



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

IN THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

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

147TH SITTING - THIRD ASSEMBLY: SECOND MEETING – FIFTH SESSION

Wednesday, 12 October 2016

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

PRAYER

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

(The Assembly was called to order)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

(i) UNPRECEDENTED FINANCIAL CHALLENGES

The Speaker: Honourable Members, I take this singular honour to welcome you to Zanzibar for the Second Meeting of the Fifth Session of the Third Assembly. From the onset, I would like to express my apology to many of you who have had difficulties in connecting to arrive in Zanzibar. There have been difficulties in travel arrangements because of the airline schedule. We apologise to members who had to sleep mid the journey and those who had to arrive at very awkward hours.

Honourable colleagues, I would also like to express to you the fact that the last two months since we adjourned *sine die* from the First Meeting of the Fifth Session have not been easy. It has been extremely difficult for the Administration of the Assembly and the Community generally.

In a special way, I would like to extend my regrets to committees and for programmes that were disrupted and that could not take place in the past two months. That included committee activities, oversight activities and activities related to the Office of the Speaker and other organs and institutions of the Community. This disruption was caused by unprecedented financial challenges that the

Assembly and the Community at large is experiencing.

(ii) APPRECIATION OF CHAPTER LEADERS

In a very special way, I would like to extend my appreciation to the Chapter Leaders. When I realised, after being advised by the Clerk, that many of the activities could not proceed, I wrote to you requesting you to convene meetings in your capitals to discuss the challenges. As I indicated in my letters to you, the Clerk advised me as your Speaker how to proceed. I would like to thank those of you who did what you could to generate some bit of pressure and walk through the corridors of your capitals explaining the challenges that the Assembly was going through. I thank you dearly. I am conscious of the fact that the duty to mobilise resources for the Community or the integration process is not a duty of this Assembly but we had to do our political work and that is the basis of my writing and appreciation to you.

(iii) SUMMIT OF THE EAC HEADS OF STATE HELD ON 9TH SEPTEMBER IN DAR ES SALAAM

Honourable Members, on a lighter and happier note, I would like to report to you that on your behalf, I attended the Summit of the EAC Heads of State that took place in Dar es Salaam on 9th September, which was a very successful Summit. Members of the Tanzanian Chapter flanked me very colourfully. I thank them for joining me in attending the Summit. I also thank the Secretary General who also expeditiously worked to make sure those members were accredited to attend the Summit with me.

(iv) THE SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF ECOWAS PARLIAMENT IN ABUJA

In the same vein, I also attended and addressed the Second Ordinary Session of the ECOWAS Parliament in Abuja on your behalf. I gave a goodwill message, which was highly appreciated by the ECOWAS Community. Most important, in our meeting of African Regional Parliamentary Leaders Caucus, we agreed that to create convergence among the regional parliamentary groups on the continent, we should be having the leaders of the parliamentary groups address the various openings of the various regional parliaments to create convergence on the Pan-African issues that we deal with. That is the little I could do since we adjourned based on the difficult situation we were facing. I thank you very much.

(v) VISITING DELEGATION OF SMALL-SCALE FARMERS

Before we move to the next Order, I have visitors to recognise who have come to visit us. These are small-scale farmers of *Matandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima* or otherwise *Viwata* and the East and Southern African Farmers Federation who are our very good friends who have also come to visit us. We welcome you to be with us (*Applause*). Thank you very much.

PAPERS

The following Paper was laid on the Table: -

by Ms. Patricia Hajabakiga (Rwanda)

The Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the East African Community Agriculture Budget Summit, 2016.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

PROGRESSION IN THE CAREER OF HON.
CHRISTOPHE BAZIVAMO

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Patricia.

Honourable colleagues, we also need to take note that the Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, has since progressed in his career of duty. He has been appointed as the Deputy Secretary General to the East African Community. That is why Hon. Patricia is acting on his behalf. We congratulate and wish him well. *(Applause)*

BILL'S FIRST READING

The East African Community Polythene Materials Control Bill, 2016.

Ms. Patricia Hajabakiga (Rwanda): Thank you, Rt. Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity.

I beg to move -

“That, the East African Community Polythene Material Control Bill, 2016, be read for the First Time.”

The Speaker: Seconded by Hon. Tiperu, Hon. Pareno, Hon. Patricia and all the Members standing.

The Bill stands referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources.

(The Bill was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources)

MOTION

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCES ON THE EAC AGRICULTURE BUDGET SUMMIT, 2016

The Acting Chairperson Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (Ms Hajabakiga): Thank you, Rt. Hon. Speaker. I beg to move that the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the EAC Agricultural Budget Summit, 2016, be adopted.

The Speaker: Seconders? Hon. Dr. Odette, Hon. Mumbi, Hon. Okumu and all the Members standing.

Hon. Patricia, proceed.

Ms Hajabakiga: Rt. Hon. Speaker, in June, 2014, the Heads of State and Government of African Union (AU) came together in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea and made some bold declaration on Accelerated African Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihood, reaffirmation area of commitments made in Maputo Declaration in 2003 and core principles and values.

Connecting with the broader African Agenda 2063 vision towards a broad-based development and economic transformation and growth, African Union/NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency developed clear results area and expected impact within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Implementation Framework. It highlighted the contribution of agriculture transformation to attaining Agenda 2063 Goals, which

would also contribute to the realisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme of operationalising the Malabo Declaration and CAADP Implementation Strategy underlined the importance of the collective national and regional complementarities in achieving the set targets and commitments.

It is within this context that the East African Legislative Assembly Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources in collaboration with the Eastern and Southern African Small-Scale Farmers and other partners organised the Second EAC Agricultural Budget Summit whose theme was “Increasing Public Investment in Agriculture towards Ending Hunger and Poverty by 2025 in the EAC” on 4th June 2016.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SUMMIT

The overall objective of the Summit was to support the implementation of the Malabo Declaration 2014 – 2025 in order to avoid the failure of the Maputo Declaration 2003-2008.

Specific objectives were -

- (1) To build synergy for partnership and collaboration between small-scale holder farmers, EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, civil society organisations and Government officials from enhanced CAADP implementation within the region.
- (2) To build evidence-based case and galvanise stakeholders own voices for increased financing for agriculture in East African region.
- (3) To increase public awareness on CAADP Result Framework and importance of public financing of agriculture that supports small holders as catalyst for improved private sector investment.

- (4) To enhance civil society organisations and small-scale farmers involvement in agriculture financing policy processes for improved public financing for agriculture at national and EAC level.

- (5) To identify challenges and opportunities in realisation of the Malabo Declaration and in particular the role of the East African Legislative assembly (EALA) and national Parliaments can play through enacting appropriate legislation, exercising oversight and ensure representation of farmers’ and citizens’ voices towards the realisation of the Malabo commitments at the EAC Heads of State Summit in November, 2016.

- (6) To develop a set of recommendations to the EALA through the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources as input to the Heads of State Summit in November 2016.

PARTICIPANTS

The participants for the Summit were Members of the EALA from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources and the staff, Agricultural Committee Chairpersons from EAC national Parliaments and CAADP Focal Points from the EAC Partner States. Other partners included Trust Africa, ActionAid International, Agriculture Non-State Actors Forum (ANSAF) and the Coalition of Non-State Actors on CAADP. Other present partners were media and civil society organisation representatives.

OFFICIAL OPENING

Hon. Chris Opoka Okumu representing the Speaker of the EALA officially opened the EAC Budget Summit 2016. In his opening remarks, he congratulated the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources and ESAFF on a well-organised Summit, bringing diverse

stakeholder together to discuss agriculture issues. The presence of the organisation and small-scale farmers in the Summit was clear indication that there are important stakeholders in the region. He said that agriculture is the main source of livelihood for most of the population in the EAC and contributes a lot to the GDP though the contribution was in decline. He noted that the Summit was taking place when the EAC is experiencing El Niño phenomena, occasioning floods with about five SADC countries having declared drought as a national disaster. He challenged the gathering at the Summit to take stock.

He also said that agriculture is more effective in eradicating poverty than would be oil or any other sector, hence the need to make countries adopt and implement the CAADP and the Malabo Declaration using a bottom-up approach. He also seconded the creation of the EAC Agricultural Advisory Council as a platform for exchange and learning between the EALA and small-scale farmers and speeding up harmonization of agriculture development policies in the EAC region. He committed that EALA is ready to work with ESAFF and other small-scale farmers to ensure that CAADP is implemented by partner states.

He also discussed the significant contribution EALA has brought in the region including:

- (1) Formulation of key recommendation to strengthen the agriculture sector in line with the Maputo Declaration on “Agriculture and Food Security” and the Malabo Declaration on “Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Posterity and Improved Livelihood”.
- (2) Taking up the issue of land rush which is a hindrance to agricultural development in the region and Africa in general.

(3) Advocating for adequate budget allocation for the agriculture sector at regional level.

(4) Overseeing the development of a regional legal framework on sustainable investment in agriculture.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology used to conduct the Summit included: -

- Opening and closing remarks;
- Presentations;
- Panel discussions; and,
- Interactive sessions.

FINDINGS

(1) Presentation by Partner States Representatives

The Summit had presentation on the country progress on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration (Progress, challenges, lessons learnt and recommendations). Key analyses of findings on public investment in agriculture were presented from the five EAC Partner States. To build momentum for collective action on public financing for agriculture within the East African region, the meeting discussed East African Farmers’ Budget Statement.

Farmers’ Views

The farmers’ recommendation on what could be done to ensure that the region consistently moved towards realisation of the Malabo Declaration included:-

- (i) The need to allocate 10 per cent to the agriculture sector annually.
- (ii) To need to enhance monitoring and mutual accountability in the implementation of the Malabo Declaration.

- (iii) Use of these recommendations by farmers, media and civil society organisation in the EAC region to engage their Members of Parliament (MPs) and relevant sector ministries to improve their budgets to fit the demands of small-scale holder farmers with the due CAADP Result Framework.

1. Panellist Discussion

Panel 1 - The Maputo/Malabo Declaration: Challenges and Opportunities to Increase Public Agro-Financing

The panellist in the session included CAADP focal points from the EAC partner states and the Chairperson of the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources. The following are finding from Partner States Representatives:-

The Republic of Burundi

Although there was no CAADP representative from Burundi, it was reported by other present stakeholders from Burundi that there was political will to achieve the Malabo Declaration. The Government is allocating 10 per cent to agricultural sector. However, there is need to create more awareness about the Declaration.

The Republic of Kenya

- The Agriculture Sector Development Strategy (ASDS) and the Vision 2030 take care of the agricultural issues in Kenya.
- Implementing process started back in 2010. After the Malabo Declaration, Kenya was to review the Agricultural Sector Development Strategy that did not involve devolution.
- The CAADP process has been slow but there was great and measurable progress.
- During the review of the ASDS, it was decided that the extension services and budgeting of the sector would be done at the county level rather than national level.
- There would be full participation of communities including farmers in the budget process in development of different policies.
- On the issue of developing CAADP Implementation Framework, the Government is developing the monitoring and evaluation framework, and the stakeholders at county level will have their say and their views will be incorporated into the framework. However, the cross-section of farmers may not be represented at all levels because of their big numbers. Thus, it is paramount for them to be more organised in small-scale farmers.
- It was observed that Government working through organised farmer network is very important but it was the responsibility of farmers to decide who represents them. However, farmers need to choose leaders who are able to represent them well when engaging with the Government.
- In the present, farmers under Kenya Small-Scale Farmers Forum (KESSFF) are already organised and can work with the Government.
- On the issue of small-scale farmers being involved in developing and implementing policies and budgets, the Kenyan Constitution calls for participation of citizen including small-scale farmers. The budget process involves farmers from grassroots to national level.

- On the issue of role of Parliament and CSOs in terms of campaigning for allocation of 10 per cent budget to agriculture, it was noted that the emphasis should also be directed to monitoring what the investments in agriculture are solving at the moment.
- It was also noted that agriculture is connected to other sectors like water and infrastructure among others.
- There was new land law being formulated in Kenya but thinking of land without focusing on its productivity is useless.
- The Government was promoting climate smart agriculture and livestock and produce insurance as well as addressing post-harvest losses.
- The Government had set up funds for youth and women, which they can use for business along the agriculture value chain and encourages training in agriculture in schools and institutions.

The Republic of Uganda

- The CAADP was impressed by the Government of Uganda's approach of developing the agricultural sector.
- Uganda is on track towards full implementation of CAADP.
- CAADP implementation is being done through Agriculture Sector Development Strategy Plan (ASDSP), which is in line with the Development Strategy and Investment Plan (DSIP).
- Agriculture investment in Uganda could be above 10 per cent of national budget given the fact that the development of the sector is linked to other sectors like transport and energy among others.
- On the development of CAADP Result Framework, a draft framework

is being developed in alignment with the EAC CAADP Result Framework, which would fit into the Africa CAADP Result Framework.

- On the issue of whether it is possible for small-scale farmers to take part in the tracking of process and implementation of agriculture budget and whether the current approach was working or needs improvement, it was noted that the process in Uganda has involved all stakeholders and that some improvement to increase the participation of small-scale farmers was noted.
- Both recurrent and current budgeting for agriculture should strengthen the stakeholders' approach that would lead to more achievements.

The United Republic of Tanzania

- CAADP impact process started in 2014. It involved the President and the Ministries showing their commitment towards increased investment in agriculture and showing political will to make it happen.
- There was the involvement of state and non-state agencies in the process but Tanzania was yet to reach 10 per cent but great advances have been reached towards the Malabo Commitments.
- There was a call for more involvement of women and youth in the process and a standalone framework cannot address that. There was, therefore, need for stakeholders to work together in developing the agriculture sector in the region.
- It was noted that the Government should use stakeholders like farmers' organisations and civil society organisations in educating the public

about CAADP and Malabo Declaration.

- It was also noted that a private sector, civil society and farmers' organisations are very important pillars in the domestication of the Malabo Declaration.
- The trend of agricultural investment is not consistent but small-scale farmers should not focus on 10 per cent increase but ensure that proper implementation of the budget allocated to the sector is properly utilised.

The Republic of Rwanda

Although Rwanda was not represented at the Summit, stakeholders applauded the country to have achieved the 10 per cent allocation to agriculture and the CAADP Framework Implementation is on track.

Panel 2 - The Fulfilment of the Malabo Declaration: The Role of Law Makers

The Panellist in the session included Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, Hon. Adolphe Mbonima, (MP, Burundi), Hon. Adan Mohammed Nour, (MP, Kenya), Hon. Mary Nagu, (MP, Tanzania), Hon. Godfrey Kiwanda, (MP, Uganda) and Mr. Hakim Baliraine (Farmer from Uganda).

Parliamentary Views

REGIONAL LEVEL

- Members wished to see EAC governments allocating 10 per cent to agriculture sector as well as fulfilling other commitments in the Malabo Declaration.
- Participation of women and youth in the process is very important as they make the largest percentage of the population.

