



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Official Report of the Proceedings of the East African Legislative Assembly

24TH SITTING – THIRD ASSEMBLY: SIXTH MEETING - FIRST SESSION:

Tuesday, 28 May 2013

The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2.22p.m. in the Chamber of the Parliament of Uganda in Kampala, Uganda

PRAYER

(The Speaker, Ms Margret Nantongo Zziwa, in the Chair.)

The Assembly was called to order.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I wish to welcome you to Kampala in Uganda for the Sixth Meeting of the First Session of the Third East African Legislative Assembly.

On behalf of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), I would like to thank the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda and the Administration of Parliament, for granting EALA into their premises, the Chamber and all the logistical arrangements in place.
(Applause)

I would like to inform all of you that the Administrative Circular is already out. It is very detailed and includes all the programmes for this Session. I encourage you to study it carefully so that you can actively participate in all the activities therein listed. Notably, we shall be visiting the EAC institutions that are in Uganda on Friday 31 May 2013. We shall also participate in a tree-planting activity that comes after a resolution of this House at St Lawrence Schools and Colleges on 1 June 2013.

Accordingly, we will also participate in the prayers on the Uganda Martyrs' Day of 3 June 2013. Also to note is the fact that there is a change in our programme to the effect that the address by H.E, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and the Chairperson of the Summit will now take place on 5 June at the parliamentary Chamber, beginning at 2.30pm.

Allow me to also report that the extraordinary summit and the Council took place on 28 April 2013 in Ngurdoto, Arusha in Tanzania, where several key policy matters were discussed. The report on that summit is already posted on the EAC Web Site. Please take off time and look at it. But key among the activities that will take place include the retirement of Dr Julius Rutich from the service of the Community, which will take place at the end of June 2013. He will be replaced by Mr Charles Njoroge Kinyanjui who was officially sworn in as the new Deputy Secretary General and he is from Kenya.

Also hon. Justice Busingye, the Principal Judge will be retiring in June 2013. He will be replaced by Hon. Justice Jean Bosco Butasi from Burundi, who also took Oath before the summit. *(Applause)*

The new judges of the Appellant Division, namely hon. Justice Dr Faustin Nteziryayo from Rwanda and hon. Justice Leboyenkurunziza, from Burundi also took Oath of Office. *(Applause)*

Let me further report that H.E, President Uhuru Kenyatta, as a new Member of the Summit addressed the Summit and offered his commitment to drive the EAC Integration. He also pledged continued support to the process. *(Applause)*

Hon. Members, allow me to also mention that we shall alter the lineup of the business to give an opportunity to the Chair, Council of Ministers, to brief us on EALA's requests to the Summit, which are before the Council of Ministers. That will be done at an appropriate time. Thank you.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda): Madam Speaker and honourable members, I beg to move a motion that this House, pursuant to the provisions of Article 55 (1) of the Treaty and Rule 11 of the Rules of Procedure, do resolve to hold its sittings in Kampala, in the Republic of Uganda. I beg to move.

The Speaker: Is the motion seconded? Okay, seconded by hon. Kidega and hon. Nakabuki. Please proceed, hon. Dora Byamukama.

Ms Byamukama: Madam Speaker and honourable members, the motion reads: *"WHEREAS Clause 1 of Article 55 of the Treaty provides that the meetings of the Assembly shall be held at such times and places as the Assembly may appoint;*

AND WHEREAS Rule 2 of the Rules of procedure provides that Seat of the Assembly shall be at Arusha in the Republic of Tanzania;

AND WHEREAS Sub Rule 7 of Rule 11 provides that the Assembly may, on a resolution adopted by a majority of its members, decide to hold one or more sittings elsewhere within the partner states other than at its seat;

NOW THEREFORE, this Assembly this Assembly resolves as follows:

- 1. That pursuant to the provisions of Sub Rule 7 and Rule 11 cited above, the Assembly shall hold sittings in the Chamber of the Parliament of Uganda, from Tuesday, 28 May 2013 to Thursday, 6 June 2013.*

Madam Speaker, I beg to move.”

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Dora Byamukama. Honourable Members, the motion on the Floor is that the House, pursuant to the provisions of Article 55 (1) of the Treaty and Rule 11 of the Rules of procedure, do resolve to hold sittings in Kampala, in the Republic of Uganda. Okay, I now put the question to motion as moved by Hon. Dora Byamukama.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Motion adopted.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, amidst us in the Chamber is our new member, hon. Phyllis Kandie, who is the Secretary for the East African Community, Commerce and Tourism of the Republic of Kenya.

By virtue of her appointment and subsequent to the Oath she is going to take, hon. Phyllis Kandie will be an X-Official Member of this august House. I wish to congratulate her upon the new appointment. I also warmly welcome her to this Assembly. We look forward to her coming to this House.

At this point, allow me to invite any two members conversant with the profile of the member to bring her into the Chamber.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH

The Oath was administered to Hon. Phyllis K Kandie.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I wish to welcome our new member, Hon. Phyllis Kandie, the new Secretary for East African Community, Commerce and Tourism of the Republic of Kenya to the Chamber.

By virtue of her appoint and subsequent to the Oath she has taken, hon. Kandie will be an X-Official Member of this august House. I congratulate her upon that appointment. I also warmly welcome her to this Assembly. We look to a good working relationship with you.
Karibu, mwesimua.(Applause)

DEBATE ON THE STATE OF EAC ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE SUMMIT MOTION

The Speaker: Yes, Chairman of the Council.

The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers (Ms Hem Bageine): Madam Speaker, I beg to move that this House do commend the Chairperson of the East African Summit of Heads of State, for the concise exposition of the EAC Policy contained in the State of EAC Address to this Assembly on Wednesday 24 April 2013 in Kigali, Rwanda.

The Speaker: Who is seconding it? Okay, hon. Kahwa has seconded the motion. Please proceed.

Let me also request you and the rest of my honorable friends to thank God that Hon. Angela Kizigha and Hon. NusulaTiperu who were indisposed, but have since recovered and able to attend this meeting. *(Applause)*

I also want to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, to welcome our sister, Phyllis Kandie, who was appointed the Cabinet Secretary for East Community Affairs, Commerce and Tourism for the Republic of Kenya. *(Applause)*

However, my deepest sympathies are extended to Hon. Hon. Nancy Abisai, who together with her family, were attacked by armed thugs in Nairobi a few day ago. We thank God that all of them survived though the husband was hurt.

Madam Speaker, the delivery of the State of EAC Address to the East African Legislative Assembly by the Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State has, with very good perspective and foresightedness, been institutionalized into an annual event on the calendar of this august House.

The delivery of this Address is based on those provisions of the Treaty, which oblige the Summit of Heads of State to give general direction and impetus relating to the development and achievements of the objectives of the Community.

I am happy to observe that over the years the State of EAC addresses has served, not only to inform this august House of the momentum of integration, but also to indicate projections ahead.

Madam Speaker, it is against this background that I now move a motion to commend H.E, YoweriKaguta Museveni, the current Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State, for the insightful State of the EAC Address that he delivered on 24 April 2013 during our last meeting in Kigali, Rwanda.

In his State of the EAC Address, H.E, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni extensively analysed the basis and historical factors that have contributed to the underdevelopment of Africa. These factors, including internally and externally generated weaknesses, failure to appreciate opportunities and inability to redress past colonial and neo-colonial mistakes, have retarded progress in Africa in general and our region in particular.

According to my analysis of the Address, it will be foolhardy to continue lamenting about these past problems. So, it is in this regard that the Chairperson of the Summit urged the EAC partner States to find lasting solutions to:

- a) The ideological disorientation;
- b) The inadequate analysis of issues relevant to development; and
- c) Ensuring development and utilisation of such critical factors and infrastructure, human resource capacity, industrialisation, the involvement of the private sector and the viable internal markets, and the enhancement and sustenance of democratic practices.

Madam Speaker, H.E, the Chairperson of the Summit also ably articulated that the lasting peace for the emancipation of our developing region lies, not only in talking about long agreed establishments of cooperation and integration, but also ensuring that our partner states live to their commitments under the Treaty.

These commitments largely draw on us, who are in the East African Regional integration efforts, the strengthening of customs union, the full realisation of the common market, the conclusion of the negotiations on the monetary union protocol and the inevitable establishment of the political federation cherished by a majority of the East African People.

The systematic steps of economic integration that we are currently engaged into should lead us to a political federation within which:

- a) Regional peace and stability and a sign quinone for development and prosperity can be ensured;
- b) Fragmentation and vulcanization of both geographical areas and natural resources can be avoided; and
- c) Sustainable economic development can be guaranteed for economic, social, cultural, political, technological and other ties for the fast, balanced and sustainable development of our region.

Madam Speaker, given the circumspect analysis, H.E, the President of Uganda makes on our problems and the in-depth articulation of solutions it offers, I find the State of the EAC Address timely, guiding and of invaluable use to this august House.

Therefore, I move that this august House do commend the Chairperson of the Summit for the concise exposition of the EAC Policy contained in the State of the EAC Address. I beg to move. (*Applause*)

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the motion on the Floor is that this House do commend the Chairperson of the EAC Summit of Heads of State, for the concise exposition of the EAC Policy contained in the State of the EAC Address to the Assembly on Wednesday, 24 April 2013. Debate is now open.

Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda): Madam Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. I rise to support the motion as moved by the honourable Chairperson of the Council of Ministers. I would like to make some four brief remarks.

One is to put it on record that H.E, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni is one of the founding fathers of the Revived East African Community. Therefore, when he speaks to us, he does so with a lot of wisdom and conviction. But we are also so grateful that whenever he has been invited, he honours the invitation; he never lets EALA down.

The other issues I would like to comment on relates to some of the points that were mentioned in the speech. The first issue is about the analysis of why Africa couldn't defend itself in 1900.

The Chairperson of the Summit quoted a Runyankore Proverb, which states thus: "*Kaamara matsiko nkeikyumu ryahanda*," which means that when a spear is thrust by the enemy and it injures your internal organs, then you know that the hope for your survival is very limited.

In his own words, he said that by 1900, there was inextinguishable hope because the whole of Africa had been colonized except Ethiopia. He posed a question why Africa couldn't defend itself. But as he continued, it got clear that he advocated for a higher form of integration. He also advocated for more analysis of what has disabled us from moving Africa to the first world as it should be the case. You will recall that he pointed out 10 strategic bottlenecks.

Madam Speaker, I would like to say that it is of great pride that we, in Uganda, recently witnessed the training of a regional army. That means we are in effect preparing to defend ourselves decisively. This is a land mark achievement, which this House should take note of and which we should all salute as a region.

Secondly, he also talked about a point that has been debated by many. This particular point was about the argument from the very beginning, as to whether we should seek the economic and the political kingdoms later. This particular idea was advanced by H. E, the late Kwame Nkrumah. H.E, the late Mwalimu Nyerere was of a different opinion, however. He argued that we should have sought of a political kingdom and get the rest later.

I don't know to date, who was right and who was wrong on which of two should have been pursued first. However, I believe that it is becoming increasingly clear that we need to politically federate in order to move forward in a faster and more harmonized manner. I am saying this because we cannot now be defending each other while at the same time we remain separated as independent entities.

The third issue and of great significance is about the questions that were posed by H.E, the Chairperson of the Summit. He said today there are only 25 middle income countries in Africa out of 54. This is very sad because it means that most of Africa is made up of least developed countries. The question is: why?

He also noted that there isn't a single first world country in Africa. Again, he asked the question, why?

I believe this brings a lot of shame on us as Africans because we have the intellectual capacity and endorsed and favoured, as he mentioned, by God and nature. We need to examine why in the whole of Africa, we do not have a single first world country.

Madam Speaker and honorable members, I would like to mention one particular bottleneck and leave the rest. This is the one he talked about as the first – ideological disorientation.

He also noted that ideological disorientation is one of the 10 strategic bottlenecks where reactionaries fragment the African peoples into sectarianism in terms of tribes, religion and gender chauvinism.

Madam Speaker and honourable members, we must accept the fact that these issues are here and still live with us. I know that religion has been used in the recent past; we should accept that it usually gets used. We should accept that tribal lines have been used.

So, my question is: what is the EAC's ideological orientation? It is high time the EAC took off time to come up with measures to deal with ideological disorientation. Otherwise, how will we be able to deploy forces when we don't have a harmonized ideological orientation?

His second point was again on ideological orientation. But I would like to conclude by quoting what he stated. He stated thus: *"This ideological disorientation cannot allow reactionaries to build viable and capable state pillars such as the army, the civil service, judiciary and consequently any slight disturbance or challenge leads to the collapse of the state authority to the detriment of the people, killings, raping, defilement, looting and all sorts of crime with impunity becomes the lot of the people."*

Madam Speaker and honourable members, this particular point is very critical. I hope that one of the recommendations that will be carried forward is that we purposely work on an ideological orientation of the East African Community less we fall victims to what he states in the address.

I thank you and I beg to support the motion.

Mr Nkanee saole Ole (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand as a proud man in East Africa. I am saying this because we have three female speakers, three female ministers in EALA – (*Applause*) – which shows that East Africa is sensitive to gender issues.

Madam Speaker, at this juncture, may I congratulate Madam Phyllis Kandie, for being the first Cabinet Secretary for EALA from Kenya. (*Applause*) She will be in charge of East African Affairs, Tourism and Commerce. That is a heavy duty, but I congratulate you; I know you make it.

President Yoweri Museveni identified 10 strategic bottlenecks before he said ideological disorientation was the first thing. The fragmentation of Africa on tribal lines was a

mistake. As East Africa, what we should be doing now is to regroup and correct the spoils. In that regrouping Africa only has hope in the East African Community because it is the only community that is functioning in Africa with all the four pillars – the common market protocol, a unified monetary union and lastly, we hope to have the political federation.

