



## THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

### THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

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

#### 65<sup>th</sup> SITTING – SECOND MEETING – FOURTH SESSION: FIFTH ASSEMBLY FIFTH ASSEMBLY

**Thursday, 27 November 2025**

*The East African Legislative Assembly met at 2.39 p.m. at the Parliament of Uganda Chamber, Kampala, Uganda.*

#### PRAYER

*(The Speaker, Hon. Joseph Ntakirutimana, in the Chair)*

*(The Assembly was called to order)*

#### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

**The Speaker:** Good afternoon, everyone. I have two communications for you. First, the Council of Ministers meeting has been postponed. You also know that the Summit has been postponed.

Secondly, we have received court orders from the East African Court of Justice on the Somalia case. The orders are that the Somalian Members should not take oath until the main case is concluded.

Thirdly, we recognise our guests in the gallery. We have EAC youth leaders who are here with us:

1. Mr Joas Irahoza, Speaker, Burundi. Please recognise him.
2. Ms Eva Maganga, Deputy Speaker, Tanzania
3. Mr Emmanuel Magoba, Kenya
4. Ms Shamim Yusuph, Uganda
5. Mr Ivan Lakisa, Uganda
6. Mr Ivan Ocakacon, Uganda, and
7. Dr Michael Jemba, Uganda.  
*(Applause)*

We also have officials from institutions (HIVO, PSD, TAHI, FAF) in Uganda:

1. Ms Meda Kudzai,
2. Mr Limpo Chinika,
3. Mr Daniel Watenga,
4. Ms Hadija Nansubuga,
5. Ms Easter Nakyanzi,
6. Mr Emmanuel Wabwire,
7. Ms Rita Githii,
8. Mr Raphel Mghamba,
9. Ms Dolly Ajok,
10. Mr Joshua Wabwire, and
11. Mr Steven Oyirwoth.

Please stand so that you can be recognised. Stand at the same time. They are there.  
*(Applause)* Thank you.

We also have a team from East African Pro-life and Pro-Family Coalition which is led by Reverend Jonathan Opio and I met them some minutes ago. They are with us. We can recognise them. *(Applause)* Thank you.

Honourable members, I have been informed that Hon. Jacqueline Amongin is not around. Maybe she will join us later today. They tell me that she will be with us at 4:00p.m. With this, I propose to proceed with the next item, which is item number three on the Order Paper.

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION  
OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING  
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
AND PARTNER STATES TO FAST  
TRACK THE ADOPTION AND  
IMPLEMENTATION OF REGIONAL  
INDUSTRIALISATION AND VALUE  
ADDITION FRAMEWORKS TO  
REDUCE THE EXPORT OF RAW  
MATERIALS

**The Speaker:** Hon. Dr Aisha Nyiramana, the mover, you have the Floor.

2.46

**Dr Aisha Nyiramana (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving me this opportunity. I beg to move a motion for a resolution of the Assembly urging the Council of Ministers and Partner States to fast-track the adoption and implementation of regional industrialisation and value addition framework to reduce the export of raw materials. I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Do you have seconders? Yes, you do. Hon. Ndangiza, Hon. Gideon, Hon. Clement, Hon. Sankok and others. You can proceed.

**Dr Nyiramana:** Mr Speaker, this motion is moved under Articles 49 (2)(d), 59 (1), 79, 80 and 81 of the Treaty, Article 44 of the Protocol of the Establishment of the East African Common Market and Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedures of the Assembly.

*“WHEREAS Partner States committed in Article 79 of the Treaty to promote self-sustaining and balanced industrial growth and to improve the competitiveness of the industrial sector so as to enhance the expansion of trade in industrial goods within the Community and the export of industrial goods from Partner States in order to achieve the structural transformation of the economy that would foster socioeconomic development;*

*AND WHEREAS under Article 80 of the Treaty, Partner States further undertook to promote industrial research and development, establishment of a joint industrial institution, and other infrastructure facilities and to harmonise and nationalise investment incentives including those relating to taxation of industries, particularly those that use local materials and labour;*

*ACKNOWLEDGING that under Article 44 of the Protocol on Establishment of the EAC Common Market, Partner States also committed to promote value addition and product diversification to improve resources utilisation and to promote industrial productivity and competitiveness of industries at national, Community and international levels;*

*RECOGNISING that the Council of Ministers adopted the EAC Industrialisation Policy, 2012-2032*

*and the EAC Industrialisation Strategy, 2021-2031, which envision transforming the EAC into a globally competitive and sustainable industrial hub by enhancing local value addition, technological innovation, and regional value chain;*

*AWARE of the unique opportunities presented by the African Continental Free Trade Area for the EAC to expand its market access for goods manufactured within the Community;*

*GRATEFUL to the EAC Heads of State for urging the Partner States to ban the export of raw hides and skins and for directing the Council during the 16th Summit in 2016 and 18th Summit in 2017 to establish modalities for promoting the assembling of motor vehicles within the region and for promoting vertically integrated textile and leather industries to support the development of a strong and competitive domestic textile and leather sector;*

*DEEPLY CONCERNED that despite the abundant natural resources, agricultural potential, and human capital, Partner States continue to export a significant portion of their commodities in raw and semi-processed form, such as coffee, tea, cotton, minerals, hides and skins, and agricultural produce, thereby forfeiting opportunities for higher earnings through value addition, industrialisation, and employment creation;*

*CONCERNED that the continued export of unprocessed raw materials exacerbates that deficit, limit technology transfer, and hinder job creation and youth empowerment;*

*CONVINCED that effective regional cooperation in industrialisation, agro-processing, mineral processing, pharmaceutical, and manufacturing will strengthen the Community's economic resilience and competitiveness to take full advantage of the potential and the opportunities available through the AfCFTA;*

*AWARE that under Article 49 (2)(d) of the Treaty, the Assembly may discuss any matter pertaining to the Community and make recommendation to the Council;*

*NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Assembly as follows:*

*THAT in accordance with Articles 49 (2) (d), 79, 80 and 81 of the Treaty and Article 44 of the Common Market Protocol, the Assembly urges the Council of Ministers and the Partner States to:*

- a) Adopt and implement strategies to enhance industrialisation and value addition with clear guidelines, incentives, and performance benchmarks for Partner States to promote local processing and manufacturing;*
- b) Harmonise industrial and trade policies, fiscal incentives, and tariffs to facilitate regional value chain, encourage local content, and gradually phase out the export of unprocessed raw materials;*
- c) Fast track the establishment of regional industrial parks and special economic zones in strategic locations within the Community to support cross-border manufacturing initiatives, promote regional value*

*chain and attract investment under public-private partnership.”*

Mr Speaker, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Dr Aisha. Now you can justify your motion.

**Dr Nyiramana:** Thank you, Mr Speaker. This motion is well explained. I would like to only emphasise that we have all those policies, especially the Industrialisation Policy, 2012-2032, which is very relevant to providing an important foundation for cooperation in industrial development. Unfortunately, its implementation across the region has been slow, uneven, and fragmented.

Mr Speaker, this motion seeks to support the alignment of Partner States' industrial policies, strengthen intra-regional trade, enhance employment creation, and position the East African Community as a competitive, manufacturing and processing hub within the global economy.

Today, as we speak, East Africa Community Partner States continue to rely on the export of those unprocessed raw materials, as highlighted with all agricultural commodities. We can talk about some minerals and other primary products.

During our oversight of the mining policy, we have seen that mining activities have increased our GDP to between 5 to 7 per cent. However, as we speak today, these minerals are exported as raw materials. You can imagine if these minerals were processed, how our GDP would be increased.

This pattern of trade, Mr Speaker, results in substantial losses in potential revenue and missed employment opportunities, and also limits advancement across the region.

