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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Approved
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THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT- THIRD SESSION

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION

REPORT ON THE INSPECTION VISIT TO THE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS
INSTITUTIONS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND THE CENTRAL
CORRIDOR IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

NOVEMBER, 2024

*The Directorate of Audit, Appropriations
& General Purpose Committees
The National Assembly
Parliament Buildings
NAIROBI*



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ABBREVIATIONS

AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
CMP	Common Market Protocol
EAC	East African Community
EACKC	East Africa Kiswahili Commission
GoK	Government of Kenya
RECs	Regional Economic Communities

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

In furtherance of the oversight mandate of the Select Committee on Regional Integration and in line with the overarching desire to strengthen regional integration through people's representatives, at its sitting held on 3rd August, 2023, the Committee resolved to conduct an inspection and familiarization tour of the following semi-autonomous institutions/organs of the East African Community (EAC) in addition to interacting with the relevant committees on regional integration in Parliaments of partner states:-

- 1) East African Kiswahili Commission in Zanzibar, Tanzania, and;
- 2) The Port of Dar es Salaam which is the starting point of the Central Corridor.

The general objective of the visit was to familiarize Members with the work of the EAC institutions/organs and assess the status of implementation of various projects and programmes with a view to evaluating progress and identify intervention measures aimed at promoting the East African Community integration agenda.

Additionally, the visit provided Members with an opportunity to interact and share experiences with their counterparts in other EAC Partner States.

A delegation of the Select Committee on Regional Integration undertook an inspection visit of the East Africa Kiswahili Commission (EAKC) between the 24th and 29th March 2024. The main purpose of the visit was to find out the role played by the Commission (EACKC) in coordinating and promoting the development and use of Kiswahili as a *lingua franca* and official language within EAC. This is in line with the Committee's mandate of enhancing the role and involvement of the House in the intensification of the integration process in the East African Community and the greater African region.

The visit was also meant to find out the progress made by the Commission in discharging its mandate under the EAC Treaty and the challenges thereof for purposes of reporting to the House.

The Commission was established due to the critical role of Kiswahili language in fostering regional integration. Article 137 of the EAC Treaty provides for the development and use of Kiswahili as the *lingua franca* of the Community. The Protocol for the Establishment of EAKC was signed in April 2007. EAKC was established in 2007 by the 5th Extraordinary Summit and commenced operations in July 2015 in Arusha. The EAKC moved to Zanzibar in March 2016 following the signing of the HQ Agreement with United Republic of Tanzania in 2015.

During the visit, the Committee held consultative meetings with the secretariat of the Commission to share experiences and challenges they face in the development and implementation of sound regional Kiswahili policies. Also, the Committee held a consultative meeting with Kenyans working and living in Zanzibar. One of the key observations by the delegation was that the issue of payment of business visas every three months by Kenyans in Tanzania is not tenable in light of protocols on the free movement of goods and services and the issues needs to be addressed diplomatically. The differences in the payment of carriage service fees at the ports in Tanzania need to be addressed. Kenyans are required to pay 35 US dollars for economy class from Dares salaam to Zanzibar while Tanzanians only pay Tanzanian shillings 30,000. This issue must be addressed by the Technical Committee on Transport.

The Committee recommends that Kenya and Tanzania continue to enhance their bilateral relations by fostering regular exchange programmes, collaborative initiatives, and high-level engagements. Strengthening these relations will create a conducive environment for successful regional integration and cooperation. In this regard, there is a need for further diplomatic consultations with the Tanzanian government to make their laws more facilitative for investment by Kenyans.

In addition, the delegation had the opportunity to visit the Kenya High Commission in Dar es Salaam and held fruitful discussions with the High Commissioner, where he affirmed the need to build a strong EAC. He emphasized on the need to meet with various Committees of the Council of Ministers in the coming days to explore joint efforts of resolving the non-tariff barriers to trade issues before June 2024. The discussions emphasized the importance of fostering cooperation within the region in trade, infrastructure development, and socioeconomic growth.

The Report contains presentations, observations, and recommendations from the inspection visit conducted by a delegation of the Committee on Regional Integration to Zanzibar and Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania, from 24th to 29th March 2024. The Committee extends its gratitude to the leadership of the EAK Commission, the Executive Secretary, Dr. Caroline Asiimwe, and the Kenya High Commissioner to Tanzania, Mr. Isaac Njenga for their invaluable support during the inspection visit.

I wish to most sincerely thank the Speaker and the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly for the invaluable support accorded to the Committee in the discharge of its mandate.

On behalf of the Members of the Select Committee on Regional Integration and pursuant to Standing Order 212, it is my pleasure and duty to present to the House, the Committee's **Report on the Inspection visit to the Semi-Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania.**

HON. DAVID OCHIENG, MP - LEADER OF THE DELEGATION

1.0 PREFACE

1.1. Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

1. The Committee on Regional Integration is a select Committee of the House established Standing Order 212 of the National Assembly's Standing Orders which sets out the mandate of the Committee. The Committee was constituted in October 2023 following adoption of a motion on membership of committees by the House. The Committee comprises of 21 members who will serve for the life of the 13th Parliament.
2. The Committee is also mandated to –
 - examine the records of all the relevant debates and resolutions of the meetings of the East African Legislative Assembly;
 - (a) examine the Bills introduced in the East African Legislative Assembly and Acts of the East African Community;
 - (b) examine the records of all the relevant debates and resolutions of the meetings of the Pan African Parliament, the African, Caribbean and Pacific European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly and other regional integration bodies; and inquire into and examine any other matter relating to regional integration generally requiring action by the House.

1.2. Committee Membership

3. The Committee comprises of the following twenty-one Members -

Hon. Wanjiku Muhia, MP – Chairperson
Kipipiri Constituency

United Democratic Alliance

Hon. Farah Salah Yakub, MP - Vice- Chairperson
FAFI Constituency

United Democratic Alliance

Hon. David Ochieng Ouma, MP
Ugenya Constituency
Movement for Democracy and Growth

Hon. Naomi Jillo Waqo, MP
Marsabit (CWR)
United Democratic Alliance

Hon. Geoffrey Makokha Odanga, MP
Matayos Constituency
Orange Democratic Party
Hon. Joseph Gachoki Gitari, MP

Kirinyaga Central Constituency
United Democratic Party

Hon. Christopher Aseka Wangaya, MP
Khwisero Constituency
Orange Democratic Party

Hon. Danson Mwashako Mwakuwona,
MP

Wundanyi Constituency
Wiper Democratic Movement

Hon. Andrew Adipo Okuome, MP
Karachuonyo Constituency

Orange Democratic Party

Hon. Rael Chepkemai Kasiwai, MP
West Pokot (CWR)

Kenya Union Party

Hon. Peter Ochieng Orero, MP
Kibra Constituency

Orange Democratic Alliance

Hon. Elizabeth Karambu Kailemia, MP
Meru (CWR)

United Democratic Alliance

Hon. Julius Kipletting Rutto, MP
Kesses Constituency

United Democratic Party

Hon. Beatrice Chepng'eno Kemei, MP
Kericho (CWR)

United Democratic Alliance

Hon. Fatuma Hamisi Masito, MP
Kwale (CWR)

Orange Democratic Party

Hon. Peter Kalerwa Salasya, MP
Mumias East Constituency

Democratic Alliance Party

Hon. Irene Njoki Mrembo, MP
Bahati Constituency

Jubilee Party

Hon. Richard Kipkemai Yegon, MP
Bomet East Constituency

United Democratic Alliance

Hon. Didmus Wekesa Barasa Mutua, MP
Kimilili Constituency

United Democratic Alliance

Hon. Zaheer Jhanda, MP

Nyaribari Chache Constituency

United Democratic Party

Hon. Japheth Nyakundi Mokaya, MP
Kitutu Chache North Constituency

United Democratic Party

1.3. Committee Secretariat

4. The secretariat facilitating the Committee comprises: –

Mr. Mohamed Jimale	-	Clerk Assistant I (Team Leader)
Ms. Jane Gathoni Ouko	-	Clerk Assistant III
Mr. Bernard Toroitich	-	Clerk Assistant III
Mr. Dominic Kyallo	-	Legal Counsel II
Mr. Damacrine Kwamboka	-	Research Officer III
Mr. Moses Kariuki	-	Sergeant - at -Arms
Ms. Mercy Mayende	-	Media Relations Officer III

2.0 INSPECTION VISIT TO THE SEMI-AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTIONS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

2.1 Background

5. The Select Committee on Regional Integration is established under the National Assembly Standing Order 212 and is mandated among others to enhance the role and involvement of the House in intensification and development of the integration process in the East African Community and the greater African region and examine any other matter relating to regional integration generally requiring action by the House.
6. The Committee, in its meetings held on Thursday, March 2024, resolved to undertake an inspection visit to the East Africa Kiswahili Commission, the port of Zanzibar, the port of Dar es Salaam and pay a courtesy call to the office of the High Commissioner of Kenya to Tanzania.
7. A delegation comprising five Members visited the EAKC and Kenya High Commission in Dar es Salaam as scheduled from the 24th to 29th March, 2024. As per the schedule of the visit, the delegation couldn't visit the port of Zanzibar and the Port of Dar es Salaam due to unavoidable circumstances.

