



## EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

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

**The Official Report of the Proceedings of the East African Legislative Assembly**  
**81<sup>ST</sup> SITTING – THIRD ASSEMBLY: FOURTH MEETING – THIRD SESSION**  
**Monday, 19 January 2015**

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2:34 p.m. in the EALA Chambers, EAC  
Headquarter in, Arusha, Tanzania*

#### PRAYER

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

*(The Assembly was called to order)*

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#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. Honourable members, today is exactly one month since we took a historical stride in this Assembly to make certain changes and today is our first time to meet in these Chambers as an Assembly in 2015. Allow me to take this singular opportunity to wish you and your families a happy 2015.

I am aware that the good Lord has been so kind to some of us and blessed us with several things. We would like to join those who have received blessings from God especially our good friend hon. Ussi Yahya for the blessed child that God has given us and all other colleagues whom God has rewarded in different ways. We join you in celebrating the gift from God.

I also know that amongst us there could be people who have had difficult times during the course of the year. We join you and share with you the difficult moments of your time and your families.

Honourable members, I would like to repeat one thing. I would like to say thank you to you for entrusting me on the 19<sup>th</sup> December last year to be your servant. I will indeed be your servant in the true sense of the word. We have had a difficult past and we indeed call it a past. It is behind

us; I call upon all the members of this House to stand firm united to serve this Community and met the aspirations of East Africans.

I would like to inform you further that East Africans out there and the governments are supportive of this Assembly. I have received good will messages from friends within and without the region on your behalf and we thank them for their good will messages.

I do not have much to say in this session but we have a lot to do and we shall discuss many things in the course of our work in this sitting. I thank you so much. *(Applause)*

## MOTION

### FOR THE ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EALA COMMISSION

**Ms Hafsa Mossi (Burundi):** Rt. hon. Speaker, in accordance with the provisions of Section (2) and 5(2) of the Administration of the Assembly Act, 2012, I move that this Assembly elect members of the Commission. I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, honourable member. The motion is on the floor. I ask for secondments...Hon. Bazivamo, thank you so much. I can see hon. Patricia, hon. Nyerere, hon. Ole Nkanae, hon. Ussi and all the rest standing. Thank you. I now invite hon. Hafsa Mossi to read for us the motion that has been duly seconded.

**Ms Mossi:** Rt. hon. Speaker,

*“WHEREAS the Administration of the East African Legislative Assembly act, 2012 came into force on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2012 and*

*WHEREAS the above said Act by the provisions of Section 3(1) established the Commission known as the East African Legislative Assembly Commission herein after known as the Commission and*

*WHEREAS Section 3(2) of the Act provides that the members of the Commission shall be composed of the Speaker, the Chairperson of the Council who shall be an ex-officio member and two members of the Assembly from each Partner State elected by the assembly and*

*WHEREAS Section 5(2) of the Act provides that members of the Commission shall be elected by the Assembly and shall hold office for a period of two and a half years and shall be eligible for re-election*

*NOTING THAT the tenure of the first commission elected under this Act was deemed to have commenced on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012 pursuant to a resolution of this Assembly of 13<sup>th</sup> September 2012 which is more than two and a half years ago*

*NOW THEREFORE this assembly do hereby resolve to elect members of the Commission.”* I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Hafsa Mossi and honourable members. The proposal in the House is that the Commission be elected.

Honourable members, you are fully aware that the life of the Commission has ended and this afternoon we have a mandate to elect a new Commission. We are fully aware that our Rules of Procedure that govern this House do not detail how this Commission is supposed to be elected but we have the Administration of EALA Act 2012 that gives us guidance of how we should go about this in Section 3(2) and 5(2) as has been enumerated in the motion. It is therefore my humble suggestion to you as a House that in the event that we do not have any clear outlined rules in our Rules of Procedure. I would like to suggest to you that we move this way.

One, we go country by country alphabetically and seek nominations from the Assembly of members who should be elected to serve in the Commission from that country. Nominations shall be made, and it would require a member or more to second the nomination. We are supposed to have, as per the Act, two members per Partner State. Where there are only two members nominated and nomination is closed, we shall deem it as the end of that nomination for that country and move to the next country.

Where nominations are more than two, we shall allow the nomination to proceed until it is closed and when nomination is closed, we shall move to the next country until we finish all the nominations. At the end of the nominations, we will go back again and look at country by country. Where there are more than two, I still suggest to you that we request the Office of the Clerk to provide us with ballot papers that name that country and numbered one and two and the whole House as required by the law shall vote for the members duly nominated from that country.

You will vote for two persons of your preferred choice. At the end of the exercise, we will count the top two of every country where there are more than two candidates and they shall be declared the duly elected members for that country. At the end of that, we shall conclude this motion by acclaiming that that is the Commission elected by the Assembly as per the law.

Honourable members that is my suggestion to you. I would like to know whether there is a contrary opinion or moderation or otherwise.