- National parliaments should spearhead the campaign to increase the allocation to the sector.
- EALA should also play its role in the implementation of CAADP and the Malabo Declaration.
- EALA should follow up on the implementation of EAC Agriculture Policy and Food Security Strategy (FSS).
- Small-scale farmers and policy makers should continue to follow up on the budget allocated to the agriculture sector.
- Parliamentarians should also do more to promote accountability.

NATIONAL LEVEL

Burundi

On what policy makers in specific countries have been doing to contribute towards achieving the Malabo Declaration;

- Burundi had passed major policies for addressing poverty and improving livelihood though some challenges including poor organisation of small-scale farmers, lack of banks supporting small-scale farmers and poor governance among others were observed.
- Ten per cent towards agriculture in Burundi has contributed towards the improvement of livelihood and this percentage will be maintained.
- Members of Parliament will continue to encourage the Government to continue supporting the sectors.
- Recommendations from the Summit will be shared at international level.

Kenya

- Different Departments are working in collaboration with the agricultural

sector in Kenya and there are linkages with other sectors.

- With the constitutional review of 2014 that gave power and mandate of budget process to the Parliament, the Ministry of Finance is vested with powers to collect revenue.
- There is a high competition amongst sectors for more budget allocation.
- The public, including small-scale farmers, should participate in the budget process due to the shortage of time set for budgeting.
- Kenya is collecting revenue of 50 per cent of their national budget yet 50 per cent of the funds in different sectors go to wages hence capital investment is low.
- Parliament has passed many laws that would help in managing both the sector as well as different institution that contribute towards agricultural development.
- Government institution initiatives in developing the sector include investment in irrigation, food and fertiliser subsidies and value addition.
- There is the need to encourage the youth not only to invest in value addition but also to support the youth to engage in agriculture production.
- The MP from Kenya also pledged to support the process and said that the Government is developing an agriculture bank for farmers in Kenya.

Tanzania

- There is a need to domesticate the Malabo Declaration because people are still dying of hunger and malnutrition despite that there is nice fertile land in EAC.
- There are many untapped opportunities in agriculture for Government and other stakeholders.

- MPs need to know the concerns of small-scale farmers during the planning process and this should be given a large portion of budget to address issues of climate change and markets.
- There was emphasis on the need to support women in agriculture as they contribute a lot towards earning from agriculture.
- There was a promise to continue pushing for more investment in agriculture and proposal for the Summit to be organised annually.
- There was a commitment from the panellist to meet the committee responsible for agriculture and to discuss with relevant Ministries on the matter.
- To advise the small-scale farmers to stop considering agriculture as subsistence farming and instead consider the use of advanced agricultural technology.
- There was a call on small-scale farmers to be organised and be well represented.

Uganda

- Agriculture investment is a cross-cutting issue thus different ministries can also be factored in such as Ministries of Energy, Water, Gender, Environment, Land and Public Works that have a part in modernizing agriculture and its development.
- The Government of Uganda has done a lot to develop agriculture, although there is still a need to popularize the Malabo Declaration and support the development of the sector.

Interactive Session and Emerging Issues

- It was observed that if one invests in health, infrastructure and any other relevant sector, this contributes to agriculture development. They also noted that the 10 per cent in Malabo Declaration is exclusively funds set aside for agriculture.
- They observed that the agriculture production mainly involved only old generation and they called for more involvement of youth in the production in the whole value chain.
- The issues of corruption and bad governance were seen as a hindrance to food security and the cause of failure to eradicate poverty.
- There was emphasis on the need and the importance to address the linkages, efficiency and effective utilisation of budget allocated.
- There was a commitment to give feedback from the Summit to farmers at the grassroots level.
- They noted that agriculture was the backbone of the economy and employs over 60 per cent of the East African population. Thus, 10 per cent allocation to agriculture was not asking too much from such a powerful sector.
- They called on the Governments to analyse the sectors according to their contribution towards the livelihood of population and then plan accordingly.
- The EAC partner states should commit to full allocation of 10 per cent to the agriculture.
- Trading in agriculture produce for small-scale farmers is curtailed. Therefore, legislators should find a way to open the borders for trade in agriculture produce.
- There is a need to appreciate the contribution of small-scale farmers and the private sector to the development of the economies of EAC.
- They observed that it was also paramount to have the youth involved in the whole process of planning for agriculture sector. In involving the youth, there is a need to avail land banks for the youth who want to venture into agriculture.
- Climate change should be incorporated in all other frameworks related to agriculture.
- There was need for political will to make the process a success.
- There was need to know how best the laws made at the EAC level can be implemented at the grassroots level.
- There is need to institutionalise the process that ESAFF has started of organising EAC Summit.
- Farmers called for CSOs to carry out grassroots research on campaigning for Malabo Declaration and share the results with parliamentarians and the ministries.
- Call on policy makers to differentiate the budget allocated to small-scale, middle and large-scale farmers.
- Concern on the approach of credit facilities that does not consider small-scale farmers because of setup.
- MPs pledged to work with CSOs like ESAFF towards improving financing for agriculture.
- Need for small-scale farmers to start thinking big and stop thinking small thus encouraging them to carry out farming as a business venture.
- Encourage farmers to track and participate in the policy statement presentations in parliament leading to influencing the budget.
- On the issue of accessing market, there is a need for farmers to grade themselves and start planning of adding value to their produce.

- There is a need to develop African standard under the African Union (AU).
- The idea of working with small-scale farmers is very important and it should be sustained towards better development.

GENERAL OBSERVATION

From the interactive session with stakeholders, the Committee observed the following:-

- All the stakeholders appreciated the Budget Summit, and they recommended its institutionalization on an annual basis.
- There is a political will to domesticate the Malabo Declaration.
- There is need to create more awareness on the Malabo Declaration.
- The small-scale farmers demonstrated their firm commitment to invest and transform the agricultural sector.
- There is a need to involve the youth in agriculture production and in the whole value chain.
- It was noted that other sectors such as transport, trade, education and health have direct linkages to the effective agricultural transformation.
- All stakeholders including women and youth should be involved in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the agriculture sector.
- There should be public and stakeholder participation in policymaking and budgetary allocation.
- There should be commitment to report issues discussed in the Summit with the entire Assembly and share the Report with national parliaments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

From the presentations, interactive sessions and final communiqué from the Summit, the Committee recommends the following:-

1. Urge EAC Partner States to put in place legal and regulatory frameworks, which are responsive to the needs of smallholder farmers, the youth and women and involve them while drafting these instruments.
2. Urge EAC Partner States to draft review and amend national regulations, standards and policy frameworks addressing agriculture, land, water, environment, infrastructure, energy policies, budget and development programmes which are compliant with the Malabo Declaration.
3. Urge EAC Partner States governments to allocate budget to agriculture that reach the Malabo Declaration target of at least 10 per cent annually or at least progressively. The focus should be on financing smallholder centred programme like extension services, research, input support, improving access to finance and market.
4. Urge governments of EAC Partner States to seek to increase the quality of investment through addressing national priorities connected with farmers-own priorities, closing leakages, corruption, wastages and increasing absorption rate in the agriculture sector with a correlation between budget allocation, agriculture returns and sectoral growth targets.
5. Urge EAC partner states governments to focus on efficient utilization of budget allocations.
6. Urge EAC partner states governments to use a bottom-up approach, be producer-centred and ensure a trickledown effect to smallholder producers, women and youth during planning, budgeting, implementation and monitoring of programmes.

7. Urge EAC partner states to ensure budgetary priorities respond to the needs and priorities of the smallholder food producers, youth and women and investment is called for in highly productive value chains enterprises through increasing allocations, capacitating the youth and women to utilize opportunities.

8. Urge partner states to raise competitiveness in agriculture through investing in agro-industries, infrastructure, energy, water, roads, and access to market for smallholders.

9. Urge EAC/EALA to expedite the domestication of the Malabo Declaration 2014 -2025 by putting in place regional legally binding protocol or instruments to ensure regional realization of its goals.

10. Urge the EAC Council of Ministers to transmit these recommendations to the Heads of State Summit scheduled for November 2016 for their endorsement.

11. Urge the EAC Secretariat to institutionalise a Regional Agriculture Advisory Council to give advice on the harmonization of regional agriculture policy frameworks and programmes. The council could comprise of EAC/EALA secretariat and partner states representatives, academia, regional farmer organisations and civil society as well as consumers.

12. Urge the Council to prioritize regional harmonisation of national laws, policies and strategies on agriculture and food security to ease urgent implementation of Malabo Commitments by partner states.

13. Urge partner states to put in place or enhance inter-agency collaboration at local, national, regional and continental levels in the implementation of Malabo Commitments.

14. Urge the Council of Ministers to take actions aimed at enforcement of the recommendations and resolutions adopted by EALA on Agriculture, Food Security and Climate Change.

15. Urge the EAC Secretariat to expedite development of the strategy to strengthen coordination and regional collaboration in the implementation of Malabo Commitments.

16. Urge national parliaments to use their cardinal roles to popularize the Malabo Declaration to enhance citizens' knowledge and create capacity to put pressure and demand corresponding allocations from governments.

17. Urge national parliaments to ensure that governments put in place platforms for mutual accountability to urge increased government responsiveness.

18. Urge national parliaments to put in place parliamentary agriculture committees and districts councils to institute collaboration and dialogue frameworks with smallholder farmers, and non-state actors so as to review implementation and performance of the agriculture sector and in particular the Malabo Commitments and ensure that all planned programmes are climate change compliant to avoid losses in small-scale farmers investments.

19. Urge EALA and national parliaments to carry out sensitization programmes to reach out policymakers including ministers responsible for agriculture to ensure the EAC Food Security Action Plan (2011-2015) and the EAC Climate Change Policy have been properly implemented as directed by the 9th EAC Heads of State Summit as well as the proper implementation of the Malabo Commitments by partner states.

20. Urge EALA to institutionalize an annual dialogue framework between farmers, non-state actors, partner states CAADP focal persons, agriculture parliamentary committee chairpersons and the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources through an annual conference. The conference should promote dialogue on the implementation of the Malabo Commitments to enhance mutual accountability within the

agriculture sector in the region, as well as fronting new ideas.

CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

The Committee noted with appreciation the successful organization of the Second EAC Budget Summit, and it commends all who made it so. They found from the Summit that there is in partner states political will towards investing in agriculture. They found that it is paramount for parliamentarians and farmers to work together to make this sector prosperous. They also found that some categories of the society like women and youth should be involved in planning, implementation and monitoring of agriculture programmes.

As a way forward, participants to the Summit formulated and adopted a Communique from which the Committee will blend a resolution, urging partner states to fast-track domestication of the Malabo Declaration and African Union Heads of States Commitments within it.

Hon. Chris Opoka Okumu who represented the Rt. Hon. Speaker of EALA officially closed the Summit. He assured that the issues raised and recommendations made by farmers had been noted by MPs. He requested stakeholders to follow up on commitments made by both regional and national parliamentarians. He was emphatic that there is need for follow-up on the commitment to promote small-scale farmers involvement in the policy development process and supported institutionalization of the Annual EAC Agriculture Budget Summit. He assured of the commitment towards the implementation of the Malabo Declarations at the EAC and national levels.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Committee wishes to thank all the stakeholders who participated to the Second EAC Budget Summit 2016. These include partner states CAADP Focal Point Persons, Members of National Parliaments, small-scale farmers, civil society organizations and international organizations representatives.

Specifically, the Committee commends the Rt. Honourable Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly for officially opening and closing this important Summit through his representative.

The Committee expresses its appreciation to the Eastern and Southern Africa small-scale farmers for organizing a very successful event and for their continuous efforts in ensuring the Malabo Declaration is domesticated by EAC partner states. It expresses its gratitude to small-scale farmers for using the Summit as the starting point to influence investment in agriculture in their respective countries.

The Committee finally appreciates all presenters for their insightful presentations and participants for taking part in the Summit and for their contributions in it. The Committee calls for issues tabled by participants to be acted upon.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga for elaborate presentation of the Report on behalf of the Committee.

Honourable Members, the Motion before the Assembly is that the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the EAC Agriculture Summit, 2016 be adopted. Debate is open.

Honourable Members, before I give you time, I would have wished that the Report contained the compliance level of our partner states in terms of the 10 per cent. That would have guided this House very well for us to know how much commitment our Partner States have towards the Malabo Declaration because there is a cap of a minimum of 10 per cent of our national budgets. However, I hope that will come out in the debate. I thank you very much.

(Question proposed)

Mr. Peter Mathuki (Kenya): The Rt. Hon. Speaker, Sir, I am rising on a point of procedure. Rule No.4 of the Procedures of Committees of the Assembly says that a Member shall not chair more than one Standing Committee nor shall the Chairperson of a Standing Committee serve as a Member of the commission. These are our own rules and we operate within rules. Therefore, for purposes of records, it is important to observe that. It may be right but some of us have used our own rules against us in courts. Therefore, we are likely to set a very bad precedent.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think it is not procedural. Therefore, the Member who has just read the Report should not have done so because to the best of my knowledge, she is a Member of the Commission. We want to set precedent here. If at all she wanted to do so, she ought to have possibly moved a Motion to suspend that particular rule. That is what I expected of the Hon. Member who is a manager of the Assembly.

The Speaker: Honourable Chair of the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges, are you moving under Rule 4 or under which specific rule?

Mr. Mathuki: I am moving under the Rules of Committees of the Assembly. That is Rule No.4 on Page 78, which states that a Member shall not chair more than one standing committee nor shall the chairperson of a standing committee serve as a Member of the Commission. The Order Paper states that the Chairperson of the Committee should move the Motion on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources but my good sister has read it to us. She should have moved a Motion first so that we suspend that particular rule for purposes of this Motion.

Rule No.30 (d) provides for moving a Motion for the suspension of any of the Rules. For the good of this House going forward, we should set the best practice and avoid defeating our own rules. Mr. Speaker, I submit.

The Speaker: Mr. Mathuki, thank you very much for the information but let me first take information from Hon. Pareno and then I will respond to the issue raised.

Ms. Judith Pareno (Kenya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a Member of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, I would like to say that we did not pick Hon. Hajabakiga to be our Chairperson. We only picked her to chair the session for purposes of that particular report. So, she is not a substantive Chair. We picked her as a Committee for purposes of that session only. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Pareno and Hon. Mathuki for your concern.

Honourable colleagues, you remember that in my Communication, I congratulated Hon. Christophe Bazivamo for having progressed and been appointed as the Deputy Secretary General (DSG) of this Community. Hon. Christophe Bazivamo was the substantive Chairperson of the Committee on

Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources. Therefore, with that appointment and his resignation letter from this Assembly, the position of the Chair of the Committee became vacant. In their own wisdom, the Committee decided to choose Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga to be the acting Chair of the Committee, notwithstanding other credentials as a Member of the Commission and otherwise. This is just for the acting purpose of this Report.

I, therefore, request the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources – in the shortest possible time, possible after this Plenary – to convene and elect a substantive Chair of the Committee for ease of our operation. Otherwise, Chair of the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges, thank you for your concern.

