

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

RESOLUTION OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A UNITED NATIONS PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Moved by Hon. Mike Sebalu and adopted by the Assembly on Tuesday January 29th, 2013

WHEREAS the fundamental principles of the East African Community include the principles of democracy, the rule of law, accountability, and transparency;

AND WHEREAS the Partner States of the East African Community are Member States of the African Union and of the United Nations;

AND WHEREAS the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community provides that Partner States of the Community shall accord special importance to cooperation with the African Union, the United Nations, and its agencies, and other international organizations;

BEARING IN MIND the objectives of the African Union, which focus on the achievement of greater unity among African people, promotion of democratic principles, rule of law and participatory governance;

APPRECIATING the importance and good example of regional and sub-regional parliamentary assemblies in promoting the interests of citizens in regional and sub-

regional intergovernmental organizations and thus in strengthening the democratic character of these organizations;

RECOGNISING the growing role and involvement of international organizations such as the United Nations and its specialized agencies in key sectors such as the promotion of peace and security, economic development, health, education, the environment or sustainable development;

NOTING that no formal parliamentary body exists at the United Nations that would allow for popularly elected parliamentarians to take part in its deliberations;

CONSIDERING that the insufficient formal involvement of elected representatives in the work of the United Nations due to the absence of a parliamentary Assembly limits the democratic legitimacy of the world organization;

AWARE of the concerted international efforts aimed at the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly;

FURTHER AWARE that the Pan-African Parliament, on the 24th October 2007, adopted a resolution recommending the adoption of a common African position on the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly;

FURTHER AWARE that this initiative is supported by other Parliamentary and Inter-Parliamentary bodies worldwide;

CONVINCED that a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly would improve the transparency, accountability and the effectiveness of the United Nations;

NOTING that a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly could be established simply by a vote of the United Nations General Assembly in accordance with Article 22 of the Charter of the United Nations without an amendment of the United Nations Charter;

THIS ASSEMBLY DO RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS: THAT IT:

- Supports the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly based on equity and mutual trust.
- Welcomes the Resolution of the Pan African Parliament and such other Parliaments and bodies that have pronounced themselves on this matter.
- Urges the Partner States of the East African Community to take the initiative to promote the development of a common African position in support of the establishment of a United Nations Parliamentary Assembly.

CERTIFIED BY:

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DATE: 30"H JANUARY 2013

Kenneth Madete CLERK