



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

IN THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

The Official Report of the Proceedings of the East African Legislative Assembly 31ST SITTING: THIRD ASSEMBLY: FIRST MEETING – SECOND SESSION

Thursday, 22 August 2013

The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2.30p.m. in the Chamber of the East African Legislative Assembly, EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

PRAYER

(The Speaker, Dr Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, in the Chair.)

The Assembly was called to order.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I want to welcome you to today's sitting, one of the important meetings of the Second Sitting of the Second Meeting of the Third Assembly. Allow me for the *Hansard* to report on the following. Hon. Ussi Yahya, our Member from Tanzania gave birth to a baby boy; Jamal on 4th August 2013. We congratulate her. Hon. Jacqueline Muhongayire was appointed Minister of EAC of the Republic of Rwanda. We congratulate her.

I want to also take the opportunity to reassure both you, hon. Members and the Members of the public that East African Legislative Assembly is working for the strengthening and enhancing the integration of the East African people. We are not going to go out of our mandate and out of our prescribed duties to divulge any incidences which may end up dividing our people. So I want to assure the public that East African Legislative Assembly is working towards integrating the peoples of East Africa.

Lastly, I want to request that the members of the Committee of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Tourism may have an extra meeting or two during this program so when you are called upon,. Kindly re-adjust accordingly.

Finally, tomorrow all of us Members of the Assembly are invited to the capacity building workshop on matters of maternal health and child health. It is going to take place here at EAC

headquarters. The Chairperson, hon. Dr Martin will lead us in that activity. It is a UN activity and all our Partner States are members to this very important activity. We are members of the UN and we are also obliged under the MDGs to follow keenly on these issues. So I want to conclude on that by requesting you, hon. Members of Parliament to be present so that we are able to participate in that very important activity. Thank you.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING THE SUMMIT TO INSTITUTE MECHANISMS TO STOP THE PERPETUATION OF GENOCIDE IDEOLOGY AND DENIAL IN THE REGION, AND TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION

Mr. Abubakar Ogle (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to move the motion for a resolution of the Assembly urging the EAC Summit to study the security impact of genocide ideology and denial in the region and to take appropriate action. I beg to move.

The Speaker: Seconder? Hon. Dan Kidega, hon. Patricia, hon. Bazivamo, hon. Dr. Ndahiro. Hon. Ogle.

Mr. Ogle: Madam Speaker,

WHEREAS the convention on the prevention and punishment of the crime of genocide was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 9th December 1048 and come into effect on 12th January 1951(resolution 260 (III) Article 2);

WHEREAS under Article 124 of the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community Partner States agree to enhance cooperation in the handling of joint measures for maintaining and promoting peace and security;

AWARE THAT under the Article named above the Partner States have inter Alia, undertaken to cooperate in reviewing the region's security particularly on the threat of terrorism and to formulate security measures to combat terrorism;

CONCERNED THAT some of the groups sowing terror in the region are driven by sectarian and genocidal ideologies and denial;

FURTHER CONCERNED that despite regional efforts to neutralize such groups, as well as the adoption of by the United Nations Organizations of the principle of the responsibility to protect populations in danger from such groups, they continue to pose a threat to the peace and security of the people of East Africa;

RECALLING the resolutions of the Assembly on a similar matter in Kampala in the year 2009 in Kigali in the year 2013;

NOTING THAT it is widely held and agreed that genocide denial is part and parcel of the modus operandi of those who commit genocide (genocide denial is an attempt to deny or minimize the scale and severity of an incidence of genocide).

DETERMINED to ensure that heinous crime against humanity shall not recur in the region;

CONSIDERING THAT under Article 11 of the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community the Summit reviews the state of peace, security and good governance within the community and the progress towards the establishment of a political federation of the Partner States;

AWARE THAT Partner States have signed protocols that include the fight against genocide under the auspices of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region;

NOW THEREFORE, THIS ASSEMBLY RESOLVES:

- 1. To request the Summit of Heads of State to give general directions and impetus to measures designed to fight genocide, its ideology, and genocide denial in East Africa;*
- 2. To request the Summit to direct that the Council of Ministers proposes an action plan to deal with genocide and genocide denial as well as an action plan for the Community in furtherance of the Community's obligations under the UN's responsibility to protect agenda.*
- 3. To condemn in the strongest possible terms, terrorist groups with a genocidal agenda, their supporters and financiers wherever they may be;*
- 4. To call upon such groups to abandon their agenda and reintegrate into normal society in furtherance of the ideals of the East African Integration, Pan Africanism and the African Renaissance;*
- 5. To urge the EAC Partner States to develop policies and legal instruments to fight and to punish Genocide ideology and denial;*
- 6. To establish under Rule 80 of the Rules of Procedure of the House a Select Committee to study and make recommendations to the House on the likely security impact to the community of the genocide ideology including genocide denial.*

The Speaker: Thank you very much, hon. Ogle. I wish at this juncture to invite hon. Patricia the Secunder of the motion.

Ms Patricia Hjabakiga (Rwanda): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me the floor to contribute to this important motion. I would like to speak from the historical perspective while also trying to relate the motion to the genocide which has already happened in the world starting with the 1940s; the genocide of the Jews in Germany which culminated into the present international convention to fight genocide of the 1948 which came into effect, as said by the mover, on 12th January 1951.

Since then - during that time the world and the UN said, "Never again," but since that time, there have been a number of other genocides, as you may have witnessed when we were in Kigali in April, this year; in Bosnia -the genocide alumna and other places; and of course to bring it at home, the genocide of the Tutsi in Rwanda in 1994.

Rt hon. Speaker, genocide does not happen as an act or as an event. It is something which is prepared, organized and has almost eight stages so as to happen. But the most dangerous part of it is the second and eighth stage where once genocide has happened, and then there is an effort for the people to deny, negate and propagate their ideology.

Since 1994, Rt. hon. Speaker, we have a region which is very well integrated minus the boundaries created by the 1884 Berlin Conference. There are people of the same origin in all the Partner States. Between Rwanda and Uganda we find similar ethnic groups; between Kenya and Tanzania, we have the Maasai on both sides; when you go to Tanzania and Kenya you find the Jalu on both sides; when you go to Burundi and Rwanda you cannot even say anything because it is like one nation. It used to even be called Rwanda-Burundi.

When you come between Rwanda and Tanzania, you have the Bahangazi on the other side of Tanzania who speak the same language and have got the same ethnicity, if you want to bring it from that angle of ethnicity.

What we have observed is that as time goes, the genocide deniers, especially those who committed the crime of genocide in Rwanda and probably also at the international level, those who have never accepted that genocide could go away without being denied – up to today there are people who are still denying the genocide of the Jews.

We realized that other regions such as Europe have enacted laws and policies, which actually apprehend anybody who tries to bring any form of hate speech; bringing out issues which may lead to genocide.

Rt hon. Speaker, I am a product of this country, Tanzania. I grew up here, not by choice but I came here as a refugee at the time, in 1959. From 1959, there were quite a lot of speeches going on in Rwanda. Those speeches, media reports and mobilizations were even being taught in schools although the genocide happened in 1994. It took all those years.

Rt. hon. Speaker, when a motion to support Rwanda on the commemoration to mark the 19th anniversary against the Tutsi was made, we were unfortunately not able to predict what we were to see immediately after that.

Let me give you an example of hate speeches which are within our region. I think I did circulate the document, which is in Kiswahili but was translated to English by some translator. Let me read it for you:

“Source of the problem worldwide: The Apartheid system of the Boers is nothing compared to the wickedness of the Tutsi considering the way they immigrated the Hutu and other Bantu in their wicked belief that they were made to rule while the Hutu were made to be their slaves.

It is a well-known fact that the Tutsi look with disdain at the Hutu and other Bantu like we would do with” It is even difficult to mention those things; it goes on and on. But let me read you another section.

The Speaker: Hon. Hajabakiga, I appreciate that it is a very important document but also when it comes to our *Hansard*- since they have not looked at it, could you rephrase it by saying the actual content that is in there other than reading it verbatim so that it becomes part of the *Hansard*.

Ms Hajabakiga: Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. But I was quoting what is in this document which has already been circulated to Members. But if you want, I will summarize what I would like to say. What I am trying to say, Rt. hon. Speaker, that is from just a few extracts of this document, which is open to the public; which is in the media; which goes around and people read it and you know that our region doesn't necessary have only educated people to be able to analyze what is right and what is not, it may jeopardize the situation basing on the propaganda going on.

1994 was in Rwanda but you never know if we don't halt this kind of propaganda; this kind of denial; the kind of hate speeches which are ongoing- those who understand Kiswahili and mainly Kinyarwanda and Kirundi, BBC always has people in the media every Sunday morning. They sometimes bring up issues which if you hear what the people are saying, you will be shocked.

Rt. hon. Speaker, the reason why I am supporting this motion is that this region needs to stand firm and ensure that such hate speeches are not allowed in our region most especially that they sow hatred and a bad image among our youth. If you compare this to what happened in Rwanda although they didn't start it, it is the youth who actually committed the act of genocide and yet they didn't start this propaganda.