2.2 Composition of the delegation

8. The Committee resolved to undertake an inspection and familiarization visit on the EAKC to assess the status of the implementation of its projects and programmes with a view to evaluating progress and identify any intervention measures aimed at promoting the EAC integration agenda. The following Members constituted the delegation:
 - a) Hon. David Ochieng, MP - **Leader of the Delegation**
 - b) Hon. Christopher Aseka, MP
 - c) Hon. Joseph Gitari, MP
 - d) Hon. Beatrice Kemei, MP
 - e) Mr. Dominic Mwendwa - **Legal Counsel II/Delegation Secretary**

2.3 Objectives of the Inspection Visit

9. The objective of the inspection visit was to find out the progress made by semi-autonomous institutions/organs of the East African Community and the EAC Kiswahili Commission in the coordination and promotion of the development and use of Kiswahili in the region and beyond. This was important because the Commission is one of the semi-autonomous institutions of the EAC charged with the responsibility of ensuring the development of Kiswahili as a lingua franca for regional and international interaction for political, economic, social, cultural, educational, scientific and technical development.

3.0 BRIEF BY KISWAHILI COMMISSION

10. The Delegation visited the East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC) on the 25th March 2024. The Executive Secretary that the East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC) is a specialized institution of the East African Community whose mandate is to coordinate and promote the development and use of Kiswahili as a lingua franca and official language.

11. The Executive Secretary further submitted that the Kiswahili Commission was established due to the critical role of Kiswahili in fostering regional integration in line with Article 137 of the EAC Treaty which provides for the development and use of Kiswahili as the lingua franca of the Community.
12. The Protocol for the Establishment of EAKC was signed in April 2007 by the Fifth Extraordinary Summit. It was observed that the EAKC commenced operations in July 2015 in Arusha. The Kiswahili Commissioner elaborated that the EAKC moved to Zanzibar in March 2016 following the signing of the HQ Agreement with the United Republic of Tanzania in 2015.

3.1 Main Functions of the Kiswahili Commission

13. The Executive secretary informed the delegation that the main function of EAKC is to advise the Community on all matters related to Kiswahili.
14. The other functions of EAKC according to the Executive secretary include —
 - a) Coordinate and oversee the work of National Kiswahili Councils and other institutions;
 - b) Strengthen collaboration in regional research;
 - c) Assist Partner States develop centres of advanced study and research in Kiswahili;
 - d) Establish collaborations with development partners and existing organizations with similar objectives;
 - e) Facilitate the development of regional Kiswahili policies for the exchange of staff and students in Kiswahili Institutions and monitor the effectiveness of such policies;
 - f) Identify Kiswahili training needs including curriculum review, teaching methods, development of instructional materials and research;
 - g) Advocate for the use of Kiswahili as a lingua franca within the Community and beyond;
 - h) Encourage the use of Kiswahili in the conduct of official business and public life within the Community; and,
 - i) Perform any other function for the furtherance of the objectives of the Commission as may be directed by the Council.

3.2 Composition of the Commission

15. The EAKC is composed of the following representatives:
 - a) Two representatives of the National Kiswahili Councils for each Partner State;
 - b) Two representatives of the Kiswahili Associations of each Partner State;
 - c) A representative of Kiswahili Research Institutions for each Partner State;
 - d) A representative of the Kiswahili Departments of the Public and Private Universities of each Partner State;
 - e) A representative of the Kiswahili media operators for each Partner State;
 - f) A representative of the Media Council of each Partner State;

- g) A representative of the Kiswahili Writers Association of each Partner State;
- h) A representative of the Ministry responsible for Kiswahili in each Partner State;
- i) A representative of the Ministry responsible for Culture in each Partner State, and;
- j) A representative of the Ministry responsible for Education in each Partner State.

3.3 Key Achievements of the Commission

16. Since its establishment, the EAC Kiswahili Commission has achieved the following:

- a. **EAKC Kiswahili International Conference** - EAKC organizes the Kiswahili International Conference biannually. It brings together researchers, practitioners and stakeholders to share knowledge and experiences on contemporary developments in Kiswahili. The first EAKC International Kiswahili Conference was held in 2017 in Zanzibar. The Second Conference was affected by the Covid 19 pandemic and was scheduled to be held in **Nairobi Kenya in July 2024. (7th of July 2024)**;
- b. **Capacity Assessment of the Development and Use of Kiswahili in the EAC** - The EAKC undertook a capacity assessment in EAC Partner States to establish the capacities and challenges partner states were facing in the promotion and development of Kiswahili. The report was made and approved by the 38th Council of Ministers. The outcome of the report has been useful in developing interventions by the EAKC; and;
- c. **Conducted Analysis of Priority Training needs in EAC Partner States** to identify challenges confronting the development and promotion of Kiswahili in the EAC, an analysis of needs was carried out to identify critical areas in Partner States that require prioritization by the Commission. The Commission in consultation with Partner States identified areas with regard to priority training needs in Kiswahili that address individual interests and each Partner State's strategic interests in Kiswahili. The priority training needs are as follows—

i. Republic of Burundi

- a) Kiswahili Training for Basic Education Teachers (Primary and Secondary);
- b) Kiswahili Training for Civil Service; and,
- c) Training for Kiswahili Media.

ii. Republic of Kenya

- a) Kiswahili Training for Parliament;
- b) Training for Kiswahili Media;
- c) Kiswahili Training for the Judiciary.

iii. Republic of Rwanda

- a) Kiswahili Training for Trade and Business (SMEs);
- b) Training for Kiswahili Media; and,
- c) Kiswahili Training in the Education Sector (Teacher Training Colleges).

iv. Republic of South Sudan

- a) Training of Teachers of Kiswahili at Secondary School Level;
- b) Training in Kiswahili as a Cross-Border Language; and,

- c) Training for Kiswahili Media.

v. United Republic of Tanzania

- a) Training experts to teach Kiswahili as a Foreign Language;
- b) Training for Kiswahili Media; and,
- c) Training for Kiswahili Creative Industry.

vi. Republic of Uganda

- a) Kiswahili Training for Parliament;
- b) Training for Kiswahili Media; and;
- c) Kiswahili Training in the Education Sector.

- d. **Development of Kiswahili Training Programmes and Manuals** - The Commission developed Programmes and Manuals for Kiswahili teaching and training in order to respond to existing Kiswahili needs by partner states. They include:
 - i. Kiswahili Training Programmes for experts to teach Kiswahili to users of other languages for United Republic of Tanzania;
 - ii. Kiswahili Training Programmes for Parliament of Uganda;
 - iii. Kiswahili Training Programmes for Parliament of Kenya;
 - iv. Kiswahili Training Programmes for Teachers of Kiswahili at Secondary School Level for the Republic of South Sudan;
 - v. Kiswahili Training Programmes for Basic Education Teachers (Primary and
 - vi. Secondary) for the Republic of Burundi, and;
 - vii. Kiswahili Training Programmes for Trade and Business (SMEs) for the Republic of Rwanda.
- e. **Training of Trainers for Implementation of Kiswahili Training programmes** - The Commission undertook a training of 60 (sixty) resource persons/trainers who would facilitate the implementation of the Training programmes in the respective Partner States. For each Partner State, ten (10) resource persons underwent the training which equipped them with the requisite skills and competencies to train others for the effective implementation of programmes. This was done following the successful finalization and adoption of the EAKC Kiswahili Training Programmes and Manuals for Kiswahili training in the EAC Partner States.
- f. **Development of EAKC Mobility Policy and Programmes** - The Commission developed an inclusive Mobility Policy and Programmes which is aimed at fostering mobility of staff, students, government officials, media practitioners, civil society and business people. The EAKC facilitated 26 stakeholders in the first phase of implementation of the programmes. The policy has contributed to capacity building in Partner States with capacity challenges in Kiswahili.
- g. **Partnerships and Collaborations** - The EAKC aims to establish strategic partnerships and collaborations which contribute to enhanced implementation of activities, resource mobilization and visibility. The EAKC is in collaboration with the African Union (AU) through ACALAN for the implementation of the Dar es Salaam Framework for Action

for the Recognition and Promotion of Kiswahili in Africa. EAKC has also initiated collaborations with MSTCDC, UNESCO, Howard University-USA, and SAFAL Group Foundation among others. The Commission works with several other regional organizations with an interest in Kiswahili.