By prioritising value addition and regional industrialisation, the Community stands to transform its economy, create productive employment for youth and women, and strengthen intra-EAC trade, especially where I have talked about cross-border trade.

To fast-track these regional frameworks would promote regional specialisation, foster cross-border value chains, and encourage Partner States to trade amongst themselves, reducing the region's over-dependence on external markets. Talking about industrialisation, I would like to highlight here that it is not only an economic imperative, but also central to the transformation of East Africa from a supplier of raw materials into a producer of diversified and competitive finished goods.

Mr Speaker, EAC industrialisation is a critical pillar for achieving the EAC Vision, 2050, and the African Union Agenda, 2063, both of which envision a prosperous, self-reliant and globally competitive African continent. I beg to submit.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Dr Aisha. Honourable members, the motion on the Floor is that this Assembly do resolve to urge the Council of Ministers and Partner States to fast-track the adoption and implementation of regional industrialisation and value addition frameworks so as to reduce the export of raw materials.

The debate is open. We start with the seconder who is Hon. Sankok. You have the Floor.

2.58

**Mr David Ole Sankok (Kenya):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I stand to second this timely and extremely important motion. I start by thanking Hon. Dr Aisha Nyiramana, the Queen of the Global South, for such an important motion.

Mr Speaker, this motion is very timely and necessary. It will jumpstart the economy of East Africa. It is all about industrialisation. For a long time we have been importing finished products and exporting raw materials. What does an industry or a factory need for us to be able to have it here in East Africa? It needs five factors of production. One is land. Of course, the East African Community economic bloc is blessed with 1.4 billion acres of land, so in terms of land, we have in abundance.

Our days and nights are almost equal, so there is no need for a lot of electricity unlike countries that are near the North Pole, which sometimes experience darkness for months. In our case, the days and nights are the same. Mr Speaker, we do not have extreme temperatures because ours is a tropical environment or climate.

Mr Speaker, the second thing that industries and factories need to thrive is raw materials. Honourable members are aware that in terms of raw materials, we lead as a continent, and as the East African Community economic bloc. We have leather, coal, iron ore, *magadi* soda, timber, cotton, and underground resources. We have the largest and the second-largest water towers in Africa. We have forests, so timber is abundant.

Mr Speaker, the third factor of production in industries and factories is labour. It is only Africa that exports labour just the way others export finished products. In the production of labourers, we lead and the rest follow. Japan produced Toyota, Mercedes is made in Germany, Land Rover is made in UK, Hummer is made in USA, phones maybe in China, robots in India. In Africa, we produce kids in large numbers, that is why we export labour. In terms of labour, as a factor of production in industries and factories, we have in abundance.

Mr Speaker, the fourth need for factories, as a factor of production, is a source of power. The East African Community economic bloc is blessed with geothermal electric power. We are blessed with solar because we are in a tropical climate. We are also blessed with the longest river in the world, that is River Nile. We are also blessed with the seventh largest river in the world in terms of water volume, that is the River Congo. We are blessed with several rivers that can help us produce hydroelectric power. In terms of the source of power, we have.

The fifth need for a factory or an industry is the market and its access. Mr Speaker, East Africa is a potential market bigger than the USA because we have 350 million citizens. The United States of America only has 330 million, so we are bigger in terms of market. Africa has 1.6 billion citizens, and we can literally access the whole of Africa.

Mr Speaker, for the market of our factory products, the East African economic bloc is sandwiched between the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Aden, and Atlantic Ocean.

Meaning, through the Indian Ocean we can do business with the far East, that is Japan, China, India and all those countries. Through the Gulf of Aden, we can do business with the Middle East and through the Suez Canal, we can do business with Europe. Through the Atlantic Ocean in the Americas, we can do business with North America and South America. Literally, we are strategically placed as an economic bloc to be able to do business with the world. We have 6,500 kilometres of coastline.

Mr Speaker, any factory that operates in Kisumu can be able to use water transport to transport goods that it has produced to Juba, 3,900 kilometres. We can access the market.

Therefore, Mr Speaker, this motion is timely. Ban the exportation of raw materials. The moment we do that, all the world's biggest entrepreneurs and financial magnets will run to East Africa and grab the opportunity of setting up factories. We urge the Council of Ministers to make the environment friendly for the investors to come and invest in factories.

A case in point is in Rwanda, where there are economic zones, special economic zones and industrial parks where you are given land free of charge with all the necessary infrastructure and social amenities and you set up your factory or industry on condition that you employ a number of Rwandans. We can copy-paste that one across the East African Community eight Member States, so that we attract investors.

The moment we do that, even if we have given land free of charge and we have

constructed infrastructure, we will get employment. Our young population will no longer be involved in demonstrations. Instead, they will be involved in innovation and production of products that we will sell to the whole world. Our governments will earn through Pay As You Earn taxes and Value-Addition Taxes, and circulation of money will also be within our economy, Mr Speaker.

Lastly, as I support the motion, I give an example of the leather industry. What do we need in the leather industry? The raw material, we slaughter more than 90 million cows, that is cattle, here in the East African economic bloc annually. Unfortunately, we import more than 100 million pairs of shoes into this. Instead of becoming net exporters, because we have the ability to produce more than 400 million pairs of shoes, we are importing more than 100 million pairs of shoes. Instead of becoming net exporters, we are becoming net importers. Mr Speaker, our parents used to use leather jackets and produce leather shoes. I do not know where the rain started beating us.

Timber; again, for you to set up a factory of timber, you require a hammer, a saw, and clamp, things that can cost literally not more than \$300 or \$400 and you have a timber factory that can manufacture furniture, Mr Speaker. Unfortunately, we import furniture from Dubai, a desert, and from Qatar, a tiny desert peninsula, while we have the Congo Forest and the Mau Forest. What a shame!

Therefore, this motion is very timely, and I stand to second it. Thank you, Mr Speaker. I submit.*(Interruption of debate)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Sankok. Before we proceed with the Members who want to contribute, let us welcome other VIPs in our gallery. They are from the Kenyan Parliament, Communication Department. We have:

1. Mr Leonard Nyapere, Public Communication Officer – Team Leader. Where is he? Oh, there he is. (*Applause*) Thank you.
2. Mr Erastus Lotuk
3. Ms Lillian Aluga Ebosso
4. Ms Lilly Cherotich
5. Ms Naomi Onsomu
6. Ms Sally Nduta Ngugi
7. Mr Nicolas Muturi Okemwa
8. Ms Carolyn Chepkemboi
9. Mr Harwin Mwendwa
10. Mr Phillip Obara Onkundi
11. Mr Dale Onserio

You are welcome. *Karibu. (Applause)*  
(*Resumption of debate*)

We will now take down the names of those Members who would like to contribute. Clerk, please get the list. On the right hand, we have three; Hon. Mathias, Hon. Kanini Kega and Hon. Clement. On the left, we have Hon. Gladness. Are you following? There are two others. We will start with the left side. Hon. Ndangiza, you have the Floor. Where are you? (*Laughter*)

3.11

**Amb. Fatuma Nyirakobwa Ndangiza (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. At the onset, I would like to start by thanking Hon. Dr Aisha for moving this timely and important motion, urging the Council of Ministers and Partner States to fast-track the adoption and implementation of regional industrialisation and value

addition framework to reduce the export of raw materials.

This is a very important motion and I wish our ministers were here. We are talking about the backbone of regional integration because regional integration within the East African Community is mainly about trade. We have other key pillars but the key pillars that affect the ordinary citizen is the Customs Union, the Common Market Protocol and the Monetary Union. Political federation is an enabler, but trade is the heartbeat of regional integration.

When we talk about trade, Mr Speaker, we need to conduct trade that has value. For us to have trade that improves the lives of citizens in East Africa, improves our growth, improves the quality of lives and creates jobs for our people, we need to invest in industrialisation. The East African Community does not lack regional frameworks. In the motion, it is very clear. We have an EAC Industrialisation Policy, 2012-2032. We have a strategy. I am sure there could even be some related laws, but the challenge has been implementation.