The meeting of the African leaders last week celebrating the 50th Anniversary passed resolutions to the effect that Africa should be independent and that the ICC should drop cases against H.E, President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Deputy President, H.E, William Ruto. This was because it occurred to the leaders that the ICC process is only targeting African leaders.

The former ICC Chief Prosecutor Ocampo knew he was going. So, to justify the renewal of his job, he came to Kenya and did a shoddy job.

It is against that background – and I would like to thank the President of Uganda for being upright and very loud in saying that the ICC has no business in Africa although 34 out of the 54 states in Africa ratified the Rome Statute.

It is true we cannot withdraw – Madam Speaker, I support the motion. Thank you.

Ms BhangiShy-Rose Sadrudin (Tanzania): Thank you, Madam Speaker for granting me the opportunity to express the fact that I was touched by the address by the Chairperson of EAC Summit.

I was touched because the speech by President Yoweri Museveni was very elaborate and grateful. For sure the content and the details therein were very enlightening, informative and educative.

Madam Speaker, some of us who were not historically orientated, regard the speech as a very analytical. The President of Uganda reminded all of us of many key historical issues that are still relevant to date.

The insight into the problems to this region was a wake-up call to all of us who are facing challenges in the integration. Therefore, our duty today as Member of EALA during our tenure of office, is to make sure we redeem our exogenous and indigenous – that is the external and internal factors by way of influencing our governments' policies so that we can become part of the first world countries by 2032 or may be if not earlier and I know it can be done.

Our job is to work alongside our governments in dealing with these 10 strategic bottlenecks in order for the East African Region to move ahead.

When I read through the bottlenecks, I realised they affect all governments of partner states. But as EALA, we will be able to influence and support market development of our products in agriculture and the industrial sector of East Africa.

Similarly, we can impact on industrial policies and minerals and other raw materials that have to be processed from home.

Madam Speaker, at the moment, we export all our raw materials, which is causing us to lose a lot on jobs and revenues.

If these modest goals and objectives can be achieved, we shall have taken a wider step in our integration process for the benefit of all the East African Peoples. I can cite an example of Tanzania where the country is losing a lot of revenue as well as job opportunities in exporting raw cashew nuts and other Tanzanian minerals. If cashew nuts were processed locally, the regions of Mutwala and Lindi and the coastal region would have gained a lot from these corrective policies. Similarly, mining and export also robs our countries a lot of jobs and money as well.

In the Cotton industry, if I can take the example of the EAC Era of 1967 to 1977, in Tanzania, the textile industry was a very big business. The regions of Mwanza, Musoma, Tabora, Moshi, Morogoro, Mbea and Dar-el-Salaam benefited a lot from that textile industry. But today, in this new Community, we have very few industries that are operating.

I think other Community partner states also face similar challenges today. What I am trying to say is that when these industries are revived and we use our local expertise and manpower, textile from the East African markets will become more vibrant. That will have a multiplier effect to the people of East Africa.

Madam Speaker, integration is not wishful thinking. It must be supported by industrial revival as H.E, President Yoweri Museveni rightly pointed out. With inadequate infrastructure and industrialisation and underdeveloped agricultural sector, we cannot be far from the truth, which he summarized using the following words and I quote: “When a spear thrust by the enemy injures your internal organs, then you know that your hope for survival is very limited.”

Madam Speaker, it is my humble consideration that the 10 strategic bottlenecks spelt out by President Yoweri Museveni should not fall on deaf ears. Thank you very much for the attention.

Mr Daniel Kidega (Uganda): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Please permit me as a Member of this House representing this country, to welcome our colleagues to Uganda. *(Applause)* Uganda is a good and beautiful country. So, I kindly request you to enjoy it.

For those of us who have been listening to President Yoweri Museveni for some time, we are not surprised by the depth of his speech. President Museveni is one leader I have admired so much because of his ideological consistency and depth. *(Applause)*

If you got some of the speeches he made while he was still a student in Dar-el-Salaam; when he was in the bush; and when he got into leadership to date, you find a consistent theme that spreads through his thinking. That is something we should cherish in

leadership. Leaders who keep changing positions are the very reasons why Africa is where it is today.

In that regard, I would like to salute the Chairperson of the Summit for the ideological depth of his speech.

Madam Speaker, allow me address myself to about four issues. The chairperson said integration is not merely commerce and trade. He categorically pointed out reasons why Africa got colonized or remained backward; it was not because of the sophistication of the colonizers in terms of technology, but because of their organisational structure. Our kings then were not united and organised. That is why that group of colonizers took advantage of us.

The point he was emphasizing here is that yes, you can be obsessed with issues of benefits out of the integration in terms of economics, but all that will be on feeble grounds if politically we are not united as a people.

I was personally taken aback because at one point in the process, the Summit had requested that the political integration be fast-tracked to the bedrock onto which all these other stages we are supposed to rely on would be built.

The East African peoples did not object to that political integration; they said “let it just be delayed,” but the matter was shelved.

Madam Speaker, it is my prayer that the leadership, including us in this House, brings this matter back to Table, if we are to proceed well. (*Applause*) Yes, because an integrated East Africa without a firm political leadership will not go any further. This matter has been commented on by so many people – academics, practitioners of the integration – and they have clearly stated that political integration may not be a stage of integration; it is a process and an integral part of all the stages of integration. So, for all the stages to move to our cherished monetary union, we need a firm leadership background.

Therefore, I am in firm support with President Museveni about the need for political integration.

But for us to achieve that leaders must learn to stand and speak firmly. Rhetoric will not get us anywhere. We have seen leaders commit themselves to doing certain things but when it comes to the actual implementation, many backtrack. So, we need to take the guidelines given by the Chairperson of the Summit seriously. All leaders in the East African Region must commit and implement all the agreements and frameworks that have been put in place, which we think are the building block for the integration process to succeed. We are now tired of rhetoric.

On ideological disorientation, I would like to ask this: why do our leaders get ideologically disoriented and who are the disorientors? I don't believe that we have got weak leaders in Africa. We just have people out there who keep deviating or diverting

our leaders from doing the right things. That is how we get the ideological disorientation. This most times comes because we fall for cheap and petty policies and goodies from those who have.

What is still fresh in my mind is the structural adjustment programme that was forced down the throats of African governments and how it disoriented us. Many people died, with policies being messed up. Many other things went wrong.

So, for us to strengthen and straighten the ideological status of our leaders, we must first identify or define the disorienters. Those who are disoriented are known and that is our leadership, but why do leaders get disoriented? Do they come into leadership when they are disoriented already? The answer is no. That means we have to check on the policies that are forced onto our governments and the people, if we are to remain steadfast, in terms of what we are doing.

The chairperson asked a fundamental question: who are the new friends of Africa. At the time we were being battered, left and right, by the colonial interests, we had fall-back friends; the socialists groups who did not only give us words of encouragement but also supplied us with the arms to resist and defend our territory.

But as we talk there is a new paradigm that has come about as a new engagement with Africa. We need to carefully redefine our new friends as the President said in his speech. I think a good person is that who does not disown their old friends. If somebody can stand with you in the times of difficulties, it is almost a good test that that is a good friend.

So, my prayer is that we should not discard our old friends who stood with us during the difficult times. Those could be better friends than some of the new ones.

Finally, Madam Speaker, the President talked people not being petty and that we should deal with strategic issues instead of wasting time on tactical matters.

All the five partner states of the East African Community are now drawing the next financial year budgets. I am going to pay critical attention to see the budgetary allocations to the different sectors and see whether they reflect the words our leader say.

There must be yardsticks upon which we should judge our leaders. I am passionate and I can tell you that most African countries do not have sufficient food. Now that budgets are about to be read, we need to see how much money these governments are going to allocate to agriculture. That will be the litmus test on what our leaders say. I thank you so much and I support the motion.

The Speaker: Thank you so much, hon. Daniel Kidega. I now invite hon. Peter Matuki.

Mr Peter Mathuki (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me start by joining you and my colleagues to congratulate our sister, Phyllis Kandie on her appointment as the Cabinet Secretary in the Government of Kenya and of course now joining us as a Member of this august House.

Madam Speaker, I wish to also commend the remarks made by the Chairperson of the East African Community Summit. I would like to say that I read a lot of philosophy in

this. In that regard, I would like to propose that we need to institutionalize wisdom. I am saying this because going forward – because some of these governments that are being formed, maybe too digital and might lack wisdom.

Madam Speaker, when I look at the issues that were talked about by the Chair of the Summit, I see a lot of emphasis on the need to strengthen and walk the talk on issues regarding the East African Community Integration. I am saying this because the Chairperson of the Summit said the East African Community being one of the most progressive and dynamic blocks in Africa - and the strategic bottlenecks that he talked about in his address—I agree with him and encourage our people to get to doing even small businesses.

Actually when you travel through any of the East African countries, you will be put on roaming charges yet at that time you will still be travelling through East Africa. That approach makes communication a challenge to people because the service becomes expensive. Actually it might be cheaper to communicate to people in Europe and Asia than within East Africa.

Therefore, if we are to implement the issue of the common market protocol, these are some of the critical things we need to address. If you cannot communicate, how will you carry out business; communication is so key in any business.

Madam Speaker, we need to do this because every time, all of us keep asking the question: why is it very difficult to call within the partner states? Are we really walking the talk, Madam Speaker? We need to actualize some of the philosophical issues talked about here.

Let me now comment on the issue of democracy in the region, as one of the key bottlenecks that was talked by H.E, Yoweri Museveni. Indeed as he said democracy is key. You know that this is also articulated so clearly in the Treaty under articles 6 and 7. These provisions demand that partner states must respect and promote issues of democracy. That is very important.

But it is also important that we start supporting institutions that are actually promoting democracy in order to for us to make it visible. We should not just keep talking about democracy when people never see it.

In that regard, I must say and the People of East African need to know this – when we were coming in here, we were told one of the newspapers in Uganda called the *Daily Monitor* having been closed.

Madam Speaker, this is just a newspaper. What it is that is happening? We may wish - at some point and for the benefit of East Africans - to know what is happening. (Applause) I am sure given the remarks by the Chairperson of the Summit who is also a champion of democracy and the first democratic leader - why are the institutions supposed to be operationalising democracy instead being killed?

I think it is very important that we ask the Chairperson of the Summit, through the Chairman of the Council of Ministers, to give a statement. This is important because many people are asking whether we are actually promoting democracy when we are busy gagging media, which are supposed to be helping us to promote democracy. It would be unfair as an Assembly - because every East African knows that we are meeting in Kampala - to simply go back to our countries before addressing some of these issues. People are going to ask what is happening. Those are some of the things that will make our institution, as a Parliament, independent and walking the talk when it comes to issues of promoting democracy, Madam Speaker.

With those few remarks, I beg to support the motion. Thank you so much.

The Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Mathuki. I now invite hon. Isabella.

Ms Ndahayo Isabella (Burundi): Thank you, Madam Speaker. First, I would like to thank H.E, President Yoweri Museveni for having accepted to address this Assembly on 24 April 2013. I also would like to thank him for a significant contribution to the EAC Integration Process. But I also thank the Almighty Lord to have given such a leader to our Community. (*Applause*)

In his speech, the President of Uganda reminded us how Africa is favoured by God through nature by the way we live on big land which is very well watered by powerful rivers and lakes. This is one of the favours he mentioned. And on the other side, he also mentioned our diversity which can help us to build –

THE SPEAKER: Just put the microphone right a little bit.

MS NDAHAYO ISABELLE: Our diversity can help us to build linkages for a strong political integration, instead of using this diversity for self-interest, which will therefore benefit the colonialists. Let us be a solution to our problems. Therefore, EAC citizens should build unity, as he mentioned, and ignore all ideological disorientation for the interest of some people who fragment Africans including those in the EAC through tribes, religious and other identities. So, I wish that the coming Bill on civic education will help us to deal with this issue. I would like to call upon all members to think about how we can treat this issue in the coming Bill so that the Bill on civic education in EAC will help us to tackle this issue.

Another point I would like to raise, which also touched me, is the issue he mentioned among the strategic bottlenecks – when he talked about the underdeveloped agriculture sector. This should be our big concern in our region as it has a big effect on all the integration aspects. In trying to develop the agriculture sector, we touched most of these bottlenecks mentioned. We cannot talk about developing agriculture sector and ignore the development of infrastructure which will contribute to access to markets and also access to food as well as developing industries.

By developing agriculture, we will create industries whereby we will be able to export processed agricultural products and other resources like minerals and thereafter, creation

of jobs and make money for East Africans. Today, our children are at the risk of underperforming at school because of chronic malnutrition. We must now invest more in agriculture in order to tackle this malnutrition and if we are to stop a global illiteracy famine. I hope that in the EAC annual budget, at least 10 percent of the budget has been allocated to the agriculture sector. As hon. Kidega mentioned, I think it is not a matter allocating this 10 percent on agriculture within Partner States; I think even at regional level, we have to do something and allocate this money to the agriculture sector so as to conform to the Maputo Protocol. Let us think about how we can teach our communities on how we can profit from our farms, which are bigger than we think.

In conclusion, I would also like to say that as East Africans, we can build solutions to our problems. Let us fight corruption and impunity so that we can move forward. With this, Madam Speaker, I beg to support the motion.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, hon. Isabelle. I will take hon. Kessy.

