



## **EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

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

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

#### **146<sup>th</sup> Sitting -Third Assembly, Fifth Session- Second Meeting**

**Tuesday, 11 October 2016**

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2:30 p.m. in the Chamber of the Zanzibar House of Representatives in Mbweni, Zanzibar.*

### **SPECIAL SITTING**

#### **ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR**

*[His Excellency Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, escorted by the Speaker of EALA (Hon. Daniel Kidega) and the Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representatives (Hon. Zubeir Ali Maulid ) entered the Chamber at thirty minutes past two o'clock led by the Mace of the EALA]*

*[His Excellency the President (Hon. Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein) took the Chair of State]*

*(The EAC Anthem and the Tanzania Anthem were played)*

### **PRAYER**

*(The Speaker, Mr. Dan Fred Kidega, in the Chair)*

*(The Assembly was called to order)*

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### **PROCEDURAL MOTION**

**Mr. Peter Mathuki** (Kenya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:-

“THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Article 55(1), Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure, do resolve to hold sitting in Zanzibar in the United Republic of Tanzania.”

**The Speaker:** Seconders? Hon. Pareno, Shy-Rose, Hon. Valerie, Hon. Ussi, Hon. Makongoro and all the Members standing.

Hon. Mathuki, proceed with your Motion.

**Mr. Mathuki:** Mr Speaker,

*WHEREAS Clause (1) of Article 55 of the EAC Treaty provides that, the meetings of the Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Assembly may appoint;*

*AND WHEREAS Rule (2) of the Rules of Procedure provides that, the seat of the Assembly shall be at Arusha in the United Republic of Tanzania;*

*AND WHEREAS sub rule (5) of Rule 10 provides that the meetings of the Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Assembly may appoint and shall meet at least once in every year at Arusha in the United Republic of Tanzania at a time to be determined by the Assembly.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, This Assembly do resolve as follows:-*

*“That, pursuant to the provisions of sub rule (5) of Rule 10 stated above, the Assembly shall hold its sittings in the Chamber of the House of Representatives, Zanzibar, from today, Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2016 up to Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2016.”*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Mathuki. Hon. Members, the Motion before us is:-

That, pursuant to the provisions of Article 55(1) of the Treaty and Rule 2 of the Rules of Procedure, do resolve to hold sittings in Zanzibar in the United Republic of Tanzania.

*(Question proposed)*

Debate is open.

Hon. Members, it is our tradition that every Member supports this Motion. and that debate is in unison of silence. I, therefore, would like to put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, amidst us today is His Excellency, Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council. *(Applause)*

In accordance with the provisions of Article 54 of the Treaty, I have invited His Excellency, the President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council to officiate the opening of the Second Meeting of the Fifth Session of the Assembly. I now would like to make the following proclamation to welcome him to this Assembly.

## PROCLAMATION

**The Speaker:** WHEREAS Clause (1) of Article 54 of the Treaty provides that the Speaker of the Assembly may invite any person to address the Assembly, notwithstanding that he or she is not a Member of the Assembly, if in his or her opinion the business of the Assembly renders his or her presence desirable;

AND WHEREAS, in the opinion of the Speaker, the attendance and presence in the Assembly of His Excellency, the President of Zanzibar is desirable in accordance with the business before the Assembly;

NOW THEREFORE, it is with great pleasure and honour, on your behalf honourable Members, that I welcome the President of Zanzibar in this Assembly - (*Applause*).

### WELCOME REMARKS

**The Speaker, EALA:** Your Excellency, Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman, Revolutionary Council, your Excellency Amb. Seif Ali Idd, Second Vice President of Zanzibar, Rt. Hon. Zubeir Ali Maulid, Speaker, Zanzibar House of Representatives, His Lordship, Justice Omar Kakungu, the Chief Justice, the Chairperson and Council of Ministers for the EAC, Hon. Ministers of Zanzibar, Hon. Members of EALA and House of Representatives of Zanzibar, the Secretary General of the EAC, Your Excellences Ambassadors and High Commissioners, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, I wish, first of all to thank my brother and good friend, the Rt. Hon. Zubeya Ali Maulid, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Zanzibar and, indeed, the entire Government of Zanzibar for accepting to host the East African Legislative Assembly for the entire duration of the Second Meeting of the Fifth Session.

I commend Rt. Hon. Maulid for leading the Zanzibar House of Representatives often referred to as *Baraza la Wawakilishii* with much dedication following his successful election as Speaker in March this year. I duly congratulate you for assuming the Speakership and wish you well in your new endeavour. I am confident that under your leadership, the Zanzibar House of Representatives will benefit a great deal. (*Applause*)

Rt. Hon. Speaker, your past experience speaks for itself. You were formally a Member of this House between the years 2000 and 2005, and later became Zanzibar Minister for Transport and Communication. You have been a Member of Kwamtumpura Constituency in the Union Parliament at one point. You served as an Assistant to the Speaker of the National Parliament. You therefore have vast experience that comes in handy in managing your current assignment. The wide array of knowledge and understanding of parliamentary work and service in the Executive has definitely sharpened you in the task ahead. The Zanzibar House of Representatives has, therefore, made a good choice in you.

