



## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

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

24<sup>TH</sup> SITTING – FRST ASSEMBLY: THIRD MEETING – SECOND SESSION

Thursday, 15 May 2003

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 9.00 a.m. at the Chamber of the Assembly, Ngorongoro Wing, Sixth Floor, AICC Complex, Arusha*

### PRAYERS

*[The Speaker, Hon. Abdulrahman Kinana, in the Chair]*

*The Assembly was called to Order.*

#### NOTICE OF MOTION

**Mr Jared Kangwana (Kenya):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:

That this House grants me leave to introduce a Private Members' Bill entitled the Acts of the East African Legislative Assembly Bill, 2003.

#### MOTION

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, you will notice that we were going to have two motions presented here, one from hon. Ogalo and the other one from hon. Kanyomozi. Hon. Ogalo's Motion does not exist any more and the second motion would have been hon. Kanyomozi's, and I think he was assuming that hon. Ogalo's Motion would come first and he would, therefore, have enough time to do some last minute reading. So, I suspend the House for a few minutes until hon. Kanyomozi arrives. I did not

want to delay the House because I do not want to introduce any culture of lateness. I now suspend the House for a few minutes until hon. Kanyomozi appears, and you will be recalled.

*[The House was suspended at 9.05 a.m. and resumed at 9.10 a.m.]*

*[On resumption\_]*

*[The Speaker, Mr Kinana, in the Chair]*

#### MOTION

**Mr Yonasani Kanyomozi (Uganda):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Motion:

THAT this Assembly:

NOTING THAT Article 74 of the Treaty stipulates that "the Partner States shall develop and adopt an East African Trade Regime and co-operate in trade liberalisation and development in accordance therewith";

AND THAT the Partner States signed Understanding on foreign policy in 2000;

AWARE THAT the Summit at its first extraordinary summit of the East African Community heads of state sitting at Kampala International Conference Centre on 11 May 2002 directed that matters pertaining to participation in World Trade Organisation and ACP/EU arrangements (under the Cotonou Partnership Arrangement between the ACP Group of States and the European Community) the Partner States should negotiate as a bloc;

FURTHER AWARE that so far no steps have been taken to put this directive in effect and each Partner State is preparing separate delegations to negotiate,

NOW THEREFORE do resolve as follows: That,

1. The Council of Ministers seeks accreditation of EAC as a negotiating bloc;
2. The Council of Ministers cause to be drawn the terms of reference, which terms it will avail to Partner States on naming the negotiating team;
3. The Council of Ministers at its next meeting do name the East African team that will represent the Partner States at the above mentioned meetings and negotiations;
4. The EAC Secretariat acts as the co-ordinating centre for the negotiating team; and
5. The Council of Ministers causes to be prepared a budget for the aforementioned purpose to be laid before the Assembly for consideration.

the EAC Memorandum of Mr. Speaker, Sir, before I debate any further, I want to clarify to honourable members that when I talk of the next meeting, this was a general directive given to the East African Countries so that they can go a step further and start sending delegations as a bloc.

In addition, looking at the practice of other economic blocs, the accreditation of East African Community does not in any way deter Partner States from sending their own delegations. This should be taken into account, lest people misunderstand what is going on. The European Community, for example, sends an EU delegation to this meeting. At the same time, individual countries send their delegations.

Secondly, it would help in future, when we have co-ordination, to spread our people in all the committees. The WTO and the ACPE/EU have several committees. In order to be able to cover ourselves as a bloc, we need so many people going and we would even do that better if we have a co-ordinated approach.

Thirdly, we would be in a better position to deal with problems that may arise so that we are not left out. For example, in the ACP/EU Arrangements now, there is this division that is being proposed about leaving Kenya outside the norm of things because Uganda and Tanzania are considered as least developed countries, while Kenya is considered as developing, and yet we are a bloc. If we want to move on with Kenya as part of the Community, we want to be treated equally. We cannot afford to leave Kenya out, while Uganda and Tanzania negotiate as one.

Furthermore, I would like to propose to the members that when this step has been taken, it would consolidate the integration process. This is because we will be negotiating as one unit. It will help us to move faster. Members will remember, as I said in 2000, the countries signed a Foreign Affairs Policy Memorandum.

That policy stipulates that we all work together; we have a common foreign policy. One of the main things is to encourage trade as a bloc. If we do that, I think we will move very fast as we shall present ourselves in those forums as a unit to be reckoned with.

I do not want to say more than that. With those few words, I hope the House will support the resolution - *(Applause)*.

**Ms Rose Waruhiu (Kenya)** seconded.

*(Question proposed)*

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, before I allow anyone to speak, let me refer honourable members to part 8 of our Rules on Motions and Amendments, and Rule 26 on Notice(s) of Motion(s), which reads:

“If the Speaker is of the opinion that any proposed Motion\_

- (a) is likely to infringe any of the provisions of these rules or the Treaty;
- (b) is contrary to morality and justice;
- (c) is too long;
- (d) is framed in terms, which are inconsistent with the dignity of the House;
- (e) contains or implies allegations which the

Speaker is not satisfied that the mover can substantiate; and,

- (f) calls for the commitment of funds for which no provision is made in the annual estimates adopted by the Assembly

**Ms Rose Waruhiu (Kenya):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in seconding this Motion, I would like to pay tribute to the Summit for taking up the issue of trade as a priority because this Community is particularly based on trade. All our three Partner States recognise that trade is the entry point of this Community. It is the opening up of trade that gave the idea that we could form the Community again, very much aware of the benefits that are bound to accrue from the Community.

So, what the Summit has done is to lead the way in thinking through on how we can begin to take advantage of our revived Community.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) is a very complex system with a myriad of rules and regulations. The preparations of delegations, therefore, is what I would like to emphasise that as a bloc, should be done in advance. I agree entirely that we can all have different delegations, but it will not be as in the past where you arrive in a foreign capital and then you are walking the floor and trying to get to know your other delegates from your region.

If we take the idea of working as a bloc seriously, it means that we would engage in preparing these delegations in advance in our own countries so that by the time they arrive for these meetings, they have a position, they know each others' skills and strengths

and, therefore, we will stand to benefit by having the negotiations for the bloc by people who have been prepared together.