**Mr Bernard Mulengani (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, and indeed, as you thanked us, I want also to wish you success in that Chair into which we overwhelmingly voted you. *(Applause)*

The clarification I am seeking Mr Speaker is in your communication you said that where a country has agreed and proposed two names, we should deem them the duly elected members of the Commission. I would further seek your clarification. Are you trying to imply that we shall also pronounce ourselves- You will put a question as to whether they are the members because if you do not then we will not have elected.

Therefore, the point I am raising is procedural and you can advise accordingly.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Mulengani. I think the law requires that even if they are unopposed, the House may not be interested in the members. We shall put the names for validation and confirmation of the House by way of a question. We will put the question at the end of the session on all the ten elected, but even if...I repeat honourable members, even if there are only two members nominated and nomination is closed, we shall still put the names to a vote because the law mandates us to do so. That is the clarification I can give, thank you.

I would then assume that members are comfortable and are in agreement with my proposal. I thank you so much.

Honourable members, the exercise we are going to engage in, as you may know is a very important exercise. We are going to elect two members per country to be part of the Commission. The Commission is a very vital body in running the Assembly. I implore you to choose your best and I further implore you to accept the outcome of the elections.

We as members and as an Assembly are a product of democracy so I would expect that all of us will accept whoever has won or whoever has gained highest and those who would have gained lower votes will congratulate those who have won higher votes and duly support and work with them. That is the force of democracy.

You are also aware that apart from running the Assembly, it is also the role of the Commission to nominate members to the committees and the standing committees and this is the exercise we must do between now and tomorrow so without wasting time, if you do accept me to move, I will move that we proceed in receiving nominations of candidates for countries. Moving alphabetically and therefore starting with the Republic of Burundi, nomination is open.

**Mr. Emmanuel Nengo (Burundi):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. Honourable members, for Burundi chapter we are all interested to be in the Commission but we have some eminent members who we need to represent Burundi chapter in the Commission. So now I would like to nominate hon. Isabelle Ndahayo and hon. Ngenzebuhoro Frederic. Please vote for them, we are happy with them and I think you will be happy with them. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Honourable member, for the sake of clarity and respect to our law; the Administration of EALA Act, I suggest that we nominate one at a time and that the one person nominated gets the secondment and then we move to the second nomination or nominee. So I will take it that you have nominated the first person.

**Mr Nengo:** I want to nominate hon. Ndahayo Isabelle and I submit. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Nengo has nominated hon. Isabelle. Can we have the secondment? Thank you but I am moving ahead of many things with the assumption that hon. Isabelle is not turning down the nomination of hon. Nengo. Can you please confirm for record purposes that you are accepting the nomination?

**Ms Isabelle Ndahayo (Burundi):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I do accept the nomination.

**The Speaker:** I had read it on your face. Thank you. Therefore, for the Republic of Burundi, hon. Isabelle has been duly nominated and seconded. We move to the second nomination for the Republic of Burundi still.

**Ms Emerence Buccumi (Burundi):** Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. I am rising to nominate hon. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro to be a member of the Commission. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. Can I have hon. Ngenzebuhoro confirm that he is willing? Secondment first then we- Thank you. You have the secondment of almost the whole House. Can I take your confirmation that you are willing to serve or take the nomination?

**Mr. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro (Burundi):** Rt. hon. Speaker, I humbly accept that nomination. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. That is the second nominee for the Republic of Burundi. Nomination is still open but if a member so wishes, he or she can move that nomination be closed otherwise we proceed with nomination.

**Mr. Chris Opoka Okumu (Uganda):** Rt. hon. Speaker, seeing that no other person is nominating another one, I move that nominations be closed.

**The Speaker:** Secunder of the motion? Hon. Leonce, hon. Nkanae, hon. Kessy, hon. Mumbi, hon. Yves, hon. Kimbisa. Thank you so much. I therefore put the question that nominations be closed.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Therefore, nominations are closed for the Republic of Burundi. We have two nominees to serve on the Commission. I now move to the next Republic of Kenya. Nominations are open.

**Ms Agnes Mumbi (Kenya):** Rt. hon. Speaker, I first congratulate you because I was not here when you were elected. The next will follow. I take this opportunity to nominate hon. Joseph Kiangoi Ombasa to represent Kenya in the Commission. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Secondment for that nomination? I can see hon. Nkanae, hon. Bazivamo, hon. Buccumi, hon. Valerie, hon. Peter, hon. Ngenzebuhoro and all the rest standing. I now invite the nominated honourable to confirm acceptance of the nomination.

**Mr. Joseph Kiangoi Ombasa (Kenya):** Rt. hon. Speaker, I confirm acceptance of the nomination.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. I invite more nominations for the Republic of Kenya.

**Ms Ndahayo:** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I stand to nominate hon. Pareno Judith to be a member of the Commission. Thank you, I submit.