I am convinced, Rt. Hon. Speaker is passionate that the Zanzibari and, indeed, the Tanzanian people must be afforded the opportunity to understand how the House of Representatives works and in so doing reap from the benefits of this House. The House of Representatives has in the recent past opened its doors and avenues through which petition, *maombi ya wananchi*, are channelled to the House. This is a sign of commitment of the House of Representatives to the citizens and enhances your representative role. I am confident that under your leadership style and political philosophy, the Zanzibar House of Representatives will make significant achievement and that its role as a legislature, oversight and representative body shall continue to be strengthened. I can vouch that we will also see far reaching reforms aimed at enhancing and ensuring effective service delivery to the citizens.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, let me also thank your predecessor, Rt. Hon. Pandu Amia Kificho for steering the House of Representatives and under whose leadership the Zanzibar House of Representatives benefitted by moving to

this magnificent Chambers in 2010. I congratulate the House of Representatives for this initiative. Almost ten years ago, when we were here as the Second Assembly, we did not enjoy this ambience. Congratulations again. *(Applause)*

The relations between the Zanzibar House of Representatives and EALA are warm but can be nurtured even further. This very gesture of surrendering the use of the precincts of the House of Representatives to EALA for the next two weeks portends a strong statement of cordiality and one of pure friendship and, indeed, we do not take this for granted. We are very grateful.

We, as EALA, are truly grateful for the spirit of sisterhood and look forward to strengthening and solidifying the relationships even further between the institution of EALA and this House of Representatives. Both EALA and the Zanzibar House of Representatives can, indeed, learn from each other and collectively build and strengthen further to reinforce the Community. EALA and Zanzibar House of Representatives are institutions or democratisation of the people with comparable if not related mandate and functions. Experience shows that strong parliamentary institutions strengthen governance systems and regional integration processes. EALA and Zanzibar House of Representatives can and should also explore avenues where staff across the departments learn and benefit from each other's experiences.

At the moment, the website of EALA and Zanzibar House of Representatives are linked and the respective portals have greatly assisted in information dissemination in this linkage. I am very grateful for your acceptance to link us together.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I wish you my unreserved support and every success in the coming years. With these few remarks, I take this opportunity to invite you, my good friend, colleague, Rt. Hon. Zubeir Ali, Speaker, Zanzibar House of Representatives to make your remarks. *Karibu Mheshimiwa Spika. (Applause)*

**The Speaker, Zanzibar House of Representatives (Mr. Zubeir Ali):** The President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, the Second Vice President of Zanzibar, the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly, Hon. Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the East African Community, Members of Council of Ministers of the East African Community, Secretary General of the East African Community, Members of the Council of Ministers of the East African Community, Secretary General of the East African Community, Hon. Members of the East African Legislative Assembly, the Clerk of the East African Legislative Assembly, Excellences Consular Generals, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Rt. Hon. Speaker, first and foremost, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to Zanzibar. I ask you to feel at home as you are East Africans during the period of your sessions here in Zanzibar while exploring the beauty of Zanzibar. *(Applause)*

Hon. Speaker, personally, and on behalf of the Members of the House of Representatives of Zanzibar, I wish to express our sincere gratitude for according us great honour to host this august meeting of our regional legislature here in Zanzibar at the precincts of the Zanzibar House of Representatives. *(Interruption)*

**The Speaker, EALA:** Hon. Speaker, I beg for your indulgence. Hon. Colleagues, the

sophistication of this Chamber is such that the public address system is deeply sensitive. Therefore, our applauding should be as gentle as EALA.

**The Speaker, Zanzibar House of Representatives (Mr. Zubeir Ali):** Thank you Rt. Hon. Speaker. Indeed, myself, Members and staff of the House highly appreciate the honour you have extended to us by allowing this meeting of our regional legislature to conduct its business at the House of Representatives.

I am confident that this meeting will be very successful and, therefore, enhance the affairs of our regional Parliament but more importantly cement the unity of all East Africans. The House of Representatives of Zanzibar as part of the East African Community has an obligation to contribute in various ways to achieve successes of this regional august legislature. Therefore, the decision to hold this meeting at the vicinity of the House justifies our readiness to concretise relationships between the two legislatures not only for the betterment of these two bodies but also for the development of the entire region. Your presence here at Zanzibar, at the House of Representatives will not only strengthen the relationships between our two Parliaments but it is evident that Members and staff of our two Houses will explore good opportunity to learn from each other on how the legislation businesses are carried out.

Hon. Speaker, based on the primary objective, your Assembly has an important role in strengthening unity within our Community through passing various Protocols that are deployed in coordinating the operations of joint economic and social activities within the Community. One among the Protocols includes the Protocol on the establishment of the Common Market within the Community which involves among other

things, free movement of goods, labour, services and capital. It is our belief that the implementation of this Protocol of the Common Market has enhance and further enhance trade and investments and will make the region more robust in the context of economic growth in East African Countries. Pertinent to the overlaying objectives of the Common Market Protocol we believe that Member countries including Zanzibar will gain commercial benefit in all areas relating to this Protocol. Further, this Protocol can facilitate the exchange of expertise among the countries intellectuals through free movement of labour.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I have been impressed with the traditions of holding meetings in different member countries. This tradition of changing location of your meetings that your Assembly upholds will be a catalyst to promote, develop and improve relationships among the member states of the East African Community. In addition to that, this tradition will also affirm the significance and relevance of the Assembly of the East African Cooperation in general to the citizens of the countries where the assemblies are held.

