

**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY TO REINSTATE THE PENDING BILLS.

(Moved under Articles 49 and 59 of the EAC Treaty and in line with Part XII of the Assembly Rules of Procedures)

Moved by Hon. Dr. Abdullah H. Makame and adopted by the August House on 22nd June, 2023

WHEREAS, the East African Legislative Assembly is the legislative organ of the East African Community, **AND WHEREAS** the legislative mandate of the Assembly is best signified by the Bills it enacts in accordance with *Articles 49 and 59 of the EAC Treaty* and in line with Part XII of the Assembly Rules of Procedures which provides for the legislative process;

AWARE THAT, the 4th Assembly had commenced the consideration of a number of Bills but was unable to enact the Bills into EAC laws at the time of its dissolution on 17th December, 2022, and therefore saved the Bills for reconsideration by the successor Assembly;

NOTING THAT, the 5th Assembly succeeded the 4th Assembly on 19th December, 2023, and the new EALA Commission received a report of the pending Bills and therefore, resolved that the Bills be reinstated in the 5th Assembly – the Bills and their status as at the expiry of the term of the 4th Assembly as indicated below:

NO	NAME OF THE BILL	STATUS
1.	The East African Community Livestock Bill, 2021	First Reading on 9 th February, 2021. After this, there was no further progress. It was referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources (ATNR) <i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i>

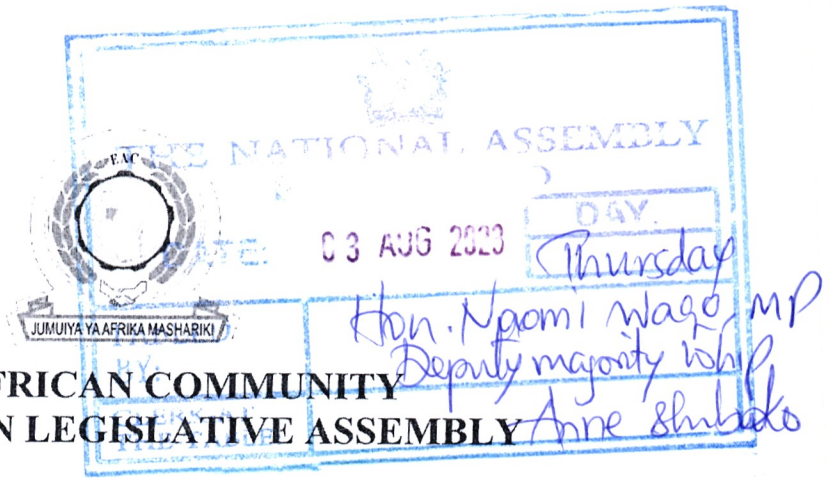
2.	The East African Community Whistle Blowers Bill, 2016	<p>The Bill was referred to the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges on 14th March, 2018.</p> <p>The Committee conducted public hearings on the Bill in EAC Partner States in October 2018.</p> <p><i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i></p>
3.	The East African Community Retirement Benefits for Specified Heads of Organs Bill, 2016	<p>The Bill was referred to the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges on 14th March, 2018 for scrutiny.</p> <p><i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i></p>
4.	The East African Community Trade Negotiations (Repeal) Bill, 2014	<p>The Bill was referred to the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment on 14th March, 2018.</p> <p><i>The 2nd Reading was postponed. The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i></p>
5.	The East African Youth Council Bill, 2017	<p>The Bill was referred to the Committee on General Purpose on 14th March, 2018.</p> <p><i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i></p>
6.	The East African Community Cross Border Trade in Professional Services Bill, 2017	<p>The Bill was referred to the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment on 14th March, 2018.</p> <p><i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i></p>
7.	The East African Community Pharmaceuticals Bill, 2019	<p>First Reading on 24/2/2020 and referred to the Committee on General Purpose.</p> <p><i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i></p>
8.	The Community Emblems (Amendment) Bill, 2021	<p>First Reading on 1st Dec, 2021 and referred to the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges.</p>

		<i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i>
9.	The East African Community Sexual and Reproductive Health Bill, 2021	First Reading on 30 th June, 2021 and referred to the Committee on General Purpose. <i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i>
10.	The East African Community Cultural Heritage, Bill, 2022	First Reading on 16 th February, 2022. <i>The Committee did not finalize the assignment due to time constraint.</i>

NOW THEREFORE, THIS ASSEMBLY DO RESOLVE THAT: -

- 1) In accordance with Rule 94B the pending Bills of the 4th Assembly as considered by the EALA Commission be reinstated as business of the 5th Assembly; and
- 2) Each Bill be treated as a fresh reference.