For me, the biggest challenge as to why we are not implementing the industrialisation policy at different levels in all our Partner States is simply because of our mindset. We need to invest in the manufacturing sector. At the end of the day, the moment you industrialise, you should add value to your products, so that rather than exporting cotton or coffee as a raw material, you expect cloth that is finished.

We all know that a cloth that is finished will fetch more dollars than we get when we export cotton to an external market that we cannot even control. We also know that

there is also variation and fluctuation in the prices but the challenge has been the market. Many of our citizens, including even here –

When you look at us, Mr Speaker, the men are wearing suits and the ladies are wearing dresses. Very few of these items are made in East Africa. You go to a shop and before you buy a shirt or a dress, you say, “Where is it made? Is it made in Italy or where?” If they tell you it is made in Uganda, you are already suspicious about the quality.

For us ladies who buy leather – Hon. Sankok was talking about leather and its importance. You can imagine the hides and skins. I do not know how much it fetches in Maasai land, but if we were to transform that and you have a nice leather bag, the least it will go for is from \$200 and above. We know that when you go to Ethiopia, they have invested in the leather industry. Why can’t we invest in our very products? We do not lack the people to do it, but the challenge is the mindset.

As East Africans, especially the representatives of the people, we need to raise awareness that we should love goods, services and products made from East Africa, so that we promote East African products. “Made in East Africa” should be our brand and we have to lead by example.

Mr Speaker, I want to support the motion. Let us raise awareness. Let us invest in innovation research. Let us invest in industrialisation. Let us harmonise our policies as East Africans, so that in the EAC market, we move from 15 per cent current in Intra-EAC trade to 60 per cent like Europe. We have goods to take to the

African Continental Free Trade Area. It is a market of 1.4 billion, but what are we taking there? Are we just taking raw coffee and tea there?

That is the rationale for industrialisation. It is the only way we can reach a middle-income Community in 2035, as envisaged in our Vision 2050. With those remarks, I support the motion and urge all of us to support the motion. Thank you. (*Applause*)

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Ndangiza. As I said, we started from the left side. We will now have Hon. Gatpan, Hon. Caroline, Hon. Dr Gladness, then we will go to Hon. Kanini Kega, Hon. Clement and Hon. Amb. Matthew. Hon. Gatpan, you have the Floor.

3.12

**Mr Gideon Gatpan Thoar (South Sudan):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for the opportunity. I would like to appreciate my colleague, Hon. Dr Aisha, for this timely motion. I support it and have a few contributions to make.

The motion is highly self-explanatory, based on the context that we are in as the East African Community. Our region currently has a challenge of low contribution by the manufacturing sector to the GDP of the East African Community. That is a big challenge for us because the bottom line of our integration is to bring services and employment to our growing population of the East African Community. With that sector underperforming, we are not likely going to enjoy and experience the benefits of our regional integration.

Mr Speaker, for example, in 2023, other sectors of the EAC economy

were somehow far much better than the manufacturing sector. Our youths are currently seeking jobs abroad. That is a primary indicator of how we are underperforming in the manufacturing sector because it is this sector that provides better employment in our region. So, it is highly recommended that the Council of Ministers of the East African Community fast-tracks the implementation of the EAC Industrialisation Policy 2012-2032.

As an Assembly, I think it is high time that we also try to develop interest in designing and implementing oversight activities about the achievement made so far on the strategy and policy itself. This is because sometimes, we know in this Parliament that we pass laws; either they are not assented to quickly and they are overtaken by events or we make resolutions and have policies that are redundant and do not provide the purpose for which they were developed. It is good that we also scrutinise how far we have gone with the implementation of this and this motion is a wakeup call for us to focus towards that direction.

Mr Speaker, as I support the motion, I would also like to add one word to the title, where you have “adapting”. I think it is “adoption and implementation”. If you can allow that correction, that would be good. I support the motion and beg to submit. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Gideon. The next speaker has the Floor.

3.20

**Ms Caroline Rwivanga Kayonga (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to support the

motion by my dear sister, Hon. Dr Aisha, for a resolution of this Assembly to urge the Council of Ministers and Partner States to fast-track the adopting and implementation of regional industrialisation and value addition frameworks.

Mr Speaker, our mover and seconder said very eloquently that as it stands today, we overly rely on the export of raw materials which not only limits our economic growth, but also deprives us of valuable benefits that come from industrialising and adding value to our resources.

By promoting the processing of our exports within our region, we can create jobs, foster innovation and drive sustainable economic growth. To achieve this, however, our Partner States need to adopt several collaborative strategies, including, among others, joint infrastructure projects. By doing this, we can enhance connectivity and lower production costs, making our industries competitive. I know we are already engaged in a number of joint infrastructure projects in roads, railways and energy, but I think they are not moving as quickly as we need them to move.

We also need harmonised policies and regulations to simplify cross-border operations and encourage investment and operational efficiency within our regional markets. We will soon have the Standardisation Bill here. I can see members of the CTI Committee are busy with that Bill that will help us in that direction.

We also need to reduce tariffs and Non-Tariff Barriers. We have been talking about Non-Tariff Barriers, which are endless. By removing these Non-Tariff Barriers, we

would be able to promote intra-regional trade and facilitate market access for both the raw materials and finished products.

We need to promote Public-Private Partnerships, Small and Medium Enterprises and all these things. There are different pockets that would drive us towards this initiative. So, all those collaborative strategies should be adopted to enable us to transform our raw materials into high value-added products, ultimately benefiting our citizens and our economies. To conclude, I urge my fellow Members to support this resolution. By adopting these frameworks, we will not only boost our economies, but we will also ensure that our region is resilient against global market fluctuations.

Mr Speaker, I beg submit.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Caroline.

The next is Hon. Dr Gladness. You have the Floor.

3.23

**Dr Gladness Ladislaus Salema (Tanzania):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. I also second the motion and congratulate Dr Aisha and the seconder, Hon. Sankok, for putting it very clearly and giving very strong justifications as to why we need this one. I will say how I think this motion is going to help us. It is actually going to unlock the invisible potential that we have, as far as our regional value chains are concerned.

As of now, if we ask ourselves here whether there is someone who can be able to identify a very clear competitive regional value chain, it might be very difficult. This is because we do not have

a fully established chain; we have raw materials and we export them as raw materials. Actually, our value chains are not full or complete for us to experience the economic gains that we expect.

That is why as it is now, we are still talking about poverty reduction. I hope this motion will be executed. I am very happy to see the word “implementation” because our problems are not on having the documents; that is not our problem at all. The problem is the execution of whatever that we have.

If it is executed, we will change from poverty reduction perspectives to wealth creation perspectives because when we export raw materials, it means we are going to support the creation of wealth somewhere else. We are going to buy the finished products from our own raw materials at a higher price. So, poverty reduction will continue in the EAC if we are not going to execute these kinds of very important strategic frameworks.

I also see the potential in this particular motion. As it is now, most of our countries, that is the Partner States, actually invested in infrastructure; basically, the logistics are in infrastructure – thank you so much, Hon. Caroline, for bringing it on board – but we do not have the goods to transport. We have the railway, and we are still developing it, but where are the goods to transport?

If we are not going to have these kinds of frameworks executed, we will remain with infrastructure which will support mobility of people, but that is not going to pay. We are not going to enjoy the benefits. The returns on investment will be for life. So, if we want to enjoy quick

returns on investment in this particular infrastructure, we must have these kinds of frameworks executed. We should not be late; it has to be fast because we already have the infrastructure but we do not have the goods.