Hon. Speaker, the Zanzibar House of Representatives commenced the procedures set for the Election of Members of the East African Legislative Assembly as provided for in the Treaty on the establishment of the East African Community. To make more relevance to the East African Community and EALA to the Member States like Tanzania which has a unique governance structure with two Executive arms, two Legislative organs and two bodies of Judiciary, it is our plea that Article 50 of the East African Community be revisited to allow Zanzibar Legislature to elect members of the Assembly hailing from Zanzibar.

Hon. Speaker, the House of Representatives would like to assure you and the Assembly of our commitment to strengthen the relationships with your legislature in various contexts including the area of exchange of experience for the purpose of learning, participation in inter-parliamentary forums, participation in inter-parliamentary competitions and in many other contexts for the mutual benefit of our Houses. It is my belief that, after this meeting, our relationship will grow stronger.

Hon. Speaker, again, I would like to express our gratitude to your parliament for according us the honour and opportunity of hosting this meeting of your legislature here in Zanzibar. On behalf of the Office of the House of Representatives and honourable Members of the House, I would like to assure you that we, the Members and staff of the House of Representatives sincerely appreciate that honour and it is our belief that you will not take longer time before you come back and hold your upcoming meetings here in Zanzibar. *(Applause)*

Hon. Speaker, please, be rest assured that my office and the House of Representatives at large would take every effort at our disposal to provide all kinds of support and cooperation needed at this meeting to make this meeting successful.

Hon. Speaker, finally, I wish you fruitful deliberations during this meeting. *Karibuni sana Zanzibar. Karibuni sana.*

### WELCOME REMARKS

**The Speaker, EALA:** Your Excellency, Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, your Excellency Amb. Seif Ali Idi, Second Vice President of Zanzibar, Rt. Hon. Zubeir Ali Maulid, Speaker of the Zanzibar House of

Representatives and your Deputy Speaker, His Lordship, Justice Omar Othman Makungu, the Chief Justice of Zanzibar, the Chairperson and Council of EAC Ministers, Hon. Ministers of Zanzibar, Hon. Members of EALA and House of Representatives of Zanzibar, the Secretary General of the East African Community, Excellences, Ambassadors and High Commissioners, Distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Your Excellency, permit me to warmly welcome you to address the East African Legislative Assembly at the commencement of the Second Meeting of the Fifth Session of the Third Assembly. I thank you for responding to our invitation. We note that this is your first official engagement with the Assembly since your re-election as the President of Zanzibar. I, therefore, congratulate you following your successful re-election last year which affirms the great faith that the Zanzibaris have in your leadership Sir. I wish you well and assure you of my support and that of the Assembly as you lead the Zanzibaris and the United Republic of Tanzania and, therefore, the East African Community.

The Third Assembly is similarly holding its session here in Zanzibar for the first time. As part of the principle of rotation, the Second Assembly held its Fourth Meeting of the First Session in the House of Representatives in Zanzibar in December, 2007 at the old Chambers. We are, therefore, extremely grateful to be accorded another opportunity to meet here in the isles and this time, in this magnificent Chambers in Tukwani.

You Excellency, with about eight months left to end our tour of duty as the Third EALA, we continue to work tirelessly. We are particularly keen to make up the lost time incurred for the part of 2004 when we had few challenges. The Assembly since 2015

has held a total of 11 sittings this one being the 12<sup>th</sup> Sir. In the ensuing period, the Assembly has enacted 14 Bills, passed 14 Resolutions and adopted 19 reports in addition to dispensing with 15 petitions and pausing a number of questions to the Council of Ministers.

Your Excellency, the recent adoption by the EALA of the key resolution calling upon the Summit of the EAC Heads of States to amend the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC to include Kiswahili as one of the official languages of the Community is one that duly interests Zanzibar and Zanzibaris. (*Applause*)

Once, realised, I can contemplate that the EAC Kiswahili Commission based here in Zanzibar shall be extremely occupied with a full menu on its plate. As the hub of Kiswahili, Zanzibar is likely to churn out teachers with diverse expertise whose contribution to the EAC integration will in no doubt result into deeper integration. We expect that the amendment of the Treaty will take place soon and that the Kiswahili experts who are in Zanzibar here shall liberate the rest of East Africans from linguistic hostage.

Your Excellency, during this plenary session, EALA shall debate on the EAC Counter-Trafficking in Persons Bill, 2016; The EAC Polythene Control Material Bill, 2016; and may also debate the EAC Gender Bill, 2015. EALA will also analyse several oversight reports from the Committee, debate crucial motions and pass resolutions.

Your Excellency, a study by the African Union, the World Bank and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa titled African Regional Mission, 2016 reveals that the EAC to the fastest growing bloc across various dimensions of regional integration analysed on the continent. This positioned the EAC as the best Regional

Economic Block on the African Continent, a fact that we are very proud of. We appreciate you and your colleagues for your political guidance.

In this exciting time of integration, we need to maintain the tempo as we implement the Customs Union and the Common Market and concretise the next steps towards the Monetary Union and ultimately the Political Federation. In so doing, the EAC should address existing bottlenecks such as the Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs), free movement of persons and goods and absolute political will is vital in doing this.

The region must also keep on track ten years infrastructural development strategy which among other things lays emphasis on Public-Private Partnership Investments in railways, roads, ports and the energy sector.