- h. **Centres of Advanced Study and Research in Kiswahili** - The EAKC is mandated to coordinate the establishment of Centres of Advanced Study and Research in Kiswahili in the Partner States. The Commission has developed the Principles and Guidelines for the establishment of these centres which were considered by the 15th SCESTCS. Moreover, the Commission is mobilizing resources to facilitate the establishment of these centres.
- i. **Research and publications** - The EAKC has the mandate to coordinate research in Kiswahili and has contributed to several publications on contemporary topical issues in Kiswahili. EAKC supports research in Kiswahili by offering competitive research grants to postgraduate students in universities undertaking research in Kiswahili in the EAC Partner States. This is aimed at building capacities for research in Kiswahili. There is however need for more funding to support young researchers. Currently, the Commission has funded postgraduate students from EAC Partner States for their research.
- j. **Translation of EAC Documents into Kiswahili** - One of the mandates of the EAKC is to translate key documents of the Community into Kiswahili. This is to enable the majority of the citizens of the EAC Partner States to access the documents in a language most understandable to them. The Commission translated the EAC Treaty from English into Kiswahili. The draft translated treaty has been considered by the 15th Sectoral Council for Education, Science and Technology, Culture and Sports (SCESTCS) and sent to Partner States for Comments. Comments have been received waiting for funds to undertake final validation.
- k. **Implementation of Kiswahili as an Official Language of the EAC** - The 21st Summit of EAC Heads of State declared Kiswahili an official language of the Community. The Summit directed that a Roadmap be developed for implementation of the Summit directive. The EAKC developed the roadmap, which was approved by the 17th SCESTCS and by the 42nd Council. Summit directed that the roadmap be expeditiously implemented and EAKC has commenced implementation of the road-map.
- l. **Celebration of World Kiswahili Day** - The 7th of July was designated by UNESCO in Nov 2021 as World Kiswahili Language Day to be celebrated annually. The EAC Council adopted this and directed that the celebrations be held annually on rotational basis in all EAC Partner States. The 1st EAC World Kiswahili Language Day was held in Zanzibar in July 2022 and, the 2nd one was held in Kampala, Uganda in July 2023. The 3rd one would be held in Kenya in July 2024.

3.4 Development of 2nd EAKC Strategic Plan

17. The Executive Secretary observed that the implementation period for the 1st EAKC Strategic Plan (2017-2022) had expired. However, the Commission is currently developing its 2nd Strategic Plan which will guide the implementation of activities of the Commission for the next five years.

18. It was further reported that consultations with Partner States stakeholders are planned for April 2024.

3.5 Main Challenges

19. In her presentation, the Executive Secretary identified several challenges that the Commission is facing in the implementation of its mandate as provided for in the protocol.

20. The main challenges identified were as follows—

- a) Inadequate staffing which impedes the implementation of activities;
- b) Inadequate funding for implementation of activities;
- c) Inadequate capacity for resource mobilization;
- d) Lack of a Governing Board leads to delays in decision-making;
- e) Delays in disbursement of funds from Partner States;
- f) Delay in finalization of the EAKC Bill;
- g) Lack of National Kiswahili Councils in some Partner States; and,
- h) Lack of National Kiswahili Policies.

3.6 Recommendation on the Priority Areas

21. The Kiswahili Commission management and the members during the discussions identified the following areas which the Commission needs to prioritize in order to improve its operation. These areas include—

- a) The establishment of a Governing Board for the enhancement of governance and decision-making;
- b) Fast-tracking amendment of the Treaty to provide for Kiswahili as one of the official Languages of the East African Community;
- c) To fast-track the amendment of the EAKC Protocol to address emerging needs of the Commission;
- d) To enhance funding to the Commission for implementation of key activities;
- e) Fast-track the formulation and enactment of the EAKC Bill (CTC to FastTrack drafting of the EAKC Bill);
- f) Finalize the process of handing over the EAKC to the EAC, the Commission to initiate the implementation of Kiswahili as the Official Language of the Community;
- g) The commission should support the enhancement of awareness creation and publicity for enhanced visibility of the Commission to key stakeholders; and,
- h) Processing appointment of staff to critical positions.

3.7 Further recommendation

22. In addition to the above Members recommended that—

- a) The commission should put in place strategies to promote Kiswahili in the community as a lingua franca - a common language for prosperity;
- b) Kenya is teaching Kiswahili in its schools as a compulsory subject in both primary and secondary schools and this is the reason why almost every Kenyan can speak Kiswahili. This should be replicated in all schools of the EAC member states in compliance with Article 7 of the treaty which provides for the community's official language to be both English and Kiswahili;

- c) The EACKC should sensitize the public of member states on its activities geared towards promoting the status of Kiswahili as an official language as well as a lingua franca. The programmes need to be made public and information made accessible to all partner states;
- d) The Commission should work towards standardisation of Swahili in EAC and have more other common documents in translated to Swahili apart from the national anthem. Council resolutions can be in Swahili and English; and,
- e) The commission should push for all EALA documents and EACJ judgements to be in Kiswahili alongside an English version.

4.0 ENGAGEMENT WITH INSTITUTIONS

4.1 Meeting with Kenyans Working and Residing in Zanzibar

- 23. The Officials from the Embassy organized a meeting with the Kenyans working and residing in Zanzibar sought to have a meeting with them which was held at EAKC grounds.
- 24. The Kenyans working in Zanzibar had several challenges that they sought the intervention of Members of the delegation.
- 25. The following were some issues they raised:
 - a) Kenyans are charged for work permits in Tanzania while this is not the case in Kenya where work permits for EAC citizens do not attract charges;
 - b) Business visas are very expensive charged at 100 US Dollars. The payments are done after every three months only at the border therefore requiring Kenyans to travel to the border every three months to renew their business visas. Further the visa also is considered to have expired once a person leaves Tanzania before the lapse of the three period whether to attend an emergency of any other thing in Kenya;
 - c) The working capital or the share capital required for a Kenyan to register a business in Zanzibar is Tanzanian shillings 100,000,000 (Ksh. 5,800,000). This denies Kenyans an opportunity to register medium businesses and only operate under the names of local businesses. This denies them access to loan facilities both in Kenya and Tanzania to expand their businesses;
 - d) Getting a SIM Card is also a big challenge. The sim card to business Visa are valid for three months and one has to undergo the process of registration once again upon renewal of the business visa; and,
 - e) There was a case of a Kenyan advocate trained in the Zanzibar School of Law who was denied admission for lack of a National identity card from mainland Tanzania.
- 26. The Members of the Delegation through the Chairperson committed have a sitting with the Cabinet Secretaries for labour and the East African Community affairs to raise and seek conclusive answers to these challenges.
- 27. The delegation also pledged to address the issue with the High Commissioner. The Member's opined that a business permit should be issued for a period of one year.

4.2 Meeting with the High Commission of Kenya to the United Republic of Tanzania

28. The Delegation paid a courtesy call to the High Commissioner for Kenya in Tanzania on the 28th of March 2024. The High Commissioner welcomed Members and indicated that he was glad that the delegation had visited to find out what the mission was doing in furtherance of the integration process and implementation of the EAC Treaty.
29. During the deliberations, the Commissioner made the following submissions:

4.2.1 Geo-politics

30. The High Commissioner Submitted that the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) is located in East Africa. It is bordered by Uganda to the north, Kenya to the northeast, Comoro Islands and the Indian Ocean to the east, Mozambique and Malawi to the south, Zambia to the south-west, and Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo to the west. The country's landmass is approximately 947,303 sq. km with a coastline of about 1,500km;
31. He further noted that Tanzania is a union between Tanganyika (mainland) and Zanzibar (Island). The Union was formed on 26th April 1964. Tanganyika (mainland) attained its independence on 9th December 1961, while Zanzibar (island) got it's on 10th December 1963; and
32. According to the High Commissioner, the Host Country administratively, has 26 regions in the mainland and 5 in the isles. The regions are divided into districts and further into divisions and wards. Each region is headed by a Regional Commissioner appointed by the President. The Country's political system is a multiparty parliamentary democracy. Elections are held every five (5) years, and constitutionally, the Union President is elected through a popular vote and holds office for a maximum of two terms.
33. The High Commissioner further observed that—
 - a) Elections occur on both the local and national levels. The local government holds elections for street or village chairpersons. General elections at the national level elect the President and the members of the National Assembly. The last general elections were held in October 2020, during which the late Dr. John Pombe Magufuli won with 84% of the votes cast, to become the country's 5th President. The elections attracted 14 presidential candidates. The next general elections are scheduled for 2025 and Local government elections are scheduled for October this year (2024);
 - b) Parliament is unicameral with 393 members out of which 264 are elected members for a 5-year term by popular vote. 113 special seats reserved for women. Ten (10) members nominated by the President. Five (5) seats are also reserved for members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives and the Attorney General. The National Assembly enacts laws that apply to the mainland and URT's engagement with external entities, whereas the Zanzibar House of Representatives have exclusive jurisdiction over legislative functions in Zanzibar; and,
 - c) The President appoints a Prime Minister who serves as the leader of government business in the National Assembly. The country has 18 registered political parties and Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) has ruled the country since independence. The independence party was the Tanganyika African Union (TANU) which later transformed into CCM after merging with the Afro-Shirazi Party (ASP) in 1977.

