



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

Official Report of the Proceedings of the East African Legislative Assembly 107TH SITTING - SECOND ASSEMBLY: FOURTH MEETING – FOURTH SESSION

Thursday, 31 March 2011

The East African Legislative Assembly met at 9.30 a.m. in the Chamber of Deputies, Rwanda National Assembly, Kigali.

PRAYER

(The Speaker, Mr Abdirahin Abdi, in the Chair.)

The Assembly was called to order.

PAPERS

The following Papers were laid on the Table: -

by the Chairperson of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution (Mr Abdul Karim Harelimana (Rwanda):

The Report of the Workshop of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on Conflicts related to the Implementation of the Common Market Protocol.

The Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the On-Spot Assessment of the EAC-GTZ Small Arms and Light Weapons Intervention Projects in Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Kenya and Tanzania.

By the Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (Ms Safina Kwekwe (Kenya) :

The Report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the Interaction of the Committee with a delegation from the United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

MOTION

FOR CONSIDRATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, TOURISM AND NATURAL RESOURCES ON THE WORKSHOP ON RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE EAST AFRICAN REGION

The Chairperson, Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (Ms Safina Kwekwe (Kenya): Mr Speaker, I beg to move that the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the workshop on renewable energy in the East African Region be adopted. I beg to move.

Leonce Ndarubagiye (Burundi): Seconded.

Ms Kwekwe: Mr Speaker, Sir, the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources held a workshop on renewable energy in the East African Region at the Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi on the 5th of February, this year, 2011, and we would like to start by acknowledging all those who contributed to the realisation of this. We would like to thank the Members of Parliament from the Partner States for the invaluable participation and contributions.

We further wish to thank the delegations from the Partner States' ministries responsible for energy for their wealth of information and insight in the subject.

The committee appreciates the resource persons who made presentations that guided the discussions in the workshop.

We would also like to pay tribute to the Intercontinental Hotel, for the services that made dialogue and interaction possible and pleasant.

Further, we would like to thank our repertoire and the Office of the Clerk for availing time and personnel to support the committee.

Our sincere gratitude goes to AWEPA who co-funded the activity together with EALA especially be enabling the participation of Members of Parliament and Government official from the Partner States.

Last, but not least, Mr Speaker we would wish to thank you for making it possible for the committee to hold this activity alongside other EALA activities and for facilitating the travel costs of committee members.

Mr Speaker, the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources held this workshop with the following objectives:

1. To build capacity of Members of Parliament and other relevant stakeholders on the potential and current efforts in development of renewable energy sources throughout the region.
2. To enlighten members on existing instruments, policies, regulations and laws that govern the exploitation, use and development of renewable energy in the EAC Partner States.

3. To update members on the status of implementation of the EAC Master Plan on energy.

Mr Speaker, this is in response to the provisions of Article 101 of the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC.

As earlier mentioned, participants were drawn from national parliaments, Government ministries responsible for energy, insights of resource persons drawn from both the EAC Secretariat and other institutions within the region.

The committee got presentations from two very knowledgeable resource persons namely: Engineer Wakaba from the Global Village Energy Partnership and Mr Peter Kinuthia who is the Energy Officer based at the EAC Secretariat in Arusha.

Mr Speaker, from the presentations on the regional perspective, the committee was informed that the most common forms of renewable energy technologies in the region and beyond include:

- i. Solar photo volatiles which uses light incident on a semi conductor to generate electricity;
- ii. Solar thermal energy whereby heat is collected from the sun and concentrated for purposes of direct heating,
- iii. Solar water heating, which comprises of simple robust systems for heating water for domestic use;
- iv. Biomass which is the most popular in the region which is from trees and agricultural residues though this source of renewable energy is surrounded by controversy as to the certain availability of biomass sources since we need strong regulations and enforcement that will make this source to be replenished;
- v. Geo-thermal energy which originates from the original formation of the planets from radioactive decay of minerals, volcanic activity and solar energy absorbed at the surface;
- vi. Wind power, which again the region has in abundance. In addition, this is used to turn turbines which in turn generated electricity and can be used for direct pumping. Currently in the globe, we have 158 GWT installed globally from wind power; it is growing at 30 percent globally; and lastly
- vii. Hydro-electricity, which makes use of flowing water in an incline to turn a turbine to generate electricity and there are several types of hydros, which determined by their size which are either small hydro or mini hydro or micro hydro or pico-hydro.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on the global energy renewable status, the committee was informed that 19 percent of all global consumption of energy came from renewable resources in the year 2008 with a 10 percent from biomass, 3.2 percent from large hydro, 2.7 percent from other renewables and the statistics indicate that at least 3 million rural households are on solar, 30 million on biogas, and 160 million on improved cook stoves.

This is evident, therefore, that the usage in renewable energy is going up mostly due to impacts of climate change, rising oil prices, legislative incentives and commercialisation. As a result, between 2008 and 2009, there was more investment in renewable energy by venture capitalists than in ICT.

Mr Speaker and hon. Members, the East African situation could be attributed to underdeveloped policy and regulatory environment because we noticed that the use of biomass amounts to 99 percent of renewable energy usage in the region. And this can be attributed to several prohibitions that hinder the realisation of the full potential to develop renewable energy in the region which could include policy and legal barriers as noticed that most governments do not have a clear cut policy on renewable energy deployment except for the Republic of Uganda.

Secondly, there is lack of information or resource availability on investment opportunities and returns. There are low financial returns and no quantification of economic benefits. There is weak institutional and regulatory framework; investment is heavily concentrated on big electricity and petroleum sector projects; lack of or non enforcement of quality standards; limited technical expertise, for example in wind assessment and hydro feasibility studies; shortage of low cost long-term financing as investments in renewable energy demand for patient capital; conservative lending practices of banks and also financial institutions also hinder access to credit for such investments; lack of subsidies that capture the economic benefits; low access to capital and finance; management constraints whereby projects are not well developed and take too long thus many enterprises are not growing; and of course there is the new found fossil fuel resources such as gas in Tanzania, oil in Uganda, coal in Kenya and Tanzania, which all push renewable energy to the periphery.

There is need, therefore, to re-think renewable energy policies both at national and regional levels in the light of the development aspirations of the region.

Mr Speaker, there are things that EALA can do to, for example, improve the situation on renewable energy usage in East Africa and these include among others:

- i. Encouraging technologies that build on existing knowledge and supporting existing industry;
- ii. Harmonising policy legislation and regulations with implementation timetable and appropriate budgetary support;
- iii. Development of standards that encourage quality and level the playing field;
- iv. Creation of economies of scale through the Common Market as well as resource pools of affordable finance;
- v. Supporting initiatives that build human resource capacity in technology, finance and management;
- vi. Develop diplomatic offensives for carbon opportunities locked out of the carbon market.

We also benefited from the presentation made by Mr Peter Kinuthia who informed the committee on the progress made thus far on the EAC Master Plan on renewable energy. The implementation of the EAC Energy Projects and Programmes draw their mandate as said earlier from Article 101 of the Treaty.

In terms of renewable energy, the EAC objectives in this sector include:

- i. To promote development of new and renewable energy sources for which the region has vast potential but have so far not been adequately exploited;
- ii. To initiate programmes on energy efficiency and conservation;
- iii. To prepare a comprehensive energy conservation and efficiency strategy and plan;
- iv. To prepare a Renewable Energy Master Plan that will feed into the Regional Renewable Energy Master Plan.

Mr Speaker, what is therefore happening so far in the EAC?

- i. What is going on in the renewable energy sector includes formulation of the regional strategy on scaling up access to more energy with support of the Norwegian Government. And this is aimed at achieving the Millennium Development Goals. The strategy was concluded in 2006 and the Norwegian Government has posted a focal person specifically to implement this strategy at the EAC.
- ii. Chores for comprehensive energy conservation and efficiency strategy and plan have been developed and approved by the Sectoral Council though funding has not yet been realised to enable its implementation.
- iii. There are also cures to alleviate the Master Plan that will feed into the Regional Energy Master Plan that have been developed and approved by the Sectoral Council but again there is no funding for its implementation.
- iv. Development of biomas wind and biogas projects are ongoing.

Mr Speaker, it is sad to note that to date the EAC has neither a strategy nor any policy guideline so far on paper that guides the sector on renewable energy. And the budget estimates for developing the master Plan on renewable energy is estimated at US \$ 1.2 million but so far nothing has been done because the excuse is that there has been no funds to fund it.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to move to page 10 of the report whereby I would like to highlight the emerging issues coming out of the status of renewable energy in the East African Region and these include that:

- i. Renewable energy presents a huge potential in East Africa both for investment and research for the development and industrialization of the region. Sadly though, that potential has not been tapped.

- ii. Biomass as a renewable energy source is challenging for the East African region and in fact should not be promoted as such unless deliberate and concrete actions are put in place to ensure its replenishment. Otherwise, it will not qualify as renewable given the rapid depletion of forests, which do not go hand in hand with actions to plant more and fast maturing trees to serve as a source.
- iii. Biogas, wind power, solar power, geothermal, hydropower and biomass should be prioritized as potential renewable energy sources in that order to ease dependence on hydro power and biomass due to the challenges that we have cited and others which are water stress and deforestation.
- iv. Evidently, there is more emphasis on power and fossil fuel at the EAC as evidenced by the elaborate working groups in those sub-sectors unlike in renewable energy. This bias dictates the priority placed on these energy resources and to refocus the EAC's priority unto renewable energy is, therefore, inevitable.
- v. The concentration on fossil fuel production in the EAC seems to be in direct contrast with the global efforts being undertaken to mitigate climate change. It, therefore, may seem ironic for EAC to pursue a development path that allows it to contribute to the emission of green house gasses through active exploitation of fossil fuels given the commitments the region has made internationally to contribute to mitigation of green house gases. However, it is worth noting that the EAC carbon emissions are insignificant at the global level and even if all production were to be shut down, it would not affect the global warming. But this notwithstanding, EAC should use all existing opportunities to develop itself and where there is an opportunity to pursue green development, then this should be followed as the best option for EAC is to pursue a double-pronged approach to development using all its available opportunities including the green technologies.
- vi. The Secretariat needs to do more to get the Renewable Energy Master Plan developed given the potential it has to improve the livelihoods of millions of people in the community. Renewable energy is cheaper in the long run even though the upfront cost may seem exorbitant and efficient and, therefore, stands a greater chance of uptake by the community. Indicative prices for the investments in renewable energy may be exorbitant but this depends on the site and the source.
- vii. Energy efficiency is a very important component of renewable energy and should be emphasized in any master plan that is to be developed at community level. In order to promote energy efficiency, there is need for greater sensitization to the general public in the community.
- viii. Quality control is important when trading in renewable energy technologies especially since the upfront investment seems high. Therefore, dealing with counterfeits in order to effectively promote renewable energy technologies in the region is paramount.