In other words, I am saying that in supporting the suggestion that the teams be named early, I am also going further to suggest that this is beneficial in terms of whatever preparations are required. These preparations include very complicated calculations on trade figures, the various models that many of us coming as we do from poor countries have not had the benefit to use to calculate the benefits that can accrue to us from WTO. The team will therefore have to work on anticipating the benefits, arguments and be prepared to defend the position of this region as required.

We should be very happy that we have very able human resources in this region: We have people who are very competent, and our performance in these negotiations will improve as long as we go as a bloc.

The idea of sending different delegations should not be a matter of contention. By accepting to join the Community, our Partner States must accept that we do have to surrender some sovereignty. It is a very difficult topic but this is the truth. We are saying that any delegation that goes from this region will go as a delegation of East African, and our duty is to encourage our members to think as East Africans. It should start with this House so that when you draw a map.

Those of you who went to school, I know you know how to draw the map of your country. If you are a Kenyan you can draw the map of Kenya without referring to – (*Interjection*) -

**Mr Jared Kangwana (Kenya):** Mr. Speaker, is the honourable member in order to imply that some members of this august House never went to school?

**Ms Waruhiu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am really grateful that people went to school, but they did not read geography or they did not learn how to draw maps. So, I was talking about the ability to draw a map so that if you are a Ugandan you know how to draw the map of Uganda. I am saying that now all of us are East Africans, the map in the back of your head should not see those internal boundaries. I think we should run a contest among members of who can produce the map of East Africa without the internal boundaries, and then we can see who went to school.

In other words, vision is important. What do you see when you say you are an East African? It means that you can go out and be able to think East African and having that visual picture in our minds is very important. But more significantly, it also means that having a common delegation will save costs for us.

I do not know how big other delegations are, but I have noticed in Kenya that delegations to WTO sometimes are as big as 15 to 20 people because of the intricate topics that come under these rules. So, if we were to compose delegations together, this would be a great saving on costs. As I have already said, we are not short on human resources. We can take the advantage to compose delegations that are very well balanced, and also bring along all the skills and qualities we need.

I want to say something about development. Whether the world

classifies our countries as least developed or developing, in reality, looking at our countries, we are at very similar stages of development. The long time we spend looking at our differences of who is more developed than the other means we are losing the point, which is that if we have to go to world meetings, we need to go as countries that have a common need to develop.

In other words, do not rest on your laurels by saying that you are not a developing country, not least developed when the level of poverty is still very high. If you say Kenya is a developing country, you fail to recognise that 57% of its population lives below the poverty line. So, if you assess the wealth of a nation by just looking at per capita figures or average incomes of a country, you fail to see the discrepancies in income.

It is not just in WTO that we look forward to working as a bloc. It is in working with all other development partners and in meetings with development agencies that we begin to embrace each other's levels of need. In the Bible, they talk about being your brother's keeper. Going to the earlier example, I am saying that we become each other's sister or brother.

In other words, it is your responsibility, whether you come from Uganda, Kenya or Tanzania, to understand and appreciate the development needs of the people we represent in this Assembly. So, the idea of going out as a bloc should include preparation of our delegation so that they become our common ambassadors and carry with them the aspirations and statements that we would like made at all these different forums.

I wanted also to say that I only learnt about this Motion yesterday, and I was obliged by two reasons to second it. The first is that I belong to the Trade Committee and secondly, hon. Kanyomozi is my *muthoniwa* – (*Interjection*) -

**Mr Abdi (Kenya):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the honourable member to use a foreign language in the House? (*Laughter*)

**The Speaker:** It is not proper for a language that is not recognised by the Treaty to be used in the House.

**Ms Waruhiu:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am much obliged. But, before that I was talking about how you become your brother's keeper. It means that the connection you feel to your fellow Ugandans or Tanzanians starts at the family. So I want to extend that argument that you become your brother's keeper and bear responsibility for each other.

The word I used is very important. I will not repeat it on the Floor but where I come from, family ties bind you sometimes. If in fact these ties include inter-marriage, we say in my tribe that it is only your relative by marriage who will come to your defence if you are attacked by a leopard. In other words, if you are facing danger, you can rely on your relative to help. So, we will extend these family ties to our negotiations and building our teams when we go to meetings.

I am not encouraging "clanism" or tribalism, but I am recognising that the bonds that tie us together are part of the assets that we bring to this House. I was only explaining why I was very happy to second this Motion. Some years ago, hon. Kanyomozi walked to

the hills of Othaya, Kenya and took with him a lady to the hills of Kasese in Western Uganda. So, he is a true East African.

The process of integration is a serious topic, and all our debates reflect our need to drive this process. This is one of the best places to start. If in fact we can implement the decision of the Summit by following the suggestions in this Motion, we will begin to rehearse what it takes to be one. Since the approval has already been given by the decision of the Summit, we will begin to move together and begin to experience what we are anticipating.

The signing of a Customs Union protocol, or the signing of a law is a technical event where you put on paper what you believe and what you have been negotiating. So, we do not have to wait until all these laws are down on paper to be able to move together in this area of trade where the benefits that can accrue to us are very visible.

With those remarks, I beg to second.

**Amb. Isaac Sepetu (Tanzania):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, for giving me the Floor. I would like, at the outset, to declare my interest of supporting this Motion. In doing so, I would like to commend the mover of the Motion for his foresight and the initiative he took in this connection to bring this Motion before this House because of its importance. Equally, I would like to commend the Summit's vision on making the decision of having to carry out negotiations with the World Trade Organisation as a bloc of the region.

There is a saying in Kiswahili that *umoya ni nguvu, utengano ni udhaifu*. This means that there is strength in unity. Therefore, there is a need to

implement this decision as suggested by this Motion. Our region needs to negotiate and move as a bloc in all international matters affecting our region. This should not only be restricted to the UN institutions such as UNESCO, Habitat and so forth, but it must include all areas.

We have a history in this field where our countries, during the Cold War, negotiated and discussed international issues as a bloc of Non-Aligned Movement, Group of 77 and so forth. So really, this move of ours in the region can also make a great contribution towards the spirit of African unity.

I find the resolutions contained in those five points to be straightforward and very clear. I would like only to add that when the negotiating team is being formed, it should take into account all stakeholders, including this Assembly. Since the Motion is straightforward, I do not want to dwell further on this, but to declare that I support the Motion.

**Mr Ochieng-Mbeo (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate hon. Kanyomozi for bringing this Motion to the House. I must first of all say that it is better late than never. The Motion is very well intended. We only wish we had brought this Motion as early as last year so as to be able to fit exactly in the process that is going on right now in globalisation. However, it is now before us, and I believe that what is going to come out of it will be a reflection of what ought to have happened. And at the same time, it will get heads cracking on what else should happen from now on.

