



BUNGE LA AFRIKA MASHARIKI



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE EALA

ISSUE 05

NOVEMBER 2012



NEW HOME FOR EAC

Kigali hosts 6th EAAPAC meeting

Uganda turns 50 years

REPRESENTATIVE

EALA PARTICIPATES
IN INTERNATIONAL
MEETINGS

LEGISLATIVE

EALA SESSION ENDS IN
NAIROBI

OVERSIGHT/BUDGET

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS
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DESK OF THE HON. SPEAKER

Welcome to the 5th edition of the *Bunge la Afrika Mashariki* which has continued to play a key part as your flagship magazine in keeping you abreast with the activities of the Assembly.

This edition is also special since it is the second under the belt of the 3rd Assembly. But beyond that, the period of publication is special. The month of November, bears special significance in the history of the Assembly as it commemorates the period when it was unveiled. The Assembly is this year celebrating eleven years of its existence. Allow me therefore to wish EALA and all East Africans a happy anniversary as we take cognizance of our achievements (and challenges) and map our future.

The 3rd Assembly has settled in and taken up its mandate judiciously. The Assembly has within its first 100 days in Office realized a number of achievements. Beyond the capacity building the Members and Committees, the Assembly undertook oversight of projects and programmes in the region in as much as it engaged various stakeholders in discussions relevant to integration.

EALA was also represented in various meetings and conferences continentally and internationally as you shall read in other sections of the Newsletter. At the conferences, EALA used the opportunity to market itself and to espouse its mandate. The initiatives are strategic and geared towards enabling the Assembly realize its WorkPlan. The few months we have been in Office have provided impetus to consolidate on the gains of the 1st and 2nd Assembly and to up the stakes for the progressive and steady development of the region. We are fully aware of the Herculean task ahead – since we must enact legislation to consolidate the Common Market, to support the Monetary Union and ultimately the Political Federation.

In the same vein, we remain dedicated to realising our mandate as underlined in the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC given that our *raison de etre* is to enact legislation pertaining to the EAC, undertake



RT. HON. ZZIWA MARGARET

oversight as well as in representing interests of the citizens of East Africa.

I am upbeat about the on-going process being recorded at the EAC and the zeal with which the integration path is taking that calls for the strengthening of all organs and institutions of the Community. In so doing, we must commit to realizing the ideals of regional integration. In the dispensation, we as an Assembly must guard and jealously so all instruments including that of Private Members' Bills as one of the options that enables us to anchor relevant legislation to the strengthening of the Community.

At the same time, the region must continuously look towards addressing challenges that face integration. At the fulcrum is the lack of awareness of the benefits of integration by EAC citizens, the Non-Tariff Barriers and the less- than- efficient mode of speed of implementation of the Council decisions.

Looking inwards, permit me to congratulate the EAC following the completion and hand-over of the new Headquarters. The Secretariat and other Organs have settled into their new home and this is a tangible achievement for the Community. As we cork the champagne bottles to mark the achievement, let us keep focus on the ultimate prize – that of integrating towards the realization of the political federation.

Finally, I encourage you to read and enjoy the current edition of the magazine whose contents



MR. KENNETH NAMBOGA MADETE

Jambo and a very warm welcome once again to the 5th edition of your magazine - the *Bunge La Afrika Mashariki*.

As I pen down the few lines, I am contented to reflect on the good old days as a sprinter on the track field. Then, a combination of tact, pace, speed and strategy proved key in outwitting challengers. The same tactics, albeit more enhanced and sophisticated continue to be useful in today's setting not only in the field but also at the work-front.

The Assembly has kept in the race to ensure the EAC realizes its objectives. As we celebrate eleven years of existence, we can look back with some satisfaction. However even with that, we must keep our eyes on both the track and the ultimate prize. With the EAC at a defining moment as it deepens and widens integration, the role of the Assembly remains crucially hinged on provision of legislative services. In doing so, we need to exhibit vibrancy and enthusiasm in carrying out our mandate.

We remain hopeful that through our hard work, we shall contribute to assist the region realize the prospects of growth and solid development. The Assembly is committed to liaise and closely collaborate with Organs and Institutions of the Community, the Private Sector, Civil Society and all others in fulfilment of the Community's operational principle of being people-centred. In order to be a strong economic bloc that is unrivalled in the continent, the EAC must withstand

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

the turbulent environment, overcome challenges and keep on track with regards to anticipated development and progress.

The Rt. Hon Speaker has clearly identified the path that we must take. Focus on legislation towards consolidating the existing pillars: Customs Union and the Common Market while strategizing on realization of those anticipated namely the Monetary Union and the Political Federation are vital.

The region has today reached a point of no return and the dream of those who pioneered the East African Federation should not be slowed. In all we do, we must therefore accelerate integration.

In this regard, EALA has to take a more proactive stance by utilizing the advantages towards influencing and sprouting the tenets of integration while holding Partner States more accountable on the implementation of the commitments. Members of the 3rd Assembly have recently benefited from capacity building geared at arming them with the necessary tools to effectively carry out their mandate.

During the life of the 3rd Assembly, we shall also enhance closer collaboration with the National Assemblies to ensure deliberations that take place at EALA percolate into the Partner States. It is anticipated that the Operationalisation of Article 65 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC shall enable the full realization of the noble objective.

At the same time, it is incumbent on EALA and all stakeholders to scale-up awareness. Citizens of the region have much to delight about in the trajectory of progress at the EAC.

However, we need to embark on aggressive sensitisation campaigns to the citizens of the EAC about the benefits of regional integration.

I welcome you to this specific edition of the *Bunge Magazine* and hope that you shall find it pleasurable. Finally since the clock is winding down fast with the festivities coming, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2013.

EALA SESSION ENDS IN NAIROBI



Members stand for the EAC anthem at the beginning of the Plenary in Nairobi

EALA ended its two week Sitting in Nairobi on September 13, 2012 by debating and adopting six Committee Reports and passing four key Resolutions. This was the second meeting of the first Session of the third Assembly.

The adopted Reports all depicted findings of the capacity building workshops held in respect of the recently inaugurated Committees. These were the Committees on Accounts, Legal Rules and Privileges and that of Communications Trade and Investment. Others were the Committees on General Purpose, Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources and Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution.

The Reports were concise, taking note of various developments and concerns at the EAC as well as the likely implications in the integration process and the appropriate measures deemed necessary to strengthen the same.

On the last day of the Plenary, a key Resolution urging the EAC Partner States to refrain from amending Article 59 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC that provides the lawmakers with the avenue to propose Bills and Motions to the Assembly, sailed through.

The motion moved by Hon Patricia Hajabakiga, notes that such a move would fetter the independence of the Legislative Assembly and in effect, sends a negative signal to the Community. At the 25th meeting of the Council of Ministers, held in Bujumbura, Burundi in August 2012, the Council received and considered a submission to amend the said Article of the Treaty from the United Republic of Tanzania.

Article 59 makes provision for introduction of Private Members' Bills in EALA which are tabled and debated without being initiated by the Executive. In the Commonwealth legislative procedures and practices, the Executive often initiates Bills, and then the Legislature debates and passes or amends the Bills in exercising its legislative function. The Introduction of Private Members' Bills however, provides options for the Assembly to debate when the Executive delays in carrying out that constitutional mandate.

Such an amendment, Members stated, was bent on limiting the powers of EALA to represent East Africans and is contrary to the 'letter and spirit' of rule of law, representation and the corresponding uptake of the regional law by the Partner States.



However, the Minister for East African Co-operation in the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Samuel Sitta, noted that in seeking for the amendment, the country had sought to provide for a more workable mechanism where the process of initiating Private Members Bills' is more consultative. *"The United Republic of Tanzania is not seeking to remove the power of EALA, but rather, wants the process of Bill making to be more consultative and to reduce chances if any, of no assent by the Heads of State"*, the Minister remarked.

A Resolution to mark the International Democracy Day held annually on 15 September was also passed. The motion moved by Hon. Zein Abubakar Zein and seconded by Hon Abdul Karim Harelimana seeks to promote democratic ethos at the Community, portraying the regional economic bloc not only a promoter but a practitioner of democracy.

Members also moved in accordance with the provisions of the EALA Administration Bill 2012 to approve a Resolution for the election of Members of the EALA Commission. The Resolution moved by Hon Hafsa Mossi saw the House vote to allow the Members of the House Business Committee to automatically become Members of the EALA Commission. Therefore, all work done by the House Business Committee shall immediately be handled by the Commission.