- ix. The objectives of the proposed EAC Renewable Energy Master Plan, noble as they are, may not be realized unless Partner States regard the sector strategic enough to warrant own-funding mechanisms instead of relying on donor funding. Because these objectives include amongst others:
- a) To reduce by 50 percent the number of people using traditional methods of cooking to modern methods of cooking by 2015, that is three years from today;
 - b) The electrification of all urban areas and access to electricity to all schools and clinics by 2015. Mr Speaker and hon. Members, we were informed that GIZ and UNDP are currently undertaking an assessment of the implementation strategy while at the same time UNDP is supporting the Secretariat to make the linkage between scaling up renewable energy technologies and climate change mitigation and adaptation in the community.
- x. It is a priority for the EAC to formulate the Renewable Energy Master Plan to provide clear guidelines to the region and the Partner States on the kind of policies and legislation that are required to support the development of renewable energy.

The committee benefited from presentations from four Partner States, that is, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya and Burundi. Sadly, Rwanda was not represented although we had a brief from one of the members who gave some highlights on what is happening in Rwanda.

From all the presentations, Mr Speaker the crosscutting issues are:

1. Energy conservation and efficiency are major projects across the Partner States;
2. EAC challenges are mainly on human capacity, both in service provision and in human skills, for example, in wind technology.
3. It is only Uganda, which has a standalone policy on renewable energy, which provides that: “The Government shall set aside 2 percent of its annual budget to development of renewable energy.” (*Applause*) This should be a lesson to all the other Partner States.
4. It also emerged from all the five presentations that there is heavy dependence on fossil fuels.
5. Partner States parliaments except for Burundi have passed legislation to waive tariffs on renewable energy technology especially on solar panels, but waiver of taxes on other amenities such as batteries does not match this. Therefore, this should be extended to the entire spectrum of renewable energy and the other components that go with it.
6. High upfront cost of renewable energy is a barrier although in the long run, the benefits outweigh the costs.
7. There is low awareness on the alternative energy sources and renewable energy.

8. There is a call for renewable energy technology transfer between Partner States in the EAC.

Mr Speaker, I am now on page 19 on the recommendations and way forward that the committee is putting across to this esteemed House.

Recommendations and Way Forward:

It was evident and is still evident that the Partner States and the East African Community have the capacity to meet all its energy needs through renewable energy sources if the sector is provided with the right policy and right financial support.

There is a clear linkage between energy, climate change and ecosystem degradation and that these three areas need to be harmonized to create the right balance for development of renewable energy. In particular, East Africa has a huge problem of ecosystem degradation and that if this can be dealt with, then some of the challenges facing the energy sector in the region will be dealt with by extension such as the issues of drop in the levels of water in hydropower stations and reduction in biomass sources can be mitigated if we develop the sector wholesomely.

Therefore, the Committee recommends that the Council of Ministers do the following:

1. To ensure that financial facilitation to the Secretariat of the East African Community could develop a Renewable Energy Master Plan immediately and without further delay and all efforts must be deployed to secure funds for its development. In particular, the US \$ 1.2 million should come from the Partner States as this will demonstrate the commitment the region has to the development of its immense renewable energy potential.
2. We recommend the Council of Ministers to call for policy and legal reforms to create an enabling environment for promoting renewable energy in Partner States and at the community level.
3. To harmonize policy, legislation and regulations with appropriate budgetary support in all Partner States in order to promote renewable energy development and production. For example, all Partner States should be encouraged to remove tariffs on imports for renewable energy technologies and products such as the PV Panels. Also, all Partner States should be encouraged to follow Uganda's lead which as I earlier said has set aside 2 percent of its total annual budget to renewable energy resources.
4. To ensure that the East African Community Secretariat puts in place an inventory of the viable renewable resources in each Partner State and develop the most viable ones jointly. For example, the Community could have a joint geothermal project for the whole region since the rift valley where this potential is found runs across all the Partner States. *(Applause)*
5. Ensure that the Community builds on existing energy initiatives in the region and to promote renewable energy such as the bi-annual Petroleum Conference - we could have the same for renewable energy- and the regional investment forums and we could also have the same for renewable energy.
6. Encourage creation of economies of scale in renewable energy development through the Common Market as well as resource pools of affordable finance.

7. Provide more information on renewable energy resource availability, investment opportunities, and returns within the Partner States and at community level.
8. Regulate and enforce quality standards relating to renewable energy technologies and products to eliminate counterfeits and harmful products that may make renewable energy unattractive to the unsuspecting public.
9. Invest in developing human and technical resources relating to renewable energy which are currently very limited in the region. For example, there are very few experts in the region with the capacity to undertake hydro feasibility studies or wind assessments.
10. Ensure that the community supports initiatives that build human resource capacity in technology, finance and management relating to renewable energy resources.
11. Encourage technologies that build on existing knowledge and supporting existing industry.
12. Encourage technology and knowledge transfer among Partner States in the area of renewable energy development and exploitation.
13. Improve the tariff system in the region to create more incentives for the promotion of more private sector involvement in the renewable energy sector in the region. This may necessitate the review of the East African Community Common External Tariff.
(Applause)
14. To urge for the creation of more incentives at national level that focus not just at the financial incentives but also at the economic incentives that lead to several economic benefits that accrue from the use of renewable energy, for example, improved health, job creation and contribution to greater poverty reduction especially in the rural areas.
15. Engage in diplomatic offensive for carbon opportunities currently locked out of the carbon market such as denial of credit from trading of energy across national borders derived from renewable energy sources. Renewable energy has the potential to create a sizeable amount of income from the global carbon market.
16. Energy conservation should form an integral part of the renewable energy policy for the community.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Mr Speaker sustained and coordinated actions are needed to put renewable energy development on top of the agenda both at national and regional levels and, therefore, there is need to continue with the multi stakeholder forums to keep the discourse alive.

It is important to “green” the industrial sector in the community by promoting renewable energy sources and promoting energy conservation. In this regard the Committee will continue to champion the cause of soldering on in development of renewable energy as the gains far more outweigh the costs. I beg to move that the report of the committee be adopted. I beg to move.
(Applause)

Mr Speaker: Hon. Members, the proposal on the Floor is that the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the workshop on renewable energy in the East African Region be adopted. Debate is open.

Dr. George Nangale (Tanzania): Thank you, Mr Speaker. Since it is my first time that I am standing here in Kigali during this session, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my sincere thanks to the President, Government and people of Rwanda for availing the hospitality and facilities for us to conduct our duties here in Rwanda this time round.*(Applause)*

Mr Speaker, Sir, I am a member of this committee and I attended the informative workshop in Nairobi, which was an eye opener to most of us despite the fact that some of us have done academic pursuit in this area. But it was an opportunity for us to learn and understand to which extent we in this region have this huge renewable energy resource which can indeed provide an energy alternative requirement not only to households but also to industries in East Africa.

Renewable energy has been very successful as an alternative energy in many countries. Consider, for example, solar cookers in India. India has used renewable energy particularly in the use of solar energy to transform the way people live in the rural areas by employment of solar cookers.

Biogas digesters in Nepal, for example, has also transformed the livelihood of the people there and improved their living standards.

We might be aware that bio fuel programmes in Mauritius and Brazil have transformed those countries from Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to where they are today through the use of bio fuel programmes in most of their undertakings.

Mr Speaker, Sir, let me take you to recommendation No.2 on page 19 where the committee calls for policy and legal reforms. Such policies include promoting renewable energy, technologies and market in the areas of introduction of feeding tariffs, for example, net metering and tax credits.

Feeding tariff policy, which is currently being practiced in Kenya provides an opportunity for renewable energy providers to feed in energy resources to the main grid. And this not only makes a lot of economic sense but is also avails a business opportunity. So, I urge other partner States to follow suit.

Feeding tariffs have been successful in Ethiopia; feeding tariffs have been very successful in South Africa and I do not see why the governments of East Africa should not use them as a way of promoting renewable energies.

Only recently, I learnt that more than 2 million people in Germany through the use of feeding tariffs are now using green technology for household power. In fact, what happened recently in Japan, though it was unfortunate that that natural calamity happened there, put a big question on the use of nuclear power. Many people are now rethinking of using renewable energy as an alternative.

Mr Speaker, Sir, let me also take you to recommendation No. 16, which calls for energy conservation. In physics, we learnt that energy can neither be created nor destroyed. So, solar energy which actually originates from the heat from the sun is converted to photovoltaic which is eventually converted to chemical energy through the batteries and ultimately to electric energy which can be used by the consumer. So, there is a need to embrace the energy conservation and

energy efficiency to ensure that, since energy cannot be destroyed, whatever we get is not destroyed but actually converted to the best use of the consumers.

Mr Speaker, Sir, this will save money and ensure that we use the available renewable energy resources we have in East Africa for our betterment. Having said that, I would like to support the motion. Thank you.

Dr. Said Bilal (Tanzania): Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving me the opportunity to submit to this debate. Let me begin by appreciating the hospitality and generosity that has been shown by the Government and people of Rwanda to this assembly for giving us all the privileges to hold our plenary here in Kigali.

Mr Speaker, Sir, let me begin my argument by quoting the last paragraph on page 5, which says, “There is generally low energy access in the region with less than 33 percent in the rural areas.” Let me say that energy is a big problem in East Africa. It is a big concern for the countries of East Africa. It still acts as a symbol of stratification for the people of East Africa.

When you have a big part of the rural areas not having access to electricity, it shows that we are really having a problem, because energy is the way to access modern amenities and how we carry on with our lives in these modern times. Now, if you do not have access to energy, it means that you have curtailed your life.