Matters of peace and security remain pivotal towards ensuring progress in the integration process. What comes to mind is the need for restoration of normalcy particularly in the Republic of Burundi and the Republic of South Sudan to enable citizens to carry on with their lives without fear of any more loss of lives, injury or destruction of property. In Burundi, this Assembly has already paid a heavy price with the assassination of one of our own, the late Hon. Hafsa Mossi in July this year. May her soul rest in peace. EALA is very keen to see that attention is given to the Inter-Burundi Dialogue. It is heart-warming that the EAC Heads of States Summit, recently, consented to availing additional resources to keep the process ongoing.

In January this year, EALA had a public hearing on the situation of human rights and political situations in generally in Burundi following a petition by the Pan African Lawyers Union (PALU). We debated the

matter and approved key reports. I shall, at the end of October this year, hold comprehensive consultations with the convenor or facilitator of the Burundi Dialogue, His Excellency, Benjamin William Mkapa, on behalf of the Assembly. EALA also welcomes to the fold, the Republic of South Sudan and looks forward to foster stability in the country in line with Article 6 of the Treaty of the Establishment of the East African Community. This is the surest way to ensure that the citizens of the Republic of South Sudan will enjoy the benefits of integration as expected.

Your Excellency, once again, I wish you well as you continue to lead Zanzibar to prosperity. Zanzibar as a free port area within the regional dispensation has potential of becoming the unprecedented Dubai of Africa. Zanzibar offers an attractive touristic and investment destination given the respective beautiful sites and the designated export producing zones. The possibility of oil of discovery on the Island of Pemba will boost the Zanzibar economy. The Pemba channel is also a profitable fishing ground at the Swahili coast. I have noted the recent improvement of the Pemba Airport which is a precursor affording airlines opportunity to connect to that part of the country to the rest of the region and to enhance internal and external trade.

The annual Zanzibar International Film Festival that showcases the best of the Swahili Coast Art scenes including Taarab remains a major tourism event that I have admired for a long time.

Your Excellency, many East Africans today enjoy light crystal television devices or flat screens in their living rooms. However, many may not be aware that the first coloured television station, south of Sahara, was inaugurated here in Zanzibar 43 years ago

when some of us were not born. Television Zanzibar first played a major factor in opening up the region to developmental oriented opportunities. All these positives can further be built on as we look towards the future.

Your Excellency, before I invite you to address this Assembly, permit me to restate that the term of the Assembly ends mid this June. I wish to, especially, congratulate the United Republic of Tanzania for sending to EALA a team of dedicated and committed Members to represent the United Republic of Tanzania, two of whom, in the team of nine, are Hon. Maryam Ussi and Hon. Abdullah Mwinyi who are domiciled in this Republic as sons and daughters of the soil. While the rest are still eligible for re-election to the forth EALA, you may wish to know that one of your own son, Hon. Abdullah Mwinyi, has successfully completed his tenure of duty for the ten years in the Assembly. I consider him very energetic. Yesterday, we celebrated our birthday together.

Your Excellency, I hand him over to you to exploit the potential and experience he has acquired in his service at the Community specifically in EALA.

Your Excellency, permit me to now, to introduce to you some of the dignitaries present as our guests this afternoon.

I am humbled and honoured to introduce the Second Vice President of Zanzibar, His Excellency, Seif Ali Iddi, Chief Justice, Lordship Justice Omar Makunga, and Ministers from the Zanzibar Government. *(Applause)*

May I request our good friend, the Deputy Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representatives and Members of the



Zanzibar House of Representatives to kindly rise for recognition?

*(The Members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives stood in their places for recognition)*

On a special note, I would like to invite EALA Members *emeritus*. These are institutional memories of the institution of EALA that hail from this Island.

Hon. Mafoudha Allay who served in the first EALA. She was invited, and we expect her to join us in the course of the two weeks; Hon. Said Bakari Jecha; he also served in the First EALA and we thank him for his contribution.

Hon. Dr. Said Gharib Bilal. Your Excellency, that is one of our own. We served with him in the Second EALA. He was such a ferocious defender of the island and the United Republic of Tanzania and the people of East Africa. We thank you, Sir, for keeping high the flag of the EAC. Thank you Dr. Bilal for coming.

Dr. Juma Abdallah Saadalla Mabodi - *(Applause)*. Your Excellency, Rt. Hon. Speaker, it sounds as if I should be quiet on this case - *(Laughter)*.

Dr. Juma Abdallah Saadalla Mabodi was a great Minister serving the United Republic of Tanzania. *(Applause)*. He did not miss even a single meeting of this Assembly while he was serving. He was committed and dedicated to the service of the Community but most importantly to the representation of the United Republic of Tanzania. We thank you Sir for the commitment.

Allow me, Sir, to present to you all the Permanent Secretaries from Zanzibar. They should all rise up and be recognised. Political parties leadership present here should also

stand. This is key to us. We would like, in a special way, to recognise the presence of the Deputy Secretary General of the Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM).

*(The Deputy Secretary General stood in his place for recognition)*

We thank you Sir for gracing our occasion.

