



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**REPORT OF THE LEGAL, RULES AND PRIVILEGES COMMITTEE
ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF THE RULES OF
PROCEDURE OF THE ASSEMBLY**

**ARUSHA, TANZANIA
20TH JANUARY 2015**

**CLERK'S CHAMBERS
EAC HEADQUARTERS
ARUSHA,
TANZANIA**

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

In accordance with Article 49 (g) and Article 60 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community; and also Annex 5 B (ii) (g), and Rule 83 of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Rules of Procedure (2008 Edition), the Assembly is mandated to make or amend its own Rules of Procedure. The Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges was mandated to receive, review and dispose of proposals for the amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly.

The Assembly meeting in Kampala, received the report by the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges in which proposals were made to amend the Assembly's Rules of Procedure. The report and proposals therein were however, not debated as it was the last day of the sitting.

The Assembly meeting in Arusha, resumed the debate of the Committee report but was postponed to give Members ample time to internalize the amendments with the help of technical persons. It is on this premise that the Assembly sitting in Nairobi from November 19th – 24th 2014, an informal meeting of the whole House was convened for the purpose. The meeting deliberated on the report and enriched the proposals by the Committee herein asserted in the Matrix attached.

2.0 OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this activity are to cater for growth of the Community; strengthening the Assembly for purposes of performing its functions; provide for technological advancement; and address unforeseen incidents and developments.

3.0 EXPECTED OUTPUT

- (a) Growth of the Community catered for;
- (b) the Assembly performance of its functions strengthened;
- (c) Technological advancement provided for; and
- (d) Unforeseen incidents and developments addressed;
- (e) New EALA Rules of Procedure considered and adopted.

4.0 METHODOLOGY

To carry out its mandate, the Committee employed various methods, which included:

- (a) reviewing of the EALA Rules of Procedures 2008 Edition and the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC;
- (b) reviewing Partner States' National Parliaments' Rules of Procedures;
- (c) reviewing regional parliaments Rules of Procedure similar to EALA;
- (d) holding an informal workshop for the whole House in Nairobi from November 19th - 25th, 2014 to consider the Committee proposed amendments; and
- (e) considering and adopting the Committee report for onward transmission to the House for debate

5.0 THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Arising from the activities undertaken above, the Committee developed a Matrix of proposed amendments of the new Rules of Procedure of the Assembly herewith attached as **Annex I**.

6.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Recommendations

In light of the Committee proposed amendments of the New Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, the Committee recommends to the Assembly and urge the House:

- (a) to adopt them to foster posterity, smooth and proper functioning of the Assembly; and
- (b) to expedite the process of making the rules of procedure of its Standing Committees for effective and efficient discharge of their mandates as per Article 49 (2) (g) of the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC.

6.2 Conclusion

The process of amending the EALA Rules of Procedures was highly participatory and involved wide consultation of share and stakeholders as well as intense research. Accordingly what is contained in this Committee report reflects the will of the majority of Members of the Assembly pursuant to rule 83 on amendments of Rules of Procedure.