I believe that to the three leaders, the then three Heads of State before our

new beloved President of Kenya, Mr. Mwai Kibaki came on board, that vision of uniting the three East African States to negotiate and operate as a bloc had already been envisaged, and they had expressed it several times.

I feel constrained because every time we talk about East Africa, we end up at the Community, with nothing else but a shell! All the negotiations take place elsewhere and the East Africanness disappears. It is common knowledge. I believe this Motion, if adopted, will move us several steps ahead in the kind of integration we have been looking for.

Just last year, the Earth Summit was held in South Africa. The East African Community went down to this conference. I read it amazingly and amusingly during the report to this House by the Chairman of Council, that that is where we got all the big monies, from Norway and other countries, to fund the Lake Victoria Development Programme.

The truth of the matter is that the Community did not even have accreditation to that meeting. They sat among the Ugandan group simply because the Secretary General is from Uganda. That is how they got the chance to even be heard. These are saddening issues.

The African Union has been transformed, but there is no "East Africanness" in the African Union. The three countries of the Community are still there as individual countries, and yet there is a headquarters here, a white elephant, which we are looking at as our regional co-ordinating body. Nobody is there as representing the interests of a collective East Africa. I believe this is a situation that is caused

by greed. Nobody wants to let anything go.

We are now headed for WTO as hon. Irene Ovonji has just mentioned. It is a concern to all of us when we hear workshops are being held all over East Africa. We are trying to get a common position, and yet up to now, nobody is seriously presenting the East African agenda. It is by chance and through the foresightedness of Kenya's Minister for Trade, after seeing what is going on, that he has kindly agreed to call all the three East African countries to Nairobi to sit and try to have a document that represents East Africans so that we can go there as a bloc. Just to try! In other words, there is something wrong here, and it must be properly addressed.

What brings us together is when the donors insist that we must operate as a bloc and the monies come in through the Secretariat of the Community; like the road network programme. That is when you see all the ministers rushing to Arusha to come and collect the money to spend. That is what it is. Those tenders will not even be opened in Arusha and we do not even have the capacity to do that – (*Interjection*).

**Ms Kawamara Mishambi (Uganda):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, is it in order for the honourable member to make those allegations against our ministers without substantiating?

**Mr Ochieng-Mbeo:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, if it is a matter of concern to this House that my statement is causing some ripples, I withdraw and apologise, but you have at least heard me. It is true that the donors for East Africa propose a road network through a basket. Right at the Secretariat level, we only have one consultant going to handle all these billions of shillings

that is going to be brought into these countries for this project.

I was saying that we do not even have the capacity, which means there is no foresightedness to involve the total community. We cannot separate what happens in Arusha with what happens in our home countries! It is getting more difficult as we go by.

It shows very clearly, even on the budget speech read by the Chairman of the Council that even at this level, we have no plans of beefing up various sectors within the Secretariat that can help us grow. Even if we wanted to go for those meetings and participate as a team, we have skeleton staff here.

My suggestion is that since we also want to operate as a bloc and nobody wants to produce any money, we need to convince the Partner States to second those staff they believe can work here, at their cost to help the situation we are in here because this is a desperate situation. So, if we are going to meaningfully talk about being represented and operating as a bloc in various world organisations, somehow there must be a will, and it is a free will.

Let the Partner States bring their staff here. I believe Kenya's Ministry of Public Works and Housing has indicated willingness to second staff to help the situation at the Community level. If this could be followed up, I believe we would see the beginning of what we are looking for.

There is no way we can talk about ACP/EU or WTO when just two months ago, a big conference was held in one of the Caribbean countries and the Secretariat was not even represented. Why? They were not needed there. Why? There were no funds. Why? The Partner States did not

give any money towards that. Why? I could go on with the whys and get no answer. It is a vicious circle. It goes back to greed.

I would like to end my short speech by saying I support this Motion.

**Lt. Gen. Abdullahi Adan (Kenya):**

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. May I join my colleagues in congratulating hon. Kanyomozi for presenting this Motion to the House? However, I would like to make the following observations.

In this Motion it is provided that the terms of reference be drawn against the names and presented to the Partner States during the next meeting of the Council of Ministers. This, to my mind imposes an impossible constraint on the Council of Ministers, first to draw the terms of reference and secondly to present it to Partner States and thirdly to have a team named during that meeting. I believe that these constraints should be removed and the Council of Ministers accorded ample time to draw the terms of reference to identify and name the negotiating teams, and the opportune time to present it to the Partner States.

Having said that, in the general spirit, I support the Motion that where it is possible, the necessary time and opportunity be accorded to the Council of Ministers so that the process of initiating the negotiating team for the East African Community as a whole should be started.

I also observe the burden on the East African Community Secretariat to act as a co-ordinating centre. We have been arguing about the staffing at the Secretariat, even to meet the demands of this Assembly. So, I believe first and foremost that there are matters to be addressed before this burden can be



placed on the Secretariat. While I support the Motion in principle, I think there are issues that must be looked at in detail before we have this Motion passed.

With amendments, if implemented, I do support the Motion.

**Ms Ovonji-Odida (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The points I want to raise do support the spirit of this Motion. I apologise for raising them previously. I would also like to request at this point that the Secretariat avail us with the new Rules of Procedure so that we can follow them.

I believe that there is need for co-ordination of the positions of our three countries. In relation to that, the fourth resolution seeks to address that concern. It says that the East African Community Secretariat acts as a co-ordinating centre for the negotiating team. I do share the concerns that have been raised by the previous speaker, Lt. Gen. Adan on the need to set certain things in motion in order to give effect to the resolutions contained in this Motion.

On the question of co-ordination, recent events underline the importance of our headquarters here in Arusha paying attention to the processes that are taking place under the WTO both at the national, regional and global level. As some of us may be aware, there are several meetings going on in different parts of the world to prepare for the September negotiations. Hon. Ochieng-Mbeo has referred to one, which is coming up in Nairobi.

There are also several meetings going on under the AU in which our three countries are probably participating, and there are also meetings that are going on to define the negotiating

positions of less developed countries, which we belong to. Unfortunately, this information is not being shared with us.