**The Speaker:** Thank you nomination tabled. Secondment? I can see hon. Ngenzebuhoro, hon. Hafsa Mossi, hon. Ussi, hon. Bazivamo, hon. Leonce, hon. Jeremie, hon. Rwigema, hon. Angela, hon. Abisai, hon. Patricia and all the rest standing. Nomination therefore seconded. May I now confirm from the nominee whether he is taking the nomination?

**Ms Judith Pareno (Kenya):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I humbly accept this nomination.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Nomination for Kenya is still open.

**Mr. Bernard Murunya (Tanzania):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I stand to nominate hon. Ogle to be a member of the Commission.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ogle is nominated, I am asking for those seconding the nomination. I can see hon. Mbidde, hon. Nusura Tiperu, hon. Sarah, hon. Odette, hon. Rwigema and all the rest standing. Therefore, I would like to invite the honourable whether he takes the nomination.

**Mr. Abubakar ogle (Kenya):** Rt. hon. Speaker, aware that you do not need to change a winning team I humbly accept the nomination. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. That is the third nomination for the Republic of Kenya. Nomination is still open until closed. Hon. Mwinyi.

**Mr. Abdullah Mwinyi (Tanzania):** Honourable Speaker, I would like to nominate hon. Abubakar Zein.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Abubakar Zein has been nominated. I am asking for the seconders. Hon. Dr Martin, hon. Sarah, hon. Nyerere, hon. Kizigha, hon. Mike Sebalu, hon. Bazivamo, hon. Kessy, Dr Martin, hon. Peter and all the rest standing and hon. Shy-Rose. Can I ask the person to confirm?

**Mr. Abubakar Zein (Kenya):** Rt. hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me an opportunity to accept the nomination respectfully.

**The Speaker:** we are still on the Republic of Kenya. Nomination is still open until closed.

**Mr. Peter Mathuki (Kenya):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. Let me again also congratulate you and wish you a happy new year, I propose the name of hon. Sarah Bonaya to participate in the election of Commissioner.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Sarah has been nominated. I ask for the seconders of the nomination. I can see hon. Ogle, hon. Tiperu, hon. Mumbi, hon Dr Odette, hon. Hafsa Mossi, hon. Leonce, hon. Kabahizi and all those who have stood up. Nomination is therefore seconded.

Can I ask the candidate to confirm acceptance of nomination?

**Ms Sarah Bonaya (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I humbly accept.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Sarah has accepted the nomination and we are still on the Republic of Kenya.

**Mr. Mike Sebalu (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. I also wish you well and success in that chair. We have gotten quite a good list but it must end at some point and it looks like there are all indications that those that are interested have been sufficiently covered so I beg to move that nominations be closed in respect for the Republic of Kenya.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Mike Sebalu is moving that nominations be closed. Secondment to that? Hon. Dr Ndahiro, hon. Patricia and all the rest standing. Nomination for Kenya is closed. We therefore have five duly nominated candidates. We move to the next country that is the Republic of Rwanda. Nominations are open.

**Ms Valerie Nyirabineza (Rwanda):** Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. I propose that hon. Patricia Hajabakiga be nominated to be a member of the Commission on behalf of all of us. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Patricia has been nominated. I ask for secondment. Hon. Ussi, hon. Dr Odette, hon. Mossi, hon. Mbidde, hon. Mumbi, hon. Sebalu, hon. Tiperu and all the rest standing. May I now take the chance to ask hon. Patricia whether she is taking the nomination?

**Ms Patricia Hajabakiga (Rwanda):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I also wish to take this opportunity to congratulate you and to say that I will be willing to serve as a Commissioner and to serve this Assembly. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. Nomination for the second person is still open for the Republic of Rwanda.

**Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I first wish you a happy and prosperous new year 2015 and o all the members of this House. Rt. hon. Speaker, I want to nominate hon. Christophe Bazivamo. You all know him. I first served under him because he was the Minister of Local Government-

**The Speaker:** Honourable, the campaigns are later. So can you go ahead and present your nomination?

**Dr Nyiramilimo:** Thank you. I nominate hon. Bazivamo Christophe to be a member of the Commission. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Bazivamo has been nominated. Can I get people seconding his nomination? Hon. Zein, hon. Mbidde, hon. Hajabakiga, hon. Rwigema, hon. Kessy and all the rest standing. Therefore, hon. Bazivamo is duly nominated.

Nominations for the Republic of Rwanda is still open until there is a motion to- Oh sorry, I would like to ask for the confirmation of the honourable member. Because of the overwhelming secondment, I thought it is obvious. Please can you confirm?

**Mr. Christophe Bazivamo (Rwanda):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. Let me also take this opportunity to congratulate you and to wish all members once again a happy new year 2015. I thank hon. Odette for having nominated me and I am very happy for it. I also thank all the supporters and declare the nomination accepted. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. We are still on the Republic of Rwanda.

