to reallocate from within EALA itself and that is why you see that we have proposed what we have and there is no fight

at all against any committee or against the Commission. I think even the collaboration that we have and the Commission delegated three members to come and help us in the committee so that we try to reallocate. Therefore, everything is being done smoothly, there is no war in EALA and whatever we are doing is what we have to do as members of EALA.

That is how we ended up trying to find this money to increase the number of days because the budget was there of US\$ 180,000 and to be able to try to have more days because that was for six days. We tried to add 12 additional days but taking money within our own planned activities.

Many honourable members talked about the games. Of course, we all like the games and we want to participate as it is also a form of sensitisation and it helps with inter relations among the parliaments of East Africa and we are supposed to work together and know each other. That is how we said we could not stop the games but at least let us take some money from the games.

When the planning is in and they find that having taken \$ 56,000 from the games will jeopardise the good functioning of the games, we thought that there are many members who do not participate in the games and the other parliaments do not bring their members so we thought maybe we could think of that. However, we can also reduce on the costumes that we are using. This will be done internally; I do not want to discuss much about that. Maybe we can even stop the reception and put that money to the games to make sure that we all participate as you said that all members should participate.

About the select committee on genocide, that was agreed upon from last year. The Council of Ministers was supposed to bring a supplementary budget for that but they could not find the money and they said, let us put it in the budget for the financial year

2016/2017. That is why at least we also tried to rationalise and find some money to put there to start the work hoping and asking the Chair, Council of Ministers that the rest be brought as a supplementary budget during the course of the year.

This is because the budget that was prepared for this activity of the select committee to fight against genocide ideology and genocide denial if US\$448,998 so it is not even US\$ 200,000. We hope that this will be brought in the form of a supplementary budget when we have more funds.

Mr Speaker, I think these were the questions that I thought I should – Oh, about expunging – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Not only that. You may have to comment on the issue of sensitisation. Members moved here that you do not cap it to 12 because we may want to ask for a supplementary or we may have to source out funds from our friends in the parliaments. You should have commented also on those issues.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you, Mr Speaker for this guidance. Regarding sensitisation, as it had been agreed that sensitisation was a Summit decision, we request the Chair, Council that when they bring that supplementary budget, they also add money for sensitisation to add to what we already have.-(*Interruption*).

**Ms Byamukama:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I spoke with hon. Mulengani and his point is, put sensitisation and put a budget line but when you put a number of days then you are actually tying our hands from maybe even increasing from other sources. That is what I meant.

**Dr Ndahiro:** Mr Speaker, our budget process, particularly because we use MTEF, requires us to be precise on how we are going to utilise the little we have. It is a requirement to all institutions and organs of the Community.

However, it does not stop people from being ambitious or adding activities that are not funded. You can create an activity and put zero funding but it is a requirement that at least what we are budgeting for now, we show how we are going to utilise it. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you, hon. Ndahiro for clarifying that. Actually in the whole MTEF we have, days are always put and the number of participants of any meeting. That is why we said we add 12 days but it does not mean that if we have more funds, we cannot have even 30 days of sensitisation. Therefore, it does not tie our hands.

Wherever we have not indicated the number of days, we have not reallocated the money. The days are there. Therefore, it is always in the MTEF like that.

Mr Speaker and honourable members, hon. Pareno proposed to expunge that part and that has been well explained by hon. Zein. I think that even if we have autonomy as EALA and even if EACJ has autonomy, this is still in theory and has to be operationalized. We should have in place a way of hiring the staff and all those things have to be operationalized as they cannot be done right now. That is why we have put that explanation and we think that the Chair, Council has understood that.

About TIMEA, I can also speak a bit on this. It is in the EAC budget but it will go to the Partner States and I think the Chair, Council will be able to explain better on that so that it does not cause any problems between our two explanations because I see she will explain on that.

Mr Speaker, I think most of what members said have been well clarified by the other members who were responding to the questions, thank you.

Excuse me. I have one additional point. This morning when we were discussing with the minister, we reminded the Council of Ministers that it had been agreed that a

disability desk be created within the EAC Secretariat and the deputy Secretary General, Productive and Social Sector. However, there is no budget line on that so we had proposed to put it under the DSG Productive and Social Sectors and at least put a vote with US\$1 or US\$100 as seed money to make sure that the budget line exists and during the course of the year, they might have funds to operationalize it. I will remind them also that the Bill on people with disabilities was passed by this Parliament yesterday.

