



THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2001

RULES OF PROCEDURE

(Made under Articles 49 (2) (g), and 60 of the Treaty)

PART 1

PRELIMINARY

Rule 1  
Interpretation

1 (1)

In these Rules of Procedure, unless the context otherwise requires-

"Assembly" means the East African Legislative Assembly established under the Treaty, also referred to herein as the "House",

"Bill" means the draft of an Act of the Assembly and includes Bills initiated by private members, Chairperson of a Committee and the Council;

"Clerk" means the Clerk of the Assembly or such other person as is for the time being performing the duties of the Clerk by direction of the Speaker;

"Committee" means a Committee of the whole House, a Standing Committee, or any other Committee of the Assembly;

"Committee of the Whole House" means a Committee composed of the whole body of members of the Assembly;

"Community" means the East African Community established by the Treaty;

"Council" means the Council of Ministers of the Community established under the Treaty;

"Functions" includes powers and duties;

"Journal of the House" means all proceedings of the House recorded by the Clerk."

"Leave of the House" or any expression of similar import, means permission or agreement given by the majority of Members of the House".

"Meeting" means any sitting or sittings of the Assembly commencing when the Assembly first meets after being summoned at any time and ending when the Assembly is adjourned *sine die* or at the conclusion of a session.

"Member" means a Member of the Assembly elected pursuant to Article 50 of the Treaty by National Assembly of each Partner State, and includes ex-officio members provided for under Article 48 (1) (b) of the Treaty.

"Motion" means a proposal made by a Member that the Assembly or a Committee of the Assembly does something, order something to be done or express an opinion concerning some matter;

"Official Gazette" means the official gazette of the Community;

"National Assembly" means the legislature of any Partner state;

"Partner States" means the Partner States of the Community as defined under the Treaty;

"Petition" means a written prayer or plea presented to the Assembly; and includes all similar submissions whether relating to public or private matters of general policy, or to redress local or personal grievances;

"Precincts of the Assembly" includes the Chamber of the Assembly, the National Assemblies of Partner States, every part of the buildings in which are situated such chambers, the officers of the Assembly, the galleries, and places provided for the use of accommodation of Members, strangers, members of the public and representatives of the press, and any forecourt, yard, garden, enclosure or open space, appurtenant thereto and used or provided for the purposes of the Assembly and any other places designated by the Assembly as such.

Presidents" means the Heads of State and Government of the Partner States;

"Question: except in respect of the question time or period and a question of privileges, means a proposal presented to the Assembly or Committee of the Assembly by the Speaker or Chairperson of Committee for consideration and decision or disposal in some manner;

"Recess" means a period during which the House stands adjourned to any day other than the next normal sitting day including when it is adjourned *sine die* at the end of the session to be followed by a prorogation;

Serjeant-at-Arms" includes Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms, any Assistant Serjeant-at-Arms and any other person appointed by the Speaker to perform the functions of a Serjeant-at-Arms;

"Session" means the sittings of the House commencing when it first meets after its prorogation or dissolution and terminating when the Assembly is prorogued or is dissolved without having been prorogued;

"Sitting" means a period during which the Assembly is sitting continuously without adjournment and includes any period during which the Assembly is in Committee; but so that two or more periods of sitting within the normal period of one sitting, or within an equivalent period shall not rank as more than one "sitting";

"Sitting day" means, any day on which the Assembly sits;

"Speaker" means the Speaker of the Assembly provided for under Article 53 of the Treaty and includes any Member elected under Article 56(b) of the Treaty;

"Stranger" means a person other than the Speaker, a Member, or an officer of the Assembly;

"Substantive motion" means an independent motion of which notice is duly given but which is neither incidental nor relating to a proceeding or order of the day already before the House;

"Summit" means the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Community established under the Treaty;

"Table" means the Clerk's Table.

"Treaty" means the Treaty of 1999 for the Establishment of the East African Community.

- (2) In these Rules a reference to an ex-officio member of the Assembly means a person being a member of the Assembly is an ex-officio Member by virtue of sub-paragraph (b) of the first paragraph of Article 48 of the Treaty; and who is under the provisions of the second paragraph of Article 58 of the Treaty, not allowed to vote on any issue requiring a vote in the Assembly.

**PART II  
GENERAL**

**Rule 2  
Seat of the Assembly**

- 2 The Seat of the Assembly shall be at Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania

**Rule 3  
Independent Mandate, Privileges and Immunities.**

3. (1) Members of the Assembly shall exercise their mandate independently and shall not be bound by any instructions or orders from any person or authority regarding the exercise of their mandate.
- (2) Members of the Assembly shall enjoy privileges and immunities in accordance with the provisions of Article 61 of the Treaty.
- (3) Passes to allow Members to move freely in the Partner States shall be issued to them by the Clerk of the Assembly as soon as he or she has been notified of their election.
- (4) Members shall be entitled to inspect any files held by the Assembly or a Committee, other than personal files and accounts which only the Members concerned shall be allowed to inspect.