**Mr Straton Ndikuryayo (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. As my colleague, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you well and success in that chair. As long as we have two eminent persons on the Rwandan government list where all gender is represented, I would like to move a motion that the nomination list on Rwanda be closed.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Straton has moved that nominations be closed. Secondment for that? Hon. Mulengani, hon. Kiangoi, hon. Kimbisa, hon. Dora Byamukama, hon. Rwigema and hon. Sarah. Nominations is therefore closed.

I first put the question to the motion.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. I have declared the nomination of the Republic of Rwanda closed. We move to the next Republic of Uganda. Nomination is open.

**Mr. Fred Mukasa Mbidde (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. Just like the Republic of Burundi, we are all interested but still we take cognisance of the fact that or Uganda I nominate hon. Dora Byamukama.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Mbidde has nominated hon. Dora Byamukama. I am asking for secondment. Hon. Ogle, hon. Mumbi, hon. Sarah, hon. Tiperu, hon. Sebalu, hon. Christophe, hon. Hafsa Mossi, hon. Rwigema, hon. Opoka and all the rest standing. I now invite hon. Dora Byamukama to confirm acceptance of nomination.

**Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda):** Rt. hon. Speaker, *kila alaheri ya mwaka mpya* and *hongera sana*. I humbly confirm acceptance of nomination and trust that your support will be transformed into a vote. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Dora Byamukama therefore stands duly nominated. Nominations for Uganda are still open.

**Mr. Mike Sebalu (Uganda):** Rt. hon. Speaker, in the interest of gender balance and also political diversity, I hereby nominate hon. Chris Opoka. You will appreciate that at some point he enjoyed close proximity to that chair therefore bringing him in the Commission will keep him within good distance. I nominate Chris Opoka.



**The Speaker:** Hon. Chris Opoka has been nominated. Can we get the seconders? Hon. Mbidde, hon. Mumbi, hon. Peter Mathuki, hon. Valerie, hon. Sarah, hon. Bazivamo, hon. Hafsa Mossi, hon. Rwigema, hon. Dr Martin, hon. Jeremie, hon. Shy-Rose, hon. Murunya and all the rest standing. Nomination seconded. Can I now invite the honourable to confirm acceptance of the nomination?

**Mr. Chris Opoka Okumu (Uganda):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. Like everybody else, I would like to congratulate you for the good work you are doing in that chair. I thank honourable members and I humbly accept the nomination.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Chris Okumu Opoka stands duly nominated. Nominations for Uganda is still open unless closed.

**Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda):** Mr Speaker, as chairperson emeritus, again as Burundi, we had many interests but for the common good, I beg to move that nominations for Uganda representation to the Commission be closed.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Mulengani has moved that nomination for the Republic of Uganda be closed. Is the motion seconded? Hon. Nengo, hon. Kiangoi, hon. Rwigema, hon. Hafsa Mossi, hon. Leonce. Therefore, the nomination is closed. I put the question for closing it.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** We move to the United Republic of Tanzania.

**Ms Shy-Rose Bhanji (Tanzania):** Mr Speaker, allow me first to congratulate you for being elected the new Speaker of EALA. I wish you success and you can count on my support. I also wish to express my best New Year wishes to you, Mr Speaker and to the whole august House. I wish to nominate *mheshimiwa* Nderakindo Kessy. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Shy-Rose. Hon. Kessy has been nominated. Can I first get the seconders to her nomination? Hon. Mwinyi, hon. Dora, hon. Kimbisa, hon. Angela, hon. Tiperu, hon. Chris, hon. Dr Odette, hon. Ussi and all those standing. The nomination is therefore seconded. Can I invite hon. Kessy to accept the nomination?

**Ms Kessy Nderakindo (Tanzania):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I would like to extend my congratulations, and I pray that divine power guides you to lead this House with wisdom, which we missed for the last two years. I humbly and gracefully accept the nomination.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Kessy is therefore duly nominated. The nomination for the Republic of Tanzania is still open.

**Mr. Adam Kimbisa (Tanzania):** Mr Speaker, I also join others in congratulating you to be elevated to that chair and I strongly believe the speed of the young leader will be the speed of this House and this speed.

**The Speaker:** Message well taken.

**Mr Kimbisa:** Having said that, I nominate hon. Makongoro to vie the position. Thank you very much.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Kimbisa has nominated hon. Makongoro. I ask for secondment. Hon. Ussi, hon. Leonce, hon. Kessy, hon. Shy-Rose, hon. Murunya, hon. Sarah, hon. Dora, hon. Sebalu, hon. Mwinyi and all those standing. May I therefore invite hon. Makongoro to confirm his acceptance of the nomination?

**Mr. Charles Makongoro Nyerere (Tanzania):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. First, I have had two times to congratulate you. The first time was on WhatsApp, not very official. The second time I saw you live about 30 minutes ago in your office, you look so nice in your new office but now for the purpose of the *Hansard*, I officially congratulate you for becoming the Speaker of EALA. Since I was not around, I officially now congratulate all those in the majority who voted for this man.