I am very happy to have this kind of motion in our midst because it is going to unlock the potential from infrastructural development. If we execute this, we will definitely have more industries. We will also have more of our manufacturing companies. But at the end of the day, as we talk about technological development today, this will stimulate our Community to develop home-based tech solutions.

Mr Speaker, when we talk about home-based tech solutions, we are talking about employment opportunities for our youth because most of the youth are actually in the technology industry. We should see the multiplier effect of having this particular framework being executed. It will also stimulate technology transfer between Partner States.

At the same time, if we are smart enough to prioritise, given our competitive and comparative advantages, it means that we will be able to have specialisation in our countries. It is not every time that we must be competitors because we are in the market. We will reach a point where we know this is a main distributor or main manufacturer of these particular items. We will all be happy because they have a competitive and comparative advantage compared to other countries. So, I see that this is also an opportunity to have the integration in reality.

I support the motion and I congratulate Dr Aisha. Thank you. (*Applause*)

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Dr Gladness. I will now give the Floor to Hon. Kanini Kega.

3.29

**Mr James Mathenge Kanini Kega:** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to contribute to this very important motion by my good friend Dr Aisha. Again, Mr Speaker, I am lamenting about why the Council of Ministers is not here. However, I am hoping that they are online to follow, see and hear what the Members are talking about.

What are the economic activities that our people in East Africa engage in? It is mostly agriculture; they are good farmers while others are fishermen; and they wake up very early in the morning to go to till their farms. At the end of the day, they usually get very good bumper harvests. However, what happens to the bumper harvest? Over 60 per cent of all the food items that we get from our fields goes to waste – 60 per cent.

But our farmers are good that even with that, the following season, they still go back to those farms, till the land and get another 60 per cent losses. How can we prevent the 60 per cent losses? It is just simple value addition on our farm produce that increases the lifespan of that particular product like potatoes, the fruits that we have, coffee and tea.

Mr Speaker, we fail our people all the time. Despite them being hard workers, we have betrayed them because every other

day they look forward to the governments creating an enabling environment for industrialisation.

What is the percentage of the contribution of industries to the GDPs of our individual countries? In Kenya, for example, it is barely seven, going to 8 per cent of the GDP. We have always been looking forward to 15 per cent. We are saying that we want to move from the third world to go to first world, yet we are not manufacturing.

We are just exporting; we are even importing toothpicks from China and the rest of everywhere. We are now exporting everything, including our youths. We are exporting labour to other countries. Mr Speaker, we must be serious and live to the oath that we undertook to make sure that we move our people from down there to up there, and it can only be done through practical examples.

How do we also industrialise? We do not have enough energy. Most of the countries do not generate enough energy and even the one that is generated is very expensive. God has been gracious to us; we are in the tropics where there is a lot of sun, wind, water and geothermal, but we are not exploiting the cheap power. We need cheap power to drive these industries.

For example, in Kenya, we are now generating 3,000 megawatts against a demand of 10,000 megawatts. Countries like Egypt and South Africa are at 40,000 megawatts but Kenya, I believe, is one of the leading countries at 3,000 megawatts. We need to be serious and ask our ministers to also make sure that whatever we pass here is also implemented.

Mr Speaker, we have very good coffee and tea in our countries, but if you go to the international market, you will not find Uganda coffee written as “Uganda coffee”, “Rwanda coffee” or “Kenyan coffee”. You find that somebody came here, bought the tea or that coffee, branded that coffee and gave it a name - a very sweet name. In fact, our products are now being used to brand and improve other products elsewhere because we are not adding value to those products here.

As I conclude, we have to walk the talk. We have to have practical resolutions and also make sure that we hold our ministers accountable for whatever we pass here. We make sure that we follow through, to make sure that those things are actually implemented. I look forward to a time when we will have cottage industries literally in each and every village. Instead of exporting our youths to go and work as casual labourers elsewhere in the Arab world and other countries, we should have those youths working in our industries in our countries, and that is the proper empowerment. That is the time when we will now be working for our people.

With those few remarks, Mr Speaker, I humbly submit and say that I support this very critical motion. Thank you. *(Applause)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Next is Hon. Clement.

3.35

**Mr Clement Musangabatware (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to debate this motion moved by Dr Aisha Nyiramana and seconded by Dr David Ole Sankok.

This motion is for a resolution of the Assembly, urging the Council of Ministers and Partner States to fast-track the adopting and implementing of the regional industrialisation and value addition frameworks to reduce the export of raw materials.

Mr Speaker and honourable members, the industrial sector in our region is facing a number of challenges, just to mention a few; lack of necessary infrastructure and no reliable electricity. Even when electricity is available, it is very expensive. There are poor transport networks; we do not have reliable roads and enough bridges to connect communities. There are no storage facilities; limited funds and technology, among others. These are reasons behind the exportation of raw materials from our Community.

I want to talk about the issue of limited access to finance and technology as well. To face this challenge of exporting raw materials, I support the idea of establishing regional financing and technology support mechanisms by creating regional funds and guarantee schemes. It will facilitate access to capital, promote research, and technology transfer agreements between developed and developing countries.

With these few remarks, I declare once again that I support this motion and congratulate Dr. Aisha Nyiramana and the seconder, Dr David Ole Sankok again. *(Applause)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Clement. The last one will be Ambassador Mathias.

3.37

**Amb. Dr Mathias Harebamungu (Rwanda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to support the motion moved by my sister, Hon. Aisha Nyiramana and seconded by my brother, Hon. Ole Sankok. This motion is like a warm-up for our bloc. It wants us to capture our economic value. We know that Partner States within the EAC are exporting a big fraction of our raw materials and we are surrendering almost 80 to 90 per cent of profits to regions that process these goods. This has to stop. We should not go endlessly in this direction of exploiting our countries. Mr Speaker, with value addition to coffee, minerals, and other agricultural products, we will be creating employment across all skill levels from factory workers to engineers and managers.

With the EAC's young and rapidly growing population, industrialisation provides productive employment opportunities that raw materials' extraction simply cannot deliver at scale. As East African Community, we need to build long-term competitiveness.

Honourable brothers and sisters, we all agree that technology transfer, skills development and innovation never accompany raw materials' exports. Through this policy, as East Africans, we have to strengthen our regional integration through coordinated industrial frameworks. It is important to encourage cross-border value chains where countries will specialise in different production stages, deepening economic interdependence and making the Common Market genuinely functional.

Finally, Mr Speaker, an urgent factor. Other regions are rapidly industrialising. With delays, EAC misses its opportunity to claim a meaningful position globally and it is potentially locking itself into a permanent raw material supplier status.

I support this motion and I beg to submit. Thank you, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mathias. Now, the mover, you have the Floor.

**Mr Makame Mr Kennedy Aysason Mukulia (South Sudan):** Procedure, Mr Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Honourable Members, you should be here on time so that when you are registering and we are making this list, you are among them. Once we have closed, you should not come and say, please, I need to contribute. It is good but it disturbs our order. I give you the Floor.

3.43

**Mr Kennedy Aysason Mukulia (South Sudan):** Yes, thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I was here when the plenary started but I did not want to interrupt the course of discussion of the motion because of the importance it has and the fact that when one comes up, it might interrupt what persons have prepared.

If accepted, my aim is to make a few amendments to the motion. On the onset, I support the motion but I just want to make an amendment based on Rule 31(3) of our Rules of Procedure.

Mr Speaker, Rule 31(3) speaks to amendments to a motion or during debate of a motion. If you look at the motion,

it was well put but I just want to amend the word “adopting” because we have under paragraph four that we recognise that the Council of Ministers already adopted the East African Industrialisation Policy Framework (2021 to 2032). If you read that industrialisation policy that includes SMSE development, it has policy interventions. What is now remaining is fast-tracking the implementation of that policy by the Partner States.

