



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

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**EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)**

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

**FIRST MEETING - FIRST SESSION - THIRD ASSEMBLY**

**Wednesday, 6 June 2012**

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2.30 p.m. in the  
EALA Chambers, AICC Buildings, Arusha, Tanzania*

**PRAYER**

*(The Speaker, Ms Margaret Zziwa, in the Chair.)*

*The Assembly was called to order.*

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, I want to say that yesterday was such an important and glamorous day for all of us and because of the excitement, we all went through, there could have been a few omissions.

First and foremost, I want to salute all your families who graciously honoured us by being here when you were taking oath and I want it on record that our families are a pillar on which we are standing so take my salutations and respects and thank them for being here with us as we started the Third Assembly.

*(Applause)*

Secondly, I want to recognise in the special way, the Rt hon. Speaker of Parliament of Uganda Rt hon. Rebecca Kadaga and over 50 Members of Parliament of Uganda who came over to support Uganda as it ascends to this important Chair of Speakership. May we have that very important recognition registered on the *Hansard* and salute and thank the Uganda Parliament for being with us as we conduct our business throughout the third term.

*(Applause)*

I want to thank all those distinguished dignitaries who joined us. I was not privy to the long list but I want you to recognise

that we have recognised them and thank them for the support they gave us yesterday. Thank you.

**APPOINTMENT OF HOUSE BUSINESS COMMITTEE**

**Mr. Abdullah Mwinyi (Tanzania):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I beg to move that in accordance with the provisions of Rule 77, 78(2) (d) and 81 (1) and (2) of the Rules of this House, the following members be appointed to constitute the House Business Committee. Madam Speaker, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Seconded. Hon. Mwinyi, you can proceed to lay it on table or you can read it first.

**Mr. Mwinyi:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. The following are members of the House Business Committee.

1. Rt. Hon. Margaret Nantongo Zziwa
2. Hon. Jeremie Ngendakumana
3. Hon. Hafsa Mossi
4. Hon. Adam Kimbisa
5. Hon. Shy Rose Bhanji
6. Hon. Christophe Bazivamo
7. Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga
8. Hon. Nusura Tiperu
9. Hon. Mike Kennedy Sebalu

10. Hon. Abubakar Ogle
11. Hon. Mumbi Agnes Nga'ru

Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the list on the table.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, the motion on the floor is that in accordance with the provisions of Rule 77, 78(2) (d) and 81 (1) and (2) of the Rules of this House, the following members laid on the table be appointed to constitute the House Business Committee. Debate is open.

**Mr. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro (Burundi):** Thank you, Rt hon. Speaker. According to Rule 8(1) (a) and (b), the Chairman of the Council must be part of this House Business Committee. I think his name is missing. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** I think there is no objection about that. I think the list can be amended to include the Chairperson of the Council in that effect.

**Ms. Dora Byamukama (Uganda):** Madam Speaker, I just wanted some clarification and maybe affirmation on the issue of the Ugandan names. Yesterday we met as a chapter and present was hon. Susan Nakawuki, hon. Sebalu, hon. Opoka, hon. Dan Kidega, hon. Mbidde, hon. Mulengani and myself. You were absent, Madam Speaker.

We agreed that I should be a member of the House Business Committee but I see on the list that I have been replaced by hon. Nusura Tiperu, which is fine with me but I want to say very clearly that the reasons which were advanced maybe should be made clear because I don't understand how. But be it as it may, let it be. I will support that.