**Rule 4  
Incompatibility**

- 4 (1) Incompatibilities resulting from national legislation shall be notified to the Assembly, which shall take note thereof and act accordingly.
- (2) Where the competent authorities of a Partner State notifies the Clerk of appointments to an office incompatible with the office of Member of the Assembly, upon receipt of written confirmation from such Member, the Speaker shall inform the Assembly which shall establish that there is a vacancy.

**PART III  
PROCEEDINGS IN A NEW ASSEMBLY**

**Rule 5  
List of Members to be Laid**

- 5 On the first day of a new House pursuant to the proclamation of the Presidents, the list of the Members of the House shall be laid on the Table by the Clerk, and the House shall thereafter proceed to the election of the Speaker

**Rule 6**  
**Administration of Oath**

- 6 (1) Except for the purpose of electing the Speaker, no Member shall sit or vote in the Assembly before taking the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to the Treaty.
- (2) The Speaker shall administer the Oath or Affirmation for Allegiance to the Members.
- (3) 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 to him or her.

**Rule 7**  
**Election of Speaker**

7. (1) The Speaker shall be elected by the Members from among their number on rotational basis.
- (2) No business shall be transacted in the House other than an election of the Speaker at any time the office of the Speaker is vacant.
- (3) The names of candidates for election to the office of Speaker shall be entered upon nomination papers obtained from and handed to the Clerk at least forty-eight hours before the time appointed at which the House is to meet to elect a Speaker and shall be accompanied in each case by the signatures of two Members who support the candidate and a declaration by them that the candidate is willing to serve.
- (4) No Member shall be proposed as a Speaker unless that Member has given his or her consent to the nomination in writing and handed to the Clerk.
- (5) Subject to sub-rule 8 of this rule, the election of a Speaker shall be by secret ballot.
- (6) The Clerk shall preside at the election of a Speaker.
- (7) At an election of a Speaker the Clerk shall invite nominations from Members present.
- (8) If only one person is nominated, he or she shall be declared elected and conducted to the Chair.
- (9) Voting shall be in the following manner:
- a. the Clerk shall prepare, at least one hour before the meeting of the House, ballot papers upon which shall be shown the names of all candidates validly nominated under paragraph 3 of this rule, and shall issue not more than one such paper to each Member who comes to the Table to obtain but a Member who before the conclusion of a ballot has marked his or her paper in error, may by returning it to the Clerk obtain another in its place, and Clerk shall immediately cancel and destroy the paper so returned.



- b. After all Members who wish to vote have voted, the Clerk shall, in full view of the Members present, empty the ballot box and immediately count the ballot papers contained in it;
- c. Upon completion of counting, the Clerk shall announce the result of the ballot specifying:-
  - (i) the total number of ballot papers contained in the ballot box;
  - (ii) the total number of Members who have abstained from voting;
  - (iii) the number of both spoilt and blank papers; and
  - (iv) the number of votes obtained by each nominee;
- d. A Member shall not be elected as Speaker unless he or she is supported by votes of two-thirds of all Members of the House and if no candidate is supported by the votes of two-thirds of all Members a further ballot shall be held between the first two candidates.
 

And if in the second ballot no candidate is supported by the votes of two-thirds of all Members, the candidate who in that ballot receives the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.
- e. A candidate may by written notice to the Clerk, withdraw his or her name before a ballot is started, and in the event of such withdrawal, the Clerk shall delete the name of that candidate from any ballot papers issued for that or any subsequent ballot;

(10) Immediately following the election of a Speaker, the Clerk shall administer to a person elected Oath or Affirmation of Office.

### Rule 8 Duties and Functions of the Speaker

- 8 (1) The Speaker shall direct all activities of the House and its Committees and shall preside over the proceedings of the House under these rules.
- (2) Without prejudice to sub-rule (1) the functions of the Speaker shall be:
  - (a) to open, suspend and close sittings;
  - (b) to ensure observance of these Rules;
  - (c) to maintain order in the House;
  - (d) to call upon members to participate in the proceedings;
  - (e) to close debates;
  - (f) to put matters to vote and announce the results of votes; and
  - (g) to refer to Committees any business that concern them.

### Rule 9 Removal of the Speaker

- 9 (1) The House may pass a resolution to remove the Speaker from office.
- (2) A motion for a resolution to remove the Speaker from office shall be signed by at least **four** elected Members from each Partner State and submitted to the Clerk;

- (3) The Clerk shall, within twenty-four hours of receipt of the list of names, forward the Notice to the House.
- (4) The motion shall be tabled in the Assembly within seven days of its receipt by the Clerk and the House shall refer the motion to the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges to investigate and report its findings to the Assembly for debate;
- (5) The Speaker is entitled to appear in person and to be assisted or represented by a lawyer or any other person when the Committee is investigating his or her removal.
- (6) The Speaker, in respect of whom proceedings for removal have commenced, shall not preside over the proceedings.
- (7) If the Assembly passes the motion for the removal of the Speaker by not less than two-thirds majority of elected members of the Assembly, the Speaker shall cease to hold office.