The House further moved a Resolution approving

the appointments of Members to Standing Committees to inadvertently correct errors while addressing imbalances made earlier on in the process. The appointments taken in accordance with Rule 79 (5) of the Rules of Procedure for the Assembly shall see Hon. Abubakar Ogle Abdi serve on the Committee on General Purpose and on the Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution. On his part, Hon. Saoli Ole Nkanae will serve on the Committees on Accounts and that on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (ATNR) while Hon. Sarah T Bonaya will serve on the Committees on Accounts and that of the Regional Affairs and Conflicts Resolution respectively. Their appointments take immediate effect.

Finally, two Reports were tabled prior to the adjournment of the House. The Report of the Members to the RIO +20 United Nations' Conference on Sustainable Development that was held in June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and the corresponding Report of the Workshop for EALA Women MPs and Chairpersons of Women Parliamentary Caucus held in Arusha, Tanzania in July 2012 were laid. The first report was put down by Hon. Nancy Abisai while the latter was laid by Hon. Valerie Nyirahabineza.

The next plenary shall be held in Arusha in November 2012.



President Mwai Kibaki joins EALA Members for a photo

PRESIDENT KIBAKI ADDRESSES EALA

...calls for more linkages between the National Assemblies and EALA



President Mwai Kibaki arrives to address EALA. In tow is Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa (left), Rt. Hon Kenneth Marende (right) and other officials

President Mwai Kibaki addressed EALA at its Second Meeting of the First Session at the Kenya National Assembly in Nairobi on September 4, 2012.

In his speech, President Kibaki called on EALA and the National Assemblies to forge more linkages noting that such a move would go a long way in improving the performance of the Community. He termed the necessity of different legislatures to work together as urgent to ensure the laws enacted by EALA enhance and compliment national laws.

'For instance, it may be useful to hold special joint sessions to debate the Community agenda. This way, the Community will be brought closer to the people for whom it is intended', the Head of State remarked.

The President further urged the Assembly and the Council of Ministers to collaborate more on mechanisms to initiate laws to enforce the expeditious implementation of the Customs Union and the Common Market Protocols.

This he noted would enable citizens of EAC to reap benefits accruing from the pillars and to ensure the fulfilment of the citizens' desires.

The President pleaded for the removal of Non-Tariff Barriers so as to spur trade and called for effective communication of policies agreed upon across the region to enable the seamless flow of goods and

services. He noted that Kenya had proceeded to reduce the police stops for transit cargo to ensure speedy movement of goods and services to the EAC Partner States and added that Kenya was keen to ensure smoother operations at the weighbridges.

On environmental matters, the Head of State called for better mechanisms to contain the periodic droughts, floods and other natural resources and challenged legislators to play their part in mitigating the effects of Climate Change.

On peace and security, the President maintained that stability was key for the region and hailed Somalia as it embraces a period of reconstruction.

The Head of State further welcomed the interests of Sudan, South Sudan, the DRC, Ethiopia and Somalia in joining the EAC and called on the regional bloc to facilitate their membership.

In attendance were the Vice President, Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, Members of EALA, Parliamentarians, EAC Secretary General, representatives of the diplomatic corps, government officials and other stakeholders. In her welcome remarks, the Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon. Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, hailed President Kibaki and the citizens of the Republic of Kenya for their efforts and steadfast contribution towards the realization of the objectives of the EAC.



The Presidential address

She termed developments at the EAC during the period under President Kibaki as the Chair of the Summit of EAC Heads of State as progressive.

"I note with gratitude that the EAC region has realized a number of successes during the period of your Chairmanship exemplifying your dedication and desire to be a strong advocate for the integration process in all actions and deed. Some of these successes include the fact that EAC has commenced deliberations on the Monetary Union while putting in place far reaching measures to consolidate on the Customs Union and the Common Market pillars respectively", Rt. Hon Zziwa remarked.

She however reiterated the need for the speedy implementation of the decisions of the Council of Ministers, removal of Non-Tariff Barriers that hinder the free flow of business and sustained creation of awareness on the benefits of the integration process to citizens.

On infrastructure, Rt. Hon Zziwa remarked that it was time the region enhanced its rail network system noting that it would ensure availability of efficient and cheap transport.

Rt. Hon Zziwa said the country was on the verge of transformation stating the new constitutional dispensation, which came into place two years ago was revolutionary and progressive.

She noted that the country had realized progress in various sectors and remarked that the region as a whole stood to immensely benefit.

The Speaker further called on the country to ensure the elections scheduled for next year are credible.

The Speaker of the Kenya National Assembly, Rt. Hon Kenneth Marende said the EAC was a strong economic bloc and heralded the integration process. He noted that his Assembly was committed and keen to see the region realize its dream. Rt. Hon Marende further called for the speedy removal of the Non-Tariff Barriers.

WE APPRECIATE YOUR REMARKS, EALA TELLS PRESIDENT KIBAKI

The ink had barely dried when legislators elated by President Mwai Kibaki's speech during the opening of the 2nd Meeting of the 3rd Assembly passed a motion appreciating the remarks. The motion moved by Hon Peter Mathuki on September 12, 2012, received overwhelming support on the floor of the House.

The Resolution took cognizance of the unwavering support of President Kibaki as the Chairperson of the EAC Heads of State Summit culminating in the speech he delivered to the Assembly on September 4, 2012, pursuant to Article 54 (1) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC.

The President's speech reiterated the need for EALA to forge linkages with National Assemblies in order to improve the performance of the Community. The Head of State urged the Assemblies to hold joint sessions and to ensure the laws enacted by EALA

compliment the national laws. The motion further notes that under H.E. President Kibaki's leadership, Kenya had proceeded to reduce road blocks for transit cargo in a bid to ensure speedy movement of goods and services and that, the country remained keen to ensure smoother operations at the Mombasa port and at weighbridges.

Debating on the motion, Hon Christophe Bazivamo requested the Council to go the extra mile towards ensuring its decisions and that emanating from the Summit are fully implemented while Hon Shy-Rose Bhanji and Hon AbuBakr Ogle lauded President Kibaki's call on citizens to embrace Kiswahili. The Members urged the media to promote Kiswahili as the '*lingua franca*' of the region. Members, who spoke in favour of the motion generally, stressed the need of raising awareness of the integration process amongst and between the citizens of the region.

PRESIDENT JAKAYA KIKWETE MEETS EALA SPEAKER

...says Assembly has a key role to play within the framework of the EAC Treaty



Your Copy: President Jakaya Kikwete admires a copy of the *Bunge la Afrika Mashariki* presented to him by the Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa recently

President Jakaya Kikwete held cordial talks with the Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa at State House, Dar es Salaam on September 19, 2012.

The President urged EALA to carry on with its mandate within the framework of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC by scoping on areas of co-operation as agreed upon by the Partner States.

The President was however categorical that despite ceding sovereignty, Partner States still have a say in certain matters within their jurisdiction. Citing the EAC Transboundary Ecosystems Bill which was passed by EALA last year, the Head of State said matters of Ecosystem touch on resources which were pertinent to the respective Partner State(s).

'We have discussed the Bill at Cabinet here and I am hard-pressed to assent to it', the President remarked, hinting that a Resolution moved by EALA to that effect appealing for collaboration in matters of the ecosystem would have been a more plausible option.

The President further called for closer collaboration between the EALA and the Council of Ministers so as to enrich the law making process.

The Head of State said he fully supports the mandate of the legislators as recognized under the provisions of Article 59.

'Your Members have the powers to introduce Private Members Bills to the House and I see no need to scrap the same. However, such Bills must be compliant with the Treaty', he noted. At its last Sitting in Nairobi, EALA passed a Resolution urging the Partner States not to amend Article 59 that offers the Assembly an opportunity to introduce Private Members' Bills for consideration.

President Kikwete congratulated the Speaker for her election and hailed EALA for successes realized so far. *'We as Members of the Summit shall continue to support the 3rd Assembly so that it can take integration forward'*, the Head of State added.



President Jakaya Kikwete poses with the Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, Hon Abdullah Mwinyi (right), Hon Angela Kizigha (second from left) and Staff, Bobi Odiko

Rt. Hon Zziwa informed the President that the Assembly was committed to ensuring the region realizes the full benefits of integration and appreciated his continuous support in that regard. The Speaker noted that EALA would strengthen linkages and collaborate more closely with the National Assemblies.

'Your Excellency, we were recently challenged by the Chairman of the Summit of Heads of State President Mwai Kibaki during the last Session in Nairobi to explore avenues of holding joint sessions with the sister Parliaments. We shall seriously consider the same', the Speaker informed the President.