About the other reallocation, the members have agreed with it. We thank you very much.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Chair, Council -

**The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-officio):** Mr Speaker, I would like to appreciate the proposal made by the EALA Committee on General Purpose, which is a recommended reallocation of the three gripping areas. One was talking about US\$ 93,900 from the Secretariat to EALA, detailed as follows: \$ US\$ 51,900 to facilitate the Audit Commission, which already has 2 per cent increase despite the 8 per cent decrease in the overall budget. I just wanted the Assembly to note that.

The second issue is on US\$42,000 for EALA activities. They recommended that it should be reallocated.

Another area is a total amount of US\$90,670 from the EAC Secretariat to other institutions already granted by the Council, 50 per cent to 60 per cent budget increase but still, the General Purpose Committee recommended that the ... should be given US\$45,670 for more participation in EAC meetings.

They had also recommended that the Kiswahili Commission be given more US\$45,000 for more activities. The other

items to a tune of \$128,400 with various cost centres of the Secretariat to be taken to other units or departments.

I would say that given the negative implications of the reallocation of this budget, which was proposed by the Committee of General Purpose, we see that there are some reflections that will cause a problem in implementing the planned activities that were planned in the budget, which we presented before this Assembly.

We beg because this process of budgeting and planning of these activities for all East African Community institutions had taken long and we looked at how much we have, where the resources are coming from and also we looked at how much we planned for last year and what we are supposed to plan for now. That is why we proposed what we did in the budget. We are not refusing but seeing why the General Purpose Committee had recommended what they did to this Assembly. We are also seeing the effect of accepting the proposals made; that they will disturb the implementation of what we proposed.

If you look at item one for example, which is to move the issue of Internal Audit activities, the activity is to present audit reports to the Council of Ministers. US\$22,500 taken from there, given to the Audit Commission, and budgeted under EALA is not a bad idea. However, the problem is that the budget of the Audit Commission remains under the EALA vote but who is implementing it? It is the Secretary-General.

That is why we are saying that we need it to stay there and we are suggesting that it should not be reallocated to another vote.

On the issue of \$12,600, they are recommending that this amount should be removed from Internal Audit, which is under the Secretariat and under the activities of internal audit for internal auditors to attend meetings of EALA

Committee of Accounts during deliberations on audit matters.

They are suggesting that this should be moved to EALA. We are just saying that audit matters are deliberated in Arusha but what you are saying is that there are four meetings, which are going to be conducted, not in Arusha but in different areas and even in other countries. When it comes to that situation, it will be in problems; we will not even be able to implement this procedure and you know the importance of auditors attending this meeting.

On the case of the recommendation from the General Purpose Committee where they are recommending that, US\$37,700 should be moved from the Secretariat meaning the Secretary-General's office and they are suggesting that it should be sent to ES... We are seeing the implication of reallocating this fund, which is that the Secretary-General and the CTC will be travelling, not in Arusha but in other countries where these meeting are going to be held.

So we are saying that it is true that what we were trying to suggest was in agreement with the General Purpose Committee that instead of six meetings, it should be four and I think it was a mistake to write six there. It will be four meetings - *(Interruption)* -

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you for the opportunity. The clarification I am seeking is that it should be four meetings outside Arusha. Are you confirming that the two sittings should be deducted?

**The Speaker:** Yes because in the budgeting they were saying the two were for EALA meetings but those meetings are in Arusha here.

**Dr Kolimba:** That is why I am saying that it should remain four which will be conducted outside Arusha.

On item number four where they are also recommending that at least US\$42,000 should be removed from the Finance department of the Secretariat to EALA – *(Interruption)* -

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** I would like that the Chair, Council makes clarification on what she means by the four meetings that will be held outside Arusha. Which meetings are you talking about? What we had proposed, if I may clarify, are the meetings by General Purpose Committee and the Accounts Committee. These meetings are always held in Arusha and the staff of the Secretariat cannot be facilitated with tickets and DSA to attend those meetings of EALA. We are talking of here these two meetings. Thank you.

**Mr Mulengani:** Mr Speaker, it will be wrong for this House to pass an erroneous budget where we know very well that the Secretary General and the CTC will not travel out of Arusha to conduct business for the Budget Committee and session and also the Accounts Committee and session.

It will also be wrong for us to plan for a budget for the staff of the Community to present the audited accounts and the Budget financial statements while we are in Arusha then we plan for the tickets and the DSAs.