**PART IV  
SITTINGS AND ADJOURNMENTS OF THE HOUSE**

**Rule 10  
Prayer**

10. At the commencement of every Sitting the Assembly shall recite the Prayer attached as Annex 1 of these Rules.

**Rule 11  
Venue, Sittings and Meetings of the House and Committees**

11. (1) The Assembly shall meet, without requiring to be convened on the first Tuesday of a session, other than the first session after an election, and shall itself determine the duration of adjournments of the session.
- (2) Whenever during a session the House stands adjourned, whether or not a day has been appointed for the next meeting; the Speaker shall at any time he considers expedient, giving reasonable notice, call a special meeting.
- (3) A sitting of a House is duly constituted when it is presided over by the Speaker or such other Member as may be elected under Article 56 of the Treaty.
- (4) Any Committee may request the Speaker with reasons, that any meeting of the Assembly be held in a place other than its seat and the Speaker shall put the request before the House but if the matter is urgent the Speaker shall take a decision and any rejection of such request shall state the reasons thereof.
- (5) The Assembly shall hold its sittings and its committee meetings at the place fixed as its seat under the provisions of Rule 2.

- (6) The House shall sit on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.
- (7) The Assembly may, on a resolution adopted by a majority of its Members, decide to hold one or more sittings elsewhere within the Partner States, other than at its seat.
- (8) Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-rule (7) and rule (16), the Speaker may, having regard to the state of business of the House, direct that sittings be held outside the period or days prescribed in those sub-rules.
- (9) The House shall sit for not less than 80 days for plenary and not less than 40 days for Committee Meetings.

#### **Rule 12 Hours of Meeting**

12. (1) Sittings shall unless the Speaker otherwise directs, ordinarily commence at 9:00 o'clock in the morning up to 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon, and resume at 4:00 o'clock in the evening and conclude at 6:00 o'clock in the evening; on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.
- (2) The Speaker may at any time suspend a sitting or adjourn the House.
- (3) The Speaker shall at the close of business of a meeting announce the time and date of the next meeting.
- (4) The House Business Committee shall fix the time when a sitting of the House is adjourned *sine die*.
- (5) The Speaker or the Chairman in case of a Committee may with the approval of the House or of Members of the Committee, and having regard to the matter under discussion order the House or Committee to move into closed sitting.
- (6) The Speaker may, if he or she thinks fit, call a sitting of the House before the date or time to which it has been adjourned or at any time after the House has adjourned *sine die*.
- (7) The House shall ordinarily not sit on gazetted public holidays in the Partner States.
- (8) Subject to these rules, the sittings of the House and its committees shall be public.

#### **Rule 13 Quorum**

13. (1) The quorum of the House or of the Committee of the Whole House shall be **half of the** elected Members:  
  
Provided that such quorum shall be composed of at least three of the elected Members from each Partner State.

- (2) If at any time of sitting, or when the House is in Committee, any Member objects that there is no quorum present, the Speaker or the Chairman shall, on ascertaining it to be true, suspend the proceedings of the House for an interval of fifteen minutes during which a bell shall be rung.
- (3) If on resumption of proceedings after the expiry of fifteen minutes, the number of Members present is still less than **half** the Speaker or the Chairman, as the case may be, shall adjourn the House or the Committee of the Whole House without question put.

#### **Rule 14** **Adjournment of the House**

14. (1) A Member may at any time, for reasons stated, seek leave to move "That, this House do now adjourn".
- (2) An adjournment under sub-rule (1) shall be for the purpose of debating a definite matter of urgent public importance.
- (3) Unless it appears to the Speaker that the motion is an abuse of the Rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of any Member, the Speaker shall put the question on the motion without debate.
- (4) No Member making such a statement shall speak for more than twenty-minutes without leave of the House.
- (5) The debate to any motion arising under sub-rule (2), shall be confined to the matter of the motion.

#### **Rule 15** **Adjournment of Debate**

15. (1) A member who wishes to postpone to some future date the further discussion of a question which has been proposed from the Chair may move, "That, the debate be now adjourned", or in Committee of the Whole House "That, the Chairman do report progress".
- (2) The debate on any Motion under sub-rule (1) shall be confined to the matter of the motion.
- (3) If the Speaker is of the opinion that such dilatory motion is an abuse of the proceedings of the House he may forthwith put the question thereon or may decline to propose the motion.
- (4) A Member who has moved or seconded a dilatory motion which has been negatived may not subsequently move or second another such motion during the same debate, whether in the House or Committee of the Whole House.

