



EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

For Immediate Release

EALA Passes the EAC Supplementary Budget Appropriation Bill for the FY 2025/2026 as the Chair Council of the EAC Ministers lays the USD 110.9 Million EAC Budget for 2026/2027.

Arusha, Tanzania- June 23, 2026-The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) has passed the *Supplementary Appropriation Bill for the Financial Year 2025/2026*, marking a significant step in adjusting the East African Community (EAC) budget to meet emerging priorities within the year. The decision followed the consideration and adoption of the report of the Committee on General Purpose, which had been tasked with scrutinizing the supplementary budget request submitted by the Council of Ministers.

The supplementary budget originates from the need to support additional activities that could not be fully accommodated within the originally approved EAC budget of **USD 109,047,861 for FY 2025/2026**. After review, the Council of Ministers approved an additional requirement of **USD 4,794,593**, which was subsequently presented to the Assembly. Following detailed examination, EALA adopted a slightly adjusted total of **USD 4,742,293 for appropriation**.

In its final allocation, the largest share of the supplementary funds was directed to the EAC *Secretariat*, which received **USD 2,258,128** to finance programs such as pandemic response initiatives, trade and regional integration activities, ICT improvements, and participation in global environmental engagements. Other institutions also benefitted, including the *Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization*, which was allocated **USD 1,369,662** to support fisheries management, aquaculture development, and food security interventions. *The Lake Victoria Basin Commission* received **USD 470,075** for climate resilience and maritime-related initiatives, while *the East African Science and Technology Commission* was allocated **USD 644,428** to promote innovation, digital skills, and youth and women entrepreneurship programs.

The Assembly noted that the supplementary budget represents approximately **4.4 percent** of the total approved budget, which is within the legal ceiling of **5 percent** set under the EAC Budget Act. This ensured that the request complied with the applicable financial regulations governing supplementary appropriations.

However, during its deliberations, the Committee on General Purpose raised a number of critical concerns. A major issue was the overwhelming reliance on development partners, who account for nearly **88 percent** of the supplementary funding. While acknowledging the success in mobilizing external resources, the Committee cautioned that such dependence—particularly in key sectors like peace and security, climate change, food security, and health—runs counter to the EAC’s long-term goal of regional self-reliance.

The Committee also observed that several of the supplementary requests were presented for retrospective approval, meaning that some activities had already been implemented before seeking formal authorization from the Assembly. This practice raised concerns about adherence to established budgetary procedures and the potential weakening of parliamentary oversight. In addition, limited time remained within the financial year to implement some of the proposed activities, casting doubt on their timely completion.

Another notable concern was the unequal distribution of additional resources. **The Assembly** and the **East African Court of Justice** did not receive supplementary allocations, despite ongoing resource constraints affecting their operations. The Committee emphasized the need for a more balanced approach to resource mobilization and allocation across all organs of the Community.

In response to these issues, EALA adopted several recommendations aimed at strengthening financial management and policy direction within the Community. Among these were calls for the Council of Ministers to reduce dependency on donor funding, prioritize projects with clear and measurable impact, and ensure strict compliance with legal and policy frameworks governing supplementary budgets. The Assembly also urged the Secretariat to enhance transparency, accountability, and timely implementation of programs, while strengthening the oversight and capacity-building roles of both EALA and the East African Court of Justice.

Ultimately, by passing the Supplementary Appropriation Bill, EALA has authorized the EAC to utilize the additional funds to address urgent and emerging needs within the 2025/2026 financial year. At the same time, the Assembly’s deliberations highlighted broader structural challenges in regional financing, particularly the need to balance external support with sustainable internal resource mobilization.

In the same sitting, the Chair Council of the EAC Council of Ministers, The **Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga** laid the budget of the East African Community for the **Financial Year 2026/2027** to the East African Legislative Assembly, amounting to **USD110,863,576**. The Chairperson declared the financial plan a defining moment for the region, and marks the first financial plan under the newly adopted 7th EAC Development Strategy (2026/27–2030/31), with the theme ***"Deepening Integration for Improved Livelihoods of EAC Citizens."***

The House resumes tomorrow afternoon to discuss and pass the proposed budget in details.

#END#

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