



EAST AFRICA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Federal Republic of Somalia Members officially Inducted into the East African Legislative Assembly in Arusha

Arusha, Tanzania – June 20, 2026-The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) yesterday conducted a historic induction ceremony for the newly elected Members from the Federal Republic of Somalia. The induction was carried out by the Clerk of the Assembly, **Mr. Alex Obatre**, at the EALA headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

This milestone marks Somalia's full participation in the Assembly's proceedings since its representatives were sworn in earlier this year. The Somali Members will now actively engage in their **first official sitting of EALA**, contributing to legislative debates, oversight functions, and regional policymaking.

Purpose of the Induction

The induction of EALA Members is a specialized orientation program designed to equip newly elected regional lawmakers with the essential knowledge, skills, and procedures required for their five-year terms. It ensures that representatives are well-prepared to carry out their duties within the framework of the East African Community (EAC).

Key objectives of the induction include:

- **Understanding the Mandate:** Educating lawmakers on EALA's core responsibilities, including enacting regional legislation, overseeing the EAC budget, and debating audit reports.
- **Learning Parliamentary Procedures:** Training Members on the formal rules of debate, bill introduction, and participation in standing committees such as Accounts, Trade, and Legal.
- **Grasping the Integration Framework:** Familiarizing representatives with the EAC's integration pillars — Customs Union, Common Market, Monetary Union, and the long-term vision of a Political Federation.
- **Administrative & Financial Literacy:** Briefing Members on the Assembly's administrative structure, staff operations, and budget scrutiny processes to strengthen accountability across EAC organs.

What it means for the Federal Republic of Somalia

The induction represents a crucial bridge between Somalia's domestic politics and its new role in regional integration. By joining EALA's legislative processes, Somali Members will:

- Strengthen regional unity and cooperation.
- Contribute to shaping laws that advance trade, peace, and development across East Africa.
- Enhance Somalia's voice in regional governance and policymaking.

This development underscores the East African Community's commitment to inclusivity and shared prosperity, as Somalia takes its rightful place alongside partner states in building a stronger, more integrated East African Community.

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Nicodemus Ajak Bior
Senior Public Relations Officer (SPRO)
East Africa Legislative Assembly
Arusha, Tanzania
Tel: +255-768-885-633/, +254729157207(WhatsApp)
Email: nbior@eachq.org
Web: www.eala.org