### **PART V** **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

#### **Rule 16** **Order Paper and Order of Proceedings**

16. (1) The Speaker shall determine the Order of Business of the House.
- (2) The Speaker shall, in determining the Order of Business give priority to Council business.
- (3) The Order Paper shall be prepared by the Clerk, showing the business to be placed before or taken by the House in the order in which it is to be taken, together with such other information as the Speaker may from time to time direct to be shown therein and such Order Paper shall be circulated as early as possible before the House meets.
- (4) The business of the House shall be transacted in the following order:-
  - (a) prayer, in the form prescribed in Annex 1 of these Rules;
  - (b) matters other than business including:-
    - (i) Administration of Oath;
    - (ii) Election of Speaker;
    - (iii) Communication from the Chair;
    - (iv) Petitions;
    - (v) Papers;
    - (vi) Notice of Motion;
    - (vii) Questions of which notice has been given.
  - (c) Business set down on the Order Paper.
- (5) By leave of the Speaker, the order of business set out in the Order Paper may be altered on any particular day.
- (6) The Speaker shall direct the Clerk to read the Orders of the Day without question put.

**PART VI**  
**QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS**

**Rule 17**  
**Questions to the Council**

- 17 (1) Questions relating to matters of Community may be put to the Council by any Members.
- (2) Questions to the Council shall be referred to the Council at least three weeks before the sitting on whose Order Paper they are to appear.
- (3) A question shall be genuinely of an interrogative character and its purpose shall be limited to seeking information or pressing for action.
- (4) A question shall not be made the pretext for a debate.



- (5) Any Member may ask a supplementary question, but a supplementary question shall not introduce a matter not related to the original question.
- (6) Each Member may ask one priority question each month.

**Rule 18**  
**Procedure of Business**

- 18 (1) The Clerk shall, on instructions of the Speaker, draw up the order of business for each sitting.
- (2) Any item of business standing on the Order Paper on any particular day which has not been completed or reached on the interruption of business under the relevant provision of these Rules, shall be placed on Order Paper for the next sitting in such order as the Speaker may decide.
- (3) The Clerk shall send to each Member a copy of the order of business for each sitting.
  - (a) In the case of the first sitting of a meeting at least two days before the sitting.
  - (b) In case of any other sitting, at least one hour before the sitting.
- (4) The Clerk shall keep a book to be called Order Book in which he or she shall enter and number in succession all matters intended for discussion at each meeting.

**Rule 19**  
**Notice of Questions**

- 19. (1) Notice of questions shall be given by Members in writing to the Clerk who shall forward them to the Council and such notice shall state whether the question is for an oral or written answer.
- (2) Every question must be submitted by the Clerk to the Speaker.
- (3) If the Speaker is of the opinion that any question of which a Member has given notice to the Clerk is one which infringes any of the provisions of these Rules he or she may direct:
  - (a) that it be not asked save as with alterations as he may direct; or
  - (b) that the Members concerned be informed that the question is inadmissible.

**Rule 20**  
**Time Limit for Answering Questions**

- 20 (1) Priority questions or question which require immediate answers but not detailed research shall be answered within three weeks.
- (2) Non priority questions shall be answered within six weeks.

- (3) If a question cannot be answered within the time limit set, it shall be put on Order Paper for the following sitting.

**Rule 21**  
**Answers to Questions**

- 21 (1) The Chairman of the Council and in his or her absence, any other Member of the Council shall answer any question put to the Council.
- (2) The answer to any question requiring written answer shall be put before the House and shall be published in the Official Journals of the House.
- (3) The Chairman or any other Member of the Council of Ministers shall ensure that questions are fully answered to the satisfaction of a Member, and the answers are concise and relevant to the subject of the question.

**PART VII**  
**JOURNALS AND RECORDS**

**Rule 22**  
**Journals of the House**

- 22 All proceedings of the House shall be recorded by the Clerk and shall constitute the Journal of the House.

**Rule 23**  
**Custody of Journals and Records**

23. The custody of the Journals and records of the House, including all papers and accounts presented to or belonging to the House, shall be in the Clerk, who shall neither take, nor permit to be taken, any such Journals or records from the precincts of the House without an order of the House or when the House is not sitting by leave or order of the Speaker.

**Rule 24**  
**Hansard Reports**

- 24 (1) There shall be published verbatim report of all proceedings of the House.
- (2) Every Member shall have an opportunity to correct the draft verbatim report of his or her own contribution, but not so as to alter the substance of what he or she actually said (as to which the Speaker shall, in case of doubt decide).

**Rule 25**  
**Confidential Matters**

- 25 (1) The Speaker may direct any matter which in his or her opinion is of confidential nature to be excluded from the Journals of the House and from the verbatim report of proceedings of the House, and to be the subject of a separate verbatim report, which shall be kept in the custody of the Clerk and made available only to Members and Clerks.
- (2) Any Member with the support of at least two other Members may apply for exclusion from the Journals of any matter which in his or her opinion is of a confidential nature and which he or she considers as having escaped the attention of the Speaker.