**The Speaker:** I think the advantage is that the chairperson of the Uganda Chapter is available; maybe he can throw some light. Hon. Mulengani-

**Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker and my colleague hon. Byamukama for the clarification you are seeking. With your indulgence, Madam Speaker, I would request that this be a chapter matter and request that we discuss. If there is any disharmony then I will let the chapter know exactly how and what transpired and we shall get to harmonise ourselves. I beg to submit.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, hon. Mulengani. I think with that I want to proceed by putting the question. In accordance with the provisions of Rules 77, 78(2) (d) and 81 (1) and (2) of the Rules of this House, the members whose names have been read and laid on the table be appointed to constitute the House Business Committee. I now put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, now that the House Business Committee has been appointed and due to the tight schedule we have, I have to suspend the proceedings for a short while to allow the House Business Committee to meet and nominate members to the other committees. So allow me to suspend the proceedings for 45 minutes to allow the House Business Committee to meet. House is suspended therefore until 4.00 p.m.

*(The House was suspended at...)*

*(On resumption, the Speaker, presiding\_)*

#### **APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**Mr. Mike Sebalu (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Rt hon. Speaker and hon. Members. I beg to move that in accordance with provisions of Rules 77, 78 and 8 (3) (c), that this House do appoint the following members on the standing committees.

The rules do provide as follows: Rule 77 provides that the Assembly shall appoint relevant committees necessary for efficient discharge of its functions.

Rule 78 provides for the committees and they include the following: Committee on Accounts; Legal, Rules and Privileges;

Communication, Trade and Investment; Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources; Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution and General Purpose.

Rule 81(3) (c) -

**The Speaker:** Hon. Sebalu, maybe you need to get a seconder first and then explain. Secunder, hon. Mwinyi. You may proceed.

**Mr. Sebalu:** Thank you very much. Rule 81(3) (c) spells out the mandate of the House Business Committee to nominate members of the Standing and other committees.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that this House do appoint the following members to serve on the standing committees as already explained. The list includes the following:

Nominated members of the Committee on Accounts:

1. Hon. Jeremie Ngendakumana
2. Hon. Yves Nsabimana
3. Hon. Emmanuel Nengo
4. Hon. Jacqueline Muhongayire
5. Hon. Pierre Celestin Rwigema
6. Hon. Straton Ndikuryayo
7. Hon. Bernard Mulengani

8. Hon. Susan Nakawuki
9. Hon. Chris Opoka-Okumu
10. Dr. Nderakindo Perpetua Kessy
11. Hon. Abdullah Mwinyi
12. Hon. Adam Omar Kimbisa
13. Hon. Mumbi .A. Ng'aru
14. Hon. Ole Saoli Nkanee
15. Hon. Abubakar Ogle Abdi

That is the list for accounts.

The members nominated on the Committee of Legal Rules and Privileges include:

1. Hon. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro
2. Hon. Jeremie Ngendakumana
3. Hon. Hafsa Mossi
4. Hon. Valerie Nyirahabineza
5. Hon. Abdul Karim Harelimana
6. Hon. Christophe Bazivamo
7. Hon. Fred Mbidde Mukasa
8. Hon. Dan Kidega
9. Hon. Dora Byamukama
10. Hon. Twaha IssaTaslina
11. Hon. Abdullah Mwinyi



12. Hon. Maryam Ussi Yahya
13. Hon. Judith Pareno
14. Hon. Joseph Kiangoi Ombasa
15. Hon. Peter Mutuku Mathuki

Nominated members of the Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources:

1. Hon. Isabelle Ndahayo
2. Hon. Dr. Martin Nduwimana
3. Hon. Leonce Ndarubagiye
4. Hon. Christophe Bazivamo
5. Hon. Patricia. M. Hajabakiga
6. Hon. Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo
7. Hon. Chris Opoka-Okumu
8. Hon. Dan Kidega
9. Hon. Mike Sebalu
10. Hon. Musomi Bernard Murunya
11. Hon. Charles Makongoro Nyerere
12. Hon. Angela Charles Kizigha
13. Hon. Judith Pareno
14. Hon. Saoli Ole Nkanae
15. Hon. Mumbi A. Ng'aru

Nominated members of the Committee on Regional Affairs and  
Conflict Resolution:

1. Hon. Leonce Ndarubagiye
2. Hon. Emmanuel Nengo
3. Hon. Isabelle Ndahayo
4. Hon. Abdul Karim Harelimana
5. Hon. Jacqueline Muhongayire
6. Hon. Pierre Celestin Rwigema
7. Hon. Chris Opoka-Okumu
8. Hon. Fred Mbidde Mukasa
9. Hon. Mike Sebalu
10. Hon. Twaha Issa Taslima
11. Hon. Charles Makongoro Nyerere
12. Hon. Musomi Bernard Murunya
13. Hon. Abubakar Zein Abubakar
14. Hon. Saoli Ole Nkanee
15. Hon. Sarah T. Bonaya

Nominated members of the Committee on General Purpose:

1. Hon. Dr. James Ndahiro
2. Hon. Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo
3. Hon. Valerie Nyirahabineza
4. Hon. Dr. Martin Nduwimana

5. Hon. Hafsa Mossi
6. Hon. Emerence Bucumi
7. Hon. Susan Nakawuki
8. Hon. Nusura Tiperu
9. Hon. Bernard Mulengani
10. Hon. Dr. Nderankindo Perpetua Kessy
11. Hon. Maryam Yahya Ussi
12. Hon. Shy-Rose Sadrudin Bhanji
13. Hon. Nancy Abisai
14. Hon. Abubakar Zein Abubakar
15. Hon. Sarah T. Bonaya

Nominated members of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment:

1. Hon. Yves Nsabimana
2. Hon. Emerence Bucumi
3. Hon. Frederic Ngenzebuhoro
4. Hon. Dr. James Ndahiro
5. Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga
6. Hon. Straton Ndikuryayo
7. Hon. Dan Kidega
8. Hon. Dora Byamukama
9. Hon. Nusura Tiperu

10. Hon. Shy-Rose Sadrudin Bhanji
11. Hon. Adam Omar Kimbisa
12. Hon. Angela Charles Kizigha
13. Hon. Peter Mutuku Mathuki
14. Hon. Joseph Kiangoi Ombasa
15. Hon. Nancy Abisai

Madam Speaker, the list of hon. Members read constitutes the committees as provided for in our Rules of Procedure. Rt hon. Speaker and hon. Members, I would like to mention the proposed Chairs by country. The details will be worked out in the committees of electing the Chair but these are the countries that are proposed to Chair respective committees.

Committee of Accounts, the Republic of Rwanda.

Committee of Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources to be chaired by the Republic of Burundi.

Committee of Communications, Trade and Investments to be chaired by the United Republic of Tanzania.

Committee of General Purpose to be chaired by the Republic of Burundi.

Committee of Legal, Rules and Privileges to be chaired by the Republic of Uganda.

Committee of Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution to be chaired by the Republic of Kenya.

Madam Speaker and hon. Members, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, hon. Sebalu. The motion on the floor is that in accordance with the provisions of Rule 77, 78 and 81 (3) (c), this House do appoint the members whose names have been read to the various standing committees of this House. Debate is open.

**Mr. Mwinyi:** Madam Speaker, at the onset as a preamble to my contribution, I would like to use this opportunity to congratulate you first and foremost for attaining your seat as the first female Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly. *(Applause)*

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate all those who have been appointed to the House Business Committee and various committees that have been read out.

My contribution is to thank you and to support the motion. I thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, hon. Mwinyi. Since I cannot see any other member who wishes to make a contribution- Oh, proceed hon. Member.

**Mr. Joseph Kiangoi Ombasa (Kenya):** Madam Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity also to congratulate you for being elected our Speaker. I also want to congratulate the members of the House Business Committee for being appointed as such.

Madam Speaker, we have heard from all of us our various contributions in various fields, our various qualifications. I see this as an opportunity during this third Assembly to enhance the work of the Community so as to achieve those objectives that are enshrined in the Treaty. I beg to support.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much.

