

**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

**EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY RECOGNISING THE** **WOMEN’S CAUCUS OF THE ASSEMBLY** **AS A FORUM FOR MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY TO PROMOTE THE FULL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNITY**

*(Moved under Articles 5(3)(e), 6(d), 49(2)(d), 59(1) and 121(a) of the Treaty and Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly)*

**WHEREAS** Chapter Twenty-one of the Treaty recognises the contribution of women in socio-economic transformation and enshrines the acknowledgment of the Community that it is impossible to implement effective programmes for the economic and social development of the Community without the full participation of women;

**WHEREAS** the Partner States committed in Articles 121(a) of the Treaty to promote the empowerment and effective integration and participation of women at all levels of the socio-economic development, especially in decision-making;

**AND WHEREAS** the membership of the Assembly provided for in Article 48(1) of the Treaty includes 22 women elected pursuant to Article 50 of the Treaty and 2 ex-officio female members of the Council;

**RECOGNISING** that women Members of this Assembly are a minority in comparison to their male counterparts and it is necessary for the women Members of the Assembly to come together and create avenues enabling them to make their voices heard, to forge ties of mutual solidarity and effectively contribute to the work of the Assembly and the programmes and activities of the Community;

**AWARE** that caucuses have been formed and used in the National Assemblies of the Partner States and are recognised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) as mechanisms within the parliaments of many countries established to strengthen cooperation among women engaged in political life and enhance effective alliances around a common goal;

**FURTHER RECOGNISING** that women caucuses contribute towards advocating for and promoting women’s legislative and policy priorities, building capacities of women Members of Parliament and promoting gender mainstreaming in the work and functioning of Assemblies;

**NOTING** that in order to facilitate the effective functioning of women caucuses, the IPU has issued Guidelines on establishment of Women Caucuses which include among others, a clear name, purpose, membership, relationship with the Assembly, leadership structure;

**CONSIDERING** that Women’s Caucus of the East African Legislative Assembly has adopted a Constitution which clearly sets out the objectives, membership and the organs that constitute the leadership of the Caucus and has elected an Executive Committee to steer the Caucus;

**CONVINCED** that it is necessary for the Assembly to recognise the Women’s Caucus as a forum and platform for women Members of the Assembly to promote the full participation of women in programmes and activities of the Community.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AS FOLLOWS:**

That in accordance with Articles 5(3)(e), 6(d), 49(2)(d) and 121(a) of the Treaty, the Assembly recognises the **East African Legislative Assembly Women’s Caucus** as a forum and platform for women Members of the Assembly to promote the full participation of women in programmes and activities of the Community.

Moved by: **Hon. Fatuma Ibrahim Ali**

Seconded by: **Hon. George Odongo**