**PART VIII**  
**MOTION AND AMENDMENTS**

**Rule 26**  
**Notices of Motion**

- 26 (1) Pursuant to the provisions of Article 59 of the Treaty, the Council or any Member may introduce any motion in the House.
- (2) A Member shall give written notice of a motion to the Clerk in one clear day previous to the sitting at which it is intended to be moved.
- (3) Before giving notice of motion a Member shall deliver to the Clerk a copy of the proposed motion in writing and signed by himself or herself and the Clerk shall submit the same to the Speaker.
- (4) Notwithstanding the provision of sub-rule (2) a Member may, with leave of the Speaker, give oral notice of a motion during a sitting but the motion shall not be placed on the Order of Business until one clear day has elapsed since the notice was given, unless the Speaker is of the opinion that it is in the public interest that it should be placed on the order of business prior to the expiration of one day, in which case the Speaker may direct that it be placed on the Order of Business at such time as he or she thinks convenient.
- (5) Any oral notice of motion shall be reduced into writing and handed to the Clerk before notice is given to the House.
- (6) If the Speaker is of the opinion that any proposed motion-
- a. is one which infringes, or the debate on which is likely to infringe, any of the provisions of these rules or the treaty;
  - b. is contrary to morality and justice;
  - c. is too long;
  - d. is framed in terms which are inconsistent with the dignity of the House;
  - e. contains or implies allegations which the Speaker is not satisfied that

- the mover can substantiate;
- f. calls for the commitment of funds for which no provision is made in the annual estimate adopted by Assembly;
  - g. he or she may direct either that, the motion is inadmissible, or that notice of it cannot be given without such alteration as he may approve.

**Rule 27**  
**Amendment of Notices of Motion**

27. The Speaker may permit a Member to move in amended form, a motion of which notice has been given, if in the opinion of the Speaker the amendment does not materially alter any principle embodied in the motion.

**Rule 28**  
**Certain Motions not to be Moved**

28. No motion may be moved which is the same in substance as any question which has been resolved (in the affirmative or in the negative) during the same session: But a motion to rescind the decision of such a question may be moved with the permission of the House.

**Rule 29**  
**Moving Motions**

- 29 (1) A Member who has a motion standing in his or her name may authorize in writing some other Member to move the motion in his or her stead.
- (2) Where a Member fails to move a motion at the time prescribed therefore by or under these Rules, such motion shall not be put in the Order Paper again during the same session except with leave of the Speaker.

**Rule 30**  
**Motion withdrawn may be Moved**

- 30 Notice of Motion may be withdrawn by the Member who gave the notice, but notice of the same motion may be given again either by the same or by any other Member.

**Rule 31**  
**Motion which may be moved without Notice**

- 31 The following motions may be moved without notice:-
- (a) any motion by way of amendment to a question already proposed by the Speaker.
  - (b) a motion for the adjournment of the House;
  - (c) any motion for adjournment of a debate;
  - (d) any motion for the suspension of Rules of Procedure;
  - (e) any motion for the withdrawal or re-admission of strangers;
  - (f) any motion that the House do resolve itself, into a Committee of the Whole House;
  - (g) a motion moved when the House is in Committee;

- (h) a motion for suspension of a Member;
- (i) any motion made in accordance with the Rules governing the procedure of Bills;
- (j) any motion raising a question of privilege;
- (k) any motion for agreement or disagreement of the House with a Committee of the Whole House in a resolution reported, or for the recommittal thereof for the postponement of the further consideration thereof;
- (l) any motion on urgent matters of public importance supported by one third of Member present; and
- (m) any motion under Rule 62.

**Rule 32**  
**Manner of Debating Motion and Amendments thereto**

- 32 (1) When a motion has been moved and if necessary seconded, the Speaker shall propose the questions thereon in the same terms as the motion, and debate may then take place upon that question.
- (2) At the conclusion of the debate the Speaker shall put the question.
- (3) When any motion is under consideration in the House or in a Committee, an amendment may be proposed to the motion if it is relevant to the motion.
- (4) Any amendment may be proposed to the amendment if it is relevant to that amendment.
- (5) Any amendment to be moved and seconded in the House shall be required by the Speaker to be put in writing by the mover and delivered to the Clerk.
- (6) No amendment shall be permitted if, in the opinion of the Speaker it substantially alters the principle of the question proposed.

**Rule 33**  
**Seconding of Motions and Amendment of Motions**

- 33 (1) In the House, the question upon a motion or amendment shall not be proposed by the Speaker unless the motion or amendment has been seconded.
- (2) In Committee, a seconder shall not be required for a question upon a motion or amendment.

**Rule 34**  
**Withdrawal of Motions**

- 34 (1) A motion or an amendment to the motion may be withdrawn at the request of the mover, by leave of the House or Committee, before the question is put.
- (2) A motion or an amendment withdrawn under this rule may be proposed again,



if, in case of a motion, notice required by these Rules is given.

- (3) If the question has been proposed on an amendment to a motion, the original motion may not be withdrawn until the amendment to the motion has been disposed of.