DR NDERAKINDO PERPETUA KESSY (Tanzania): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will straightaway congratulate His Excellency, President Yoweri Museveni, for giving a beautiful speech. But of all, he reminded us that although we are members of Parliament, we are still students. He took us back, reminding us of the history about who we were as Africans. He reminded us that we have roots in four major groups and in his strategic bottlenecks, he reminded us of our ideological disorientation. How can we go back to our roots? He reminded us that it is because of our weak political organisation that has made us to stay subdivided up to today. He reminded us that of the four groups, we must look into the similarities in them and this will enable us to come up with the political federation? What is the similarity in there? The root is having a common language. In this Assembly, we must come up with a language that has got roots in Africa – not just in this Assembly, but particularly for our children. We cannot integrate unless we feel that we are one people. If we speak more than one language, we will lose the meaning of us being similar. Similarity should not just remain at the colour of our skin; it should extend to how we communicate.

Clearly, it has shown that in our governments and in our parliaments, we still use English. To many of us, English is our third language and therefore we cannot translate the concepts that we get in our homes and communities here in Parliament. I think in *Kimasaai* and *Kiswahili* and then I present it in English but along the way, I lose the meaning of communicating. Therefore, Madam Speaker, His Excellency reminded us of the weak political organisation that we had that separated us as clans and tribes. Today, we still have those political weaknesses in our country.

In the last strategic bottleneck that he mentioned, he mentioned democracy. Are we truly democratic or are we just forcing ourselves to be democratic? We have weakness in democracy and hence we have political weaknesses. Madam Speaker, I know that the disorientation of the ideologies; I would say the input and output of disorientation comes from the mind. Where do we train our minds? The largest society system for learning is our schools. It is in school that we can get a proper orientation of our mind, proper

orientation of democracy and a proper orientation of how we can get ahead with integration.

I believe, Madam Speaker, that by having a common language, we will be able to have a proper orientation of the mind concerning democracy. Our people will understand what we are talking about in democracy and therefore participate and respect the rule of law and participate in proper democracy. This will build strong political organisations that will enable us to get to the first step of integration. I believe that politics is dynamic and so we do not have to follow the way it is structured in our Treaty; We can even jump to the fourth step if it can lead us to move to the third step – which is the monetary union. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I support the motion.

MR ABUBAKAR ZEIN ABUBAKAR (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to focus on a few aspects of the policy exposition by His Excellency, President Museveni, as the Chair of the Summit in the presentation that he made to this Chamber. I agree with some of the things other honourable members have already said; so, I will not repeat them apart from maybe emphasising one or two. But I would like to begin from where I think he said something very profound; that we, as African people, must look inside ourselves and ask ourselves the difficult questions that we normally do not. We must not always look for the reasons of the outsider. And he asked: “Why were we so weak a society that we were overwhelmed very easily by the colonial forces?” And for me, the answer to that has to be some lessons that we must inculcate in ourselves when we move forward in terms of strengthening our social structure and investing in resilience as African people so that when the difficult times come, we will be able to cope and we will not be so easily disarmed – both in the literal sense of the word and in the serious negative consequences of colonialism.

Related to this issue, Madam Speaker, I believe that one of the most important aspects of the social exposition in President Museveni’s speech was to remind us, as hon. Kessy has said, that our linguistic traditions are only four. We may be very many different communities in Africa but our base is only four. And why is this important? This is important because a lot of people think of our ethnicity – of our differences – as a negative aspect. But we can look at it as a strength and say, “This might be part of what a building block for a future united Africa would look like.” So that when we are designing the architecture of our unity, including the model of our political federation, our diversity must always be appreciated as a strength and not a weakness.

Thirdly, Madam Speaker, I also agree that we need to invest in a common language. Bless the souls of those who developed the Treaty by calling to us to say, “Yes, English may be the official language for now, but we hold the aspiration of our people to develop Kiswahili as our lingua franca.” And further, it is incumbent upon this generation to be bold and say, “It is not enough to just say ‘lingua franca’, but rather the official language of the Community.” (*Applause*) And since many people say that difficult things are started by those who are brave, I call on this House to be brave and, in the future, pass a resolution so we can have a session in Kiswahili. (*Laughter*) And also challenge the honourable Secretary-General, who is the head of the Secretariat, to match our actions with what we say and what we believe in our hearts. Let us put our money where our

mouths are; let us put money for developing Kiswahili as a lingua franca – (*Applause*) – as a first step. We are not even satisfying the one step so let us start by putting money.

I do not want to talk about what our committee is going to say about passing of this budget. (*Laughter*) But allow me to say this, language is important; names are important and imagery is important. I know a lot of people quote Shakespeare and say, “A rose by any other name will smell just as sweet.” I do not agree. When His Excellency reminded us about Lake Victoria (Nalubaale), the people who live in the shores of Lake Victoria on the Kenyan side call it Namulwole and those on the Tanzanian side in Mwanza call it Inyanza. I am proud and happy to tell you, Madam Speaker, that I will be co-sponsoring a motion with hon. Leonce to rename Lake Victoria as “Lake Jumuiya” and we will be paying tribute to His Excellency when he gently reminded us by saying Victoria (Nalubaale) that you have unfinished business of de-colonising the mind. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, hon. Zein. I will now take hon. Rwigema.

MR RWIGEMA PIERRE CELESTIN (Rwanda): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me the Floor. Since I now have the Floor, I would like to thank the government and the people of Uganda for the warm welcome that we are enjoying now. Thank you very much. (*Applause*).

Madam Speaker, coming back to President Museveni’s speech, he focused on one thing. He has made many remarkable and outstanding achievements for his country and the entire region and when you read his speech, you find that President Museveni is a special leader. His speech is full of wisdom and it is a speech of orientation for us to follow. When you read his speech, you will find that it is a speech from someone with patriotism and Pan Africanism and a leader whose full determination and commitment for where we have to go. He has really made many things for this country and the entire region and when you look at what is currently happening in Uganda, you can see that it has become a centre of economic forums, a centre of educational, social and political development. And when I see what is happening now in the DRC and what has so far been done here in Kampala, you will notice that President Museveni’s approach is really clear – no ambiguity – and he has a vision for the region.

Madam Speaker, I will not take long but only focus on one thing – to thank President Museveni because if we have a committed leader like him, we can achieve the political integration. I remember what he did to ensure that Rwanda and Burundi are brought on board to the East African Community – (*Applause*) – and he has made Uganda a stable and peaceful country. And when a country is stable and peaceful, the people can develop themselves and that is what we all need. If we are to consider President Museveni’s speech as an orientation for us, we will make progress. I see no reason why we should not complete integration very soon. Thank you very much.

MR OGLE ABUBAKAR (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to make a very brief comment on the very timely guiding and valuable statement made by His Excellency, the Chair of the Summit, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. As a student of

political history, I always listen attentively whenever President Museveni speaks – not only because he has had about 50 years of practical involvement in the history of Africa; first as a student activist, later as a guerrilla and eventually as President but because in this region, President Museveni also symbolises – he is an elder statesman here. Whatever he does and says comes from experience and all of that must be listened to.

Although I may not personally have agreed with the sequence of events as he told in the story about what is ailing Africa from 1900 to today, as far as I am concerned, it was not only because we have had economic strength and not political strength but I think the main thing that has defined Africa and Africans all these years is resilience. We are people who came through colonialism; before that slavery and apartheid. So we are resilient; it has nothing so much to do with the fact that we are economically stable and politically unstable. Even politically, Madam Speaker, we can be strong. What might have happened also in the reflection of that history is that during the agrarian revolution in Europe, which later led to the industrial revolution, men pursued learning – out there in the European continent – and were delighted to probe into the unknown. They wanted to explore the uncharted seas and find out what lay beyond the horizon. That is why the Bartholomew Dias and Vasco Da Gama and others came along here. We, in Africa, did not want to go beyond the horizons; we were just confined to some bit of primitive royalties and chieftaincies which did not give the people any chance to think beyond their horizons.

Now, Madam Speaker, having said that, I want to take this opportunity, and I am sure that this august House will also be conscious that while we are in Uganda, we cannot be averse to the fact that there is a siege on some media houses in Uganda. The closure of the *Daily Monitor* is ill-advised, it is not fair and it is retrogressive to the tenets of democracy that have been symbolised by none other than President Museveni. I would like to appeal to the Government of Uganda to consider letting off the siege against the *Daily Monitor* and the two FM stations. That way we would have enhanced democracy. A chattering media is required so as to expand our democratic space in this region. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MR SEBALU MIKE (Uganda): Thank you, Madam Speaker for this opportunity. I would like to begin by welcoming all our colleagues from the other four Partner States that have converged in Kampala for this meeting. It is a pleasure to have you here in town and Kampala is an exciting city – both during day and night. The choice is yours to go around and be able to see the beauty that we have in Kampala and Uganda in general. The people are very hospitable and you will not have any serious challenges integrating as East Africans.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to welcome aboard the new minister – the Kenyan Secretary for EAC, who has just been sworn in and to assure her of our support as a Parliament. And also to encourage her to join the team that she has found in action – they are dealing with some unfinished business. She should join and be able to reinforce it to do a good job.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to thank you because we are able to debate the State of the EAC Address because you were able to do your work as a speaker. To have the President who is the Chair of the Summit fulfil that obligation of addressing the EAC also calls on the responsibility of the Speaker to make it possible. To make time available and sufficient arrangements on top of reminders, there is a lot that goes in to make these things happen and we should not take them for granted. So, I want to thank you for having fulfilled your mandate as a speaker to enable this statement to be made by the Chair of the Summit.

Madam Speaker, like many colleagues have indicated, President Museveni has been very consistent in championing and promoting EAC integration as a strategic imperative for our existence as a people. And this dates back as long as school days and so it is not a recent development; he has been one of those East Africans that have always stood out and championed this cause. I just want to say that we did have a statesman who championed this cause much earlier on to the extent that at one point, he wanted to delay the independence of his country so that all the other East Africans could come into one federation. And that is the late President Mwalimu Julius Nyerere. (*Applause*) I am not going to say whose father he is but just that it was the late President Mwalimu Nyerere. And I am happy to note that President Museveni had a long association with the late Mwalimu and he was able to pick those ideas and he is now championing them. And I believe that wherever the late Mwalimu Nyerere is – and I know he is in a very good place – he must be satisfied that the struggle he started is still being championed and at this moment, it is even being championed at another level where even his son is involved. So, the struggle is going on very well.

Madam Speaker, the President's speech on the State of the EAC Address was highly philosophical, rich in content and deep in analysis. It was well thought out, well presented and spiced with a lot of humour to drive the points home. It should be appreciated that this whole idea of the State of the EAC Address was actually pioneered by President Yoweri Museveni. He was the first ever Head of State to travel all the way to Arusha and started this very important process, which has been taken on. And I am happy that no Chair of the Summit has reneged on this obligation; they have always done, which is a very good indication for the EAC.

President Museveni has always given guidance on the issues of integration by offering leadership. And at this point, I want to underscore the issue of leadership. You know, in leadership, you must lead from in front – although on some occasion you should be close to the people you are leading. But you must engage in strategic thinking and in my view, this issue of integration is a strategic issue; it is too important to leave to the ordinary people alone. So, we need, as leaders, to engage in strategic thinking. Once we have conceptualised our thoughts and we are satisfied that they are going to add value to our communities that we lead, then we go and explain to the people and bring them on board. This way people can then own the ideas and be able to promote them and also appreciate the benefits therein.

I normally get problems with some leaders who want to leave the issues of strategies to the people they lead. I think that is a little dangerous; do the thinking but bring the people

on board for them to appreciate the thoughts and the benefits then you move together. Otherwise if – one person defined leadership in such a way that if you act and other people react, you are leading; but if another person acts and you react, you are being led. So, we must remain leaders in this aspect and be able to get our people along.

Finally, Madam Speaker, I just want to refer to page 9 of the speech, where His Excellency indicated that of all these blocs, the EAC is the one with the brightest future and with the greatest hope for Africa. In this regard, those of us that are part of the EAC leadership must not renege on this. And we have a report that was written regarding the fears and concerns of the people – my understanding is that that report is out. I want to request that that report is made available to this Assembly so that we can see how to put it forward because we need to address those fears and concerns. And I would like to know whether there is a budget for implementing the recommendations therein because we need to be moving ahead in order to implement the decisions that are reached at that level.

I also want to indicate that on page 12, His Excellency the Chair of the Summit, said that *“When I had a retreat with Presidents Kibaki and Mkapu in August 2004 in Nairobi, we elaborated all the reasons and they are in the document we issued at the end of the meeting. EALA and all the East Africans should push even more for the cause of the East African Federation.”* Now, this is a clear direction that has been given to us by the Chair of the Summit. I just want to implore the Secretariat to take this very seriously. We have been literally directed to push even harder. So, we need resources and an enabling environment to do that and in our strategic plan, we have already indicated that we want to put emphasis on people-centeredness. And the President is simply telling us the same; we are reading from the same page. So, dear colleagues, we have our work cut out very clearly; we must go out there and get the people on board. Let them know, understand, appreciate and own the integration process after we have given them a clear indication of what they expect in terms of benefit and in terms of strategic existence of the region. And the Chair of the Summit has put it in very clear terms. So, Madam Speaker, with those not so few comments, I wish to support.

MS NG'ARU MUMBI AGNES (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to support and I wish to first congratulate, like the rest of my colleagues have, the new cabinet secretary, Ms Phyllis Kandie from Kenya. We met her, as a Chapter, and we have told her that we are very warm people and we welcomed her to the club of very senior women – the Speaker, two other cabinet colleagues and the rest of us – and we assured her that she will be in very good company. And she also informed us that she is feeling at home.

I want to thank the Chair of the Council, as I support his motion that it is very nice when you are updated about where the members are. I felt it different – we have never heard that kind of statement from a chairperson of council. Thank you, Chair of Council that you are in touch; you know who is unwell, who was attacked and who is where. Thank you very much; we are already feeling like a family. We thank Uganda because they have

been warm; they welcomed us and we are integrating – not at night but during the day. Thank you very much.

