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Laid on Table by Hon.
Abdullah Mmuni on
15/12/2010
H. Mmuni
15/12/10



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**RESOLUTION OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ADOPTING A POSITIONAL PAPER OF THE COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNICATIONS, TRADE AND INVESTMENTS ON THE ECONOMIC
PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS AND URGING THE EAC PARTNER STATES
TO PURSUE A FAVOURABLE POSITION ON THE EAC – EU EPAS**

**By Hon. Dr. James Ndahiro, Chairperson, Committee on
Communications, Trade and Investments**

THAT THIS ASSEMBLY-

- Having regard to Article 49 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community;
- Having regard to Rule 79 of the Assembly Rules of Procedure;
- Having regard to the aspirations of all stakeholders on the EAC-EU EPAs and particularly that of the East African Community with specific emphasis on its development agenda;

WHEREAS the EPA endeavours to set up a trade and development link between the EAC Partner States and the European Union;

AND WHEREAS negotiations have been taking place between the two parties above; which negotiations are based on the initial framework, itself bedeviled by a number of shortcomings;

AND WHEREAS the East African Legislative Assembly adopted a resolution in May 2010 which clearly stipulated its concerns regarding the weaknesses in that framework agreement and this resolution was one of the bases upon which the previous meeting between the EAC Partner States and the EU was postponed to give the parties ample time to reflect on the shortcomings in the initiated agreement with a view to reviewing it;

NOTING that another meeting was scheduled for November 2010 in which the comprehensive EPA was to be signed notwithstanding the fact that the previous concerns of the Assembly were not adequately addressed by the European Union.

NOW THEREFORE, DO RESOLVE:

1. To adopt the positional paper of the Committee on Communications, Trade and Investments on the EAC – EU EPA;
2. To urge the EAC Partner States through the Council of Ministers and the Team of Negotiators on behalf of the Partner States and therefore the East African Community at large, to take into account the concerns and recommendations raised in the attached positional paper and the Assembly's previous resolutions yield to calls for a favourable EPA between the two parties;
3. To direct the Secretary General to forward this resolution and the attached positional paper for consideration to the EAC Council of Ministers; the Sectoral Council responsible for the EPA negotiations; and the team of negotiators from both parties.