### **Rule 35** **Motions for Resolution**

- 35 (1) Any Member may table a motion for a resolution on a matter relating to the activities of the Community.
- (2) A motion for resolution under sub-rule(1) may be withdrawn by its author before the Speaker has made a decision upon it
- (3) A motion for a resolution withdrawn may be taken over and retabled immediately by a Member, a group, a Committee or the same Member who tabled it in the first place.

### **PART IX** **RULES OF DEBATE**

#### **Rule 36** **Language**

- 36 All proceedings of the House shall be conducted in the English Language while Kiswahili is being developed as *lingua franca* of the Community.

#### **Rule 37** **Limitation of Debates**

- 37 The House may on any motion made by any Member order or impose a limit to the motion or the contribution made by Members on that particular motion by allotting a limited period of time for that motion or for the contributions made by Members on the motion or by imposing the time limitation to both the motion and contributions by Members.

#### **Rule 38** **Time and Manner of Speaking**

- 38 (1) A Member desiring to speak shall rise in his or her place and address himself or herself to the Speaker.
- (2) By the indulgence of the Speaker, a Member unable conveniently to stand by reason of sickness or disability, may be permitted to speak while sitting.
- (3) If more than one Member rises at the same, the Member called upon by the Speaker shall be entitled to speak.

- (4) The Speaker shall be addressed as either "Madame" or "Mr" Speaker, as the case may be.
- (5) Every other Member shall be addressed as "Honourable" with the name of the Member.
- (6) No Member shall read his or her speech but may read short extracts from written and printed papers in support of his or her argument and may refresh his or her memory by reference to notes, and the Speaker may allow a Member to read his or her speech in particular cases where the Speaker is satisfied that this is necessary for precision in statement of facts.
- (7) No Member shall speak more than once to a question except in a committee in the Whole House, but:
  - (i) A Member who has spoken to a question may again be heard to offer explanation of some material part of his or her speech which has been misunderstood but he or she must not introduce a new matter;
  - (ii) a reply shall be allowed to a Member who has moved a substantive motion but not to a Member who has moved an amendment.
- (8) The mover of substantive motion may, if he or she so desires, surrender his or her right to reply or a portion of the time allocated to another Member, nominated by him or her, who has not already spoken to such motion.

**Rule 39**  
**Points of order**

- 39 (1) Any Member may rise on a point of order any time during the speech of another Member stating that he or she rises on point of order, and the Member speaking shall there upon resume his or her seat and the Member rising to the point of order shall do likewise when he or she has concluded the point of order.
- (2) Speaking time shall not exceed one minute.
  - (3) No other Member may, except by leave of the Speaker speak to the point of order raised under sub-rule (1).
  - (4) The Speaker shall either give a decision on the point of order forth with or announce that he or she defers the same for consideration after which the Member who was speaking at the time the point of order was raised may continue his or her speech.

**Rule 40**  
**Speaking after Questions**

40 No Member may speak on any question after it has been put.

**Rule 41**  
**Personal Explanations**

41 By the indulgence of the House a Member may explain matters of personal nature although there is no question before the House, but such matter may not be debated.

**Rule 42**  
**Speaker not to Participate in Debates**

- 42 (1) The Speaker shall not take part in any debates before the House.
- (2) Should he wish to take part in a debate, he shall vacate the chair and shall not re-occupy it until the debate is over.

**Rule 43**  
**Contents of Speeches**

43 Reference shall not be made:

- (1) To any matter of which judicial decision is pending in such a way as may, in the opinion of the Speaker, prejudice the interest of any party to the action.
- (2) The personal conduct of a President of a partner State, Speaker, any judge of a Partner State, or the East African Court of Justice, or the judicial conduct of any other person performing judicial functions in the Partner States, in the Community, or any conduct of the ruler, Government or representative in any partner State or any friendly country shall not be adversely referred to except upon specific substantive motion moved for that purpose.
- (3) It shall be out of order to use offensive, abusive, insulting, blasphemous or unbecoming words or to impute improper motives to any Member or to make personal allusions.
- (4) It shall be out of order to attempt to reconsider any specific question upon which the House has come to a conclusion during the current session, except upon a substantive motion for rescission.
- (5) The speech of a Member must have reference to the subject matter under discussion.

**Rule 44**  
**Declaration of Interest**

- 44 A Member who wishes to speak on any matter in which he or she has a personal interest shall first declare that interest.

**Rule 45**  
**Responsibility for Statement**

- 45 A Member shall be responsible for the accuracy of any facts which he or she alleges to be true and may be required to substantiate any such facts or to withdraw his or her allegations with an appropriate apology upon the direction of the Speaker.