The importance of co-ordination is not just to participate in defining the position but it is also to enable the participation to happen, if at all. As we are aware, a number of entities have been accredited to participate in the negotiations in September and, unfortunately, the East African Community is not one of those.

The deadline for seeking accreditation has already passed and for that reason, we cannot get accreditation in time for September. However, our individual countries have such accreditation and it is because of this that we have been able to seek entry under the various countries' delegations.

The concern that I have, therefore, is that as we discuss this Motion, it does not stand in the way of participation of our countries and EAC under those country teams because then, we would be left with a gap where as a bloc it is too late to be accredited, but as individual countries we have said no, we want to go as a bloc. That is the concern I have.

Therefore, I agree in principle that we need to push for accreditation in future meetings but recognising that it is not possible to do it in time for the September meetings. I hope that this Motion will have the effect of pushing the East African Community to follow the processes as they come up and seek accreditation for future meetings so that in this current process we participate under the entities which have managed to get accreditation, which are the individual countries.

Having said that, I do support the idea that the directive of the Summit should be followed up and that steps should be taken by the Community to implement what was agreed to in principle. Therefore, I would request that we urge the headquarters of the East African Community to take note of the processes that are going on, and to share this information with this Assembly and the other organs of the Community and to actually involve the organs of the Community in those processes so that while the three countries move forward individually, at an informal level, meetings are held that form up the common negotiating position for East Africa.

With those remarks, I support the Motion.

**Mr Mohammed Zubedi (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. First, I want to join my colleagues in congratulating hon. Kanyomozi, who is our Chairman at the Trade and Investment Committee, for moving this Motion.

I would like to point out a few things that I believe are of great importance to all of us. In this Motion we can see, as usual, directives of Heads of State being flouted and ignored. We do not know why, because it could not be due to lack of funds as we usually hear. This directive was given one year ago and some days from today and nothing has happened.

As we have said previously here, we should first and foremost decide whether the East African Community and its organs were established out of necessity or out of some other needs that we do not know. Once we identify that, it will be easy for us to work and to plan the future of the East African

Community and the pace that the integration process should take.

As hon. Ovonji-Odida just said, we could be already late for accreditation as a Community, but this shows our level of lack of commitment to what we are doing. The Protocol on the Customs Union is ready, we believe, and with the Summit due on the 16<sup>th</sup> of next month, the Heads of State will put in the final touches and agree on the remaining issues that have not been agreed upon. Now once that Protocol is signed and becomes effective in November, the WTO meeting will have taken place.

Once we become a customs union - I do not know if the bureaucrats in our countries are aware of the implications of a customs union; what it entails and what we need to prepare the East African Community about. Having gone to the WTO negotiations as separate states, I do not know how they will negotiate and articulate their positions, taking into consideration the fact that the three Partner States are going to sign a Protocol on a Customs Union, which should be effective after November, 2003.

Now, if they have that in mind, how will they negotiate as three different states, yet we are becoming a customs union after November? I think it is imperative that we should have taken this into consideration because everybody knew for a fact that we were working on a Customs Union, and that we have an East African Community in place and the Assembly is supposed to affect those Protocols and laws.

Now, when the people concerned with trade matters in our Partner States are planning for delegations to these conferences and these issues are not

taken into consideration, I fail to understand what the problem here is. Is it that we will still continue to negotiate and represent our countries as different states and at the same time put in place systems that unite us? I do not understand how it works.

So, I would like to support this Motion because although we could be late for accreditation - and we will try our level best to lobby for our individual states to include some of our members into these negotiations in the WTO - it is a very important thing to do. We would not like these directives to be flouted just like that.

Secondly, by passing this Motion, we will be making it very clear to the Council of Ministers and through them to the Summit, that we are seriously moving fast on the integration process. This process necessitates that we negotiate as a bloc. We are not asking to be included in these negotiations because we want to travel to these meetings. But if we are serious in pushing these processes, then the processes themselves necessitate that we participate in these meetings - *(Applause)*.

With these remarks, I support the Motion.

**Ms Kawamara-Mishambi (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I would like to congratulate the mover of this Motion and the Secunder who has just walked out. I would not like to stand in the way of a family arrangement.

I support the spirit of this Motion and I think it is great that it has come before this august House. However, there are certain elements within it, which I think we need to look at more critically. First of all, the Motion states that no steps have been taken to put the

directive of the Summit into effect. I think there are some initiatives that have been taken.

At least, we have seen our ambassadors and delegations from Brussels trying to forge a united front on how to negotiate, and I would not want this House to be looked at as one of those bodies that do not acknowledge and appreciate other people's efforts. So, I think that if this Motion is to pass, we need to make a correction. There are some initiatives that have taken place and our Partner States and their ambassadors should be acknowledged for that.

I would like to propose to the House that this Motion be referred to the two Committees of Trade and Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution, so as to look at the implications of what we are proposing. We would like East Africa to go to WTO as a negotiating bloc, but at the same time, if you look at Article 130 of the Treaty, it says, "The Partner States shall honour their commitment in respect of other multinational and international organisations of which they are members."

Looking at the proposals we are making, we would like to start moving as a bloc, but our Partner States have already made a commitment, which they have to honour. It is my humble submission to this House that if this Motion is referred back to the two committees of Trade, and Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution, they will be able to find out what commitments we have as three independent Partner States; what we have been doing in our negotiations as separate countries, where we need to have linkages and the way forward.

If this House rushes to make a resolution to the Council to name

negotiating teams, I think it is hasty decision. We need to thoroughly think through this issue so that we know what grounds need to be prepared before we rush into naming teams that could frustrate our stand in these international bodies. When we seek to negotiate as a bloc, it should not be limited to trade issues alone. There are broader issues; for example the African Union, River Nile and several others. So, if we rush on one issue, it will not be correct.

I would also like to concur with hon. Aden on the issue of having the East African Community Secretariat as a co-ordinating centre for the negotiating teams. I think we have been let down by the Secretariat in a number of ways. We still lack visionary leaders at the Secretariat level. At the Summit level, our leaders are pre-occupied with so many things. I think we should be honest and say we still lack a visionary leadership that can guide us through. It is my opinion that the Secretariat does not have the capacity to play the co-ordinating role. I think that in our respective countries we have very capable people who have been going through these processes. If we heap this into the hands of the Secretariat, I think we shall be making a mistake.

So, it is my humble submission that let this Motion be given further thought. Let the two committees make a report to this House so that we see how best we can proceed without stepping on anybody's foot, and without glossing over other people's achievements and efforts.