We are told on page 5 that there is “low energy access,” but I think that it is not a question of low energy access. You can only have low energy access if the energy is there and the infrastructure in other sectors seems to be hampering on how you access this energy. But here the issue is that we are not really in control of what we should have. We experience frequent power outages in all the cities. Yesterday as we were going to Serena Hotel, a colleague of mine, hon. Leonce said, “Rwanda is one area where you don’t experience power outages.” Only this morning in my hotel, I experienced it twice. So, we are not spared even here, in Kigali. That a characteristic of East Africa, which is very unfortunate.

There are also variable voltage drops-

The Speaker: Hon. Member, it also depends on which hotel you are staying in - (*Laughter*).

Dr. Bilal: Unfortunately, it is with most hotels that are gazetted. Hon. Speaker, what I would like to refer you to page six where – by the way this report is very thorough and I am very appreciative of it. It has really given us an eye-opener of how the situation is in East Africa. But here in the first paragraph it says “The East African situation can be attributed to underdeveloped policy and regulatory environment though significant progress has been made.” This details the situation under which we are. It is a kind of rhetoric; we say we have a kind of progress and yet we are lamenting about the policy being underdeveloped. I think that says a lot about how at a loss we are as far as our region is concerned.

I think what we are really to consider is the lack of knowledge although we are giving a number of factors that we are acting as obstacles. We should borrow a leaf from the Norwegian Government where they told us some time ago in Arusha that when they discovered petroleum,

they spent many years going to school to study petroleum technology before they decided to extract it.

Here we have potential for petroleum and gas from fossil energies. But I don't know whether we have already embarked on a programme to prepare ourselves technically so that we can really take advantage to harness exploitation mechanisms instead of allowing other people to come here and tell us stories of how to exploit this energy.

But let us also don't need to limit ourselves to petroleum efforts; I think we have abundant sources of energy in East Africa. And we probably need to sit down and develop a programme on how to exploit the other sources of energy. We should not just concern ourselves with petroleum. I raise somewhere that we have potential for wind energy but we don't have the technological potential to exploit it. So, why don't we sit down and decide on how best we could prepare ourselves technically so that we can really have a better way of harnessing this energy.

The other issue I would like to talk about is what we hear about renewable energy. I will compare the issue of renewable energy to the Biblical manna. We are in fact surrounded by fossil fuels, gas and other renewable energies. I think what we need to refocus our attention on the renewable issue is that we should have a composed kind of approach to energy so that we can really sit down and assess, take a stock actually of, the potential of other forms of energy and how best we can benefit from these energies and then embark on a programme so that we can go on preparing how best, for example Rwanda is enjoying its energy or accessing its natural endowments in terms of energy and how best Tanzania can go about it. This is how we should go about it. We should talk of composite approaches in getting energy for East Africa.

The other one is the issue of what we see today in Japan. Are we really set back in pursuing nuclear energy because of what we see happening in Japan? Japan is a developed country and was prepared but it was just a calamity. So, I thought that we would sit down and use the lessons learnt from Japan and get encouraged to seek other alternatives so that we can still pursue nuclear energy because that is also a kind of renewable energy. Thank you, Mr Speaker for the opportunity. *(Applause)*

Mr Leonce Ndarubagiye (Burundi): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker for giving me this opportunity to support this report. I am a member of this committee and it is a pleasure for me to support the report.

We all know that water is life. We should also bear in mind that electricity is development. If you fly over any country at night, you can tell whether that country is developed or not basing on the lights that you see below you. When you go around East Africa during the day, you will see smoke coming out of huts and small houses because of the biomass type of energy that we use. Yet as I said before, "Electricity is development."

The East African Community has electricity generating resources, that is, geo-thermal sites, solar and tapped energy and wind but also oil and uranium. The difference between renewable and non-renewable energy is that oil and uranium are sent to foreign rich countries while renewable energy remains here on sites and we can use them. When you look at countries that have oil and

uranium, they are in darkness while selling their source of energy to enrich enlightened developed countries. That is why we should think about keeping or working on renewable energy as my colleague, hon. Bilal said.

That is not going anywhere but given that, rich countries negotiate to take some. Germany has already planned to make huge sites of photovoltaic in the desert to generate electricity and ship it through conventional means to Germany. I even suspect that that is the reason why they did not join the other countries to raid Libya. Because that is the way energy will be passed back to Germany.

If they go so far, they may even come down and tap electricity from photovoltaic in our country. That is why we must definitely use our renewable energy here and now. Thank you very much, Sir. I support the report.

Mr Abdul Karim Harelimana (Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir for giving me this opportunity. Since it is my first time to take the Floor, I welcome you, Mr Speaker and all Members to Rwanda and I wish you a happy stay in Kigali. *(Applause)* I hope that you might not need to go back home because you already have a home here. *(Laughter)*

Mr Speaker, Sir, I have an interest in this report because I am a member of the committee but I have a few comments to make. If you look at page 10 of the report, paragraph (iii) where the committee tried to show the priorities in energy that we could use in the East African Community Region, they mention biogas, wind power, solar power, geo-thermal et cetera.

In supporting this idea, these are things, which we have in abundance, and we do not need to buy them. The biogas is there; the wind is more than we need, the solar is there; we have almost nine months of sunshine in the region but it is very sad if you go to let us say, a school of 1,000 students in the rural area and you find that they do not have electricity.

They need to cut trees and use biomass when they have this biogas just causing them problems and diseases at times. If they take a decision, and there is a policy of using biogas in place, I think they will easily have power to light their classes and their dormitories and at the same time use it for their cooking and maybe in their laboratories.

I can give a good example here immediately after the genocide in 1994 - 1995 up to 1997, we had more than 120,000 inmates in Rwanda prisons. These prisons were at a certain time some kind of a disaster, not only to the inmates but also to the neighbours of the prisons whereby a bad smell used to get out of there and even some spill over of the sewerage were causing problems to the neighbours. But when a decision and good policies were put in place, now instead of the sewerage spilling out, it is used to generate biogas, which is very good for both the inmates and the people in the neighbourhood.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I think that we should emphasize on this because when you look at paragraph 5 on the same page, we are saying that the East African Community should put emphasis on fossil fuel; petroleum oil and so on. Yes, it is good but for commercial purposes as Hon. Ndarubagiye has said. We can sell it to those people who need it more than us and who use it in other things that we may not know but by concentrating on it also, we can have problem since most of the wars the world over are about energy especially petroleum. So, I think that by putting a lot of

emphasis on biogas and wind power and maybe putting less emphasis on fossil fuel will help us avoid these wars and hatred from outside. I support the report. Thank you very much.

Mr Augustine Lotodo (Kenya): Thank you, Mr Speaker. I would like to declare that I am a member of this committee and I fully support the report. I would also like to base my reinforcement on the first recommendation to do with the East African Renewal Master Plan. I think this issue is not only necessary but very urgent. Why am I saying this? I am saying this because of the current situation prevailing in our region.

You find that the situation developing in Northern Africa has affected the oil prices in the whole world. And this has actually caused unnecessary increase in prices of transport fares across the region. I am informed that in Kenya the transport sector is meeting to double the journey fares. We already know that the prices in at fuel stations are high. This shows that dependence on one source of energy is dangerous and not sustainable.

Therefore, I believe that we need to move very fast and ensure that we as the Community develop this Master Plan and encourage Partner States to contribute towards this sector. Our region is endowed with sunshine, which we are talking about.

If we can tap into this, it will save our citizens from unnecessary fluctuations of electricity and might be good for their lives. So, I won't say much but I will just support the report and to ask the Secretariat to move fast and establish the Renewal Master Plan so that we may be able to help the East Africans. Thank you so much, Mr Speaker.

Ms Kate Kamba (Tanzania): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker for giving me the Floor. I would like to echo what the others have said by complementing the efforts of our Parliament moving from one Partner States to another. Now we are in Rwanda enjoying the hospitality of the Rwandan people and experiencing what we have been reading in the media as far as development of this place is concerned. Thank you very much for this opportunity.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to declare that I am a member of this committee. So, I attended this workshop and I would like to appreciate that we had an opportunity to look into a very pertinent area; an area on energy for the region.

East Africa, like most of the other African countries suffers the same problem. Our towns are partly lit by electricity but most of our villages are in darkness much as we have a lot of potential for hydro electricity, thermal electricity and all the other kinds mentioned in this report. But to make matters worse, we have problems of accessing biomass – wood fuel and charcoal for all our towns. These cause a danger of depleting our forest cover in the region by almost 70 percent.

What now should be our areas of concentration? We have seen that the only thing that is renewable, and which is within our reach, is planting of trees. We need to plant trees sustainably so that we can meet the needs of cooking, electric poles, furniture - when we are talking about development, it is all about electrifying our area but last year, Tanzania used to export poles from Iringa to Kenya.

Now, we have run short of the poles. We had to import about 1,000 poles last year from Uganda. So, how far have we gone in looking into this area? We really need to look and have a good

policy, which is going to address this issue of afforestation. It looks very simple but if we look into what is happening in our region, if you go to Kenya you can see how fuel takes a big portion of the budgets of the households.

People have mentioned biogas. We have to really appreciate what is happening in Rwanda. If you look at the presentation, which was given on Rwanda, you will see how they are using biogas from the human faeces to bring light and energy. I saw this in China; the Chinese are doing the same. If you go to families, you will have a small digester where they put faeces, leftovers of cabbage and all the other vegetables and they use that as a source of energy to light their houses and for cooking.

The remains are sent to the farm where they work as manure on an irrigated ground and at the end of the day, we buy rice from China. It is a source of energy and a source of fertilizers. So, it is this kind of thing that should be looked into when we are looking at the policy of making a renewable policy for the region - *(Interruption)*.

Dr George Nangale (Tanzania): I would like to inform the hon. Member on the Floor that in East Africa, there are more than 20 million cattle and camels. Only two cows can provide the daily household energy requirement. Thank you.

Ms Kamba: I take the information and I agree with him. Mr Speaker, Sir I actually have animals in my village and if you visit me, I built my mum a biogas plant. *(Applause)*

Many years ago, when I visited Arusha - in Arumeru District we have farmers who actually keep animals at zero grazing. And these households, through the Lutheran Church, have a project on biogas. So, they cook and light their houses using biogas.

So, I know and agree with you that we can use that. But I am looking at areas where there is no water, for example, the Sukuma Land, Shinyanga, Mwanza and Arusha where people are just moving with their animals. In most cases they don't have enough water to make the faeces pass through the digester so as to make the biogas. So, they have to move.

But for people who are staying in the village can even use their toilets; the toilets can light the whole house. I have seen it in China and it is happening even as I am speaking right here now.