**Rule 46**  
**Scope of Debate**

- 46 (1) Debate upon any motion or amendment to a motion or upon any Bill, part of a Bill or amendment to a Bill, shall be relevant to the matter being debated.
- (2) Where an amendment has been moved and if necessary seconded, debate must be confined to the amendment, but the Speaker may, in his or her discretion, direct that the debate on the amendment includes debate on the matter of the motion. Where the matter of the amendment is not conveniently severable from the matter of the motion or, where the Speaker so directs a Member who speaks to the amendment shall not be entitled, after the amendment has been disposed of, to speak to the motion, and any Member who has already spoken to the motion may in speaking to the amendment speak only to any new matter raised thereby.
- (3) When an amendment to a motion or a Bill proposes to leave proposes to leave out words and insert or add other words, the debate upon the question to leave out words may include both the words to be left out and those proposed to be inserted or added.
- (4) On an amendment proposing only to leave out words, the debate shall be confined to the omission, insertion or addition of the words respectively.
- (5) Upon a motion other than a motion by way of amendment to a question proposed by the Speaker, a Member may second by rising in his or her place and signifying his or her acquiescence by bowing his or her head, without speaking, and such Member shall there by reserve to himself or herself the same rights of speech as he or she would have had if some other Member had seconded such motion

**Rule 47**  
**Interruption of debates and Members' Speeches**

- 47 Debate may be interrupted-
- a. by a point of order being raised;
  - b. by a matter of privilege suddenly arising;
  - c. by attention being called to the presence of strangers; and

- d. upon matter of elucidation.

**Rule 48**  
**Closure of Debate**

- 48 (1) After a question has been proposed in the House or in the Committee of the Whole House and debated, a Member may move " That the question be now put", and, unless it appears to the Speaker that the motion is abuse of the Rules of the House or an infringement of the rights of any Member , the question "That the question be now put" shall Be put immediately and decided without amendment and debate.
- (2) If the question of closure is agreed by a majority, the motion which was being discussed when the closure motion was moved shall be put immediately without further discussion.

**Rule 49**  
**Conduct of Members during Debate**

- 49 During a sitting:-
- i. All Members shall enter or leave the House with decorum;
  - ii. No Member shall cross the floor of the House unnecessarily;
  - iii. While a Member is speaking, all other Members shall be silent and shall not make unseemly interruptions;
  - iv. When a Member has finished his or her observations he or she shall resume his or her seat;
  - v. No Member shall, without the consent of the Speaker, read in House any paper, the books or other documents whether directly or indirectly connected with the business of the House;
  - vi. No Member shall bring into the House any lethal weapon, camera, tape recorder, transistor radio, mobile telephone, or other unauthorized electronic device;
  - vii. Clapping shall not be permitted in the House;
  - viii. All Members shall except with the permission of the Speaker, dress in a dignified manner as described in the dress code Annex IV

**PART X**

**ORDER IN THE HOUSE AND IN THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE**

**Rule 50**  
**Order in the House and in the Committee**

- 50 (1) Order shall be maintained in the House by the Speaker and in the Committee of the Whole House by the Chairman.
- (2) The Speaker or the Chairman after calling the attention of the House or the Committee to the conduct of a Member, who persists in the irrelevance or tedious repetition of his or her own arguments, or of the arguments made by other Members in the debate, may direct the Member to discontinue his or her speech.



- (3) If a Member persists in irrelevance or tedious repetitions or uses objectionable words and on being called to order fails to retract or explain the words and offer an apology to the satisfaction of the Speaker, any member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that the member using the objectionable words be no longer heard, and the question of that motion shall be put without amendment or debate.
- (4) The Speaker shall order any Member whose conduct is grossly disorderly to withdraw immediately from the House for the remainder of that day's sitting; and the Clerk or the Serjeant-at-arms shall act on orders as he or she may receive from the chair to ensure compliance with this rule.
- (5) Conduct is grossly disorderly not only if the member concerned creates actual disorder, but also if he knowingly raises a false point of order, or commits any serious breach of these Rules, or persists in making serious allegations without (in Mr. Speaker's opinion) adequate substantiation or otherwise abuses his privileges, or deliberately gives false information to the House or refuses to answer a legitimate question or acts in any other way to the serious detriment of the dignity or orderly procedure of the House.
- (6) Every Member shall bow to the Chair in passing to or from his or her seat or while crossing the floor of the House.
- (7) No Member shall pass between the Chair and any Member who is speaking or between the Chair and the Table except in so far as it is necessary for the purpose of administration of the Oath or Affirmation of allegiance.
- (8) When the House adjourns, Members shall stand in their places until the Speaker has left the Chamber.

#### **Rule 51 Defamatory Statement**

- 51(1) Whenever in the opinion of the Speaker or a Member presiding in Committee a statement made by a Member is *prima facie* defamatory of any Member or person, the Member presiding shall refer the matter of inquiry to the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges which shall report its findings to the House not later than twenty one days after the matter is referred to it.
- (2) Where the Committee reports to the House that the statement made by the Member is defamatory of any person the Member who made the statement shall, within seven days after that report, render an apology at the bar of the House, the terms of which shall be approved by the Committee and communicated to the person who has been defamed.
- (3) Where a Member refuses to render an apology in accordance with sub-rule (2) of this rule, the Speaker, upon the circumstances of the matter being reported to him or her by the Chairperson of the Legal, Rules and Privileges Committee shall suspend the member for the duration of the meeting unless the House otherwise orders.

