



A RESOLUTION OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY TO MARK THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM - 25 NOVEMBER TO 10 DECEMBER

By Hon. Dora Byamukama and adopted by the Assembly on Thursday 24th November 2011

WHEREAS, the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women is an International Campaign.

AND WHEREAS it takes place every year from 25 November (International Day of Elimination of Violence Against Women) to 10 December (International Human Rights Day), and the period includes Universal Children's Day and World AIDS Day.

AND WHEREAS the theme for 2011 for the 16 Days of Activism is "**From Peace in the Home to Peace in the World: Proliferation of Small Arms and their Role in Domestic Violence.**"

AND WHEREAS on the 30th day of November, in the year 1999, the EAC Heads of State appended their signatures to the Treaty for Establishment of the East African Community in which Article 5(3) provides inter alia, that the objectives of the Community shall be *to develop policies and programmes aimed at widening and deepening cooperation for mutual benefit and for this purpose, the Community is obliged to ensure – the mainstreaming of gender in all its endeavours and the enhancement of the role of women in cultural, social, political, economic and technological development.*

AND WHEREAS Articles 6 and 7 of the Treaty provide for fundamental and operational principles of the community, respectively which principles govern the achievement of inter alia - social justice, equal opportunities, gender equality, as well as the recognition, promotion and protection of human rights.

NOTING THAT Article 121 of the Treaty categorically states that "*The Partner States recognize that women make a significant contribution towards the process of socio-economic transformation and sustainable growth and that it is impossible to implement effective programmes for the economic and social development of the Partner States without the full participation of women.....*".

FURTHER NOTING that the Partner States are obliged under Article 121 of the Treaty to-

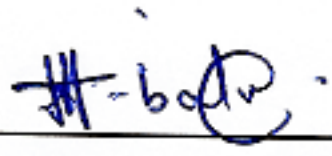
- (a) promote the empowerment and effective integration and participation of women at all levels of socio-economic development especially in decision making;
- (b) abolish legislation and discourage customs that are discriminatory against women;
- (c) promote effective education awareness programmes aimed at changing negative attitude towards women;
- (d) create or adopt technologies which will ensure the stability of employment and professional progress for women workers; and
- (e) take such other measures that shall eliminate prejudices against women and promote the equality of the female gender with that of the male gender in every respect.

NOW THEREFORE THIS ASSEMBLY DO RESOLVE THAT:-

THIS ASSEMBLY:

1. Do mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and the 16 Days of Activism from 25 November to 10 December by adopting this Resolution;
2. Creates awareness for the protection of the rights of women and advocates for mechanisms that support victims and survivors of abuse;
3. Requests the Council of Ministers to urge the Partner States to establish Gender-Based Violence (GBV) centres, police and hospital hotlines which would provide special care and assistance to victims of Gender-Based Violence;
4. Promotes the empowerment of women, in particular rural women grappling with the challenges of poverty, discrimination and violence;
5. Further pays special recognition to women with disabilities under similar circumstances; and
6. Supports efforts to reduce arms in society which tend to be the common denominator in some cases of domestic violence.

CERTIFIED BY:



DATE: 24 / 11 / 2011

**Alex Obatre
DEPUTY CLERK**