**Dr. Harrison Mwakyembe (Tanzania):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Let me also commend my brother, hon. Kanyomozi, for his intuition and proper judgement to bring this Motion at this moment in time. It is good to

see that we are now breathing life into the activities of this House. For those who were here on Monday, they could see hon. Kanyomozi running up and down collecting money for the promises we made in Uganda for the children at the rehabilitation centres, and I believe right now he has more than US Dollars 3,200 in his pocket from all the 32 Members. If it is less, of course he will add his money there and claim from the other members. This is the cost of leadership.

**The Speaker:** Honourable Mwakyembe, are you not endangering your colleague's life by declaring the amount of money he has? *(Laughter)*

**Dr. Mwakyembe:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I just want to reflect the fact that we are now serious, and that we do not make empty promises. I also believe that, maybe by next week, we should also be able to address ourselves to the situation in Northern Uganda. We also made several promises there. I can remember my brother, hon. Mwatela making a very emotional speech there. He fell short of saying give me a gun and let me settle this matter myself.

Coming to this Motion, however, it raises the question; why this go-slow in East Africa? Why this dilly-dallying, when we have already decided to be one? This reminds me of a remark made by the late Osagyefo Kwame Nkrumah before he died in exile in 1972. He said he could clearly see the coming of Africa's day of shame, when we will all be in such a big state of confusion that we shall be yapping without saying anything sensible. I think he was right. This great son of Africa evidently made this remark in desperation after years and years of futile campaigns to bring Africa together to create the United States of Africa. He wanted to

convince Africa that it had an enormous resource that did not need foreign exchange, and that is simply unity.

The road map is clear, but there is a lot of inertia around. Instead of thinking and acting East African, we still cling to fighting what Mao Tse Tung once called “little lonely battles” and we end up as Nkrumah rightly said “yapping and yapping without saying anything sensible.”

This Motion is excellent, and I support it except for one amendment I would like to propose. The idea of East Africa as a single negotiating bloc is excellent, but I can see we are repeating the question of having a single negotiating team as well. I would propose that it should be teams based on issues.

As hon. Kawamara has said, there is need for more groundwork to be done. I think it is not proper to leave the matter in the hands of the Council; we should do it ourselves. Let us commit this matter to the committees and give them a schedule so that at the end of the day we come up with a well thought out position.

With these remarks, I support the Motion.

**Mr Med Kaggwa (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I also join hands with my colleagues who have spoken before me in appreciating the bringing of this Motion. Indeed as one member mentioned here, it ought to have come much earlier. But as the saying goes, it is better late than never.

I agree, and I want to associate myself with those colleagues who have said that the Motion as it stands needs some fine-tuning because it is not very neat,

if I could say so bluntly. We must fine-tune it, but the spirit is there and we commend the mover.

I support this Motion on the following grounds: First, we are implementing the Treaty, and indeed trying to operationalise it. The mover referred to those Articles but I would like to add on Article 5 (1) (2) (3) (h) and many others.

It was last year when members of the three Partners States went to Doha. I was saddened to hear that we were too thin on the ground in this meeting. My immediate response was that if we had gone as a Community, we would have distributed our resources and participated in the meeting effectively.

Yesterday, a colleague here told me that he went to a tourist show in Dubai and he was saddened to see Uganda was not represented. Using his ingenuity, he picked somebody to represent Uganda. What a shame! Yet we say we are yearning for a federation! It brings me back to what I have always said.

I have warned this House several times to be careful of statements made by our leaders. I think hon. Kawamara has made allusion to it a little bit. I lie in my bed and wonder whether they really mean what they say, or, as I keep repeating, Charles De Gaulle said that a politician who does not believe in him or herself makes others believe him or her. It keeps coming to my mind. I think we need to be more serious than this.

The other day when we were debating the budget, it was clear throughout from Members' contributions that the budget proposals were not commensurate with the desired goals of the Community and the Treaty. That was glaringly clear. Everybody talked

about it in different words, but all they were asking was whether these Partner States want the Community. Do they want the partnership that they are talking about, or this is just casual talk?

This Motion needs support. The question as to when it will start does not worry me. As to whether we are late for accreditation, that does not worry me – (*Interruption*).

**The Speaker:** Order! Can I ask honourable members to totally desist from using cell phones in the House! I intend to throw out a member calling or receiving a phone call in the House. Hon. Kaggwa proceed.

**Mr Kaggwa:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think it is our duty as this House to point out those areas where we see shortcomings. If we do not do that, the people we represent will also bind us together with those who sat in Arusha and frustrated their aspirations.

When we pass this resolution after fine-tuning it, we would have executed our obligation. We would have shifted the burden and pointed out to those concerned that when we sat in Arusha, we pointed out this and those drawing the scoring sheet will be able to give us a good grade because we will have lived to the expectations of the people who sent us here.

Who else, apart from us as the people's representatives, should push for unity? Just before we came here, I had a scheduled conference in the court. One of the parties was telling the judge, "These counsels cannot force me to do this." Then my colleague who was with me there said to me, "look, the reason we come to court is to compel us to do what we do not want to do." Therefore, the reason we must pass this

resolution is to compel those who must act on it - (*Applause*).

There are already joint projects being undertaken. At home, we call it *entandikwa*, or a beginning. There is something we can build on. If ministers come here in choppers to meet on the road network, why can't the same groups say, "let us go as a team when are going to negotiate trade matters," and indeed other matters that affect the three Partner States?

I want to urge this House that it is our responsibility, and we should not shy away from it for any minute, to get this Community moving forward from the hands of the technicians - (*Applause*).

The technicians are taking over from us but we should guide them. We should not allow these people to be the ones driving this thing. At the end of the day, the technical people are not accountable to the populations of East Africa. It is us who are accountable. We do not want to say the technical people delayed us. That is why I am happy, and throughout the whole day I was really smiling from ear to ear, when this House stood its ground on the budge - (*Applause*). It made me extremely happy that we have stood our ground, we are living to our expectations and we are refusing to be taken for a ride.

I imagine that when the Summit gave this directive, they were in a way leaving their responsibility to some other people, yet they are the initiators of this resurrected Community. I would urge them to take time and look more at Community matters also.

As I wind up, I want to reiterate that when we pass this resolution, it will show that we have lived to our expectations. We shall be executing

our responsibility in operationalising the Treaty, and this resolution will be on record. And if it is not acted upon, history will judge us favourably. Even if we are late for the forthcoming conference, I think we can still work in very close consultations and still project the aspirations of the East African Community. Where there is a will, there is a way!