So, we should protect our people; we should protect our youth and that is why I support the motion that we move forward and ask our regional leaders to actually study the impact of these kinds of hate messages to our peace and security in the region so that we can continue saying, "Never again to genocide." Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I think I should also give you a copy of this so that you can understand what I am trying to talk about. Thank you very much.

Mr. Dan Kidega (Uganda): Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I rise to say, never again; never again. I rise to support this motion as moved by hon. Abubakar.

Madam Speaker, I would like to start my support for this motion by putting on the *Hansard* my deep appreciation for President Kagame of Rwanda who tried to avert genocide in that country but could not succeed though he has succeeded to reconcile the people and resettle those who have suffered 1994 Genocide.

This Assembly must salute the leadership of the African brothers and sisters who stood with the administration of Kigali - *(Interruption)* – Madam Speaker my microphone seems to be – *(Interruption)* -

The Speaker: Yeah, you will appreciate that being a new chamber, at times a few things may not work properly. But just make sure that we move on.

Mr. Kidega: We cannot relent; we will continue and we shall try our best to put everything right within this region.

Madam Speaker, I had earlier on stated that this Assembly deserves to salute the administration in Kigali under the leadership of President Kagame, the Rwandan people and the African brothers and sisters who stood with that administration to make sure the people who have suffered the 1994 Genocide in Rwanda are settled and try to live amicably with the offenders.

Madam Speaker, it was on the 1st of October 1990 that we woke up at school to a very gloomy day because some young boys had left Ntare School. We woke when the dormitories were empty; a number of young people had left the school and the country to go and stop what they perceived was going to be genocide in Rwanda.

To date as I speak, some of those who were very close friends of mine did not reach Kigali. Some of them are maimed; some of them suffer the torture of being the only persons in their families alive.

Madam Speaker, on that day I felt I could also join them but by the fact that I was not part of that ethnic group, I didn't feel it so much. So, I didn't join those young boys who had bare knuckles to go and try to avert genocide in Rwanda. But as I grew up and joined leadership, I have never regretted the day I failed to leave with those boys to go and try to do something.

So, this motion provides for me an opportunity to associate myself with every possible activity or efforts to say, never again. And that is why I firmly support this motion and I invite all Members of this House to support this motion.

We should try in this region to put in place all possible legal frameworks and activities and sensitization programs to ensure that we say, "Never again," as a region.

I feel so sad, Madam Speaker when I listen to radios and I read very strong hate messages in the print and electronic media in this region. You hear people who are tribally talking against a regime or against administration and that is how genocide starts. We need to strive as much as possible as leaders to talk to our people and sensitize them to avoid hate speeches; hate messages; and hate literature like the one hon. Hajabakiga has quoted.

I bothered to read through it; there is a portion in that literature, if you bothered to read through, which categorically names presidents of this region as trying to perpetuate a certain ethnic group to prevail over the entire region. I don't think such literature should be taken lightly. This is a strong hate literature that should be expunged from the consumption of the public. If we don't do that, we are planting seeds of genocide in the region again.

Madam Speaker, I would like to appeal to the leaders of this region, which includes us seated here in this Chamber, please, can we love each other? Can we try to passionate about people's feelings and problems? If we feel the problems of others and live within them and try to appreciate them, we shall never hate and we shall never commit genocide. Can we try to understand the other side of the coin where we don't belong such that we appreciate people's problems? And there we shall not cause hate or destroy other people.

Finally, I would like to urge this House to find it necessary to visit, annually if possible, scenes of conflict that are in this region to remind us constantly of the impact of conflict in this region. I beg to support this motion and say, never again. Thank you. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will take hon. Nancy.

Ms Nancy Abisai (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to also firmly support this motion. The import of this motion cannot be over emphasized for one reason, in this region; we have had issues especially in relation to security and peace. You all remember what happened in our country, Kenya, in 2007.

I would not want, as my colleague said, this is not just an issue which we can talk about and just leave it as it is. And because there is so much that we can talk about on this, I wanted to look at it from a point where we remind ourselves on issues of hate speeches and also tell this House that we learnt from this experience; we have learnt from our own experience in 2007 and yet we have problems in relation to just elections.

Hate speech is a bad thing and it is the one that creates so many problems even within communities. What goes on in the social media and what people talk about even within the problems in relation to elections was very bad.

What I would like to suggest within the recommendations is to ask the mover of the motion to kindly, if it is worth it, because we need to look at how we can start having a proper action plan aware of the fact that the Peace and Security Protocol has already been adopted, I think that we should also add to this recommendation the need to have in place a peace policy and also establish an East African Peace and Reconciliation Commission.

I think that that would add value in terms of the issues that are discussed so that people can begin to speak with each other and not talk at each other. Communities can begin to understand each other and maybe if we have a mechanism, I know that there is Resolution No. 5; “*Urge EAC Partner States to develop policies and legal instruments to fight and punish genocide ideology and denial.*” So, I was thinking that maybe, the mover could add these two aspects within the recommendations. And with that, Madam Speaker, I support the motion. Thank you.

The Speaker: I will take hon. Ndahiro.

Dr. James Ndahiro (Rwanda): Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. I also want to support this motion and I would like to mainly talk about two issues; pre- conflict interventions and post conflict management.

Madam Speaker, hon. Hajabakiga talked about eight stages of genocide but the worst is the last stage; denying it. The reason why that is most dangerous of all is because the perpetrators of genocide are again given the platform; are rehabilitated; and the victims are made to suffer more. This increases the level of trauma; they are demonized and that situation is uncontainable.

In such a situation, it is very difficult to be part of post genocide management because it requires more than we think. When humanity decides to go mad, it becomes very difficult to manage it. It only requires a reconstruction of the social fiber.

Reconstruction of the social fiber goes beyond theory; it goes beyond academics; it goes into the total fabric of society. It is not easy to make people who killed others to sit down and live with them on a day to day basis. There is no theory that can point to that. It only requires the people who understand it; who suffered to realize and appreciate the need to co-exist.

It would be very easy to participate in pre-conflict management and I am requesting this House that we associate ourselves, as East Africans who are joining each other to ensure that it never happens again anywhere.

Madam Speaker, there is an issue of prejudice; there is an issue of hatred. I think there are things that we read and see and talk to each other while taking them lightly but these are some of the things that we should refrain from.

Besides the point, I think at an appropriate time, Madam Speaker, you should again remind this House about our Rules of Procedure. We have started seeing things that were never debated or discussed on the floor of this House being discussed out there in the media. Maybe at an appropriate time we shall come back to that.

Madam Speaker, I also want to support this motion on a second point, which is the co-existence of East Africans or co-existence of humanity. Historically, people were divided and they were calling each other using terminologies like “slaves,” as hon. Hajabakiga was trying to indicate. The writers of such literature even go ahead to name people just to show that these are people who cannot live together and yet they have lived together for thousands of years.

They also mislead the public, for instance, in the same document they are saying that RPF invaded Rwanda because they were instructed by the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and that President Kagame and President Museveni are sons of Nyerere. It is indicated that even after he has passed on, they are implementing the instructions of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere. That is an effort to mislead the public and indicate that East Africans cannot co-exist.

We should all refrain from promoting such literature. We should join our hands to fight it and I think this house should take the lead and indicate to East Africans that we should co-exist and work together.

The dividing factor among humanity in the 21st Century is no longer tribes or whatever; it is the welfare of humanity. Now calling me a slave, as an economist, I know that today we are all slaves of money; nothing else. Everyone wants to work in order to provide for his family. Everyone wants to earn money and we are all focusing on that. It is not the difference between a kilometer here and a kilometer there; a face of this one or how short you are, no, we should focus on development. Development is the challenge. Poverty is the problem which we should all join hands to fight and develop our people and develop ourselves and refrain from all those other evil practices. I totally support the motion, Madam Speaker and beg the House to support it. Thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will take hon. Dora.

Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to support this noble motion and before I go into my comments, I would like to propose a friendly amendment. When you look at the title, it reads, “*Motion for a resolution of the Assembly urging the EAC Summit to study the security impact of genocide ideology and denial in the region and to take appropriate action.*” My concern is this, there is no need for us urge the Summit to study the security impact of genocide or its denial.

I think and I believe that all of us who have been to the Republic of Rwanda and have seen the impact of genocide. And also to some extent understand the denial of genocide. I would like to urge that the Summit institutes mechanisms to stop perpetuation of genocide ideology and denial of genocide in the region. “A study” seems to be very academic. So, I would like to submit this and I humbly ask hon. Ogle to take this, Madam Speaker. (*Applause*)

Having said that, I would like to move on very quickly and say that hon. Dan Kidega was at school studying in Ntare, which is close to the border and I am surprised when hon. Hajabakiga who is a neighbor did not mention that some of us are also cross border people- (*Laughter*) - the Bakiga. And for a long time we have hosted each other and we consider each other as cousins regardless of which area or sect you come from but the fact is that we are part of the same culture in many ways.

I would like to say very quickly, Madam Speaker that what has been mentioned by my colleagues is very humbling and is really heart rending but I would like to say that it isn't easy for us to say, “Never again,” but then why does it occur again? It reminded me of the case of Sodom and Gomorra in the Bible, permit me, whereby people sinned and they still continue to sin or even Noah's Ark. So, basically what I am trying to say is that, yes we can make these vows but at I would like us to go a little bit further and talk about the pre-genocide actions.