Mr Speaker, Sir the Sokoine University has developed a very simple digester which two to years ago was costing something like Tzshs 200,000 and they are now trying to promote it in very few villages within Morogoro.

But if it comes out in a policy document and we give ourselves a time frame that maybe after five years we should be having something to show in the East African region that our people have moved from where they are today to a better life. Even here in Rwanda as you have seen, apart from concentrating as you could see on page 18, they are also promoting improved cooking stoves. So, if it is a policy and it is enforceable, we can use the same amount of fuel wood we are using now for another 15 to 20 years. But when using an open stove, we use a lot of fuel and lose a lot of energy in the process.

Coming back to petrol and diesel, here in Rwanda they have moved a step forward. They are encouraging people to grow trees, which are multipurpose – *(Interjection)* - I am being reminded that instead of talking about “faeces,” I should use the word “stool”, or “human waste”- *(Laughter)* normally when you go to the hospital they ask you to take your stool but I didn’t know that it would directly be applied here.

The Speaker: Hon. Member, we were wondering in the first place whether you were saying, “faces” or “faeces?” but I am glad you have clarified. *(Laughter)*

Ms Kamba: I don’t know because as you know, this is English, and I have to first translate from my mother tongue to Kiswahili and then to English. So, I don’t know how it goes about in the process. *(Laughter)* So, whatever it is, I am sure the meaning has been taken.

Mr Speaker, Sir, **jatrofa** is another magic tree. Here in Rwanda, instead of relying on fuel from abroad because they don’t have petrol here, they have started processing biodiesel. They have buses running from Rwanda to Burundi on a daily basis and are being fuelled by their own fuel. *(Applause)*

So, I think that in the process of developing the policy for the region, we should also borrow a leaf from Rwanda. They are really trying to explore means and ways of being self-reliant. So, we have trees which can help in fighting desertification and at the same time bring in life to the countries of East Africa.

With those few remarks, I would really appreciate the mover of the motion. She has said it all and we are just complementing what her. I beg to support this motion.

Ms Margaret Zziwa: Thank you very much, Rt. hon. Speaker, Sir. I would also like to add my voice to those who have thanked the committee and the chairperson for this very important report. In addition, I would like to say that it is very educative to some of us who have no opportunity in this field of energy.

Mr Speaker, Sir after the bale submission of hon. Kate Kamba, I have very few issues to add. But I would like to add my voice to this very important debate because energy is a gender issue- *(Interjection)* - yes, I want to affirm that energy is a gender issue.

As I emphasize this, I would like to say that energy is a practical gender need. Most women due to their demands in the homes, particularly the domestic roles of cooking, keeping the house warm and lighting among other things, they are actually the biggest culprits or the people who commit this very disastrous crime of depleting the trees. For that matter, Mr Speaker, it is true that renewable energy is very expensive - *(Interjection)* – I will take it.

Mr Mwinyi: Thank you, hon. Speaker, I would like to thank hon. Zziwa for giving way. I just wanted to seek clarification as to whether cooking is a female function in the home? *(Laughter)*

Ms Zziwa: I do not want to answer because it is the obvious but I know that at one time when we had the opportunity to visit Zanzibar, hon. Mwinyi mentioned that the men in Zanzibar do the cooking - *(Interjection)* – I think that is a nice one, I wish I could enjoy it.

But I know that in most African cultures, it is the women who do the cooking and they are responsible to see how they cook, where they get the fuel, water and in most cases, the food to cook. So, this in itself puts the production role which is actually entailed in the domestic roles of the woman. So, that is why we call it a gender role.

Mr Speaker, Sir I was saying renewable energy is very expensive. And it is true statistically that the woman falls in the bracket of the poor. For that matter, many women cannot afford the renewable energy. Many of them cannot afford gas, they cannot afford electricity and you find that as a matter of immediate need, they turn to biogas because it is considered cheap and accessible.

Mr Speaker, Sir, my humble question at this juncture would be that how best can we make renewable energy cheap and accessible? I would like to thank the committee for trying to give us some answers and of course the many seminars and conferences of the petroleum in some instances I would think that they try to give answers to this.

However, I would also say that we need to have an integrated policy. Let the question of energy be integrated in the many policies of Government. Perhaps I would say that when governments and in our Partner States do have policies like the Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), which is a very important policy that goes towards eradicating poverty and we know one of the reasons why there is depletion of forests among other things is because people are poor. So, I would say that let us have the energy question integrated in the policy of PEAP.

I would also, for instance, add that within the East African Community framework, let us have a policy which continually encourages the planting of trees. This has been well elaborated by other colleagues whereby we are sure that at least if we have a consistent policy of planting trees - and I would say and congratulate Rwanda, I think they have done a very good job on all the roads which are in the hilly areas, you can see that there is an effort to plant trees.

We had a chance of driving from Rwanda to Burundi and then back to Uganda, but you could evidently see that the efforts which are in Rwanda are not similar to the efforts in Burundi and nor those in Uganda. Perhaps we need to raise that to the regional level and encourage or demarcate or gazette specific days in addition to specific quarters of how many trees should be planted or maybe number of trees per person.

I will still add that if possible, we as the East African Community we could raise specific projects within Partner States and as a demonstration, have forests planted and we carry it out as a practical activity so that we encourage our respective countries.

As I conclude, Mr Speaker, Sir let me say that efforts should be made to negotiate at the international level. We know very well that in many cases our forest cover cubic carbons are not calculated on the same rate as those other countries. I think that there is some level of cheating at this level. We may try to see how best we can negotiate because preserving our forests in itself improves on the general carbon cover globally. So, we need to raise this debate to a higher level and negotiate as East Africa as well as Africa as we also encourage families and people to plant trees. Mr Speaker, Sir I thank the committee for the beautiful report.

The Speaker: My last speaker is hon. Nyiramilimo.

Dr Odette Nyiramilimo(Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker for giving the way and this opportunity to contribute to this very important report. I would like to congratulate the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources for this very good report.

Mr Speaker, Sir I would like to stress on what hon. Ndarubagiye said. When we think of development, I think it is something that we could call a mindset because our region - Africa is lucky to have the sun and natural resources but we don't use them even when we can. All of us here, the leaders and the people that we think in parenthesis are developed, are we using these opportunities that we have?

We have all been building at least maybe one house, who among us has used the solar energy because it is the cheapest energy that we should have. But nobody is using it while we all know that it would be the best.

It is true that the recommendation that is given to have the East African Community to develop a Renewable Energy Master Plan and the committee added immediately. I would say it would be good to have this Master Plan but can't we urge the Partner States to put in their strategies the obligation to everybody building to use, for example, solar energy instead of connecting to the existing energy only but use solar energy for lighting and heating?

We are not doing this, why? We should try to use what we have as resources. Hon. Members, if we took the decision that any of us building a house should plan to use solar energy, would be a good example for other people building.

I would also support what hon. Kate Kamba said about planting trees. We should all plant trees though they should not be for cooking. When we think of all the smoke that is produced by the firewood and all the problems it causes like dirtiness and diseases of the lungs, we would not encourage people to use it for cooking when we have other forms of energy that are very clean like solar energy and biogas.

While supporting this report, I would propose that we add this recommendation that: "The Partner States put in their policies the use of these clean forms of energy which should be visible."

Mr Speaker, sir I support the report and wish that the Council of Ministers considers this question of renewable energy as a crucial question in the Partner States and, therefore, we would wish to see policies changed. I thank you. (*Applause*)

Ms Kwekwe: Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to once again address this House on the issues that are arising from the report on renewable energy in East Africa.

Let me start by making some few clarifications by giving more information. As I was reading through the report, I did not read it word by word because I knew members have had this report in their custody since yesterday and I thought that they were privy to the contents.

But let me just say that yes, it is true that our inadequate energy consumption could be because of the lack of technologies and could be the lack of awareness of the technologies. But also for

East Africa, this could also be as a result of the heavy dependence and investment that EAC Partner States have put on fossil fuels.

If the amounts of money that the EAC governments have put in the development of fossil fuels and investments had also been put or even half of it had been put in renewable energy, Mr. Speaker and hon. Members, today we would not be talking of 3 percent coverage in rural areas. We would be talking about 10 percent plus. So, it is about our priorities also.

Where do we put our priorities when it comes to energy? We run to fuel, we run to gas, we run to coal and yet we could have developed solar and wind. There have been pilot projects and they have shown a very high degree of success.

Secondly, it is indeed true that there has been progress made in regulatory and policies regimes in the region though not to the level that we would have desired but there has been progress made. And that is why the committee on page 6 says that: “Even though the situation of East Africa is not desirable, these undeveloped policies and environment exist but there is progress made.” I would like to give examples; I said that we at least have one Partner State that has developed a standalone policy on renewable energy; that is progress.

They have to recognize that we need to give renewable energy the importance that it deserves. You have to develop a standalone policy on it. It has not been done at the EAC level but at least a Partner State has done it. Therefore, that should be an incentive to us as a region to develop our Renewable Energy Master Plan, subsequent policies and strategies.

All Partner States except for Burundi have waivers on taxes on the solar panels. But this waiver doesn't extend to the batteries and, therefore, it is progress on the one hand but it could be made better by ensuring that when we put waivers on renewable energy, we do it across the entire spectrum of all the gadgets products that have to go hand-in-hand with making that technology work.

Three, every country has now put in place an energy efficiency and energy conservation strategy or campaign replacing those bulbs with more efficient bulbs. So, hon. Speaker, there has been progress made but we can do better.

Mr Speaker, another thing that I would like to emphasize is that even though we still rely on fossil fuel and sometimes hydro, we do this at the expense of biomass as hon. Kamba said, “We have the poles to transmit the energy.” But why must trees be cut down when we could have underground cabling? (*Applause*)

It is a possibility and it even has more advantage because: one, underground cabling cannot be hit by lightning; underground cabling will not be affected by falling trees and, therefore, causing accidents. Sometimes even at night a tree may fall on transmission wires. So, we have to put emphasis on fossil fuel and even go further by cutting down trees to ensure that the energy that is produced through fossil fuels and sometimes hydro is transmitted through trees, which is putting more strain on biomass.