Present at the meeting were EALA Members, Hon Abdullah Mwinyi, Hon Angela Charles Kizigha, Senior Public Relations Officer, Bobi Odiko and Mr. Kayyabukama T. Kiliba, Deputy Director, Department of Political Defence and Security at the Ministry of East African Co-operation, United Republic of Tanzania.

Prior to meeting with the Head of State, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa had a day earlier paid a courtesy call on her counterpart, Rt. Hon Anna Makinda, Speaker of the Parliament of Tanzania at the Speaker's Chambers in Dar es Salaam. The talks delved on enhancing co-operation with the need to further close ranks between EALA and Parliament of Tanzania topping the

agenda. Both Speakers posited optimism that the EAC Bureau of Speakers would be transformed into an Organ of the Community once the Summit of EAC Heads of State deliberate on the matter.

Rt. Hon Zziwa informed her counterpart that the Chairperson of the Summit of EAC Heads of State, H.E. Mwai Kibaki had pledged his support and promised to have the matter put on the Summit's agenda for deliberations.

She noted that the Head of State also urged EALA and the Assemblies to collaborate more

for the benefit of the region.

The EALA Speaker noted that relations between the EALA and the Parliament of Tanzania were cordial and remarked that EALA would incorporate some of the existing best practices as it continues to strengthen its mandate.

Rt. Hon Anna Makinda on her part congratulated the EALA Speaker following her recent election and pledged to support the 3rd Assembly. *'I assure you of all the unequivocal support as I gave to the 2nd Assembly under Rt. Hon Abdirahin Abdi',* she remarked.

The Speaker noted that Parliament of Tanzania was set to revise its Standing Orders so as to ensure its work of enacting legislation, oversight and representation is better understood and the Parliament remains on top of the cutting edge of issues.



Caption



By Bobi Odiko

NEW HOME FOR EAC

...It is a landmark episode in the furtherance of the integration agenda



The new home that is the EAC

Finally, the EAC has what it shall call Home for decades to come. The Summit of Heads of EAC is to inaugurate the new Headquarters on November 28, 2012. The EAC's dream of moving into its own building which started a few years back was realized last month following the historic handing-over of the new Headquarters by the contractors, African Real Estates Company (ARECO).

EAC Deputy Secretary General, Jean Claude Nsengiyumva was at hand to receive the certificate of practical completion on behalf of the EAC Secretary General from the Project Consultant, Mr. Jens Malte Neuhaus in a brief ceremony. In his remarks, Mr. Nsengiyumva lauded the contractors for a job well done. *'I want to congratulate and recognise the team led by the Project Consultant for their exceptional commitment, dedication and professionalism since inception of the*



A couple of months ago. Support for the EAC has come from all quarters beginning with the Summit of EAC Heads of State

works two and a half years ago. They have made it happen', the Deputy Secretary General noted.

Staff began moving into the new building on October 15, 2012. The new building houses the EAC Secretariat, the East African Court of Justice and the East African legislative Assembly. Support for the



Headquarters has been overwhelming right from the highest offices in the region – the Summit.

President Pierre Nkurunziza recently accepted a request from EALA’s Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa to hold the Plenary Sitting in Arusha as opposed to Bujumbura to mark the grand occasion.

“We humbly request that due to the importance of the function of official opening of the EAC Headquarters on November 28th 2012 in Arusha; the EALA session which had been scheduled to take place in Bujumbura from November 25th to December 7th 2012 be changed to Arusha for the EALA Members to be able to fully participate. We likewise request that the January 2013 Session be held in Bujumbura”, the Speaker noted.

Speakers of the National Assemblies have also keenly followed the construction of the headquarters and shall be in Arusha for the inaugural opening. The EALA Chamber can sit in all Members and visitors to the public gallery comfortably. It is to be fitted with all the equipment that shall facilitate Parliamentary proceedings.

The EAC Secretary General Amb Dr. Richard Sezibera must be a proud man as the occasion ushers in something to celebrate about and to cork the champagne bottles.

Congratulations EAC, Long live EAC!



EAC Secretary General, Amb Dr Richard Sezibera and his predecessor, Amb Juma Mwapachu. It is under their watch that the landmark episode was witnessed



President Pierre Nkurunziza meets with the Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa in Bujumbura recently. She was accompanied by EALA Member, Hon Hafsa Mossi (left) and Hon Jeremie Ngendakumana (not in picture)



Caption

ASSEMBLY PARTICIPATES IN INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

EALA Members and staff have during the quarter participated in a number of regional, continental and international seminars and workshops. None other than the person of the Speaker led various delegations in the attendance of the important meetings.

In Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, Speakers of the Regional and National Assemblies in the continent convened for the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) Speakers' conference held on August 30-31, 2012. The conference was called to consider the progress on the review of the Protocol establishing



Participants at the Pan African Parliament (PAP) Speakers' conference held in Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

PAP and the implementation of the African Union decisions focussing on the ratification of the African Charter on values and principles of public service and administration and the domestication of the African Charter on Democracy, Election and Governance. In attendance were the Speaker of EALA, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa and Senior Clerk Assistant, Beatrice Ndayizeye.

Midrand also played host to Conference on the Role of Parliamentarians in Promoting Maternal, New-Born and Child Health organized by the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) held on October 4-5, 2012. At the conference, it was suggested that Parliaments should seek partnerships and sustain the push to contain emerging challenges and demands facing Maternal and Child Health. In addition, legislators contended that it is paramount for them to review legislation on Child Marriage and support the 'Urgent African Campaign' to stop the practice forthwith. The move shall help contribute to realization of the important agenda of MDGs 4 and 5 on Maternal and Child Health in the continent.

While addressing the conference, EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, pledged her Assembly's support to the cause of ensuring better standards of living through enhanced oversight roles as well as in holding governments in the region accountable.

The Speaker further remarked that the Assembly would engage the legislative processes by bringing relevant Bills, Motions and Resolutions to the floor of the House. She noted that EALA had opened its doors for stakeholder collaboration but at the same time called for more efforts towards mobilizing populations in order to fully access existing initiatives.

In Quebec, Canada, legislators convened for the 126th Inter-Parliamentary Conference. Delegations from 162 IPU Members participated in this important activity. Apart from these, Associate Members responded positively to the invitation. Among them were: EALA, Inter Parliamentary Committee on West African Economic and Monetary Union, Latin American Parliament, the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. There were also observers at the Meeting.

EALA was represented by Rt. Hon. Margaret Nantongo Zziwa, Hon. Valerie Nyirahabineza, Hon Chris Opoka Okumu, Hon. Dr. Nderakindo Kessy Perpetua, the Clerk to the Assembly, Mr. Kenneth Madete and two staff members, Beatrice Ndayizeye and Winifred Kaliba.

The panel discussion on Citizenship, Identity, Linguistic and Cultural Diversity issued a Declaration which was adopted by IPU Members at the close



of the week-long meeting. The declaration calls on Parliaments to protect diversity and human rights as universal values, and to ratify, adopt and implement laws to safeguard them. It reaffirms IPU's commitment to freedom of thought, opinion and expression but condemned those who intimidated and incited extremism, hatred, racism and violence.

This Special session came out with an Ambitious Plan of Action for Gender Equality in Parliaments. IPU Members have committed to a comprehensive Plan of Action on gender-sensitive Parliaments, aimed at radically transforming the way national institutions address gender equality. The Action Plan, a potentially far-reaching outcome of the 127th IPU Assembly, not only tackles women's access to Parliaments through affirmative action, but also gender parity in the roles and ranks inside Parliament; legal frameworks; the gender infrastructure and culture within Parliament as well as the need to engage political parties on the issue.

Also held was a meeting of the Clerks that deliberated on *Parliamentary Representation and Communication and the role of Social Media*.

The EALA Clerk, Kenneth Madete apprised the meeting on developments at EALA with regards to use of social media. He noted that social media offered a wide host of opportunities for EALA including:

- offering Members and Assembly generally with a platform to espouse the mandate which revolves around legislation, oversight and representation.

- enabling EALA to be more visible in the 'eyes, ears and minds' of East Africans and the rest of the world.
- enhancing information exchange and sharing as well as crafting responses to queries.

In Cairo, Egypt, the African Union played host to a Parliamentarian Workshop on Science, Technology and Innovation on October 16-19, 2012. The meeting took place at a time when Africa is experiencing an unprecedented and exciting period of heightened awareness on the role of science, technology and innovation in its socio-economic development.

According to the 2010 UNESCO World Report, many emerging economies such as China, India, Korea, Mexico and South Africa are investing more in research and development.