The Chairperson, Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM), Western region is also here. The Secretary General of Civic United Front (CUF), Zanzibar, Secretary General of the Alliance for Democratic Change (ADC), Deputy Secretary General of NCCR-Mageuzi, Deputy Secretary General of Tanzania Labour Party (TLP), Deputy Secretary General of United Democratic Party (UDP), Deputy Secretary General of Tanzania Democratic Alliance (TADDA), Deputy Secretary General of Union for Multiparty Democracy (UMD), Deputy Secretary General of National League for Democracy (NLD), Deputy Secretary General of Justice and Development Party (CHAUSTA), Deputy Secretary General of SSU, Deputy Secretary of Jahazi Asilia and then Deputy Secretary General of DP.

Your Excellency, allow me also to present to you Ambassadors and representatives of international organisations. Please rise up and be recognised. I will take this opportunity to introduce to you members of the armed forces of Zanzibar. Please rise up for recognition. *(Members of the armed forces stood up in their place)(Applause)* We thank you for the beautiful melody.

Allow me also to introduce to you leadership and authorities of Zanzibar. I will start with the Regional Commissioner, Njini Magaribi. *(Applause)*

District Commissioner, Wilaya ya Magaribi.

In a special way, I would like to recognise the presence of the private sector. May you rise up? I would also like to recognise the presence of religious leaders, Chief Mufti of Zanzibar.

*(The Chief Mufti stood up in his place for recognition)*

Chief Kadhi of Zanzibar, Archdeacon, Anglican Church, Zanzibar Diocese, Mkamanazi Zini, Archdeacon Catholic Church Zanzibar, Minara Miwili. We thank you all for your presence.

Your Excellency, we have other guests whom we will introduce as soon as we are informed of their presence after you have spoken, Sir. It is now my humble duty to take this singular opportunity to invite you to address this august House.

You are most welcome, your Excellency.

**PRESIDENT OF ZANZIBAR AND CHAIRMAN OF THE ZANZIBAR REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL (Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein):** The Rt. Hon. Daniel Fred Kidega, Speaker of East African Legislative Assembly; Honourable 2nd Vice President of Zanzibar, Ambassador Seif Ali Iddi, the Chairperson and Council of East African Community Ministers; the Rt. honourable Zubeir Ali Maulid, Speaker of the Zanzibar House of Representatives; Hon. Ministers of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar; honourable Members of the Assembly and the Zanzibar House of Representatives; The Secretary General of the East African Community; Excellences Ambassadors and High Commissioners; Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen:

It is a great pleasure and honour for me to be given this opportunity to address and to officially open the Second Meeting of the

Fifth Session of Third Assembly of the East African Legislative Assembly here in Zanzibar. I am delighted to have been granted the honour to share my thoughts and experience with you; distinguished Members of this August assembly. Before I proceed, allow me, at this juncture, to wholeheartedly thank you, the Hon. Speaker and Members of the Assembly, for this cordial invitation which I proudly cherish. Thank you very much.

Honourable Speaker, I sincerely commend the existing arrangement of the East African Legislative Assembly to hold its meetings in different cities and towns of the partner states based on the established rotational principle. This is indeed a constructive arrangement which greatly helps to increase people's awareness of the community and ultimately become wholly supportive in implementing our integration agenda.

On behalf of the people of Zanzibar, I would once again like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to the honourable Speaker and Members of the Assembly for holding your meetings here in Zanzibar for the second time. We still treasure the memories of the first Assembly meeting which was held in Zanzibar in December 2007. We warmly welcome you all to Zanzibar and ask you to feel at home. *Karibuni sana.*

Let me share good news with you that Zanzibar has continued to grow as a hot spot for international conferences. I appreciate your recognition by coming here for the second time. We now offer excellent meeting facilities which are of great value for money. The government, in collaboration with foreign and local investors, has been committed to building state-of-the-art conference facilities to attract more international conference organizers to

undertake their activities in Zanzibar. It is our hope that the East African Community will gratefully avail itself of the opportunities and services we offer in the hospitality industry. Zanzibar is a cosmopolitan society and historically we have taken great pleasure in welcoming visitors. Our hotels development has grown tremendously and you are invited to taste what they offer.

Honourable Speaker, coming to your agenda of the visit, I have been informed that the Assembly is expected to dispense with three key Bills, the EAC Trafficking in Persons Bill 2016, the EAC Polythene Materials Control Bill 2016 and the EAC Gender Equality and Development Bill 2016. These are certainly important bills for our integration programmes.

It is surely high time that across the East African region we need to have strong laws to deal effectively and decisively with human trafficking; which is a serious crime and a grave violation of human rights. Likewise, the EAC Polythene Materials Control Bill is coming at the right time. It will evidently prove provide a legal framework for the preservation and promotion of healthy environment through the prohibition of manufacturing, sale, importation and use of polythene materials.

I hope you know that the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar banned the importation and production of plastic bags in 2011. The full ban of using the bags has been enforced since then. We found that the bags were very damaging and harmful to the marine environment and hurting our crucial tourism industry. We have been promoting the use of raffia bags, which are environmental friendly, as an alternative. Let us hope the new legislation that you will pass on Polythene Materials Control will go a long

way towards promoting healthy and clean environment.

On the other hand, the EAC Gender Equality and Development Bill 2016 will certainly pave the way for promoting gender equality, harmony and women participation in the implementation of our development programmes. It is my hope that we will have constructive discussions on various issues pertinent to these Bills, and ultimately you will be able to pass legislation that will be in line with our development objectives and people's aspirations.