We need to understand and appreciate the issue of the causes. I think most of us in East Africa do not understand the issue of genocide very well. When you hear it, it sounds very far away and these people who committed it sound like animals, with due respect, and, therefore, we don't understand it. But I would like to humbly say that one of the issues, which has been mentioned by hon. Kidega, the issue of love, which may sound very biblical, which I would like to state in legal terms, the risk staked for human rights and human dignity, is critical. Because the minute you do not respect human rights of another person and the human dignity of that person, then you are going to head in the wrong direction.

I would maybe like to talk about the action during the aspect of genocide. It is so sad that all of us were hearing and to some extent seeing on the TV and yet we did not do much. I would like to salute, humbly, the efforts of the East African Partner States which took action. And I wouldn't want to elaborate on this but I know for a fact that belated as it may have been, or timely as it may have been, the Republic of Uganda did take some action and other countries did.

But I would like to talk about the issue if during; the issue of during that particular phase calls for concerted action by all the East African Partner States to put in place mechanisms for swift

response. And hon. Ndahiro talked about the issue of early warning mechanisms, I think it is important that we have a group which hon. Nancy talked about, which is understudying and keeping on the pulse of what is happening in the region. Because there are some things that we may take as small matters but they could cause very difficult and challenging responses. I don't want to go into details.

In the post aspect, there was mention of the social fabric and the issue of reconstruction. I think it is very easy, when your house has been burnt or has been hit by a storm, for you to come and put bricks together. But the human sic is so fragile such that when you hear people talk about what happened and the families and people they lost, it is really sad.

We should actually talk about the issue of trauma and the management and psychological help that should be accompanied by this because this whole generation may need to continuously undergo this kind of reconstruction in the social fiber that hon. Ndahiro is talking about and we should also be included in it because any human being is capable of doing what was done in Rwanda.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I believe that time and again this House should be ceased with this issue. I am glad in the last Assembly we used to visit the Republic of Rwanda during this period although at the beginning I felt very uncomfortable because it would draw us back into what had happened. But I believe that periodically, we should be able to take off time and continuously debate this matter.

It is very frightening when you see what happened. There is one place where we were taken to and ha! It was very frightening. Animals kill for food but when human beings kill for – I don't know what- hatred, it becomes very complicated.

I would like to talk to our sisters and brothers of the Republic of Rwanda, we are with you, although this is as tragic as it is, we are part of you. It is not easy for me to feel what you feel but no man is an island. We are all part of the main. So, when one of us dies, a part of us should die. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to move.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will take hon. Mbidde.

Mr. Fred Mukasa Mbidde (Uganda): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I equally, with the permission of the mover of the motion, would also like to include on the resolutions particularly clause 2, which reads: *“To request the Summit to direct that the Council of Ministers proposes and action plan to deal with genocide and genocide denial as well as an action plan for the Community in furtherance of the Community’s obligations under the UN’s responsibility to protection agenda.”* And I would like to include, *“ ... and in consideration of the Protocol for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination, 2006-2008,”* for the following reasons, Madam Speaker:

There is enough legal literature surrounding the East African Community on matters to do with genocide; substantive Partner States to the East African Community are members to legislations and protocols that have addressed the matter to do with genocide and genocide ideology. But the

EAC as a whole has now a duty to adopt a substantive legal mechanism to address matters to do with genocide and the ideology of denial of the same for purposes that we can now come across machinery that can be able to address any disputes once they arise in the circumstances.

When you look at Article 6 of the Protocol for the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, it is very clear. It addresses matters to do with condemnation of discriminatory ideologies. And once entrenched under the legal machinery of the EAC substantive laws, I think we can be in position to address some of these once and for all.

Madam Speaker, Member States under this Protocol to which all EAC Partner States are but of course belonging the International Conference on Great Lakes Region belong, stipulates that Member States condemn all propaganda and all organizations that are inspired by ideas and theories based on the superiority of race, group; “...*Member States undertake to immediately adopt concrete measures intended to eliminate any incitement to such discrimination.*”

These are the very causes for which genocide get grounded and it becomes a practical disturbance of a substantive community. And once adopted and framed into a substantive legal framework for the EAC, Madam Speaker, I have fundamental belief that we can be in position to address these.

So, we need a substantive law and that is why I proposed an amendment to include this Protocol and what it provides for so that we can be able to evolve.

Ms Byamukama: Sorry, Madam Speaker and thank you, hon. Mbidde. I don't think there is a protocol but maybe what you may be referring to for the record is the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. Maybe for the record, if you could clarify on that protocol you are talking about.

Mr. Mbidde: Much obliged. What I am talking about is the Protocol for the Prevention of Genocide, War Crimes, Crimes against Humanity and all forms of Discrimination that were adopted on 29th November, 2006 and the Protocol is an integral part of the international community on the Great Lakes Region and is deemed to have entered into force in June, 2008. Why we are adopting this is because all the EAC Partner States are State parties to the ICGLR and we are saying we need a substantive legal framework – okay apart from Rwanda- we need a substantive legal framework that will capture all the adumbrations within the agreements that substantially address the matter.

Mr. Kidega: Thank you very much, hon. Mbidde for giving way. I think there is something more to just mere legal instruments and laws and otherwise. The international community in their wisdom has created, particularly for the redress of the Rwanda Genocide, the ICTR which is next door here. But are the people of Rwanda feeling justice being delivered to them? Do they really see that the international framework, which is in place, is doing the right thing? I know for a fact that a few months ago, a former Minister of Local Government, I think, in the regime –

The Speaker: Stick to the information you are giving otherwise it is becoming a debate.

Mr. Kidega: They are being exonerated by some of these legal and international frameworks and this is exactly genocide denial. Thank you.

The Speaker: Before you proceed, there is a protocol under the ICGRL which signed in Dar es Salaam and ratified in Nairobi. The fact is that the protocol is there. I think we need to accept that it is there under the peace and security.

Mr. Mbidde: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I take hon. Kidega's information as supportive of my submission that we need a home grown legal framework and not an international legal framework. And that that home grown framework can be assisted by the home grown frameworks that have been established that can be consolidated by way of a compendium into a substantive Act by this august House to take care of genocide in terms of genocide denial; the ideology of genocide and how to combat the same. And Madam Speaker, I thank you because that exactly is one of the protocols that were also talked about by way of preamble to the prevention protocol that I have been talking about here.

So, finally, why I am one of the protagonists campaigning for home grown solutions to genocide, it is interpreted under the Rome Statute – the Protocol establishing the International Criminal Court. So, once matters touching our own lives continue to be defined by those away from our countries, such definitions will continue to be lacking and in the circumstances solutions will obviously follow suit.

So, we are still advocating in the event that this amendment is taken up by the mover of the motion, we advocate that we adopt the criteria established and come up with a substantive legislation to this effect. I beg to support the motion.

Mr. Christophe Bazivamo (Rwanda): Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker. First of all, let me begin by way of giving information. Rwanda is not part of ICC but it is part of ICGRL, which is International Conference on the Great Lakes Region under the chairmanship of H.E. President Yoweri Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda. Thank you.

Rt hon. Speaker, I would also like to thank the mover of this motion which I fully support. When I was young, like many others, I used to listen to the radio about wars in Vietnam, Somalia, Iraq and genocides in Israel, Germany, Bosnia et cetera. At that time I didn't fear and I didn't have much concern because I didn't know anything about where they were and I didn't feel concerned because what was happening was far away from my environment and yet we know that this was a small thing.

Since the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda period I have been affected. My family among others, many others also lost beloved members and are still suffering from that horrible event, which could unfortunately happen elsewhere because no Partner State is immune to hate speeches or genocidal activities.

Pre-genocide preparations among others include hate speeches, heinous activities and crimes against innocent people. Having witnessed this horrible history, I do fear, rightly, any hate speech and heinous ways of doing things because I know how badly they impact. It can be

horrible on the lives of citizens of East Africa and beyond. Actually the impact can be very negative and destructive.

Rt. hon. Speaker, our House should be proactive and take the forefront in prevention instead of waiting for calamities to happen and then intervene. This resolution is in the spirit of prevention and most importantly genocide related conflicts and genocide prevention.

Rt. hon. Speaker, genocide is not specific to a particular country and can happen anywhere if appropriate measures are not taken. Each country is requested to stand up and fight everything which can degenerate into genocide. And our House in being proactive in this direction will be of high value.

I think that it is very important that this House puts in place a select committee to follow up the situation in the region and make recommendations to the House.

We should also call upon the Heads of State to give general guidance so that this issue is handled accordingly. Prevention is better than cure. I, therefore, support the motion.

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will take hon. Harelimana.

Mr. Abdul Karim Harelimana (Rwanda): Thank you, Rt. hon. Speaker for giving me this platform. I commend the mover of this motion, my brother, hon. Ogle and I also commend all the hon. Members who have taken the floor before me for supporting this motion, which I have also risen to support.