4.2.2 Socio-cultural organization

34. The high commissioner indicated that understanding the social and cultural organization of the host country is a fundamental principle in international relations as it allows the missions to craft strategies that fit in and strengthen diplomatic ties.
35. He pointed out that The National Philosophy of Ujamaa, by former president Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, remains the foundation of the Tanzanian society. The level of patriotism is very high across all age groups and communities. The population as per the 2022 Population and Housing Census is 61,741,120 and is mainly Muslim, Christian and traditionalist. It is composed of more than 121 ethnic groups and is unified and wellintegrated.
36. The official languages of Tanzania's mainland are Kiswahili and English, while Arabic is widely spoken in Zanzibar.

4.2.3 Security issues

37. The submission by the High commissioner was that the security situation in URT is good.
38. The only Security threats to Tanzania emanate from the insurgent groups operating in Northern Mozambique in the province of Cabo Delgado. To block incursions by this group, URT has deployed troops in her southern region of Ruvuma on both sides along the border. Tanzania is a target of this insurgent group because they contribute troops to the regional peacekeeping initiative, the Southern African Development Mission in Mozambique (SAMM). SAMM is expected to close by mid-July 2024, without much progress. URT may face more security challenges from Islamist groups after July.
39. URT has also contributed troops to the security initiative in eastern DRC alongside Malawi and South Africa. The operations in eastern DRC mostly pits the SADC force against rebel forces, but mostly the MC23 rebels.
37. Kenya and URT militaries have maintained cordial working relations and cooperation over time in mostly areas of information sharing, relations through the EAC framework, bilateral training, and exchange programmes for Directing Staff in Staff Colleges, and students in National Defence Colleges.
38. Other areas include cooperation in International Peace Support Training, EAC Cultural Sports, visits, and the war on terrorism, and the deployment of Defence Advisors in both countries.

4.2.4 Kenya-Tanzania Relations

41. On this, the High Commissioner submitted that Kenya and Tanzania enjoy warm and cordial historical relations based on a shared border, common socio-cultural heritage, commercial ties and a common vision for the East Africa Community. The relations have been enhanced further through recent State Visits and High-level Official Visits from both sides.
42. He emphasised that Tanzania is a strategic partner of Kenya in many areas, particularly trade, security, education, agriculture, infrastructure and energy. Kenya and Tanzania cooperate in the East African Coastal Corridor project run by AfDB connecting Kenya and Tanzania, i.e., the Malindi – Mombasa – Lunga Lunga/Horohoro and Tanga - Pangani - Bagamoyo Road (454km).
43. The High Commissioner further noted the following—

- a) Kenya and Tanzania under the EAC, have three (3) One Stop Border Points (OSBP) at Namanga Border, Lunga Lunga/Horo Horo Border and Taita Taveta/Holili Border and soon-to-be-commissioned Isebania OSBP;
 - b) The Kenya/ Tanzania Joint Commission for Cooperation (JCC) was first held in Arusha, Tanzania in September 2009. Since then, there have been three other sessions.
 - c) The most recent one, i.e., the fourth JCC session was held in August 2021 in Nairobi, Kenya, and a Mid-Term Review of the JCC was held in January 2023. The 5th JCC is expected to be held in August this year (2024);
 - d) Kenya and Tanzania have a Bilateral Agreement on the Free Movement of Goods at
 - e) Border Posts (Signed on 22nd May 2020);
 - f) Tanzania is a strategic and key trading and investment partner of Kenya regionally and globally. It has consistently been Kenya's second-largest export destination after Uganda in East Africa. The EAC Customs Union Protocol guides the two countries' trade relations and investment principles as the Agreement supersedes National Laws;
 - g) Tanzania ranks in the top 10 global destinations for Kenyan exports. Exports to Tanzania registered a 17% growth in 2022 to USD 479.57 million and accounted for 6.5% of Kenya's total exports. Likewise, Kenya ranks in the top ten destinations for Tanzanian total exports globally. Tanzania exports to Kenya in 2022 registered a negative growth of 4% to USD 381.66 million and accounted for 5.6% of Tanzania's total exports;
 - h) Main exports to Tanzania include medicaments; soap and other washing preparations; flat-rolled products of iron or non-alloy steel; mineral fuels and oils; Electric accumulators; Margarine, other edible mixtures or preparations of animal or vegetable fats; Sugar confectionery; Articles for conveyance or packaging; Stoppers, caps and lids; Salts, incl. table salt and denatured salt, and pure sodium chloride;
 - i) Imports from Tanzania to Kenya were valued at Ksh 25.8 billion in 2020, a slight decrease from Ksh 27.5 Billion in 2019. Main Imports from Tanzania into Kenya were: Rice; Maize; Uncoated kraft paper and paperboard; Oilcake and other solid residues; Unglazed ceramic flags and paving; Sacks and bags; Plywood, veneered panel and similar laminated wood; Organic surface-active agents (excluding soap) among others;
 - j) More than 529 Kenyan companies have invested roughly \$1.7 billion in Tanzania, creating employment for about 55,000 Tanzanians. For example, five Kenyan banks namely KCB, Equity, Diamond Trust, I & M Holdings and NCBA Group have opened branches in URT; and
 - k) With the coming to office of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, trade relations with Tanzania have improved with most non-tariff barriers having been resolved.
44. Kenya and Tanzania held the 8th Joint Technical Committee (JTC) on Trade in Kisumu Kenya, in the month of March 2024, with the aim of enhancing bilateral trade by eliminating all non-tariff barriers to trade. The outcome of that bilateral meeting was positive, providing

clear mechanisms and timelines to eliminate all non-tariff barriers by the end of June this year (2024).

4.2.5 Strategic Bilateral Projects/ Programmes

45. The High Commissioner highlighted the ongoing strategic bilateral projects/ programmes between the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania. The strategic bilateral projects are listed below—

- a) 600km Natural Gas Pipeline from Dar es Salaam to Mombasa;
- b) East African Coastal Corridor Project run by the African Development Bank (AfDB) connecting Kenya and Tanzania (the 454 Km Malindi- Bagamoyo Super Highway);
- c) East Africa Power Pool (400KV Singida- Arusha- Namanga transmission line Project;
- d) Re-affirmation and demarcation of the international boundary.

4.3 Diaspora and consular issues

46. The Kenya High Commission provides immigration and consular services to Kenyans living in Tanzania and foreign citizens wishing to visit Kenya. The services include: the processing of issuance of e-visas, travel documents issuance, processing pdf certificates of Good Conduct in Liaison with DCI, authentication of documents, Renunciation certificates processing, visiting Kenyan inmates, visiting ailing Kenyans in medical facilities, responding to queries from Kenyans (like in distress) among others.
47. The Mission maintains a database for the Kenya Diaspora in Tanzania and has an online diaspora registration portal. Kenyans travelling to or residing in Tanzania can register by accessing the link provided on the Missions website. Given the vast nature of Tanzania, the online platform enables Kenyans in Tanzania to register without having to come physically to the High Commission, thus saving travel time and costs.
48. The Mission is following up on enhancing the statistical tool on the online Diaspora Registration Portal in liaison with the Mobile Network Operators to enhance data accuracy on the number of Kenyans that have remained in Tanzania for the long term and those that have already travelled back to Kenya.
49. The Kenya High Commission in partnership with KCB Bank, Kenya Airways, Vodacom and other stakeholders hosted the Diaspora Forum on 9 March 2024 in Dar es Salaam, under the theme, "Forging networks and harnessing the full potential of the Kenya Diaspora in Tanzania". Kenyans living in Tanzania were sensitized on the systems and structures put in place by the Kenya Government to protect the diaspora and harness the opportunities available, the Kenya Diaspora Policy, consular services offered by the Mission and Investment opportunities in Kenya. The Forum also established useful networks for job creation, opening trade routes, skills and technology transfer. The event attracted over 500 Kenyans living in Tanzania.
50. The Kenya High Commission also successfully hosted the Mobile Consular Services exercise on 26th – 27th March 2024, which was organized by the State Department for Diaspora Affairs in conjunction with the State Department for Immigration & Citizen Services. The exercise attracted many Kenyans who were assisted in making applications

for passport renewals, identity cards, birth certificates, emergency travel documents, and consular services among others.

51. Over the years, it has been demonstrated that the Diaspora play an important role in economic development as a source of foreign exchange through Diaspora remittances. Remittance inflows to Kenya have been on an upward trajectory, accounting for more than 3 per cent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It is important to note that in Africa, Tanzania is Kenya's leading source of diaspora remittances.