Honourable Speaker, It is gratifying to note that, to date, East African Legislative Assembly has passed over 70 pieces of legislation, several resolutions and reports. This is a laudable contribution to the East African Community Integration process for which the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania highly value and adhere to.

I congratulate you, the Hon. Speaker, for the new found resilience and energy that the Assembly has employed since you took over the mantle in December 2014. Since then, there has been a steady flow of work and the region continues to feel and appreciate the weight of the regional Assembly. In fact, your exemplary leadership has tremendously motivated many honourable Members of the Assembly to work much harder and all of them have become more resourceful. Congratulations to all of you.

Hon. Speaker, as East Africans, we take great pride in the fact that we have attained considerable achievements in strengthening the main pillars of the East African Regional Integration. Through the Custom Union Protocol, we have enormously enhanced the volume of trade within the Community. The

bloc has been rapidly emerging as a magnet for foreign direct investment. We are on the right track in our quest to improve agriculture which is one of East Africa's most important sectors, with about 80 percent of the population of the region living in rural areas and depending on it for their livelihood.

It is inspiring to see that we have many infrastructure projects in progress. However, we still need to accelerate our efforts to improve our roads, railways, waterways, and aviation and communication systems. It is the high-quality and robust infrastructure systems that will facilitate the movement of goods, persons, capital and services. In addition, having modern and sustainable infrastructure will make us closer together and become more inspired in developing other sectors.

Honourable Speaker, it is interesting to know that all the Governments within the East African Community have stepped up efforts to promote the growth of industries and SMEs. We can make East Africa an industrial powerhouse. We need to move from where we are now, where the contribution of manufacturing to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in East Africa is estimated at 8.9 per cent, which is considerably below the average target of about 25 per cent that all the Partner States have set for themselves to achieve by 2032. It is through the industrial development that we can eliminate the current unemployment challenges that exist in all Partner States.

As you are all aware, since the coming of the Fifth Phase of the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, the President, His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, has asserted an impressive industrialisation focus. At the same time, Zanzibar is in the process of reviewing its industrial policy targeting improvement of its

industrial sector. We hope to raise industrial productivity and secure market within the East African Region and beyond.

It is certain that East African Legislative Assembly has to take a leading role in making our noble objectives achievable. I call upon the Assembly to hasten the pace of creating effective policies that will eliminate the existing constraints in various economic and social sectors and advise the community and member states accordingly.

Honourable Speaker, allow me now to share my thoughts with you on tourism, which is the mainstay of Zanzibar's economy. It is a matter of fact that East Africa has recorded some impressive achievements in the tourism sector and our region is increasingly becoming an important global tourist destination. However, I am of the view that vigorous efforts must be undertaken by the Community to attract more tourists and improve the sector. Despite the fact that our region has been endowed with abundance of natural attractions and magnificent wildlife, the number of international tourist arrivals in our region is comparatively low.

It has been reported that the region receives less than 5 million tourists and holiday makers from abroad a year out of over one billion, which is the world's total. This number, in fact, does not reflect the global popularity and fame of our tourist attractions. We can do better as a bloc. The total number of tourists who visited Zanzibar in 2014 was 311,801. Our target is to reach 500,000 tourists by 2020. We are working very closely with the tourism board.

It is time now for East African Community through the East African Legislative Assembly to come up with robust strategies and policies that will enable us to increase our market share of international tourist arrivals

in East Africa. We need to accelerate our efforts in creating strong; interconnected domestic and regional institutions that will improve tourism and promote the region as a common tourist destination. Together, we can do it.

Honourable Speaker, I was so impressed by how the Heads of States of the East African Community reacted and responded to Kagera earthquake which happened on 10th of September, 2016. Acting together, they played a leading role in providing various material and financial assistance to the victims. They demonstrated the Community has gone far beyond the signed protocols. They gave hope to our people that we are together in good and hard times. They have set an example on how we should help each other as East Africans, let us follow their footsteps. As Tanzanians, we appreciate their responses and assistance.

Honourable Speaker, on another subject, I am delighted by the East Africa Community's decision to choose Zanzibar as the headquarters of the East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC). This is a very important institution of the Community. You have made the right decision, taking into account of the fact that historically the standard Kiswahili is spoken in Zanzibar. This is an area where Kiswahili originated. The word "waswahili" means "people from the coast." This is where Kiswahili came from. While in Zanzibar, you can increase your vocabulary. You could go round and talk to people. They will tell you about their dialects like the Watumbatu, Zawapemba and Zawabunya. Welcome to Zanzibar where Kiswahili is widely spoken. We thank you sincerely for the decision and pledge our full support. (*Applause*)

Equally, I commend the recent resolution by the East African Legislative Assembly on the

envisaged promotion and use of Kiswahili in daily activities. As the *lingua franca*, Kiswahili is set to strengthen our brotherly bonds even further. I had anticipated that today's inaugural session would be in Kiswahili Language. (*Applause*). I know that this is the beginning and that the Rt. Hon. Speaker will make plans to implement your decision in future.