I want to appreciate and speak about the speech by His Excellency Yoweri Museveni, Chair of the Summit. I felt compelled to think almost how old I am because I belong to the “analogue generation” (*Laughter*) I sat for the East Africa examination in Form Four and I did my EAC just when we felt that we were properly being cooked. I hear today that the graduates that are coming out of the universities across the region are half-baked. And so when he talked about human resource development in his 10 bottlenecks, I thought he touched a nerve that is affecting all of us. And I want to speak about the 10 that he mentioned, but I will dwell on four. As we talk about capacity building, I hope and appreciate that he is going to go a bit farther and make sure that our standards and quality of education in the five Partner States are up to the level where we do not produce half-baked graduates.

He also talked about agriculture in no. 10, as a bottleneck. And thinking about his speech, I thought he was trying, in a very subtle manner, to allow us to think about food security in this region. Maybe Uganda does not have this problem but I know where I am - an East African from Kenya - and we have challenges of food security. When we have overproduction in some areas, we have food insecurity in others and sometimes we are forced to go to Egypt, which is a desert, to get food aid to Kenya. Let him, as the Chair of the Summit, also address this and also encourage his colleagues such an embarrassing situation. How can we, as East Africa, receive food from Egypt yet Egypt uses the water that originates from Lake Victoria.

I also want to comment on his statement on democracy; I always ask: “Whose democracy are we trying to follow?” I am a strong believer in democracy and I respect it but I also believe in guided democracy. And as I went through his speech, I urge him – because he is a front-runner in believing in home-grown solutions – to look back with the rear mirror and when you find that you cannot see far behind, then you know that you have to address the issues of democracy from inside and from outside.

I also want to talk about the issue of infrastructure; he talked about it. I am sure I have heard him get annoyed many times because some railway section has been uprooted in Nairobi. And he talked about convincing people in Uganda and the Great Lakes Region. But I also want him to think about it – the railway line got into Kisumu around 1910; as East Africans, how many kilometres have we added to save on our battered roads? I think I am sending him back what he planted in me as he sits as the Chair of the Summit. Let them address the issue of opening up East Africa through the railway. Like I said, I belong to the analogue generation, we used to have a bus called OTC, travelling all around East Africa and people were free even travelling by road. Let him sit down with his colleagues and first address the issue of opening up the rest of the Partner States so that we can get the heavy trucks off the road, create space because the accidents, especially on the Kenyan side are very many. I beg him, because he has the courage and he has demonstrated it; he has identified the problem and admitted. He must also have the

courage to sit down with the other Heads of State and say, “This is where we had problems but these can be our solutions.”

I want to go back to the last page of his closing remarks and I want to read it verbatim so that he talks about it as candidly as he talked about the other 10 bottlenecks: *“When EAC gets closer together, the sky is the limit, especially now when we have discovered the gaps that crippled us in the past. There are of course other tactical bottlenecks such as corruption, administrative delays etc.”* I thank President Yoweri Museveni, because he is calling it by its name. We have problems that are also making integration take a very slow pace and he is calling them administrative delays. I hope that the EAC can see what I am seeing in this. And I request him to push his colleagues and the Secretariat to push other organs of the Community to make sure that we achieve the integration by the time that has been earmarked. Thank you.

THE SPEAKER: I will take honourables Nancy, Okumu and Christopher in that order as we start to wind up this debate.

MS ABISAI NANCY KABEYEKA LUNG’AHI (Kenya): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity also to thank you, Rt. Hon. Speaker and also the staff here in the Ugandan Parliament because they have been very cooperative and showing us our way round. I want to thank them for the way they have been useful to us. I also want to take this opportunity to appreciate the tradition and the precedence that I think has been set in this House; I wish to acknowledge the overwhelming support that I got from you, Madam Speaker, and the kind words that the Chair Council Of Ministers made mention of and recognised about the issue that was around me. I also thank the Secretary-General and members of my committee. I would like to thank especially the General Purpose Committee, under the able leadership of the Chair, Dr Martin Nduwimana. They were very helpful both financially and morally. Words cannot begin to express what I feel and you supported me. I also want to thank the members who made contributions under the able leadership of honourables Ogle and Zein. Thank you very much for the special effort you made towards this.

I want to thank the Kenyan Chapter, especially hon. Judith Pareno and hon. Sarah Bonaya for visiting my family in Nairobi and for being with us during that period. Thank you very much. I also want to thank the chair of the chapter and hon. Mathuki for moving very fast and liaising with the security arrangement for me in Kenya. I do not take it for granted; I thank you for your support and all other members – maybe because you do not belong to General Purpose Committee, I know there are those of you who made phone calls and encouraged me. Thank you. It has been a difficult moment but I know that God has truly seen me and my family through. My husband is recovering from the gunshot and I thank God for that.

Having said that, Madam Speaker, I want to also look at the issue of the bottlenecks that His Excellency the Chair of Summit, President Museveni, started by addressing. And being a student of development studies, I want to say that one of the things that the

President has always talked about is the empowerment of the African people and of course, by extension the East Africans in terms of being able to build up themselves.

In one of the key aspects that he mentioned in the bottlenecks, he talked about the underdeveloped human resource, the lack of education, lack of healthcare – it can go on to very many things. You know that we, in East African, face these problems. But what is the fundamental aspect that he was addressing? You will recall with me that even when he came to address us in Kigali and before that, he has always mentioned in his speech, even in Kenya during the Summit meeting, when he makes mention of Uganda, he talks about – and if I can quote; you will excuse me if I do not get it right – *ndiyomuhindi*, meaning, do not say, “For those people” because he encourages investments to empower the ordinary *wanainchi* as we would say in Kenya – the ordinary citizen and I think what is most important is we are not going to get rid of the problems in Africa if we are not going to empower the ordinary citizens. And so, all these problems, like the ideological disorientation that he talked about and the collapse of the state in terms of the people and what is happening with the killings, defilement, looting and crime with impunity – all these bring us back to security. What makes people go out for others’ necks? It is the whole question of poverty. Maybe some of them just commit crime but it is because of – as a Masaai saying would put – “the deprivation of capability”; not being able to have something that can help you realise your potential. How do you realise your potential if you lack even the basic necessities? How do we end poverty in our time, if we cannot begin to look at those things that make us not to be dependant? We must get rid of the dependency syndrome; we must stop looking at ourselves as people who constantly rely on aid and know that we have the answer in ourselves.

We must begin to tackle the question of poverty by looking at the issues that affect us as a community.

When we talk about housing, healthcare, education, water – the basic necessities, to what extent have we been able to fulfil these? What are we doing to make sure that as East Africans, we are moving towards a process of integration by bringing on board members of our communities – the ordinary citizen – to be able to realise their full potential. How do they realise their full potential? The dependency syndrome, especially the one His Excellency the President has always talked about – he has been very categorical on it and he has talked about the need for us to move away from thinking that somebody else has solutions for us and for making sure that we can actually have home-grown solutions. And I think it is possible for us to move in that direction. It is possible for us to tackle the issue of poverty; it is possible for us to empower the citizenry from within our countries and I think this is what his speech was focusing on. And with those few words, Madam Speaker, I support the motion.

MR OPOKA-OKUMU CHRIS: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First of all, I would like to welcome our colleagues from the other Partner State to Uganda. Uganda is also known as the “Pearl of Africa”. And therefore, take this opportunity to enjoy the “Pearl”. Secondly, I would like to welcome back into the House, hon. Angela Kizigha and my sister, hon. Nusura Tiperu. We are very glad to see you healthy and kicking. And I would like to thank you, Madam Speaker, for whatever you have done to ensure that our colleagues are in the House.

I would like to commend the Chair of the Summit, His Excellency President Museveni, for a very philosophical speech. As usual, he comes out teaching. However, as my colleague, hon. Ogle has said, there are some areas where one might disagree with what the President might have said. For example, the issue of fundraising by politicians and other groups – churches and mosques – that disrupt growth of the private sector and accumulation of capital. I do not know whether I really agree with the President on that. Fundraising has been there from time immemorial; for those who read the Bible, you remember when Moses went to the mountain to get the Ten Commandments, the Israelites started collecting earrings and other rings and so on to support their cause. Fundraising is there all over the world and it is part of building the oneness in a community. And I do not think that it disrupts capital growth. So the President might want to re-think that view.

The second one is on page 6, about the underdeveloped human resources. I agree with the President that an illiterate and unskilled population does not fully realise its potential. This is a very important statement but how many African leaders take this seriously? Part of the Treaty talks of the very important principle of the Community being a people-centred community. One of the most important activities in any community is the impartation of knowledge – education; the provision of health services – as my colleague and friend, hon. Kidega, has said, we are now in the budget period; we would like to see what percentage the East African countries allocate to education and health services. We need to have a healthy population. This is very important. I agree with the President, but would like to see it being translated into action.

Lastly, to me, the most important and fundamental bottleneck the President identified was the issue of democracy – bottleneck no. 10 should have been bottleneck no. 1. Democracy – the rule of law and obedience to court orders; considering and weighing of all arms of government to be equal. This is very important; we are not going to move an inch if we do not have democracy and if we do not practise democracy in all its aspects. It is very important and until that is attained, we shall not fully realise the dream of having one East African political federation. Some of the fears that other people expressed when they talked to the committee that went around gathering views, was always about democracy. Issues like accountability, transparency, rule of law, lack of Police brutality and things like that.

So, I really support the President on the bottlenecks he has identified. I would like to remind the leaders in East Africa and Africa as a whole that one of the ways to completely lift up ourselves from where we are today, is to practise democracy, democracy and democracy. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

MR BAZIVAMO CHRISTOPHE (Rwanda): Thank you, Madam Speaker for this opportunity. I thank the Government of Uganda, the Parliament of Uganda and the people of Uganda for the warm hospitality we have been enjoying since we arrived in Kampala –

THE SPEAKER: Speak to the microphone so that you are clear.

MR BAZIVAMO: Let me again, Madam Speaker, congratulate the new Minister of East Africa, Trade and Tourism, hon. Phyllis Kandie of Kenya. Madam Speaker, I rise to support the motion. H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, a great Pan Africanist strongly supports East African integration and has in his address reminded us as EALA members but also as East African Community partner states of where efforts should be put to achieve East African community integration and what should be avoided or challenged as bottlenecks to avoid failing again as a community. He rightly reminded us that ideological disorientation is very dangerous for a political and socio-economic integration. He pointed out that the East African Community has existed before and was broken under the Idi Amin regime in 1977. Among others, this period has been characterised by bad communication among partner states, which bad communication caused that collapse and yet communication is key for stronger integration and you know that lack of the right analysis, lack of true communication and lack of trust are among strong internal weaknesses which can cause the East African Community to collapse again. One has maybe to keep in mind the following questions:

1. Do our partner states do correct and right analyses of arising problems involution and do they communicate adequately among themselves?
2. Is it sustainable?
3. How can we avoid new forms of colonialism?
4. Do we have adequate measures which are strong enough to avoid the new form or the new kind of Idi Amin regime ideology which could again destroy our East African Community?
5. How do we avoid external dependency in our partner states which can oppose our partner states among themselves and are we fully aware of such a trend?

Madam Speaker, the words of His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, the Chairperson of the East African Community, are a reminder of what we have to analyse deeply and avoid but it is also a call for strong actions on independent oriented and enlightened manner so that we can achieve a stronger but more especially a sustainable East African Community integration. I support the motion.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, Christopher. I will take hon. Sarah Bonaya.

MS. SARAH BONAYA TALASO(KENYA): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for granting me this opportunity and I would like to start by thanking the Parliament of Uganda for hosting us in this beautiful Assembly and for taking good care of us. I would also like to start by congratulating the new minister from Kenya who has been appointed to serve in this important ministry. I want to congratulate madam Candia for her reappointment to this important role and to safeguard the interests of Kenya on matters of regional integration. You are welcome and congratulations. I want to support the motion and I want to start by saying that President Yoweri Museveni has been a very important force of the whole integration process in East Africa and the words of wisdom that he gives as always should be taken very seriously. I am saying this because in Africa, elderly leaders who have actually known facts right from the beginning have always been branded dictators and have always been given bad publicity. The useful contribution they have made to the process has never been appreciated. This much we know that even in the

western world, leaders who do great things also do make mistakes but in Africa, only the wrongs of powerful leaders are noted and it brings them down without handing over the wisdom to the younger generation. So, I think he is one man who has decided to stand out and God has granted him the opportunity to guide and grant wisdom to those of us who are growing and learning through his wisdom.

He has also told us in his speech that in the 90s, the African has been injured almost fatally because an injury to an internal organ is actually a fatal injury and he told us that we have gained freedom, and I think I want to agree that we got the political freedom but we never got economic freedom. So, Africa was not actually free because our colonisers retained the economic powers and they still utilised the vast resources of this continent. They have exploited and used our vast resources and gave it back to us as foreign aid without us actually being involved in developing these resources and utilising them ourselves. So, we need to be vigilant and know who our true friends are and whether our integrity and dignity is being safeguarded in this process and I think as political leaders, we have that responsibility and not to leave it to administrators because the administrators will always follow the political direction we give them. I am saying this because the whole community which we were also proud of broke down but if we look back, how was it sustained? I know because of the British rules and the leadership which was from Britain and His Majesty the Governor, where the issue of integration was tested way back in 1948-1977 when it broke down. I think the British knew their own trade and three or four years after they left, it disintegrated because they knew where to trigger conflict in the region among its leadership. So, even for the current community, I think we are only sustained because the west is funding it to the tune of 70 percent and as far as I am concerned, we are already a failure. I am sorry to preach something that might not be good to the ears of many but I feel we have already failed because we are 70 percent dependant on our very colonisers. We have failed to show self sustenance and we have failed to own the integration process as a region. Yes, we need it; yes, we made mistakes earlier on but this time round, I don't believe that depending 70 percent on donors to run our integration agenda is the right way to go.