4.4 Opportunities for Kenya

4.4.1 Development of a Natural Gas Export Project from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania to Mombasa, Kenya

52. Following the discovery of commercial quantities of natural gas in Tanzania, considering the availability of natural gas markets in Tanzania and Kenya and bearing in mind a need for Kenya to access natural gas for their markets, on 04th May 2021, the Governments of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT) and the Republic of Kenya (GoK) entered a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in the development of the Natural Gas Export Project from Tanzania to Kenya.
53. Tanzanian President, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan and Kenyan President, His Excellency William Ruto agreed to expedite the construction of a 600 km long natural gas pipeline between the two countries. The pipeline project is expected to boost trade between the two African nations while reducing their energy costs. The project is estimated to cost KES132bn (\$1.1bn). The project is expected to be funded via Public Private Partnership (PPP), the pipeline will allow Kenya to utilise the Tanzanian natural gas deposits to bring down both the cost of cooking gas and electricity prices.
54. Preparations for the feasibility studies for the construction of a gas pipeline from Dar es Salaam to Mombasa have commenced with three Joint Technical Committee (JTC) meetings of Experts from Kenya and Tanzania with the most recent held in February 2023 in Dar es Salaam. During the 3rd JTC, several documents were drafted and have been finalized consensus has been reached and clearances have been given by both Kenya and Tanzania governments. Kenya was expected to host the 4th JTC during the 1st quarter of 2024.
55. The signing of a Draft Agreement between GoK and URT on conducting a feasibility study for the development of a natural gas export project from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania to Mombasa, Kenya is expected to be undertaken by the Minister of Energy, Tanzania and the Cabinet Secretary for Energy and Petroleum, Kenya early in 2024 during the fourth JTC.

4.4.2 Promoting Bilateral Trade and Investment

56. On the promotion of bilateral trade and investment the High Commissioner made the following observations—
- a) The Recurrent Non-Tariff Barriers have had the effect of slowing down the free movement of people and goods between Kenya and URT. It is with this in mind that in the month of March 2024, Kenya and Tanzania held the 8th Joint Technical Committee (JTC) on Trade in Kisumu Kenya, with the aim of enhancing bilateral trade by eliminating all non-tariff barriers to trade. The outcome of that bilateral meeting

was positive, providing clear mechanisms and timelines to eliminate all non-tariff barriers by the end of June this year (2024);

- b) The Mission will coordinate, facilitate and participate in the Upcoming Trade Fairs including the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) that will be held in June 2024. The expected outcome of the Fair is the increased awareness of market access opportunities for Kenyan products in Tanzania;
- c) The Mission will further coordinate and facilitate Kenya's participation in business forums, exhibitions and other export promotion activities for increased awareness of market access opportunities for Kenyan products in Tanzania;
- d) In order to increase awareness of available trade and investment opportunities, the Mission will continue to share market information with the Ministry Headquarters and relevant agencies for dissemination to Kenyan manufacturers and exporters;
- e) Upon request, the Mission will also link potential Kenyan exporters to markets in Tanzania in order to increase Kenya's export base in Tanzania and increase awareness of Kenyan products in Tanzania; and,
- f) The Mission will hold a meeting with the Kenya business community in Tanzania with a view to sharing information on the opportunities in order to safeguard Kenya's trade and investment interests.

4.4.3 Strengthening Kenya's Diplomatic Presence in New and Emerging Markets

57. The Mission is accredited to Seychelles, Comoros, Mauritius and the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA). In a bid to strengthen Kenya's relations in new and emerging markets such as Seychelles, Comoros and Mauritius, Kenya and Seychelles signed an agreement establishing general cooperation in June 2014. The inaugural session of the JCC between Kenya and Seychelles is scheduled to be held in Kenya on dates to be mutually agreed through diplomatic channels. The inaugural JCC between Kenya and Comoros is proposed to take place from 3rd to 5th June 2024.
58. The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Seychelles has expressed interest in recruiting health professionals from Kenya to work with Seychelles Health Care Agency on short- and long-term contracts. The request is being processed by the Ministry of Health.

4.4.4 Implementation of the EAC Protocol on Information, Communications and Technology

59. All EAC Partner states have ratified the Protocol on Information, Communications and Technology and are implementing the Protocol. However, Tanzania is yet to harmonise its roaming charges with the other Partner States. There is a need to continue lobbying Tanzania to harmonise its roaming charges with the other Partner States since it will reduce the cost of roaming and contribute to lowering the cost of doing business in the region.

4.5 Administrative issues in the mission

4.5.1 Human Resource

60. The Kenya High Commission, Dar es Salaam is managed by a High Commissioner as the Head of Mission. There are seven (7) Political Officers, deployed to undertake diplomatic duties. Three (3) officers from other relevant Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the

Government of Kenya discharge their respective line duties accordingly. These include Defense Advisor, Foreign Relations Official and immigration Attaché. In addition to the above, the Mission has twelve (12) staff, hired as Local Based staff to provide support services.

4.5.2 Finance and Budget

61. The below figures represent the budgetary allocation for the last three years.

Whereas the financial requirements by the Mission is growing, the budgetary allocation has remained more or less the same over the years, posing great challenges in implementation of programmes.

62. In addition, the Mission is highly inconvenienced by delays experienced in receiving VAT refunds from the host country.

	YEAR	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
BUDGET	GROSS EXPENDITURE	213,885,891.00	213,885,891.00	269,368,657
	A-I-A	36,584,600.00	37,699,600.00	57,482,300.00
	NET EXPENDITURE	177,301,291.00	176,186,291.00	251,886,357.00

4.5.3 Performance Management

63. The Mission is in the process of preparing a Strategic plan for the period 2023/24 to 2027/28 which will detail programmes envisioned for implementation in the five-year period.

64. The performance Contract for 2023/24 is currently being implemented. So far, the Mission has achieved close to 80% on implementation of the set targets.

4.5.4 Government Owned Properties

65. The Government of Kenya owns a number of properties in Tanzania. These include: -

- a) Two-storey building leased to KCB Tanzania (Harambee Plaza) plot no. 1858 2;
- b) The Chancery which is a Villa (Kenya House) plot no.1859;
- c) Two Residential Houses (under one parcel of land title no. 34987);
- d) A single storey building for FRO on Plot. No. 689- Mikocheni area, Mawezi street. Plot size of 1000sqm; and,
- e) A five-acre plot in Dodoma.

66. In terms of residential accommodation, the High Commissioner as well as all other staff are housed in leased properties. Rent for properties in Dar es Salaam is considerably high. The Mission therefore recommends that consideration be made for the acquisition of the High Commissioner's residence through buying or construction.

4.5.5 Motor Vehicle

66. The Mission owns five (5) Motor Vehicles four (4) of which are Prados and one (1) Van. The Mission also owns One (1) motorcycle. Two of the Prados belong to the Agencies.

67. Two of the Mission vehicles namely, the Toyota Land Cruiser Prado VX-L and the Van are eight (8) years and seven (7) years old respectively and have covered a substantial distance in mileage. The motor vehicles cover long distances between Dar es Salaam and other major cities/towns, including Dodoma, Arusha among others, when ferrying Mission staff for official functions which are regularly held away from Dar es Salaam and the cost of repair and maintenance of the vehicles is equally relatively high.

68. The Mission therefore requests for the allocation of adequate budgetary resources in the financial year 2023/24, to procure a replacement representational vehicle.

4.8 Challenges experienced by the Mission

69. Several challenges impact the implementation of the set priorities. These include: -

- a) Limited budgetary resources to carry out the Mission's activities in a fast country;
- b) Recurrent Non-Tariff Barriers to trade that have had the effect of limiting trade and slowing down the free movement of people and goods between the two countries;
- c) Slow pace of implementation on a number of bilateral programmes/activities;
- d) Presence of stereotypes and generalizations about socialization and culture: Mistrust makes it hard for Kenyans and Kenyan companies to operate in Tanzania and penetrate the market;
- e) Tanzania has not fully implemented some EAC Protocols such as the EAC Common Market Protocol. Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda abolished the work permit fees and simplified the procedures and requirements for work permits for citizens from the three countries, to liberalize the movement of labour. Kenyans are however charged for work permits in Tanzania while this is not the case in Kenya where work permits for EAC citizens do not attract charges. There is a need for Kenya to continue to lobby Tanzania to reciprocate for Kenyans seeking to work in Tanzania and abolish work permit fees; f) Kenya and Tanzania share a long porous border. Illegal trade and other forms of transnational crime often occur through illegal routes dubbed *panya routes*. This trade and its resultant security implications dent the country's image;
 - g) The rapid developments in technological innovations pose a threat to the safety of the Mission's information that is stored/ transmitted in electronic form;
 - h) The negative effects of climate change globally, and natural disasters such as floods and droughts lead to the destruction of infrastructure, property and a high cost of living.