It is the intention of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar to assist the Commission to achieve its intended goals. I would like to inform you that in Zanzibar we have stepped up efforts to promote Kiswahili globally and now the language is taught extensively in our universities. The State University of Zanzibar (SUZA) has broadened its Kiswahili curriculum. It offers special Kiswahili courses at various levels to foreign students and PhD courses to both local and foreign students. You are welcome to join all these programmes.

Honourable Speaker, I am aware that honourable Members of East African Legislative Assembly have visited Zanzibar to undertake sensitization programme-second phase - in order to create more awareness of the Community and its integration agenda to the people of Unguja and Pemba. Sensitization programmes are a costly affair but the benefits they bring to the people outweigh the costs and they are extremely important, if the EAC is to be wholly owned by the people and working for the people of East Africa.

I would like to reassure you of our Government's commitment to East African integration. We will play our part in creating and shaping other laws, the institutions and the frameworks that will help us face that future together. Our unity is the vital precondition of our prosperity and freedom. Nonetheless, it is crucial for the EAC to learn

from the past and current experiences of other regional economic blocs so that we can manage the roadmap to single currency and political federation carefully and systematically. We need to address the existing challenges, including that of funding which the Community is facing at the moment to ensure the objectives and goals of the regional integration process are maintained.

The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar will do all that it takes to ensure the economic and social development future of the region is sustained. It is our ultimate desire to make our region a haven of peace, unity and stability. I assure you that the doors are open at any time for further consultations to attain this.

Honourable Speaker, let me congratulate you most sincerely for the work you have been doing since you assumed this office. I would like to commend you for the good work; for keeping in touch with the old legislatures some of whom are in this auditorium this evening. I know you are making great efforts, perhaps in future, to initiate a programme similar to the universities alumni where old guards will be of great use in your deliberations. I am saying so because as the saying goes, old is gold. If you want to achieve tangible results of what you are undertaking, you have to use the heads of the wise men so that you do better. I am confident that your decision of inviting the old Members of the Assembly is intended to show that these are the powerful instruments you have had during their tour of duty.

Zanzibar is well known in the world. As you said, we have the dhow country festival that takes annually in Zanzibar. However, Zanzibar has been very popular in terms of trade. I would like to mention that Zanzibar had diplomatic relations with most of Europe

and America during the middle of 19<sup>th</sup> Century. By 1847, Zanzibar had diplomatic and trade relations with the US, whereby we exchanged diplomatic missions and in 1848 with Britain and then towards the end of 1849 with Germans. So, with this history in mind, we are working very hard to review our policies especially those of trade and investment to see how we fit in the Common Market and trade in the East African Community services. We have every reason to work very hard so that we are not left behind in this endeavour of promoting trade, investment and other important spheres of development. We are now in full swing plans of constructing a new port in Zanzibar. This port is in the vicinity of the western part of Zanzibar and we hope that if all goes well, it will be constructed towards the end of this year. This will be a very important port serving the East African on both sides. On the southern part it will be serving Tanzania, Mozambique and South Africa. On the northern part, it will be serving Kenya, Somalia and the Middle East. We think we want to resume our historic work which was done in terms of trade and travelling of people between Zanzibar and other parts of the world.

Suffice to say, together with the construction of the port, we are in the final touches of building the new terminal of the airport building. Hopefully, you have seen that the construction is ongoing. We hope that at any time towards the middle of next year, the new terminal building will be opened and the number of tourists we anticipate to receive by 2020 to the tune of 500,000 probably will be achieved prior to that time.

Hon. Speaker, it was very wise for you to hold your Assembly here in Zanzibar. I would like to express my appreciation for the decision which is timely. This is a decision which you reached because of your own

charter of rotating from one country to another so that every member state can record in their history the importance of EALA. That was a wise decision. Allow me to commend you and honourable Members for the job well done.

Having said all those words, it is now my singular privilege and honour to declare the 2nd Meeting of the 5th Session of the 3rd Assembly officially open. (*Applause*)

I thank you for your attention, please.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Your Excellency for your wise counsel and words of wisdom to this Assembly and to East Africans. I beg your indulgence for you to allow me to conclude my introduction of our special guests. I would like to start again with our good friend, Speaker Emeritus, Pandu Ameir Kificho who is here with us. (*Applause*).

The Rt. Hon. Pandu Kificho has not only had a touch to this building but he is a great friend of the second EALA. He led the Zanzibar team to the Nanyuki series when the Nanyuki series was just beginning. We have never forgotten your contribution. He did not stop there. We benefited from his expertise when he came to train the first EALA Parliamentary Commission and positioning for his duty. We are very grateful for your contribution.

Your Excellency, I would have cheated my soul and the Second EALA if I did not introduce one Member *emeritus* in absentia, Hon. Mama Sebtuu. She was a Member of the Second EALA. There are many Members of EALA who loved Mama Omzee. Hon. Mama Sebtuu earned that name throughout East Africa. She served the Second EALA as the Chairperson of the Committee on General Purpose. She did not just do her legislative

work but also became the icon of motherhood in the Assembly.

Your Excellency, you can imagine that some of us in the Second EALA we were very young and we liked to gravitate around motherly image and she offered us a lot of social guidance. We thank her so much. She passed an apology to my office. She has a sick niece and that is why she is not with us today. God bless her for her good contribution.

