EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MOTION OF THE ASSEMBLY EXPRESSING SYMPATHIES AND SOLIDARITY
WITH THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF BURUNDI ON THE LOSS OF
PROPERTY OCCASIONED BY THE DISASTROUS FIRE THAT DESTROYED
THE BUJUMBURA CENTRAL MARKET

Moved by Hon. Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo and adopted by the Assembly on
Tuesday January 29th, 2013

We the Members of the East African Legislative Assembly;

HAVING learnt with distress, the disastrous and catastrophic fire that gutted the
Bujumbura Central Market on Sunday 27th January, 2013;

AWARE that the Bujumbura Central market is/has been the biggest market within
the City and indeed the oldest, hosting all kinds of businesses from food produce,
hardware, electrical appliances to clothings, among others thus offering employment
to well over 10,000 people and a source of livelihood to a sizeable population of
the city, and the country at large;

NOTING that the fire broke out in the early hours of the morning of Sunday where
many traders were not at the Market to save some of their properties;
RECOGNIZING the Government's efforts to try to put out the fire especially through the fire department, but had difficulties to succeed early enough due to the gravity of the fire;

NOTING that many of the businesses may not have any insurance cover, and yet had acquired loans or were using their lifetime savings;

ALSO NOTING the desperation, pain and sense of loss that has been occasioned by this disaster;

APPRECIATING the quick assistance and rescue efforts offered by other EAC Partner States, namely Rwanda and Tanzania.

THIS HOUSE DO HEREBY:-

1. Express our deepest sympathies to H.E President Pierre Nkurunziza, the Government of Burundi, the Business Community, the traders and the affected families upon this great loss.

2. Strongly urge the EAC Council of Ministers to put in place Disaster Risk Management Mechanisms to give guidance to what measures need to be put in place by Partner States in order to minimize the catastrophic effects of such disasters.

3. Support the efforts of the Government of Burundi to alleviate the suffering of the business community and the traders including any efforts to work with financial institutions to extend any financial facilities to support them to restart their livelihoods.
4. Urge the EAC Partner States to together with the EAC, support the expeditious rehabilitation of the market.

CERTIFIED BY:

[Signature]

DATE: 30th January 2013

Kenneth Madete
CLERK