EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING EAC PARTNER STATES TO IMPLEMENT THE PROVISIONS OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

By: Hon. Dr. James Ndahiro and adopted by Assembly on Thursday, August 13, 2009

THAT, this Assembly;

AWARE of the comprehensive nature of the Provisions of the UN Resolution 61/106 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

FURTHER AWARE that this Assembly did exercise its mandate by adopting a Resolution urging Partner States to ratify the Convention;

COGNIZANT of the fact that the Council of Ministers expeditiously handled the request which enabled the EAC Partner States to ratify the Convention;

CONVINCED that the Partner States are committed to providing affirmative action for PWDs as evidenced by the practical measures being adopted particularly by the Governments of Uganda, Kenya and Rwanda;

NOTING with emphasis that Partner States under Article 120 (c) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community are required to closely co-operate amongst themselves in the field of social welfare in respect to the development and adoption of a common approach towards the disadvantaged and marginalized groups, including affirmative action towards persons with disabilities;
NOW THEREFORE DO RESOLVE:

(i) To collectively express its gratitude to the Council of Ministers for the expeditious manner in which the ratification process of the Convention was concluded;

(ii) To urge the Partner States through the Ministers responsible for persons with disabilities to implement the provisions of the convention and where applicable invoke legislative action;

(iii) To thank the Government of the Republic of Rwanda for adopting a cabinet decision in August 2009 to assume an ambassadorial position for PWDs on the African Continent;

(iv) To thank the Government of Kenya for its proactive role in establishing a separate budget line for PWDs in the National Budget for the FY2009/2010 and to urge the other Member States which have not yet done so to take the necessary measures within the 2010/2011 budget year;

(v) To urge the Secretary General to establish appropriate practical measures within the EAC Secretariat to coordinate the establishment of disability structures within the Partner States; and

(vi) That, the Chairperson of the Council do follow up this matter and report to the Assembly the progress made within six months following the adoption of this resolution.

CERTIFIED BY:

Alex Obatre
For. CLERK

DATE: 14-08-09