I would like to turn to Hon. Mohamud Aboud. Your Excellency, there is a uniqueness of the Ministers of the United Republic of Tanzania who come from Zanzibar. The Honourable Minister, when he was serving in the Second Assembly, he was such a wonderful Minister and made good contribution in strengthening the relationship between the Assembly and the Council of Ministers. Sir, we are forever grateful for your contribution to strengthen the Assembly.

Allow me now to turn back to our own Council of Ministers. I would like to start by introducing the Chairperson, Council of Ministers, Hon. Dr. Suzan Kolimba who is your own. I would like to introduce the Third Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Uganda, Hon. Kirunda Kivejinja who is also the Minister for East African Affairs. I would like to introduce the Counsel to the Community.

I would like to now turn to our own, Members of EALA. I will go country by country. I will start with the United Republic of Tanzania, United Republic of Rwanda, Republic of Kenya, Republic of Burundi and then Republic of Uganda.

The Republic of South Sudan is still on the way to joining the Community.

Allow me also to introduce our gallant staff of the Community starting with the Deputy Secretary General who is also representing the Secretary General. I also request the entire army of the staff of the EAC including EALA to rise up for recognition. Those are the people who make our work easy.

It would be incomplete if at all the picture has been very rosy in the Community before I move to invite one of our Members to move a vote of thanks, I would like to inform you that the Community is facing unprecedented financial difficulty that have not been faced since we started our last integration journeys. It would be unfair for me not to inform you. This requires the attention of the Summit. Allow me to thank the President of the Republic of Tanzania who is the Chair of the Summit of the EAC for the good leadership and to thank you for affording us this opportunity but picking from your own words, that old is gold. I cannot do all the appreciation on my own.

May I invite our own most senior, who has seen this place more than most of us, Hon. Mzee Leonce to come and move a vote of thanks on behalf of the Assembly?

Mr. Leonce Ndarubagiye (Burundi): Your Excellency, Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein, President of Zanzibar and Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, Rt. Hon. Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon. Speaker of the House of Representatives of Zanzibar, Your Excellency, Seif Ali, Vice President of Zanzibar, distinguished guests present here:

First, I stand here on behalf of the Rt. Hon. Speaker and all the Members of EALA as well as the staff of EALA to express our deep and sincere gratitude for your presence in this august House despite your very busy schedule and responsibilities. (*Applause*)

Your presence here is a testimony of your personal commitment to the ideals, goals, and your welfare to the EAC in general and we append your appreciation of the work done by EALA in particular. We thank you very much.

Similarly, I stand here before you to express our thanks to the people of the United Republic of Tanzania in general and specifically to the people of Zanzibar for their warm welcome and reception since we set foot in this beautiful and historical island. We all know that Zanzibar has been the door and entry point of the EAC territory by foreigners from the outer world. All the regions represented in our region entered our region through Zanzibar and later moved to Bagamoyo, Mombasa and Dar es Salaam. You may wish to know that the contribution of this region to our religions and lives and cultures has been immense and tremendous and of great value for change in development.

Most important, the different religions have made closer to our creator and also contributed immensely to education, health and social services. By doing so, improving the standards of living for us all. The contribution of Zanzibar to the culture and welfare of our region does not stop at what I have mentioned. Most importantly, the people of Zanzibar have been catalysts of shaping our extra ordinary language, Kiswahili and to disseminate it in our region.

As the Rt. Hon. Speaker said, Kiswahili is spoken widely in the EAC territory and beyond. Kiswahili is the official language in Tanzania and Kenya and it is widely spoken in the towns of East Africa. It is also one of the official continental languages in the African Union (AU). This Assembly adopted a resolution introduced by Hon. Abubakar Zein from Kenya and seconded by Hon. Shy Rose Bhanji from Tanzania that



Kiswahili be one of the languages of EAC. We think this will go a long way in fostering unity and purpose.

We beg you, your Excellency to help us during the next Heads of States Summit so that they adopt our resolution and agree for us to change the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC Article 137 so that Kiswahili can become an official EAC language alongside English.

I am also pleased to inform you that during the next weekend break, Members will go out to visit the beaches of Zanzibar and the many tourist attractions sites. They will also visit the spice farms so that they also buy spices to flavour their food. Your recommendations and advice in your inspirational speech regarding gender equality, for EAC people to work hard and about the infrastructure and the Port of Zanzibar, industries, economy and tourism will always be inspirational to us.

Finally, I congratulate you for having the most beautiful Chamber, the House of Representatives.

**The Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Leonce for your vote of thanks to His Excellency, the Speaker, and all our guests. *(Applause)*

Hon. Leonce is our senior Member, an icon of hope in terms of information. We thank you, Hon. Leonce.

Before I adjourn as per our Order Paper, I have a few announcements to make, with your permission, your Excellency.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Speaker:** We will have a photo session outside these beautiful chambers as shall be guided by the Sergeant-at-Arms. After the photo session, we shall treat ourselves to a

cocktail with His Excellency and further the conversation.

We thank you, Your Excellency for affording us an opportunity to have a cocktail with you and with the Speaker and Vice President.

### ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker:** Honourable Members, Committee work begins tomorrow at 10.00 a.m.

I now adjourn the House to tomorrow, Wednesday, 12 October 2.30 p.m.

*(The EAC Anthem and the national Anthem of the United Republic of Tanzania were played)*

*(The House rose at 4.00 p.m. to reconvene on Wednesday, 12 October 2016 at 2.30 p.m.)*