The President has clearly said the answer is within us and the earlier we start looking for tangible realistic solutions because the President is a realist - can we be realist and stop being cosmetic in dealing with these very grave matters? We seem not to learn from our past and I think the resources are there, the intellect is there, and we can develop the technological capacity and it is just up to us to actually stop sitting in the comfort zone and waiting for handouts from our own very resource which is being churned by foreigners and being brought back to us. We know we have the opportunities and the threats and we need to build synergy in ensuring that we look for the things that unite us as a people and what opportunities we have and be able to exploit for our own benefit. Our friends are out there might mean well but they cannot carry us on their backs for the rest of their life. When is this aid going to end? Are we actually already bought or are we on hire because that investment has a reason. So, when we are being funded to the tune of 70 percent, are we being hired, are we being bought out and what are we planning about all this? Thank you so much and I support the motion.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you so much, hon. Sarah Bonaya. I will take hon. Mbidde.

MR DENNIS MBIDDE (UGANDA): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker, in the interest of time, I will avoid any reference to any text for purposes that I can use as limited time as practicable. As other colleagues have done, I equally welcome all the hon. Members to our home. Substantially and locally this is where we reign when we are not addressing integration matters. This is the beauty that obtains in Uganda and I support that entirely.

Madam Speaker, I equally support the motion. The President is one of the best speakers in the region and the contents of his speech have to be supported and equally assisted in practical terms to illuminate the future course of the integration system in Uganda. I had intended that my submission takes twofold; one, that would have constituted an oral notice under rule 26 sub rule 4 but the ambiguity within the rules caused me to look at sub rule 5 which again interpreted the oral notice as a mandatory provision that it has to be reduced into writing again, with the clerk, before it is given to the House. So, I have abandoned the whole measure and I will follow the normal course.

Madam Speaker, I support the speech of the President entirely as my colleagues have done on page 7. On the strategic bottlenecks that, in his understanding of course, obviously caused the 25 countries within Africa to be categorised as the least developed countries, I am more concerned particularly with bottleneck no. 10 and that is where the resolution was going to emanate for purposes that the East African Community partner states respect media freedoms and accordingly and of course using a case study as a debate which I will adumbrate tomorrow given chance.

Madam Speaker, we have looked at giant economic plans and intergovernmental setups failing on account of democracy. A case in point is the East African Community. We are dealing with the next integration process, meaning that there was an old one which folded, that can also be attested to under Article 9. We even provided for entities of the old East African Community. We have looked at giant economic plans proposed under NEPAD at Kananaskis by the plans that were established by the former President of South Africa, Thabo Mbeki, former President of Nigeria, Olusegun Obasanjo, President Bouteflika of Algeria and former President Abdoulaye Wade of Senegal.

NEPAD failed on account of the Africa Action Plan because there was a proposal under the peer review mechanism, where African countries failed on account of democracy. It is that that we sought to cure and I am talking of East Africans especially those that were the protagonists for the establishment of the new East African Community, thereby enacting a Treaty and particularly Article 6(d) and 7(2) of the East African Community Treaty.

Madam Speaker, principles of democracy and this is where I support the President entirely - good governance and respect for treaty obligations. All those are enshrined even within partner state Constitutions. The one for Uganda is Article 8(a) which takes us to the National Objectives and Directives of State Policy, objective no. 28; *“respect for*

treaty obligations.” The right to access to information is guaranteed everywhere including even in the Treaty. Economic rights are guaranteed. They obtain even to those who are media house operators. The right to freedom of expression is guaranteed everywhere and the rule of law. There is an obligation, unquestionably, that has to be followed by all partner state administrations, enshrined under Article 7, clause 2. So, Madam Speaker, the problem is with our Assembly where we shall seek to gloss over issues and fear to look at what is inside. We shall of course go down in history as an Assembly that was safe and failed safely without fundamentally addressing the intrinsic values for which integration has to set.

We have a subgroup here, Madam Speaker, of persons in Uganda who wear huge dressings in western Uganda. The story is that once a lady sits down with that huge dressing, you cannot even tell the kind of chair that such a lady is seated on - (*Laughter*) - because you do not know what is in the inside –

THE SPEAKER: Provided you do not become sexist in this chamber.

MR MBIDDE: No, Madam Speaker. I am only trying to examine the particulars of not knowing what is in the inside. Madam Speaker, they have a story which is very good and of course my President also gave us a guideline of quoting stories from Ankole. They say that one day a lady was seated by the roadside but because the dressing was so huge, the passersby did not even know that she had covered a very small man inside her clothing. We do not want to assume what the man was doing but those who saw the lady laughing did not know – (*Interruption*)

MS DORAH BYAMUKAMA: Madam Speaker, I hesitate to seek clarification. I happen to be the only Member who comes from this western part of the world and these dresses that you are calling huge are our traditional wear which we honour and respect because part of our beauty is that we are broad based. So, I would like to seek clarification. Are you insinuating that we cover small men inside in order to be broad based? (*Laughter*)

MR MBIDDE: Madam Speaker, with due respect, that was never my intention. My intention was to indicate that in most cases, what is inside is not known and that the Assembly may need to avoid not knowing what is in the inside of partner states. So, in the circumstances, this Assembly must sound our resolve to correct any wrongs wherever they apply. It may not be within or to the effect – (*Interruptions*)- The government has continued to stop the operation of media houses, four of them. I have copies of the court orders which I will seek to deliver tomorrow. That must stop and this Assembly needs to sound a resolve that this cannot continue. That is the only way we shall be an Assembly that is good for us and for those yet unborn. I thank you, Madam Speaker and I support the motion.

THE SPEAKER: I will take hon. Susan Nakawuki.

MS. SUSAN NAKAWUKI (UGANDA): I thank you very much, Madam Speaker, for this opportunity. I would also like to welcome my colleagues from East Africa (*Applause*). I welcome you all to Kampala and as my colleague hon. Opoka welcomed you to the Pearl of Africa, I also welcome you to the Pearl of East Africa.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the Speaker and the Parliament of Uganda for having allowed us, especially I, to enjoy this chamber once again. I did not know that it would be soon before I could come back to this chamber that I enjoyed between 2006 and 2011. So, I am very grateful. I also rise to support this motion. I stand to participate in the debate on the issues that featured in the address which was delivered by President Museveni, the President of the Republic of Uganda and the Chairman of Summit on 24th April 2013. This was a very good speech with challenges that the President himself highlighted. The speech outlined the priorities and strategic issues in the East African integration process. In his speech, the President highlighted the market issues, regional peace and security, infrastructure development especially when it comes to electricity among others. I therefore thank his Excellency the President for fulfilling his obligation of giving general direction and impetus to the community as enshrined under Article 11 of the Treaty that establishes the East African Community.

Madam Speaker, the President identified the fact that if we are to develop, we need a wider market and I entirely agree. He also pointed out a number of challenges which call for extra efforts and due diligence from both the summit members and the East African Legislative Assembly.

On page 9 of the speech of His Excellency, he actually asserted that of all regional blocks, the East African Community is the one with the biggest feature and with the greatest hope for Africa. I entirely agree with this but at the same time, I have concerns. Yes, the East African Community has this great feature which is glaringly visible but at the same time, we realise that these very good pieces of legislation and policies plus programmes are mostly on paper. We still have issues when it comes to implementation.

Before I go that way, I would like to congratulate the minister from Kenya but at the same time, I would like us to note that this very week we had a reshuffle in the Cabinet of the Republic of Uganda and I was so keen to see the position which had been held by the late hon. Eriya Kategaya filled but it was left vacant. Personally, I am really concerned about the work hon. Shem Bageine is faced with. In fact, when he joined this House, he never had time to enjoy his honeymoon. He started with loads of work and I was expectant that the President was going to fill that vacant position because I can imagine if anything happened to hon. Shem Bageine - for example if he misplaced his glasses - I am not talking of worse things what will happen. So, Madam Speaker, through you, I beg the President to fill that position so that hon. Bageine can have some back up.

Madam Speaker, we had talked about the issue of implementation of the good policies that we have. The President talked of these challenges but I think we have a solution to these challenges but we simply had to implement them. For example, the President talked about the lack of industrialisation. Madam Speaker, we could have the industrialisation

policy in the East African Community which lacks implementation. Yes, we are talking of this industrialisation and it is true that our population in East Africa is increasing at a terrible rate and that way, we have high levels of unemployment. So, if this industrialisation we are talking about is implemented, we are going to have more jobs especially for the young people. I have to talk about the young people because we constitute the biggest percentage in the region. so, I can't go without talking about the young people.

He talked about this issue under strategic bottleneck no.7 and I know it takes courage and goodwill for us to be able to achieve this basing on the fact that our economies are agro based. Madam Speaker, I know we are short on time. Let me be as brief as a miniskirt on my last two issues. It is short enough to expose but long enough to cover. The President emphasised under strategic bottleneck no. 5 the issue of inadequate infrastructure. This encompasses roads, railways and electricity among others. The people here keep asking questions. They keep saying we are basically talking of the plans we have but what is tangible that is available on the ground that they can enjoy as the people of East Africa? We have talked about the interconnectivity of the partner states and I know if for example the President talked about electricity, if we can have sufficient electricity, at least the cost of doing business will go lower and that way, we will have more investment in the region.

I would also like to appreciate the council. Finally, the President talks about the issue of narrow markets. When I look at the priorities set for this financial year 2013/2014, the council has ably addressed the issue of small markets by considering a sincere establishment of a free trade area of 28 countries. I pray that this doesn't just remain on paper, that we get to implement it and that way, the people of East Africa will rejoice.

THE SPEAKER: I do realise that hon. Tiperu deliberately crossed the Floor, I think to catch the Speaker's eye. Hon. Jeremie and hon. Tiperu will close this debate. You appreciate that the Order Paper still has about five questions which we need to also tackle.

MR JEREMIE NGENDAKUMANA (BURUNDI): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would like to begin by asking to share one small joke. Our religious leader one day made a very vibrant and wonderful speech and one of his followers said, Rev. Pastor, you have made a vibrant speech. And he asked, what did I say? And he said, wonderful things. And the Pastor asked, which one of those wonderful things? This means that he did not know exactly what the meaning of the speech was. Today, we have got an opportunity as MPs to show that you have not been like that follower because many important ideas which are in the speech of H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni have been raised by the members. I would like also to say that Mr Christopher Matata, for those who love thoughts, said in *Kiswahili* "*Kinywa kya mzee kinanuka lachini ha kisemihongu.*" There is no need to translate because as East African citizens, we are supposed to understand *Kiswahili* as a lingua franca of the East African Community -

THE SPEAKER: Hon. Jeremie, there are codes by which we are governed. So, if you decide to bring any other language other than English, you are obliged to translate. Otherwise it will be expunged from the *Hansard*.

MR NGENDAKUMANA: Let me translate a bit. It means that the mouth of the wise man may smell but it never tells lies - (*Laughter*) – so, I would like to say that we have been listening carefully to the speech of His Excellency Museveni as a wise man of this region, as one who has contributed enough to build the East African Community.

The Pan Africanism principles of Yoweri Kaguta Museveni have been highlighted in the need to unite Africa with one common vision. The vision, on my understanding is a kind of picture we want our Africa to have at the end of the day. We need our citizens to have enough food, to have adequate education, to have health care, to enjoy democracy and so on and so on but we must work for it. Africa has enough natural resources. We have enough human resources. What we need now is just to work and to walk hand in hand to build this kind of picture that we want our Africa to have. We now have the EAC and my expectation is that the East African Community be a departure point of this kind of Africa we want to have at the end of the day. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you very much. The last member who will be speaking on this motion is hon. Tiperu and then I will invite the Chairman to Council to respond.

MS NUSURA TIPERU (UGANDA): Madam Speaker, I wish to thank you for giving me the opportunity. Allow me to use this chance to welcome my colleagues and all members to be in Uganda as my other colleagues have done. I wish to congratulate you, in particular, for hosting the President while in Rwanda. Indeed it is a great achievement and to me, every time we interact with members of summit, we feel energised, we get to understand their perception of the region and that in a way tries to inform the manner in which we work.

Madam Speaker, allow me also to congratulate the new minister who has been sworn in today and I want to thank the President and the Vice-President of Kenya for deeming it fit to have a woman as an added member of the Council of Ministers and I believe with the many ideas that the Chairman, Council of Ministers, hon. Shem bageine wishes to bring, I know she will use her ability and her position as a mother to push in as many of those proposals as possible. I must confess that from the time hon. Shem Bageine took on his job as minister for East African Community Affairs here representing Uganda, we are very proud of you and we appreciate the manner in which you conduct yourself, the manner in which you address our committee sessions and I believe that with the support of the Secretary General, we will achieve a lot.

Madam Speaker, as you may realise, I missed the session in Rwanda because I was sick. I had surgery in China. But I wish to more sincerely thank you for all this support that you rendered me. I wish to thank my President and also wish to thank all of you members and the Secretary General. I do not want to mention you individually but I want to say that I feel humbled. You are the reason why I am here today. (*Applause*)

Madam Speaker, since I was not in Rwanda, it would be hard for me to comment on the President's speech but after perusing through it, I was able to pick a few things and also from the fact that this is not the first time we are hearing the members of summit speak. I was very impressed when I read through his speech and in particular, I captured something that he kept mentioning and something that I have always heard in the speeches of President Kagame; – the need for self determination, the need for self reliance, the need or the call for mutual trust - an indication that whereas we get support from donors, there is need for us to work with the former colonial powers but behind that, we must continue respecting ourselves and taking the direction that we want to take. As you know, the issue of self determination was echoed right from the time of independence and along the way, it seems to be fizzling out. I want to thank the President for bringing it back in our minds and in the minds of regional politicians to know that this is the course that we must be taking, Madam Speaker.

