



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

**1ST MEETING OF THE 3RD SESSION OF THE  
3RD EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA  
27th AUGUST –4TH SEPTEMBER 2014**

**ORAL ANSWERS  
TO PRIORITY QUESTIONS**

**28TH AUGUST 2014**

**1.0 QUESTION : EALA/PQ/OA/3/39/2014 (By Hon. Bernard Mulengani)**

***During consideration of the report of the EALA Accounts Committee on the audited accounts of the EAC for FY 2011/2012 by the Assembly, among others, it was recommended therein that a forensic audit of IUCEA be undertaken.***

- (a) *Could the Chairperson of Council inform this August House when this work will commence?***
- (b) *What steps are being undertaken to implement the Assembly's recommendation.***

**Madam Speaker,**

The Council of Ministers is aware of the recommendation made by this August House to carry out a forensic Audit of The Inter- University Council of East Africa. However, the Council is of the view that weaknesses noted by The Audit Commission in its report for the Financial Year 2011/2012 are of a management and operational nature and do not warrant a forensic audit. They require attention by the EAC Management. The Inter-University Council for East Africa has therefore embarked on a process of dealing with the issues raised by the Audit Commission.

**Madam Speaker,**

In February 2014, The Audit Commission just concluded the Audit for the Financial Year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2013. The Audit Commission noted that some of issues raised in its previous report have been addressed. Indeed, The Audit Commission has for the first-time, issued an unqualified opinion on the Inter-University Council for East Africa.

## **2.0 QUESTION : EALA/PQ/OA/3/40/2014 (By Hon. Bernard Mulengani)**

***During its 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting in November, 2013, the Council reiterated its previous decision EAC/CM25/Directive 48 directing the Secretariat to constitute a team of management and audit experts to undertake the verification of LVBC Management Systems and operations and submit a report to the Sectoral Council of Ministers responsible for the LVBC at its next meeting ref: EAC/CM/28 Decision 05. In another decision, the Council further reiterated its previous directive EAC/CM27/Decision 02 to always prescribe clear time frames for all Council decisions and directives in order to facilitate monitoring and follow-up implementation.***

***Therefore, could the Chairperson of the Council:-***

- (a) inform the August house on the time frame set by SG for implementing EAC/CM25/Directive 48?***
- (b) inform the August House why the earlier directive of the 25<sup>th</sup> Council was not implemented?***
- (c) inform this August House of the steps so far taken by the SG in handling this important exercise and the outcome of it (report)***

**Madam Speaker,**

Following a directive made by the Council of Ministers, the Secretary General on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2014, requested each Partner State to nominate two senior officers; one from the Public Service Commission and another from the Office of the Auditor General to be part of a team of experts to undertake a verification of The Lake Victoria Basin Commission Management Systems and Operations.

Due to delays in nominating the experts by some of the Partner States, the date for starting the verification exercise was changed from 10<sup>th</sup> March 2014 to 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014 for completion by 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014. However, the Committee of Experts requested for a period extension and completed the verification on the 9<sup>th</sup> April 2014. The Team has submitted its report to the Secretary General who, in accordance with the directive of the Council, submitted the Report to the Sectoral Council of Ministers Responsible for Lake Victoria Basin Commission at its Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

### **3.0 QUESTION : EALA/PQ/OA/3/41/2014 (By Hon. Bernard Mulengani)**

***Among the modern management principles is an emphasis on new public management and governance of institutions. Accordingly, the EAC has introduced key instruments and Committees established by the Council to assist within these initiatives. Among the most important committees is the Audit and Risk Committee of the EAC, which effectively commenced work in 2012 and is expected to meet on a quarterly basis.***

- (a) Could the Chairperson of the Council inform this August House how many reports have so far been produced and when she intends to Table them before the House for consideration under Article 49(2) of the Treaty?***
- (b) Could she further assure the House that all quarterly reports will be tabled before the House in a timely manner?***
- (c) Could she also brief the House on the status of implementation of the recommendations in the reports mentioned above?***

**Madam Speaker,**

The Council of Ministers established The EAC Audit and Risk Committee in August 2012 to assist the Council in the discharge of its oversight function over the administration and management of EAC affairs. The Audit and Risk Committee is an arm of the Council and therefore reports to the Council.

**Madam Speaker,**

The EAC Audit and Risk Committee meets on quarterly basis and reports to the Council on an annual basis. The Committee presented its 1<sup>st</sup> Report to the Council in August 2013 and is expected to present its 2<sup>nd</sup> Report to the Council at the Council's 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting scheduled for 20<sup>th</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> September 2014. The Audit and Risk Committee has raised pertinent recommendations which are being implemented by the EAC Management and the Council. The Council is expected to receive the report on the status of implementation at its 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting.

**Madam Speaker,**

The Council did not receive quarterly reports of The Audit and Risk Committee. It instead, received The Annual Report of that Committee. These reports are not

meant to be tabled before this august House. They are meant to assist the Council and Management in public management and governance.