It is this House to decide as to whether the Budget we are yet to pass, those elements are rightly placed and therefore we create a legacy of planning for things that will take place yet we are not travelling. Mr Speaker, I submit.

**Mr. Mwinyi:** It is also important to put on the record of this Assembly that we met the Chair, Council the whole of this morning from about 10 o'clock to 1 o'clock. When we talked about this business, it is giving a wrong impression that the Audit Commission money will be taken to EALA.

What we agreed with the Chair, Council is that as we speak, the Audit Commission does not have its separate vote and it is

desirous and correct that the Audit Commission should not be under any other organ because of the danger of that organ exercising undue influence on the Audit Commission and undermining the independence of the commission.

Chair, Council conceded to that point and we agreed and Al Haji will know this because I said to him, it is psychology 1-0-1. You cannot say, because a goat has four legs and a horse has four legs, therefore a horse is a goat.

We have said, unless we want to come and start another fight on the floor of the House, it is desirous for the Council of Ministers to establish a separate vote and a cost centre for the Audit Commission but until that is done, we must secure the resources that were partly put in the internal audit –

Can you imagine money for external audit being put in internal audit? So we said although it is an anomaly, in order to go forward, if we are given commitment that a separate vote will be created by Council, which they have power to do, then we are willing to let it stay in the Audit Commission and what is provided for in EALA stays in EALA.

Chair, here is the danger and the Council needs to know this. Although we have extended our sitting, it is almost 8 p.m. and one by one are leaving. When it comes to a time that I notice there is no quorum and I raise it, we will have to call another plenary on another day to debate the Budget.

**Dr Kolimba:** On the clarification, I can say that I know that during the meeting with the General Purpose Committee we agreed that in the next financial year we would have to establish a vote for the Audit Commission. We were even thinking that the total amount of US\$390,500 should be taken from EALA and the Secretariat and put there. That is what we agreed on in the morning – *(Interruption)* -

**Mr. Mulengani:** The information I want to give the Chair, Council is that I think the document you are using is the one we used as a working document when we met Council in the morning.

The document we have as of now supposes that the movement from Secretariat to the Audit Commission is only \$51,900 and the movement of money from the Secretariat to other institutions is only a total of \$79,700. I think you are using a document that we were using in the Committee Stage.

**Dr Kolimba:** I am still on the audit Commission. I know that we discussed the Audit Commission and agreed that we have a vote there. However, because this vote is supposed to be prepared and passed through the Council, we said we have taken it and it will be considered.

Going to the next item, it was suggested that the total amount of US\$42,000 be moved from the Secretariat to EALA. What I want to justify here is to show this Assembly the effect of reallocating this money to EALA.

The Deputy Secretary General and the Finance and Administration directors and accountants will not be able to facilitate the Assembly outside Arusha if they are supposed to participate in areas outside Arusha. It will be impossible for them to attend the meeting and that is why we are recommending that this reallocation should not be accepted – *(Interruption)* -

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you. Mr Speaker, I think if the proposal that the minister is mentioning on page four of our document – it explains where this money might go and we are proposing that this money, which would be saved from these cost centres where staff from the Directorate of Finance were supposed to go on the Committee on Accounts for audited accounts outside Arusha, that money is free because the committee will be working here.

Therefore, it does not harm anything if that money is directed to the places where it is

most needed and where it is proposed is that it will go to the East African Science and Technology Commission. Only one part might go to EALA.

**Dr Kolimba:** Why I am saying that the US\$32,600 should not be moved is that the Council is saying and confirming that the Committee of General Purpose will attend the Budget meetings and that is why we are saying that this money should stay in the allocated area.

The last item – *(Interruption)* -

**Mr. Mulengani:** Mr Speaker, I rise on a point of procedure on which you may wish to guide the House.

Is it procedurally right for the Chair, Council to promise this House that they will provide funds for the General Purpose Committee to attend the pre-Budget function yet in the MTEF, which actually mentions the activities that are financed, there is a zero budget for the members of the Assembly to attend this function?

**Dr Kolimba:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. When you allocate zero in the budget, it does not mean that that activity is not going to be attended. We were trying to put zero because we want the activity to be around so that when we have the funds, we will be able to use them for the planned activities. That is why we put zero – *(Interruption)*

**Mr. Mulengani:** Sir, that is a new method of budgeting to me - where you place a zero in anticipation that when you find funds – IT is rather you put and then look for the funds. That is a bit committal than putting a zero. Sometime the pre-Budget meeting decided to call on a few members saying that they did not have the funds.