**The Secretary General of the EAC (Dr. Richard Sezibera):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I rise in support of the motion and I wish to also join my colleagues in congratulating you, Madam Speaker. We know of your demonstrated commitment and dedication to the service of the people of East Africa and there is no doubt in all our minds that this House and our Community is in for a better future under your leadership.

I also take this opportunity to congratulate all the members who have been elected to the East African Legislative Assembly. Many of us followed directions in the different capitals with expectation. A number of us also received updates on what was happening and I can say that we were happy to see and to hear East Africans warmly welcome you and say how happy they were that you were nominated and elected members of the East African Legislative Assembly. So I wish to congratulate all of you.

I also wish to congratulate all those who were proposed for nomination to the different committees of the House and to pledge our support. I speak on behalf of all the Organs and institutions of the other Organs and institutions of our Community who are not here in this Chamber to pledge our support to you all and to dedicate ourselves to making sure that the work of this House and of the committee goes on smoothly as planned.

With those few words, Madam Speaker, I beg to support.

**Mr. Abdul Karim Harelimana (Rwanda):** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to support the motion and I take this opportunity also to congratulate you for being elected with landslide win yesterday. I am sure that the decision which was made by members here was the right decision and that is why the echoes which we are

getting from across the region, everyone is congratulating us for electing a powerful and strong lady to led this Assembly.

Madam Speaker, apart from being a member from the Second Assembly, we were together in the Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution Committee which I would ask members to congratulate themselves for producing a Speaker. (Applause) I am being reminded that it was under my Chair.

Madam Speaker, I pray that you will continue to reinforce the road which was built and strengthened by the Second Assembly up to the end. Madam Speaker, I beg to support.

**Mr. Fred Mukasa-Mbidde (Uganda):** Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues over congratulating you for having made it to the highest office of this Assembly and I equally congratulate hon. Members for having made it here for purposes that we can think for the whole region. I congratulate you.

This being my maiden speech, Madam Speaker I will thank those that have made the opinion to have me on the Committee of Rules and Legal Affairs. Madam Speaker, there is a lot that we shall have to change for purposes that when you take oath, you do so to bear true allegiance to the Community to protect the interests of the Treaty.



There are a lot of things that we shall need to change and I am thankful that I am on this committee including the manner in which the Speaker of this Assembly takes oath, the manner in which we equally take oath. Article 53 states that it is members that need to elect a Speaker and members are those that bear true allegiance. In effect, those that have taken oath are the real members but the manner in which it has been done is that we may find non-members electing a Speaker.

Madam Speaker, for the next five years I will act in the interest of the Treaty and I will definitely serve on this committee. I support entirely the naming of the committees aforesaid. I thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, Mukasa-Mbidde.

**Mr. Leonce Ndarubagiye (Burundi):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I am very glad to be able to give my contribution to this Third Assembly as a new member. I rise to support the motion and of course congratulate you, Madam Speaker. You will recall the speech you made yesterday saying that you will bring maternal care to us. I presume it will apply to those younger as well as older. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, hon. Leonce. You know for purposes of long hours of sitting, the elderly must be respected.

**Mr. Bernard Mulengani (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I rise to support the motion of creating of these committees but I also want to join my colleagues to congratulate you upon ascending to that Chair, the helm of the legislature at the region.

In the same vein, I want to put it on record and thank our colleagues from Burundi who in their infinite wisdom decided to withdraw their candidate to agree and accept what the Treaty talks of rotation because we cannot rotate two countries. That let Uganda take the speakership following Kenya and then and Rwanda will come on board thereafter.

Madam Speaker, as we create committees, there is one thing I want to emphasise which is to avail funds for these committees to do their work. We do many consultancies in this Community in terms of committee work but at times the committees are bogged down by the availability or non-availability of resources. I want to encourage your office, Madam Speaker and the newly created House Business Committee to look for resources within

the Community and not from development partners to be able to address the concerns of these committees.