On this, I accept. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Makongoro is therefore duly nominated. The nomination for Tanzania is still open unless closed. I repeat the nomination for Tanzania is still open unless I get a motion saying the nomination is closed.

**Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda):** Mr Speaker, with the permission of my colleagues I beg to move that the nominations for the United Republic of Tanzania be closed for Commission.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. Hon. Dora has moved that nomination be closed. Seconders? Hon. Mwinyi, hon. Shy-Rose, hon. Kiangoi, hon. Angela Kizigha, hon. Kessy and all the rest standing. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Nomination is therefore closed. The Republic of Tanzania has the two nominated.

Honourable members, we have gone through the exercise of nominations, the Clerk has taken clear record but I would like to remind ourselves of how the nominations went. The Republic of Burundi has hon. Ngenzebuhoro and hon. Isabelle duly nominated. The Republic of Kenya has hon. Kiangoi, hon. Pareno, hon. Ogle, hon. Zein and hon. Sarah duly nominated; five persons. The Republic of Rwanda has hon. Patricia, hon. Christophe duly nominated. The Republic of Uganda has hon. Chris Opoka and hon. Dora duly nominated. The Republic of Tanzania has hon. Kessy and hon. Makongoro duly nominated.

From this record, it is therefore clear that four Partner States namely Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania have two persons, which, as per the requirement of our law, are the people who have been nominated, and we shall take votes on them to be on the safer side. I know that they are unanimously accepted but for clarity of the law, let us pronounce ourselves on them one by one.

I start with the Republic of Burundi but I have to make this clarification. We will carry the republic of Kenya ahead and we shall take the decisions on the five at a later stage. So let us deal with the four and then we move to Kenya if it is acceptable to honourable members.

**Mr Ogle:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I was just thinking it would have been safer if you allow the House to decide on Kenya first and then you can make for all the Partner States at some stage when we have selected the Kenyan representatives. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you.

**Dr Ndahiro:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I am just wondering. Would you be giving them time one by one to tell us what they are going to do and deliver to this House?

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Honourable members, different people have different approaches to killing a goat or a cat but in this particular case let us deal with the easier matter first then we proceed to the other one. Secondly as per the clarification sought by hon. Ndahiro, it is within the principle of democracy that you know why you are voting for somebody. I would definitely give each one of them one minute. We know each other so well and we are a team that we will work together. So, I will give them one minute each to say something while the Clerk will also be preparing his papers for a vote on the five members who have been nominated.

So, I beg that we proceed with pronouncing ourselves on the persons nominated from the four republics and we start with Burundi. Hon. Ngenzebuhoro. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Ngenzebuhoro is therefore elected as a member of the Commission from Burundi. I go to hon. Isabelle. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Isabelle is therefore duly elected as a member of the Commission from Burundi. We go to the Republic of Rwanda. Hon. Hajabakiga Patricia. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Hajabakiga is therefore elected as a member of the Commission. I go to hon. Bazivamo Christophe. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Therefore, hon. Bazivamo is duly elected. We go to the Republic of Uganda. Hon. Dora Byamukama. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Dora therefore stands duly elected as a member of the Commission. We move to hon. Chris Opoka. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Therefore, hon. Chris Opoka is duly elected as a member of the Commission. We move to the Republic of Tanzania. Hon. Kessy. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Kessy therefore stands duly elected as a member of the Commission. We move to hon. Makongoro. I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Makongoro therefore stands as a duly elected member of the Commission. Honourable members, we have elected eight members from the four Partner States to the Commission. We are remaining with one republic that is the Republic of Kenya. We have five nominated candidates; hon. Kiangoi, hon. Pareno, hon. Ogle, hon. Zein and hon. Sarah. I will give each one of them one minute in the order of nomination to come and present what we call their manifesto before we cast a vote in favour of them. I now take the honour to invite hon. Kiangoi please.

**Mr. Kiangoi Ombasa (Kenya):** Mr Speaker sir, first let me congratulate you because I did not do it when I stood up first for being our Speaker on that seat. I wish you a prosperous new year and do hope that we shall achieve more during the remaining two and a half years.

Mr Speaker, you did say that all of us know each other. I am not standing here to say that I am any better than any of my colleagues are, because any one of them could be a commissioner. Having been elected and vetted by their own parliaments but let me say this. We have the Administration of EALA Act. Section 4 provides what the Commission does. I will, together with the others and not alone, do my level best to ensure that we manage and organise the business and programs of the assembly in a way that will bring efficiency to the Assembly.

The Act provides for the commission to look into the welfare of members. That is what touches me most and I will be on the forefront in urging my colleagues to ensure that the welfare of members is always taken care of because that is important. Members and staff of the assembly but more so, I will always ensure that we always go with the principle of consensus so that there is no acrimony. I thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Kiangoi. I now invite hon. Pareno.