Therefore, we should look at how Partner States implement that industrialisation policy (2021 to 2032), which was already adopted by the Council of Ministers. If we ask for another adoption then we will be duplicating what Council has already done. That is the kind of amendment that I would like to move because it has almost 10 implementation policies and interventions that are in that policy.

Thank you so much, Mr Speaker. In principle, I support. That is the amendment I want to make.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Dr Aisha, are you taking the amendment? You have the floor.

3.44

**Dr Aisha Nyiramana (Republic of Rwanda):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, for giving me this opportunity again. I would like, first of all, to recognise a review which has been made, first of all, by Hon. Makame where he was informing us that the policy and the strategic implementation had been done in the same period.

Secondly, he was also proposing that instead of only highlighting the African Continental Free Trade Area, we have

also to recognise the efforts which have been done by the EAC-SADC-COMESA Tripartite for this kind of activity on market access of goods manufactured within the Community.

Lastly, for the resolution, I have been asking about the regional industrial park and special economic zones. Maybe we are going to verify how it is highlighted properly in the Custom Union. If it is the same then we are going to amend that information.

I would also like to recognise the amendment given by Hon. Mukulia but also, there has been a kind of review by Hon. Gideon. Then you are going to accept the amendment and not say adoption, rather implementation.

Mr Speaker, I would like to appreciate honourable members for their contributions to this motion. It seems that it is a good motion where we need to make oversight and this is our role. I think doing oversight of all the protocols – the Common Market Protocol and the Customs Union Protocol – we can see where we are fast-tracking all those recommendations which are given in this House.

I would like to recognise Members for their support but also their contributions, especially where we were talking about the fund. This was the submission from Hon. Clement where he was proposing a fund. I really support this because those kinds of industries are really very expensive. If we have a fund which can help – but also infrastructure which is needed, especially energy.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the honourable Members, especially the seconder, Hon. Ole Sankok for his contribution, Hon. Fatuma Ndangiza, Hon. Gideon, Hon. Caroline, Hon. Gladness, Hon. Kanini Kega, Hon. Clement, Hon. Ambassador Mathias, and lastly, Hon. Mukulia, and Hon. Dr Makame.

Mr Speaker, I beg to submit, and this motion must be accepted as amended. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** It is now time for us to put the question. I now put the question that this Assembly do resolve to urge the Council of Ministers and Partner States to fast-track the implementation of the regional industrialisation and value addition frameworks to reduce the export of raw materials.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

*Motion adopted*

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF  
THE ASSEMBLY TO REGISTER  
ITS CONGRATULATIONS TO HER  
EXCELLENCY SAMIA SULUHU  
HASSAN FOLLOWING HER  
ELECTION AS THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF  
TANZANIA

*(Debate Interrupted on Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup>  
November 2025 by way of Motion)*

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, this Motion was moved yesterday by Hon. Jacqueline and seconded. However, the process was interrupted because we needed more time to debate it. I give the Floor again to the mover so that she can continue

with the justification, and after that, I will open the debate. For your information, the seconders is Hon. Dr Makame . I can also see Hon. David ole Sankok. Oh, you have two seconders; Hon. Dr Makame and Hon. Sankok.

Hon. Jacqueline, you have the Floor.

3.51

**Ms Jacqueline Amongin (Uganda):**

Thank you so much, Mr Speaker. I commend the honourable members who have allowed me to continue with the debate on a motion for a resolution of the Assembly to register its congratulatory message to Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan following her service in the United Republic of Tanzania and her re-election as the President of the republic thereafter.

Mr Speaker, yesterday I had almost completed the justification, but Members preferred that this motion be deferred to today so that they can have ample time to debate about Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Mr Speaker, I would like to say that I am a daughter of a woman, just like any of you, and having seen Samia Suluhu, the President, rising to the position of the presidency, to me, as a young - I wouldn't say I am still young. According to the African Union standards and Ugandan standards, I have surpassed that stage. I think I am actually in the mornings of my - but I would like to state that when such people rise to positions of responsibility, especially up to the helm like what the President of the United Republic of Tanzania has done, she inspires so many young people out there who would actually feel proud that at one time - and

keep hope alive that they can get to the top at the same time.

So, Mr Speaker, I will definitely come to justify this motion, but I beg to move again that this House congratulates Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan following her re-election as the President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Mr Speaker and honourable members, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** You can proceed.

**Ms Amongin:** Thank you so much, Mr Speaker. Yesterday, I really spoke highly of the lady, and first of all, I want to declare my interest. I am sure that if I met Her Excellency Suluhu, she may not even recognise me, but know that I am one of those people who admire that lady. After the communication of the Speaker yesterday congratulating her, I felt that it was not just enough for the Speaker to congratulate, which was very positive, but for the whole House to congratulate a lady among the eight leaders that we have as leaders of the Summit of the EAC. She is the only lady among the eight leaders, and I think she deserves a big applause. I am very proud of that lady.

Mr Speaker, I know that a journey of a thousand miles starts with the first step. When you look at the biography of the lady I am speaking about, the mother I am proud of, one of the ladies of this soil, she has not just assumed that office from nowhere. She has served in different portfolios, from local governments to serving as a minister, to serving as the vice president of the same republic and eventually acceding to office as the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Therefore, as she is elected to serve for the second time in the same country, I think that is something that is very encouraging, not only for the people of the United Republic of Tanzania but also for the people whom she mentors when she does not even know them, like me. This is a position that I would never want to contest for because I know how tedious it is.

I am also aware that Her Excellency Suluhu is a mother, a wife, a gender activist, and she is the president. She is serving in all those portfolios without anybody complaining and without running short in the positions that she holds as the president, a wife at home, and also as a mother to her children.

I am actually overwhelmed to know that one of the daughters of the President is a Member of Parliament, and as we speak, I think that lady is not looking at her mother - people call her the president, for her, she calls her a mother. You can imagine that.

When I looked at the age of that Member of Parliament from the United Republic of Tanzania, I was happy because she is almost my age mate, meaning that she is an acute woman at home. You cannot become a Member of Parliament if you are just a simple woman. That is why I am proud of my mother, even as I debate here, because by the time I came to this Parliament in my twenties, it was about the upbringing that she put in me. Therefore, we cannot underrate the achievements of one of the greatest women we have on the soil of Africa, Suluhu Samia Hassan.

In our local language - if I were in Uganda right now campaigning - because I am in the field and I am actually managing

some campaigns on another side of the region - I would say *tumpigie makofi*. In Luganda, if I want to say, let us clap for her, I would say, *tumukubire ngalo*. I know it is unparliamentary in our rules to speak any other local language, but that is on a positive note, Mr Speaker.

The lady I am talking about is a lady like no other, especially in the East African region. From the time God created heaven and earth, I do not think we have ever had a president of the gender of a woman in eastern Africa, but as we speak, we have one. We have Suluhu Samia, who has steered the United Republic of Tanzania for the last five years effectively. This is the lady I am talking about, and this is the lady we are proud of as East Africans.

Mr Speaker, this congratulatory message is called for as the people who sit in the regional assembly where the same lady, Her Excellency Suluhu happens to be serving. She is also among the eight members of the Summit of Heads of State who determine the affairs of the region of East Africa.

Therefore, honourable members, I stand before you to call upon you to join me and join efforts in ensuring that appreciation is given to those who deserve it. I can assure you that she is one of the most deserving in eastern Africa.

I come from a traditional community in the eastern part of Uganda, and I come from a fishing village. In our fishing villages, young girls go into marriage because people are looking at bride price, most especially at ages before 18 years. However, I commend my president, because he has been a very outspoken

member in terms of ensuring enrolment and retention for all at school, including those girls, by providing Universal Primary Education as the Government of Uganda.

I can assure you that it is not an easy game because in vulnerable communities like where I come from, a girl is seen as a bride price. They do not anticipate that at any one time, a girl can be the president. Now, imagine Suluhu Samia from her background, she starts slowly, and today she is one of those at the top.