I would like to thank the hon. Speaker and all the Members who have contributed to this debate. I would especially like to thank hon. Nangale, hon. Lotodo, hon. Leonce, hon. Bilal, hon. Abdul-

Karim, hon. Kamba, hon. Zziwa and hon. Odette for their interventions and very useful inputs in this report. I thank you all. I once again beg to move that the report be adopted.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I now put the question that the report of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on workshop on renewable energy in the East African Region be adopted.

(Question put and agreed to.)

Resolution adopted.

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

Mr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi (Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. I beg to ask the chairperson of the Council of Ministers to answer my question REF: EALA/ PQ/OE/E6/2011, I beg to move.

The Chairperson Council of Ministers (Ms Hafsa Mossi): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir for giving me the floor. Before I answer the question, I would like to apologize for being late. This was due to the fact that we were invited to visit the Genocide Memorial Site ...

The Inter University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) is the regional organisation, which is mandated to provide equal opportunities to universities in the participation of various programs, projects and other activities that are administered and coordinated by the Inter University Council of East African Community Secretariat.

In this respect, there is a clear institutional policy with guidelines and procedures that rationalise the participation of universities and their staff in IUCEA activities. Some of the opportunities are availed on competitive basis especially where there are limited resources to be allocated to universities. This applies mostly to research projects that are meant for university staff in the region requiring potential researchers from the Partner States to team up and apply for research funding from IUCEA. Otherwise participation to academic interventions that are continuously initiated by IUCEA is through representation from IUCEA member universities within all five Partner States including private and public universities.

However, since some of the on-going programmes and projects were initiated before Burundi and Rwanda had joined the EAC and therefore joining IUCEA, at the moment there are concrete efforts to sensitise universities in these two new Partner States so as to enhance their participation in IUCEA supported programmes, projects and other activities.

For example, in the coming round of funding, there is specific emphasis targeting researchers from Burundi and Rwanda as well as female and young researchers.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, regarding the issue of discrimination in the education sector being rampant especially in fees structure where students from Partner States, other than theirs, are subjected to high school fees structure, it should be noted that since the Council of Ministers issued the directive on the payment of same fees payment, some universities in the region have complied while others have not.

Most of those which have complied are private universities, because they normally charge commercial fees. However, the existence of heterogeneous national policies on financing of higher education, where in all cases, public universities do not get adequate funding from government has been compelling the governance systems of universities to establish fee structures that correspond to the cost of education provided.

It is argued that the Partner States government subsidizes costs of education in public universities through budgetary allocation. Hence, the reluctance of universities to charge non-citizens fees at the same level as nationals.

In order to address this dilemma, there is need for each Partner State to establish unit costs for all university programmes. This will help IUCEA to derive unit costs at the regional level, which would be applicable to students from one Partner State to study in another Partner States. Thank you.

Mr. Habumuremyi: Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to thank the Chairperson for the Council of Ministers for the part of the response given but I have one supplementary question; which mechanism is put in place at the EAC level to make sure that all high institutions become members of the Inter University Council so that they are obliged to comply with the regulation for equitable schools structure and enjoyment of common services.

Thank you, Mr Speaker sir.

The Speaker: I am not supposed to ask a supplementary question but I thought hon. Damian would say that part c of his question was not answered but maybe the minister can continue.

Ms Mossi : Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir. I think my response to the first question was incomplete. I would rather complete my response before I can answer the other questions.

The second part of the question was, what is the Council of Ministers doing to enforce IUCEA Act. The following have been implemented by the Inter University Council for East Africa as required by Act 2009:

- (a) Reporting to the EAC Secretariat
Since the enactment of the Act, the IUCEA submits regular reports on its operations to the EAC Secretariat as required by the Act. These reports are then presented in the Sectoral Council responsible for education in the EAC periodic reports and the annual presented to at EALA.
- (b) The Budget of the IUCEA is being prepared in accordance with the EAC guidelines or format and that approval has to be sought from the East African Legislative Assembly.
- (c) The auditing of annual accounts of the IUCEA is being carried out by the EAC Audit Commission as from 2009/2010. The audit report will be presented at EALA as stipulated in the Act.

In order to rationalise IUCEA activities with mandates stipulated in the Act, the IUCEA Secretariat has developed a Roadmap that will guide the institution to respond to the EAC strategic objectives related to the promotion of regional integration and sustainable development. The IUCEA Roadmap has already been integrated into the 4th EAC Development Strategy 2011-2016.

Regarding the other question, I would like to inform this august House that all public and private universities are free to join the Inter University Council of East Africa.

Dr Gharib Said Bilal (Tanzania): Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir for giving me the opportunity to ask a supplementary question. In her response, the Chairperson Council of Ministers stated that the Council of Ministers issued a directive on the payment of same fees. I am wondering what same fees means here.

Also she says that the Partner States government subsidises costs of education in public universities through budgetary allocation. My question is, is this subsidising to public universities not really denying opportunities for students to pursue education in East Africa in the university of their choice given the fact that some universities must be offering programs that are desirable to students and therefore this might be showing that there is no level playing field for universities to enjoy student admission. Thank you.

Ms Mossi: Mr Speaker sir, regarding the first question what I meant on same fees payment, it is a mechanism to give same opportunities for the students from East African Partner States to pay the same fees in all five Partner States.

As to what kind of universities are subsidised, from what I know it is only public universities which have been subsidised by the governments of Partner States but as I was saying earlier, I think in order to address this problem, we need, as Partner States, to establish unit costs for all the university programs.

Ms Safina Kwekwe (Kenya): Hon. Speaker, thank you. From the response of the minister on page three, on the report on the EAC Secretariat, the response says that the IUCEA submits regular reports on its operations. Hon. Speaker, what is regular because the Act has set three sub committees, one on standards, the second on curriculum and the third on compliance and discipline. The Act states that these sub committees should be presenting quarterly reports to the Secretariat of the IUCEA and this should be subsequently discussed and submitted to the Secretariat semi annually. So what is this regular and I would like to know where these sub committees as provided for in the Act have been put in place. Thank you.

The Speaker: I think also to add from what honourable said earlier, now that the Council has given directives and under the Treaty Article 16 says the directives of Council are binding to Partner States and the directive is not being adhered to, what have they done to make sure that their directive is adhered to on same fees structure?

Ms Mossi: Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. What I meant about regular reporting is that all organs and institutions report to the Secretariat monthly, quarterly and yearly to the Secretariat. This is what I meant.

What is being done by the Council of Ministers to make sure that the directives have been implemented? This is one of the challenges we are facing and we will have to ensure that Partner States comply with that requirement.

Mr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi (Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. I beg to ask the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers to answer my question ref EALA/PQ/OA/07/2011. I beg to move.

The Chairperson Council of Ministers (Hafsa Mossi): Thank you Mr Speaker, Sir. I am sorry I was not quite following the question because on the Order Paper I think there was a question which was going to be asked by hon. Jacqueline Muhongayire, if I have the right one.

Thank you, Mr Speaker sir. I am sorry can I be given more time to get ready?

Mr Speaker sir, the Resolution has not been deliberated upon by the Council of Ministers. Therefore, adoption of a common position has not been brought to the Summit of EAC Heads of State.

However, at its 20th Meeting held in March 2010, the Council of Ministers, arising out of deliberations of a report from the Forum of Chief Justices, noted that the Republic of Rwanda had requested to host the Archives and residual functions and finalise the determination of all pending cases.

Rwanda requested the Council to support its application. The Council also noted that the United Republic of Tanzania had also applied to host the archives of the UN-ICTR. The Council decided that since this matter was within the United Nations' mandate and to that extent a foreign policy issue, it ought to be considered by the Sectoral Council on Foreign Policy Co-ordination.

In the meantime, at one of the meetings held on 22nd December 2010, the UN Security Council (UNSC) reviewed the progress of operations of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia (ICTY). Under UNSC Resolution 1966 (2010), the UNSC decided that operations of the ICTR should end by 1st July 2012. However, recognizing that conclusion of pending cases would not have been accomplished by that date, the UNSC also decided to create International Residual Mechanisms for the two Tribunals, for purposes of completing the pending cases.

The ICTR Residual Mechanism is expected to commence its operations on 1st July 2012, with an initial period of four (4) years. The UNSC also decided that the Seat of the ICTR Mechanism will be Arusha. Additionally, the UNSC decided that upon review of progress, it may decide on an extension for subsequent periods of two (2) years following such reviews.

Mr Speaker Sir, furthermore the UNSC decided that upon completion of the Mechanism's operations, the UNSC would determine on the modalities for the exercise of any remaining residual functions of the ICTR Mechanism. By that time, the EAC Council of Ministers, on the basis of the recommendations from the Sectoral Council Foreign Policy Coordination, will have had a position that would be reported to the EAC Summit of Heads of State.

Mr Habumuremyi: Thank you, hon. Speaker and thank you for the response. I have one supplementary question. Is any directive from the Council to the Sectoral Council Foreign Policy

coordination to expedite the recommendation so that the Council can have a common position to be reported to the EAC Summit of Heads of State?

Hon. Speaker, I say that because there is need for an urgent position because the two Partner States applied for the same thing; Rwanda and Tanzania to host the archives for UNICTR. I thank you, Mr Speaker sir.

Ms Mossi: Mr Speaker sir, the Council of Ministers understands the importance of this issue and the directive should be given in the next Council since the Foreign Policy Coordination Sectoral Council could not meet in Mwanza because of lack of quorum. So we shall give this directive to the next Sectoral Council on Foreign Policy.

Dr Odette Nyiramilimo (Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. I also had a supplementary question to the Chair, Council of Ministers. I would wish to know why the resolution passed in December 2008 has not been deliberated upon by the Council of Ministers while it was in urgent need since we all knew that ICTR was to end beginning of 2012.

Furthermore, it had been discussed maybe by the Council of Ministers; we would think that Tanzania would have understood the interest that Rwanda had to have the archives and also the continuing process done in Rwanda. For the sake of Justice and the reconciliation process, Rwanda is keen.

So I would like to make sure that the Chair, Council of Ministers maybe tells this august House if they still think of discussing this in the entire Council of Ministers, take a common position on this issue and especially on the International Residual Mechanism that was put in place by UN for three years.

The Speaker: Honourable, ask a supplementary question, don't debate it please. I think you have asked two questions that the honourable Chair can answer.

Ms Nyiramilimo: Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir. So I would like to know if they will still discuss it. Thank you.