However in majority of the African countries, R&D still receives less public funding than other sectors such as military, health or education sectors making it extremely difficult for the continent to move to the 1% mark for R&D investment as per the recommendations of the AU Summit 2006 and 2007.

EALA was represented by Dr. James Ndahiro, MP and Elizabeth Barinda, Senior Clerk Assistant. The meeting was officially opened by the Speaker of the Parliament of the Arab Republic of Egypt, H.E. Prof Ahmad Fahmy who remarked that Science and Technology was now receiving more positive reception in the continent compared to the yesteryears.

A roundtable was held with various discussions and responses emanating from discussants.



Tanzania's Speaker Hon Anne Makinda with the delegation of Tanzania to the 127 Inter-Parliamentary Union Conference (IPU) in Quebec, Canada. From right is Hon David Kafulila (Mp), Hon. Suzan Lyimo (Mp), Tanzania High Commissioner to Canada Hon Alex Masinda, EALA Mp from Tanzania Hon Dr. Perpetua Nderakindo Kessy, and Mr. Joseph Sokoine Minister Plenipotentiary



By Kenneth Madete

FARE THEE WELL MY FRIEND... DAVID

As David Symon Obonyo Nalo, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of EAC was being laid to rest at his Boya home in Kano, Kisumu County on Saturday September 29, 2012, a thought flashed through my mind. I sat to myself and pondered why cancer, a major grim reaper, had robbed us yet again of one of the valiant sons of the soil. As most of us woke up on September 12, 2012, we were hit by the reality that David had made peace with his maker and therein he was resting, for he left us at about 2.00am. I was devastated. I for one shall miss the great man who was visionary and selfless. I find it appropriate to remember him by making some few remarks.

I first met David many years ago but we really became so close from 2009 when I assumed Office of the Clerk of EALA and we inevitably started working together. Many things impressed me about David and through him, I learnt a great deal about life and what makes it tick.

At the work front, David was in my opinion an enthusiast for regional integration. For those familiar with economic blocs, one needs patience and utmost acumen to get consensus in altruistic fashion. This is what more or less how we as stakeholders in the integration process progress much as the EAC continues to deepen and widen integration. I must add that I was impressed by the quality of the person in David as a Permanent Secretary, as an adviser and friend that I was to appreciate. Many are the times we chatted with David in the corridors in Arusha or elsewhere in the Partner States when the negotiations were on track and when they were at times torrid and even turbulent. Many are the times that a composed David would tell me and in a calm voice: *'Don't worry Ken, even Rome was not built in a single day therefore, I beseech thee, let us take it pole pole.....we shall get there'*.

Like I said, I always learnt something special from the great David. He had a great eye for detail, saw clearly where we needed to go, yet was patient with the slow witted and humble with the slow footed.

Beyond that, David was a reservoir of knowledge on trade matters having honed his skills during his tenure as the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Trade. Even then,

Bw. Nalo offered true leadership and played a contributing role as the republic of Kenya firmed up its negotiating positions especially as the dateline for Customs Union negotiations loomed. David was also instrumental in developing Kenya



The late David Nalo
(Kenya's former PS, Ministry of EAC)

European Union Post Lome Trade Negotiations Programme (KEPLOTRADE) as a resource think tank and a platform of policy and trade issues.

I found a dependable friend in Nalo and it is sad that we have lost such a brilliant man at the prime of his age to a major opponent called cancer which knows no barriers or borders. All the mighty, men and women of means and those without, those who have the protection of the gun and of immense financial resources, have found in Cancer a major challenge. Many are our gallant sons and daughters who have lost this battle with cancer, a very painful exercise indeed. I however liked how David tackled the disease head-on. Since the diagnosis in February this year, he remained bold and calm as he had always being during his healthier and happier days. He called for access to medical services for all especially the public medicare around cancer. I truly support him on this and those charged with the responsibility should take the matter seriously.

Fare thee well my friend David. I am comforted by the fact that you are now in a better place. There is no better way to honour this good man than to dedicate ourselves to the ideals of regional integration he so cherished and the fight of cancer with the determination that if we so desired can be fought and its fatal impact reduced to the bear minimum.



By Hon. Jacqueline Muhongayire

KIGALI HOSTS 6TH EAAPAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



Delegates who attended the EAAPC Meeting in Kigali pose for a group photo

From 17th to 21st September 2012, EAAPAC held its 6th Annual General Meeting and Conference in Kigali, Rwanda.

The “EAAPAC” is an Association of Financial Accountability Committees of Eastern Africa Community States Legislatures and Associates. In attendance were the PACs Chairpersons and representatives of Burundi; Ethiopia; EALA; Kenya; Rwanda; Tanzania; South Soudan and Uganda as well as representatives from SADCOPAC namely; South Africa, Namibia, Malawi, Zimbabwe and WAAPAC namely; Ghana, and Liberia.

The meeting was opened by Speaker of Parliament of Rwanda Chamber of deputies.

Among others the objectives of EAAPAC are:

- i. Improving the capacity of individual members of the Public Accounts Committees to function more effectively;
- ii. Sharing best practices and innovation, and,

“Building the Foundation of an Effective Financial Management System through Transparency and Accountability in the budget formulation and spending process”.

where appropriate, harmonize and standardize the work of Public Accounts in the Eastern Africa region;

- iii. Promoting Accountability, transparency and good governance;
- iv. Conducting research on new best practices and innovations to improve and enhance the effectiveness of Public Accounts Committees in Eastern Africa region;

- v. Communicating and building relationships with individuals and organizations with relevant expertise (nationally and internationally); and
- vi. Strengthening the relationship with the appropriate East African Community structures and those neighboring Countries.

The conference theme was: **“Building the Foundation of an Effective Financial Management System through Transparency and Accountability in the budget formulation and spending process”.**

What did Participants take home?

The Speaker of the Rwandan Chamber of Deputies, Rt.Hon. Rose Mukantabana urged Parliamentarians as representatives of the citizens to always bear in mind that they are accountable to them and to this end Parliament has to play a critical role to reflect profound changes in the relationship between politics and economy as well as to ensure that those who are in charge of managing the public property comply with the relevant legal provisions. It was noted that the international aid/support revealed itself unable to allow recipients to achieve the objectives of economic growth without owning the whole process including themselves priorities and strategies using development partners’ aid.

The Meeting further recommended among others as follows:

- PACs of EAAPAC jointly with other House Committees should through their Legislatures take necessary action towards ensuring independence of Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) by implementing the United Nations (UN) resolution A/66/209 on independence of SAIs;

- PACs should engage relevant Committees of the House with a view to achieving through enactment and implementation of legislation providing for budgets of Legislatures to be a direct charge to the consolidated Fund;
- PACs should develop strategic partnerships with stakeholders, including the law enforcement agencies with a view to ensuring that House resolutions arising from PAC’s recommendations’ are implemented;
- PACs jointly with other House Committees should advocate against over dependence on donor funding by the executive in the budget making process. Instead, the executive should concentrate more on reducing budgetary waste and generating more revenue from internal sources such as oil, minerals, tourism and gas;
- With respect to unilateral actions and decisions by development partners negating the pre agreed commitments to budget support. The conference condemned this practice and called upon all parties to honor and commit themselves to the agreed positions in accordance with the Accra declaration on Aid Effectiveness;
- EAAPAC should develop strategies for dealing with common cross border financial malpractices involving public funds;
- PACs took note of the fact that accountability and transparency in the use of public resources requires political will and hence urged their political leadership to support their Legislatures fight malpractices in the use of public resources.

The Meeting noted that accountability and transparency are characteristics of good governance that work both top-down and bottom-up, and that may be decisive for the long-term legitimacy and survival of Eastern African democracies, as well as the economic, social, cultural, and moral well-being of the beneficiaries of development initiatives in the region.

The 6th EAAPAC General Meeting called upon Parliamentarians to work together to fight against corruption and mismanagement of public resources.