(Question proposed)

Honourable Members, debate is open. Hon. Shy-Rose, the Floor is yours.

Ms. Shy-Rose Bhanji (Tanzania): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity. Before I start my contribution to the Motion, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for the generous welcome that we have been accorded by the Government of Zanzibar, the House of Representatives, through the Speaker, Rt. Hon. Zubeir Maulid, and the people of Zanzibar. We are very grateful.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Zanzibar Island is famous for its cloves, beaches, tourism and peaceful people. Zanzibar has a long and rich history because of its previous slave trade, which saw many East Africans taken to the Far East, the Middle East and the Persian Gulf, which was very unfortunate. However, it is now 52 years since Zanzibar and

Tanganyika joined to become United Republic of Tanzania in 1964. This is very welcome and that is why we are here today in Zanzibar to celebrate our East-Africanness.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when you look around in Zanzibar, you will find very joyful and peaceful people. I am very sure that after our session here in Zanzibar, we will leave with very good memories. I am also optimistic that Members of this House will visit historical sites and mingle with the people of Zanzibar.

I salute the President of Zanzibar for finding time to come and grace this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, let me now go to my contribution on the Report of EAC Agriculture Budget Summit. I wish to declare that I am Member of the Committee and I fully support the Report. At this juncture, let me take this opportunity also to congratulate our former Chairperson, Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, following his appointment as the DSG/FA. *Hongera sana Mheshimiwa Bazivamo.*

The Speaker: Hon. Shy-Rose, for the purpose of our record, Hon. Christophe Bazivamo has been appointed DSG and has been allocated the docket of Productive Sector. Thank you.

Hon. Shy-Rose, proceed.

Ms. Bhanji: *Mheshimiwa Spika*, coming to the Report, agriculture is an important sector, which offers employment to many of our citizens. If we allocate a boost of 10 per cent as per the Malabo Agreement, we will be giving a source of survival and income to majority of our people in our countries. When agriculture is efficient and productive, it averts hunger and ensures food sufficiency and political security to our governments.

Mheshimiwa Spika, agriculture offers a fall-back position for the employment of the youth and women, be it in town or in the rural areas. Therefore, we need to know what is required so that we help our youth, women, and everyone who wants to generate income through agriculture.

Mheshimiwa Spika, in East Africa, we are blessed with arable land. There is no use in having plenty of arable land and yet we do not allocate it to those who are in need. So, there is a need to allocate plots for farming and other agricultural issues to everyone who wants to generate income. Agriculture does not exist in the air but it is in the land. So, land must be allocated so that it can also be one way of poverty eradication.

Mheshimiwa Spika, after land allocation, there is a need for farm inputs such as seeds, fertilizers, tractors and all that to be given at affordable prices so that our youth and women can afford them. At the same time, financial credit must be given to enable small-scale farmers to venture in agricultural activities.

Mheshimiwa Spika, agriculture is a meaningful occupation for emerging youth who cannot be employed in white-collar jobs after completion of their secondary and university education. There is a need for the civil society organisations and our governments to join hands to come up with strategies to sensitise the youth so that they can embrace agriculture. Our youth need to be educated and sensitised when they complete their education, so that they can also opt for agriculture instead of just waiting for employment.

Our governments must also make sure there are viable market opportunities for agricultural products. This in return will help our farmers to get good returns on their

investments. If the recommendations that we gave in our Committee and those that I am adding here are implemented, then the meaning to the policy of 10 per cent as per the Malabo Agreement will be realised. However, more importantly, at the end of the day, poverty will be eradicated and economic growth will be achieved.

Mheshimiwa Spika, I am very optimistic that if our governments inject 10 per cent to the Ministries of Agriculture, the time will come when our East African Communities will be hunger free where the youth, women and every one of us will now engage in agricultural activities. At the end of the day, we will have surplus to export to other countries.

Mheshimiwa Spika, this is my last point. Within EAC, we have viable and very relevant Customs Union Protocol. In this Protocol within East Africa, tax is free for local produce. I do not know how many farmers are aware of this Protocol and if they are taking full advantage of tax free on the locally made products. The point I am trying to drive across is that if our people are fully aware about the advantages of the Customs Union, then many people will see the importance of opting for agriculture so that at the end of the day the lives of our people improve drastically.

At the moment, the market in EAC is almost 165 million people. So, there is a huge market within East Africa. It is high time our governments injected a boost of 10 per cent to the Ministries of Agriculture so that our people, especially the youth, women and small-scale traders, can venture into agriculture.

Mheshimiwa Spika, after saying all these, I thank you once again. I fully support the Report.

(Interruption of Debate)

The Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Shy-Rose. Before I get to Hon. Maryam, I have small announcement to make.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISITING YOUTH OF UNA, ZANZIBAR

The Speaker: I want to recognise the presence of our dear friends, the Youth of the United Nations Association (UNA) in Zanzibar - *(Applause)*. We thank you for coming and being part of our debate. We wish you well and thank you for taking interest in the EAC integration.

Honourable Members, it has also come to my attention and I have seen some Members moving out. The documents we have been waiting for, from the Office of Abela to facilitate this activity is ready. I know that document is important for facilitation of this Plenary but let us move in an orderly manner. However, if you can avoid and wait for it to come after the Plenary, that would be even better. I thank you very much.

(Resumption of Debate)

Ms. Maryam Ussi Yahya (Tanzania): The Rt. Hon. Speaker, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity to speak. First, let me also take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President of the Revolution Government of Zanzibar, Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, for gracing us with his excellent and eloquent speech yesterday. We really appreciate the interest he took in coming and joining us yesterday - *(Applause)*. Most importantly, let me also thank Rt. Hon. Speaker of this very prestigious House, Mr. Zubeir Ali Maulid, for allowing us to come and conduct our business in his Chamber and receiving us warmly.

(Interruption of Debate)

The Speaker: Sorry for the interruption. Honourable colleagues, on Monday and Tuesday, we circulated some guidelines regarding the use of this Chamber. The public address system in this Chamber is such that when phones are on, even if they are on silent mode, they interfere with the *Hansard* recording system. Therefore, for the sake of our records being recorded by the *Hansard*, I kindly request you Members to switch off your phones so as not to interfere with the *Hansard* recording. I thank you.

Ms. Ussi: Hon. Speaker, Sir, mine is switched off. Thank you for that information. Let me also welcome all Members to Zanzibar because this is my home. *(Applause)* Feel at home away from home. This should be your second home. You should have a holiday home.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, let me also congratulate the former Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, for moving from Parliament to the Secretariat. We are very proud of him.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, as we know, agriculture is the backbone of many of the East African Economies. We also need to put effort in promoting small-scale farmers because they are the majority and their livelihoods depend on agriculture. So, together we support this Report and its recommendations.

My main comment focusses on the 10 per cent increase of the budget through the Ministries of Agriculture. We know that we have Ministers of EAC here who are representatives of various Partner States. We hope they will take this Report and its recommendations to our Ministries so that the Partner States inject 10 per cent of their

budgets to agriculture but we are not very sure about that. I agree with the Rt. Hon. Speaker this Report should have come with statistics so that we can assess which Partner States have actually complied with the Malabo Protocol. The small-scale farmers mainly in Tanzania need a lot of boost. In Tanzania, we had the programme *Kilimo Kwanza* whereby the Government decided to give some money to help small-scale farmers for agricultural use.

Agriculture is one of the sectors that provide employment for the youth. As we know, all the youth cannot be employed in governments or private companies. Nowadays, it is fashionable for the youth carry out agriculture because they know they can produce and sell. So, I would like to put across my point about the 10 per cent increase. We urge the Council of Ministers to take this information to the Partner States and Ministries of Agriculture and make sure that 10 per cent increase in the budgets is allocated.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I thank you. *Karibuni sana Zanzibar.*

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Maryam. Yes honourable.

Mr. Issa Twaha Taslima (Tanzania): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to start by thanking the people of Zanzibar through, the President and the Speaker of this *Baraza la Wawakilishi*, for what they did and what they have promised to do for us through Hon. Maryam. We are ready to fill ourselves to the fullest. However, being a Tanzanian, I would like to remind you that we are on the Tanzanian soil. I would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all of us here. You should feel that you had the best time in Tanzanian soil away from

Arusha, which is the Headquarters of the EAC.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, agriculture is one of the top security issues in the world and it is better termed as food security. I know that agriculture is not only about food but food is found through agriculture. So, food production security should come from us, the natives of the EAC. The efforts that have been put in this venture are far from being satisfactory. Every country in the EAC has farmers – be it small or large-scale farmers – but we should have even more farmers carrying out modern farming practices.

I have stood to first support the Report and to congratulate the Committee for this good work. I would also like to say that because of the importance of agriculture and food security through agriculture, we should add one recommendation, which is that agriculture, should be one of the lessons given to school-going children from primary up to at least secondary school level, which is Form 4. I am saying this because engaging ourselves in agriculture is engaging in a scientific exercise. The science that is involved in agriculture is enormous and you cannot just impart it by saying that we are going to sensitise the youth on this.

I remember I learnt some bits of agriculture when I was in primary school. I remember we were taught about uprooting certain seedlings when we wanted to transplant them. When you want to transplant a seedling and put it somewhere else, you cannot just come and pull it up. First of all, you have to know the root system of that particular plant. That is if it has taproot or fibrous roots. These are the things, which are primary, and if you do not do them the right way, then you will be doing the wrong thing and you will not get good results. If you have the bits and pieces of –
(Interruption) -

The Speaker: Sorry Hon. Taslima. Hon. Members, I want to repeat this. Your phones should be off because they interfere with the *Hansard* system. I kindly request you to put them off.

Mr. Taslima: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir. I was saying that we need to teach Agriculture as a subject right from primary school up to secondary school level so that even if somebody is not going to be a farmer, he or she will know about agriculture and be of help to those who are engaged in agriculture. Right now, from what I learnt during those times, I know how I can help a person in the agricultural works. Therefore, this is one of the recommendations that I have.

Most of students in secondary schools and universities think about going for white-collar jobs. White-collar jobs are very scarce because of economic deviations that we have. They are not enough and we are all sure that not everybody will be employed for white-collar jobs. As a result, as my colleague Hon. Shy-Rose said, agriculture is the backbone and a second way of living. If you miss any other thing to do, then at least you can go for agriculture. Indeed, this is what we are saying.

In Tanzania, there is a famous saying that goes “*kama huna kazi, nenda ukalime.*” Or, “*Kama maisha yamekushinda, nenda ukalime.*” This means that if you have failed to secure something to do, go into farming. Whoever has failed to do something, which is desirable as far as this is concerned, should go for farming? When we talk of farming as something, which comes because of failure, then we are not giving agriculture the proper perspective that we should be giving it. In that case, if a person has had the A, B, Cs of agriculture from his or her childhood, they would be in a good position. Even if they

were told to go for agriculture, they would know what to do when they get there.

That is all I have. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Taslima. Let us hear from Hon. Sebalu and then Hon. Dr. Odette before coming to this side again.

Mr. Mike Sebalu (Uganda): Rt. Hon. Speaker, thank you very much. First, I would like to thank His Excellency the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, the Speaker and the entire Leadership of Zanzibar for the reception that they have accorded us ever since our arrival and the sufficient facilities they have put at our disposal in order to execute our mandate in an enabling environment. We really thank them and we will always be thankful and ever mindful for that courtesy.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I just want to make a few comments. I was part of the Budget Summit and I have had a long interaction with the – *(Interjection)* -

Mr. Abdullah Ali Hassan Mwinyi (Tanzania): Clarification. Rt. Hon. Speaker, I was not aware that my honourable friend was recently elected to the position of a Summit Member. Could he please clarify?

The Speaker: It is our aspiration that Members of this House will one day be there. Hon. Sebalu, could you please clarify?

Mr. Sebalu: I actually wanted to say that that belonged to the Budget Summit that was hosted by ESAFF where the Rt. Hon. Speaker was invited to open and close a responsibility that he delegated to Hon. Opoka. So, the Speaker is actually aware that I belonged to that Summit. *(Laughter)*

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I attended the Budget Summit that was hosted by ESAFF. This is an organisation for smallholder farmers within Eastern and Southern Africa. The meeting was held in Arusha and it was very important that we have always participated in that. Rt. Hon. Speaker, you remember you participated in the same. Indeed, Members of the Summit are very appreciative of your support and EALA in general.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, EALA has positioned itself in such a way that it has won the confidence and trust. In the process it has built goodwill among farmers organisations because of the manner in which we have related to them, the support that we have always given them and the doors of EALA that have been opened at all levels to the farmers organisations. Indeed, they are very grateful for that and they believe that we are the kind of Assembly that can champion their course.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, Interestingly, I had the opportunity to meet the leadership of ESAFF after the Summit. The former Chairperson, Hon. Bazivamo, invited me to join him when he had a meeting with them when we had our last session in Arusha and they were very categorical that their future is mainly championed through EALA because of the visibility and the voice EALA has. Incidentally, they feel more appreciated and they gain easier access at EALA than the procedures with committees at national levels. So, they have always tended to engage EALA even on matters where they could easily go to the national level jurisdictions but they believe that EALA has a voice that cuts across and they have been able to take advantage of that. Likewise, this particular organisation goes beyond the EAC as some of the members belong to SADC. They benefit a lot because they want to benchmark. Members that belong to SADC are a bit envious of members the EAC because there

are certain aspects of their undertakings that move faster within the EAC, given that EALA makes it easier for them to get regional appeal in terms of what their aspirations are. We, therefore, have to continue to live up to their expectations.

We have done good job with the EAF where we have a deliverable in terms of a Bill awaiting assent by Heads of States. We may need to be updated on the progress is because they keep enquiring. They really want to make use of their law sooner than later. Likewise, when ESAFF met the Chair *Emeritus* of the Committee, Hon. Bazivamo, the idea was that their undertakings might not get to the level of the law. They requested working with us; that we come up with the resolutions so that these matters especially on the Malabo Declaration can be properly put forward in form of resolutions. I want to indicate that that is work in progress. We have already started on it and the Office or the Clerk is fully updated on the same. We have a draft in place, which will be processed through your Office in the same spirit of ensuring that even ESAFF gets a deliverable from within in order to champion their course for the smallholder farmers within the region.

I also appreciate the good ideas put across by my brother, Hon. Taslima, regarding the whole notion of appreciating agriculture as a strategic sector. We need to deal with the mind-set of many of our stakeholders in terms of looking at agriculture as the last resort or secondary kind of undertaking. When you go to our schools, you will find that children who are notorious are given punishment to go in the school garden to dig. What message do you send to the young ones when you tell them that if they become notorious or indiscipline, you are send to do farming and engage in agriculture? That kind of stereotype is not good in terms of inculcating a value system that appreciates

agriculture. Even within our jurisdiction, we normally tend to associate agriculture with poverty. If you say that you are a farmer, someone will know that you are struggling but when you go to other jurisdiction like Europe, farmers are the richest. When you talk about old money, it is with farming families. These are people who put on very interesting jackets. There are jackets, which are trending these days with badges and those were farmers' jackets. Someone would come out putting on the jacket and you believe he is doing very well.