Madam Speaker, who is safe in this region? Who is safe from genocide? Rwanda was taken unaware when the genocide took place in 1994. There were indicators before, right from the 1950s, but no one thought that it could take place in the way it did in 1994. But preparations started in the 1950s and ended in the 1960s. In the 1970s things were happening but no one thought that they could degenerate into genocide.

I started with this question of who is safe because I wanted to give some examples that no one is safe in the region unless appropriate measures are taken in prevention. In Kenya in 2007, within just a few days, more than 1,500 people had been killed; more than 10,000 had been displaced and some of them are still displaced to date. That is No. 1.

Burundi almost has the same history as Rwanda though theirs started after independence. It continued until just a few years ago when there were the Arusha Peace Negotiations which brought in the current government but the killings took place from 1983 until when this government came into place.

Madam Speaker, in Uganda we have that group of the Lord's Resistance Army, which has been in place since 1986. Though they are no longer on the Ugandan soil today, they have gone as far as the Central African Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo, they are still causing havoc in the region and their nightmare is still there. No one can give a guarantee that one day they will go back to Uganda and maybe Sudan.

Madam Speaker, here in Tanzania when the people who did the genocide in Rwanda in 1994 while being defeated by RPF/RPA some of them crossed into this country. I remember during a certain time, the western part of Tanzania was not safe especially when they were here in big masses. Even today, their remnants are causing problems in that part of this country. So, Madam Speaker, I can say that no one is safe in this region because Rwanda was also taken unaware.

The people who have this genocidal ideology are still there. Some of them are born just like that and you cannot change them but you can prevent them from doing what they want. Some of them are very well organized. They can convince people that they are doing the right thing, for example, a group called Force Democratique Pu La Debella Sui De Rwanda maybe in English it is Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), these people are the Army that did the genocide in Rwanda, of course in collaboration with the government in Rwanda then, and they used some people as hon. Hajabakiga said, they crossed to Zaire, then and were given a haven by the regime that was in place then and it is now difficult to uproot them from there. They are very well organized both politically and militarily.

They are causing problems not only in DRC – very many people have died; not only Rwandese but the Congolese in Rwanda re being killed by these people. They have taken up some areas as if it is their own country, where they have presidents, ministers, MPs, military police and so on and so forth.

I remember that in one of these past years, they crossed into Uganda and abducted some Americans and killed them inside Uganda, in Bwindi and from there America took a decision to mark them and categorize them as a terrorist organization. They are everywhere in the region. They may decide to show up or hide but they are everywhere in each Partner State of the EAC.

These people, Madam Speaker even young people who are growing among them grow with that genocidal ideology. They take arms to fight, not the Government of Rwanda as government but focusing on a certain ethnic group. So, they grow up with that ideology. And I fear that they will die with it.

Madam Speaker, this group shouldn't be given a safe haven anywhere in the region- in the world- as my brother is saying. We shouldn't give them a safe haven. We shouldn't talk to them. We shouldn't give them the chance at all because their ideology is about genocide only. They don't think about anything constructive; they don't think about democracy, for them it is democracy of ethnic numbers. So we should look for them everywhere they are, and fight them collectively or else, because the Government of Rwanda is holding them back peacefully- by the way, by 1994 they were more than 1 million but today they are not more than six thousand in Congo. It is not that many of them were killed during the battles between us and them but because many of them crossed to Rwanda peacefully and have been accepted by both the communities and the government. Those who refused to come back because they want to stick to their ideology, I think as a region we should stand up and fight them so as to deny them a safe haven. Madam Speaker, I beg to support the motion.

The Speaker: I will take hon. Jeremie, hon. Rwigema and hon. Odette in that order.

Mr. Jeremie Ngendakumana (Burundi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all I would like to thank the mover of this motion for having brought this issue of the genocide because it is so important that we talk about what happened in Rwanda because we all have fear.

Last time when I was in Kigali, I was wrong when I thought that our predecessors, MPs hadn't done anything to condemn the genocide in Rwanda. But unfortunately I had been informed that several times resolutions and motions have been moved and adopted.

If I do remember well the contents of the resolution taken in Kigali, some important ideas have been highlighted; one, for fighting the genocide itself; second, to fight hate speeches, fighting the genocide ideology and also fight the genocide denial. All those ideas have been very well highlighted and now from April to August we have again come back to this issue of genocide. This is to imply that it is a very important issue and if, Madam Speaker I am not think aloud, don't you think that we can institutionalize the debate on genocide so that we know that during every session we debate it? If this observation is relevant, we can see how to bring it up for debate at an appropriate time.

Madam Speaker, while referring to point No. 1 of the resolutions, our request is that the Summit of Heads of State do take the necessary action or measures to fight genocide; to fight the ideology of genocide; to fight genocide denial. So, I would like to seek information, maybe I am not well informed, is there a potential or threats of genocide in the East African Community? If it is so, we must all stand firm and fight against it. If it is not so, we could think of ways of preventing it because since we cannot fight what is inexistent. But we should fear –
(Interruption)

Dr. Ndahiro: Thank you, Madam Speaker and thank you hon. Jeremie for giving way. Yes, you are right. You know “potential” remains “potential” until you realize. We should not sit until we realize. That is one of the reasons why we are debating this.

Secondly, it is not trying to institutionalize this debate. These are genuine concerns but simply because we do not want to find ourselves at the other side, of course we want to be part of the pre as explained by most of the hon. Members here. Thank you.

Mr. Ngendakumana: I was saying that we can take the approach of prevention more than to fight because if you fight, you fight an enemy who is existent. If it is a threat, then you can think of a way to prevent it because if you close the door, you do it while not sure whether the thieves are going to come or not. But you take a preventive measure by closing the door.

Madam Speaker, I think that if you put in place the necessary measures to prevent genocide so that it should not happen again.

About fighting the genocidal ideology, my opinion is that civic education can deal with this issue better than a resolution which is somehow considered as an explanation of our good will.

Madam Speaker, I am somehow surprised that now we are clearly talking about Hutu and Tutsi in this House. The last time I was in Kigali after we had visited the museum, one person came and told me, “You guys in Burundi, why don't you stop speaking about Hutu and Tutsi?” I told

him, “My friend, I have been listening to the presentation and many times the word ‘Tutsi’ came as genocide against Hutu.” I told my friend to be a member of an ethnic group is like an identity but it doesn’t bring any added value to oneself. So, we can see and think as to how we can manage our country – *(Interruption)*-

The Speaker: I think let us give hon. Jeremie time to make his point and then we come in.

Ms Byamukama: I think the information I would like to give will really help this House and sometimes when you see different inclinations coming from a particular aspect of the law. Thank you for your indulgence, Madam Speaker, when you look at Article 2 of the same Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, it is very clear because it says that “*Genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy in whole or in part a national, ethnical, ratio or religious group such as:*

- (a) Killing members of the group;*
- (b) Causing serious bodily or mental harm to the members of the group;*
- (c) Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about physical destruction in whole or in part;*
- (d) Imposing measures intended to prevent – (Inaudible) - within the group;*
- (e) Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.*

Therefore, in line with this particular definition, when you talk about genocide, you need to be explicit and also fit it within this particular definition. That is the information I wanted to give, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Mr. Ngendakumana: I was saying that when I was in Kigali, one told me not to use the word “Tutsi” I told my friend to be a member of an ethnic group is like an identity but it doesn’t bring any added value to oneself. In Burundi, for example, you have taken it away; we speak freely about our ethnic groups. I think, the origin of genocide is the bad management of a country. So, let us think about good governance and give equal chance to everybody and then put in place good civic education so that people think more about the country; more about the community and less about their ethnic groups. Thank you, Madam Speaker. *(Applause)*

Mr. Pierre Celestin Rwigema (Rwanda): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me the floor. Let me express my gratitude and thanks to you for supporting me when I had a problem early this week.

Rt. hon. Speaker, I rise to support this motion which is very important and I would like to thank hon. Ogle, the mover of this motion. Before I go on, I would like to make a reaction on what my colleague, hon. Jeremie has just said, despite all the respect that I give to him.

I think that we had to fight against genocide ideology; to fight against genocide per se. It is a fight because I don’t think he has followed some of what my colleagues like hon. Hajabakiga has said. She gave quotations of some writings or what hon. Abdu Karim was explaining concerning

the genocidal elements organized in DRC who are armed and are ready to come back to Rwanda to cause genocide.

It is not really a kind of diminishing return because even while living, we struggle to live; we struggle to have a better livelihood and so you cannot envisage having some writings – hate speech – and you say it is not a fight; it is a fight.

Rt. hon. Speaker, I rose to support this motion to focus on one aspect. You know in Rwanda, people are still grappling with how to heal the wounds of the past; how to reconcile people and it is not really an easy matter. This is because when we have a genocidal ideology; when we have elements ready to fight and bring back genocide, you cannot achieve genuine reconciliation. Genocide denial cannot recognize what has been happening in Rwanda and so you cannot get genuine repentance and people cannot heal their wounds.

This means that you cannot go to the next step; you cannot think about rehabilitation and which further means that you cannot achieve the reconciliation. For as long as you have those elements of genocide denial, that means that nay effort that Rwanda cannot achieve from its effort. That is why as the East African Community we need to organize ourselves and fight against hate speeches, hate messages through all forms of the media. Thank you, Rt hon. Speaker. I support this motion.