Ms Mossi: Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to assure this august House that this matter is very important to us and that we should give directives to the Foreign Policy Sectoral Council as soon as possible. We have been having difficulties to get them to meet because of their very busy schedule but I hope in the near future, this Sectoral Council will be able to meet and discuss this issue.

The Speaker: Honourable, I think the question that was asked is why the resolution because I think what you people are sending to the Sectoral Council is a Forum of Chief Justices, you are not talking about the resolution of this House. I think the hon. Member asked you when the resolution is going to be considered by Council.

Ms Mossi: Thank you, Mr Speaker sir. As I said earlier, this matter is not only a matter of East African Community but a UN matter as well. This is why it took long because the resolution from the UN Security Council was out in December 2010.

Ms Safina Kwekwe (Kenya): Hon. Speaker, thank you. The Resolution of the Assembly made specific prayers. One was on bringing the archives of ICTR to Rwanda and secondly, concluding the pending cases in Rwanda. From the response of the Chair, Council of Ministers, it seems that last year on the 22nd December, the UN Security Council sat and I am aware that one of the

Security Council members is in the Republic of Uganda. They made a pronouncement on the conclusion of the pending cases. Can the Council of Ministers, when they sit, change that decision of the UN Security Council? I would like to know that.

If the answer is no, then why would you be sitting because I think the Council is time bad. If we had done this before December, and the position of EAC had been known, then the case of the EAC could have been put to the UN Security Council and probably the decision of the Security Council would have been different.

So what would be the purpose of sitting when the UN Security Council has already made its position known? Thank you.

Ms Mossi: Mr Speaker, Sir, I don't think the Council of Ministers has the authority to over rule UN Security Council but I would like to seek some information from the Secretary General. I understand there was a team from the UN which went to Arusha and interviewed some officials from the Secretariat. If you may allow me, I would like the Secretary General to give the details.

The Secretary General (Amb. Juma Mwapachu): Thank you, hon. Speaker. Subsequent to the Resolution of this Assembly on the location for hosting the archives, there was a team that had been appointed by the Secretary General of the United Nations comprising I think a Nigerian envoy or ambassador along with the current Chief Justice of Tanzania, Muhammed Chambe Outhman to go round to the AU, the regional economic communities and find a way in which they could submit a concrete recommendation to the UN Secretary General on how best upon the end of the term of the ICTR where the archives could be hosted. I met this particular team along with colleagues in the Secretariat and we did make recommendations.

One that Rwanda had already applied and therefore being an EAC Member, should be considered but if for any reason Rwanda would not be selected to host the archives then we proposed that the Eastern Community would be prepared to host the archives.

I know some recommendations were tabled before the Secretary General and it is based on the report of the team that the UN Security Council was able to pronounce itself in December last year.

We still hold to that position which was also reported to the Council. There is very little that we can do now that the matter is before the UN Security Council. I think the best thing that we can do as the hon. Chair has informed this august House is for this matter to be considered by the Sectoral Council on Foreign Policy Coordination and allow the foreign ministers, through their lobby avenues, to continue to agitate at the UN that these archives be hosted either in Rwanda and if that fails then the EAC be considered for hosting.

But you know that in the meantime, there has been some progress for which the hon. Minister has given this answer meaning that there is a mechanism or rather a breathing space during which time – I think it was Kenya and Tanzania and not Rwanda that had applied to be the transitory hosts of this particular mechanism and that the UN would then review, after the initial four years, whether to extend the breathing space to come up with a peer decision as to which country or organisation can host the archives. Thank you.

Mr Damien Habumuremyi (Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir. I beg to ask the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers to answer my question ref EALA/PQ/OA/08/2011. I beg to move.

The Chairperson Council of Ministers (Ms Mossi): Mr Speaker, Sir, the question is when Article 137 of the Treaty for Establishment of the East African Community will be amended to elevate Kiswahili to the status of an official language.

I wish to inform this august House that this matter is yet to be considered by the relevant organs of the Community. This consensus is required to justify a possible amendment of the relevant Article of the Treaty. The Council of Ministers, however, consistent with the provisions under Article 137, is currently putting its efforts in the operationalisation of the Protocol for the Establishment of the Kiswahili Commission, which is envisaged to be the engine to fast track the development and transformation of Kiswahili into a *lingua franca* of the East African Community.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to inform this August House that, in recognition of the fundamental importance of Kiswahili in fostering the social cohesion and integration of the peoples of East Africa, and in line with Article 137 of the Treaty. The East African Kiswahili Commission, which will be operational, soon has been established. The objective of the Commission is to provide technical advice to Partner States on all matters relating to the teaching, learning and development of Kiswahili through policy formulation, knowledge generation, curriculum review, standardization and promotion of Kiswahili as the *lingua franca* of the East African Community.

I wish to further inform this august House that the establishment of the EAC Kiswahili Commission will be hosted in accordance with the Criteria of Hosting EAC Organs and Institutions. Its operationalisation, however, awaits the ratification of the Protocol by all Partner States and the decision of the Council on the seating of this Commission.

Mr Habumuremyi: Thank you, hon. Speaker and thank you Chairperson of Council for the response. I have one supplementary question.

From her response, the EAC Kiswahili Commission will be operational when the Protocol will be ratified by all Partner States. Which Protocol did she refer to and when is it expected to be finalised? Thank you, Mr Speaker sir.

Ms Mossi: Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. Again this is one of the challenges we are facing with regard to the ratification of Protocols. I am aware that some of the Partner States have ratified but we need to urge the Partner States to do so as to operationalise this Kiswahili Commission.

I was talking to the Secretary General and he informed me that only three Partner States have already ratified the Protocol.

Dr. F. Lwanyantika Masha (Tanzania): The supplementary question is since *lingua franca* means a language which is commonly used by the general public and Swahili is that language in East Africa and other neighbouring countries. If it is more widely used than even the “official language” which is English, what is the resistance to use Kiswahili as well as an official

language since it has even greater usage and understanding by the people of East Africa than English?

Since Kiswahili is already an official language in several of our Member States in their Parliaments and Kiswahili is used in universities and they are giving degrees in universities both in East Africa and abroad, what does Kiswahili lack that there is a need, according to the answer by the Council, for the development and transformation of Kiswahili in to a *lingua franca*? What is this development and transformation that is needed beyond what there already is if they are giving degrees and it is already used as an official language in some of the Member States?

Ms Mossi: Mr Speaker sir, I agree with hon. Masha. Kiswahili is the language which has been used by most of the East African citizens. Even in Burundi where we are a French speaking country, most Burundians will speak more Kiswahili than French. It is just a matter of procedure and I think this recommendation will be taken into account in our next meeting and we shall recommend the same thing to the Sectoral Council in charge of Cultural issues.

Mr Frederic Ngenzebuhoro (Burundi): Thank you, Mr Speaker. It seems to me that it has taken too long to establish this East African Kiswahili Commission. Is it possible to know the problem they got in the establishment of this commission? If they have had problems, can we be sure that they have now been sorted out?

Secondly, I perceive a bit of contradiction in the response of the minister. She says that the commission will be operational soon yet she also says they must wait for the ratification of the Protocol and soon when they must wait for the decision of the Council. Is it possible to have a time frame?

The Speaker: I think the minister has answered that question. She said she is having a problem in terms of getting the Partner States to ratify the Protocol and that is a problem they generally have so I think the hon. Minister has answered that question already. Let us go to the next question.

Ms Jacqueline Muhongayire (Rwanda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. Pursuant to Rule 17 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, I now beg to ask the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the East African Community to answer my question of ref EALA/PQ/OA/11/2011. I beg to move.

The Chairperson, Council of Ministers (Ms Hafsa Mossi): Mr Speaker, Sir, agreements are negotiated with the development partners by the Secretariat pursuant to a responsibility entrusted to it by Article 71(1)(i) of the Treaty. This provision clearly mandates the Secretariat to mobilise resources for the Community from Development Partners and other sources for implementation of projects.

Upon conclusion of the agreement, the approved programmes are integrated into the budget and submitted to the Council for approval. All EAC projects are submitted for approval before commencement of implementations.

Mr Speaker sir, regarding the second part of the question there is need to appreciate the fact that resource mobilisation is pursuant to Articles 14 and 71 of the Treaty, an executive function.

Such function ought to continue being discharged by the Council and the Secretariat, subject to the Assembly's approval of the Budget and exercise of its oversight role.

For the purposes of Article 49(2)(d), this august House ought to be involved in the oversight and supervisory role. This august House should also best be involved in the process of determining the utilisation of resources after such resources have been obtained from Partner States, Development Partners and other sources as provided in Articles 132 and 133 of the Treaty.

Ms Muhongayire: Thank you, hon. Speaker. I wish to thank the Chairperson of the Council for the response given to my question. I have two supplementary questions. One, is the Chairperson of the Council aware that last year in the last budget the EALA had approved a budget line for about \$ 1 million in a financing agreement between trademark East Africa and the East African Secretariat? What are the objectives of Trademark East Africa and how is it working at Partner State level and regional level?

Secondly, what is the progress of the exploration or study on other alternative sources of financing the Community budget, the recurrent budget and the sources of financing for the development projects and programs of the Community? This is because as of now the Community budget has increasingly become dependent on development partners a pattern which is not sustainable as we cannot control the ownership of our integration process. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Speaker: Hon. Jacqueline, I think those will make very good questions for our next session. I think you should ask those questions as they deviate from the questions you already asked so you best send them to the Clerk so that we can pass them on to the Chairperson, Council.

MOTION

FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY SEEKING TO PAY TRIBUTE TO THE OUTGOING SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

The Speaker: Hon. Members, before I call hon. Karan. I would like to recognise in the gallery the presence of hon. Hawa Abdulrahman, who is the Minister of State in the President's Office in the United Republic of Tanzania. (*Applause*) *Kkaribu sana*. She was attending the 23rd Extra Ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Mr Clarkson Otieno Karan (Kenya): Mr Speaker, Sir, since I am rising on the floor of this House for the first time, allow me also to thank the Government of Rwanda-

The Speaker: Honourable, move your motion first so that we give you an opportunity to say those things.

Mr Karan: Mr Speaker, I wish to move a motion that the Assembly do resolve to pay tribute to hon. Ambassador Juma Mwapachu, outgoing Secretary General to the East African Community for the exemplary work in furtherance of the Community. Mr Speaker, I beg to move.

The Speaker: Seconded.

