



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**WELCOMING SPEECH BY RT. HON. DANIEL FRED KIDEGA, SPEAKER
OF EALA AT THE ADDRESS OF RT. HON JON NDUGAI, SPEAKER OF
THE PARLIAMENT OF TANZANIA, TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 2016**

**Rt Hon Kassim Majaliwa (Mb), Prime Minister of the United
Republic of Tanzania;**

Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai, Speaker of Parliament of Tanzania;

The Chairperson and Council of EAC Ministers;

Hon. Ministers of United Republic of Tanzania;

The Secretary General of the EAC;

Hon. Members of EALA and Parliament of Tanzania;

Excellencies Ambassadors and High Commissioners present;

Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen:

I wish, first of all, to thank Rt. Hon. Job Ndugai, the Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania and indeed, the entire Government of the United

Republic of Rwanda for accepting to host EALA for the duration of the 5th Meeting of the 4th Session of the 3rd Assembly.

This being my first official engagement with Rt. Hon Job Ndugai as he is fondly known in the Parliamentary circles, I wish to congratulate him following his successful election in November last year and to assure him of our support. In Commonwealth Countries, Parliamentary Speakers play a crucial role. In order to ensure the orderly flow of business, the National Assembly observes Parliamentary rules, procedures and traditions. The die is cast I must say for Speaker Ndugai – who must play the role of the Parliamentary referee over the next five years.

I am confident that you will handle the role with dedication and commitment.

Already, Rt Hon Ndugai has successfully steered the recent Parliamentary Sitting in Dodoma, Tanzania.

Previously as Deputy Speaker, Rt Hon Ndugai He has served as the member of parliament for the [Kongwa](#) constituency since 2000. Ndugai was named as the most active MP in the 9th Tanzanian Parliament

THE outgoing CCM legislator for Kongwa, Mr Job Ndugai, has been rated the most active MP in the legislature that ended its five-year tenure last August, according to latest public Parliamentary On-line Information System (POLIS) analysis by Uwazi Twaweza.

Let me also take the opportunity to warmly welcome Rt. Hon Job Ndugai to the EAC Bureau of Speakers. the Platform through which we spearhead and intensify the linkages of EALA and the National Assemblies as stipulated in

Article 49 (2) and 65 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community.

I am also certain that we shall continue to benefit in many ways from the experience of Rt. Hon Ndugai as we strengthen the Speakers' Bureau, I shall at an opportune moment find time to apprise Rt. Hon Ndugai on the developments with regards to the Speakers' Bureau.

The relations between Parliament of Rwanda and EALA are cordial and I hope with the arrival of Rt. Hon Ndugai, we can strengthen the relations even further. We as EALA are truly grateful for the spirit of sisterhood and look forward to strengthening and solidifying the relations even further.

In the very short time that we have worked together, I have found Hon Mukabalisa to be engaging, cordial, and absolutely co-operative. I think the Rt. Hon Mukabalisa made an extremely good choice 15 years ago to join politics.

The Rt. Hon Speaker is passionate that Rwandans should understand how Parliament works, and in enumerating what the responsibilities of lawmakers

are. In many ways, the Rt. Hon Speaker contributes to telling and selling the story of how the Parliament operates.

I am confident that under your leadership, the Parliament of Rwanda shall make significant achievements and that its role as the Legislature, Oversight and Representative body shall continue to be strengthened. I can vouch that with you as the Presiding Officer of the House, we shall see far reaching reforms aimed at enhancing ensuring effective service delivery to the citizens.

Rt. Hon Speaker, I wish you my unreserved support and every success in the coming years.

With these few remarks, I now take this opportunity to invite my colleague, the Rt. Hon. Mukabalisa Donatille, Speaker of the Parliament of Rwanda to make her remarks.

Karibu Mheshimiwa Spika !

November 22, 2015