When you go to the Heads of States Summit, you will see all people matching in suits, trousers and jackets, but at least Suluhu will come in a Kitenge like the one I am putting on, and you will be proud that yes, at least we have one woman president. You people, this is the lady I am talking about here. I am sure that a girl from a village like mine seeing Suluhu on TV – it is very overwhelming.

Mr Speaker, it is on that background that I stand here, on a positive note, to congratulate the lady whose journey did not just start yesterday in the elections of Tanzania, but a long time ago, when she was still a child. That is the lady who is now the elected President of the United Republic of Tanzania; an advocate for gender equity and an all-around mother, because, despite being the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, she is also serving as a very good example for all of us across the continent. Like I told you yesterday, from the time I was born - I will not declare my age, but it is known in the records of Parliament.

From the time I was born, I can attest to you that the only women presidents I have heard of are three. I have heard of Johnson Sirleaf from West Africa, and I personally met her, and she looked very – she has been blessed by age now. I also met Joyce Banda of Malawi in Southern Africa.

Now, you cannot tell me that we have had a president in North Africa. We are talking about the five RECs of the African Union but at least as the East African region which is serving by example because the regional economic community of East Africa is setting a very good example to the rest of the RECs in Africa in terms of governance and deliverance, I think having a lady at the helm is more accorded to this REC than any other REC within the African Union. That is the reason I stand here to say, congratulations, Mama Suluhu Samia Hassan.

Being a Member of Parliament, you go through a lot of challenges. I became a Member of Parliament when I was in my 20s, and I faced so many challenges serving different people with different expectations and interests. At the same time, you are a lady whereby men are looking, and saying, “Why is she there alone? She should come down.” Those challenges are expected, but if you manage to hustle through all those hurdles and you reach the top, and you are called Madam President, oh my God, that is a great achievement.

To the United Republic of Tanzania, despite all, I congratulate the people of Tanzania for the trust they have accorded to this great lady for the past five years. I would like to call upon all of us, as East Africans and as Africans, to accord her the necessary support she requires to continue

serving the United Republic of Tanzania with peace and tranquillity.

Mr Speaker and honourable members, I beg to move that we congratulate the President, the inspiration of the people of Africa, the exemplary woman at the helm amongst men, Her Excellency Suluhu Samia Hassan today as we sit as Members in this legislative assembly at this time when Suluhu was and is a president within the East African region. Mr Speaker and honourable members, I beg to move.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Amongin. Before giving the Floor to the Members who want to contribute, we will start with the seconders, Hon. Sankok and then Hon. Makame.

Honourable members, before you contribute, I have to propose the question which is that this Assembly do resolve to register its congratulations - and I repeat congratulations - to Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan upon her election as President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Debate is open. You have the Floor.

4.08

**Mr David Ole Sankok (Kenya):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, for giving me this singular honour to congratulate a very powerful woman, a leader and a Pan-Africanist who is leading the United Republic of Tanzania.

Mr Speaker, we are all proud of her. And we are proud of the citizens of the United Republic of Tanzania for giving an opportunity to a female president to lead them now for the second time.

Mr Speaker, even though we have had other African countries, Burundi had an acting female president. South Africa also had an acting female president. Liberia had a substantive female president. Gabon had an interim president who served for three months, that is, Rose, and then Mauritius also had an acting female president for three months. Now, in the United Republic of Tanzania, we are having a substantive female president for the second term. So, we congratulate not only Her Excellency, Samia Suluhu Hassan, but also the citizens of the Republic of United Republic of Tanzania.

Mr Speaker, we celebrate her, especially in terms of education; her CV is very rich. It is unmatched. A learned female president. Her family background or her family CV is truly African. We have followed her and seen her family upbringing, and we can say we are proud, as Africans, to have her as a female president during our time because she is a role model to our daughters, a role model to our wives, and a role model to our mothers.

Mr Speaker, we had the EAC Observation Mission, which gave a preliminary report that we totally support, although we have to recognise that the EAC has four pillars.

The first pillar is the Customs Union and Common Market, which, to some extent, has been implemented. The Political Union and the Monetary Union pillars have not yet been implemented. The eight member states of EAC are sovereign nations and must be respected.

Mr Speaker, we have had incidents where member states try to infringe on the sovereignty of one of the member states.

Until we implement the Political Union pillar and have one federal or confederal government, we still have our borders, we still have our customs to go through, and we still have our sovereignty as individual states, which must be respected.

So, we must call upon the citizens; the 350 million citizens of the East African Community, to respect the sovereignty of individual countries by not exporting their Constitution or their behaviour from one country to another. I must say this one without fear of contradiction that it is high time we re-examined the issue of civil societies so that they do not turn into evil societies, Mr Speaker.

We must re-examine and have civil societies that are fully sponsored by the East African states to speak on behalf of East Africa. But if the civil societies are fully sponsored by foreign masters, we must reject them. They must speak on behalf of their paymaster. They must speak on behalf of the hands that feed them.

The problem we have is that through evil societies, whose paymasters are foreign, bringing political, socio-economic, and neo-colonialism into our countries. We support civil societies if they are civilised to speak on behalf of those who sponsor them.

Mr Speaker, our citizens can sponsor our civil societies to speak on the civil and human rights on our behalf. But when civil societies are fully sponsored by foreigners, Mr Speaker, that is when we have ideas penetrating our cultures and traditions like LGBTQ. This is because the hand that feeds them will instruct them on what to

do, and they cannot bite the hand that is feeding them.

Therefore, Speaker, for me and from this House, it is high time we came up with legislation guiding civil societies.

Lastly, Mr Speaker, I want to congratulate Hon. Amongin - she is also a lady of virtue, and she has brought this motion. Thank you.

This motion is very important. She has also achieved to some level. She is the Queen of the Pearl of Africa. I know she is the Secretary General of the NRM Women's League. She has been the President of the Student Association of Uganda. She has also become a minister at Makerere University and an MP in this House for two terms. That is in the 10th and 9th parliaments. Mr Speaker, this lady also deserves our applause.

With those many remarks, congratulations to Her Excellency, Samia Suluhu Hassan. *Kwa kweli tuko na suluhu ya Afrika Mashariki.* Thank you very much, Mr Speaker. I support the motion.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Sankok. Now, let us listen to Hon. Dr Makame.

4.15

**Dr Abdulla Hasnuu Makame (Tanzania):** Thank you very much, Mr Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to add my voice to this very important motion that has been brought to this House by my honourable sister, whom the last speaker described very well, and that is Hon. Amongin, who is also the champion of climate change; he forgot that one - the

queen of the Pearl of Africa. And it is a topical motion to commend a member of the EAC Summit for being elected to office, for gaining confidence and trust from the voters in the universal adult suffrage.

However, Mr Speaker, I must confess here, and I must admit that adding a voice after these two have spoken is a bit challenging. But nonetheless, there are some matters I have to address relating to Her Excellency, Samia Suluhu Hassan, who is the sixth president of the United Republic of Tanzania, the first female president of the United Republic of Tanzania, and the first woman to assume membership in the EAC summit, so far.

As a member of the East African Legislative Assembly, and as a “He-for-She” champion, so by extension, I am an affiliated member of the women’s caucus. Mr Speaker, I am not sure why these lights have gone off, but the good thing is that when they went off, they left my voice.

So, as an affiliated member of the female caucus, on behalf also of our caucus, because not all of us in the female caucus will get the opportunity to add our voices here – I would like to register my congratulations, commendations, and felicitations to her Excellency, Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, whose journey to the presidency was not an easy task.