Ms Isabella Ndahayo (Burundi): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me the floor. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the motion and thank the mover or bringing this motion into this House. This motion is good because it has pointers to peace and security in our Community. But as it has been said by many Members and also stipulated in the motion, so many measures should be taken in order to fight against the ideology of genocide.

Madam Speaker, the issue of genocide should be handled very seriously as well as carefully. We still talk about genocide because it has so many bad consequences and also because some of the cases so far in the region, as has been raised by some Members, remained pending and unpunished.

I think that we should not ignore any cases of genocide or killings that happened in our region. That is why I would like to suggest that the idea of having a mechanism of reconciliation in our region be developed. This is a very good mechanism and I don't think there is any way we can finish with the issue of genocide in the region if people cannot sit together and discuss its causes and consequences. There is no way we shall end this issue. People should sit together and discuss the realities of what happened in the region and thereafter come up with measures and serious decisions instead of mere talking about things which will never bring lasting solutions to this very important issue.

So, my Madam Speaker, my main point is that people should sit together and reconcile and also share what they have. Thank you very much.

Mr. Adam Kimbisa (Tanzania): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me the floor. Way back in 1994, I was at the border between Rwanda and Tanzania as the CEO of the Red Cross. We received about 250,000 refugees in 24 hours. Our work was to cloth, feed and shelter them.

As you all know Tanzania is the natural home of the refugees, not only in Africa, but even from other parts of the world. The Tanzanian governments tend to try to protect people who are endangered, which is even in our foreign policy.

Madam speaker, we were not only clothing and feeding but also at Rusumo River witnessed dead bodies and we were having plastic bags in which to put the dead bodies. It was very difficult for anyone to go back and eat food after that scenery because it wasn't a very good site. So, I am a witness of that situation at the border. Thousands and thousands of mutilated bodies – heads separated from their limbs et cetera.

In 1986, I went to Luweero Triangle and witnessed a lot of skulls scattered in many places in Uganda. It was also a bitter experience for me. And you have to understand that by that time I was still young.

Madam Speaker, Kony has kept on killing people for the last many years and the people Kony keeps on killing are the people of East Africa; the people of Uganda.

More than 1, 000 people died in Kenya in 2007; in Burundi again as a Red Cross staff, I had been receiving many refugees, both Burundian and Congolese refugees.

A few years ago, we had a bomb blast in Dar es Salaam by the terrorists and many people died. Now, who is going to speak for all these other people? I think we, as Members of Parliament, we need to speak for all the East Africans, for the people who died in Kenya, for the people who keep on dying in Uganda et cetera.

Having said that, I would like to suggest that can we come up with something which is more inclusive, including the genocide issues in it but which if the people of East Africa will hear today or tomorrow, will know for sure that all of us are for them irrespective of their religion. We should come up with a legal framework which will cover all these people who are dying and they will continue to die but nobody is speaking about them. But they are busy dying day in, day out. So, for us to be seen to be serious, can we come with an umbrella legal framework, of course with the issues of genocide included so that at least the people of East Africa will know and hear that we have done something for them? The conflicts are there; they are not going away; either of a genocide nature or not.

Secondly, I also support the issue of having in the region a group of eminent people who will be dealing with conflict resolution in the region because genocide is – (*Applause*)- not an underlying cause; genocide is a symptomatic condition. The underlying causes in the region are many and wide and deeper like we have been saying, “Deepening and widening” but also the conflicts here will be deeper and widening. Therefore, unless and until as a team we come up with something serious which will protect everybody in East Africa, then we shall be seen to be serious.

So, I support something, which like Madam was saying about reconciliation which is very important. You may have the biggest army on earth but so long as there is no reconciliation and there are people who are dissatisfied, you will kill them and finish them. But if you come and sit

and discuss, at least eminent people will understand what the causes of conflict in the region are and they will help us. Thank you, Madam Speaker. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you very much, hon. Kimbisa. I will take hon. Odette.

Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda): Thank you, Madam Speaker. It is very difficult for me to talk of genocide, genocide denial and genocide ideology. If I can't talk, you bear with me. I am a genocide survivor and so when I hear some people talk of genocide, I think that they don't understand what it is.

I was a member of a very big family but I am the only one who survived with some nephews and nieces. And when hon. Kimbisa was talking about all those dead bodies, I was thinking maybe were they my sisters who went through Akanyaru, were they my brothers who were thrown in Nyabarongo? But it is very difficult when you feel and see these things happening to your own family and your own friends and neighbors. But the genocide ideology that caused that is still there. It is still there even amongst us.

Hon. Kidega asked whether those people in Rwanda who are victims will be given justice. I can tell you; no they didn't feel it. When we used to sit in the other Chamber at Ngorongoro Wing, I would sometimes move out of the session and go to listen to what was being said in the opposite building at the ICTR because I wanted to hear what the genociders were talking about. I never ever stayed there for more than 10 minutes because it was ever shocking. It was like those foreigners who were trying the genociders there, were just playing. And I suffered a lot when I heard cases of hidden witnesses; survivors who were telling the story and the questions that they were being asked as though they were the criminals. And yet the criminals were seated there in very good suits and proud of what they had done. (*Interruption*)

Mr. Kidega: Madam Speaker, I just want to refresh the memory of this House over the experience of this Parliament when we were in Rwanda and we went to attend a local court, Gachacha and a one Gregory gave a testimony in the presence of the assembly and asked the victim that "How did you know that I killed your children and your husband when I had already shot you and you were in the hospital?" That is the kind of experience.

Dr. Nyiramilimo: Thank you, hon. Kidega. Rt. hon. Speaker, I think the Members in this House should understand how painful genocide can be. And I understand and I can see whatever is happening in East Africa can cause it to happen again even if we say, "Never again." If we don't fight against it, it will still happen.

When I read that document that was written by a so called pastor – a kind of head of a church, if he mentions the Almighty many times but how he describes the "big leaders" of this region; Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, Paul Kagame, Yoweri Museveni and saying that they are the bad people; the worst people in this world and they shouldn't be heard and followed. I think if you have all received that document, you should read through it again. But such a person who talks about a church within his surroundings is not alone; there are so many like that.

Now, when thing about those so many genociders; Rwandans who are running up and down throughout East Africa and we live with them as though nothing has happened. I think we should

make them to be tried and they respond to their deeds especially the groups that are now organizing to come and terminate the job that they have left the job that they left unfinished. Even if they almost finished, you know only 5 percent of Tutsi who were in Rwanda at the time of genocide survived and it is like they have done the job very well. It is very difficult to exterminate human beings and the 5 percent was saved by the RPF Army when they arrived. They managed to secure them.

Rt hon. Speaker and hon. Members, I think we should join our efforts and our heads to specifically fight against genocide and its ideology. I, therefore, support the motion and we should urge the EAC Partner States to develop the legal instruments as it was very well stressed by hon. Mbidde. We should put in place the laws to fight against genocide; genociders, genocide ideology and we punish all those people who committed genocide; it is a crime against humanity; it is a crime that should never happen again in our Community. Thank you.

The Speaker: I will take hon. Makongoro as the last on this motion.

Mr. Charles Makongoro Nyerere (Tanzania): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, I just wish to put a little bit more. I have heard the very good contributions from the very capable Members of Parliament. My little contribution will align with one or two of your capable Members; hon. Abdu Karim and hon. Jeremie.

In short, hon. Abdu Karim says, and he says the truth that nobody is safe in East Africa. And in short hon. Jeremie is reminding us that these acts start somewhere but people ignore the symptoms. So, it is something to do with good governance. Let us not forget, and this is where I come in, let us not forget – first I should declare that I stand to support this motion. *(Applause)*

There is number 6 of these resolutions in which the mover, Ambassador Ogle, say that “*We should resolve and under rule 180 of the Rules of Procedure of the House select a committee to study and make recommendations to the House on the likely security impact to the Community of the genocide ideology including genocide denial.*” I am very hopeful that this will go through today and as it goes through, we should have this committee to make the recommendations. *(Applause)* And on these recommendations, please consider making a law for East Africa against these acts. Make a law which will take action against those who are bringing in the symptoms.

I have learnt a lot in Kigali by visiting this genocide memorial that these guts may be Hutu by tribe but in their actions and character and their modus operandi, these were criminals. If I am wrong, somebody correct me to day, and I stand to be corrected. *(Applause)* But I think that it is now official that they are the ones who killed their President – they shot down the plane. These were criminals. It is fine they were Hutus from one of the four clans in Rwanda but these were criminals killing a Hutu President and then you call them Hutus. No, this is an issue of good governance; this is about criminals.

It is okay because what they were planning was intended to eliminate the Tutsi but it is not okay not to remember that these guys were criminals because I also hear there was a lady in this government who was Prime Minister and was supposed to take over from the dead President.

And I think in the very beginning she showed that what they were planning was not right; it was not acceptable and so she was killed.

With such criminals you sometimes have to be Hutu and I believe that I also learnt from the Genocide Museum that there were Hutus who never liked it and took action to save lives of Tutsis. *(Applause)*

We should not forget that this was not done by Hutus because of their tribe. No, there were some Hutus who were criminals. These criminals are part of the many East African tribes and others.