The Chairperson of Council of Ministers Hon Musa Sirma is ushered in by his colleagues, 1st Deputy Prime Minister & Minister for EAC, Uganda, Rt. Hon Eriya Kategaya and Minister for EAC, Rwanda, Monique Mukaruliza to read the EAC Budget. Accountability and transparency of public resources requires political goodwill



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1. President Mwai Kibaki shakes hands with Hon Emerence Bucumi as other EALA Members look on
2. **TUIJENGE JUMUIYA:** The Police band belts out the EAC Anthem
3. **EXCHANGING NOTES:** Uganda Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for EAC, Rt. Hon Eriya Kategaya, EAC Secretary General Dr. Richard Sezibera and EALA Member Hon Mumbi A. Ngaru in discussions
4. Hon Samuel Sitta, Minister for EAC, United Republic of Tanzania, Hon Leontine Nzeyimana, Minister for EAC, Burundi and

5. **AT THE CLERK'S TABLE:** from left, Clerk to the Assembly, Kenneth Madete, Senior Clerk Assistant, Stephen Mugume and Deputy Clerk, Obatre Alex Lumumba pay attention to proceedings
6. EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa takes to the floor with the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, Hon Jacob Oulanyah as other Members of Parliament of the Parliament of Uganda join in



By Hon. Ogle AbuBakr

CONFRONTING AFRICA'S ETHNIC POGROM – LESSONS FROM THE LATE MELES ZENAWI

CHARISMATIC, genial, likeable, eloquent and articulate are not just adequate adjectives to describe the late Ethiopian Prime Minister. He was a spell-binding orator who somehow compels his listeners to absolute attention and agreement.

When I first met to interview Ato Meles (pronounced as Ma-less) Legesse Zenawi in his official Palace in Addis Ababa, he was in power just for just a little over three years. He was young and dashing, the new kid on the block, a revolutionary who has arrived on the global stage, brimming with ideas, intelligent, courageous and showed some evident passion and determination to confront the tri-prong most difficult issues facing his country then –negative ethnicity, imperial Presidency and centralised power structure, in order to enhance what he fittingly called “the empowerment of the Ethiopian peasantry.”

It was partly due to his sheer insistence on these ideals, ranging from his personal leadership on the African position on Climate Change during the

Copenhagen Conference to his hitherto unresolved border dispute with Eritrea that until his death in late August this year, won him respect from both his critics and defenders alike.

The late Ethiopian leader of course, bore some contestable credentials when it came to matters of human rights; he cracked down hard on political opponents , detained leading journalists critical of his administration and over the decades that he had been in power, fended off accusations that his ruling coalition did not ensure level playing field during Parliamentary elections. His brutal suppression of the Oromo and Ogaden insurgents in Ethiopia would forever remain a scar on his legacy.

In addition, Premier Zenawi was often accused of leading his military to a reckless and an unusually ruthless incursion into neighbouring Somalia that appeared more like a child's plaything in the guise of pursuing Islamist rebels, thus further destabilising an already broken country. Ethiopia's military expeditions



The author of the article during an interview with the Late Ethiopia's Prime Minister

were variedly said to have been at the behest of other powers than for the country's security interests.

On the other hand, Premier Zenawi presided over the affairs of Eastern Africa's most populous nation when it was registering a double-digit economic growth coupled with a well developed infrastructural network and a massive leap towards a sustainable energy supply, even in areas where the insurgents operated with sheer abandon. The countryside transformation and attendant glitter in Addis today is a testimony to the truism that Zenawi could after all, have been a "benevolent dictator," though certainly not in the league of former Malaysian Premier Dr Mahathir Mohammed.



President Jakaya Kikwete, the late Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia, during the G-8 summit at Camp David in Maryland, USA

But the one aspect that President Zenawi, as he then was, tackled with a memorable imprint in my mind, was his take on confronting what he rightly described then as "the issue of the

“We have been very clear that people are free to use their own language, harness their own culture, hoist their various traditional flags and even administer their own areas as they deemed fit.”

African ethnic pogrom.” Ethiopia was at the time of the interview, in the midst of a heated debate on a particular clause in their constitution that provided for any of the ethnic groups to secede from the rest of the country, “if 99% of the residents voted for in a Referendum and opted to so do.”

It was on the premise of this provision that the State of Eritrea came into being. In fact, it was almost like a gentlemanly arrangement, reminiscent of the separation of Czech and Slovak in the former Czechoslovakia, that within a short while after Zenawi's Tigray Peoples Liberation Front overthrew the then Dergue regime of Mengistu Haile Mariam, an

overwhelming result of a Referendum followed that legitimised the birth of the Red Sea state.

“Now, the breakaway of Eritrea would appear to have opened a floodgate of secessionist movements who moreover have a constitution framework to back up their hankering for independence. Why would you want to balkanise the Ethiopian nation? Besides, you are setting a dangerous precedent in many countries in Africa who all have a combustible mix of ethnic group?,” I pressed, encouraged by the obvious situation across the African continent.

President Zenawi's response was poignant and equally telling:

“In the Ethiopian instance, it's not just as easy as waking up one morning and pointing to a constitutional clause for self determination and say “this is it!” This particular clause for self determination has been formulated as some kind of a pre-emptive action in terms of empowering the ordinary people at the grassroots level!”

In his characteristic eloquence, Zenawi offered more of what he described as “evidential explanations” to justify his bold and radical approach to answering the ethnic question:

“There are certain basic truths about ethnicity that we must address not just in Ethiopia but in the African continent as a whole. Let me give my version of how to deal with this mysterious monster called ethnicity in Africa. Essentially, there are three



pertinent approaches you must employ: First, stamp it out completely, and this is the most advisable, prudent and pragmatic approach in my view. Secondly, you wish it away, which I perceive to be the most deceptive formula. Thirdly, and this is the Ethiopian approach now, is to face up to the ethnicity threats, which means we have accepted that we are, but a nation of many other smaller!”

Drawing on his apparent textbook prescriptions over the one subject that has doubtlessly impeded Africa’s existence and very sense of nationhood, President Zenawi, delved into some reality checks in his own Eastern African neighbourhood:

“Look at your own situations. In Mwalimu’s Tanzania, he put the entire resources of the nation towards the elimination of those ethnic pockets and building a Tanzanian nationhood. Today, nobody can actually notice whether there is ethnic or religious diversity in Tanzania. They are all proudly Tanzanians! My brother, the same cannot be said about you own country, Kenya. Much as you have made tremendous

strides in development –by the way, we call Nairobi, the Paris of Africa –underneath these skyscrapers is a simmering sense of ethnic tensions and a palpable feeling that the various ethnic groups are arraigned against the other.”

Well, need I say more? That interview conducted about 17 years ago when I was the Chief Foreign Correspondent of *The East African Standard*, vividly reminds me that the ethnic quagmire was and still, poses the single greatest threat that is otherwise gradually gnawing at the very essence of Africa’s nation-state. Suffice to add that the Eastern, Horn and Great Lakes region, has the undisputed label and notoriety of being the world’s better known conflict-raven region emanating largely from its combustible ethnic mix.

The EAC partner states will over time therefore be required to develop, as a matter of extreme priority and urgency, overall crisis-prevention architecture, particularly in a way that both accepts and celebrates our ethnic diversity. Yet, the atavistic barbarity and bloodletting that has recently occurred in the Tana Delta and parts of Northern Kenya, not to mention the yesteryears genocide in Rwanda, the long-drawn ethnic conflicts in Burundi, amongst many others, should also serve as a rude awakening that we have a long way to go.

One critical approach towards stemming the tide of the relentless ethnic conflicts is of course to reinforce the broad structural symptoms that underlie most of these ethnic hostilities – rule of law, human rights, government transparency and accountability, government and market efficiency, democratic participation and political equity and equality amongst the entire citizenry. There must also be a deliberate policy of inclusion and affirmative action to address long and historical injustices and marginalization of certain sections of society.

But by and large, it is incumbent upon the political leadership of the EAC region to borrow a leaf from the late Ethiopian Premier Ato Meles Zenawi: they must initiate and embark on radical and innovative ideas that are bold in design and requiring courage to implement. Our ethnic reality is a combustible mix; we can’t just wish it away!



The late Ethiopia’s Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, Kenya’s, President Mwai Kibaki and South Sudan’s President Salva Kiir during the official launch of Port Lamu and Lamu Southern Ethiopia Transport Corridor (LAPSSET) at the Kenyan coast

THREE EALA MEMBERS SWORN -IN

Three Members of EALA took their Oaths of Allegiance to the House before the Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa. The Swearing-in on September 5, 2012 was held at the Kenya National Assembly during the 2nd Meeting of the 1st Session of the 3rd Assembly.

The three who are Ex-Officio Members of the House are the Minister for EAC Affairs in Rwanda, Hon Monique Mukaruliza, Kenya's Assistant Minister for EAC, Hon Peter Munya and the Counsel to the Community, Hon Wilbert T.K Kaahwa.

The Members took the oath in accordance with Rule 6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly. The Rules of Procedure say in part that: *"No Member can sit or participate in the proceedings of the House until the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to the Treaty is taken"*.

Rule 6(3) specifically states that *"when a Member first attends to take his or her seat other than at the first sitting of a new House, he or she shall be brought to the table by two Members and presented by them to the Speaker who shall then administer the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance"*.