So, we need to do a lot on the mind-set in terms of agriculture being a mainstay and potential for wealth creation. We need to work around the subject of reducing the percentage of people involved in agriculture in a non-monetized way. That is why our GDPs always fluctuate on the lower end because a big bulk of our economies is within agriculture and is non-monetized. When you track down the levels of earning in terms of middle or lower income, you do not capture those figures and we tend to get distorted figures in that arrangement.

When you engage many of our graduates who leave university, they will say that things are not working. One will tell you that they have failed to get a job and I have resorted to agriculture. Agriculture is like a last resort and it does not help in terms of positioning that strategic sector well.

Finally, the Committee has definitely cooperated. The recommendations are in place and I definitely believe that all of us, including my friend, Hon. Abdullah Mwinyi who was not a Member of the Summit, should appreciate the outcome of those of us who participated in the Summit. Maybe he will take the privilege of belonging to a summit one day.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to support and call upon other colleagues to do the same.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Sebalu. Maybe to allay the fears about the image of farmers in the region because we have our senior farmers in the Gallery, recently, I went to Nairobi Industrial Area to buy household items. I disguised my personality and I said I was a farmer. The excitement in the Industry was too much. They called the manager and told him that there is a farmer around. When I asked if that was a problem, they said they like farmers because they have cash. Eventually I said that I am a politician and they vanished from around me.

Hon. Dr. Odette, please proceed.

Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda): Rt. Hon. Speaker, thank you very much. First of all, I sincerely thank and congratulate His Excellency the President of Zanzibar for opening our Plenary Session in this Chamber. I also thank the Speaker of the House of Representatives who has also come to address us and has allowed us to use these very nice facilities for about two weeks.

I would also like to thank Hon. Maryam who helped us since we arrived at the airport up to finding hotels. I do not know if you noticed that hotels in Zanzibar at this time are fully occupied. Wherever we went, we were told that we could have rooms for only three days and we did not have anywhere to stay the following three days. I hope will not be pushed out this time round.

I also thank my brother, Hon. Ogle, who helped us to find a place where even if we are kicked out of the hotel, we will be given apartments. I thank Hon. Ogle for having helped because he has many friends in Zanzibar. As you know, Hon. Ogle is known everywhere in East Africa.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I would like to support the Motion to have EALA adopt the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the Budget Summit where we participated as a Committee. Why are our countries not developing?

In 2003, that is 13 years ago, there was an African Summit in Maputo where they adopted almost the same declaration and agreed that each country should at least allocate 10 per cent of its budget to agriculture. Every time, countries were always allocating less. They said that agriculture is not the only priority and that there are other sectors such as health, education and this and that. They always forget that agriculture is the most important priority. If people have not eaten, they cannot have good health or go to school. Saying that 10 per cent should go to agriculture was not demanding too much. The same was repeated in Malabo two years ago. Now, people who are involved in agriculture are very concerned because countries that are not doing what they signed to do.

During the Summit in Arusha, agriculturalists who are in different organisations and associations begged us MPs to push to make sure that countries put in their budgets at least the 10 per cent in order to help them to develop and modernize agriculture. If we continue using hoes and rudimentary materials, how do we expect agriculture to develop? If the Council of Ministers pushed to have the Committee's recommendations implemented, we will advance in agriculture.

As a Member of the Committee, I would like to comment on Hon. Taslima's recommendation. To be precise, agriculture should not only be taught in primary and secondary schools but we should put it that education in agriculture should be enhanced

in all our Partner States at all levels including universities. We should make sure that this is implemented because we have agriculture faculties in our universities. Sometimes, you will see laureates completing university without having been in the field to see how agriculture is done. You will see an agronomist who has never planted even one tree. So, the way teaching is organised in our partner states should really be revised and agriculture should be the main subject in schools.

Therefore, I support the Motion. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you. Let us now have Hon. Mumbi.

Ms. Agnes Mumbi Ng'aru (Kenya): Rt. Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to support the adoption of this Committee Report. Before I do that, allow me to thank the President of Zanzibar, the Speaker, the Government and the people of Zanzibar for their welcome. I noticed that in his Address to us as EALA, he mentioned how grateful he was that we have attempted to come here a second time as the Third Parliament. I appreciate their Chamber because it is beautiful. I wish we would move it to Arusha or through your Office, do renovations in Arusha to make ours comfortable. I thank the people of Zanzibar.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, in a very special way, allow me, through you, to thank Hon. Ussi and through her to thank her father. I thank her and her father because they took time to come and check on us in the hotel at 9.00 a.m. We cannot take that for granted because it is extraordinary for a father of a Member to come and see whether Members are comfortable. Therefore, through your Office, allow me to send Hon. Ussi to go and thank her father.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, when we did a press conference, we heard you announce that it was your birthday. Happy birthday because you are just three years old! (*Applause*) Therefore, on a light touch, you are one of those few children who can still manage to sit and take their duties seriously on their third day.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I am a Member of the Committee. I participated in the Summit that is bringing many problems because of being referred to us “the Summit.” Therefore, in our participation as a Committee, I want to say I was impressed. The participation of the youth and women in the Summit was overwhelming. We had more women and youth as participants in the Summit than I have ever seen in the four years that I have been in EALA. Like my colleague, Hon. Sebalu, said, the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources has been found to be easy to access and cordial by small-scale farmers across the East Africa region. They found our Committee as an easy way of speaking to the rest of the East Africans. Through your Office, you have also given us an opportunity to make it easy for them to work and be heard through us. That is not something we should take for granted. I remember, as a Member of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources, working on the Co-operative Bill and they were very comfortable working with the Committee. Now, through the same, other farmers associations are finding it easy to access the east Africans through EALA and especially the Committee. That is not something we would take for granted.

Allow me to mention that there is need, in many ways, of sensitisation on the Malabo Protocol to all the Partner States. Like always, a summit or a workshop takes very few people. Those who attended got the information but we are dealing with a subject

that runs down in everyday life of East Africans like small-scale farmers, traders in agri-business and encouraging the youth to come into the agriculture value chain products. The participants were few in numbers. So, in our sensitisation programmes as EALA, we should probably make an effort to reach out to the youth and women in the same sector of agriculture so that those that did not participate have information about the Malabo Protocol.

There is something else that was mentioned but we rather let it go. This is about the allocation of 10 per cent of national budget to agriculture and I am glad you wanted the data with us. Even where the countries are talking about being beyond the 10 per cent and having done well, there was a feeling within the participants that there is a lot of seepage and that facilities and resources do not actually reach the targeted group. In a way, they asked EALA to make sure those facilities 10 per cent or beyond of the facilities, through accountability, reach those particular groups.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I thank you because I enjoyed the Summit. When every sector from the five partner states feels that they should meet in a summit, it should not threaten anybody. Therefore, I sat comfortably in that Summit and enjoyed it. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Mumbi. The order of speaking will be Hon. Opoka, Hon. Nancy and then Hon. Kimbisa will speak before I call the Mover to respond.

Mr. Chris Opoka-Okumu (Uganda): Rt. Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to contribute. Before I do so, I would like to declare that I am Member of the Committee. Therefore, I definitely support the recommendations and the Report of the

Committee. Before I go into the details of the debate, let me thank the President of Zanzibar and the Speaker of the Parliament of Zanzibar for giving us this very good opportunity to use the facilities here, welcoming us to Zanzibar and making it possible for the Assembly to enjoy the facilities in Zanzibar. I would also like to thank the United Republic of Tanzania Chapter of EALA and especially to single out Hon. Maryam Ussi for helping us greatly to get suitable accommodation in Zanzibar and taking her time to help very many Members. We are very grateful to the honourable Member - (*Applause*).

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate my former Chairperson of the Committee, Hon. Bazivamo, for having been appointed to the position of Deputy Secretary General in the Productive Sector. Hon. Bazivamo led the Committee very well. He went all out of his way to seek activity and funding for the Committee. He did a lot for the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources. We thank him very much and wish him very well in his new appointment.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I would also like to thank you for having given me opportunity to represent you and Chairperson of the Summit. It was a very good opportunity and you have heard that the Summit was quite well attended and appreciated by every stakeholder including small-scale farmers who contributed a lot during the Summit and gave some of the recommendations that are contained in this Report.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, the Heads of States and Governments made commitments concerning the Malabo Declaration. They signed the Declaration where they committed to allocate 10 per cent of public spending to agriculture. This was in line with the fact that there was also a commitment to end hunger

by 2025. However, when you look at the Report, you can see that it is only Burundi and Rwanda who have attained the goal of 10 per cent budgetary commitment on agriculture. The United Republic of Tanzania was honest enough to say that the progress is slow and they have not attained it. For other countries, there was no clear case statement that they have either attained the 10 per cent. This is a challenge to the Council of Ministers. When they go back to the countries, they should ensure that the commitment made by the Heads of States in Malabo is taken seriously and attained.

The Report states that 60 per cent of our population is involved in agriculture. If that is the case, why can we not just make 10 per cent commitment so that we end hunger by 2025? A large part of our region is endowed with very good arable lands. We can end hunger by 2025 if we live up to the commitment of 10 per cent budgetary allocation to agriculture. We have to take this very seriously.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, there are countries found in the desert that have taken agriculture very seriously. Under the leadership of the late Gaddafi, the former President of Libya had taken agriculture very seriously. Agriculture was taken to the level of irrigation. We need to study the issue of drip irrigation technology. We need to borrow from a country like Israel, which is an expert on the issue of drip irrigation technology to an extent that it exports food to Europe yet Israel is found in a desert.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, I had an opportunity to see exactly what Israel does. We complain about suffering from pests and so forth. Israel has gone further to study the individual needs of any particular plant and carry out irrigation of the plant to produce the maximum yield it can. I have seen what they do to bananas

whereby a banana plant is covered with plastic in order to prevent it from infection by pests.

Africa has the largest number of insects in the world. We need to take agriculture to another level and ask ourselves what should be done regarding the issue of pest control. That is very important because by doing that, then we would be promoting agriculture to end hunger by 2025. I have seen cases where a field has been cultivated and they cover it with plastic in order to make the weeds die before planting. That is done to suffocate bad organisms that cause a lot of disruption in the food production chain.

Rt. Hon. the Report recommends that EAC Partner States should take this matter seriously and live up to the promise of the 10 per cent. Once we do that and bring in technology and good agricultural practices, we will be able to achieve the ending of hunger by 2025. If we do not do anything and think that agriculture is a less productive or less income generation area, we will be wrong because as I have stated before, a country would want its income derived mostly from good agricultural practices.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, with those few words, I thank you very much and support the Report.

The Speaker: Thank you Hon. Chris Opoka for your contribution and the good representation on my behalf. Let us now hear from Hon. Kimbisa.

Mr. Adam Omar Kimbisa (Tanzania): Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me the Floor. *(A mobile phone rang)*

The Speaker: Hon. Members, somebody's phone is still on. I want to repeat this announcement. This Chamber is made in such a way that the Public Address System and the

Hansard recording system is affected by phones even if they are on silent mode. So, I kindly request honourable Members and staff in the House to switch off their phones. Thank you.

Mr. Kimbisa: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of agriculture in Africa in general and East Africa in particular is of paramount importance. As we are talking, Africa is the only region, which has not reached the level of serious industrialisation. Other countries and regions have managed through history to climb from agricultural industry to manufacturing industry and from manufacturing industry to service industry. Others have moved from service industry to information technology (IT) industry. So, countries are climbing the ladder. Unfortunately for Africa, we are still at the same level of agricultural industry which we have not even put much effort. We are still at the level where Adam and Eve left us in terms of equipment, tools and technology.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, serious attention has not been paid to the sector. Unfortunately, not much attention has been paid to other industries such as service industries and IT. Therefore, we are nowhere near. Why do we want to concentrate in agriculture? Is it because it is the basic step of the ladder of upward mobility? Why not manufacturing and service industries? If countries have comparative advantage in services, why don't they venture in that? Why not IT? From the look of things, we concentrate on agriculture because we think that is where we have a comparative advantage. The only comparative advantage we have in Africa is land, which is not based on technology but on land availability. Land alone is not good enough because we have had land all these years since time immemorial and we have not done much. So, land availability alone is not a good comparative advantage for all of us.

We need to ask very fundamental questions. For example, do we want small-scale agriculture or commercial agriculture? Do we want everybody to go for farming, or do we want a handful of people to own tracts of land and to turn them into commercial farming? What will be the consequences if we allow two or four people to own tens of thousands of hectares of land? Are we going to turn our people into *vibarua*? *Vibarua* is whereby many of us will be going to work on big farms. That will remind us of the pre-medieval age. So, such questions have to be asked. Are we talking about small-scale agriculture or commercial farming?

Today, we are confronting another problem. There is constant migration of people from rural areas to the cities. This is a world phenomenon and it is unstoppable. People are moving from the rural areas and they are going to the cities where they think there are greener pastures.

They are leaving old people, children and people with disabilities in the rural areas. The people that we expect to do farming in the rural areas are not there. All of them are moving. It is a world phenomenon, and it is unstoppable. So, as we are busy talking of trying to encourage our people to remain in the rural areas, they do not listen but move in tens of thousands and in millions. Something has to be done.

In order to make the rural areas attractive, there has to be land availability because some countries do not have enough land. There should be land but it should also be affordable. If you tell a young man to go and engage in agriculture and he has no land or if it is there but it is not affordable, then what are we talking about? However, if one can have land, what about farm implements and inputs?

There are areas with land but people still use rain-fed agriculture. As my colleague said, in a modern world, in the desert areas, they do not depend on rain-fed agriculture. In this part of the world, we still depend on rain and at the same time, we have cut down all the trees, which affect rainfall. We need to move from rain-fed agriculture to irrigation and technology-based agriculture.

We have also been experiencing another problem in Africa and especially East Africa. This is the issue of value addition to agricultural products. If we sell the same raw materials or primary products to wherever like we have been doing, it means we are exporting jobs. If we do value addition here, we will retain jobs. We export cotton, sisal or cashew nuts raw as they are and that means we export our jobs to other countries. So, value addition should not end. Agriculture should not be the end in itself but it should be the means to an end. The end is value addition and creating factories so that we create employment.

The Speaker: Finally.

Mr. Kimbisa: Did you say “finally?”

The Speaker: Yes.

Mr. Kimbisa: Finally, therefore, we need what I would call a “green revolution.” India did green revolution and now it does not import food. Other countries that adopted the green revolution are Brazil and Egypt and they no longer import but export food. The issue of 10 per cent for this and that will not take us anywhere. Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Kimbisa. Finally, Hon. Abisai and then I will call upon Hon. Patricia to summarise.