**Dr Ndahiro:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. Can the Chair, Council tell us where to allocate that money because we are not prepared to pass a Budget that reflects amounts which we have already guided on through a resolution of the House and we agreed that

two plenaries of this Assembly will take place in Arusha, the Budget session and the audited reports session will be in Arusha yet those amounts are budgeted for officers of the Community residing in Arusha to travel by air to Arusha.

We are saying that we are not going to pass a Budget – We can also be responsible because we have seen it, we have raised it and yet she tells us, do not put it on this vote but on this vote. We are not prepared to leave it where it is.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Honourable Chair, Council, what the committee is saying is, there is money put for the Secretary General and some staff to travel to where EALA would be meeting and it was assumed that those two meetings would be outside Arusha.

The General Purpose Committee is saying that that meeting does not need any money because the meeting is here in Arusha. They are saying that that money should not be where it is but it should be taken somewhere else.

You are insisting that it should stay there. To do what? If you do not want it to be taken to where the committee has allocated, where do we put it.

**Dr Kolimba:** I will give clarification on the first comment, which was made that you cannot put zero under an activity, and then say it can be implemented later. I am saying that it is technical and it is budget language. Normally it is there and they put zero because if you take it out, it means it will not be remembered. That is why normally when we bring a supplementary budget here, if you have allocated activities, it means that it will be reflected.

We also accept the concern on the activities that we said that the members of the Secretariat will be coming to the EALA sessions to assist them outside the Arusha station. On the item on – (*Interruption*) -

**The Speaker:** Chair, Council, let us get this clear. You have conceded that that amount of money that was budgeted for the movement of the Secretariat staff to go and attend EALA meetings which is actually going to be here – That amount be removed and put somewhere else because the need for that money does not exist. Have you conceded on that?

**Dr Kolimba:** Yes, I said I have taken that.

**The Speaker:** Thank you.

**Dr Kolimba:** The next item is on the East African Commission for Kiswahili. It was suggested that – In the same area they are suggesting that the total amount of \$45,000, taken from Finance and recommended to be taken to the East African Kiswahili Commission, I would say that we are not supporting that recommendation because when I started, I said that we have added even the amount of the Budget 50 to 60 per cent so we considered that there are several activities which are supposed to be implemented in the East African Kiswahili Commission but if you look at the allocation of the Budget last year and this year, they are differing by 50 per cent.

So we are saying that this amount of money should remain where it was supposed to be.

The last item is on the – (*Interruption*) -

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** I think the honourable minister had conceded to what had been budgeted for in the Secretariat. We found that it was not appropriate to budget for activities that do not happen. Rather, we should use it elsewhere and that is why since we found that the Kiswahili Commission needed to work and start engaging East Africans in this language which has to be developed as an EAC official language, that is how we had proposed it to be there; the \$45,000.

If the minister could tell us where the money will go because we had proposed that it goes there.



**The Speaker:** Honourable Chair, what the chairperson of the committee is saying is that the implication of you conceding to the other meetings – that money is the one they are urging to be taken to the Kiswahili Commission, if I am getting the chairperson right.

By implication, since she has conceded that the money goes there, unless you are suggesting that it goes somewhere else – *(Interruption)* -

**Dr Kolimba:** Mr. Speaker, I do agree with what you have said.

The last item is on the total amount of US\$95,800 which they are suggesting should be taken from the Secretariat Department of Planning and taken to the Secretariat and that the original activity was monitoring of implementation of the Common Market Protocol at regional level.

They are saying that it should be reallocated. We are saying that this should remain where it is supposed to be because of the activities there.

Going to the general – *(Interruption)* -

**The Speaker:** Chair, before you continue, the one thing I have observed is that the meeting between the Committee in the morning and the Chair, Council was not necessary because you did not agree on anything more or less. However, proceed.

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Mr Speaker – *(Interruption)* -

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** The clarification I am seeking from the Chair of Council is about that cost centre where they budget zero and the Chair, Council insisted that it has to remain so. Is it appropriate that we know very well that that activity will take place anyway?

The Committee on General Purpose has always participated, according to the Budget Act in the pre-budgeting process. Now, the budget is zero and when we

propose that we should put an amount of US\$32,000, the Chair, Council says it is not possible; I do not get it well.

**The Speaker:** What the Chair, Council has raised is that the zero is to hold the budget line but they may find money for it, maybe through a supplementary or otherwise. But she has given us an assurance that the activity will take place.