Especially I want to emphasise the oversight area. We are unable to do enough oversight on the projects of this Community. You are aware, Madam Speaker that the budget of this Community has risen from \$ 2 million as of 2001 to now close to \$ 139 million. This is a great growth and it is not only stooping there but growing and this calls for strengthening other institutions of accountability in the region.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, congratulations upon attaining this office. I hope we live together in harmony. Let everything be at our back. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

**Mr. Twaha Issa Taslima (Tanzania):** Madam Speaker, I also join hands with my fellow members who have said before that we congratulate you, I also congratulate every member who have attained, and indeed we have attained the positions we are holding now. I don't have much but I would like to be on record that the way my names have been written- Let it be on the *Hansard* that this is not the arrangement I use and I am afraid it could create confusion later.

In the Committee on Legal Rules and Privileges, name number 10, my name should start with Twaha rather than Issa because Issa is my father. So it is Twaha Issa Taslima.

I also appear on the Committee on regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution name number 10. It is the same Twaha Issa Taslima rather than Issa Twaha Taslima. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much and I wish to invite hon. Tiperu.

**Ms. Nusura Tiperu (Uganda):** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. Allow me to join my colleagues in supporting the motion before us. As I do that, I also wish you to allow me to congratulate our colleagues for having been elected as members of the Third Assembly. Hon. Colleagues, the region demands a lot from this Third Assembly.

It has come at a time when we are supposed to deliver the political federation and so I pray, Madam Speaker that during your term, the question of awareness is taken as a very crucial matter, the question of linkage with Partner States especially EALA and national assemblies is taken very seriously and the issue of increasing women's visibility in the political integration process will be considered as a matter of top

priority. I believe men will not be dead during this process but men and women will work as partners in delivering the political integration process, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, allow me to take this opportunity to congratulate your election as the first woman Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly. I wish to thank East Africans and also thank the fact that we already have three women Speakers from three Partner States out of the five and this is a tremendous achievement. In particular, Speaker Mukantabana Rose of Rwanda, Speaker Rebecca Kadaga of Uganda and Speaker Anna Makinda of Tanzania.

The presence of these three great women Speakers I believe could have contributed much to enabling you become a woman Speaker in East Africa. I really thank the people of East Africa for entrusting the mothers of our great nations to manage the affairs of the region.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate you but also tell my colleagues that as an Assembly we are proud and lucky. Having worked with you for the past 15 years, having served with you in the sixth Parliament of Uganda I know you as a person who fights for justice, I know you as a person who is always fair and as a person who listens and I pray that you stick to those virtues

because the position of Speaker has a lot of power but when you remember those virtues, I believe you will use those to manage the affairs of the Assembly and all of us will remain happy.

Hon. Colleagues, with those three virtues, I believe that together we will make East Africans very proud. With those remarks, I wish once again to thank Burundi for having shown leadership and for having shown that the East African Community is here *paka last*.

When you look at some of the reasons for the collapse of the old Community, they were not big reasons that led to the collapse of the Community. They were simple matters but which had many implications. Hon. Colleagues, the sign that Burundi showed is a sign that here is serious political will especially among the members of Summit and I want to congratulate the members of Summit for the spirit of brotherliness, for the spirit of understanding. We have even had occasions where even though Summit is on rotational basis, we have had a Chair of Summit saying that another country can take the position.

I will give a case in point when Burundi was supposed to have been Chair of Summit and they agreed that Tanzania takes the Chair. Really that really showed the *Uhumoja*, it showed the spirit of brotherhood and with those great leaders managing the

affairs of the region, and I believe the sky is the limit for the people of East Africa. *Asanteni sana.*

**Mr. Sebalu:** Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I also take this opportunity to congratulate you upon your ascendance to the highest office of this legislative Assembly and wish you the best of performance as you steer the affairs of this Assembly.