This is where I come to hon. Jeremie. Let us keep this East African; let us please, have this committee to give us recommendations and this should seriously think of a law to punish such people in East Africa. Doing genocide is way over going against the Treaty because the Treaty wants us to live well in peace and prosperity. *(Ms Hajabakiga rose in her place)*

The Speaker: I have a problem because there are other Members who had wanted to have the opportunity to debate.

Ms Hajabakiga: Just information because the Rwanda Government has taken a decision on the issue of incriminating people as killers is illegal in Rwanda because those who killed were killers and it was not just because they were Hutus. They were doing it because they were killers and criminals at such. I wanted this to be recorded.

The Speaker: Concluded hon. Nyerere.

Mr. Nyerere: Thank you very much. And so I do conclude that please, let us keep this East African and let us do it as soon as possible. God bless you all. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Speaker: With some consideration, I will take hon. Straton. Make it very quickly; in two minutes

Mr. Straton Ndikuryayo (Rwanda): Thank Rt. hon. Speaker. I will indeed take only two minutes. First of all I stand to support the motion.

I have been seated here listening to the contributions by my colleagues and would like to know some Members had the opportunity to watch *Al Jazeera* this morning? I was watching the news talking about the killings in Syria and the experts are analyzing whether to term in genocide or not. I think that is just killing because it is the army which is just killing their people; it is an opposition which is being killed.

On that basis, I would like to talk about the contribution by my colleague, hon. Kimbisa. Hon Kimbisa has reacted as a humanitarian activist, which I am as well. He was trying to compare normal killings and genocide which is not true. The normal killings – I am human and I know that killing people is bad but genocide is clearly defined by the UN Convention and other international protocols. That is what I wanted to say.

It was as though hon. Makongoro was reading from my mind. I would like to compare the issue of the eminent person raised with the proposed Resolution No. 6 to put in place a select committee. I think I shouldn't take time on that.

Madam Speaker, this is just on the issue of policies and civic education to be put in place. I would like to say that we have the National Unity Reconciliation Commission in Rwanda and there are some reports on its website which you can read; we have "Never Again" not just as a slogan as my colleague, hon. Dan Kidega has said, but as a group of young people, which doing well in campaigning and sensitization of the youth and other people on the ideology of genocide and how it can be fought.

Lastly, the idea by hon. Mbidde to come up with a homegrown legal framework on this is a good idea which we should all, as Members of this Assembly, support so that we can say, "Never again" in East African. Thank you, Madam Speaker. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will call upon hon. Ogle to respond very quickly.

Mr. Abubakar Ogle (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also wish to, from the onset, to congratulate the hon. Members who have contributed from a point of passion; from a point of critical observation; and from a point of contextualizing the whole thing. And in the interest of time, I will just respond to some few of the Members.

One, hon. Mbidde suggested an amendment to the fact that the motion should be amended so as to incorporate elements of human rights, violation and war crimes. I will not be comfortable with that suggested amendment in view of the fact that, like the last speaker, hon. Straton was saying, we wanted to draw a clear distinction between genocide and the murders or massacres or war crimes or whatever as they are known and perceived. So, I would not really be comfortable with that amendment, hon. Mbidde.

In addition, your other amendment that this thing be incorporated under Article 6 of the Treaty; this I suppose is also adequately captured in the opening paragraph of this motion where we were talking about the development. You were suggesting the development of a homegrown polices and legal instruments. I think it is also adequately captured in Resolution No. 5 where we were talking about the development of policies and legal instruments to fight and punish genocide ideology and denial. So, that one has also been taken care, in my opinion.

This now takes me to another amendment which was suggested by hon. Dora. I appreciate your perspective of the heading as not to appear academic. But if you look at the import; the essence of the whole motion, it is seeking – it is actually requesting the Summit – the Heads of State to look at this thing. You know, you are looking at it from the perspective that we are discussing the Rwandan Genocide per se; this thing is genocide in its wider context.

I can understand the significance of referring to Rwanda because it was the nearer; the more potent; the closer case we have dealt with recently and in terms of our region. But this motion is talking about genocide in its wider sense and understanding. So, to study means we are seeking guidance and directions from the Heads of State in their wisdom. So, from that perspective the "study" does not look academic.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to thank all the other Members who contributed. I understand the feelings, particularly of hon. Odette. She is a survivor who has lived through it.

Personally the memory of Rwanda, if I may take this as our recent understanding of genocide, the Rwandan Genocide sits like a tumor leaking some poison from the back of my mind. I was there as a young reporter; I have lived it; I have seen it; it was reprehensible; it was disgusting. I don't think there are any words available to describe what really happened in Rwanda.

What I also witnessed, other than bishops killing nuns, was a young mother who had a baby strapped on her back and took a machete and started hacking another woman who also had an infant on her back.

Now, in that kind of situation, it is not just ordinary killing as we understand it. It is not like the massacres we have witnessed in Kenya, maybe, among the Turkana or around Tana River or among the Teso and the Karamojong, the experiences I know. It is not just that. To explain that kind of incident where a whole bishop in charge - (*Ms Byamukama rose in her place*) -

The Speaker: Let us try to conclude.

Ms Byamukama: I am just concerned and I don't want to drag on this. But when I said: "*Institute mechanisms to stop perpetuation of genocide ideology and denial of genocide in the region.*" It is broad. Studying the security impact is part of the mechanisms because the mechanisms are wider than a study. These mechanisms include, for example, putting place an institution of eminent persons, research, and the roles. So, these are the mechanisms. And considering the response of this august House, Madam Speaker, I would implore hon. Ogle to look at it in a wider perspective too. I thank you.

Mr. Ogle: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I appreciate the sentiments of hon. Dora and I don't mind it being incorporated in that context. (*Applause*) Madam Speaker, I was saying, when I-

The Speaker: I request that you conclude because you are yet giving another debate.

Mr. Ogle: Thank you, Madam Speaker. What I was saying was that when killings occur in that kind of format, in that kind of pre- arranged manner, there is something that leads to a stereotype. You stereotype something; you start it while looking innocent; you may take it for granted but then at some point later it leads to something else.

The Speaker: I beg you conclude because you are going into debate.

Mr. Ogle: I am almost concluding, Madam Speaker. What I was saying is that we were aware of the literature which was being circulated. Somebody was talking about the potential of a Bahima Kingdom that was traversing form part of Tanzania, Uganda and all the way. Now, those things should not be taken for granted; they are dangerous. We have lived through this Rwandan experience but there is a potential of that kind of thing to happen again. With those few remarks, Madam Speaker, I wish to support.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, thank you so much. I would now like to move that the motion on the floor is that this Assembly do resolve to urge the EAC Partner States to study and institute a mechanism on security impact of genocide ideology and denial in the region. I now put the question.

(Question on the Motion put and agreed to.)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda): Asked the Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers: -

The EAC Human Resource Advisory Committee and the other relevant panels are important for discharging fairness and fair hearings against those staff arraigned before them for disciplinary action. From the response of the Chair of the Council of Ministers on the debate of the audited accounts for the Financial Year 2010/2011 respectively, two members of staff of the Community, namely, Ms. Evelyn Odula (LVBC) and Dr. Flora Musonda (Director of Trade, EAC Secretariat) were a subject of disciplinary action.

- (a) Could the Chairperson of the Council confirm to this August House whether the Advisory Committee considered the two cases and if so, when; and what were its key recommendations?*
- (b) What actions did the Secretary General and Council take thereafter?*
- (c) Could he further confirm to this August House if due diligence at time of recruitment of staff as envisaged in the August, 2012 Council Meeting will cover all employees of the EAC.*
- (d) Could he further inform the August House how this is expected to be achieved and what safeguards have been put in place to enable the Community to comply with principle of due diligence at the time of recruitment of EAC staff.*

The Minister of State for EAC Affairs, Uganda, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Mr. Shem Bageine) (Ex-Officio): Madam Speaker, in line with regulation 86(3) of the East African Community Staff rules and regulations, on 22nd September 2012, the Secretary General established a disciplinary panel to handle the case of Ms Evelyn Omondi Odula as directed by the Council of Ministers at its 25th meeting. The panel held sessions on 26th-28th September 2012 in Kisumu, the Republic of Kenya and after analyzing all documentations relating to the case, interview reports with relevant staff and communication from University of Nairobi and CASNEB in regard to Ms Odula's academic and professional certificates, recommended to the Secretary General the following:

1. Maintain Ms Odula's suspension from duty with full pay up to the date of determination of her employment contract with East African Community Lake Victoria Basin Commission as per the advice of the Counsel to Community, given on the 25th Meeting

of the Council and in accordance with regulation 91(1) of the EAC staff rules and regulations and

2. Recommend to the Council to terminate Ms Odula's employment contract with East African Community Lake Victoria Basin Commission in accordance with regulation 91(8) of the EAC staff rules and regulations.

Madam Speaker, regarding part (b) of the question, the Council of Ministers, at its 26th meeting based on the report of the disciplinary panel and the Secretary General's recommendations, dismissed Ms Odula from employment without terminal benefits effective from 26th November 2012 and directed the Secretary General to request the Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya to institute criminal proceedings against Ms Evelyn Odula for uttering false documents and professional certificates to gain employment in the East African Community.