Ms. Nancy Abisai (Kenya): Rt. Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity. I know that my colleagues have said a lot. I only have one or two points that I will add. Before I do that, I would like to join my colleagues in thanking His Excellency the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, the Speaker of Parliament, Hon. Zubeir Ali, and the parliamentary staff and the wonderful people of Zanzibar for welcoming us. We feel at home *na asanteni sana*. We love you and we love this place.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, having said that, I would like to add my voice to say that I am happy that we are discussing the Malabo Declaration and that that particular Summit focused on it. Our countries, especially the East African countries, are signatories to many international and regional conventions, protocols and declarations but the problem is the implementation. We always have goodwill in talking about some protocols, declarations and conventions but there is problem comes when it comes to implementation.

When I first joined this Assembly, I joined the Accounts Committee. We have always been talking about the underfunding to productive and social sectors. We have always discussed this within the Budget Conference, the Committee and the Plenary but there is always underfunding for productive and social sectors where agriculture falls. To what extent then has the very comprehensive Food and Security Framework been implemented if there is no funding? If we want Partner States to ensure that they allocate 10 per cent to agriculture sectors, it also has to start at the regional level to show that kind of commitment. As far as I am concerned, this commitment does not need a lot and it is not nuclear physics but requires political goodwill. That is all it takes.

What is budgetary allocation all about? It is political goodwill. Therefore, we cannot go out talking about what we need to do because it is just about political goodwill.

The Report also mentions an aspect of corruption. I dare say that one of the problems we have within this region is first, corruption, second, corruption and third, corruption. Unless we take care of this, we will continue having all the problems that we have. In this time and age, people within the region suffer from famine and hunger. Our countries are well endowed with natural resources and good climate yet people still suffer from hunger. This is completely unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, lastly, I want to say something about the whole question of land rush. What is the issue about land that people always want to buy land? It even hinders our development agenda and doing farming because everybody is rushing for land. Everybody wants to do something on some land, everyone wants to buy land and everyone wants to own land. We do not even know how to bring collective responsibility. Even within our own homesteads, we want land to be subdivided when we could actually do farming on a large piece of land and get more output.

Finally, I would like to add that the Report highlights a lot on participation of women and men. This could not come at a better time when we are also introducing the Gender Bill. We talked about participation of women and men in all sectors of life and development. When we talk about women and youth participation, we are also looking at the gender perspective in a development aspect of agriculture. This is what we need to understand. In terms of gender, we moved from the concept of Women in Development to Gender and Development, which is also

what, is happening in agriculture. You cannot improve in sectors of economic and improvement of livelihoods if you do not take care of more than half of the population of this region, which is women and youth.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, because my colleagues have talked a lot and because of time, I just wanted to highlight the aspect of women and youth and what they do in agriculture and our seriousness in domestication of the various protocols and regional and international instruments that we have signed. It should start with ourselves because it is just a matter of political goodwill. Thank you.

The Speaker: Hon. Nancy, thank you very much.

I do not know whether the honourable Chairperson of the Council or Ministers would like to comment on this debate before I allow the Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources to conclude.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-Officio): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I take this opportunity to thank you and also thank the Acting Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources for presenting the Report of the Budget Summit on Agriculture. I have two or three issues to put across. First, I would like to assure you that member states know about the Malabo Protocol. Basing on the Malabo Protocol, it is what makes the states to ensure that they allocate money to agriculture. We assure you that we will make sure that we reach the 10 per cent or even more based on what we have within the member states.

Secondly, I want to inform the honourable Member that there are priorities, which were set and will be presented during the next budgeting of Financial Year 2017/2018. I want to assure you that out of the seven issues, which were prioritised, three fall under agriculture. As you know, the Community is conducted by the Secretariat. I would like to inform you that last week, the Secretariat met with the UN and agreed to sign an agreement to conduct projects on agriculture. That is a good way and it will assist the Community to achieve the vision of the Malabo Declaration. The UN and the Secretariat signed an agreement to assist agricultural development.

I would also like to inform you that, two days ago, the University of Oxford also met with the Secretariat and signed an agreement on working together with the University to ensure that we send our people there to work together on the area of research and especially in agriculture. So, we are doing something that we are happy that you are considering member states. Members have contributed but I know that they were defending their respective member states and the Community. We assure you that we will continue looking for the possibilities of making sure that agriculture, which is the backbone of our economy, goes up than it is now. We really consider what you recommend.

On behalf of the Council, I assure you that we will take these recommendations in your Report for consideration by the Council. I know that all the recommendations made in the Report will assist us to come up with policies and make sure that we implement whatever is for the good of the Community itself.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Thank you, Chairperson of the Council of Ministers.

On behalf of the Committee, I now invite Hon. Patricia to summarise.

Ms. Hajabakiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I say anything, let me also join my colleagues to thank the United Republic of Tanzania, once again for welcoming us into Tanzania - (*Applause*). Specifically, I want to thank His Excellency Dr. Ali Mohammed Shein, the President of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar for addressing us yesterday and welcoming us to Zanzibar. Let me also thank the entire Tanzanian Chapter for taking care of us. Specifically, allow me to single out Hon. Maryam Ussi who was at the airport to see us arrive and decided to help us find the right accommodation. I thank you very much Hon. Ussi - (*Applause*).

As Hon. Mumbi said earlier, this Chamber is wonderful and beautiful and it befits the people of Zanzibar. This a very good Chamber compared to what we used last time when we were in Zanzibar. We hope the Council of Ministers and the Secretary-General are listening. With a possibility of available funds, the Chamber in Arusha should be remodelled because it is not ideal. The Speaker does not even have a way of getting to the podium.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the Report, I want to thank my colleagues because everybody supported the Motion and the Report. There were no amendments and questions. I would like to thank all of them but let me begin by thanking you. On the issue of actual data regarding the percentages of various countries, we did not manage to get that information but we were still looking for that up to this morning. We wanted to get the actual figures of where we are in the 2016/2017 budget. I only plead to the House

that they agree with us but once we get that data, we will insert it in the Report.

The only two countries, which indicated that they have already achieved the 10 per cent allocation, are Rwanda and Burundi and they have already gone beyond that. We did not manage to get the percentage for other countries but we will do that if you allow.

I would like to thank Hon. Shy-Rose, Hon. Maryam Ussi, Hon. Taslima, Hon. Sebalu, Hon. Odette, Hon. Mumbi, Hon. Opoka, Hon. Kimbisa, Hon. Nancy and especially the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers for the commitment she has made in this House and the information she has given on the positive trends towards achieving the Malabo Declaration as had been requested by our own Head of State at African level.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank you very much particularly for protecting me from the Chairperson of the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges. I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you Hon. Patricia for acting on behalf of the Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources.

Honourable Members, the Motion before this Assembly is that the Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the EAC Agriculture Budgets Summit, 2016, be adopted.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Speaker: I thank the Committee and Chairperson for the good work done. I especially thank Hon. Chris Opoka for representing the Assembly at the Summit.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY TO URGE THE SUMMIT TO FAST TRACK THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS DIRECTIVE ON ALTERNATIVE FUNDING MECHANISMS FOR THE EAC, AND TO INVOKE ARTICLES 143 AND 146 OF THE EAC TREATY ON FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS,N AGAINST DEFAULTING PARTNER STATES

The Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for EAC Affairs, Uganda (Dr. Ali Kirunda Kivejinja) (Ex-Officio Member):
On a point of procedure, Mr. Speaker Sir.

I am sorry but I just saw this one this afternoon, and we had a discussion among ourselves. You know the delicacy of the matter, and you know how far we have even gone to intervene to ensure that we are here. We took note of it and we are the people in the yards. We wanted to save the meeting. The discussion of this item should be postponed because they have given figures here but we have not seen how we have responded to the emergency.

Recently, we had a teleconference and we took certain measures that are before the Summit – (*Interjection*).

The Speaker: Order, Honourable Member. There is a point of order from Hon. Peter Mathuki.

Mr. Mathuki: On a point of order, Mr. Speaker, sir, the honourable Minister is talking of procedure. Could he tell us the procedure he is using to address this particular issue because this is a House of procedures? When talks of procedure, he should guide the House on the procedure he is using to invoke or put the request he is putting across so that we are properly guided.

The Speaker: Hon. Mathuki, you want to know whether the honourable Minister is in

order to rise on a procedural matter of an Item on Order Paper. The honourable Minister and Member of the Council is indeed in order only that he has not cited the specific rule under which he has risen and I was about to guide him on that. For that matter, let me give a chance to the Rt. Honourable Deputy Prime Minister and Member of the Council to finish his procedural matter and then I will come to you Hon. Pareno.

The Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for EAC Affairs, Uganda (Dr. Ali Kirunda Kivejinja) (Ex-Officio Member):
Thank you very much. I was aware of the rules of procedure and I could have waited until the time of moving the Motion. However, this has happened before and it is before the Summit. A decision was taken by the Summit and a final position will be taken in November. When I read here, the data is not correct. So, we may spend a lot of time on things, which we are not likely to go any further. So, I wanted to save the Assembly's time.

The Speaker: Thank you. I got the procedural position of the Rt. Honourable Minister and the Deputy Prime Minister of the Council. My guidance is that it is true that this matter is before the Summit. It is also true that the Sectoral Council of EAC Affairs had a teleconference discussion on a number of issues including this one. It is also true that this august House suspended its activities for two months - (*Applause*).

It is also true that the entire Community has had a very difficult operation in the past two months. It is further true that in the past months, there was almost failure to pay salaries of staff of the Community and Members of the Assembly. Therefore, this Motion has come on the basis and clear understanding that, yes, the various organs are dealing with this matter. This Assembly

is also an organ and has a way of dealing with this matter and strengthening the ongoing processes within the Council and Summit.

I would advise that this Motion be moved and become property of this House. In the course of debate, you could suggest that you feel very strongly that before we conclude in passing this Motion and resolving it, we postpone it and sit so that we discuss further. Let the Motion be introduced in the House and it becomes property of the House, then we carry on with the discussion.

I request the Mover to move the Motion and that it be seconded then debate will follow. In the process of the debate, if the Council feels strongly that we should not conclude on the matter, and then you will move under appropriate rules of procedure to suspend debate on the Motion.

Hon. Pareno, continue.

Ms. Judith Pareno (Kenya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for your wisdom and guidance on this matter. I beg to move:-

“THAT, this Assembly do resolve to urge the Summit to fast track the implementation of its directive on alternative funding mechanism for the East African Community and/or invoke Article 143 and 146 of the EAC Treaty on financial contributions against defaulting Partner States.”

I beg to move.

The Speaker: Seconders? Hon. Dr. Odette, Hon. Taslima, Hon. Ussi, Hon. Patricia, Hon. Chris Opoka, Hon. Mathuki, Hon. Mbidde, Hon. Rwigema, Hon. Valery and all the Members standing.

Hon. Pareno, proceed.

Ms. Pareno: Rt. Hon. Speaker, Sir,

WHEREAS the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community provides in Article 8 (1) that the Partner States shall:

(a) plan and direct their policies and resources with a view to creating conditions favourable for the development and achievement of the objectives of the Community and the implementation of the Treaty.

(b) abstain from any measures likely to jeopardise the achievement of those objectives or the implementation of the objectives of the provisions of the Treaty;

AND WHEREAS one of the fundamental principles through which the Community can achieve its objectives is the principle for cooperation for mutual benefits and equitable distribution of benefits;

AND WHEREAS Article 132(1) provides that there shall be a budget for all organs and institutions of the Community which budget shall be prepared by the Secretary General for consideration by the Council of Ministers and by the approval of the Assembly;

AND WHEREAS Article 132(3) the Council approves all expenditure of the Community in respect of each financial year and that such expenditure shall be met from the budget;

AWARE THAT Article 132(4) stipulates that the Budget of the Community shall be funded by equal contributions by the Partner States and receipt from regional and international donations and any other sources as may be determined by the Council;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the financial year of the Community shall run from 1st July to 30th June in each financial year; APPRECIATING THAT Article 143 of the Treaty provides that a Partner State which defaults in meeting its financial obligation shall be subject to such action as the Summit may on the recommendation of the Council determine;

FURTHER APPRECIATING THAT on several occasions, the Assembly did ask priority questions in January and March 2016 through Hon. Dora Byamukama as to

the dire financial status of the Community and the Chairperson, Council of Ministers in responding to this questions, was quick to assure the Assembly that the Partner States would meet the said deadlines for their contributions;

NOTING THAT despite the assurances there has been consistent default of Partner States for the past three financial years as depicted by the Report of the 34th Ordinary Council presented below: -

Table: Partner States Budgetary Contributions for FY2016/17 to East African Community (EAC Secretariat, EALA, EACJ, EAKC, EASTECO) in USD.

PARTNER STATE	ARREAS (FY'15/16)	CONTRIBUTION DUE FY'16/17	CONTRIBUTION PAID FY'16/17		TOTAL OUTSTANDING
Republic of Kenya	-	8,378,108	330,306	3.94%	8,047,801
United republic of Tanzania	356,492	8,378,108	-	0.00%	8,734,599
Republic of Uganda	-	8,378,108	2,209,712	26.37%	6,168,396
Republic of Rwanda	-	8,378,108	-	0.00%	8,378,108
Republic of Burundi	5,609,800	8,378,108	-	0.00%	13,987,908
TOTAL	5,966,292	41,890,540	2,540,018	6.06%	45,316,812

The Table shows that as at that date - there could be developments - the Republic of Kenya had paid 3.9 percent of their contributions, the United Republic of Tanzania had paid 0 per cent of their contributions, the Republic of Uganda had paid 26.37 per cent of their contribution; the Republic of Rwanda had paid 0 per cent of their contribution, and the Republic of Burundi had paid 0 per cent of their contribution.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, Sir, the table as per those statistics does not include the EAC Health and Research Commission and the EAC Competition Authority as their respective budgets of USD1, 397,438 and USD841, 365 for the financial year 2016/2017 will be drawn from the EAC General Reserve.

NOTING FURTHER THAT the consistent default of financial contributions highlighted above has led to the depletion of the EAC General Reserves to the tune of about USD6.5 million to facilitate the activities of the Community and have now resorted to the

Gratuity Reserve to the tune of about USD1.23 million in September, 2016;

NOTING FURTHER THAT the Summit of the EAC Heads of State had given a directive that there be established an alternative funding mechanism but the Council of Ministers has not complied with the directive of the Summit to fast track the implementation of the said directive to the detriment of the Community which in effect is affecting the Community's financial mobilisation potential;

DEEPLY CONCERNED THAT all the activities of the Community have either come to a standstill, or they have been disrupted since August 2016;

These activities are not only for the East African Legislative Assembly but also of the other EAC organs and institutions have been affected. Specifically for the East African Legislative Assembly, the activities of the General Purpose Committee, the Committee on the Communication Trade and Investment, the Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution Committee, the Legal Rules and Privileges Committee, and the

Select Committee against Genocide and Genocide Denial, did not take place;

Other activities include the delayed payment of salaries and payment of VAC supplies. This has also disrupted all other activities including the ongoing plenary. This is after the Secretary General informed the august House in the first meeting of the fifth session that he did not have substantial savings.