**Mr Ochieng-Mbeo (Kenya):** Mr. Speaker, sir, you have heard several members talking about amendments to this Motion. You have just heard the last speaker talking about fine-tuning. Others have also talked about referring this Motion to the relevant Committees. Could you give the way forward, because if we are going to pass this Motion, it will be as it is?

**The Speaker:** I will guide the House in due course.

**Mr Daniel Ogalo (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, sir. I support this Motion. It is clear that this Motion seeks to put into effect something that is not disputed. The Heads of State made a directive, but that directive has been ignored.

I want to begin by emphasising the most important contribution by hon. Kaggwa. What does a resolution do? It simply takes responsibility out of our hands and says we have done our work and somebody should carry on from there; that is all! (*Applause*)

At the end of the Motion, you will put the question on the Motion as it is, and then a decision of the House follows your question. I am therefore uncomfortable with the suggestion that the Motion now goes to a committee or committees. I have procedural difficulty with that because there is no Motion before you for this Motion to

go to a committee. The Motion is to have this resolution either rejected or passed.

In the little experience I have had, individual members of a legislature normally bring motions. Committees do not normally deal them with. If in the process of debating the Motion - like hon. Kawamara pointed out - we realise that certain things have not been done, then the Motion is amended to that effect. Then we go forward with the Motion, because at the end of the day, it is the decision of the House. If, for example, as hon. Kawamara has said, to put this burden on the Secretariat is a mistake and they cannot do the work, then she makes a suggestion on who should be vested with this power and then we amend the Motion accordingly.

I am saying this so that we can make decisions and get things out of the way and send them on. It is not for us to argue the case of the Partner States. It is not for us to say whether we are time barred or not. It is not for us! We are in effect then arguing backwards. It is now the Council of Ministers, when they get this resolution signed by the Clerk, to come before the House to explain that it was not possible for them to name a negotiating team because of this and this problem. This is because we want to hold them responsible. The Presidents have said, "do this", and they have not done it. So, let us not argue for them.

I hope the procedure being followed here is like the one followed in other parliaments, where after every resolution, which is taken to the ministers, they will be able to come back to the House and explain what they have done in so far as implementing that resolution is concerned. So, I expect that the

Chairman, Council of Ministers is the one who will come and say that it is not possible for us to name a negotiating team because we had this and that problem. Then, because of oversight, we shall be able to see whether his reasons are genuine or not. That is how Parliament holds the Executive accountable.

So, for me, I would support this Motion in the terms it is. If there are problems, how shall we know them unless they are explained to us? It is the Council of Ministers, which will have to come back to us and tell us what is happening, because as far as we are concerned, there is a directive for us to negotiate as a bloc. So, they must explain why they have not gone as a bloc - *(Applause)*.

The issue of sending resolutions to the Council of Ministers is very important because that is how Parliament works. In fact, the number of resolutions we pass will show our effectiveness because then, we are holding government accountable. I want to quote hon. Mwakyembe about us beginning to breathe life into the Community. If we pass these resolutions and send them to the Council of Ministers, we will then be able to attract their attention. If we do not, they will also forget us.

Some time ago, the Chair directed me to represent him at the East African Law Society meeting in Dar-es-Salaam. When I started my speech there, I said I was privileged and honoured to be there to represent the Speaker. By the time the meeting ended, I was wishing that you had directed some other person to represent you.

This is because a professor of law from the University of Dar-es-Salaam, in his

contribution, talked a lot about us. He indicated that we were a useless lot and I was there smiling, trying to put on a brave face. In reply to my argument that work is moving slowly because the Council of Ministers rarely attend meetings, and that we needed resident ministers, he said, "you see, even ministers have no time for them."

He asked the members of the Law Society if any of them knew we were even sitting in Arusha, because he had just learnt then. As I said, I put on a brave face throughout and at the end of it some lawyers came and told me, "Eh, you guys really develop hard skins in politics. How could you smile through that?" *(Laughter)*

The point I want to make here is that if we do not send as much work out of our way as possible, such statements will continue being made about us. That is why I think we should have as many resolutions as possible so that we can attract the attention of the Executive and they see that we are working.

There is a point that was raised by hon. Kaggwa about leaders; whether they are ready. They talk about a federation and yet they do not seem to believe in it. They talk of the Community just casually. That is bound to happen. There are some who will take it as casual talk. But I think what is important for us is the fact that they put their agreement in a Treaty and that we hold them accountable to what they put in the Treaty - *(Applause)*.

If they take this as casual talk, then I do not think we, as the Assembly, should allow the 80 million East Africans to be taken for a ride. As long as they committed themselves to the Treaty and said they want a federation, we must go for it - *(Applause)*.



**Mr Calist Mwatela (Kenya):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Motion addresses a very specific item; that there was a direction that matters in pertaining to participation in the WTO and ACP/EU arrangements, under the Cotonou Partnership arrangement between the ACP group of states and the EU, the Partner States should negotiate as bloc, and this was a direction of the Summit, which is an organ of this Community.

The Motion simply states that this direction has not been fulfilled. We may as well ask: Who was being directed? We all agree that this direction was to the Council of Ministers because it is supposed to be the causative agent to ensure that directives of the Summit are complied with. Mr Speaker, Sir, that directive should have addressed a wider area than what has been stated.

I would have been much happier if that directive was to cover all multilateral arrangements. As Hon. Ogalo has rightfully stated, it would be incorrect for us to run away from doing what we are supposed to do. We are an overseeing body. We have seen that something has not been done as directed and we are saying that it should be done.

The idea that the EAC Secretariat has failed us in previous circumstances and the fact that they are overloaded with other things is a misnomer. The Secretariat is the executive organ of the Community, and it should co-ordinate this matter. If there is a problem with the Secretariat, then we should correct the problem so that they can do their work – (*Interjection*).

**Mr Ochieng-Mbeo:** Mr. Speaker, sir, you have just heard hon. Mwatela say that the Secretary General is

incompetent. Is he insinuating that the Secretary General should go?

**The Speaker:** Order, hon. Mbeo! Is hon. Mwatela insinuating that the Secretary General should go?

**Mr Mwatela:** Mr. Speaker, sir, the Secretary General is not the Secretariat, and neither is the Secretariat the Secretary General.