Ms Odula has since been dismissed from employment as per Council directive effective 26th November 2012 and on 8th January 2013, the Secretary General wrote to the Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya requesting him to institute criminal proceedings against Ms Odula.

Madam Speaker, regarding the case of Dr Flora Musonda based on the directive of the 23rd meeting of the Council of Ministers, the EAC Executive wrote to Dr Musonda on 20th October 2011 informing her that after carrying out verification, the impressed expenses for the amount of US\$ 24,200 was found to be ineligible and directed her to make an immediate refund of the said amount. Dr Musonda refunded the amount of US\$ 24,200 in full settlement to EAC on 22nd February 2012.

Madam Speaker, regarding part (c) of the question, the 25th Meeting of the Council of Ministers directed the Secretary General to undertake due diligence of all staff in EAC Organs and institutions. Although the staff of the Community include the Executive staff who are political appointees, the 26th Extra Ordinary Meeting of the Council held in Arusha in April 2013 observed that this category of staff should be excluded from the due diligence process because of the political nature of their appointment.

Madam Speaker, in the last part of the question, I wish to assure this august House that due diligence for all new staff being recruited into the employment of the East African Community will be undertaken before appointment letters are issued to the selected candidates. This requirement will also be incorporated as part of the EAC recruitment policy in the East African Community staff rules and regulations. I thank you.

The Speaker: Supplementary question, hon. Mulengani.

Mr. Mulengani: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Based on our Rules; Rule 21(3), I am partly not satisfied with some sections and I will follow them with supplementary questions. However I request for your indulgence, Madam Speaker to elaborate on why I am not satisfied before I raise my expectations in terms of answers to my question.

The Speaker: Proceed but make it brief since you are going to re-submit the supplementary.

Mr. Mulengani: Okay. Madam Speaker, I base my dissatisfaction from Articles 70(2), 70(1)(h), 135(1) of the Treaty which gives mandate to the respective responsible officers in this Community to ensure that the Community is handled in the right way. It also entrusts them to make rules and regulations both for staff and financial rules that they ought to adhere to.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to quote that under the staff rules on page 5, they talk about regulation 6 on the status of members and staff. Even under Regulation 7, the impartiality and integrity, on page 8 under regulation 14 they talk about specifically (a) ensuring equity and taking into account individual circumstances.

Madam Speaker, I am quoting all this because my import of referring to Evelyn and Flora was to see whether due diligence and impartiality was exercised by the disciplinary committee. The matter I raised is found in the EAC management letter on the financial statements for the year ended 30th June 2010 which were tabled in Bujumbura on 14th September and subsequently in the committee report which was tabled and adopted in Bujumbura in January 2012 for those who might not have been aware on the Committee of Accounts.

Madam Speaker and Members, various issues were observed by the Audit Commission and in the committee report and I want to bring you on board. This is specifically for the case of Dr Flora, including use of blank receipts. I think the Chairperson Council may not have been brought on board and I wish the Secretary General was present to this effect. There as use of blank receipts to make accountabilities. There was an observation of training not being carried out in the period required and using different trainers other than the ones described in the concept note. No signed lists for attendances and extra.

The implication then and up to today by the Audit Commission is they found that the funds may not have been used for the intended purposes. Under Financial Regulations and Rules of the Community 122 specifically 1(d) talks about fraud and presumed fraud, wasteful expenditures etc. the action demanded by the Assembly was among others to recover the money due. We also requested that disciplinary action be taken to the staff and a report be submitted to this House by March 2012. Nothing has come to be seen.

Madam Speaker, under Regulation 8 again, it gives responsibilities - these are the financial regulations of the Community - it gives responsibility and accountability purposes. Specifically, sub regulation (4) under Regulation 8 provides that any member who contravenes the rules and regulations or any administrative instructions and procedures shall be held personally responsible, financially liable and shall be disciplined in accordance with the provisions of the staff rules and regulations approved by the council.

These regulations of 2006 are in place and that are referred to by the Council as well. Regulation 9 on page 15 of the Financial Rules and Regulations, 2012, talks about enforcement of regulations as the responsibility of the Secretary General – (*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: I think you have covered enough ground to really base your dissatisfaction, so put your supplementary question.

Mr. Mulengani: I want to say that regulation 40(4), with your indulgence this is the last one I am quoting, demands that all imprest not retired beyond the period provided under sub regulation 3 shall be recovered in full with a surcharge of 10 percent per month of the outstanding amount. This was not done. The response that is being given presupposes that – (*Interruption*) -

The Speaker: I think the Chair Council can answer because that is where you are coming from, that all these that you have quoted have not been followed. Chair Council you would come in here to make either your commitment or your further guidance on the question.

Mr. Mulengani: Madam Speaker with your indulgence, the issue I am raising is an issue of-

The Speaker: Hon. Mulengani, according to our rules, a supplementary question has to be very brief and I think I gave you a little extra area so that you are able to state the grounds as to why you are not satisfied. I think it is in this vein now that the Chair Council should make an undertaking or a note so that he is able to go and investigate the areas you have listed and I think that would be in order.

Mr. Bageine: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank hon. Bernard Mulengani for bringing to my attention the various provisions in the Rules and regulations of staff of the Community and what should be done whenever cases of this nature arise.

I want to assure this House that I will find time now that we are going to be working as a Council of Ministers and not just sitting in distances, to look at how this kind of indiscipline, whenever it occurs is handled and to ensure that we strictly follow the rules and provisions and regulations of the staff employment in the Community.

I was not aware obviously for obvious reasons and I once again want to assure this House that I will institute investigations myself and I do not know actually, if I may confess, whether Dr Musonda is still employed by the Community and if so, I will follow up these investigations to bring justice in accordance with the rules and regulations of staff employment. I thank you. (*Interjection*)

The Speaker: Thank you...Clarification to whom? The Chair is seated so the clarification does not...Okay, that will be seeking guidance from the Chair or the Speaker.

Mr. Mulengani: Madam Speaker, I rose up to say that under Rule 21(3), I was not satisfied and I requested that I submit reasons why then I raise my supplementary questions and you ably told me – (*interruption*) -

The Speaker: Hon. Bernard Mulengani, what I request humbly again is that you can re-submit your question and it will be re-answered. Submit it to the Chair and it will be answered. Supplementary question, hon. Zein?

Mr. Zein: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to thank the minister for the undertaking but just to draw his attention regarding part (b). I have seen that the Secretary General has written to the Attorney General of the republic of Kenya. I would like to draw his attention to the 2010 Constitution of Kenya. The Attorney general has nothing to do with public prosecutions at

all. That role has been taken away from the Attorney General and an independent Director of Public Prosecution office has been established. I would like to urge the minister to consider requesting the Secretary General to write this letter to the right office for action to be taken. The Attorney General in the Republic of Kenya is now just an advisor to government. Thank you, Madam.

Mr. Bageine: Madam Speaker, I take note of the view by the hon. Member and you will appreciate that when the letter was written,. At that time the Attorney was in charge of public prosecution. I will therefore request the Secretary General to follow up. I want to believe that cases which were pending before the Attorney General had been transferred to the new office of the public prosecutor- But we will follow it up, I thank you.

QUESTION REFERENCE EALA/PQ/3/OA/17/2013:

Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda): Asked the Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers:

“The Council of Ministers at its 26th Ordinary Meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, deliberated on the compensation made to a former DSG by the EAC Secretariat on behalf of the Republic of Rwanda. Pursuant to Article 67(2) of the Treaty, a Partner State which appoints a Secretary General forfeits the post of a Deputy Secretary General. Further, according to Regulation 96 (3) of the EAC Staff Rules and Regulations, where a Partner State withdraws one of its Executive staff before the expiry of his or her contract, the individual shall be compensated the full remuneration package he or she would have received if he or she had served the entire period of the running contract and the funds paid by the Community shall be reimbursed by the concerned Partner State.

Could the Chairperson of the Council inform this August House:-

- (a) Which Executive staff have so far been withdrawn prior to the expiry of their terms of contract (s) and whether they have been compensated;*
- (b) Which partner states have so far complied with the above provisions of the Treaty and Staff Rules?*
- (c) Why has it taken long for the Community to recover the USD 128,891 advanced to Mr. Alloys Mutabingwa as compensation, on behalf of the Republic of Rwanda?*
- (d) What steps has the Council taken to compel the refund of the said EAC funds.*

The Minister of State for EAC Affairs, Uganda, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Mr. Shem Bageine) (Ex-Officio): Madam Speaker, in answer to this question, I wish to inform this august House that the Executive staff who have been withdrawn prior to the expiry of their contracts in the manner contemplated under the provisions of the Treaty and catered for under the staff rules and regulations cited by hon. Mulengani are as follows:

- (a) Dr Sam Gahire Nahamya from the Republic of Uganda was first appointed on 14th March 1996 and whose contract was renewed on 14th March 1999. Dr Nahamya's renewed contract as Deputy Secretary General came to an end when on 24th April 2001, the Republic of Uganda nominated Col. Nuwe Amana Mushega to be appointed as Secretary General.
- (b) Ambassador Ahmed Tuwemamu Ngemera from the United Republic of Tanzania. He was appointed Deputy Secretary General on 12th October 2004 for three years and whose contract came to an end on 25th April 2006 when the United Republic of Tanzania nominated Ambassador Juma Volta Mwapachu for appointment a a Secretary general.
- (c) Mr Louis Mutabingwa from the Republic of Rwanda was appointed Deputy Secretary General on 29th April 2009 for three years and whose contract came to an end on 19th April 2011 when upon nomination by the Republic of Rwanda of ambassador Richard Sezibera, was appointed Secretary General.