In the President's address, when he talks about fundraising, having attended many of his speeches, I wish to help my colleague, hon. Opoka that when the President talks about fundraising, it does not mean that he is against fundraising. He has done it himself; he has fundraised for churches and mosques but what he is trying to tell us politicians is that whereas it is good to give out, remember as a politician, you cannot use your salary to build a school. Ensure that you use your position as a Member of Parliament to influence your school as being part of the government budget and use what is within Government to do your oversight and make sure that your schools or hospitals are built because that is practise for many of our East Africans. I will give a case of Uganda where the population expects politicians to use their salary to do what Government is expected to do. So, that is the information I wanted to give to you and we have experienced it. We have had politicians getting stressed because the money is not enough to do what the population expects them to do and it is also a call towards Government to help politicians realise their dreams and manifestos.

Madam Speaker, when I read the speech further, I see that the President is trying to give remarks and trying to echo some of the issues by use of proverbs. Often times, President Museveni uses *Runyankole* which he always says is very rich, to show how rich our African culture is, how rich our language is and in that he is trying to tell us that we are actually as strong as some of those countries that are already strong.

Madam Speaker, when the President talks about the fact that whereas we are bigger than America, China and Brazil, we may still be underdeveloped. He is trying to tell us that if we are united, we can surpass what other countries have already achieved. Since time is not on my side, I wish to tell all of you members that indeed we are proud as East Africans and Uganda in particular. When you talk about the pearl of Africa, we have always talked about Kenya being the pride of Africa. I have not yet got how Tanzania is described but I will interface with hon. Makongoro to get more but all in all, from the manner in which Africa is described, for example Burundi which is considered to be the heart of Africa, you really see that within Africa, East Africa is special in away and that we must position ourselves and work together using our combined energies to ensure that

the region is safe and together, we will be able to achieve a lot. Madam Speaker, with those few remarks, I wish my colleagues the best but I want to once again thank you for your hospitalities. *Asanten sana*.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you, hon. Tiperu. I wish to invite the Chairman to Council to quickly respond. Definitely, the debate has been long but I am sure that you will be able to just touch those many important aspects in your response. At least it has not been controversial.

THE CHAIR TO COUNCIL (Mr Shem Bageine): Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I would like first of all to appreciate the members who have spoken and supported the motion namely hon. Dorah Byamukama, hon. Olekangai, hon. Shy-Rose Bhanji, hon. Kidega, hon. Peter Mathuki, hon. Isabella Ndahayo, hon. Kessy, hon. Zein Abubaker, hon. Ryigyema, hon. Audrey, hon. Mike Sebalu, hon. Mumbi, hon. Nancy, hon. Opoka Okumu, hon. Christopher Bazivamo, hon. Sarah Bonaya, hon. Mbidde, hon. Susan Nakawuki, hon. Jeremie and hon. Tiperu and I am also convinced that even those who did not have an opportunity to speak would have certainly supported the motion. I thank you.

Madam Speaker, I have listened very carefully to the comments made by all those who spoke. What came out is that we are all supportive of the Chairman's address to us in Kigali and the ideas that came out of his address. We are a blessed region. We have all the natural resources you can think of and indeed the potential for us is enormous but it all calls for ability and commitment to manage our resources for the benefit of our people. In his address, His Excellency the President dwelt at length on the weaknesses that we have suffered over the years, keeping us down into the region of the least developed nations of the world. We need to wake up, we need to learn how to manage our resources, we need to fight very strongly against the scourge of corruption and we need, as many of you have pointed out, to move away from the dependency syndrome that has kept us back. Our people need to wake up and begin working. We have tended to focus on the wrong areas and left areas where we have comparative advantages, for example in the agriculture sector. One of the members pointed out that when there are food problems in Kenya, they go to Egypt to import from a country that is otherwise a desert and that is a shame on us. So, hon. Members, above all, we are all East Africans, we are all leaders of this region and we know where we want to go and we have the ability to go there. Let us recommit ourselves as leaders, as EALA members, as leaders of our countries so that we can forge ahead and achieve that unity, that political federation that will be the engine of our successful development in terms of our economies, infrastructure and so on.

Madam Speaker, I do not want to go to length on this but let me make one or two comments. One, hon. Mbidde, there is nothing to hide in East Africa. We all know where we are going and that analogy was a little bit incorrect or misplaced because our women don't hide anything in western Uganda where I come from and the analogy was in respect of East Africa and I want to say that there is no hidden agenda in East Africa. We all want to go to East Africa and become one nation.

The second comment I want to make is that I know that there is a lot of concern about what has been going on between the Government of the Republic of Uganda and part of the media houses. I want to say here that this is a hiccup. This Government still recognises and respects the rule of law and the freedoms enshrined in the Constitution and I am confident that soon this hiccup will disappear and things will come back to normal. But let me also say that whilst a lot of people point a finger at Government, the media also must play their part as constructively as they can bearing in mind that they also have responsibilities to this country as they make their reports.

Lastly, hon. Suzan Nakawuki, I heard you and I think the authorities probably heard you but let me pray to God that nothing happens to me before – (*Laughter.*) Once again, I would like to thank members for the support and once again ask you to redouble your efforts in terms of driving the integration of East Africans so that at the end of the day, we achieve the ultimatum of having a federal relationship within East Africa. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: Thank you very much, Chairman, Council. Hon. Members, the motion on the Floor is that this House do commend the Chairperson of the East African Community Summit of Heads of State for the concise exposition of the East African Community Policy contained in the State of the EAC Advise to the Assembly on Wednesday 24th April 2013. I now wish to put the question.

(Question put and agreed to.)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

MS. DORAH BYAMUKAMA (Uganda): Madam Speaker, I beg to move that the Chairman Council of Ministers responds to question EALA/PQ/OA/3/16/2012. I beg to move.

Article 5(1) and 5(2) of the Treaty refers. Can the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers inform the House of:-

(a) What steps have been taken towards realization of the ultimate stage of integration- political federation?

(b) What mechanisms have been deployed to realize accelerated, harmonious and balanced development and sustained expansion of economic activities and to ensure equitable sharing of benefits?

Madam Speaker,

Pursuant to the provisions of Articles, 5 (1) and 5 (2), 123(6) and (7) of The Treaty, and the milestones set under the EAC Development Strategy 2010-2016, a number of initiatives have been undertaken towards attaining the ultimate goal of the EAC integration. The initiatives are anchored on the mandate contained in the Treaty under the said provisions.

The Summit of Heads of State and the Council of Ministers, through directives and decisions, studies, consultations and development of policy mechanisms, have set up strategies and programmes to accelerate political integration, which are continuous.

It is important to understand that attainment of the EAC Political Federation is a process and not an event. Achieving the Political Federation requires its pillars to be strengthened to lay a firm foundation for the envisaged political federation. This calls for stronger policy platforms in the conduct of security, foreign policy and governance matters and a transformation of regional policies, institutional arrangements and capacities to support the deeper goal. It also recognizes that integration is ultimately intended to achieve social, economic and political development for East Africans.

Madam Speaker,

Steps taken towards Political Federation include the following:-

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of the Treaty, the Special Summit of EAC Heads of States held in Nairobi in May 2004, expressed concern about the slow pace of the integration process, and agreed to explore ways of expediting the process towards an EA Political Federation.
- (b) The Committee on Fast Tracking Political Federation was established by the Council of Ministers on 28th August 2004 to examine ways and means to expedite and compress the process of integration, so that the ultimate goal of a Political Federation is achieved through a fast tracking mechanism.
- (c) With limited resources and tight timeframes, the Committee went around East Africa collecting views from stakeholders and submitted its report at the 6th Summit held on 29th November 2004 which contained recommendations and the way forward.
- (d) Although timeframes were assigned to the recommendations, some of them were overtaken by events, others were fully implemented including establishing the office of the Deputy Secretary General (Political Federation) and the Ministries Responsible for EAC Affairs while others, related to other stages of integration, were subsumed in EAC activities are under implementation.
- (e) Subsequently, the Extra-Ordinary Summit of Heads of State held in Dar-es-Salaam in May 2005 directed the Council to form National Consultative Mechanisms to collect more views of the East Africans on the East African Political Federation and the need to fast track it.

Madam Speaker,

The National consultations on Fast Tracking the East African Political Federation were undertaken in all the five Partner States between 2006 and 2008. The overall objective of the consultations was to examine the level of awareness, people's attitude on the EAC Integration process, in general, and seek views on fast-tracking the East African Political

Federation. The reports revealed that East Africans had some Fears, Concerns, and Challenges towards Political Federation, among other findings.

Madam Speaker,

On 20th November 2009, the Summit considered the recommendations of the Council and directed that an in-depth study be undertaken on the fears, concerns, and challenges identified on the EAC Political Federation with a view to determining the extent to which some have been addressed and those not yet addressed and proposing ways and means of addressing them.

A Team of Experts was constituted to undertake a detailed review and analysis of the fears, concerns and challenges towards the Political Federation raised by the citizens of East Africa based on the existing documents and reports. The Team examined progress in addressing the fears, concerns and challenges, and proposed ways of handling them and strengthening the pillars of the Political Federation.

The Experts concluded the Study in August 2010 and submitted their report which was considered by the Summit of Heads of State in November 2010. The Summit observed that the recommendations were not succinct and directed the Council to reconstitute the Team. The reconstituted Team undertook their work and submitted a report to the Summit in November 2011.

Madam Speaker,

The 13th Summit of Heads of State mandated the Secretariat to develop, the Draft Model of the Structure of the EAC Political Federation; the Roadmap for Establishing and Strengthening the Institutions and Operationalization of the Recommendations made by the team of Experts.

The Secretariat developed the three draft instruments, which were considered by the Summit at its 14th Ordinary Meeting in November 2012. The Model of the Structure detailed the justification and rationale for attaining a political federation, the principles and objectives, proposed the division of powers between the regional and national levels and creation of key institutions that need to be established. The Model Structure forms the basis for future work on the process towards a political federation.

The Summit took note of the progress made on the road map, the action plan and model structure for the federation and directed Partner States to consult further on them and the Council of Ministers to report progress at the 15th Summit of the EAC Heads of State.

Madam Speaker,

Good Governance, Democracy, Rule of Law, Constitutionalism and Protection and Promotion of Human Rights are prerequisites for successful regional integration. In order to consolidate the above tenets, several initiatives have been taken including:-

- (a) The decision to negotiate an EAC Protocol on Good Governance currently undergoing consultations in the Partner States;

- (b) Establishment of an EAC Forum of Heads of Electoral Commissions to initiate policy on harmonization of democratic elections;
- (c) Institutionalization of national human rights commissions into the EAC Structures taking into account the already passed EAC Human and Peoples' Rights Act, 2012;
- (d) Establishment of an EAC Forum of Chief Justices to develop best practices in jurisprudence in the region;
- (e) Preparation of a draft Protocol on Preventing and Combating Corruption which is in final stages; and
- (f) Implementation of regional political integration and human security initiatives now underway.

Madam Speaker,

Regarding the second part of the question, allow me to state that the objectives of the East African Community in general underpin the development of policies and programmes aimed at widening and deepening cooperation among the EAC Partner States for their mutual benefits.

The Community has made remarkable achievements in this respect. Regional integration by its very nature may create imbalances in gains if Partner States do not take effective measures or create mechanisms to maximise the benefits and minimize costs.

Madam Speaker,

The EAC Partner States have several areas of regional cooperation and coordination all aimed at accelerated harmonious and balanced development for people of East Africa in an equitable manner. The Customs Union and the Common Market Protocols which are key pillars of our integration process have been negotiated and concluded and are in various stages of implementation by Partner States. The negotiations of the Protocols took into account better regulations by national governments to ensure that the operational and fundamental principles of the Community are upheld.

Under cooperation in infrastructure, East Africans can now witness efforts in wider and deeper integration in better cross-border roads such as the Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road which was commissioned by the EAC Heads of State on 29th November 2012. Other projects of this nature are also in the offing.

Under cooperation in trade liberalisation and development, gains have been made in reduction of Non Tariff Barriers, increased flows of intra EAC trade and joint negotiations of international trading arrangements especially the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union and the initiatives made between EAC and USA under the Commercial Dialogue.

There has been marked improvement in trade facilitation arrangements among the EAC Partner States. Cross border investments by firms which are owned by East Africans have increased a great deal since integration initiatives intensified.

Madam Speaker,

The sharing of costs and benefits is crucial to the EAC integration process but as of now, there are no laid down procedures to ensure equitable distribution of costs and benefits of the Community and the same will be subject of an outcome of a study on costs and benefits of EAC integration which is being undertaken this year, 2013. The Terms of Reference for this study have been adopted by Council, funds to undertake the study have been provided for in the Budget of the financial year 2012/2013 and evaluation of bids for the consultancy services is being concluded. The outcome of this study will go a long way to shed more light on the way forward with respect to distribution of benefits, and realisation of accelerated, harmonious and balanced development in the Community.

Madam Speaker,

It is worth noting that:-

- a) Integration brings forth benefits such as pooling of risks together at regional level and lowering costs of borrowing for regional projects;
- b) There are evident benefits from economies of scale due to larger markets created through Customs Union and Common Market arrangements in the integration efforts due to efficient allocation of resources, regional competition and better quality of goods and services.