5.0 OBSERVATIONS

70. The Delegation made the following observations—

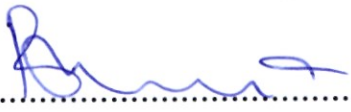
- a) The Committee observed the EACK's intention to roll out Kiswahili training in all Partner States whereby it had conducted an analysis of priority training needs in Kiswahili in all EAC Partner States to identify challenges confronting the development and promotion of Kiswahili in the EAC;
- b) The EACK's should support the enhancement of awareness creation and publicity for enhanced visibility of the Commission to key stakeholders, including Parliament of Kenya;
- c) The Committee also observed that payment of business permits every three months by Kenyans in Tanzania is not tenable in light of protocols on the free movement of goods and services and the issues need to be addressed diplomatically;
- d) The differences in the payment of carriage service fees at the ports in Tanzania need to be addressed. Kenyans are required to pay 35 US dollars for economy class from Dar es Salaam to Zanzibar while Tanzanians only pay Tanzanian shillings 30,000. This issue must be addressed by the Technical Committee on Transport. There should be uniformity in the amount paid by all the people;
- e) It was observed that the issues of business permits for Kenyans in Tanzania and share capital requirement for registrations of businesses in Tanzania need a complete overhaul to scrap the business permits requirement to reciprocate what Kenya is doing and lower the share capital requirements. This will allow small investors to invest in Tanzania register their business there and obtain credit from financial institutions. This issue should be brought out at the Technical Committee on Labour and Immigration and also at the Technical Committee on Trade Practices for deliberation;
- f) Further the committee observed that Business visas are charged at 100 US Dollars paid only at the border thus requiring Kenya to travel to the border every three months to renew their business permits. This needs to be reviewed to lower the charges of the business visa or scrap it at all and have stations in Zanzibar where it can be renewed to avert the cost of having to travel to the border to renew the same every three months. Further, the visa should be deemed to have expired if one leaves Tanzania before three months as is greatly the case.
- g) The Committee observed that funding of foreign missions should be commensurate with the work and programmes of a specific mission. The volume of trade or the magnitude of issues in each mission should determine the funding allocation.
- h) It was observed that Kenya and Tanzania continue to enhance their bilateral relations hence there is need for further diplomatic consultation with each other governments to make their laws more facilitative for investments.
- i) It was observed that there is lack of awareness by the public of member states on EAKC activities and programmes geared towards promoting the status of Kiswahili as an official language as well as a lingua franca.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS AND FINDINGS


71. In the context of East African Community, the Committee made the following recommendations:

- a) **Funding of the East Africa Kiswahili Commission (EAKC)** - the Committee recommends that the (EAKC) as an organ of the East African Community should be sufficiently funded and staffed for efficacy in the execution of its mandate. The Committee further directs that the Ministry of East African Community, the ASALs and Regional Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs ensures that all EAC organs and institutions are well funded and staffed particularly EACK.
- b) **Capacity Building and Training by EAKC** - The House leadership should also support EACK's intention to roll out Kiswahili trainings for Members of Parliament and staff on Kiswahili usage in Parliament.
- c) **Free movement of goods and services-** The Committee recommends Kenyans in Tanzania to freely access employment and do business without being subjected to restrictions such as work permits, approvals etc. This will increase EAC Community workforce and wealth creation; The Ministry of EAC, the ASALs and Regional Development in conjunction with the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs to address the issue of payment of business permit every three months diplomatically;
- d) **Non-tariff barriers to trade** - The East African Community should develop a mechanism to resolve the non-tariff barriers to trade by June 2024 to allow the free movement of people, goods and services between the two states;
- e) **Business visas** –The Committee recommends that there is needs to review and lower the charges of the business visa or scrap completely and have stations in Zanzibar where it can be renewed to avert the cost of having to travel to the border to renew the same every three months. Further, the visa should be deemed to have expired if one leaves Tanzania before three months as it is the case. This issue should also be brought out at the Technical Committee on Labour, Immigration services and also at the Technical Committee on Trade Practices for deliberation and to reach a solution before the end of FY 2024/2025;
- f) **Funding of missions-** Funding of foreign missions should be commensurate with the work and programmes of a specific mission. The volume of trade or the magnitude of issues in each mission should determine the funding allocation. For the foreign embassies to function effectively, the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs should provide additional funding during the deliberation of the estimates of the FY 2024/2025.
- g) **Emerging Issues** - The Committee noted that EAC Partner states need to actively monitor and engage with emerging issues within the EAC region. Recognizing the evolving dynamics and opportunities presented by these issues, the Partner States should position themselves to leverage these changes for both bilateral and multilateral benefit.
- h) **Mission to Relocate to Dodoma-** The Government of Tanzania has allocated land and the construction of the Kenya High Commission in Dodoma, which therefore needs to be fast-tracked as recommended by the Committee to reduce operations cost and that the Cabinet Secretary to allocate resources in the FY 2024/25.

- i) **Strengthening Bilateral Relations**- The committee recommends that Kenya and Tanzania continue to enhance their bilateral relations by fostering regular exchange programmes, collaborative initiatives and high-level engagements.

Signed:  Date: 19/11/2024

HON. WANJIKU MUHIA, CBS, MP – CHAIRPERSON

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 19 NOV 2024	
DAY: TUESDAY	
TABLED BY:	HON. WANJIKU MUHIA CHAIRPERSON
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	INZOFU MWALE

COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION




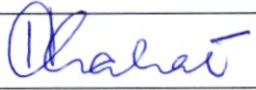

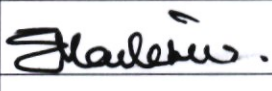



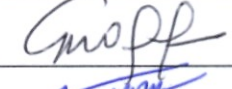

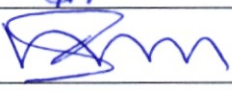




01/08/24

ADOPTION LIST

Adoption of the Report on the Inspection Visit to the Semi- Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and The Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania

We the undersigned, hereby affix our signatures to this Report to affirm our approval:

5th of August, 2024

No.	HON. MEMBER	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Muhia, Wanjiku, CBS, M.P.	
2.	Hon. Yakub, Farah Salah, M.P.	
3.	Hon. Ochieng, David Ouma, CBS, M.P.	
4.	Hon. Mokaya Nyakundi Japhet, M.P.	
5.	Hon. Gitari, Joseph Gachoki, M.P.	
6.	Hon. Jhanda, Zaheer, M.P.	
7.	Hon. Yegon, Richard Kipkemoi, M.P.	
8.	Hon. Mutua, Didmus Wekesa Barasa, M.P.	
9.	The Hon. Kailemia Elizabeth Karambu, M.P.	
10.	Hon. Waqo, Naomi Jillo, MBS, CBS, M.P.	
11.	Hon. Kemei Beatrice Chepng'eno, M.P.	
12.	Hon. Rutto, Julius Kipletting, M.P.	
13.	Hon. Kasiwai, Rael Chepkemoi, M.P.	
14.	Hon. Odanga, Geoffrey Makokha, M.P.	
15.	Hon. Salasya Peter Kalerwa, M.P.	
16.	Hon. Mwakuwona, Danson Mwashako, M.P.	
17.	Hon. Okuome Andrew Adipo, M.P.	
18.	Hon. Orero Peter Ochieng, M.P.	
19.	Hon. Masito Fatuma Hamisi, M.P.	
20.	Hon. Mrembo, Irene Njoki, M.P.	
21.	Hon. Wangaya Christopher Aseka, M.P.	