**Ms Judith Pareno (Kenya):** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker and thank you, members for allowing us to address you in why we really want to be in this Commission and I want to say that it is just one or two reasons.

For me as Pareno I am a first time member of Parliament, this is the first time I have been in an Assembly. I want to say that I gave my best in committees; the two committees that I served in; Agriculture and Legal and in plenary. I was always there. I felt that moving into a Commission that plans the activities of the entire Assembly, that makes very great decisions surely if you were that ambitious, you would really want to sit in such a Commission for you to learn how an Assembly performs, how it plans and how it runs its programs.

Therefore, I am here because I want to sharpen my skills, to get experience in this Assembly as a first timer and most of all because I am a person who is committed to duty. I believe that being there I will give all my commitment and I know that we are an Assembly that can work together and having a Speaker that has just come in with all the experience you have, Rt. hon. Speaker because we know you have also been in other parliaments. We will hold our hands together to be able to perform.

Thirdly, I would want to sit in that Commission and make my little and humble contribution as far as the legalese is concerned, as far as the Rules are concerned and as far as maybe transformation of this Assembly is concerned. We have just come through a very tight program and I believe that I can offer my service, believe that I will commit myself to uplift the integrity and the duty that I came to serve. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Pareno. I now invite hon. Ogle.

**Mr. Abubakar Ogle (Kenya):** Thank you, Madam- Sorry, we are just used to the previous order of calling Madam Speaker and we have not gotten out of that. Rt. hon. Speaker, I think I made an advance statement about my reason for wanting to return to the Commission and I want to repeat that you do not change a winning team.

Let me say very briefly again that when as a chapter we first met and consulted about who were going to be our candidates representing us at the Commission, we were talking about Kenya's interests, about our country's interests and I said no, the only reason why I want to go back there is because I do not represent Kenya. The only reason I want to go back there is that I represent the Assembly's interests.

It is for that reason that I want to go back to that Commission. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, hon. Ogle. I now invite hon. Zein.

**Mr. Zein Abubakar (Kenya):** Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker. Colleagues, first I would like to thank you for giving me an opportunity to serve as the Chair of Regional and Conflict Resolution Committee where I served you faithfully. I give you my commitment that I will serve you faithfully as your champion to heal this Assembly. This Assembly needs healing so I will champion policies in the Commission to heal us, to pull together, to work together but I will also promise you that I will serve you faithfully, honestly, with integrity and with your instructions and with our negotiations but I would also like to promise you that I serve all countries including Kenya; Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, all the five Partner States.

You know me; I will be your champion to bring back the dignity of this House. You know me; I will work for us to have a voice in the institutional review. I will work with you to have a voice in gilding Vision 2050. I will work with you to ensure that we amend the Treaty and ensure that this Assembly is truly independent. For example we need to have separate accounting status, we need to have a Deputy Speaker, not that I do not have faith in you, sir but the boundaries of nature have shown us that we need that institution created and we also need to have full control on our employment of our staff. Our staff are suffering.

So I would like to finish by saying that if you trust me and offer me the opportunity to serve you, I will serve you to the best of my ability. Thank you, sir.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Zein. I now invite hon. Sarah Bonaya.

**Ms Sarah Bonaya (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker and I also want to start by congratulating you for having ascended to this powerful office. We pray that God will guide you and bless you with good health and wisdom to be able to guide us to the next level in this Assembly.

Mr Speaker, I want to thank the Assembly for nominating me to stand for this important seat. I would also want to take this opportunity to inform members that being one of the oldest members from the Kenya chapter, I think that most of my time I have given a leading role to others to grow. This platform, if given to me, would give me opportunity to be able to steer EALA to the next level among the league of regional blocs within our region and globally. With good vision and experience, I think I would contribute positively to the agenda of EALA, of course within the premises of the existing legal instruments, like the Administration of EALA Act, the Treaty and the Rules of Procedure. I would also wish to be part of the team that will grow this Assembly to the next level, to compare it to the other parliaments, and to get it to the highest standard we can.

I would also want to appeal to the women in this House, please let us not have the past blind us. We are great in leadership, we need to have that space also to nurture and build women leadership. Mr Speaker, not that I have anything against male leadership but in Africa just like a home we need a man and a wife; a male and female to work together so one of the agenda I would want to propose is social sector and the women caucus in this Assembly so that we nurture ourselves as leaders. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. Honourable members, you have heard from our candidates from the Republic of Kenya. I do not want to add or subtract anything. I would like to get guidance from the Clerk first.

Thank you, honourable members. One of the scarcest resource that we have as an Assembly now is time. Therefore, we should move on every business we do cognisant of that fact. We could ordinarily go country by country calling people to come and vote but we will devise a mechanism, if it is acceptable to you that one, the Clerk will distribute ballot papers to all the members and as they distribute and tick, the sergeant-at-arms will also be following collecting the ticked ballots, which will be brought here. I will nominate two people who will help us in counting the number of votes.