Mr. Speaker, sir, taking into account what my colleagues have said here, there is a weakness in the Secretariat, and we all know that that weakness is attributed to the lack funds. So, we should not run away from our officers who are supposed to do certain duties just because they have failed to do those duties. If in any case they are incompetent, then we have remedies for that. If they have not been funded properly, then we have remedies for that. But we should not run away from giving them their responsibility. It is the responsibility of the EAC Secretariat to co-ordinate the activities of the Community. If they are not funded, then we should ensure that there are adequate funds for the Community.

Mr. Speaker, sir, I will go along with the sentiments of those who have alluded to the fact that if there are any areas of this Motion that do not satisfy the wishes of this House, then we should introduce amendments without losing the gist of the Motion.

With those remarks, I support the Motion.

**Maj. Gen. Mugisha Muntu (Uganda):** Mr. Speaker, sir, I rise to support this Motion wholeheartedly. I agree with the approach of hon. Med Kaggwa and hon. Daniel Ogalo. The issue of passing this Motion is to put

the ball in the court of the Council of Ministers.

Over the last two years, we have been waiting in good faith for this to happen because we knew that there was a decision by the Summit, which was going to be operationalised by the Council of Ministers. In fact, this Assembly could not have come up with this Motion last year because we were still waiting in good faith, knowing that the Council of Ministers was doing what it was supposed to do.

In fact, last year in November, at Impala Hotel, we came to know about a meeting composed of the ambassadors of the three countries that handle negotiations in Geneva or Brussels, and the ambassadors in Nairobi, Dar es Salaam and Kampala. They were discussing the question of the accreditation of the Community to WTO and ACP/EU. Informally, we came to understand that there were some problems arising from the technocrats. Some technocrats started raising questions as to why we should negotiate as a bloc.

In as far as we are concerned, we do not have any formal communication that they have failed, but informally, we hear that the three countries are organising to go and negotiate as individual entities. So, by passing this Motion, we will simply be seeking to know from the Council of Ministers why they have failed to implement the directive of the Summit.

In fact, it is on that basis that I will request the mover of this Motion to include the following amendment in his Motion that: "If the three countries are not going to negotiate as one bloc, this Assembly seeks to know from the Council of Ministers why the directive of the Summit has not been effected."

By doing this, we are setting precedence. We are going to hold all the people responsible accountable for the non-implementation of decisions. But it seems as if there are some people who are either not up to the task or they are using very well known techniques that are used in all bureaucracies all over the world. The best way to kill an initiative is to go slow on it until the time when it is too late to make any effective measures to implement. We need to find out which of the two is the case here.

With that short contribution, I support the Motion.

**Mr George Nangale (Tanzania):** Mr. Speaker, sir, I am disturbed by the fact that directives are not being adhered to. As some of my colleagues have already said, this might be the tip of the iceberg.

Mr. Speaker, sir, recently I read an article in the Guardian Newspaper in London and there was concern raised by Oxfam on the speed at which the United States of America is negotiating bilaterally with different members before the WTO meeting. The concern was that these bilateral agreements would undermine the positions of different groups like the developing countries in the negotiations at Cancun.

I am not sure whether such bilateral agreements with the United States of America have already been reached with the three East African states. This Motion in my opinion will unravel whether any of the Partner States has entered such bilateral agreements with the United States of America, and that is why they do not want us to negotiate as bloc.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to address the issue of security in East Africa. For the past two days, after the terrorist act in Saudi Arabia, the concern of the world turned to the Al Qaeda network in East Africa. It is high time that we took this issue very seriously. East Africa has been branded a breeding place for terrorists in the world, and this will undermine our economies. I beg that the Cancun deliberations might be dominated by the war on terrorism and, therefore, divert the agenda of the meeting. East Africans should discuss this issue at length.

With those remarks, I support the Motion.

**Capt. Richard Ddudu (Uganda):** Mr. Speaker, sir, I thank the Mover for bringing this Motion to address the non-implementation of directives of the Summit. The Heads of State are our leaders and whatever they say should be followed to the letter.

Mr. Speaker many of my colleagues have pointed out many interesting aspects of this Motion. In fact I am reminded of that very famous quote by hon. Med Kaggwa that at times politicians wonder why people believe what they say

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the House through the history of East Africa in general. About 46 years ago, the then President of Tanganyika was ready to delay the Independence of Tanganyika so that the other two countries could get their independence and then form a federation. That was a wise move in the right direction. I say that because that move is connected to the lack of seriousness we have right now in the issues of the East African Community in general.

During the colonial days, the three countries had economic differences. There were so many other differences that still exist today. Kenya had been designated as an area for the settlers who were the direct beneficiaries of the colonial rulers in East Africa. Therefore, the economies of these three countries plotted in a way that it worked as a region with the hub in Kenya. Kenya established a very strong industrial base and all the policies were such that the industrial base was maintained.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the volume of trade between Kenya and Uganda and between Kenya and Tanzania was completely imbalanced in favour of Kenya. Even the wheat grown in Tanzania was not to be sold in Kenya. This was a regional thing and it was not going to hurt anybody. We had one currency and things were easier. Tanganyika then was not affected adversely. We all reaped benefits from the three Partner States. But because we failed to federate, problems started manifesting themselves by 1964 in the then East African Co-operation.

The Heads of State had responsibilities to their people and, therefore, the continued trade imbalance was hurting the other two countries. Things worked out during the colonial time because there was one central authority. But presently, the presidents of our three countries have got responsibilities to their people.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the rest of the world considers Kenya as a developing country while the other two countries are considered least developed countries. That creates a difference. Therefore, the individual countries will have to see to it that their interests are taken into account. If our leaders give a directive and it is not implemented,

we cannot pin down somebody for not implementing because the presidents may be the ones who do not want it to be implemented. Who can have the power to defer such a directive? Some individuals were recalled from Geneva and yet they were the best negotiators for our Community!

The best we can do is to pass this Motion so that the Council of Ministers will be compelled to act. Is it accidental that the Council has been failing in many other things? The issue is of the final legal authority for the region, and that can only come when we have one government, just like when we had one colonial power. It is, therefore, my opinion that our attempts are desperate ones. I am sure we will say things that we will get surprised about when the people believe, just as our leaders are doing.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the issue of political federation as the ultimate goal of the EAC is wrong. It is solely to blame for the stalemate we are experiencing in many things. There are so many things that are amiss, but hon. Kanyomozi was able to single out this one. He has done his part and we will do ours by passing the resolution. Eventually, we will have 40 resolutions, three members of the Council of Ministers and 32 Members of the Assembly and the Professor of law who will tell you, you are useless. We are trying to form a regional body without authority! With those remarks, I support the Motion.