ANNEXURES

1. Adoption list
2. Minutes

July

MINUTES OF THE 22ND SITTING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION HELD ON TUESDAY 1ST ~~JULY~~ ^{AUGUST} 2024 AT 12.00 NOON IN COMMITTEE ROOM 16, 3RD FLOOR, BUNGE TOWER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

PRESENT

1. Hon. Wanjiku Muhia, CBS, MP - Chairperson
2. Hon. Farah Salah Yakub, MP - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Naomi Jillo Waqo, CBS, MP
4. Hon. Geoffrey Makokha Odanga, MP
5. Hon. Elizabeth Karambu Kailemia, MP
6. Hon. Beatrice Chepngeno Kemei, MP
7. Hon. Christopher Aseka Wangaya, MP
8. Hon. Peter Kalerwa Salasya, MP
9. Hon. Richard Kipkemoi Yegon, MP
10. Hon. Rael Chepkemai Kasiwai, MP
11. Hon. Fatuma Hamisi Masito, MP
12. Hon. Irene Njoki Mrembo, MP

APOLOGIES

1. Hon. David Ochieng Ouma, CBS MP
2. Hon. Joseph Gachoki Gitari, MP
3. Hon. Julius Kipletting Rutto, MP
4. Hon. Danson Mwashako Mwakuwona, MP
5. Hon. Andrew Adipo Okuome, MP
6. Hon. Peter Ochieng Orero, MP
7. Hon. Didmus Wekesa Barasa Mutua, MP
8. Hon. Zaheer Jhanda, MP
9. Hon. Japheth Nyakundi Mokaya, MP

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee Secretariat

1. Mr. Mohamed Jimale - Clerk Assistant I
2. Mr. Bernard Toroitich - Clerk Assistant III
3. Mr. Dominic Mwendwa - Legal Counsel II
4. Ms. Damacrine Kwamboka - Research Office III
5. Ms. Mercy Mayenda - Media Relations officer III
6. Ms. Florence Wanja - Public Relations Officer
7. Mr. Moses Kariuki - Sergeant – at – Arms
8. Ms. Jewel Vuyanzi Kasamba - Pupil – Directorate of Legal Services

MIN. NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/119

PRELIMINARIES

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12.15 p.m., thereafter invited Hon. Naomi Jillo Waqo, CBS, MP to pray.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/120

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was unanimously adopted as listed hereunder and having been proposed by Hon. Beatrice Kemei, MP and seconded by Hon. Elizabeth Kailemia, MP.

AGENDA

1. Prayer & Preliminaries;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes;
4. Matters Arising;
5. **Adoption of the Report on the inspection visit to the Semi – Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania;**
6. **Pending business before the Committee**
7. Any other Business; and,
8. Adjournment.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/121

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the 21th Sitting held on Tuesday 30th July, 2024 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings having been proposed by Hon. Beatrice Kemei, MP and seconded by Hon. Farah Yakub, MP.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/122

MATTERS ARISING

Under **MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/117** on observation (2), the Committee noted that the Ministry of Education to be invited to clarify to the Committee on the status of the Kiswahili language is taught in Kenyan schools as it is considered as one of the Official National languages. The Committee further emphasized that the Ministry need to apprise about whether Kiswahili is optional in Grade seven or not under the new Competency based Curriculum (CBC).

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/123

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE INSPECTION VISIT TO THE SEMI – AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTIONS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA THAT TOOK PLACE FROM 23RD TO 26TH MARCH, 2024

The Committee Members unanimously adopted the Report on the Consideration of the Report on the inspection visit to the Semi – Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania as proposed and seconded by Hon. Beatrice Chepngeno Kemei, M.P and Hon. Elizabeth Karambu Kailemia, MP, respectively.

The Committee was apprised of the pending business before the Committee as listed hereunder, the Chairperson lauded the Committee for having completed most of its activities as planned for the financial year 2023/2024 noting that a number of reports have been tabled in the House.

Pending Business before the Committee on Regional Integration

Reports

- (i) Consideration of the Report on the Inspection Visit to the Semi – Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania that took place from 23rd – 30th March, 2024;(**Report Adopted on 01.08.2024**);
- (ii) Report on the Business transacted by the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) at the 4th Meeting of the 1st Session of the 5th Assembly from 11th - 23rd June, 2023 in Arusha, Tanzania (**Report Adopted and Tabled on 13.06.2-24**); **and**,
- (iii) Report on the Visit to ECOWAS HQ in Nigeria that took place from 6th to 10th November 2023 (**Report Adopted and awaiting Tabled on 13.06.2024**).

The Committee was also briefed of the activities undertaken during the previous financial year, key achievement were noted including pushing of passport issuance ,by ensuring reduction of backlog in the Department of Immigration and Citizen Services which was a milestone reached by the Committee in ensuring free movement of persons and goods in the region.

Way Forward

The Committee resolved as follows –

- (i) To further invite the State Department of Immigration and Citizen services to provide an update on the status regarding the issuance of passport to the citizens; and
- (ii) (ii) To organize a forum for the Committees handling matters regional integration of Parliaments in the East African region and to address among others challenges relating to remittance to EAC.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/125

ANY OTHER BUSINESS


- (i) **Capacity building** - the Committee resolved to undertake a capacity building training during the FY 2024/2025.
- (ii) **Upcoming retreat** - undertake a retreat once the exchequer is released to finish Committee pending business.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/126

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm. Next meeting would be held on Tuesday 6th August, 2024 at 12:00 noon venue to be communicated.

Signed:

 Date: 6/ 8/ 2024

HON. WANJIKU MUHIA, CBS, MP –CHAIRPERSON

MINUTES OF THE 21ST SITTING OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION HELD ON TUESDAY 30TH JULY, 2024 AT 12.00 NOON IN COMMITTEE ROOM 16, 3RD FLOOR, BUNGE TOWER, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

PRESENT

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. | Hon. Wanjiku Muhia, CBS, MP | - | Chairperson |
| 2. | Hon. Farah Salah Yakub, MP | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. | Hon. David Ochieng Ouma, CBS MP | | |
| 4. | Hon. Joseph Gachoki Gitari, MP | | |
| 5. | Hon. Elizabeth Karambu Kailemia, MP | | |
| 6. | Hon. Beatrice Chepngeno Kemei, MP | | |
| 7. | Hon. Julius Kipletting Rutto, MP | | |
| 8. | Hon. Rael Chepkemoi Kasiwai, MP | | |
| 9. | Hon. Danson Mwashako Mwakuwona, MP | | |
| 10. | Hon. Andrew Adipo Okuome, MP | | |
| 11. | Hon. Peter Ochieng Orero, MP | | |
| 12. | Hon. Fatuma Hamisi Masito, MP | | |
| 13. | Hon. Irene Njoki Mrembo, MP | | |

APOLOGIES

1. Hon. Naomi Jillo Waqo, CBS, MP
2. Hon. Geoffrey Makokha Odanga, MP
3. Hon. Christopher Aseka Wangaya, MP
4. Hon. Richard Kipkemoi Yegon, MP
5. Hon. Didmus Wekesa Barasa Mutua, MP
6. Hon. Peter Kalerwa Salasya, MP
7. Hon. Zaheer Jhanda, MP
8. Hon. Japheth Nyakundi Mokaya, MP

IN ATTENDANCE

Committee Secretariat

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Mr. Mohamed Jimale | - | Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. | Ms. Jane Ouko | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 3. | Mr. Bernard Toroitich | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 4. | Mr. Dominic Mwendwa | - | Legal Counsel II |
| 5. | Ms. Mercy Mayenda | - | Media Relations officer III |
| 6. | Ms. Florence Wanja | - | Public Relations Officer |
| 7. | Mr. Moses Kariuki | - | Sergeant – at – Arms |

MIN. NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/113

PRELIMINARIES

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 12.20 p.m., thereafter invited Hon. Danson Mwashako Mwakuwona, MP to pray.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/114

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda of the meeting was unanimously adopted as listed hereunder on the proposal of Hon. Joseph Gitari, MP and seconded by Hon. Danson Mwashako, MP.

AGENDA

1. Prayer & Preliminaries;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes;
4. Matters Arising;
5. **Consideration of the draft Report on the inspection visit to the Semi – Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania;**
6. Any other Business; and,
7. Adjournment.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/115

CONFIRMATION OF THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the 20th Sitting held on Thursday 13th June, 2024 were confirmed as a true record of the proceedings on the proposal of Hon. Joseph Gitari, MP and seconded by Hon. Andrew Adipo, MP.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/116

MATTERS ARISING

No matter arose.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/117

CONSIDERATION OF THE DRAFT REPORT ON THE INSPECTION VISIT TO THE SEMI – AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTIONS OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY AND THE CENTRAL CORRIDOR IN THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA THAT TOOK PLACE FROM 23RD TO 26TH MARCH, 2024

The Committee was taken through the Report on the inspection visit to the Semi – Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania by the delegation secretary who took members through the report highlighting various issues that were noted during the study visit.

The objective of the study visit was to find out the progress made by the semi-autonomous institutions/organs of the East African Community (EAC) and in particular the EAC Kiswahili Commission in the coordination and promotion of the development and use of Kiswahili in the region and beyond.

The delegation secretary noted that the delegation visited the East Africa Kiswahili Commission, the High Commission of Kenya to the United Republic of Tanzania, and also had a meeting with Kenyans living and working in Zanzibar.

The Committee was briefed on the main functions of the Kiswahili Commission, its composition, key achievements and the challenges the Commission is experiencing in discharging its mandate.

Further, Members were also apprised on the recommendations of the delegation aimed at addressing the challenges and improving the operations of the Commission.

In addition, Members were informed of the plight of Kenyans living and working in Zanzibar and the proposed recommendations by the delegation to address the existing gaps.

Finally, the Committee was also taken through the issues that arose from the brief by the High Commission of Kenya to the United Republic of Tanzania.