Mr Karan: Mr Speaker, Sir, allow me also to thank the government of Rwanda and the Rwanda National Assembly, members of the EALA chapter from Rwanda for the welcome they have

given us and for the atmosphere, they have created to give an enabling environment for widening and deepening without introducing non tariff barriers.

Mr Speaker, I now wish to move the motion that:

“WHEREAS the tenure of the service of hon. Ambassador Juma Volter Mwapachu, our Secretary General of the East African Community and the Ex-officio member of the august House is soon coming to an end

RECALLING THAT hon. Ambassador Mwapachu’s appointment was a true reflection of the accomplishment he registered in his long service as a public servant and a career diplomat

ARSING from being the first graduate appointee in the Police service of Tanzania in 1969 to be the Secretary General of the East African Community from April 2006

FURTHER RECALLING his excellence at the law school at the University of East Africa where he received a number of accolade sand later on distinguished himself as a write and an academic resulting into conferment of a doctorate degree upon him

NOTING THAT academic brilliance and commitment to hard work earned him recognition by the government which led to his appointment to serve in the Attorney General at Seba, the National Bank of Commerce and later in the 1973 to diplomatic service, an achievement that made him the most suitable candidate for appointment as Secretary General for the East African Community in April 2006 for a five year period

FULLY APPRECIATIVE hon. Ambassador Mwapachu’s tenure as a dedicated Secretary General of the Community which was marked by significant milestones and achievements for all to see namely one, he never wavered in his desire to see the East African Community grow leaps and bounds.

As an Assembly, we can conclude that he is a dedicated servant of the East African Community - (Applause).He offered leadership in the implementation of the East African Community Customs Union, which had been probably a year before he joined. He offered leadership for the successful negotiation for the East African Common Market which was signed in November 2006, he has offered leadership for the development of the terms of reference to spearhead the negotiation of the East African Community Monetary Union which is our next level of integration. He facilitated the admission of the two Partner States of Rwanda and Burundi in the East African fraternity. He spearheaded the enhancement of terms and conditions of members of EAC staff. He tirelessly worked to expand the revenue resource base of East Africa especially from the development Partners. He emphasised the need for East Africa to have its own headquarters and this has come to reality with the construction at a very advanced stage. He continues to stress the need for creation for new institutions of the Community for further deepening and widening the integration agenda. His tenure has a marked improvement in the development of regional infrastructure to facilitate investment, tourism and trade. His tenure has seen a marked visibility of the EAC and more East Africans are taking keen interest in the Community Affairs and above all, he has greatly facilitated the work of all the organs, institutions of the Community namely the Summit, the Council and its structures, the Assembly, the Court of Justice, the Secretariat and all EAC institutions.

NOW THEREFORE;

1. *This Assembly registers its gratitude to hon. Ambassador Juma Volta Mwapachu for the dedicated service he has rendered to this Community.*
2. *Urges the Chairperson of the Council to transmit its resolution to the Summit for noting and*
3. *Urges the Minister for East African Affairs, United Republic of Tanzania to transmit this resolution to His Excellency the President of the United Republic of Tanzania for noting.”*

- (Applause) -

Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to make a few comments in support of the resolution we are calling upon. The Ambassador Juma Mwapachu is slightly older than this Assembly within the Community so when we talk about him, you are talking about an administrator that we know quite well.

I want to say that Ambassador Mwapachu as the Secretary General of the Community steered the Community when things were not very easy and you could witness that there have been calls for the amendment of the Treaty and within those issues which were there, he still managed to run the Community to take it to the level which he has taken it. (Applause)

Without any fear of contradiction, I want to say that Ambassador Mwapachu as a lawyer demonstrated a few instances which really proved that as a lawyer he is somebody who fears to go against the law.

There was an incident where there was confusion and the Assembly sitting was suspended. When Ambassador Mwapachu realised that it was not within his ability to suspend the sitting of the Assembly, he readily worked and made sure that the Assembly sat because he did not want to go against the Treaty which said that that authority was not within his mandate.

Mr Speaker, the other incident was when I was given the opportunity to lead a Select Committee arising out of what I have talked, I had an occasion to contemplate using a sermon to Ambassador Juma Mwapachu to appear before the committee because of the commitment he had and so had not appeared.

But when he realised that he was going against the law, the Ambassador came before the committee and I would admire his humility in handling issues and the way he apologised to the committee demonstrated that he is a lawyer that would not want to go against the law.

I have seen so many people who have studied law and they break the same laws with impunity. They never even dared to apologise - (Interruption)-

Ms Dora Byamukama: Mr Speaker, Sir, I rise on a point of order because from the tone of hon. Karan, he is insinuating that there are some lawyers who are ready to breach the law. This is a very dangerous statement. Is he in order and if is in order, I would like to ask him to substantiate because this is very serious against the legal profession. I thank you.

The Speaker: Honourable Member, there are many lawyers here who have kept quiet.

Mr Karan: Mr Speaker, hon. Dora as a lawyer has not breached any law but that does not mean that I have not seen some unless she is intending to do that but I have seen some lawyers who

normally do that with impunity. But I know that hon. Dora as a lawyer has always been pro-law and she never goes against the law so she should not worry, Mr Speaker.

I want to say that besides what I have narrated that has been the achievement of Ambassador Juma Mwapachu, I want to say that even socially the Secretary General has been a social person.

It is normally said that hard work and no play makes Jack a dull boy but Ambassador Juma Mwapachu is always available for even social times to be able to interact with people and if the EAC would have dared to organise a dancing competition, Mr Speaker I do not know any within the EAC who would have taken the trophy apart from Ambassador Juma Mwapachu - *(Laughter)*.

Mr Speaker, I want to say that we will miss Ambassador Juma Mwapachu. He is the Secretary General that we have learnt to work with, the one who would always wasn't to discuss issues which are beforehand whether they are difficult or not but we hope that if he ever had an opportunity to recommend his successor, he must have recommended somebody who has his values for this Assembly to be able to continue.

I think he is one of the eminent persons within the East African Community and when there will be a decision within this Community to have some eminent person. I would think that this would be the person to consider to be one of the eminent persons to keep on giving his advice to the Community.

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

The Speaker: Hon. Members, the proposal on the floor is that this Assembly do resolve to pat tribute to hon. Ambassador Juma Volta Mwapachu, outgoing Secretary General of the East African Community for his exemplary work in furtherance of the Community. Debate is open.

Ms Dora Byamukama (Uganda): Thank you, Mr Speaker, sir. I beg to support this motion and to say from the offset that my point of order was on a light note and at the same time a very serious note considering that I believe that Ambassador Mwapachu's profession as a lawyer in a major way enabled him to carry out his work in a very distinguished manner.

Hon. Ambassador Mwapachu has very many titles. Allow me to refer to him as Ambassador for this purpose and to say that we are honoured in many ways to have served with him at this particular point in time and I would like to say that as a member of the legal committee, we had several moments where we exchanged notes on issues of interpretation of the Treaty and I believe this in a major way enhanced the operations not only of the Assembly but of the other organs of the Community.

My second point relates to his background. I believe that his background, which enabled him to associate with distinguished persons at the University of Dar es Salaam in the names of the Rt Hon. Eriya Kategaya, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and other distinguished East African personalities has enabled him perform his work in a smoother manner and this is an added advantage that we have had by having Ambassador Mwapachu as Secretary General.

Mr Speaker sir, his other background in the Police Force as well as a lawyer obviously instilled in him the elements of discipline which have been referred to in this particular motion.

I would like to say that I have had some moments of discussion with Ambassador Mwapachu and I have encouraged him to put down his memoirs as regards his period as SG in the East

African Community. I believe that when these memoirs are published, they will enable us and him to put together his ideas in a way which is more liberated because he will not be chained down by the rigours of his office and therefore he will be in a better state of mind and therefore he will be in a better state of mind to be able to advise in a more concrete and constructive manner.

There are several other accomplishments that are attributed to Ambassador Mwapachu and I believe he will be able to capture some of these in his memoirs. Allow me to note that I was privileged to attend the media summit, which brought together different media houses in Nairobi and this was one of the fora which I believe was his brain child so yesterday when we were mentioning civil society organisations and asking for a forum, I believe that this is such a forum which enhanced the stature of the East African Community and enabled us to put our message to the peoples of East Africa.

Allow me to also highlight the fact that under his tenure of service, we have had increased funding to the Community from the partners which obviously shows that there has been confidence building and in effect, we are now looking at ways of how we can actually control this but in itself, the fact that we have gotten increased funding is very positive and is a clear indicator of success from the leadership of Ambassador Mwapachu.

There are other areas which I could mention for example I am particularly gratified that he supported good governance to the extent of supporting the autonomy of the Assembly in particular and by doing this, he has enabled us to execute our functions without any inhibition and we shall be grateful to him because we believe that we have been able to accomplish a lot because of his attitude.

I would like to also highlight another aspect which is the anthem and it is unfortunate that he may leave before he hears it played in the Assembly. This is a particular aspect and part of his legacy and the fact that now we have an East African anthem is one particular attribute that I would like to attribute to Ambassador Mwapachu because I know and I believe that he was deeply involved in ensuring that the anthem is realised and achieved and this is one of the legacies that he will leave.

The other more important aspect is the fact that he continued with the essay competitions. I believe that this is one way we can involve the young generation in the activities of the Community. Mr Speaker sir, as you note, I could go on and on but permit me to conclude by saying that hon. Karan actually took the thunder out of my speech.

I wanted to add an amendment and also since he has already acknowledged it that we declare Ambassador Juma Mwapachu an eminent East African, that we urge him to publish his memoirs so that these can be put to use by all East Africans and in particular the East African Community.

And that we urge Ambassador Mwapachu our dear friend to continue supporting the integration process.

I would like to conclude that I do not want to seem as if we shall not see him again but by saying that Ambassador Mwapachu is very lucky in that he has been able to listen in to part of his legacy. Sometimes when these issues are said, most times we are not able to listen to them so he is a very lucky man and we wish him every success now and in the future. I thank you - *(Applause)*.

Mr Mike Sebalu (Uganda): Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I do rise to support this motion. It is a definitely very important motion but before I do so, I also want to thank the Republic of Rwanda for hosting us another time. We are home and enjoying ourselves and it could never have been a better venue for Volter to be recognised.

My contribution is a bit emotional because he is a good friend and you will permit me to go my separate way. If I had my way, I would have given Volter another term of office but since I do not have my way, I don't want to pursue that further.