First to take the oath in this regard at 2.40pm was Hon Monique Mukaruliza who

was brought in to the House by Hon Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo and Hon Dr. Abdulla Saadala Abdulla.

Kenya's Assistant Minister for EAC, Hon Peter Munya then followed. He was ushered in by Hon Joseph Kiangoi Ombasa and Hon Dan Kidega.

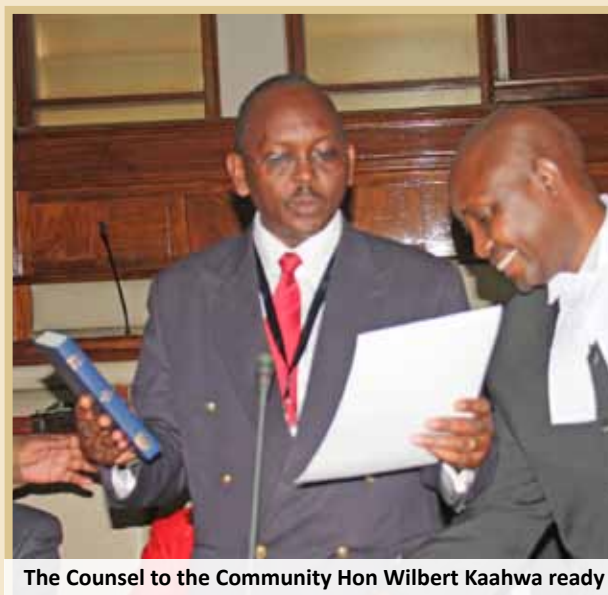
The Counsel to the Community Hon Wilbert Kaahwa who was accompanied by the EAC Secretary General, Amb Dr. Richard Sezibera and Hon Leonce Ndarubagiye completed the list. The three Members were unavailable during the inauguration and swearing in of Members that took place on June 5, 2012 in Arusha.



EALA Speaker signs the Oath following the swearing-in of Hon Peter Munya



Hon Monique Mukaruliza takes her Oath of Allegiance



The Counsel to the Community Hon Wilbert Kaahwa ready to take his turn as Clerk to the Assembly prepares the microphone



EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY MEMBERS



Hon. ZZIWA Margaret Nantongo
(SPEAKER, EALA)



Hon. Musa Sirma, Minister for EAC
Affairs (KE) and Current Chair of EAC
Council of Ministers



Hon. Eriya Kategaya, First Deputy
Prime Minister & Minister of East
African Affairs (UG)



Hon. Léontine Nzeyimana,
Minister for EAC Affairs (BU)



Hon. Samuel Sitta, Minister for
EA Co-operation (TZ)



Hon. Monique Mukaruliza,
Minister for EAC Affairs (RW)



Hon. Dr. Abdallah Sadala Abdalla,
Assistant Minister for EA
Co-operation (TZ)



Hon. Peter Munya, Assistant
Minister for EAC Affairs (KE)



Hon. Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera,
Secretary General – EAC



Hon. Wilbert T. Kaahwa –
Counsel to the Community EAC



REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



Hon. BUCUMI Emerence



Hon. MOSSI Hafsa



Hon. NDAHAYO Isabelle



Hon. NDARUBAGIYE Leonce



Hon. Dr. NDUWIMANA Martin



Hon. NENGO Emmanuel



Hon. NGENDAKUMANA Jeremie



Hon. NGENZEBUHORU Frederic



Hon. NSABIMANA Yves



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



Hon. ABISAI Nancy Kabeyeka
Lung'ahi



Hon. ABUBAKAR Zein Abubakar



Hon. BONAYA Talaso Sarah



Hon. MATHUKI Peter Mutuku



Hon. NG'ARU Mumbi Agnes



Hon. NKANAE Saoli Ole



Hon. OGLE AbuBakr D. Abdi



Hon. OMBASA Joseph Kiangoi



Hon. PARENO Judith Nayiai R.



REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



Hon. BAZIVAMO Christophe



Hon. HAJABAKIGA Mugorenejo Patricie



Hon. HARELIMANA Abdul Karim



Hon. MUHONGAYIRE Jacqueline



Hon. Dr. NDAHIRO James



Hon. NDIKURYAYO Straton



Hon. NYIRAHABINEZA Valerie



Hon. Dr. NYIRAMIRIMO Odette



Hon. RWIGEMA Pierre Celestin



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



Hon. BHANJI Shy-Rose Sadrudin



Hon. KIMBISA Adam Omar



Hon. KIZIGHA Angela Charles



Hon. MURUNYA Bernard Musomi



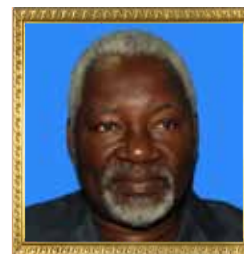
Hon. MWINYI Abdullah Ally Hassan



Hon. Dr. NDERAKINDO Perpetua Kessy



Hon. NYERERE Charles Makongoro



Hon. TASLIMA Twaha Issa



Hon. YAHYA Maryam Ussi



REPUBLIC OF UGANDA



Hon. BYAMUKAMA Dora



Hon. KIDEGA Daniel Fred



Hon. MUKASA Mbidde Fred



Hon. MULENGANI Bernard



Hon. NAKAWUKI Susan



Hon. OPOKA-OKUMU Chris



Hon. SEBALU Mike Kennedy



Hon. TIPERU Nusura



Hon. ZZIWA Margaret Nantongo (Speaker, EALA)



By Hon. Pierre Celestin Rwigema

BUNCH OF KEYS BUILDING AN INTEGRATED EAC ECONOMIC BLOC



President Paul Kagame has a word with the EAC Secretary General Amb. Dr Richard Sezibera and the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers, Hon Musa Sirma. Economic development is key for the region

facilitate and contribute to significant and quick change of the lives of East Africans? How do the Partner States contribute to the national level capacities to domesticate regional policies through key building of an integrated EAC economically and politically? Measures to create and develop the political and administrative capacity of national institutions and faster national ownership of reforms could be taken where necessary, as this is a vital condition for efficient implementation of reforms enhancing growth and innovation.

The EAC region can be integrated into a single economic entity (an economic union) and a single political entity (a political union) or distinguished into different independent states and separate economies. Economic integration implies that all firms sell their product to all consumers. Political integration means that there is a supranational government that taxes all citizens in order to finance its expenditures. The Treaty establishing the East African Community (EAC) focuses on both economic and political integration.

Many of the East African citizens we represent in the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) still have a set of questions of how the governments of the Partner States put efforts in the implementation of EAC to integrate the Community as one economic and political entity. How do those respective governments

This is based on the premise that the building pillars are constituted of democratic, economic, budgetary and financial cornerstones.

One of the major constraints that slows integration is the inadequate national level capacities to domesticate regional policies.

Rwanda is progressing towards ensuring several measures of implementation as it seeks to attain the agreed upon priorities. The following are key elements in pursuit towards building integrated EAC economic bloc.

KEY TOWARDS ADEQUATE NATIONAL LEVEL CAPACITIES TO DOMESTICATE REGIONAL POLICIES

One of the major constraints that slows integration is the inadequate national level capacities to domesticate regional policies. Of absolute importance is the need to improve the standard of living of East Africans through increased competitiveness, added-value production, enhanced trade and investment. Rwanda is on course

and prioritizes national and regional policies for integrated development.

For instance, considering the absolute national and regional necessity of methane gas, the Rwandan government has invested in effective extraction of this valuable source of energy and hopes to provide the country with abundant energy in 2015. The move shall see the national electricity capacity increased to 1000 MW as much as twenty times, and in conformity with the article 79(b) and 101 of the Treaty. Rwanda is also expected to feed neighboring Partner States especially Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

KALISIMBI TELECOMMUNICATION PROJECT

The overall objective of this project is in pursuit of Article 99 of the EAC Treaty to enhance electronic communication and broadcasting capacities of national capacities and those of neighboring countries. The project shall provide sky safety and surveillance capability through Communication navigation surveillance. There are initiatives as well to diversify television broadcasting from the analog to the digital systems.

KEY TOWARDS THE STRENGTHENING DEMOCRATIC LEADERSHIP AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Integration, democracy and accountability are interlinked. Hence, quick mechanisms enabling legitimate and accountable decision-making need strengthening in order to create an integrated and democratic economic bloc. EALA and National Assemblies can play the role and help to address some of the issues of preparedness or conformity to the Treaty.



