



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY  
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY TO CALL FOR URGENT ACTION TO  
PREVENT TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS, PROTECT VICTIMS OF THE CRIME OF  
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS AND PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS OF  
TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

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***By Hon. Dora C.K Byamukama and adopted by the Assembly on Thursday  
20<sup>th</sup> August, 2015***

**WHEREAS** the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community (Treaty) provides under Article 5(1) that the objectives of the Community shall be to develop principles aimed at widening and deepening cooperation among Partner States in inter-alia political, social and cultural fields;

**AND WHEREAS** Article 5(3)(a) and (b) provides that the Community shall ensure inter alia the attainment of sustainable growth and development by promotion of a more balanced and harmonious development of the Partner States which would in turn raise the standard of living and improve the quality of life of their population;

**WHEREAS** the Treaty provides for good governance, social justice, the rule of law, as well as recognition, promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights under Article 6(d) under the Fundamental Principles of the Community and 7(2) on Operational Principles of the Community;

**AND WHEREAS** Article 124(5) of the Treaty provides that Partner States agree to enhance co-operation in the handling of cross border crime, provision of mutual assistance in criminal matters including the arrest and repatriation of fugitive offenders and the exchange of information on national mechanisms for combating criminal activities;





# UNITED NATIONS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD  
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**AWARE THAT** all EAC Partner States have signed onto the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children which supplements the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime also referred to as the Palermo Protocol.

**NOTING THAT** cases of Trafficking in Persons have been reported in all EAC Partner States; and are according to reported trends, on the increase.

**FURTHER NOTING THAT** Trafficking in Persons also known as *Modern Day Slavery* is a grave abuse of human rights and is caused by several drivers which include - poverty, under development, unemployment, promises of a better life and better opportunities - glorification of the west, greed and corruption, harmful traditional practices such as child sacrifice, bad governance, displacement of persons due to natural and man-made disasters - and thus must be urgently stemmed utilizing a multifaceted approach.

**NOW THEREFORE THIS ASSEMBLY DO RESOLVE THAT:**

1. The Council of Ministers urges EAC Partner States to enact comprehensive anti-trafficking in persons legislation in accordance with the Palermo Protocol which incorporates prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of victims of the crime of trafficking in persons and prosecution of offenders; and promote increased cooperation in efforts on implementation of anti-trafficking legislations in the EAC Partner States.
2. The East African Community is urged to enact an anti-trafficking in persons legislation to address the cross border aspect of trafficking in persons.
3. The East African Community in partnership with EAC Partner States compiles and provide data on the trend and extent of the trafficking in persons crime within, from and into the East African Community.

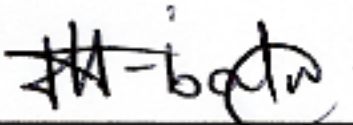






4. The East African Community Partner States establish lead offices and inter-agency task forces – with government and non-government actors, to combat trafficking in Persons and provide adequate resources for implementation of the law including training of justice, law and order sector actors; mechanisms for victim assistance; extradition and repatriation.
5. The Council of Ministers operationalizes Article 27 of the Treaty and concludes a protocol to extend jurisdiction of the East African Court of Justice to handle human rights cases which encompass trafficking in persons.
6. The Council of Ministers urges Partner States to - increase oversight of and accountability of overseas recruitment agencies, implementation of adoption laws, and allocate resources to Embassies of the EAC Partner States to keep track of nationals and assist victims of trafficking in persons.
7. The Council of Ministers directs the EAC Secretariat to develop a policy to guide the regional mechanisms aimed at undertaking an annual assessment of the problem of human trafficking in the EAC region.
8. The Assembly urges the Council of Ministers to find time on their agenda to deliberate on trafficking in persons to take necessary measures to arrest this crime.
9. The Council of Ministers urges Partner States to address the issue of poverty and inequalities in the EAC Partner States since they are underlying causes to human trafficking.

**CERTIFIED BY:**

  
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**ALEX OBATRE**  
**FOR: CLERK**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