He has performed beyond any expectations and he has added a lot of value to the East African Community. There is one thing that he has done and he has done it well. Volter is leaving the EAC deeper and wider than he found it. His ability to widen and deepen therefore cannot be under estimated. That should be part of his memoirs. He has done it excellently and there is all the evidence to prove that he has done it.

Volter reminds me of John Travolta. Those of you that saw Travolta on the floor definitely know where the name Volta comes from and he has done that pretty well. He is a handsome man, he is smart and he is elegant. Using those virtues, he has projected the EAC very positively. His diplomatic background has come in handy and he has seen EAC's visibility within diplomatic circles rise beyond any level.

The level of accreditation that we attracted from powerful nations of the world and international organisations are getting accredited at Arusha is something worth writing home about and definitely his diplomatic background must have played a big role in elevating EAC as a diplomatic institution. We thank you for that. When we move around the world, you hear people really acknowledging EAC so the visibility has been very well achieved courtesy of the good works and diplomatic skills of Volter Mwapachu.

He is a good communicator and he is quite skilled in the English language, he speaks very good English, flowing English very understandable and very clear. Therefore he makes his messages very well understood, appreciated and acknowledged and I believe he has been able to use that communication skill to attract a lot of attention for the EAC region and for that, we are very grateful and you will always be remembered for those good works.

He is a man with good interpersonal skills and relations. You could see him joke around with his juniors and every one creating a sense of belonging and family within EAC. You are leaving EAC more united as a family and our challenge is to build on what you have already achieved in that direction.

He is a man with a high sense of humour and quite well levelled as well. That is something that is very important when you are managing very complex organisations like the EAC. If you do it flat, you don't get things moving so that sense of humour was an additional virtue that made him do his work very well.

He could present himself in a very simple way but behind that simplicity was a man with a high level of sophistication and that is Volter for you. He is that kind of person that is multi skilled and multi talented.

He is one of the few lawyers who did not over play his legal background. Many lawyers begin by saying, you know I am a lawyer but he never did that. You would read about it but it would

Never be part of his introduction and for that I must salute him and appreciate that level of engagement.

If you looked at Volter, you can't see any Police in him. He does not command or order but that is the serious policeman he is because you don't see it in him anyway. I think you are really very lucky to have gone to the police school and yet came out as a good civilian. That is quite interesting about Volter.

One thing that I will always remember about him is that you could bash Volter and we really did some serious bashing. We could engage him and put him on the wall but what he could reciprocate you with was a smashing smile. He could disarm you. After you have gone full length, he reciprocates with a smile. That is really something that I will always remember Volter about.

He has done his bit and done it pretty well and he has left a legacy. He has made a very good contribution to EAC and at this point, I think we really need to get some of these very good performing East Africans. We are going to have the new headquarters of the EAC for which he worked very tirelessly and put a lot of efforts. When we are opening it, definitely Volter has to take a very prominent role. I am suggesting that we get portraits of these Secretary Generals and they line up the headquarters because they have made a contribution and they must have a living legacy so that whoever goes to Arusha, they are able to see these distinguished sons and daughters of East Africa who have made significant contribution.

I pray that that is considered and we get them lined up for posterity to know that at some point in time as East Africa evolved, there were these distinguished East Africans who played their part and played it well.

I want to end by quoting Mahatma Gandhi who said that be the change you want to see in the world. I think Volter has been the change he wanted to see at EAC and the individual challenges we have is to play our part building on what he has done.

Keep with us Volter, we are still around. We are your friends and we still need your wise counsel, your experience and all those virtues that you have.

Finally, I want to end by thanking His Excellency Jakaya Morisho Kikwete for having identified such a wonderful talent of an East African and made it possible for him to serve in the capacity of Secretary General of East African Community. Your tour of duty has been worthwhile and has been very productive and you have added value to the East African Community.

Mr Speaker, you can speak about Volter until cows come home, you can never end because he is many in himself but for the interest of time, I want to leave it at that point saying that Volter, you have made us proud and done a good job for EAC. Thank you - (*Applause*).

Dr Francis George Nangale (Tanzania): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also want to join my colleagues to extend my sincere support to this motion particularly coming from hon. Clarkson Otieno Karan, the former Chair of the Select Committee on Suspension of EALA session, the motion that took all of us thinking loud about so many things which has happened then.

Hon. Speaker, since 2006 when hon. Mwapachu assumed office to date, a lot has happened. They say a lot of water has passed under the bridge. Ambassador Mwapachu suffered severe

back pain, we remember during that time but thank God he battled through and today he can again dance and spend many long hours working which is typical of EAC.

During his era, hon. Mwapachu has indeed transformed the East African Community into a serious internationally respected regional body geared in improving the living standards of its people. Hon. Mwapachu has contributed in the management of the EAC Secretariat from the implementation of the Customs Union to the negotiation and eventual signing of the Common Market and this will always remain his legacy.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I believe the East African Community still needs the service of hon. Mwapachu not as a self landing but I would like to encourage Ambassador Mwapachu to consider vying for an EALA seat next year and I will campaign for him. Hon Speaker, I support the motion, thank you.

The Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for EAC Affairs, Uganda (Mr Eriya Kategaya)(Ex-Officio): Mr Speaker sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to say something about my college mate Ambassador Juma Mwapachu.

I want to draw on the background where we met and how we were shaped to become East Africans. When I joined the University College of Dar es Salaam at that time, it was part of East African University. I found that Ambassador Mwapachu and his group had been expelled from the university for being rebels not in the strong word but rebels against the National Service which had been started in Tanzania.

That is how I eventually met him at our school of law. At that time, the atmosphere at the university had two aspects in terms of politics. One was the liberation struggles in Southern Africa in Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Angola, Namibia, and Southern Africa, which we used to call Azania. Tanzania was playing a glorious role in hosting all these liberation movements.

At the university, we had many lectures on the liberation, not of Africa but almost the third world; Cuba, Vietnam, the Black Panther in USA so the atmosphere was really to get us outside our boxes of national countries.

Ambassador Mwapachu was very active in Turn Youth League I remember and recruited us to join Turn Youth League. I remember we took part. They had no problem for Ugandans and the rest to join Turn Youth League and participate in the politics of Tanzania.

So the performance of my colleague and friend for me is not surprising because at that time, we were looking at Africa as a whole and Pan Africanism to summarise. We looked at the integration of Africa as part of the politics of liberation. The first part was to throw out colonialism and the second part was to unite Africa. The integration of East Africa was on the agenda in that sense that integration of East Africa is extension of the liberation of Africa and I am told in that spirit that Ambassador Mwapachu was shaped to be East African and some of us were shaped to be East African even beyond East Africa.

So I am glad that he has done his part, he has performed his duties as a Pan Africanist and I am happy that you have kept the tradition of the Faculty of Law of Dar es Salaam because as somebody said, if you look at the people who have championed the integration of East Africa, I must say selfishly that the Law Faculty of Dar es Salaam has played a bit part.

Others have come but I must say that we have done every well. In fact, we need to find a way of generating that atmosphere which created the thinking and belief in integration of East Africa and Africa as a whole. At the moment, I don't think the universities are as vibrant in matters of liberation and Pan Africanism as before in our times. Maybe we need some of the new institutions like the Inter University Council to generate that spirit and atmosphere of creating cadres of people who believe in the integration of Africa staying with East Africa.

As I have often said, the integration of East Africa and Africa is of strategic importance that we need to move from irrational boundaries dividing our people unnecessarily, boundaries, which we actually never made. They were not our boundaries and you find people are vehemently defending these borders, which are actually not our borders. We need to create our own borders which make sense, like we are doing in East Africa and I am glad Ambassador Mwapachu you have played your part in this very historic exercise.

Lastly, I think we need to use the wisdom, experience and knowledge of people like Ambassador Mwapachu in our continued exercise of integration. I hope tomorrow when you are out of the office you will not be forgotten. I think we should start as culture as somebody was saying, apart from the portraits and the rest, of using the knowledge and experience they have in integration.

Societies are not just made yesterday or by events, it is by experience. It is the contribution of people like Ambassador Mwapachu that should be shared, valued and analysed for future use.

With these few words, Mr Speaker sir, I also support this motion and appreciate the contribution of Ambassador Mwapachu to the integration of East Africa and hope that your successor will definitely build on what you have done but also further take us forward in our integration. Thank you, Mr Speaker – *(Applause)*.

The Speaker: Hon. Members, as you know the Rwanda Parliament is sitting this afternoon and we are supposed to finalise our sitting by 12.30 p.m. which we have already passed. So I will now call hon. Karan to reply.

Mr Karan: Mr Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to reply. Let me take the opportunity to thank all the members who have contributed to this worthy motion and in their contribution, they have brought up issues, which other people did not know about the Ambassador. All in all, one thing has come out quite prominently that the talent of Ambassador Juma Mwapachu within the East African Community context should be nurtured and a mechanism should be found so that people can still borrow from his knowledge and be able to consult him.

Further, I would also wish to support the suggestion, which was given that there should be a mechanism of having the portraits of those Secretaries General who have served because they have left a mark. We are working for the future and future East Africans would want to know what his story was and the contributions of the people who served.

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

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I now put the question that this Assembly do resolve to pay tribute to hon. Ambassador Juma Mwapachu, outgoing Secretary General of the East African Community for his exemplary work in furtherance of the Community.

(Question proposed and agreed to.)

The Speaker: Hon. Members, I would like to make a few announcements before we adjourn. First and foremost now that I found out where the name Volta came from, we want to see it in practise this evening. *(Laughter)*

The Assembly is organising a function this evening in honour of hon. Mwapachu at 7.00 p.m. at the Serena. So bring your dancing shoes even though formal. From what I hear, hon. Mwapachu does not need anything; he can do it in anything so we will be ready for him this evening.

Secondly, I would like to say that we are having our interactive session with the members of the Rwanda Parliament tomorrow. It starts at 9.00 a.m. so please be punctual.

Three, as you are aware, His Excellency Nkurunziza will be coming on Monday evening for the address of the EAC on Tuesday morning so we are having our sitting on Monday instead of Tuesday. We shall have the sitting on Monday 9.30 a.m.

I now adjourn the House until Monday 9.30 a.m.

(The House rose at 12.30 p.m. and adjourned until Monday, 4 April 2011 at 9.30 a.m.)