FURTHER CONCERNED THAT the Community has depleted its financial reserves and has now turned to gratuity reserves to meet urgent pressing needs;

NOW THIS ASSEMBLY DO RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) To urge the Summit to direct the Council of Ministers to hold an urgent special sitting to discuss the financial crisis in the Community.*
- (2) To urge the Summit to direct the Council of Ministers to urgently implement the Summit's directive on alternative funding mechanism within a timeframe to be determined by the Summit.*
- (3) To urge the Summit to direct the Council of Ministers, pursuant to Article 143 of the EAC Treaty, to recommend such sanctions, as they may deem necessary to any Partner States that remains in default of its financial contributions.*
- (4) To urge the Partner States, through the Council of Ministers, to adhere to their commitment to plan and direct their policies and resources with a view to creating conditions favourable for the development and achievement of the objectives of the*

Community and the implementation of the Treaty;

- (5) To urge the Partner States through the Council of Ministers to abstain from defaulting on contributions to the budget and to adhere to their commitment to abstain from any measures likely to jeopardise the achievement of the objectives and the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty.*
- (6) To direct the Secretary General to transmit these resolutions to the Chair of the Summit to include it on the agenda of the November 2016 Summit or at the earliest opportunity when it meets next.*

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Pareno.

Any Seconders? Hon. Dr. Odette, Hon. Ussi, Hon. Peter Mathuki, Hon. Chris Opoka, Hon. Mukasa Mbidde, Hon. Rwigema, Hon. Valerie and Hon. Mulengani. The Motion is duly moved and seconded. Hon. Ogle, do you have a procedural issue?

(Question proposed)

Mr. Abubakar Ogle (Kenya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to make it appear as if it is an amendment. However, I would like to look at it from the perspective that this Motion has some few structural defects.

Before the honourable Member justifies it, we need to be very clear about the issues, and if possible, expunge them accordingly. I will refer to them and because it is not numbered, the last paragraph of the first page of the Motion states:

“Further appreciating that on several occasions the Assembly did ask priority questions in January and March 2016 through Hon. Dora Byamukama as to the dire financial status of the Community, and the Chairperson, Council of Ministers in responding to these questions, was quick to assure the Assembly that the Partner States would meet the said deadlines for their contributions;”

I thought that question was the property of the House and therefore it should not have the name of a Member.

The Speaker: Hon. Ogle, let me help you. I am not disrupting you in bad faith. That is substantive dealing with the Motion. Now that the Motion has been moved and seconded and the Mover will substantiate it, it becomes a property of this House in its defective way in your own words. In your debate, you will rise to straighten the Motion as a property of the House to have the correct perspective as per the treaty and our rules of provision. In correcting those aspects of the Motion, I request you to wait a bit. When the Mover will have substantiated and debate is about to ensue, you could rise on that point to begin with.

Mr. Ogle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I appreciate your guidance, but let me go to a more substantive issue, even beyond that one.

On Page 2, the paragraph immediately after the table should not even be there because it is a bit misleading. We need some bit of clarity on this. It is not a matter of a substantive argument, because I will have my time to make a substantive contribution if you so wish, but the point here is that the Motion is referring to

“Further concerned that the Community has depleted its financial reserves and has now turned to gratuity reserves to meet urgent pressing needs”

As far as I am concerned, gratuity is my earning. If she has any evidence about anybody dipping into our gratuity, she should tell us because it is criminal. So, she should tell us where she got this information.

The Speaker: Hon. Ogle, I bet you to take the guidance of the Speaker that first, the Motion is duly moved and seconded. Let the Mover substantiate or give further explanation about the Motion and when debate ensues, you can strip, add or remove this Motion to fit the wish of this Assembly. As of now, let me invite the Mover of the Motion to substantiate but your concerns are taken. Just hold on until the right and appropriate time.

Ms. Pareno: Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you again for that guidance. The Treaty establishing the EAC is very clear in terms of the expectations, obligations and duties of each Partner State and what is expected of them as far as the financial provisions are concerned.

Rt. Hon. Speaker, Sir, I will restrict myself to Article 132 of the Treaty which clearly spells out how to come about a budget; how it is drawn and considered by the Council of Ministers and how it is finally approved by the EALA. The provisions of Article 132 demand that each Partner State makes equal contribution to the budget of the Community. Not only does it provide for equal contributions but also each Partner State has to agree to cooperate and there should be mutual benefits for all East Africans.

Apart from contributions that are envisaged, this particular Article which we are all signatory to also provides that Partner States can also solicit for international and regional funding and donations for purposes of smooth running of the Community. It also provides that we can have alternative funding mechanisms to equal contributions by Partner States.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I speak, this Motion firmly stands on the provisions of the Treaty. The same Treaty in Articles 143 and 146 dictates that there could be sanctions against default. We all know what has been happening in this Community. I do not want to believe that any of us will say they do not know because we are the people who passed the budget. We approve the budget after it has been drawn by the secretariat, and it is the Council of Ministers that considers it.

As depicted in the table in this Motion, most of the Partner States, year in year out have been punctual in some of their contributions. Most Partner States as shown in our statistics that were drawn from the last statistics that were given by the Council of Ministers have been in arrears from as far as 2014. Some Partner States were still in arrears in 2015. From the last communication of September that was given, Partner States had arrears to the tune that is shown in the table.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as an Assembly, we are here by grace of God for this particular plenary. We all know that the Committee on General Purpose, Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment (CTI), Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges and the committee that is conducting a study on genocide and genocide ideology did not sit in September for lack of funds. We all know that this Assembly did not carry out any activities for the past one month due to lack of funding. It is not only the EALA that was

not able to conduct activities but we are also informed that the EACJ could not conduct its activities. The institutions could not conduct their activities because there was no money in the coffers of the EAC.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as an Assembly, we raised the red flag and red card by asking the Council of Ministers to provide answers as to how they would address the financial problem that we have been experiencing as a Community. Of course, the story has been the same; that they are working on it and that Partner States will make submissions.

I dare to say that we, as Chapters, received communication that we should intervene through our chapter leaders. We had meetings with our Ministries and Permanent Secretaries (PSs) and Cabinet Secretaries (CSs) informing them that there was no funding in coffers of the Community. We informed them that we have a crisis because committees are not sitting and that committees have not done their work because of lack of funding. The little funding that has made it possible the Assembly to have this sitting is by the intervention of the Rt. Hon. Speaker and Members of each chapter going round and saying that there is no funding for the Community.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, we should not bury our heads in the sand because we speak on behalf of the East Africans. How can all organs and institutions of EAC have no activities for a whole one month yet we believe that we are doing well? I am not implying that the Council of Ministers and the Summit have totally done nothing but we cannot continue like this as a Community. We need to up our game to ensure that we adhere to the principles of the Treaty by contributing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is in our records that 70 per cent of our budgets comes from the donor

funding and only 30 per cent should come from our Partner States. However, we are not even getting the 30 per cent that Partner States are supposed to give. We are not sure that we can forever continue relying on donor funding.

I wish to state that looking at a communiqué of the 12th Extraordinary Summit of the EAC Heads of State on 30th April, 2014, the Summit considered the Progress Report of the Council of Ministers on Sustainable Financing Mechanism for the EAC and directed that all feasible options available be studied and a report be submitted at the 16th Ordinary Summit in November, 2014. So, we have an existing directive from the Summit. We have a further directive of the 12th Extraordinary Summit that considered a progress report of the Council of Ministers on sustainable financing mechanism for the EAC. In fact, the Summit noted that there could be sustainable financing mechanisms for the EAC. It directed the Council to finalise the mechanisms and recommended best sustainable financing mechanisms to the next Summit for consideration.

So, we have that on record, that the Summit has made directives several times. That was from 2014 and we are now in 2016. By the time the Summit was making this directive, we had not gone this low. We have gone so low that an urgent action has to be taken. As per the prayers of the Motion, we urge that swift action be taken because we cannot afford to have no activities undertaken. We cannot afford to deplete our reserves to zero. The communication we have is that we have zero in our reserves and we have now resorted to gratuity for salaries of this month to be paid to workers of EAC. That is a too lower position that needs this Assembly to speak about. It is on this ground that I ask Members to support this Motion. I beg for support.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Pareno.

Honourable Members, the Motion before this Assembly is that this Assembly resolves to urge the summit to fast track the implementation of its directive on alternative funding mechanism for the East African Community and/or invoke Articles 143 and 146 of the East African Community Treaty on Financial Contributions against Defaulting Partner States.

Debate is open. I will start with Hon. Dr. Odette who was the Seconder of the Motion.

Dr. Nyiramilimo: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion. I thank Hon. Judith Pareno for bringing this Motion to the House. The work of the Assembly has been suspended for two months as you said. I want to assume that many other institutions and organs of the Community also had the same problem.

When we were in the process of budgeting for the Financial Year 2016/2017, I recall very well from the Pre-Budget Conference where many offices of institutions and organs wanted more funding for the financial year. However, it was not possible because the Secretary General and the people who were there all said that we needed to plan for activities that have funding starting by the funding from the Partner States. Activities to be carried out during this financial year were reduced because funding was a serious problem.

As you may recall that when we voted for this Budget, you may have noticed that instead of the budget of the Community growing with the many activities of integration, it was being reduced. That was because donors are pulling out and that is the reason why the Summit wisely decided that we should have sustainable financing mechanism. When we asked the Chair of the Council of Ministers

during the processes, they replied that the sustainable funding mechanism was in pipeline and would be adopted soon and then the Community would be self-sustained. So far, what we see is different.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, while we know well that Partner States have not contributed timely thus jeopardizing the integration process of the Community, we all know that our Partner States have endorsed the EAC Vision 2050, the African Agenda 2063 and SDGs. The only way of reaching all these goals is to integrate and advance in the process of integration and have a developed EAC. If we cannot finance our integration system, who will do that for us?

As the Mover of the Motion proposed, our Community, which operates on rules, has responsibility to urge the Summit to apply Article 143 that is cited in the Motion and sanction the defaulting states. We would have urged the Chairperson and the Council of Ministers but I think they have been unable to do that. So, let us urge the Summit to tell the Council of Ministers to implement their directives as cited by Hon. Pareno. For that to apply it is imperative that also Article 148 of the Treaty on Exception of Consensus applies because all decisions are taken by consensus. It will be very difficult to attain consensus if some Partner States are defaulting. Therefore, we should call for the application of Article 148.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the use of the Reserve Fund of the Community also follows some management rules. The Council of Ministers is the organ that should authorise the Secretariat to use money in the Reserve Fund. I would like to know if that has been the case. Has the Council of Ministers authorised the use of the Reserve Fund? We are now hearing that even the Gratuity Fund is being touched. Has the Council of Ministers authorised the

use and is that money really to be used for salaries of staff of the EAC?

Mr. Yves Nsabimana (Burundi): On a point of information, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The information I want to give to Hon. Odette is that even the Council of Ministers does not have the power to touch the Gratuity Fund. They have powers to utilise the Reserve Fund but not the Gratuity Fund. It is illegal to use the Gratuity Fund.

Dr. Odette: Thank you for the information. It is right that gratuity is not to be used for daily activities of the EAC. If this has happened, then it is an audit query. It is a very serious problem and I support strongly this Motion moved by Hon. Pareno. We should make sure that the Council of Ministers takes the issue seriously. I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Dr. Odette.

I can see that the Chairperson, Council of Ministers has risen up. It is not ordinary for the Chair of the Council of Ministers to rise in the middle of a debate. Let me give her a chance. Please listen to what she has to say and then I will get back to Members.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio:) Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to move a Motion under Rule 30(c) which talks about adjournment of debate on the ground that as a Council of Ministers, we need to consult. We stood before the debate started. I now stand under Rule 30(c) to adjourn this debate because I know there are several organs, which deal with the issue on the consideration. So, I humbly request Members of this Assembly,

for the betterment of the Community -
(*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: Honourable Chairperson, let us proceed procedurally. If you want to move under Rule 30(c), you should rightly move the Motion and you get it seconded. When it has been seconded, you will have to justify and then we debate the merits and demerits and take decision on it. If it carries the day, we will suspend debate on the subject matter on the Floor. That is how we shall proceed procedurally. So, may you formally move and somebody second the Motion and we get to discuss the merits and the demerits?

Mr. Benard Mulengani (Uganda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you for the opportunity. I rise up on a procedural matter concerning the matters, which we are discussing. The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers is proposing to seek adjournment concerns the Chief Executive of the Community who is the Chief Accounting Person of the Community. As we deliberate on this matter that has stalled the activities of the Community, in his wisdom, he chose to walk out.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the procedural point I would like you to guide this House about is whether we are considering these matters of the funding of the Community very seriously.

The Speaker: Thank you Hon. Mulengani. The Hon. Member has risen on a procedural matter; that the matter under discussion or before the House is a question of finances of the Community. The Chief Accounting Officer of the Community is the Secretary-General. He is a Member of this Assembly and is in attendance of this meeting and session as we speak. I want to assume that he has just gone out for a health break and he will be back because this is very pivotal to his Office. I suggest that he be advised to be in the House. Thank you.

Hon. Member, proceed.

Mr. Fred Mukasa Mbidde (Uganda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, further procedure. When the House sits, it is akin to the procedure of court and a Motion is akin to a petition before a court. Invoking Rule 30(c) must be within the precincts of *dominus litis* principle that a petitioner chooses to petition, who to petition, when to petition and on which account.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the respondent in this matter is procedural incorrect to raise a Motion for Adjournment of debate where she should be a respondent in the circumstances. In my opinion, it is before the House to decide. I pledge that my understanding of the principle of *dominus litis* excludes the Chair of the Council of Ministers as having the audacity, capacity and lawful possibility to seek for adjournment of debate. Members of the House should have solved this. I so pledge.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mbidde.

These are the Rules of Procedure of this Assembly and Rule 30(c) is part of the general rules of this House. The honourable Minister and Chairperson of the Council of Ministers has decided to invoke the provisions of the Rules of Procedure of this House. It is incumbent upon us to pass judgment upon her plea to this House; whether we should allow her Motion to adjourn debate pass. However, let us give her a chance to move her Motion. Let it be justified, and let us hear the merits and demerits. Maybe, she will convince us to adjourn the debate and come tomorrow or another day, but let us give her the time.

On the basis of that, Hon. Minister and Chair of the Council of Ministers, please proceed.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not even sure of whether to start from the beginning.

The Speaker: Just say that you move under Rule 30.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move the Motion to adjourn this debate.

The Speaker: Seconders? Hon. Kivejinja, Hon. Leontine and Hon. CTC.

Mr. Mbidde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, point of procedure. The Ministers who *ex-officio* Members of this House have no voting rights. I would like to be educated as to whether it is procedurally correct for them to second a Motion, which is akin to voting.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mbidde.