Committee Observations

The Committee deliberated the draft report and observed the following:

1. Members expressed their appreciation to the delegation led by Hon. David Ochieng, MP and observed that there is need for the Committee to champion for the use of Kiswahili which is both an official and national language, but still used sparingly. In this regard, there is need for deliberate efforts to promote and enhance the use of Kiswahili in the country;
2. The committee observed that Kenya and Tanzania have had and still have strong bilateral relations and diplomatic ties which require to be consciously managed and maintained. Therefore, there should be deliberate efforts by the Kenyan Government via the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife and that of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs to rebrand and market Kenya to eliminate existing historical stereotypes and prejudices/biases between the two countries;
3. Further, in an effort to promote a cordial relationship with Tanzania, the Committee also encouraged that the President of Kenya considers addressing Parliament of the United Republic of Tanzania. This would be an appropriate forum to address the existing misunderstanding between the two countries with a view of streamlining them for posterity;

4. The Committee also observed the issues affecting Kenyans living and working in Zanzibar need to be looked into to ensure that they are able to work smoothly and do business with ease as stipulated in the East African Community treaty.

Way Forward

1. In a bid to promote Swahili language, Members agreed to lead the way by having the report translated to Kiswahili;
2. Engage with the Ministry of Education to find out the place of Kiswahili in the Kenyan curriculum and measures put in place to ensure that the teaching and learning of the language is well supported;
3. Engage the Cabinet Secretaries for the Ministries of Investments, Trade and Industry and the East African Community, the ASALs and Regional Development with regard to the issues affecting conduct of business by Kenyans in Tanzania.

Resolution

The Committee has deferred the adoption of the Report on the on the inspection visit to the Semi--Autonomous Institutions of the East African Community and the Central Corridor in the United Republic of Tanzania to the next sitting.

MIN.NA/ DAA&GPC/ RIC/2024/118

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND
ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 13:49 pm. The next meeting would be held on Thursday 1st August, 2024 at 12:00 noon in the same venue.

Signed:  Date: 01/08/2024

HON. WANJIKU MUHIA, CBS, MP – CHAIRPERSON

MINUTES OF THE 30TH SITING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION HELD ON THURSDAY 3RD AUGUST, 2023 IN COMMITTEE ROOM 7, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS AT 11:00 AM

PRESENT

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|-----------------|
| 1. Hon. David Ochieng Ouma, MP | - | Chairing |
| 2. Hon. Fatuma Hamisi Masito, MP | | |
| 3. Hon. Rael Chepkemai Kasiwai, MP | | |
| 4. Hon. Christopher Aseka Wangaya, MP | | |
| 5. Hon. Julius Kipletting Rutto, MP | | |
| 6. Hon. Danson Mwashako Mwakuwona, MP | | |

Siting

APOLOGIES

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Hon. Wanjiku Muhia, MP | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Farah Salah Yakub, MP | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Naomi Jillo Waqo, CBS, MP | | |
| 4. Hon. Peter Ochieng Orero, MP | | |
| 5. Hon. Elizabeth Karambu Kailemia, MP | | |
| 6. Hon. Andrew Adipo Okuome, MP | | |
| 7. Hon. Zaheer Jhanda, MP | | |
| 8. Hon. Peter Kalerwa Salasya, MP | | |
| 9. Hon. Joseph Gachoki Gitari, MP | | |
| 10. Hon. Beatrice Chepngeno Kemei, MP | | |
| 11. Hon. Geoffrey Makokha Odanga, MP | | |
| 12. Hon. Richard Kipkemai Yegon, MP | | |
| 13. Hon. Japheth Nyakundi Mokaya, MP | | |
| 14. Hon. Irene Njoki Mrembo, MP | | |
| 15. Hon. Didmus Wekesa Barasa Mutua, MP | | |

ATTENDANCE

Committee Secretariat

- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Mr. Mohamed Jimale | - | Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. Ms. Purity Macharia | - | Clerk Assistant III |
| 3. Mr. Bernard Toroitich | - | Clerk Assistant II |
| 4. Mr. Dominic Mwendwa | - | Legal Counsel II |
| 5. Ms. Damacrine Kwamboka | - | Researcher III |
| 6. Ms. Esther Ngechu | - | Sergeant At Arms |

AGENDA

1. Prayer & Preliminaries;
2. Adoption of the Agenda;
3. Confirmation of the Previous Minutes;
4. Matters Arising;
5. Consideration of Pending Business -

- (i) Adoption of the Report on the study visit to the Republic of Zambia, the Headquarter of COMESA;
 - (ii) Draft Committee work plan FY 2023/2024;
6. Any other Business;
7. Adjournment.

MIN. NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023/ 132

PRELIMINARIES

Pursuant to Standing Order 188, the Members present elected Hon. David Ochieng, MP, to chair the meeting, as proposed by Hon. Fatuma Masito, MP and seconded by Hon. Christopher Aseka, MP. Hon. Ochieng thereafter assumed the Chair and called the meeting to order at 11.20 a.m. and requested Hon Fatuma Masito, MP to read the Prayer.

MIN.NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023133

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously adopted having been adopted by Hon. Rael Chepkemoi Kasiwai, MP and seconded by Hon. Fatuma Masito, MP.

MIN.NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023/ 134

CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of the 26th sitting held on Tuesday 25th July, 2023 were confirmed as true reflections of the proceedings having been proposed by Hon. David Ochieng, MP and seconded by Hon. Julius Kipletting Rutto, MP.

MIN.NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023/135

MATTERS ARISING

No matters arose

MIN.NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023/ 136

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE STUDY VISIT TO THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA, THE HEADQUARTER OF COMESA

The observations made by the Committee during the study visit to Lusaka, were proposed by Hon. Rael Chepkemoi Kasiwai and seconded by Hon. Fatuma Masito, MP. The Committee adopted the report on the study visit to the Republic of Zambia without amendments.

Having considered the **Report on the Study visit to the Headquater of COMESA, Republic of Zambia**, the Committee adopted the Report pursuant to SO. 212 (2) (d), as having been proposed by the Hon. Rael Chepkemoi Kasiwai and seconded by Hon. Fatuma Masito, MP, M.P.

MIN.NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023/137

DRAFT COMMITTEE WORK PLAN FY 2023/2024

Consideration of the Agenda item on the committee work plan FY 2023/2024 was deferred to the next meeting on Tuesday 8th August, 2023.

MIN.NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC/2023/138

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Members expressed their appreciation and applauded the entire Committee on Regional Integration and secretariat for their time, commitment and active participation.

The Committee resolved to invite the following Ministries to appear before the Committee as follows –

- (1) Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and National Administration to appear before the Committee on **Tuesday 15th August, 2023 at 10.30 a.m.** to deliberate on among other issues –
- Strategies the Ministry has put in place to support free movement of goods, services and people within the East African Community bloc and other Regional bodies;
 - Measures put in place by your Ministry to ensure intra EAC-trade is not hindered by Non-Tariffs Barriers (NTB) such as police road blocks along the Northern Corridor; and
 - Integration of Refugees into the local community as stipulated in the Refugee Act (No. 10 of 2021) - update on the status of refugees in the country and particularly those from **the East African Community (EAC)** region and the planned integration process by the government.
- (2) The Committee further stated the need to discuss issues pertaining to issuance of passports, insecurity at Lake Victoria.
- (3) The Principal Secretary, State Department for Labour and Skill Development, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection to appear before the Committee following the familiarization retreat in Mombasa, on Thursday, 17th August, 2023 at 12:00 noon.
- (4) The Principal Secretary, State Department for Trade, Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry to appear before the Committee following the familiarization retreat in Mombasa, on Tuesday, 22nd August, 2023 at 12:00 noon.
- (5) Proposed visit to the East African Community, Members were appraised on the upcoming official inspection to various EAC institutions in the Central Corridor starting from the Port of Dare salaam to Mwanza, Tanzania between the months of October and December, 2023
- inspection visit to Central Corridor - (Port of Dar es Salaam and do a benchmarking tour of the Port where the Central Corridor starts and travel to Dodoma, have a day off to engage Parliament (Regional Integration counterparts in Dodoma, and travel from Dodoma to Mwanza, then fly to Zanzibar for an engagement with one institution of EAC, the Swahili Commission).
 - Visit to Bujumbura for an engagement with one institution of EAC (Health Commission), then fly to Rwanda for an engagement with East Africa Science and Technology.
 - Visit to Uganda to have engagement with the Parliamentary Forum on East African Community and visit the East African Development Bank, Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization and the Inter-University Council of East Africa.

Way forward/Resolution

Secretariat were directed to communicate to the Ministry of East African Community, Regional Development and the ASALs on the preferred dates and itinerary to firm up logistical arrangements.

MIN. NA/ DAA&OSC/ RIC /2023/139

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12.30 p.m. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th August, 2023.

Signed

HON. WANJIKU MUHIA, MP – CHAIRPERSON

Date

8/08/23