

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING THE PARTNER STATES TO DEVELOP A JOINT POLICY TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS under Article 5 (2) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the Partner States have undertaken to strengthen and regulate industrial and commercial infrastructural, cultural, social, political and other relations of the Partner States to the end that there shall be accelerated, harmonious and balanced development and sustained expansion of economic activities for the benefit of the people of East Africa;

AND WHEREAS in view of the fact that in Article 5 (3) of the Treaty the Community is required to ensure *inter alia*:

- a) The attainment of sustainable growth and development of the Partner States through the promotion of a more balanced and harmonious development of the Partner States.
- b) The strengthening and consolidation of cooperation in agreed fields that would lead to equitable economic development within the Partner States.
- c) The promotion of sustainable utilisation of the natural resources of the Partner States and taking measures that would effectively protect the natural environment of the Partner States.

AND WHEREAS the Partner States have agreed and undertaken to plan and direct their policies and cooperate in matters of environmental and natural resources management.

RECOGNISING that the Mountain Ecosystems and water catchment areas in the Partner States greatly impact on the economic and social development of the entire Community with serious peace, security and stability implications within and beyond the Community.

CONSIDERING the grave consequences the destruction of the Mountain Ecosystems and other water catchment areas may have for the economic development, peace and security and social stability of the region.

AND CONSIDERING FURTHER that the Partner States have in existence a signed Protocol on matters of environment;

NOW THEREFORE, THIS ASSEMBLY do resolve to:

- Urge the Partner States to develop a joint policy and management strategy for the preservation, conservation and protection of the environment and natural resources against all forms of degradation and destruction in whatever manner.
- Urge the Governments of the Partner States to halt further destruction of the Forests and to preserve, conserve and protect their water catchment areas.
- Urge the Council of Ministers to present quarterly reports to the Assembly on action taken and progress made towards ratification of the EAC Protocol on matters of the Environment and adherence to the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, in particular Chapter Nineteen.

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