Seconded by: Hon. Namara Denis



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND PARTNER STATES TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AND YOUTH IN BUSINESS AND TO EQUIP THEM TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE AfCFTA

(Moved under Articles 49(2)(d), 59(1), 120, 121(a)(c) &(e) and 122 of the Treaty and Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly)

Moved by: Hon. Francoise Uwumukiza and adopted by the August House on 22nd June, 2023

WHEREAS the Community recognises the importance of women as a vital economic link between agriculture, industry and trade and committed in Article 122 of the Treaty to increase the participation of women in business and to promote special programmes for women in small, medium and largescale enterprises;

AND WHEREAS under Article 120 of the Treaty, Partner States undertook to cooperate in the development and implementation of a common approach towards the youth and other disadvantaged and marginalised groups in the Community;

NOTING that one of the primary objectives of the Agreement for the Establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) is inclusive socio-economic development, with opportunities for women and youth and the importance of gender equality;

FURTHER NOTING that Article 27 (2) (d) of the African Union Protocol on Trade in Services, also enshrines the commitment of Member States to improve the export capacity of both formal and informal service suppliers, with particular attention to micro, small and medium size; women and youth service suppliers;

RECOGNISING that women in Africa are predominantly engaged in subsistence agriculture and make up a large part of the agricultural labour force and produce much of Africa's food with over a majority of cross-border traders, especially those engaged in informal trade, being women;

CONCERNED that for decades, women and youth in the EAC region have been trapped in poverty cycles due to several underlying factors including unequal access to education, factors of production, and trade facilities; inequitable labor-saving technologies; underpaid or unpaid labour; harmful cultural practices; and limited legal protection from gender inequality practices entrenched in society;

FURTHER CONCERNED that due to the lower literacy levels, women are more likely to face difficulties in complying with border management procedures given the paperwork requirements, such as sanitary and phytosanitary certificates, certificates of origin, trade permits and export certificates which limit and affect their access and participation in trade and development activities;

GRATEFUL to the Council of Ministers and our Partner States for their collective efforts in promoting the movement of goods and services across borders under the Common Market generally and enhancing the participation of women in business in particular, through the adoption and implementation of the EAC Strategy for Promoting Women in Business and Women's Socio-Economic Empowerment, the removal of several tariff and non-tariff trade barriers, the implementation of the EAC Single Customs Territory and the application of the revised EAC Rules of Origin which have eased doing business in the region.

GRATEFUL to the East African Women in Business Platform which in collaboration with the East African Business Council and with support of TradeMark East Africa are currently implementing the Greater Inclusion of Women in Trade Project under which the Community aims to increase the value of trade done by women owned businesses in the EAC regional trade;

CONVINCED that pursuant to their commitment under Article 122(e) of the Treaty, the Council of Ministers and the Partner States need to enhance their support for women entrepreneurs and producers and the national and regional associations of women in business in order promote the effective participation of women in trade and development and to equip women in business to take full advantage of the potential and the opportunities available to them through the AfCFTA.

AWARE that under Article 49(2)(d) of the Treaty, the Assembly may discuss any matter pertaining to the Community and make recommendations to the Council;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AS FOLLOWS: -

THAT in accordance with Article 49(2) (d) of the Treaty, the Assembly urges the Council of Ministers and the Partner States to:

- (a) develop and implement programs and activities specifically targeting women and youth aimed at enhancing the capacity of Women and Youth start-ups or entrepreneurs and producers in the Community in order to increase the effective participation of women and youth in business;

- (b) Direct the Secretary General to explore and enhance engagement with the private sector, the business community, and Development Partners to increase and support programs that boost the capacity of women and youth start-ups or entrepreneurs and producers to participate in cross-border trade and the AfCFTA;
 - (c) Direct the Secretary-General to mobilise funds from development partners, private sector and Partner States to support women and youth business led platforms and collaborate with the East African Business Council (EABC) in implementing programmes and activities to support women and youth businesses.
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Seconded by: HON. GAI DENG