She rose from the very low levels in the structures of an organisation. She went through all the levels, in the technical and political terms, until the United Republic of Tanzania was considering constitutional amendments through a constitutional review; there was a constitutional review in Parliament. She was the deputy

chairperson of that constitutional review Parliament that was chaired by a political giant, who was once a Speaker in the National Assembly of Tanzania, the late Samuel John Sitta.

Mr Speaker, throughout her career, wherever she passed, she was like *Midas*. I am not sure if most of us have heard the story of *Midas*. *Midas* is like - even though there was a song about *Midas* that “*I have got the Midas touch. Everything I touch turns into gold...*” So, she has that automatic touch. Wherever she goes and where she serves, she leaves a positive mark.

She was fortunate to be the Vice President of the fifth President of the United Republic of Tanzania, the late John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, who trusted her through, of course, the party of Chama Cha Mapinduzi.

She was a very good assistant to President Magufuli. And upon the passing of President Magufuli, five months after being re-elected into office as per the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, she had to assume the office of the presidency.

However, there was a lot that President Magufuli had promised to deliver to the people of Tanzania, especially mega strategic projects. Allow me to name just two, Mr Speaker. One is the Standard Gauge Railway project. That is the electric Standard Gauge Railway, which was just a bare scratch of its beginning. Now, it operates and has frequent operations between Dodoma and Dar es Salaam, and it has reached way beyond Dodoma. And there are signatures to undertake the

railway to the neighbouring countries, namely the Republic of Burundi, the Republic of Rwanda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. They are all linked to this, and several memoranda of understanding have been signed, and the implementation to achieve that is ongoing at various implementation levels.

This is a very serious project that many people assumed was a joke when President Magufuli announced it, and never envisaged that President Samia Suluhu would oversee the implementation of such a project. But because of her zeal, commitment, and focus, that project is moving and is moving at a very good pace.

The other one, Mr Speaker, is the Nyerere Dam, the hydroelectric project, which is the largest dam of electricity in the region, producing more than 2,115 megawatts of electricity.

Mr Speaker, when that project was announced that it was going to be implemented, it was as though those were stories. In Kiswahili, we say the stories of *usadikika, hadithi za kusadikika*. But after long commitment and investment, and focus, the project is now on board and on course.

Mr Speaker, several other vivid projects have been undertaken by this lady, who is there because one of her attributes is that she can speak, because if you are a politician, you can speak. But she does not speak as much as she does or can deliver. So, she has more action than words; there is more delivery and that is Samia Suluhu.

She has, in the election manifesto, committed to furthering the country and

developing it further in such a way that clear marks will be left. Say, it is a legacy left behind, and she does not want only to leave projects and roads, infrastructure, hospitals, schools - all of those she is doing, but she said that she wants to also, upon the conclusion of her tenure, to leave the Tanzanians happy and smiling. And that will also extend to the region because we are one people; one destiny in the region.

Mr Speaker, as I said earlier, addressing myself to this motion after the submission of my sister, Hon. Amongin, Hon. David Ole Sankok, I would not like to speak much because I want to give room to other colleagues to also address the matter. Mr Speaker, I beg to submit. Thank you very much.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, seconder. Let us give the Floor to other members who want to contribute. We have Hon. James Kakooza and Hon. Saidi Kibeya. I think it is enough because everything has been spoken. Yes, Hon. Black?

**The Speaker:** The motion? Yes, you can move the motion. Hon. Black wants to move a motion.

4.26

**Dr Gerald Blacks Siranda (Uganda):** Mr Speaker, I am a member of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution. I was in the observer team. We have a report that will be laid before the Council and Summit. Having said that - you can see the mood in the House that this is a matter that we all support. Therefore, I move a motion for the closure of debate, Mr Speaker, under Rule 48. I pray that you pronounce the closure of this debate under Rule 48.

**The Speaker:** Is it seconded? Do you have a seconder?

**Mr Kakooza:** No.

**The Speaker:** No, if you have no seconder, let us proceed with the debate. We still have time.

**Dr Siranda:** Hon. Kakooza is not the Speaker.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Black –

**Dr Siranda:** Sorry, Mr Speaker, I stood –

4.27

**Mr James Kakooza (Uganda):** Procedure! I Mr Speaker, you are the custodian of these rules. Once a motion has been tabled and it has not been offloaded, someone cannot bring a motion.

**The Speaker:** Hon. Kakooza, I want to bring to your attention Article 48 on the closure of the debate, which says in (1) that after a question has been posed in the House or in the committee of the whole House, and debated, a member may move that the question be now put, unless it appears to the Speaker that the motion is an abuse of the rules of the House or an infringement on the rights of any member, the question that the question be now put, shall be put immediately, as we did yesterday, and decided without amendment and debate. In my opinion, we should proceed; we should continue debating. I give the Floor to Hon. Kakooza to contribute followed by Hon. Kebeya.

4.27

**Mr James Kakooza (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for that wise ruling

because the motion brought - this House had not started a debate. We were still on justifications. And really, to have such a motion subjected only to two people, I find it really a substantive motion, and so, really, the closure of debate is misplaced.

Mr Speaker, I want to add my voice to the voices of the previous speakers to congratulate Her Excellency, Samia Suluhu, and two, to congratulate the people of the United Republic of Tanzania, because to me, this is a tried, tested, and trusted leader.

To lose the leadership of a person and give the mandate – I am a believer in the continuity of leadership. Why am I saying so?

It is because globally, the benchmark of a leader is based on four pillars, and we call them PEST in the management of leadership.

One, what is the political agenda of that country? Two, what are the economic indicators of that country? Three, what is the social infrastructure of that country? Four, what are the new technologies or innovations of that country? The leader who was voted has passed the test. And such a person who has passed that test needs continuity for consistency and for the vision of that country.

As you have heard, my colleague, Dr Makame, has said that today, if you take a SWOT analysis - the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats of that country, I am telling you it is one of the best countries now performing better in the region. *(Applause)*

Dear colleagues, leadership, you can say it is simple, but for a person to manage a country without disruptions for five years and then get another term, is not a simple joke.

If you look at the maintenance of Tanzania's economy and how it is performing, you notice that it is moving very fast. Why? Because this lady took up a policy - when you look at the other countries in the region, you will realise that it is one of the countries with the lowest borrowing rate from funders such as the International Monetary Fund; it has the lowest. Managing an economy, using your internal revenues, and performing that way means you are an excellent leader.

I want to thank the people of Tanzania; they have a vision, and they elected a leader. The only thing I can say is that God bless Samia Suluhu to take the mantle of that country to another level. I thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Kakooza. Now, let us hear from Hon. Saidi Kibeya, and we will conclude.

4.33

**Dr Saidi Kibeya (Burundi):** Thank you, Mr Speaker, for allowing me to join my honourable colleagues in supporting the motion for this assembly to congratulate Her Excellency, Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, for her election in the Tanzanian general elections of 2025.

Mr Speaker, I got the opportunity to visit Zanzibar and went to places like Kizimkazi, where President Samia Suluhu Hassan was born.

For sure, coming from places like these where people are struggling in fisheries, struggling with agriculture using soils that are highly eroded - she is aware of key challenges that are facing our people, whether in Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, DRC, and in other countries like Uganda, Somalia, and South Sudan.

With no doubt, her new tenure as President of the United Republic of Tanzania and a member of the EAC Summit will ensure fruitful and key advancement of the community for the achievement of its various pillars, being the customs union, the common market, monetary union, and a way forward toward the political federation.

I may recall the record of the contribution of the United Republic of Tanzania in the implementation of the regional integration project and national projects. I here concede to what my predecessor, Hon. Dr Makame, said about the Rufiji Hydropower Project, 2,115 megawatts. This is the first huge project in the Community where energy is available to other partner states, not only for Tanzania.

I can also see that the electric Standard Gauge Railway, where, after completing phases in Tanzania - the project started the construction of Uvinza, Musongati towards Gitega, Bujumbura and in DRC. For sure, there are other projects, OSBP, road, international road, and so on.