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am afraid that a zero budget can be an issue especially when we know when the pre-budget takes place. It takes place in August and by then we will not even have started implementing or receiving much of the money for this Budget.

Therefore, there cannot be any supplementary budget in between. So who is going to allocate money on that? Is the Assembly going to meet again to do a supplementary budget, or how is it going to happen? We need clarification over that matter.

**The Speaker:** I also think that the Chair, Council needs to be helped by the technical staff who attended the meeting. Write some notes to the Chair, Council to help her explain some of these things. The Secretariat is here for that purpose.

**Dr Kolimba:** I would like to say that I know what I mean when I say, in the Budget when you put zero it means that that activity is there. If we come for a supplementary budget, we can do that activity. If you take it out, it means it is not there. I know it from experience.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, let me give some explanation. Honourable Chair, Council, what the honourable member or the committee is saying or what hon. Patricia has raised is that the pre-budget conference takes place in August and the supplementary to come will have to come after August, unless there is a change of many things.

Chair, please proceed and clarify on that.

**Dr Kolimba:** on the other issues, which were raised by the members, I will just comment on a few of them because of time. *(Interruption)*

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Mr Speaker, I think the honourable minister was consulting when you guided that the pre-budget conference happens in August and therefore, there will not be any supplementary budget between now, June and August. Therefore, this budget must be in place so that the committee participates in the pre-budgeting.

**The Speaker:** Unless there is a shift in intention or policy that we are not bringing the members to that conference or just a few of them – Let us agree on this. Unless the Chair, Council is saying that there are funds somewhere to do this.

**Dr Kolimba:** Mr Speaker, may I say that before I started discussing the last item on the zero budget, we said that the money, which was supposed to be saved, would be reallocated to other areas. Therefore, we still have the money and we will allocate it.

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Mr Speaker, we are trying to help the Council and we are helping the Community so that the General Purpose Committee members will be able to attend the Budget conference.

When I look at the calendar, from what we have had, a supplementary budget can only be allocated after all the meetings of the senior officials, the coordinating committee and later on the Council. From what I have heard, the next Council will be in August, which means there will not be any Council in between to be able to do this reallocation.

Secondly, even if it was so, the Budget conference will have taken place. Thirdly, if the Budget Committee has realised that there is some money, which is in excess in any budget line in the Community, we need to know where those funds can be taken. If

they do not want to be taken to the Budget conference then they should be able to tell us which other areas need funds where we can take it. I think that is the principle of budgeting, thank you.

**The Speaker:** Chair, Council of Ministers, what the honourable members are saying is that yes, there is a zero budget line there but the activity is a reality that has to happen in August and we have got some money from the other meeting you conceded to. Can we put that money in that zero budget line?

**Dr Kolimba:** I do agree.

Now going to the general issues, which were, raised – *(Interruption)* -

**The Speaker:** Honourable Chair, the amount put there is the exact cost of the members who are supposed to have travelled and not what was reflected earlier. Thank you.

**Dr Kolimba:** Mr Speaker, I would like to make some comments on the issue raised by the members. They were asking when this sustainable financing would end. I would say that we had planned to have this meeting in May but it collided with sessions in Tanzania and several ministers had other meetings so we forwarded it to June. The Council had directed that they should sit and give us a report.

I know that we set, decided, and completed the issue of instituted review and you have heard that it is completed. The issue now is the implementation process, which we started.

Last week we recommended a few positions but also on the 11<sup>th</sup>, next week, we have another meeting so the implementation has already started and we assure you that when we are ready, we shall inform you of the whole process – *(Interruption)* -

**Ms Byamukama:** Mr Speaker, on the issue of the institutional review, we are aware

that now there are some ad hoc EAC service commissioners but we would like also to inform the Council of Ministers that this House did enact a law on the EAC service commission. Maybe this is the time for us to reintroduce it and maybe they could take it up. This was hon. Dr Masha.

Therefore, we would like to share this information. Even on the alternative sustainable financing mechanism, we as EALA have been completely left out. Can we have a status report at some point so that also we can be able to contribute? Thank you.

**Dr Kolimba:** I have taken note of that, hon. Dora.

Again, hon. Maryam Ussi reminded us about the Partner States' timely contribution. We know about that and we have been making follow ups. That is why you see that we were at 45 and now we are going to 65. Even in the meeting last week, we set reminders and everyone had set his or her own time frame on when to complete the funding.