Honourable Members, this matter of whether *ex-officio* Members of this House can second a Motion has previously come to my attention. I consulted and I was given the advice that there is a distinction between voting and seconding - (*Applause*). The honourable Members are Members of this august House and enjoy all the rights and privileges of this House except voting but they can second a Motion. So, the Motion is duly seconded - (*Applause*).

Could we have the honourable Minister justify her Motion?

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I said that I would like the debate to end for the reasons that many organs are dealing with matter under consideration. When someone was talking to the - (*Interruption*).

The Speaker: Honourable Members, could we listen to the Chair of the Council of Ministers in silence?

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio): I was saying that I have decided to adjourn the debate on the ground that the matter under consideration is before the Council itself. Last week, we had a meeting for the Council to look at the issue of finances. A subcommittee was also formed by the Council to work with the Secretariat on this issue and it is planned to be dealt with in coming meeting of the Council in November. That is why I said that I know there is a good reason of putting this matter aside.

I know we are trying to assist to make sure that member states contribute their own portion. The Council also knows that it is necessary for the organs to work on what they have been directed to do. I do not think it is good for us to continue to debate on this issue as if we are fighting each other. It is not good for the Executive and MPs to fight on the same issue. I know you have good reasons for discussion it but I also know Members of the Council have good reasons. I do not want you, honourable MPs, to use a lot of time to discuss an issue, which is before Members of the Council. I beg you to adjourn the debate and let us do our work. We know that you are

concerned and the issue is crucial to you and to us.

I beg to submit. *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Honourable Members, the Motion before the House is that the Minister has moved under Rule 30(c) of our Rules of Procedure that debate be adjourned and she has justified. Debate is open on the Motion by the Minister.

(Question proposed)

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio : Mr. Speaker, Sir, let us not put the cart before the horse. The Motion is seeking that member states make their contribution promptly. You want the Council and even the Summit to sanction those who have failed. Let us know exactly what our relations are. Let us know that the Secretariat of the EAC spends money that is given by the member states. I think the guns should be forwarded to the Council and the Summit so that they wake up and bring the money. Once there is money, all activities will be done.

Therefore, let us apply some wisdom. Let us not antagonize each other by bringing out debate on an area, which is already before their table. We have an obligation to answer to the next Summit what has been done. That is an order to the Council, our bosses and us. So, it will be wise if we allowed an adjournment on debate so that the Chair of Council brings up other things for debate. That will be too early and may not be productive.

Thank you very much.

The Speaker: Just before we proceed to debate, if I got the Chair of the Council of Ministers and her colleague Members of the Council right, they are not against the spirit of the Motion. Are you telling this Assembly that your request for adjournment is to allow the Chair of the Council of Ministers time to furnish this House with more up-to-date information because you feel what the Motion has presented is not up to date? That is not the point. The point is that the prayers of the Motion are too harsh. However, let me open it for debate.

Mr. Mathuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is what I want to say about whether or not to postpone debate as moved the Minister. I think we are not fair to the East Africans. We want to bury our heads in the sand and tell the Community that all is well. Most of the Ministers have been absent during the sittings of this Assembly. When it comes to matters of public importance like this, they conspire to come and defeat justice in this House. If we cannot speak on behalf of the citizens of East Africa, I do not think then it will be proper - *(Interruption)*.

The Speaker: Hon. Peter, there is a point of order on the Floor.

The Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for EAC Affairs, Uganda (Dr. Ali Kirunda Kivejinja) (Ex-Officio) On a Point of order, Mr. Speaker, sir, is it in order for the honourable Member to impute bad motives on us that we conspire? *(Applause)*

The Speaker: Hon. Mathuki, the right honourable Minister has asked whether it is in order for you to impute bad motives that the Council of Ministers conspires. All our motives, those of the Council of Ministers and institutions of the Community have one goal; to promote the integration. I will not expect the Council of Ministers to conspire.

Hon. Peter, proceed.

Mr. Mathuki: Mr. Speaker, Sir that is why only three of them stood to support what they are saying. Conspiracy means coming together to defeat a course. So, three of them decided to stand to defeat this important Motion from taking place. That is why I am saying – I respect your guidance – that it is important that we debate this important matter.

The Community does not belong to me and neither does it belong to any individual Member in this House including the individual Ministers. This is a matter of public importance. By debating this, it could add value in terms of the issues they would want to add or report to the Summit. When we just keep quiet, how will they possibly benefit from the wisdom of these honourable Members? Some of these honourable Members have been ministers. Others have been vice presidents while others have been prime ministers and, therefore, very senior in their own rights.

I think it is only fair that we proceed with the Motion as it is so that then we can see how to add value to the Motion. Honourable Minister, please take it in a positive approach. There is no bad faith in this. We took an oath that we shall defend, protect and promote the Treaty of the Community. Therefore, I have no bad faith or bad motive but I mean well to the Community. I am a pro-integrationist. Therefore, I can never be standing here in bad motive.

I, therefore, object that the Motion should be postponed. I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you Hon. Peter. Let us now have Hon. Mumbi, Hon. Chris and then I will come to the two of you.

Ms. Mumbi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the onset, I want to say that I do not envy your position because you are a parent to all of us. You have to be sensitive to the Council and the relationship between the Summit and all the organs of the EAC. You are sitting in a very hot seat. Like always, you are reminded that you are one of us. Probably, you have to listen to us. However, once you sit there, you have to use your wisdom. I pray that you apply not just the rules but also the wisdom to put integration agenda to the fore. I say this knowing very well that committees have not been sitting because there are big issues. I will not burry my head in the sand and say that there are no issues because they are there. However, when the Minister stands up to say that, we should adjourn debate. This is where I now call upon your wisdom.

Just yesterday, the President of Zanzibar stood there and addressed us - (*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: Hon. Mumbi, just on a lighter note, the Speaker is very comfortable seated here and refereeing this debate with a lot of authority. I would like you to know that I give Members of the Council and Members of the Assembly equal opportunity to argue your case. We are a blessed organ of the Community that has a chance to take decisions by both consensus and on a vote and that is what I will facilitate. The argument is to convince yourselves which direction to go. I plead with you to debate the Motion without fear or favour because I will preside over this issue comfortably - (*Applause*).

Hon. Mumbi, proceed.

Mr. Mumbi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am aware and I respect your guidance. I stand here to say that probably you are in a better position to hear and say it better because there are big issues of finances affecting the Community.

Mr. Ogle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, point of clarification. I thought the matter we are debating is regarding the postponement Motion that was moved by the Council and not the substantive matter of the liquidity crisis facing the Community. Could you kindly ask *Mheshimiwa* Mumbi to limit herself to the matter of deferment of the Motion?

The Speaker: The honourable Member has just had a long introduction to her debate but she will address herself to the substantive Motion on the Floor - (*Laughter*).

Ms. Mumbi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of us are not endowed with dramatizing issues because this is not a matter to be dramatized. I respect their energy because some of us do not have that energy. The Council asked us to adjourn the debate but I know that there are many issues. Even in a court of law, when a client asks issues be deliberated issues in camera, that means something. When that happens, it is a way of saying that there are big issues that they do not want aired to the public.

First, I would like clarity from the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers on whether they want us to adjourn the debate until November when the Council or the Summit will meet. If they stood up and asked for time until Monday, then we could tell them whether we have activities of the House or if they wanted us to meet after this Plenary, I will know how to deal with the situation. However, before such clarity is given, I feel uncomfortable to defeat a Motion for the sake of it. I still feel uncomfortable because I know there are deep issues that need to be discussed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, does the Council of Ministers want us to wait until November. If I am guided on that, then I will

know whether I will go to sit in Kenya and do nothing. That will also help me to know how to handle the issue. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mumbi. There are Members I have appointed to speak to this Motion. Hon. Chris, please proceed.

Mr. Chris Opoka-Okumu (Uganda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Motion was very timely and the Council of Ministers should appreciate the importance of what Members have been saying about paying attention to the work of the Community. Partner States took time to revive this Community for a purpose. If the Community is to serve the people of East Africa, it should be well funded.

The alternative funding mechanism that is being urged in Paragraph 2 was talked about in 2013. I have a statement by the former Secretary General about even considering imports of different Partner States and one per cent of the budget of Partner States for funding of the Community. Now you can see how the Community's work has been interrupted in the past two months.

The Council is seeking postponement of debate on this Motion. Although the Council is seeking postponement up to November, which is a long period of time, what is going to happen, as Hon. Mumbi said, in between the time on the activities of the Community? I would be inclined to accept the Motion for postponement on the basis that definitely, discussing the very bad affairs of the Community publicly here would put the Community's image in bad repute to the public. All of us who are interested in the success of the Community would not want to subject it to that but not based on some meeting sometimes in November. So, if there is a better clarification on the purpose for postponement, I would support it on that basis alone.

The Speaker: Thank you Hon. Chris Opoka.

I had given the order of speaking. Hon. Dr. Ndahiro, I have seen you but I had already given out the order of speaking. Let us have Hon. Mbidde, Hon. Ogle and then I will come back to you. We are speaking to the Motion moved by the Chair of the Council of Ministers under Rule 30(c).

Mr. Mbidde: Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I commence my submission in opposition to a Motion seeking to adjourn the debate before this august House, permit me to read Article 49(2) (d) of the Treaty. This is an Article to do with functions of this Assembly, which is:

- (d) “To discuss matters pertaining to the Community and to make recommendations to the Council as it may deem necessary for the implementation of the Treaty.”

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the debate before this august House cannot be adjourned by merely citing a possibility of any other meeting of the Council. In any case, such a debate would be intended to enrich the particulars that would be considered in any other meeting of such Council that would sit in the circumstances.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, when you look at the Motion, you will see that it has two limbs. There is a limb where a Summit is required to expedite the implementation of alternative measures for funding of the Community. The second limb is for purposes of making sure Partner States that are tainted with the liability for purposes of remittances to the operations of the EAC under Articles so considered, submitted and proposed by the Mover of the Motion such as Articles 143 and 146 ought to be considered. A debate of that nature seeks to enrich all such meetings about to happen having the background of what the Assembly has gone through, if such a debate

is hampered and tainted with any estoppel, it amounts to an act of rascality by the House. It will amount to a *haremos* calm act of political *gambadoism* - (*Laughter*).

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is not a matter that this august House can sit and accept. Any attempt to adjourn such a debate, in my opinion, is construed as unjust. When you look at the performance and the functions of the Assembly, we are the organ in the whole world whose Members were elected to further integration affairs. All the other organs are made up of those who were appointed or elected to lead the Partner States. None of those has the imprimatur of the people of East Africa to particularly directly deal with affairs to do with integration and cooperation. Therefore, when we are considering a matter of this nature, any act intending to delay us amounts to an indirect amendment of the Treaty. That is unjust to the extent that this august House should avoid such inconsistency.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I pray that we go ahead with the debate. I oppose the Motion.

The Speaker: Thank Hon. Mbidde. Hon. Ogle.

Mr. Ogle: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will be very brief. To paraphrase William Shakespeare, health has no fury like members' scorn. I think they brought us to that level. My worry is that in seconding the proposal to defer this Motion, the Rt. Hon. Deputy Prime Minister from Uganda alluded to the fact that in pursuing this Motion, we are likely to antagonize a potential meeting of the Council, which is to take place sometimes next week or in November. To me, that was admonishing some kind of threat to this House. I take exception to that and we will not be threatened by the fact that we will antagonize this or that. This House is

supreme, autonomous and independent. The only time we are unable to discuss a matter is when it is before a court of law or *sub judice*. Short of that, it does not matter whether we antagonize you or the Summit meeting. We will continue to do our business, as we should.

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ogle. We will have Hon. Dr. Ndahiro, Hon. Sarah and then Hon. Ngoga.

Dr. James Ndahiro (Rwanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I support the Motion moved by the Minister on the following conditions. First, if they are not prepared to respond to issues they have not heard and they want to postpone to tomorrow so that they can have time, I will support if that is the case but it should go beyond tomorrow. Secondly, I would like them to clarify a few issues before I take the final position.

Are we talking about alternative funding mechanisms, or has it changed to sustainable financing mechanisms? I just want to know that because I have seen different documents saying and prescribing different things.

Secondly, this Motion highlights two or three different things. First, it highlights Treaty issues or related matters which, to me, we have the obligation to protect the Treaty. It will and should not offend anybody if we hold people, institutions or states accountable because that is our mandate.

Thirdly, the Motion touches on managerial issues. We are charged with the obligation to represent the people of East Africa. Therefore, we cannot allow mismanagement of any kind in the integration process and keep quiet.

Fourthly, this Motion touches on issues of rights and obligations of both Members and

Partner States and institutions. We cannot look at them and just hope that other organs will discuss them. Why do we trust that these issues are best resolved when the other organ is not near? We can also contribute and assist because we are also affected by poor and bad decisions made in the integration process.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, therefore, if the Council is seeking for adjournment so that they can reflect on the Motion and prepare for the debate tomorrow, I will support them a hundred per cent. However, if it is a delaying tactic just to avoid debate--- By the way, one time, I was told that clever people debate but wise people avoid debate but I do not know which is which. So, I am willing to support the Motion if they want time until tomorrow so that they are better prepared to debate on this Motion.

The Speaker: I will allow two more Members to say something briefly then we will dispose of the Minister's Motion. Now that we have four Members who are interested to speak, - let them have three minutes each before we dispose of the Motion. These are Hon. Sarah, Hon. Patricia, Hon. Martin Ngoga and Hon. Sebalu and then I will get back to the Minister.

Ms. Sarah Bonaya (Kenya): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I oppose the Motion seeking to adjourn debate. I congratulate Hon. Pareno, in her wisdom, for thinking of bringing the important Motion to this august House. It is actually sad that we had to wait until this hour when we are on our knees to bring this important Motion. Our Executive should not make the last minute effort, which might not bear fruits and assure us that things will be sorted out on matters, which should have happened very many years ago. History will judge this House harshly if we fail in our oversight responsibility and if our voice is not

heard on this very critical and weighty issue that affects our Community.

Ms. Hajabakiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I also stand to oppose the Motion by the Minister unless if it is a matter of hours because we are towards the end but I do not see anything new. We have had Motions and questions on the matter consistently for the past two years and the Council of Ministers has been assuring us that they will look into it. *(Interruption)*

The Speaker: Honourable Member, move on a procedural Motion.

Mr. Abdullah Ally Hassan Mwinyi (Tanzania): Mr. Speaker, Sir, according to Rule 11 of our Rules of Procedure, there are appointed times in which this Assembly can debate. Rule 11(1) stipulates, amongst others, that we shall conclude by 6.30 p.m. Therefore, I am moving under Rule 30(d), which reads “*any Motion for the suspension of any of these Rules*”.

I am moving for a temporary suspension of Rule 11 to allow us to continue our debate until we finalise - *(Applause)*.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move.

The Speaker: Seconders? Hon. Mathuki and all the Members standing.

The Motion is that we extend our sitting beyond 6.30 p.m.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Speaker: We will extend for 30 minutes only.
Hon. Patricia, proceed.