The volcanic Kalisimbi mountain



Kalisimbi Telecommunication project is expected to enhance communication in the region

KEY TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED ECONOMIC POLICY FRAMEWORK

It is important to have a framework for policy co-ordination that ensures unsustainable policies will not put the stability of the EAC at risk. National policies should be orientated towards strong and sustainable economic growth, labor and services mobility or tax co-ordination while promoting social cohesion within the Community.

Here, the policy co-ordination is very important for a stronger economic integration which is needed to achieve effective functioning of the EAC. This framework has to foster co-ordination and convergence in different domains of policy between EAC Partner States, address imbalances and ensure capacity to adjust to shocks and compete in a globalized economy. However, this is possible with the oriented national policies and a full implementation of economic, regional commitments, including, social cohesion, connective regional infrastructure; promoting appropriate intraregional trade facilitation, adequate revenue management, elimination of NTB's, and ensure that policy coordination is enforceable. This is key as we progress towards the Monetary Union. All the Partner States should be working in conformity with EAC Organs.





KEY TOWARDS AN INTERGRATED BUDGETARY POLICY FRAMEWORK

The global financial and debt crisis has showed that interdependence is an important and natural element in communities. Then, the effective functioning of the EAC requires the vigorous implementation of the economic measures agreed under the reinforced governance framework and a qualitative move towards a fiscal union.

It is in the context of greater pooling of decision making on budgets commensurate with the pooling risks, that effective mechanisms to prevent and correct unsustainable fiscal policies in each Partner State are essential. Partner States have to put in place a harmonized framework for fiscal policy; they have to observe fiscal discipline and adopt a common and enforceable statistical framework.

Full fiscal solidarity and Union and the defined role of the central budget should result in a stronger capacity to manage economic interdependences and contribute to complete fiscal integration and integrated budgetary autonomy.

KEY TOWARDS AN INTEGRATED FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK

The use of a single currency within the Community will create deep interdependence between the Partner States. The noble mission of the EAC envisages an integrated financial framework in order to preserve the unity, integrity of the Common Market and the financial stability which implies two central elements: single banking supervision and common deposit insurance and resolution framework.

Therefore, in the establishing a single currency, Partner States have to search for economic independence otherwise the donors would control it necessitating dire consequences to the region.

On one hand, an integrated framework shall ensure the effective application of prudential rules, risk control and crisis throughout the EAC, strengthen the credibility of existing arrangements and serve as an important assurance that eligible deposits of all credit institutions are sufficiently insured. On the other hand the move seeks to provide assistance in the

application of resolution measures to banks overseen by the common supervision.

CONCLUSION

These are the key building elements, necessary for splendid, stable, prosperous, coherent and complete economic integrated bloc. It requires further work, including possible reforms where necessary because integration is a continuous process. Contrary to the previous theoretical rhetoric which treats political integration as an alternate way of increasing the size of an economic market, currently economic and political integration is complementary of institutions where political accompanies economic integration; innovation is becoming attractive, growth and welfare increase.

However, EAC is still facing topical challenges for the achievement of effective, beneficial and complete economic integrated bloc: One such is with regards to implementation of the Customs Union (Customs Union Management Act 2004 came into force in 2005); its implementation at national level to domesticate the provisions *vis-à-vis* of the laws within Partner States, the manner in which the Partner States institutions manage Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs), facilitation of labour through provision of electronic identification cards (ID) for all Partner States, lack of information on job opportunities and the work permits requirements.

With these challenges addressed and proper implementation of regional policies based on the key building elements as detailed above, East Africans will see immediate changes in their lives.

In the same vein, it shall create a paradisiacal East African Community, proud of itself, historical in Africa and exemplar in the world.



Clients wait to be served at a Kenya Commercial Bank branch. A single currency within the Community is a key towards an integrated financial framework



By Rt. Hon. Margaret Nantongo Zziwa

CONGRATULATIONS UGANDA UPON ATTAINING 50 YEARS OF INDEPENDENCE

On October 9th 2012, Uganda turned 50 years since its independence on October 9th 1962. HAPPY BIRTHDAY UGANDA and Thanks Be to God for the PROTECTION and PROVIDENCE: to the country's citizens.

Congratulations to H.E President Museveni, who earned the name of Golden Independence President, the Executive, the Legislature, Judiciary, the Uganda Peoples Defence forces, the local Government leadership and the Faith Based Organisations, Leaders. Similarly, hearty congratulations also go out to the cultural and opinion leaders, students, youth, women and children and all Ugandans for attaining 50 years of independence.

The long road to independence has been characterized by periods of excitement. In the early years of 1962-65, many Ugandans were very optimistic given the fact that Uganda had a strong and sound Economy. It was one of the leading coffee countries in the world, with positive Balance of Payments, adequate FE reserves and a GDP comparable to the economic giants in the East today (Taiwan, Korea, Thailand).

The later years of the 60s witnessed shattered hope for Ugandans, with a coup, abrogation of a Constitution and drastic economic policies (Nakivubo Pronouncements) which indeed set Uganda on a downward trend democratically, economically, socially and culturally.

Uganda witnessed the most gruesome times of dictatorship, where even the religious were never spared, (Bishop Janan Luwumu), the learned also perished (Justice Benedicto Kiwanuka) and those with



President Yoweri Museveni congratulates Rt. Hon Margaret Nantongo Zziwa upon receipt of the Independence Award of Uganda Women who have contributed to empowerment of women to the country



The Speaker in discussions with the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda, Rt. Hon Rebecca Kadaga as other delegates look on

descending views paid with blood, and the country became a laughing stock both in the region and internationally.

The EAC bloc which grounded Uganda as a strong Partner State was also not spared for in 1977, the Community collapsed at the whims of the leadership of the time.

Indeed, a ray of hope and a beckon of Uganda's potential has been picked in the late 1980s with people of Uganda picking up the pieces of their



beloved Country. This is when Uganda started undergoing a *renaissance* and witnessed a new era full of optimism and determination.

With right policies ushered in by the NRM government, several sectors of the economy have been fully rehabilitated and full recovery is being enjoyed in many sectors like agriculture, Construction, manufacturing, energy, service sector and other social sectors, education and health alike, have all recorded an unchallengeable data in the previous 25 years of the 50 years.

That was a major cause for celebration and at a colourful ceremony that took place at Kololo Independence grounds in Kampala where fifty years ago the Union Jack Flag was lowered, the Uganda flag raised and the Uganda national anthem sung, Ugandans turned up in thunderous numbers to join their President to celebrate the anniversary.

The occasion was graced by 13 Heads of State and the Duke of England who incidentally represented the



Pomp and colour during the nation's 50th anniversary of independence

President Museveni announced that Uganda was now Peaceful, with no more insurgency and thanked the AU for the support.

Queen of England in 1962 during the Independence Celebrations.

The Heads of State who graced the Celebrations included our own from the Summit of the East African Community, H.E Mwai Kibaki, H.E Paul Kagame, H.E Pierre Nkurunziza and the Vice President of Tanzania, Dr Bilal Gharib. Other Heads of States were led by the President of Benin and Chairperson of African Union Dr. Thomas Yayi I. Boni, President of Zimbabwe H.E Robert Mugabe, President of Mauritius H.E. Kailas Purryag, President of Southern Sudan, H.E. Salva Kiir, President of Somalia H.E. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, President of Egypt H.E. Mohammed Morsi, the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo H.E Joseph Kabila, President of Botswana, H.E Ian Khama, President of Nigeria, H.E Jonathan Goodluck, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, Ato Haile Mariam Deslegn, President of Djibouti Ismaïl Omar Guelleh and President of Egypt H.E. Mohammed Morsi.

Also present were heads of Governments, Speakers, their excellencies Ambassadors and High Commissioners and Members of the Defence Forces.

President Museveni, welcomed all presidents and leaders of Governments and thanked them for joining Ugandans. The President announced that Uganda was now peaceful, with no more insurgency and thanked the AU for the support. He indeed called upon citizens to remain steadfast in actualizing Uganda's potential for Development.

The celebrations at Kololo were characterized by a beautiful parade of the uniformed forces, as well as companies and industries exhibiting products. Music groups interspersed the well attended celebrations with interludes, melodies and songs depicting various cultural diversities of Uganda.

The weeklong celebrations were preceded by various celebrations. The Parliament led by Rt. Hon Rebecca Kadaga organized a National Prayer Breakfast which was graced by H E President Museveni and the First Lady, H.E. Janet Museveni, EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Margaret Zziwa as well as International preachers from other Parts of Africa.