On the issue of recruitment, hon. Maryam Ussi raised the issue of Zanzibar. I would like to say that all East African Community people have the right to apply, they will be recruited, and you know the process. The announcements are made on the website and in the newspapers so when you see this, you have to tell each other and convince people to apply. It is therefore for everybody and not only for Kenya or Tanzania or Uganda or Rwanda. It is for all because it is a Community issue.

Hon. Isabelle insisted on matters of peace and security. We are taking note of that because we know that this is a special case.

She also talked about sensitisation on the issue of aflatoxins. We know about that and we are concentrating on it.

**The Speaker:** Honourable minister, we will appreciate it if you say that you have taken note of the issues.

**Dr Kolimba:** Last is on the issue of the money which comes from TMEA; the \$4,000,500. You asked whether they are for the general budget and I am saying, no it is not for the general budget but we wanted you to know whether they are going and they are going to be used by those institutions.

Mr Speaker, I beg to submit and I thank you for all the guidance and support.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Honourable members, I now propose that this House constitute itself into: (a) a Committee of Ways and Means to consider and approve the financial statements for the Financial Year 2016/2017 and (b) a Committee of Supply to consider and approve the estimates of expenditure for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

### **COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS AND COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

(The Rt. Hon. Dan Kidega, in the Chair)

### **THE BUDGET OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/2017 IN COMMITTEE OF MEANS AND THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

#### **MOTION**

#### **FOR APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/2017**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr Chairman, I beg to move that in accordance with the

provisions of Article 132(5) of the Treaty and rule 76 of the Rules of Procedure, the Committee of Ways and Means do consider and approve the financial statements.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I now propose the question that the Financial Statement for the Financial Year 2016/2017 be approved.

I now put the question that the Financial Statement for the Financial Year 2016/2017 be adopted.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

## COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY

### MOTION

#### FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2016/2017

Vote 001: the East African Community Secretariat.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I now propose the question that a total sum of \$57,872,785 under Vote 1 be provided for the expenses of the East African Community Secretariat including the Defence Liaison Office and the Directorate of Customs for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

Honourable members, it is at this stage that the figures will change on a few things.

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I propose from the debate that the schedule under Vote 1 is reduced by \$131,600 to reads as follows: from \$57,872,785 to a total of \$57,741,185. I beg to move.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I now put the question that a total sum of – I beg your pardon. I think hon. Mulengani moved and the House has to adopt the move and then I can put the question to the new figure under Vote 001. Is that clear to honourable members?

I would like to put the question to the amendment as moved by hon. Mulengani.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Chairman:** I now put the question that the total sum of \$57,741,185 under Vote 001 be provided for the expenses of the East African Community Secretariat including the Defence Liaison Office and the Directorate of Customs for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 001

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I now propose the question that a total sum of \$16,034,324 under Vote 002 be provided for the expense of the East African Legislative Assembly for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to propose to amend Vote 002, the East African Legislative Assembly to increase it with \$51,900 and the new schedule under Vote 002 will read \$16,086,224. I beg to move.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I put the question on the motion as moved by hon. Mulengani.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Chairman:** I now put the question that a total sum of \$16,086,224 under Vote 002 be provided for the expenses of the East African Legislative Assembly for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 003: The East African Court of Justice

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$4,286,477 under Vote 003 be provided for the expenses of the East African Court of Justice for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question that a total sum of \$4,286,477 under Vote 003 be provided for the expenses of the East African Court of Justice for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 004: The Lake Victoria Basin Commission

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$11,214,708 under Vote 004 be provided for the expenses of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question that a total sum of \$11,214,708 under Vote 004 be provided for the expenses of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 005: The Inter University Council of East Africa

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$4,553,890 under Vote 005 be provided for the expenses of the Inter University Council of East Africa for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question that a total sum of \$4,553,890 under Vote 005 be provided for the expenses of the Inter University Council of East Africa for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 006: The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$2,131,422 under Vote 006 be provided for the expenses of The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question that a total sum of \$2,131,422 under Vote 006 be provided for the expenses of The Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 007: The East African Science and Technology Commission

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$1,161,438 under Vote 007 be provided for the expenses of The East African Science and Technology Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

**Mr Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr Chairman. I propose to amend the schedule under Vote 007; the East African Science and Technology Commission by adding \$34,700. The new total will be \$1,196,138. I beg to move.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I put the question on the motion moved by hon. Mulengani on Vote 007.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Chairman:** I now put the question that a total sum of \$1,196,138 under Vote 007 be provided for the expenses of The East African Science and Technology Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 008: The East African Kiswahili Commission