Maybe something I want to bring on record for my colleagues to appreciate is that I was one of those very serious contenders for that seat and actually I was the man to beat because I had all my logistics ready, I had all my teams on the ground and it was only for the day of delivery. But as I went through that process, it was quite a reflective moment. Here I was and there was a list of three great ladies in the region all focused on that chair; hon. Hafsa Mossi wanted it very seriously, hon. Dora Byamukama from my country was really on the ground for it and hon. Margaret Zziwa was also interested in the same. And here was Mike Sebalu *Ssalongo* in the company of three serious politicians going for the same seat.

At some point, I felt a bit isolated, I could be understood to be a very gender insensitive guy so on serious recollection, I said that it is not a question of loving the Chair less but I love East Africa more. *(Applause)*

Actually, my idea was to level the group and let the ladies fight for their thing. So I opted out but I am happy that at the end of the day, we have the leadership of a lady and my simple message this afternoon is, let us give the leader the support and ensure that we take integration to another level.

My own catch phrase was, taking EALA to where it has never been before. That was my own catch phrase but I pray that with collective effort, we shall be able to take EALA to where it has never been before and that we can do if we all play our part. Like our great leader *Mwalimu* Julius Nyerere once said, it can be done provided each one of us plays their part and plays it well.

So as we go to the committees, let us make use of the committees. These committees are subject and interest based, you go where you feel you will make the best impact. You go where you feel you have got the expertise and experience and where you feel you have the technical and core competence. So let us go even where your passion is. For instance I am not an agriculturist of a farmer but I have a passion for agriculture and in the last Parliament I was in agriculture for all the time. So let us use those virtues, our backgrounds and let us use the committees to generate work for plenary.



In our committee system, it is only the committees that can generate work so let us go out there, let us be active in the committees, let us to in the field when we are supposed to go there, let us engage and involve ourselves in all activities of the committees. Once the committees are vibrant, EALA is going to be a vibrant Parliament and the outputs will be there for everyone to see.

Madam Speaker I beg to conclude by saying that we have formed the committees, we want them to hit the road running but like hon. Bernard Mulengani did say, these committees cannot operate on donor funding alone. We need to look around for funds. Chairperson of Council, we really need to ensure that we get funds for these committees so that they are functional and not theoretical and hypothetical in nature.

Madam Speaker, I beg to move that the question be put and we have these committees adopted. *(Applause)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you very much, hon. Sebalu. With those concluding remarks on this motion, I want to put the question that this august House, pursuant to the provisions of Rule 77, 78 (2) (d) and 81 (1) and (2) of the Rules of this House do appoint the members whose names have been read on various standing committees.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

**The Speaker:** Hon. Members, before we adjourn, I wish to make the following announcements. Committees are required to proceed to their respective venues to meet and elect chairpersons. To enable the process of election of chairpersons to take place. The venue is your committee offices at Safari Hotel. Members should proceed directly to the buses and we will be guided where we are going to sit.

The second announcement is that in the first week of July, the House Business Committee and the chairpersons of committees will be convened to determine the annual legislative calendar for the Assembly. Immediately the calendar is determined, all members will be notified accordingly to enable you plan your schedules accordingly so take note.

Three, I once again remind you of our induction workshop which will be held tomorrow, Thursday and Friday at New Arusha Hotel. Kindly refer to the program earlier circulated to you and ensure that you are there in time. The program starts at exactly 9.00 a.m.

Four, you are also reminded of the invitation by the Secretary General to a dinner this evening at Mt Meru Hotel at 7.00 p.m. I

have not been advised at what time the buses may pick us accordingly but I think slightly before 7.00 p.m.

When hon. Tiperu mentioned the issue of awareness, I realised that in the package which we received of information, our anthem; the East African Anthem was not included. At an appropriate time, I would request the Clerk, if the instrument was signed, to make it available to the members so that they know that East African Community has an anthem and it is one of those driving pillars for us to popularise the East African Community.

With those very many remarks, hon. Members I wish to adjourn this House sine die. House stands adjourned.

*(The House rose and adjourned sine die.)*