The Uganda Women Parliamentarians Association (UWOPA) also organized celebrations to mark the long Walk of Ugandan Women. They recognized several personalities who made a significant mark on the lives of Ugandan Women. The Rt. Hon Speaker of EALA was recognized and awarded a Prestigious Award of Women of Power who have transformed the lives of Women in Uganda.

EALA and indeed EAC congratulates Uganda upon attaining 50 years of Independence and takes pride in the achievements registered to the people of Uganda and East Africa as a whole.

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY SOCCER TOURNAMENT FOR NAIROBI

...Who will win the coveted trophy?



The EALA/EAC team who finished third last year are gunning for the trophy

It is that time again when legislators swop their oratory and debating skills with soccer mastery skills when the Inter-Parliamentary Soccer tournament kicks off. The extravaganza takes place on December 7-14, 2012 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The Annual Inter-Parliamentary Soccer tournament brings together football teams from the National Assemblies and EALA/EAC team. The Parliament of Uganda are the reigning champions having beaten the Burundi National Assembly 4-1 in the finals played at the Prince Loius Rwagasore National Stadium in Bujumbura on November 29, 2011. A hat-trick (3 goals) then by Kampala legislator, Hon Mohammed Nseroko and another by Captain Hon Odonga Otto was enough to enable Parliament of Uganda win the trophy. Hon Aime Nkurunziza scored the consolation goal for the Parliament of Burundi.

The EAC/EALA team took third place after beating Bunge FC of Kenya National Assembly 2-1 in an entertaining third place play-off.

All teams have been going through rigourous training in readiness for the tournament and are expected to put their best show forward.



President Pierre Nkurunziza is introduced to players of the Parliament of Uganda by Captain Hon Odonga Otto



Rt. Hon Eriya Kategaya is introduced to Hon Christophe Bazivamo by Captain Hon Bernard Mulengani



BRIEFS FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES

UGANDA

Institute of Parliamentary Studies launched in Uganda

The Speaker of Parliament, Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, recently launched the Institute of Parliamentary Studies, intended to train current and future Members of Parliament and legislative staff in lawmaking procedures.

The function held at Parliament Building was part of the activities held during the Parliamentary Week to mark 50 years of Uganda's Independence.

Speaker Kadaga said that at times Members of Parliament immediately start legislative work after being elected and sworn in, without any training or experience in parliamentary studies.

"On joining Parliament, we as Members come from different backgrounds and professions such as law, medicine, education, civil society, business and converge in the House to immediately legislate, oversee the activities of the Executive and represent our people in a wide range of issues," she said.

She said that issues that confront different Parliaments vary over the years and that support staff, who are

the long term memory of the institution also need specific skills in the delivery of their services.

"It is important that Parliament builds a strong mechanism for capacity building for MPs, Committees and staff to enable them perform their duties effectively," said Hon. Kadaga.

In addition, the Institute of Parliamentary Studies – Uganda, will train local government councilors; provide capacity building to neighboring and regional African countries; inform NGOs, civil society and media on Parliamentary procedures and conduct Parliamentary research.

Institute of Parliamentary Studies – Uganda is supported by Parliament's development partners including the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (with support from DFID) and Democratic Governance Facility, Makerere University, African Centre for Media Excellence, the Foundation for Human Rights Initiative and the Economic Policy Research Centre.

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Parliament hosts workshop on CDF

The Parliament of Tanzania recently hosted a two day workshop for legislators from the continent to deliberate on some of the key issues revolving on Constituency Development Funds (CDF) in Africa.

The workshop organised by Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) International was held to develop a toolkit for CDF Participatory mechanisms and designing a framework for a comprehensive toolbox to assist MPs in making CDF more responsive to the communities' needs. According to a press release issued by Parliament of Tanzania Information Officer, Owen Mwandumba, the workshop brought together various legislators from the region and beyond.

In attendance were MPs from Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Kenya and Uganda. Others were from

Ghana and Nigeria. In his remarks, Hon Musa Azzann Zumungu, Chairperson of the CPA Tanzania branch and Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs and Security, Parliament of Tanzania, noted that the management of funds and encompassing citizens' participation in the matters was key and vital.

'This meeting gives us an opportunity to have robust discussions on the issues as they apply to particular CPA branches and in the broader world context', he noted.

Hon Dr. Faustine Ndungulile, MP, Tanzania, however maintained that challenges continued to be realised in the successful implementation of the CDF owing to considerably higher demand for funding projects compared to the actual costs available.

 **RWANDA**

Six Senators sworn in

President Paul Kagame swore in six Senators on October 11, 2012, replacing outgoing Senators whose term of office of eight years in the Senate came to an end.

The incoming Senators are: Hon. Prof. Karangwa Chrysologue, Hon. Kalimba Zephyrin, Hon. Mukakalisa Jeanne d'Arc, Hon. Nyagahura Margaret, Hon. Uwimana Consolée and Hon. Uyisenga Charles.

In his remarks, the President assured the Senators of his full co-operation and urged them to actively undertake their responsibilities.

The outgoing Senators who have been serving since October 2004 are Hon. Karemera Joseph, Hon. Kamanzi Seth, Hon. Gacinya Teddy, Hon. Mukabaranga Agnès, Hon. Sebishwi Juvénal and Hon. Umulisa Henriette.

 **BURUNDI**

Burundi National Assembly launches new Strategic Plan

The National Assembly of Burundi has launched a new Strategic Plan (2012-2015) that shall see Parliament contribute decisively to ensure the modernization and performance of the Parliamentary institution and administration.

Launching the Plan, the Vice President of the National Assembly remarked that Parliament was committed to defending the interests of the citizens through oversight and representation, in order to ensure a floundering democracy, good governance, national reconciliation. The components of the Strategic Plan were presented by the Administrative

Secretary General of the National Assembly, Marc Rwabahungu while his colleague at the Senate, Ernest Mberamiheto, presented the Priority Action Plan.

The Strategic Plan of the Parliament, which is organized around six axes, will help the National Assembly and the Senate to address some major challenges, namely the formulation and implementation of policies, the status of their personnel, the performance of human resources, infrastructure acquisition and transmission of plenary activities by the media.

 **KENYA**

PSC Makes Senior Appointments

The Parliamentary Service Commission made new appointments for various positions of the Management of the Parliamentary Service in October 2012. The changes are part of the preparations for the bi-cameral parliament expected in 2013. A statement from the official website of the Parliament of Kenya stated that Mr. Jeremiah Makokha Nyegenye was appointed Clerk of the Senate while Mr. Justin Nthiri Bundi, who served as Clerk to the East African Legislative Assembly between 2004-2009 is the new Clerk of the National Assembly. He takes over from Mr. Patrick Gichuru Gichohi, CBS who is retiring. The

two Clerks will provide leadership in their respective Houses.

In other appointments, Mr. Clement Mayieko Nyandiere is the new Director General, Parliamentary Joint Services to oversee the shared services between the two Houses notably the Directorates of Finance and Accounting; Human Resources and Administration; Information and Research; and Litigation and Compliance.

Mrs Consolata Waithera Munga and Mr. Michael Rotich Sialai were appointed Senior Deputy Clerks for the Senate and National Assembly respectively.



OFFICE OF CLERK



KENNETH MADETE



ALEX OBATRE



STEVEN MUGUME



BEATRICE NDAYIZEYE



ELIZABETH BARINDA



WINIFRED KALIBA



EMILIANA TUHOYE



EMILY OKEMA



ELIZABETH GITONGA



ABUBAKAR HASSAN



PRISCILLA AMODING



JASMINE ATHUMAN



YUSUF JULIUS MLONGE



VILLANOVA MOSHA



WILSON MASILA



POLYCARP AKUKU



HONEST LYIMO



BOBI ODIKO



MUKHTAR BOLYAO

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEP.

SERJEANT-AT-ARMS DEPARTMENT



EZEKIEL MIGOSI



JOVITUS NKERAMIGAMBI



STEPHEN KIKWAI



WYCLIFF KETTO

IT DEPARTMENT



CHRISTOPHE MPOZAYO



EDNA MBASSA

HANSARD DEPARTMENT



GLORIA NAKEBU



LOICE AMPAIRE



WILLIAM KAMKET

LIBRARY & RESEARCH DEPARTMENT



CHARLES KADONYA



ENOCH MUSIIME



CHARLOTTE KYOMUHANGI



ADAM MAMUYA



JOYCE ULOY

ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT



JOSEPH MALESİ



ABELA KAMUZORA



OSMOND TUMANIEL



LUCY LUCAS



ALI DOTTO



EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

*wishes you a Merry Christmas
& a Happy New Year*



ONE PEOPLE, ONE DESTINY