Lastly, we remember that two of our colleagues got elected as members of the Tanzanian National Parliament and they were appointed ministers, vice ministers for foreign affairs and EAC affairs cooperation. This is a key indicator and

a sign of the confidence of the Tanzanian leadership to regional integration.

With these few words, I stand here to support the motion presented by Hon. Amongin for this right assembly to congratulate the President of Tanzania, Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan, elected as the president of the United Republic of Tanzania. Thank you, I submit.

**The Speaker:** The mover, Hon. Amongin, you have the Floor.

4.39

**Ms Jacqueline Amongin (Uganda):** Mr Speaker, I would like to appreciate the honourable colleagues and the whole House – (*Interruptions*)

**Mr Kachwamba:** Mr Speaker, information.

**The Speaker:** Information.

**Mr Kachwamba:** Yes, to the mover of the motion. Mr Speaker, I would like to inform the mover of the motion that among the women presidents of Africa is also Madam Samba-Panza of the Central African Republic, who served as an interim president between 2014 and 2016. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Namibia – HE Samba is from the Central African Republic and Namibia now. You have the Floor.

4.39

**Ms Jacqueline Amongin (Uganda):** Thank you for the information. Those heads of state that have been mentioned served in the interim, but this particular one and the others, whom I mentioned,

like Joyce Banda and Johnson Sirleaf, were elected. There is a difference between taking over and being elected. I took note of the heads of state who are women, who stood and were elected.

We congratulate all the others who have served in the interim. Thank you, Hon. Ansar, for your information. I appreciate the honourable members who have accorded their time to talk about this great woman of Africa, whom I am proud of. I congratulate once more our colleagues, Hon. Millya James, who served in this House with us.

We are already missing them because they were very great Members of this House. Hon. Millya James, who was recently sworn in as a Member of Parliament of the Republic of Tanzania, but not only that, Her Excellency Suluhu saw it befitting to elect a former member of the East African Legislative Assembly as a minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Community. I think we are proud of that; our parliament is growing. Right?

I also congratulate Hon. Ng'waru Maghembe, who was also a Member of this great House. We would be with them here right now if they were not elected in their parliament, but he was recently sworn in as a member of the Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania. In the wise decision of Her Excellency *Mama* Suluhu Hassan, she felt it wise that the former Members of the East African Legislative Assembly serve in the same docket to promote integration better from experience.

We congratulate our colleagues and the President for having seen wisdom in

our former Members of this House. I congratulate my good friend, he likes calling us the queens, but now I think he is the mare of Kampala; the nightmare, no, I will reserve my comments. *(Laughter)* They are not for the HANSARD.

I congratulate Hon. Sankok. You have actually lifted my spirits today, but I will also say that you have been a very good advocate of the disability community in the whole world, not only in the community. *(Applause)* Everyone knows what you do - for having seconded this great motion.

I also commend the Chairperson of the Committee of General Purpose, Hon. Makame Abdalla, for being a great seconder and bringing those insights from His Excellency Magufuli, the addition Her Excellency Suluhu has carried forward. There is taking over a position, and you do no value addition, but Her Excellency Suluhu has done a great value addition to the process.

I congratulate my senior colleague who is soon becoming a Member of Parliament for the elderly in Uganda. Hon. Kakooza. I think Hon. Kakooza has served in various portfolios of this country. If we were to talk, I used to admire him when I was still a student; we have served in the same National Parliament, and we are still in the same Assembly. We served in Uganda together, the Pan-African Parliament together and now the East African Parliament together.

I wish you good luck, but thank you for seconding this motion. I also congratulate my good friend- I will not say the other words- Dr Kibeya from the Republic of Burundi- *(Applause)* - for taking note of

our colleagues who were elected. They were Members of this House, and we look forward to receiving new Members of Parliament from the United Republic of Tanzania to replace the two colleagues who were elected.

Mr Speaker, you have made East Africans proud, and the children who will be reading this HANSARD will be proud to note that- probably, most of them would become heads of state, the next *Suluhu's* of this world, and you do not know the inspiration you have left today. With those few remarks - *(Interjection)* – information.

**The Speaker:** Are you taking it?

4.43

**Mr David Ole Sankok (Kenya):** Mr Speaker, I forgot to nickname Suluhu as *Mama Africa*. So, from this House, now we call her *Mama Africa*. Thank you. *(Laughter)* Her Excellency *Mama Samia Suluhu* is now officially *Mama Africa*.

**The Speaker:** Proceed Hon. Amongin.

4.44

**Ms Jacqueline Amongin (Uganda):** Okay, thank you, Hon. Sankok, for the information, but by virtue of the portfolio that she holds, she deserves even – I think if there was any bigger name than that, we would accord her, but there is a formal way of naming an eminent person.

Probably you will have to opt for a motion at one-time to officially name her – *(Applause)* - but on my side I really appreciate the Rt Hon. Speaker and the honourable members for having accorded me all the help to have this motion accomplished. Thank you for supporting this great motion. *Asante sana. (Applause)*

**The Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Amongin. It is now time to put the question that this Assembly do resolve to register its congratulations to Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan upon her election as President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

*(Question put and agreed to.)*

*Motion adopted*

**The Speaker:** Honourable members, we have two communications before we adjourn this House. One, I have a request from the mover of the motion under Order Number Four, Hon. Dr Woda. You can see she is not even here. She requests that this item be deferred to next week. She is not ready and requested time to prepare adequately; the motion is deferred.

Second –

**Ms Uwumukiza:** Information, Mr Speaker. I am here.

**The Speaker:** Yes, you have the Floor.

**Ms Uwumukiza:** I am here. Thank you, Mr Speaker. On your communication, this motion is actually planned in the programme of EALA for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December. It is not because she is not ready or I am not ready as the seconder. It is because it was not planned for today. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. Now, the other communication.

Hon. Gideon, you have the Floor.

4.47

**Mr Gideon Gaptan Thoar (South Sudan):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. The information is simple; you know that we have an outreach activity for the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources tomorrow. The pickup will start at 7:00 a.m. from the hotels. Then we shall converge here at the Parliament at 8:00 a.m., and then we shall depart from here at 8:00 or 8:30 a.m., but we must be here by 8:00 a.m. *Insha Allah*. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you.

There is another communication from Dr Blacks.

4.48

**Dr Gerald Blacks Siranda (Uganda):** Thank you, Mr Speaker. As you may be aware that from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> of December, we will be having the inter-parliamentary games. We are required by the rules to submit the names of all our participants in each specific discipline we intend to participate in for easy preparation of the fixtures.

We have submitted a sheet of paper for all of you to register your name and the specific sport that you intend to participate in. That will inform us by the close of this evening to submit the name to the JPC team that is preparing the registers and the fixtures. We encourage you, honourable colleagues, to register.

The disciplines are volleyball, football, athletics, tug of war, darts, walking race, and – no chess, and then the one of Hon. Kanini, I am forgetting – golf. The honourable has added the cheerleaders as well. So please- (*Interjections*) - and darts, I have mentioned that.

Please, honourable colleagues, kindly register yourselves. Mr. Keto is moving around with that registration paper; we need it urgently. Thank you.

**The Speaker:** Thank you, honourable -

**Dr Gerald Blacks Siranda (Uganda):**  
The Commission has appointed Hon. Gideon Gatpan as the Chairperson of the Disciplinary Committee, and therefore, our new captain for volleyball is Hon. Olivier. He handed over to Hon. Olivier, who will be stepping in to mobilise as a captain for volleyball.

**The Speaker:** Thank you. I adjourn the House until Wednesday next week, 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 at 9.30 a.m.

*The Assembly rose at 4.50 p.m. and adjourned until Wednesday, 3 December 2025, at 9.30 a.m.*