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, hon. Malhodra who has been in the Indian Parliament for the last 20 years says that there are three types of resolutions namely: -

1. Private Members Resolutions
2. Government Resolutions

### 3. Statutory Resolutions.

This Resolution remains in the hands of hon. Kanyomozi. It is a Private Members Resolution and it will remain so. It will not go into any Committee of this House.

A Resolution may be in the form of a declaration of opinion or a recommendation, or it may be in the form so as to record either approval or disapproval by the House of any act or policy of governments, or convey a message or comment, urge or request an action or call attention to a matter or a situation for consideration by governments.

Rule 31 of our Rules of Procedure states as follows: -

“When a Motion has been moved, and if necessary seconded, the Speaker shall propose the Question therein in the same terms as the Motion and debate may then take place upon the Question. At the conclusion of the debate, the Speaker shall put the Question, but when any Motion is under consideration in the House, or in a Committee, an amendment may be proposed to the Motion if it is relevant to the Motion.”

I will now invite hon. Kanyomozi to respond, and if in his wisdom he wishes to consider the proposed amendments, or what was called fine-tuning, then he will request the hon. Speaker to provide the facilities for the inclusion of those amendments. If he does not, then the Question will be put, and the House will make a decision.

**Mr Yonasani Kanyomozi (Uganda):** Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, Sir, for the guidance you have given to the House. I also thank all those who have contributed to this Motion,

especially, those who have highlighted the problems we have as a region and also touched on the issues we need to address as an Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this Motion refers us to Article 74 of the Treaty. It is exclusively on the directives given to us by the Summit. It does not deal with delegations hitherto planning to go to Cancun or to any negotiation. It is limited to the directives of the Summit, and I want the House to understand it as that. We are not saying that once we pass these resolutions, the delegations from Partner States who are preparing to go to Cancun and those of us who are likely to go will be stopped. We are only dealing with the directives given by the Summit a year ago, and I would request honourable members to restrict themselves to that. Secondly, Article 74 touches on other Articles 5 and 2 of the Treaty.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Secretariat is the executive arm of the Community. The Treaty empowers the Secretariat to empower people. They should co-opt people to assist in the co-ordination of these matters. If the Secretariat is inefficient, then we have a way of getting them out. If they cannot work, then we replace them but we do not want to fight the institution. Fight the individuals who are preventing us from attaining our goals. Otherwise we will not be able to build.

Thirdly, this Motion should be looked at in a manner that is going to strengthen the issues related to the Community; for instance the issues of trade, foreign policy, transport and so on. All we are asking for here is that the Summit directive mentioned in this Motion should be put into effect. A year has elapsed and nothing has been done. Our oversight role is to ensure that these directives are adhered to. In

fact, if you look at the Resolution, it states that so far no steps have been taken to put this directive into effect, and each Partner State is preparing separate delegations for the negotiations.

We are not saying anything more than what is happening. We are not neglecting the aspect of what has been done so far. We recognise the steps taken but they are not enough to get us where we want to be! Thirdly, we have to look at how long we have got to wait before resolutions of the executives are fulfilled. A directive is a command or an order given by a distinguished authority, but it has not been followed. We have got Generals and Colonels here and they know what it means when a command is given! When it is given, it has to be executed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, some of my colleagues have talked about fine-tuning. I do not think the directive as it was given needs fine-tuning. As hon. Ogalo has said, let us give to the people who are supposed to do it. If they encounter difficulties, let them come to us and explain why they could not do it. We have not even reached that stage! Let us not pre-empt what they are going to do.

**Ms Mishambi Kawamara:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to seek clarification from the mover of the Motion. I thought that when the honourable members were talking about fine-tuning they meant correcting certain factual elements in this Resolution!

**Mr Kanyomozi:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, of all these Resolutions, what are the factual errors that need to be fine-tuned? If they are there, point them out so that the House can discuss. But as things stand now, the Motion is



innocently presenting the case! This is the case, which we want to present to the Council of Ministers. Will that not be construed to mean that we are still going to negotiate as separate entities? I would like that to be amended, and those words be substituted with the EAC.

Fourthly, the Council of Ministers is the only body empowered by the Treaty to do these things and that is what we are asking them to do. There is nobody else whom we can turn to. Article 5 of the Treaty gives them that authority. All we are saying is that they should do their work as empowered by the Treaty. In addition, the Secretariat should put up a team to co-ordinate the negotiations. But we are not saying that the initiative being taken should be frustrated. We are not saying that!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do agree with hon. Capt. Ddudu with regard to the issue of political federation. I wish we could move faster and have body, which can enforce these directives quickly. Now that we do not have it yet, we will have to do with what we have. Let us do the little we can so that we can save our own reputation and credibility!

The world will get to know that when we were here, we told our Partner States to come together, but they did not listen. If we did that, we will leave this Assembly after five years with honour and glory. Those who want to be re-elected to this House will have a record showing that they told the governments of our Partner States but they refused.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hope I have answered the major issues in this Motion. I urge my honourable Colleagues to support this Motion as it is, given that it is specific to the issue. But I will take the amendment proposed by honourable Maj. General Mugisha Muntu.

**Mr Mwatela:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have a problem with the words "Partner

**Mr Kanyomozi:** That is a better amendment and I agree with it.

**Mr. Kangwana:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the following Resolution No.6 be added to the Motion:

"THAT, the Council of Ministers does report to this House, explaining why no steps have been taken to ensure that we negotiate as a bloc."

**Mr Kaggwa:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to move the following amendment:

"Further aware that an attempt was made towards the directive by the Summit by inviting all ambassadors accredited to the European Union and the WTO for a consultative meeting, the directive, nevertheless remains unaffected and each Partner State is preparing separate delegations to negotiate."

**Ms Ovonji-Odida:** Mr. Speaker, sir, I think we should add the word "implementing" after the word "towards".

*(Question on the Resolution as amended put and agreed to)*

### ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker:** Honourable members that marks the end of our business today. The House therefore stands adjourned.

*(The House rose at 12.40 p.m. adjourned to Tuesday, 20 May at 9.00 a.m.)*