I further wish to state that in the short and medium terms, imbalances are likely to occur given that Partner States are at different stages of development and industrialization. However, in the longer term, there should be equitable sharing of costs and benefits. With the conclusion of the study, a mechanism of equitable sharing of costs and benefits will be proposed, discussed and established.

THE CHAIRMAN TO COUNCIL OF MINISTERS (MR SHEM BAGEINE): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Article 5(1) and 5(2); 123(6) and 7 of the Treaty, and milestones had under the EAC Development Strategy 2010-2016, a number of initiatives have been undertaken towards attaining the ultimate goal of the East African Community integration. The initiatives are anchored on the mandate contained in the Treaty under the said provisions. The Summit and the Council through directives and decisions studies consultations and development of policy mechanisms have set up strategies and programmes to accelerate political integration which is continuous.

It is important to understand that attainment of the East African Community political federation is a process and not an event. Achieving the political federation requires its pillars to be strengthened to lay a firm foundation for the envisaged political federation. This calls for stronger policy platforms in the conduct of security, foreign policy and governance matters and a transformation of regional policies, institutional arrangements and capacities to support the deeper goal. It also recognises that integration is ultimately intended to achieve socio-economic and political development for East Africans.

Madam Speaker, steps taken towards political federation include the following:

- a) Pursuant to the provisions of the Treaty, the special Summit of EAC Heads of State held in Nairobi in May 2004 expressed concern about the slow pace of the integration

process and agreed to explore ways of expediting the process towards an East African Political Federation.

b) The committee on fast-tracking political federation was established by the Council of Ministers on 28th August 2004 to examine ways and means to expedite and compress the process of integration so that the ultimate goal of a political federation is achieved through fast-tracking mechanism.

c) With limited resources and time frames, the committee went around East Africa collecting views from stakeholders and submitted its report at the 6th Summit held on 29th November 2004 which contained recommendations and the way forward.

d) Although time frames were signed to the recommendations, some of them were overtaken by events, others were fully implemented including establishing the Office of the Deputy Secretary General in charge of Political Federation and the ministries in charge of East African Community Affairs while others rotated to other stages of integration and were sub zoomed in the East African Community activities under implementation. Subsequently, the Extra Ordinary Summit of Heads of State held in Dar-es-salaam in May 2005 directed the council to form national consultative mechanisms to elect more views of the east Africans on east African political federation and the need to fast track it.

Madam Speaker, the national consultations on fast tracking the East African Political Federation were undertaken in all the five partner states between 2006 and 2008. The overall objective of the consultations was to examine the level of awareness, people's attitudes on the East African community integration process in general and think views on fast tracking the East African Political Federation. The reports revealed that the East Africans had some fears, concerns and challenges towards political federation among other findings.

Madam Speaker, on 20th November 2009, the summit considered the recommendations of the Council and directed that an in-depth study be undertaken on the fears concerns and challenges identified on the EAC political federation with a view to determining the extent to which some have been addressed and those not yet addressed and proposing ways and means of addressing them. A team of experts was constituted to undertake a detailed review and analysis of the fears, concerns and challenges towards political federation raised by the citizens of East Africa based on the existing documents and reports.

The team examined progress in addressing the fears, concerns and challenges and proposed ways of handling them and strengthening the pillars of the political federation. The experts concluded the study in August 2010 and submitted their report which was conceded by the Summit of Heads of State in November 2010. The summit observed that the recommendations were not succinct and directed the Council to reconstitute the team. The reconstituted team undertook their work and submitted a report to the summit in November 2011.

Madam Speaker, the 13th Summit of Heads of State mandated the Secretariat to develop a draft model of the structure of the East African Community Political Federation, and the roadmap for establishing and strengthening institutions and operationalisation of the recommendations made by the team of experts. The Secretariat developed the three draft instruments which were considered by the Summit at the 14th Ordinary Meeting in November 2012. The model of the structure, details, the justification and rationale for attaining a political federation, the principles and objectives proposed the division of powers between the regional and national levels and creation of key institutions that need to be established. The model structure forms the basis for future work on the process towards a political federation. The Summit took note of the progress made on the road map, the action plan and model structure for the federation and directed Partner States to consult further on them and the Council of Ministers to report progress at the 15th Summit of the EAC Heads of State.

Madam Speaker, good governance, democracy, rule of law, constitutionalism and protection and promotion of human rights are prerequisites for successful regional integration. In order to consolidate the above tenets, several initiatives have been taken including:-

- (g) The decision to negotiate an EAC Protocol on Good Governance currently undergoing consultations in the Partner States;
- (h) Establishment of an EAC Forum of Heads of Electoral Commissions to initiate policy on harmonization of democratic elections;
- (i) Institutionalisation of national human rights commissions into the EAC Structures taking into account the already passed EAC Human and Peoples' Rights Act, 2012;
- (j) Establishment of an EAC Forum of Chief Justices to develop best practices in jurisprudence in the region;
- (k) Preparation of a draft Protocol on Preventing and Combating Corruption which is in final stages; and
- (l) Implementation of regional political integration and human security initiatives now underway.

Madam Speaker, regarding the second part of the question, allow me to state that the objectives of the East African Community in general underpin the development of policies and programmes aimed at widening and deepening cooperation among the EAC Partner States for their mutual benefits.

The community has made remarkable achievements in this respect. Regional integration by its very nature may create imbalances in gains if Partner States do not take effective measures or create mechanisms to maximise the benefits and minimize costs.

Madam Speaker, the EAC Partner States have several areas of regional cooperation and coordination all aimed at accelerated harmonious and balanced development for people of East Africa in an equitable manner. The Customs Union and the Common Market Protocols which are key pillars of our integration process have been negotiated and concluded and are in various stages of implementation by partner states. The negotiations

of the Protocols took into account better regulations by national governments to ensure that the operational and fundamental principles of the Community are upheld.

Under cooperation in infrastructure, East Africans can now witness efforts in wider and deeper integration in better cross-border roads such as the Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road which was commissioned by the EAC Heads of State on 29 November, 2012. Other projects of this nature are also in the offing.

Under cooperation in trade liberalisation and development, gains have been made in reduction of Non-Tariff Barriers, increased flows of intra EAC trade and joint negotiations of international trading arrangements especially the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) with the European Union and the initiatives made between EAC and USA under the Commercial Dialogue.

There has been marked improvement in trade facilitation arrangements among the EAC Partner States. Cross border investments by firms which are owned by East Africans have increased a great deal since integration initiatives intensified.

Madam Speaker, the sharing of costs and benefits is crucial to the EAC integration process but as of now, there are no laid down procedures to ensure equitable distribution of costs and benefits of the Community and the same will be subject of an outcome of a study on costs and benefits of EAC integration which is being undertaken this year, 2013. The Terms of Reference for this study have been adopted by the Council, funds to undertake the study have been provided for in the budget of the financial year 2012/2013 and evaluation of bids for the consultancy services is being finalised. The outcome of this study will go a long way to shed more light on the way forward with respect to distribution of benefits, and realisation of accelerated, harmonious and balanced development in the Community.

Madam Speaker, it is worth noting that:-

- c) Integration brings forth benefits such as pooling of risks together at regional level and lowering costs of borrowing for regional projects;
- d) There are evident benefits from economies of scale due to larger markets created through Customs Union and Common Market arrangements in the integration efforts due to efficient allocation of resources, regional competition and better quality of goods and services.

I further wish to state that in the short and medium terms, imbalances are likely to occur given that partner states are at different stages of development and industrialisation. However, in the longer term, there should be equitable sharing of costs and benefits.

With conclusion of the study, a mechanism of equitable sharing of costs and benefits will be proposed, discussed and established. I thank you. *(Applause)*

THE SPEAKER: I thank you Chair, Council. Supplementary question.

HON. DORAH BYAMUKAMA (UGANDA): I thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank you in particular for putting these questions on the Order Paper because they are of paramount interest to us as an Assembly.

Madam Speaker, permit me to make a few remarks.

One, the last question is premised on Article 7 (Operational Principles of the Community). In particular, it states that the principles that shall govern the practical achievement of the objectives of the community shall include (f) the equitable distribution of benefits accruing or to be derived from the operations of the community and measures to address economic imbalances that may arise from such operations. So it has two aspects; equitable distribution and requires measures to address economic imbalances.

Secondly, when you look at the preamble, it says that one of the main reasons contributing to the collapse of the East African Community in 1997 was the continued disproportionate sharing of benefits of the Community among the partner states due to their differences in their levels of development and lack of adequate policies to address this situation.

Madam Speaker, this whole issue started in 1993 like President Museveni said. It was officiated in 1999 but this is 14 years down the road. If, for example, measles killed your child, why wouldn't you quickly inoculate your next child against measles? This is very important. So when you hear a response talking about a study and the Secretariat and the Council of Ministers are very fond of these studies, there is a study of a study, a research of a research –

THE SPEAKER: Put the supplementary question.

HON. BYAMUKAMA: So my supplementary question is, "How long should we wait before this particular cause of earlier death causes disastrous consequences?" That is my question.

THE SPEAKER: I thank you.

HON. BYAMUKAMA: Madam Speaker, allow me to just quote because there are two parts of the question and I will be quick on the next one.

I am again very grateful because the fact that this question comes at the heels of the address of the Chair of Summit which particular address is supposed to give impetus, efforts and direction to our work is very important. I want to find out for example, on the issue of political federation, what are the time lines? We are talking about this road map. The road map has been on for I do not know how long. What are the time lines?

Secondly, why do we have to wait for these questions? There is a disconnect. Why can't we have periodic statements because when you look at Article 49, you should have annual reports, we should have periodic statements so that we are appraised. We are

members of the Assembly and we speak for the Assembly and we speak for the people. So we need to be informed.

Finally, I think – just give me second because I had written some points down.

THE SPEAKER: Yes, supplementary question.

HON. BYAMUKAMA: Finally, I think that there is a problem of contradictions. This Assembly passed the Bill on Human Rights and somehow, I do not know whether it was assented to.

This Assembly passed an EAC elections law but we do not know what happened to this law and yet these are the issues which are being outlined as having been accomplished and yet the people of the East African Community readily supported political federations. So, why do we have to study when the people supported the principle? Why are we having a study upon a study and research on research? I think there is a challenge here.

THE SPEAKER: I thank you. The Honourable Chair, Council.

HON. BAGEINE: I thank you, Madam Speaker. I thank hon. Dora Byamukama because I think she went a little bit far in debating the basic principles.

My comment to her first question is that as long as we continue operating as separate entities and separate states, we cannot expect to share the benefits accruing from the various businesses and other undertakings carried out in respective partner states. The answer is to fast track the federation that will remove the artificial barriers and the people of East Africa become one so that when there is an industry established in any part of East Africa, the fact that taxation will be collected for the benefit of all East Africans, will then mean that we can all benefit.

So, I think it is an urge on us all as leaders to move fast and federate and then this issue will no longer be something to consider or talk about. But until we do that, I am afraid that we will continue having these imbalances.

Secondly, as I said in my answer earlier on, we are operating at different levels and indeed in some of our countries, our people's work culture is absolutely dismal. It is very poor. I do not know what will happen when we fully integrate because some of them will be laggard – not jobs until they wake up and begin learning how to work. I have said this before in this country that you have several thousands of people who have left their fertile land to come into the city and ride *boda-bodas* and think that that is the way they are going to do business – and say that they specialise in killing our innocent people. Our people must be told to wake up and work and we are not going to stop others from working because they are able to work. That is the spirit of integration. Let us move forward and integrate as a federal state and then those who want to work will as individuals, benefit more than those who don't want to work but there will not be any

imbalances because you will not be relating to any partner states and as such, everything will be for East Africans.

The other issue, and I want to thank hon. Dora Byamukama. Yes, indeed, we should not wait for questions to come and I want to promise that we are going to go by the letter of the treaty and make available information not only to Members of EALA but also to partner states so that in the process, integration becomes easier than it has been. I am aware, for example, that the Parliament of Uganda and even the Cabinet, have not had this information for sometime. So, it is a commitment that I want to make to all members of EALA that we are going to improve on that performance so that that can also help us in terms of the integration.

Last but not least, the law that was passed – the Act was sent for assent and we are waiting for that action. I thank you.

1.0 QUESTION: EALA/PQ/OA/3/06/2013 (BY HON. SUSAN NAKAWUKI)

THE SPEAKER: I invite hon. Susan Nakawuki.

HON. SUSAN NAKAWUKI (UGANDA): I thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to move that the Chair, Council responds to Question EALA/PQ/OA/3/06/2013 (quote question)

THE SPEAKER: The Chair, Council.

HON. BAGEINE: Madam Speaker based on the submissions from the partner states and information available at the Secretariat, a report on the status of implementation of the Protocol by the respective partner states has been prepared as at December 2012. Madam Speaker, country by country status of implementation of the Protocol, as at December 2012 is as follows:-

(a) Free Movement of Goods.

Elimination of internal tariffs on goods from Kenya to Uganda and Tanzania reached zero on 1st January, 2010. All the partner states are according zero customs tariff on goods originating and trading among the partner states.

Elimination of all forms of Non-Tariff Barriers is an ongoing process in the partner states. An EAC Time Bound Programme on the elimination of identified Non-Tariff Barriers has been established and it is constantly updated to capture the existing Non-Tariff Barriers and also to register those that have been eliminated.

As at December 2012, a total of 40 Non-Tariff Barriers had been resolved; 37 were unresolved; and four new NTBs were reported.

(b) Free Movement of Persons

(i) Uganda reported that the Citizenship and Immigration Act is under review. Though the existing law does not guarantee six months stay for a visitor, there is an administrative circular that automatically allows for six months for only EAC passport holders.

(ii) The Republic of Rwanda enacted a new immigration law that encompasses all provisions of the Common Market Protocol covering free movement of persons, labour and services. Citizens of partner states who wish to visit Rwanda enter without restrictions and are automatically granted up to six months stay renewable upon justification.