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$1,134,542 under Vote 008 be provided for the expenses of The East African Kiswahili Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr Chairman. I propose under Vote 008; the East African Kiswahili Commission to amend the

schedule by adding \$45,000 and the new total becomes \$1,179,542. I beg to move.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I now put the question on the amendment moved by hon. Mulengani on Vote 008.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Chairman:** I now put the question that a total sum of \$1,179,542 under Vote 008 be provided for the expenses of the East African Kiswahili Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 009: The East African health Research Commission

**The Chairman:** I propose the question that a total sum of \$1,397,438 under Vote 009 be provided for the expenses of the East African Health Research Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question that a total sum of \$1,397,438 under Vote 009 be provided for the expenses of the East African Health Research Commission for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Vote 010: The East African Competition Authority

**The Chairman:** I now propose the question that a total sum of \$1,587,565 under Vote 010 be provided for the expenses of the East African Competition Authority for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

I now put the question that a total sum of \$1,587,565 under Vote 010 be provided for the expenses of the East African Competition Authority for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**MOTION FOR THE HOUSE TO RESUME**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the House do resume from the Committee of Supply and the Committee of Ways and Means to report thereto.

**The Chairman:** I now put the question that the House do resume.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** I am so sorry; I can see that members would wish to remain standing.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS AND THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to report that the Committee of Ways and Means has considered and approved the financial statement and the Committee of Supply has considered and approved the revised estimates of expenditure for the year 2016/2017 totalling \$101,374,589 for the Financial Year 2016/2017 with amendments.

**MOTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the report of the Committee of Ways and Means and the Committee of Supply be adopted.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, I now put the question that the report of the Committee of Supply and Committee of Ways and Means be adopted.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

Resolution adopted.

**THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY APPROPRIATION BILL, 2017 FOR SECOND READING BY WAY OF MOTION**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr Speaker, I beg to move that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2017 be read the second time - *(Interruption)*

**The Speaker:** Seconders? Honourable minister, honourable CTC, honourable Secretary General –

**Mr. Ngoga:** Mr. Speaker, I have noted that those who seconded are ex-officio members of this House and secondment is a way of voting. Is that in order?

**The Speaker:** Thank you. The House has been having this practice but the chairperson also seconded and many other members whose names I could not mention. In that regard, we will seek the interpretation of the CTC on this matter later.

Chair, please proceed and justify.

**Dr Kolimba:** Mr. Speaker, the object of this Bill is to make provision for the appropriation of the Budget of the East African Community of a specified amount of money for the service and purposes of the Community for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2017. I beg to submit.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, I now propose the question that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read the second time. Debate is open.

I call the Chair, Council to reply.

**Dr Kolimba:** Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, I thank this assembly and all members for honouring me on this occasion.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, I now put the question that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read a second time.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY APPROPRIATION BILL, 2016 READ A SECOND TIME.

**THE ASSEMBLY IN COMMITTEE**

(The Rt. Hon. Dan Kidega in the Chair)

**BILL'S**

**COMMITTEE STAGE**

The East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, before I go to propose the clauses one by one, this is the stage where we give legal effect to what we have just done. So, if we just move through the clauses without bringing the amendments we did in the Committee of Ways and Means, then it will not have legal effect. So, please be on notice.

Clause 1 agreed to

Clause 2 agreed to

Clause 3 agreed to

Clause 4 agreed to

The Schedule

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I now propose the question that the Schedule be part of the Bill.

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I propose that the amendments raised be captured and take effect under Vote 001, East African Community Secretariat including the Defence Liaison Office and the Directorate of Customs and Trade. The new Schedule should read \$57,741,185. I also propose – *(Interruption)* -

**The Chairman:** One by one. What we did in the Committee of Ways and Means is just transporting it directly here. So I have to put the question to these one by one then I put the question to the entire Schedule.

I put the question to the amendment moved by hon. Mulengani on Vote 001.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr Chairman for your guidance. I propose an amendment to Vote 002, East African Legislative Assembly by amending the Schedule to read a total of \$16,086,224.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I put the question on the amendment moved by hon. Mulengani on Vote 002 in the Schedule.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Chairman:** Hon. Mulengani, do you have more amendments? Continue.

**Mr. Mulengani:** Thank you, Mr Chairman for the guidance again. I propose an amendment to Vote 007, the East African Science and Technology Commission by amending the amount in the Schedule to read \$1,196,138.