In terms of the nature of the ballot paper, we have made some quick adjustments because the work has been made easier. We have only one republic now, which has more than two candidates so we have made the ballot paper to look like this, with names of candidates and space to tick. It reads “*Election of EALA Commission Ballot Paper, Republic of Kenya.*” The number of candidates one to five out in the order of nomination. At the edge on your right is the box to tick. So, you tick two persons of your preference out of the five and the Office of the Clerk will facilitate the process of picking the ballot papers.

Unless somebody has a contrary view, that is my suggestion.

**Mr Mulengani:** Mr Speaker, I am not trying to differ your guidance but just to remind you that this is a secret ballot. It may influence people’s decisions the way we are seated. I would kindly request that much as time is not on our side, we need to do something that is democratic so that people’s opinions are not influenced by proximity of candidates. For example, I am seated amongst candidates. I have hon. Ogle, hon. Pareno, hon. Kiangoi. I am surrounded by very serious contenders; hon. Sarah Bonaya, hon. Zein Abubakar. I would be more comfortable if I am put aside and I tick my ballot paper comfortably, I come out clean. Thank you, sir.

**Mr. Peter Mathuki (Kenya):** Thank you Mr Speaker. Mine is a quick one, and I want to support what hon. Mulengani has said, but let me also state that from Kenya - I know that our chapter chair, hon. Nkanae who is here, for purposes of records - we did all we could. We met as a chapter and we tried all the best so that we could see that we harmonise as other chapters have done. I can assure you that not all this will divide the chapter and we would want to request colleagues of this House to assist us and continue struggling with the chapter so that we do not get out of this place weaker. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much. Democratic as you may know we are, we will go the traditional way starting with the Republic of Burundi. I will read the name, the Clerk will provide you the ballot paper, and you go the other side, write the names and put it in the ballot box. I thank you, hon. Mulengani for that guidance. My assumption was that our conscience is very clear, and that the environment does not influence it. Thank you so much for the guidance.

I now start with the Republic of Burundi.

Hon. Bucumi Emerance – Please come, pick the paper.  
Hon. Hafsa Mossi  
Hon. Ndahayo Isabelle  
Hon. Ndarubagiye Leonce  
Hon. Dr Martin Nduwimana  
Hon. Nengo Emmanuel  
Hon. Ngendakumana Jeremie  
Hon. Ngenzebuhoro Frederic  
Hon. Nsabimana Yves

That marks the end of the members from the Republic of Burundi. We move to the Republic of Kenya.

Hon. Abisai Nancy  
Hon. Abubakar Zein Abubakar  
Hon. Bonaya Talaso Sarah  
Hon. Mathuki Peter  
Hon. Mumbi Ngaru  
Hon. Nkanae Ole  
Hon. Ogle Abubakar  
Hon. Joseph Kiangoi

Hon. Ogle, the procedure was already accepted, please vote.

Hon. Pareno Judith

After hon. Pareno, we will move to the Republic of Rwanda and we will start with hon. Christophe Bazivamo.

Hon. Hajabakiga Patricia  
Hon. Harelimana Abdul Karim  
Hon. Celestin Kabahizi  
Hon. Dr Ndahiro James will be helped by hon. Straton. Hon. Straton, you can also exercise your rights in the same vein.

Hon. Nyirahabineza Valerie  
Hon. Dr Nyiramilimo Odette  
Hon. Rwigema Pierre Celestin

Republic of Uganda: -

Hon. Byamukama Dora  
Hon. Mukasa Mbidde Fred  
Hon. Mulengani Bernard  
Hon. Nakawuki Susan  
Hon. Opoka Okumu Chris  
Hon. Sebalu Kennedy Mike  
Hon. Tiperu Nusura-  
Hon. Zziwa Nantongo Margaret -

Honourable members, the information available to my office is that hon. Zziwa is not feeling well so she is not around in the House. We pray for her quick recovery.

We will move to the United Republic of Tanzania.

Hon. Bhanji Shy-Rose  
Hon. Kimbisa Omar Adam  
Hon. Kizigha Charles Angela  
Hon. Murunya Bernard  
Hon. Mwinyi Ali Hassan Abdullah



Hon. Dr Kessy Perpetua Nderakindo  
Hon. Nyerere Charles Makongoro  
Hon. Taslima Issa Twaha  
Hon. Yahaya Ussi Maryam

That marks the last person from the United Republic of Tanzania, and the end of our voting. Honourable members, you know we are blessed with ex-officio members of this assembly who always help us when we are having such exercises. Therefore, I would like to request the indulgence of the Secretary General and humbly the Chair, Council of Ministers to help us in counting these votes. I kindly request you to help the House and of course fully aware that they are, ex-officio members of this House, and they do not have voting rights in this House.