(iii) Kenya enacted three pieces of legislation to conform to the Common Market Protocol. A circular is in place directing immigration officials to automatically issue six months visitors' pass to citizens of East African Community partner states.

(iv) In Tanzania, the Immigration Act, 1995 and Immigration Regulations 1997 are currently under review so as to comply with the Common Market Protocol. In the meantime, holders of East African Community Passports are granted six months stay. There is a circular directing immigration officials to issue six months visitors pass to citizens of East African Community partner states.

Madam Speaker, on non discrimination against citizens of other partner states, the Republic of Rwanda has already amended or repealed the immigration law and a new law conforming to the Common Market Protocol is in force. Kenya has amended three immigration laws to reflect the requirements of the Common Market Protocol. Uganda has amended four laws in order to comply with the Common Market Protocol. The United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Burundi have initiated the necessary processes to amend their respective national immigration laws.

On Common Standardised National Identification Documents, the status is as follows:-

(i) In Uganda, registration of all Ugandan citizens is ongoing;

(ii) In Tanzania, the National Identity Document Authority has established the system and has started registration for national IDs. The identity card is a smart card;

(iii) Rwanda has a system for issuance of machine readable and electronic national ID cards;

(iv) Kenya has been issuing ID cards to nationals since the colonial period. Currently, the country is in the process of procuring smart cards and issuing system to upgrade to the third generation Bar Coded ID cards;

(v) Kenya and Rwanda have also agreed to pilot the use of national ID cards as travel documents between the two countries; and

(vi) Burundi has initiated the procurement process for issuance of a third generation ID Card.

(c) Free Movement of Workers

The partner states have amended or are in the process of amending their respective national laws to eliminate discriminatory provisions.

In Kenya, there are no laws discriminating against employment of citizens of other partner states and there is a total of nine laws which allow free movement of East African citizens moving to Kenya as workers without discrimination. The Kenya Constitution 2010 and Industrial Courts Act No. 20 of 2011 are among the new laws that enhance free movement of East African citizens to Kenya as workers. Kenya issued a total of 3,336 work permits to workers from other partner states between 2011 and May 2012.

In Rwanda, citizens from other partner states who secure employment are issued with work and residence permits of two years renewable upon application free of charge. Those with a lesser period are issued with a special pass in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol. A total of 37,960 workers and 120 dependants from East African Community partner states have been admitted into Rwanda labour market and issued with resident permits and dependant passes respectively.

In Uganda, 15 laws discriminating against citizens of other partner states in relation to employment, remuneration and other conditions of work were identified and so far four of these have been amended and the others are in the process of being amended to comply with the provisions of the Common Market Protocol. A total of 1,004 work permit applications from other EAC nationals were received and considered between 2010 and 2012 and 106 dependants of workers were also employed.

In the United Republic of Tanzania, five laws have been identified and are in the process of being reviewed to conform to the Common Market Protocol. In 2011 and 2012, a total of 2,216 work permits were issued to citizens from other partner states at a cost, of course.

In the Republic of Burundi, there are no discriminatory employment laws and a total of 35 work permits have been issued.

(d) Rights of Establishment

In Kenya a total 279 economic undertakings owned by citizens of other partner states were set up between 2009 and 2012. Twenty seven pieces of legislation relating to the right of establishment have been identified for amendment and a miscellaneous amendment Bill has been submitted to the State Law Office.

In the Republic of Rwanda, citizens of other partner states are guaranteed the right of establishment. As of November 2011, 463 establishments were being run by citizens from other EAC partner states. There are no discriminatory policies, regulations and laws against companies and firms from other partner states. A review of the investment code is being undertaken to cater for policies regarding the right of establishment.

In Uganda, eight Acts and one policy have been identified for review and procedures for obtaining licenses for the establishment of businesses are being simplified. A total of 48 investment licences to citizens from other EAC partner states were issued between 2010 and 2012.

In the Republic of Burundi, 13 undertakings in banking and manufacturing had been set up by nationals from other partner States as at December, 2012.

The United Republic of Tanzania is in the process of reviewing relevant laws to facilitate the implementation of the Right of Establishment as provided for in the EAC Common Market Protocol.

(e) Right of Residence

In Kenya, a total of 4,417 resident permits were issued between 2010 and 2012.

In Rwanda, 653 residence permits to citizens from other partner states have been issued since 1st July, 2010. The permits are being issued within three working days shorter than the 30 days stipulated in the Protocol. Over the same period, 1,106 Dependant Passes were issued to spouses, children and dependants of workers and self-employed persons from other partner states.

In Uganda, 23 Residence Permits were issued to citizens of other partner states between 2010 and 2011 in compliance with the Common Market Protocol.

The United Republic of Tanzania issued a total of 1,024 residence permits between 2011 and June 2012 and a total of 126 Dependant Passes were issued to spouses, children and dependants of workers and self-employed persons from other EAC partner states.

In Burundi, 1056 Residence Permits were issued to other EAC citizens and 290 Dependant Passes were issued to spouses, children and dependants of various workers and self-employed persons between 2010 and April 2012.

Madam Speaker, on harmonisation of Work and Residence Permit Fees, The EAC Secretariat is in the process of working out modalities to standardise the Work/Residence Permits fees charged by the partner states as required under the EAC Common Market Protocol Regulation 6(9) on free movement of workers and Regulation 6(5) on the right of residence.

Currently, the republics of Kenya and Rwanda issue Work and Residence permits free of charge to East Africans. The process of standardisation will therefore apply to the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

(f) Free Movement of Services

In Burundi, the Government issued an official notice to remove all administrative restrictions on the provision of services. Further, it will embark on the review of some of the domestic laws and regulations that impose restriction of free movement of services. Burundi also plans to undertake full institutional reforms as per agreed schedule in Annex V of the Common Market Protocol.

Uganda has a National Common Market Implementation Plan, National Development Plan and National Trade Policy to guide the implementation of the Common Market Protocol and has identified 13 laws for amendment in order to accord national treatment to services and service suppliers from other partner states.

Rwanda is conducting business law reforms in the spirit of harmonisation with commitments made under the Annex V of the Protocol and reducing restrictions on free movement of services and service suppliers.

In Kenya, laws that have been identified for amendment are part of the Miscellaneous Amendment Bill that has been submitted to the State Law Office. In the meantime, Kenya has reviewed and removed restrictions on legal services sector and on the

horizontal measures (Companies Act and Registration of Business Names, Partnerships Act).

(g) Free Movement of Capital

Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda have no restrictions on the movement of capital to and from other partner states.

In Tanzania, seven laws and regulations relating to foreign exchange, capital markets and securities are under review.

(h) Other areas of cooperation

There are notable achievements in other areas of cooperation in the Protocol including the following:-

- (i) Protection of Cross Border Investments;
- (ii) Economic and Monetary Policy Coordination;
- (iii) Harmonisation of tax policies and laws;
- (iv) Prohibited business practices and consumer protection;
- (v) Coordination of trade relations;
- (vi) Coordination of transport policies;
- (vii) Environmental management;
- (viii) Cooperation in statistics;
- (ix) Research and technological development;
- (x) Cooperation in Intellectual Property Rights;
- (xi) Cooperation in industrial development; and
- (xii) Cooperation in agriculture and food security.

In addition, the following Protocols, Acts, policies, measures and programmes have either been concluded or are under negotiations to further ease the implementation of the Common Market Protocols, namely:-

- (i) The EAC Protocol on Standardization, Quality Assurance, Metrology and Testing;
- (ii) Operationalisation of the EAC Competition Act;
- (iii) Coordination and harmonisation of National Social Security Legislation;
- (iv) Implementation of the Harmonised Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary measures;
- (v) Common Standardised National Identification Documents;
- (vi) Manpower surveys;
- (vii) Approximation and Harmonisation of Policies, Laws and Systems;
- (viii) Mutual Recognition of Academic and professional Qualifications.
- (ix) Harmonisation of Curricula, Examinations, Standards and Certification.
- (x) Opening and Operation of Border Posts on a 24 hour or Reciprocal Basis.

Madam Speaker, since the coming into force of the Common Market Protocol in 2010, the Secretariat developed a monitoring and evaluation framework that is used to assess the implementation of the Protocol by the Partner States on a bi-annual basis.

Concerned about the slow pace of implementation of the Protocol, the Sectoral Council of Ministers Responsible for EAC Affairs and Planning at its 15th Meeting directed

partner states to establish National Implementation Committees composed of high level officials under the chairmanship of the ministries responsible for EAC Affairs by end of February, 2012. These have been established with full participation and support of the EAC Secretariat and are up and running in all the partner states.

Madam Speaker, since July 2010, the Secretariat has committed a total of about US\$20 million towards the implementation of the Common Market Protocol as follows: 2010/11 US\$5,047,170. 2011/12 US\$6,192,716. 2012/13 US\$8,501,450.

In the coming financial year 2013/14, the Secretariat has scaled up the budgetary provision to US\$33 million (or 28 percent of the budget) for the implementation of the Protocol. I thank you. (*Applause*)

THE SPEAKER: Chair, I thank you very much. I realise that the answer has been exceptionally long and perhaps also very detailed. I have a problem with our timing. I think we are running out of time and so I will just amend the time to at least allow us go to half past so that if there is a supplementary question, the Chair can conclude on it and then we wind up. The rest of the questions will be dealt with tomorrow.

Hon. Susan Nakawuki, any supplementary question?

MS. NAKAWUKI: I thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to thank the minister for the well detailed answer. But none the less, I have supplementary questions.

THE SPEAKER: Pardon?

MS. NAKAWUKI: Supplementary Questions.

THE SPEAKER: Be brief.

MS. NAKAWUKI: Sure. I have quite a number of questions, Madam Speaker.

THE SPEAKER: They have to be brief.

MS. NAKAWUKI: I will try to be as brief as possible.

First of all, the Chair Council on page 6 has talked about all partner states are according zero customs tariffs on goods originating and trading among partner states.

Now the question is; in Rwanda, it has been reported that water melons grown in Uganda and also eggs are taxed whenever they are taken into Rwanda. What is the zero customs tariff that the minister is talking about on this page?

Secondly, according to the Common Market Protocol, the issue of land was left to the national governments and land being a primary factor in production, how can we economically integrate when the management of land has been left out in the protocol.

Thirdly, the minister has talked about the resident permits that have been issued by the Republic of Tanzania. I would like to know if these also include the permits issued to the EAC staff.

I would also like to applaud the Republic of Kenya for the big number of permits that have been issued to the people of East Africa.

And then, Madam Speaker, the minister has talked about the issue of issuance of national IDs and he has talked about Uganda. I am really interested in this and would like to know when Ugandans can actually get their IDs other than gathering information because I am reliably informed that the equipment for producing these IDs have already been delivered. We also have blank IDs full in Bank of Uganda in Mbale and Masaka. So, when are we actually getting those IDs?

I would also like to know because the Common Market Protocol provides for a number of freedoms therein. For instance, the one of movement of persons, labour, capital among others. But I would like to know about the new development when it comes to these Yellow Fever booklets that are required in Tanzania. I know that this issue has been brought up a number of times but I am sure that the information that has been given to us is either untrue or otherwise. So, I would like to hear from Chair Council about the status of this because we are tired of being harassed at the airport all the time. *(Applause)*

Finally, I would like to know about – I would like to know if there are penalties for partner states for non compliance with the provisions of this Protocol because you have promised a lot – this thing looks appetising but you are not sure. Let us know what the penalties are and they ought to be deterrent in nature. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: The Chair, Council.

MR. BAGEINE: I thank you, Madam Speaker. Just as a comment, I do appreciate your comment on the lengthy answer but the question was actually a loaded question and I had to struggle to bring it to the level where I could but it still remained long.

Madam Speaker, the first question that I have taken note of is that among the cooperation principles - goods leaving Uganda into Rwanda are taxed. I am not aware of this and the other time I was at the Rwanda-Uganda Border (Gatuna-Katuna) and I witnessed traders ferrying their goods across which are originating from Uganda and there was not tax. If it is being done, it is not acceptable because it is not supposed to be done.

The second one was on the issue of land. You said that if this is not included in the protocol, how can we integrate? Land has been a controversial matter over the years, actually from time immemorial.

In the model of political federation, the issue of land is being left for management by the partner states given its sensitive nature. But it is hoped that there will be harmonised laws on how land is owned and investors can freely move in to respective partner states and

negotiate leases or purchases of land to enable them invest in those respective countries. We do not have to bring land into the Protocol in order for investments – or integration for that matter, to take place.

The EAC staff in Tanzania are among those who have been issued work permits that I talked about. They are included. The issue of Yellow Fever Certificate has come up now and again but it's a matter that is being discussed and it is my sincere hope that again in compliance with the provisions of the Common Market Protocol, that the freedom we are talking about will not have this kind of Non-Tariff Barrier inform of Yellow Fever Certificates. I think that in the end, it will be done away with so that we move freely within our region.

Last but not least, on the national IDs for Uganda, I know the process has been on for quite some time bedeviled by some problems but I want to assure you that the process is on and we should soon be in business with these IDs. It is important that we produce them because I think, we are probably the only country without IDs and as a result, people flock into this country and become Ugandans because they are aware that we do not have IDs and hence a big population that we are experiencing. I thank you.

THE SPEAKER: I thank you very much, Chair, Council. Honourable members, we have come to the end of today's sitting. It has been a long one and I appreciate your patience. The House is adjourned to tomorrow at 2.30 p.m. The House stands adjourned.

*(The House rose at **xoxo** p.m. and adjourned until Wednesday, 29 May 2013 at 2.30 p.m.)*

Ends