**The Chairman:** I now put the question on the amendment as moved by hon. Mulenagni.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**Mr. Mulengani:** I beg to move that the Schedule of Vote 008, the East African Kiswahili Commission be amended to read \$1,179,542. I beg to move.

**The Chairman:** I put the question on the amendment moved by hon. Mulengani on Vote 008.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Chairman:** I now put the question that the Schedule as amended be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

The Preamble I

**The Chairman:** I propose that the Preamble of the Bill be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that the Preamble be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

The Title

**The Chairman:** I propose that the Title be part of the Bill.

I now put the question that the Title be part of the Bill.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**MOTION FOR THE HOUSE TO RESUME**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr. Chairman, I beg to move that the House do resume and the Committee of the whole House report thereto.

**The Chairman:** Honourable members, I put the question that the House do resume and the Committee of the whole House report thereto.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

The Assembly resumed, the Speaker presiding.

**THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY APPROPRIATION BILL, 2016**

**REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr Speaker, I beg to report that the Committee of the whole House has considered the Bill entitled the East African Community



Appropriation Bill, 2016 and passed it with amendments.

**MOTION FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE REPORT FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the report of the Committee of the whole House be adopted.

**The Speaker:** Seconders? Hon. Dr Odette, hon. Mulengani, hon. Patricia and all the members standing.

Honourable members, I propose the question that the report of the Committee of the whole House be adopted.

I now put the question that the report of the Committee of the whole House be adopted.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**BILL'S**

**THIRD READING**

The East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016

**MOTION**

**The Deputy Minister, Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation, Regional and International Co-operation (Dr. Susan Alphonse Kolimba):** Mr. Speaker, I beg to move that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read the third time and do pass.

**The Speaker:** Seconders? Hon. Bazivamo, hon. Bucumi, hon. Nyerere, hon. Kessy, hon. Tiperu and all the members standing.

Honourable members, I now propose the question that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read a third time and do pass.

I now put the question that the East African Community Appropriation Bill, 2016 be read a third time and do pass.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY APPROPRIATION ACT, 2016, AN ACT TO MAKE APPROPRIATION OUT OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY BUDGET TO THE SERVICE OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2017, READ FOR THE THIRD TIME

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, I would like to congratulate the Chair, Council of Ministers, the General Purpose Committee and the entire House for a work well done.

Honourable members, the Order Paper is not exhausted. Can we continue?

**Mr Opoka-Okumu:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. This august House, in this session, has worked so much. They have passed four Bills; the East African Community Customs Management (Amendment) Bill, the East African Persons with Disabilities Bill and the East African Supplementary Appropriation Bill and now has passed – *(Interruption)* -

**Ms Hajabakiga:** Mr. Speaker is it in order for the honourable members to shout 'ahee' when a member is – I think that is un-parliamentary language.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, we should celebrate our output with decorum. Hon. Chris – *(Interruption)* -

**Mr. Opoka-Okumu:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. We passed just now the East African Community Appropriation Bill.

Besides that, we hosted the first ladies of the founding fathers, which raised the sceptre of this House, it was so great. So we have worked so hard, passed all these Bills and considering the time of the day; it is 9

o'clock now, Mr Speaker, I think it would be appropriate to adjourn and deal with the other matters on the Order Paper in the next session.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Chris for your procedural – (*Interjection*) - No; this is a procedural question that he has raised. He has articulated the output of this meeting since we started. His procedural question is whether it is right for us to go ahead and complete the entire matter on the Order Paper.

I think it is right and fitting that we do accept that this House, in this meeting, has had a good output and I really congratulate you.

However, most importantly, the one thing I would like to congratulate this House for is for the historic work you did in hosting the first ladies of the founding fathers. You will go down in the annals of history as a House that has not forgotten the history of where this integration came from, and is still flagging the African dream. I congratulate you upon that.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**The Speaker:** Before I adjourn, I have a few announcements to make. The first one is that the items on the Order Paper, which have not been accomplished, shall be taken forward to the next meeting.

The second one is that the SACCO interim board is calling for a meeting tomorrow at 8.30.

The third one is that there is a workshop on the standards organisation. I think you have been communicated to. It is at 9.00 a.m.

The last one is that there will be a Commission meeting for the commissioners tomorrow in the afternoon from 3.00 p.m.

#### ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker:** With all those announcements, honourable colleagues, I would like to now adjourn the House *sine die*. The House stands adjourned.

*(The Assembly rose 8:59 p.m. and adjourned sine die.)*