**The Assistant Minister for East African Cooperation, Tanzania, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Dr Abdallah Saadalla) (Ex-Officio):** I just want to confirm to the members that we will do this work in a very good manner; trust us. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you.

*(Counting of votes ensues)*

**Mr Sadala:** There were two ballots, which were voted...Hon. Kiangoi is 20, hon. Pareno is 18, hon. Ogle is 17, hon. Zein got 12, and hon. Bonaya got 16. Therefore, on behalf of the committee for counting, the highest got 20 who is hon. Kiangoi and the second highest was hon. Pareno who got 18 votes. Submit, sir.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much my returning officers who are the ex-officio Members of this House; the Chair, Council of Ministers and the Secretary General. Thank you so much for helping the House.

Honourable members, the transparent exercise has produced results and you have heard the announcement. We will take the top two to be the duly elected representatives of the Republic of Kenya into the Commission and these are hon. Kiangoi with the 20 votes and hon. Pareno with the 18 votes. Those are the two duly elected.

Honourable members, to refresh your memory you know we are dealing with a motion, which is on the floor moved by hon. Hafsa Mossi, and this is the process of the motion. We are now going to proceed with the motion, the mover will go ahead to read the names and then after she has finished the motion, I will put the matter to vote and therefore the motion shall have been concluded and our Commission will have been elected.

I therefore invite hon. Hafsa Mossi to proceed with the motion as it was.

**Ms Mossi:** Rt. hon. Speaker, I beg that this House confirm the election of the following members as members of the Commission: hon. Isabelle Ndahayo, hon. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro, hon. Kiangoi Ombasa, hon. Judith Pareno, hon. Patricia Hajabakiga, hon. Christophe Bazivamo, hon. Dora Byamukama, hon. Chris Opoka, hon. Kessy Nderakindo and hon. Charles Makongoro.

Mr Speaker, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, hon. Hafsa Mossi. Honourable members, the motion is that according to Section 3 and 5 of the Administration of the East African Legislative Assembly Act, 2012, the resolution be passed to declare the following persons mentioned as duly elected members of the Commission. I now therefore put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you. I therefore declare that the 'ayes' have it and the Commission is duly elected as mentioned by the mover of the motion. Thank you so much.

Honourable members, before I adjourn the House, I would like to take this opportunity again to congratulate you upon a very transparent exercise. This has shown more maturity of the House. Further, I would like to congratulate those members who had expressed interest but in the interest of the bigger good, they decided to step down. I congratulate you too.

I would like to congratulate those who participated until the election time. We also accept your contribution and congratulate you upon expression of interest.

I congratulate those who have been elected unopposed and voted for to be members of the Commission as well.

I would like also in a very special way and make it known to the House that we have our informal structures called the chapters of the five Partner States and they have changed leadership. We have five new leaders of the chapters. I would kindly request that they stand up for recognition starting with Burundi. We congratulate you. Kenya, we congratulate you. Rwanda-

**Dr Ndahiro:** Honourable Speaker, I am at a loss. I think you had better repeat while mentioning their names because when they stand, I do not recognise their identities.

**The Speaker:** Taken. For the Republic of Burundi, it is hon. Hafsa Mossi, the new chair of the chapter. For the Republic of Kenya, it is hon. Ole Nkanae. We were now going to the Republic of Rwanda. It is hon. Patricia Hajabakiga. We now go to the Republic of Uganda. The hon. Nusura Tiperu is already on duty. She is the new chair of Uganda chapter. We go to the Republic of Tanzania. The hon. Charles Nyerere Makongoro is the new chair of Tanzanian chapter. I congratulate you too.

Honourable members, the honourable Chair of Council has something to say before I adjourn.

**Dr Saadalla:** Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I rise to congratulate this august House for a job well done. I also congratulate the new nominated commissioners. On behalf of the Council, I would like to take this opportunity to give our confirmation and dedication that we will share with them all pertinent issues, all issues concerning the integration of East Africa and especially those ones, which are more focused with EALA's endeavours.

Mr Speaker, Council is very impressed with the distribution of the Commissioners. We got from all Partner States, which is really a sign that now East Africa is moving through the gender balance and this confirms that even our daily undertakings will be based on gender issues.

Thank you so much and I congratulate them.

**The Speaker:** Thank you so much, honourable chair for your kind words. These are all affirmations that our unity is rooted on a firm foundation and nothing shall shake it. We thank the Republic of Kenya for providing us with the opportunity to choose their leaders.

I now would like to make the following announcement that the duly elected members will converge for a meeting of the commission this evening. The Clerk will advise on the venue. This being the only business on the Order Paper, I now adjourn the House to tomorrow Tuesday at 10 in the morning. The House stands adjourned.

*(The House rose at 16:08 p.m. and adjourned until Tuesday, 20th January 2015 at 10.00 a.m.)*