Madam Speaker, Dr Nahamywa, Ambassador Ngemera and Mr Mutabingwa were compensated for the periods they would have served on their respective full contracts.

Regarding the second part of the question and basing on the answer I have just given, the Republic of Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania complied with the provisions of the Treaty and the staff rules and regulations when each of them had to forfeit a position of Deputy Secretary General.

It has taken the Community long to recover from the Republic of Rwanda, the money paid to Mr Louis Mutabingwa following the end of his contract because the Republic of Rwanda contends that Mr Mutabingwa's leaving Community service upon the appointment of Ambassador Richard Sezibera as Secretary general was not a withdrawal from the Community's executive staff as contemplated under the staff rules and regulations.

Madam Speaker, following the report of the Secretariat's failure to get the Republic of Rwanda to reimburse the monies paid to Mr Mutabingwa as reported at the 25th Meeting of the Council held on 25th August 2012, the Council directed the Secretary General to refer the matter to the Summit of Heads of State for guidance. However at the 26th Meeting held on 26th Meeting held on 26th November 2012 before the Summit met and in order to exhaust all available mechanisms for resolving the matter, the Council referred the matter to the sectoral Council on legal and judicial affairs for consideration and advice on the way forward. The matter will be on the agenda of the next meeting of the sectoral council. I thank you.

The Speaker: Supplementary question, hon. Mulengani?

Mr. Mulengani: One is that time has gone, and I think most of the issues being raised by the Council- By then they were talking of the 15th meeting of the sectoral Council and I would request the Council to give us the most recent position on this particular question.

The other one is, what is the Council doing to streamline the gaps in the staff rules and regulations to avoid such occurrences? Also, if the other two Member States have complied, what is the problem with the other Member State that is not complying?

Mr. Bageine: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The answer to the first question is as I answered. The latest is that we expect this matter to come up during the next Council of Ministers meeting so that we can take a decision if the answer we get is not satisfactory.

The second one is yes, the Republic of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania complied with the provision in the law and refunded the money to the Community. There are provisions in the Treaty and other documents relating to dealing with Partner States in matters of this nature and that is why in November last year, the Council had thought of referring the matter to the Summit for advice or action. As I said, once we get a report during the next Council meeting, we shall decide a way forward whether to consult the Summit or whether to refer the matter to the East African Court of Justice. We will wait when this Council sits which is not long to come. By the end of next week, we shall have that Council and we shall take the next step. Thank you.

QUESTION REFERENCE EALA/PQ/3/OA/18/2013.

Ms Shy-Rose Bhanji (Tanzania): Thank you, Madam Speaker for the opportunity to ask hon. Maryam Ussi Yahya's question.

In 2008, Rwanda was chosen to host the East African Community Science and Technology Commission as part of the process of implementation of the provisions of Article 103 of the EAC Treaty.

Could the Chair of the Council inform the House:-

(a) On the progress made so far in the establishment of this Commission.

(b) Whether the Commission is operational and it is properly funded. If not, when will it be operational and funded

The Minister of State for EAC Affairs, Uganda, and Chairperson, EAC Council of Ministers (Mr. Shem Bageine) (Ex-Officio): Madam Speaker, the East African Community Development Objective in Science and Technology is to develop and strengthen national systems of innovations which will drive sustainable socio-economic development and rapid achievement of the Community's goals.

To this effect, the Community established the East African Science and technology Commission whose main purpose shall be to promote and coordinate the development, management and application of science and technology in the Partner States.

Madam Speaker, to achieve the above objectives of the East African Community Science and Technology Commission, a protocol was developed and has been ratified by all the Partner States. The East African Community Science and Technology Commission Bill to clarify and facilitate the implementation of the Protocol has been drafted and awaits consideration by the

Council at the 27th Meeting in the course of this year before reference to the sectoral Council on Legal and Judicial Affairs.

Madam Speaker, at its 24th meeting held on 26th November 2011, the Council of Ministers decided that the Republic of Rwanda should host the African Science and Technology Commission. At its 10th Meeting held on 10th August 2012 in Kampala Uganda, the sectoral Council on Education, Science and Technology, Culture and Sports directed the Secretariat to convene a meeting of science and technology experts from the Partner States to make recommendations for the operationalisation of the East African Community Science and Technology Commission.

The sectoral council further directed that an extra ordinary sectoral council meeting be convened to inter alia, consider the report of the experts on the operationalization of the East African Community Science and Technology Commission.

The meeting of the science and technology experts took place at the Telecom House in Kigali, Rwanda which is the proposed site to house the East African Community Science and Technology Commission. The experts reported that the EAC criteria for the sitting of East African Community Organs and Institutions, although instructive in many respects, is not explicit on what constitutes offer to host.

They further noted that the proposal submitted by the Republic of Rwanda on East African Community Science and Technology Commission included monthly office rent which raised concern among the experts.

Madam Speaker, the meeting further sought clarification from the Republic of Rwanda on what was contained in the offer of hosting the Commission at Telecom House. The meeting also developed a budget of US\$ 1,894,400 to operationalise the commission. The prepared budget of the said US\$ 1,894,400 to operationalize the EAC Science and Technology Commission was presented to the 1st extra ordinary Meeting of the sectoral Council on Education, Culture and Sports held in early November 2012 in Kigali, Rwanda.

The sectoral council discussed the proposed budget and recommended the same for consideration and endorsement by the 26th Meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Madam Speaker, at its 26th meeting, the Council of Ministers approved the East African Community Science and Technology Commission budget and directed the Secretariat to include and conclude negotiations of the headquarters agreement between the EAC and the Republic of Rwanda by June 2013.

The Council further directed the EAC Secretariat to develop specific terms and conditions which constitute the basic requirements of the offer to host by Partner States and submit them to the Council of Ministers for consideration by June 2013.

The Secretariat convened the meeting as directed from 29th April to 2nd May 2013 where specific terms relating to the offer to host were developed. Since that time, the Council of Ministers has not yet sat to consider the report.

Madam Speaker, in the meantime the Science and Technology Commission was planned to be operational beginning in the financial year 2013/2014 but the proposed budget of US\$ 1,894,400 was not considered by the Finance and Administration Committee since it was over and above the zero increment which the Partner States used as the guiding principle to prepare the 2013/2014 budget estimates.

Therefore, the operationalization of the commission will have to be halted until funding is found. Madam Speaker. I thank you.

The Speaker: Supplementary question, hon. Shy-Rose?

Ms Bhanji: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have a small supplementary question. I wanted to know the Council of Ministers had not sat to consider the report. So when are they going to sit to consider this report?

Another minor one is the operationalization of the commission will have to be halted until funding is secured. What efforts have been undertaken to make sure that the funding will be in place? Thank you.

Mr. Bageine: Thank you, Madam Speaker. The Council of Ministers meeting is scheduled for 31st of this month and this matter will definitely be on the agenda.

The second question is in relation to funding. Commissions that we have as institutions or organs of the Community are funded by Partner States but this does not preclude possibilities of development partners coming in to support us. I personally think this is a very important commission that will go a long way in creating expertise and skills within the region and therefore needs support. The Council is going to look at ways and means of finding resources in order to operationalise this commission. I thank you.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Chair, Council. I think that concludes our Order Paper today. I want to thank the hon. Members for the active participation. Before we conclude, I want to make two small but important announcements. First one, yesterday hon. Nakawuki had an extra year on her age, don't ask me how old. Tomorrow the Rt. hon. Speaker will also have another year added to her age. On Saturday hon. Mumbi will also have an extra day added on her age. This is not a mean achievement and I think in the spirit of East African legislative Assembly, we invite you that as we walk out of the Chamber we celebrate that extra year which the Almighty has given to us so that we are able-

Dr. Nyiramilimo: I also want to say that Rt. hon. Speaker is adding one more year to the years of her life. She could not say it herself and I thought it is important also to say it. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Thank you very much. I will just invite all of us that when we conclude the sitting now, we converge in the foyer and thank God and share what we may have amongst us.

The second announcement is that tomorrow we have a workshop and that is why I insisted that Dr Martin should remain and hear this announcement. We have a seminar on maternal, newborn and child health. The invitation has been sent to you. This is an activity of EALA and you are expected to participate. It is not a by-the-way so I expect full attendance because it is one of those very important activities under the EALA calendar. So I invite you to be present and participate fully so that we are properly sensitized on issues of maternal and newborn child health aspects. Thank you very much.

With those two announcements, the House stands adjourned to Tuesday, 27th at 2.30 p.m.

(The House rose at 17:25 p.m. and adjourned until Tuesday, 27 August 2013 at 2.30 p.m.)