(Resumption of debate)

Ms. Hajabakiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will be very brief now that we are almost time bad. We can only allow the Council of Ministers up to tomorrow for them to consult. If there is any response, which they would like to give on the matter, they can do it tomorrow instead of asking us to postpone debate up to November.

Although I am not debating on the initial Motion by Hon. Pareno, allow me to say that the issue of alternative funding, or whatever you may call it, has been on the agenda of this Community for almost 8 year. When I joined EALA in 2008, they were already discussing the issue of alternative funding. Probably, the reason why it has not been done is that this House has never engaged the Summit. I congratulate my colleague, Hon. Pareno, because this time round we want to address the Summit directly. This is because we have asked the Council very many times on this issue but they have never responded. Therefore, we should not allow it any more unless if it is just to give them time to give proper information. If that is the case then they should do that tomorrow.

The Speaker: Thank you.

Hon. Martin Ngoga.

Mr. Martin Ngoga (Rwanda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, because I have been in court very many times, it is only extreme cases where a request to prepare for something is denied. I would not oppose the Motion by the Minister. I support the idea that they are given time. However, having said that, I thank Hon. Pareno because this Motion raises very fundamental issues that everyone has been talking about and you are creating an opportunity for the matters to be discussed. So, this is a request for adjournment but it is not a request for suppression of debate. The question is; when will we debate it. That is a

matter for the Speaker to decide. (*Loud consultations*)

This is my time and I think everybody will be given time to express his or her opinion. My view is that we allow the Council time to prepare and at an appropriate moment, in the wisdom of the Speaker, this matter can be discussed again. I do not think much will be lost in terms of what we want to achieve. It is just unfortunate that this matter has come after a certain situation. Otherwise, the Motion raises issues that are long term in nature. The issue of sustainable financing is not an incidental issue because we have been talking about this matter. So, we should not be - (*Interruption*) -

Ms. Hajabakiga: On a point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, the hon. Ngoga should clarify on for how long the Motion should be postponed because the issue is about time. Is he supporting that we adjourn until November, or what timeframe is he talking about? I think that is where the issue is.

The Speaker: The issue of adjournment for how long cannot be answered by Hon. Ngoga but it will be answered by the Mover of the Motion. The first person to ask that question was Hon. Mumbi and many honourable Members have put questions to the Honourable Minister. Therefore, you must not leave it vaguely like that. What is your prayers or for how long? That will guide you in your response.

Mr. Mathuki: Point of clarification, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Is Hon. Ngoga aware that the Community is in ICU and, therefore, it will be difficult to proceed under these circumstances? Therefore, it is important that this matter is addressed now.

The Speaker: Hon. Martin, you need to clarify.

Mr. Ngoga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, despite the fact that - (*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: Hon. Dr. Ndahiro, could you just allow him to answer the clarification of Hon. Mathuki regarding the Community being in ICU before you rise? Hon. Martin, proceed.

Mr. Ngoga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the time I have been here, I have never heard of our Community being in ICU. So, I need a definition of that before I answer.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, despite the fact that I support the Motion, the Council should have prepared a briefing on the situation we have been through without waiting for any prompting from the honourable Members. So, the Council lost that opportunity. We have been in a situation that merited a proper briefing before we started our business today but the Council did not do that. In my view, that opportunity was lost. We do not whether, in the opinion of the Council, they thought it was not weighty enough to require that kind of attention. That is my observation but still it will not deter me from supporting the Motion.

The Speaker: Hon. (Dr.) Ndahiro, you have already spoken to this Motion and our rules do not allow you to speak twice. You will speak to the main Motion later.

Mr. Sebalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, my view is that the original Motion is in the interest of the entire Community including the Council of Ministers. Their intention to move with the view of adjourning debate needs to be looked at from a viewpoint of whether they consider giving a timeframe. That is in case it is found desirable so that it is qualified, the intentions are well defined and well appreciated, and that can be a basis of engagement. Short of

that, I would like the Council of Ministers to also consider the following.

As Hon. Martin has indicated, definitely this Motion comes to fill a vacuum that was created in terms of communicating the progress of undertakings being made at the Executive level. With good communication in time, it would not have been necessary for Hon. Pareno's Motion to be moved. However, the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers should answer the following and I would like these questions to be looked at from a rhetoric angle. Are we managing a normal situation? Are the Ministers comfortable with the state of affairs? Does the Council of Ministers stand to benefit from the outcome of this debate in terms of well-grounded justification that they can use in the meeting slated for November? Do they not stand to benefit from the collective outcome of synergy in terms of collective ideas not of EALA alone but the entire Community's information?

Mr. Mulengani: Point of information, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Hon. Sebalu represented the Assembly in the Budget Summit and I have some information for him and Members. The only formal and official way Parliament can express itself and its decision to the Council and the Summit is during plenary. This is the only opportunity that we can put together our minds about the situation pertaining in the Community, and to advise the Council to pick what they feel is relevant for their meetings. This is the only opportunity we have. Short of that, we shall be on hearsay. Are they telling us that our contribution to what they intent to discuss in the Council and the Summit is irrelevant?

The Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mulengani.

Hon. Sebalu, proceed.

Mr. Sebalu: Mr. Speaker, Sir, his contribution supplements my viewpoint. My brother very well debated the question I was asking. I asked whether the Council of Ministers stand to benefit from the outcome of this debate in terms of making a well-grounded justification to the meeting scheduled for November.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I believe that this House has made the intervention based on goodwill for purposes of mutual benefit. The situation we are managing is dicey and we need to give it a proper attention in a manner that is mutually beneficial to the region.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, thank you.

The Speaker: It will be very unfair for me not to give Hon. Judith Pareno, whose Motion is being sort to be suspended, time to contribute.

Ms. Pareno: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Motion by the Chair of the Council of Ministers for the following reasons. If I look at the grounds that have been set forth as to why we are seeking an adjournment...In fact, she used words used like "you do not need time to debate this because it is somewhere else..." "let it not appear like it is a fight".

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think we are looking at the Motion from different perspectives. This Assembly has spoken about the issue of financing the Community several times. This Assembly has asked questions several times. Committees have pronounced themselves on alternative funding mechanisms several times. The Summit has pronounced itself on its directive from 2013 up to now. There has been a halt on the activities of the Community for the past one month, unless they want to tell me there is no such a thing but for the

Assembly, we did not operate because there was no funding.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Hon. Deputy Prime Minister actually said she is seeking for adjournment because she had just seen the notice. This being an urgent matter of public importance, it should have been responded to even without notice. This is such an urgent Motion that can be responded to even without notice.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am not sure whether the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers is aware that we have been shuttling for the past one month following up on the issue of funding. We have met our PSs, CSs and Ministries as Members of each chapter because of the crisis we have in the Community. If they are not aware, that is what we have been doing, subject and pursuant to communication that we got from the EAC Secretariat that there was no funding and subject to our returning from Kigali on an activity because the funding was not enough to enable us complete that activity.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in summary, what are we asking for in the Motion that is worth an adjournment? What are we praying for? We are urging the Summit to direct that the Council of Ministers hold an urgent special meeting. Is that something that can call for an adjournment? Do we not need special meetings because of the urgency of this matter? Secondly, what are we asking for in number two? That, they implement the Summit directive on alternative or sustainable funding mechanism. Is that too much to ask to warrant the Council to ask for adjournment?

Thirdly, we want the Summit to direct the Council of Ministers to recommend sanctions according to Article 143 of the EAC Treaty. We have not made it and I have not made it.

The Community made that provision. We are asking them to implement the provisions of the Treaty. If somebody did not want these sanctions, then it should not have been in the Treaty. We are simply invoking the provisions of the Treaty.

The Speaker: Hon. Pareno, do not justify your Motion. Just go ahead and oppose the Motion of the Minister.

Ms. Pareno: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue is; are the prayers worth an adjournment? We are asking them to have a meeting and implement what has been directed by the Summit. We are asking them to do what the Treaty has provided for which they have not done since 2014.

I rest my case. I oppose their prayer for adjournment.

The Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Pareno. Let me now invite the Chair of the Council of Ministers to respond to the debate on specific terms concerning the open-ended suspension as raised by Hon. Mumbi, Hon. Martin and all the Members. That should be responded to before I put the matter to vote.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank all the honourable MPs who contributed to the Motion I moved. I know that three quarters of Members opposed the Motion and I understand. It does not mean they are doing a bad job but I know they opposed because they are trying to assist the Council of Ministers do its work. I also support them because they are also supporting the Council to do its work - *(Applause)*.

Secondly, several MPs wanted to know about the timeframe. As I said in the beginning, it will be adjourned until November. I have been discussing with the Secretary General of the Community about our next meeting. The reason I did that is that one Member said that they have been moving from one capital to another to meet PSs and Ministers. Even the Hon. Speaker, the Head of the Summit and I have done so. The Secretary General was also doing the same job. So, we have been doing the same thing but we thank honourable MPs for supporting ideas to ensure - *(Interruption)*

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The Speaker: Honourable Members, Hon. Patricia is raising on a clarification.

Ms. Hajabakiga: Mr. Speaker, Sir, point of clarification. What the Minister is raising makes me get worried because if the Chair of the Summit, the Council and Members are concerned, who is in charge of this Community?

The Speaker: I hope the Minister will answer that.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) Ex-Officio: Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I respond to Hon. Patricia's question.

I said that the Head of the Summit is also concerned in mobilizing resources and that is why you are here now and you will have all your meetings, including committee meetings during November sessions.

Before I moved the Motion to adjourn debate, I was supposed to say what member states have contributed but because I did not want to go into details, I decided to seek for adjournment for the reasons I said.

Concerning the issue of time frame, or when we will give full information on what is going on, that will be in November. If I say tomorrow or next week and fail to bring the information here, it will be like trying to use your time badly and that is disrespect to you. I should promise something, which can be done. That is why I am saying that it will be in November because at least I know that the EAC Ministers will be meeting after knowing who the Minister from Rwanda is because they have changed.

Regarding whether we know that the Community has a problem concerning contributions, all of us here know that because we have been calling each other to ensure that money is paid. Before I end, I will give you the feedback because we did not want to talk about what is included in your Motion concerning the data. I know that you had the data but you do not have the current data of last week. When we met in June, I informed you that we would make sure that we follow up and member states should contribute and complete their contributions. I will give you the statistics. Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda do not have any arrears. Burundi has a balance of 2,810,750. Rwanda has made all her contributions for the financial year.

I informed you that we had an extraordinary meeting about six days ago. That was last week on Thursday. In the meeting, we agreed that all member states with balances should finish their contributions and begin making new ones in this quarter. In this quarter of the 2016/2017 Financial Year, Kenya has paid USD2,369,509, Tanzania has paid USD558,287, Uganda has paid USD2,209,712. So far, Rwanda and Burundi have not contributed anything this calendar year and they are still have arrears.

During the debate, I consulted with the Secretary General because I wanted to be sure that your work and activities of the committees go on and meetings do not stall. The Hon. Speaker wrote to the Chair of the Council of Ministers informing me on the status of the funds which could be used to assist you in doing your committee work. I called the Secretary General who informed me about that and we talked a lot. I gave him the strategies and that is why we have some money but we are still working on that.

Hon. MPs, I respect you and I know that you also respect us but we all working on the same issue. We want to ensure that the Community does not fail but it should work and go forward. I appreciate that you have contributed a lot in making sure that the Community goes in the right direction. I still beg you to support my Motion - *(Interruption)*.

The Minister in the Office of the President for EAC Affairs, Burundi (Ms. Leontine Nzeyimana) (Ex-Officio Member): On a Point of information, Mr. Speaker, in Burundi, our financial year starts in January. That means that our financial year has not yet ended. We have a budget, which is in line with that, but the only problem is because the EAC budget is not in line with ours. That is why we are trying to make sure that we finish the balance at the end of this financial year, which will start in January.

The Speaker: Honourable Minister, proceed.

The Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr. Suzan Kolimba) (Ex-Officio): In addition to what the Hon. Minister from Burundi has said, I assure you that we are going to work day and

night to ensure that the Community does not fall but moves forward.

Honourable Members, I urge you to support my Motion. I beg to move that we adjourn the debate until November.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, the Chair of the Council of Ministers.

Honourable Members, the Motion before this House as moved by the Hon. Minister under the Rule 30(c) is that debate on the Motion by Hon. Pareno be adjourned. She has now said that the Motion be adjourned to November. I will put the question to this Motion as moved by the Minister.

(Question put and the House divided)

The Speaker: This is a critical matter. I invite the Sergeant-at-Arms to count.

Let those on the left side of the Chamber in favour of the Motion put up their hands. Hon. Dr. Ndahiro, you are on my left. So, you are voting either now or later.

Now, those on the right side in favour of the Motion to put up their hands. Thank you.

Back to my left, those against the Minister's prayers in her Motion to up their hands up. Those who are voting now are voting against the Minister's Motion.

On my right now, those who are voting against the honourable Minister's Motion should put their hands up.

Let those who are abstaining from voting put their hands up. We have Hon. Makongoro – *(Loud Consultations)*. Honourable Members, do not make the work of the Speaker very difficult. There are three categories of voters and that is why we sit in this Chambers. You

should either vote “Yes”, “No” or “Abstain” and you must raise your hand up if you have abstained because you cannot be a nonentity. In every voting situation, there are spoilt ballot papers.

THE ASSEMBLY IN DIVISION

The House divided:

Ayes	– 12
Noes	– 15
Abstentions	- 1

The Speaker: These are the results. Those in support of the Motion as moved by the Minister are 12, those against are 15 and abstention is one. The rest who were present did not vote, and we will consider those as spoilt votes.

(Question put and negatived)

The Speaker: Honourable Members, you are now aware that we will proceed with the debate on the Motion as moved by Hon. Pareno. However, based on our rules and the extension of time as was given to us, I will adjourn the House until tomorrow.

Mr. Ogle: Mr. Speaker, before you adjourn, I have a further question to a request, which was made by Hon. Mulengani. Since the matter that we shall be discussing in this Motion touches on managerial and leadership issues, could the Speaker, therefore, guarantee that the CEO of the Community shall be available tomorrow when the debate is on?

The Speaker: Hon. Ogle, Secretary General is right in the House and he is a Member of this Assembly. I do not have any excuse from him that he will be away tomorrow. So, you do not need to express any worry.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Speaker: Honourable Members, before I adjourn the House, I have the following announcements. First, we are left with only two months to the Inter-parliamentary Games. We are constrained by very many factors to have our practice and friendly matches. So, I call upon Members to continue training while we are here. Enjoy the beach to get fitness in preparation for sports, which will be in November. The Office of the Clerk will continue coordinating training of the different sporting items while we are here.

Finally, your documents, which are long overdue, are ready in the Office of Madam Abela. Those who have not yet received their documents should kindly pass there to collect them.

I thank you very much.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow at 2.30 p.m.

(The Assembly rose at 7.00 p.m. and adjourned until Thursday, 13 October 2016 at 2.30 p.m.)