**Rule 52**  
**Suspension of Members**

- 52 (1) Whenever the conduct of a Member is grossly disorderly, and in the opinion of the Speaker or the Chairman, it cannot be adequately addressed under sub-rule 4 of rule 50 he or she may name the Member.
- (2) Whenever a Member is named by the Speaker or the Chairman then:-
- (a) if the offence has been committed by such Member in the House, a motion shall immediately be moved by another Member requesting the Speaker to suspend the Member named from the service of the House;  
or
- (b) If the offence has been committed in a Committee of the Whole House, the Chairman shall immediately leave the Chair and report the circumstances to the House and a Member shall there and then, move a motion requesting the Speaker to suspend the Member named from the House.
- (3) A motion moved under sub-rule (2) shall not require to be seconded and the question shall be put by the Speaker immediately.
- (4) No amendment, adjournment or debate shall be allowed on the motion moved under sub-rule(2).
- (5) If a motion requesting the speaker to suspend a Member is carried, the Speaker shall immediately suspend the Member from the Service of the House.
- (6) If a Member is suspended, his or her suspension on the first occasion shall be for the next one sitting excluding the sitting in which he or she was suspended; on the second occasion in a session, for the next three sittings, excluding the sitting in which he or she was suspended, and on the third and any subsequent occasion during the same session, for the next fourteen Sittings of the House excluding the sitting in which the member was suspended.
- (7) Notwithstanding the number of days a Member has been suspended, the suspension shall cease at the end of the session in which he or she was suspended unless the House otherwise orders.
- (8) Where a Member who has been suspended from the service of the House under this Rule refuses to obey the direction of the Speaker when summoned under the Speaker's orders by the Serjeant-at Arms to obey such direction, the Speaker shall call the attention of the House to the fact that recourse to force is necessary in order to compel obedience to his or her direction, and the Member shall accordingly, be forcibly ejected from the House.

**Rule 53**  
**Members suspended to withdraw from Precincts**

- 53 A Member who is ordered to withdraw under sub-rule 4 of Rule 50 or who is suspended under rule 51 shall forthwith withdraw from the precincts of the Assembly and shall during the period of such withdrawal or suspension continuously forfeit his or her right of access thereto.

**PART XI**

**VOTING IN THE HOUSE**

**Rule 54**  
**All Questions to be decided by Majority**

- 54 In accordance with the provisions of Article 58 of the Treaty, all questions proposed for decision of the House shall be determined by a majority of votes of the Members present and voting.

The Speaker or the Chairperson of a Committee shall have neither an original nor a casting vote and if upon any question before the House the votes are equally divided, the motion shall be lost.

**Rules 55**  
**Declaration of Personal Interest in Community's Contracts**

- 55 (1) A Member who is a party to or is a partner in a firm which is a party to any contract with the Community shall, in any proceedings in the House relating to the contract, declare his or her interest or that of the firm and shall not vote on any question relating to that contract.
- (2) If a Member fails to declare his or her interest under sub-rule (1), a Member may raise the matter in the House and the Speaker may order that the first mentioned Member shall not vote on the contract and may refer the conduct of that Member to the Legal and Privileges Committee.
- (3) The Committee may, after investigation, recommend to the House such action on the matter as it may consider appropriate.

**Rule 56**  
**Ex-Officio Members of the Assembly**

- 56 Any person who, by virtue of Article 48 of the Treaty is an ex-officio Member of the House, shall not vote; and accordingly, the Speaker shall take all necessary practical steps to ensure that any such person does not vote on any issue requiring voting.

**Rule 57**  
**Manner of Voting**

- 57 (1) When the question has been put by the Speaker or the Chairperson, on a decisional matter the votes shall be taken by show of hands, or by electronic voting and the result shall be declared by the Speaker or the Chairperson.
- (2) Where the question is put on any procedural matter the votes shall be taken by voices of "Ayes" and "Noes" and the results shall be declared.

**Rule 58**  
**Count**

- 58 (1) Where the Treaty requires a particular majority of votes for a decision, the Speaker shall ascertain the quorum and voting shall be by count.
- (2) Where after the Speaker or the Chairperson has announced the result of the voices vote, that is under rule 57 (2) immediately, not less than **one third of the** Members or more stand in their places signifying their disapproval of the outcome of the vote, the Speaker or the Chairperson shall order for a count.
- (3) All questions proposed for decision in the Assembly shall be determined by a majority of the Members present and voting.
- (4) At the conclusion of a debate the question, either in its original or on its amended form, as the case may be, shall be put by the Speaker for the decision of the Assembly. The Speaker shall then say "as many as are of that opinion say "Aye": as many as are of the contrary opinion say "No".
- (5) Unless provided otherwise in these Rules all questions shall be decided by a Majority of voices and the result shall be declared by the Speaker, who shall say "I think the Ayes have it" or "I think the No's have it" as the case may be, but any member may forthwith challenge the opinion of the Speaker and claim a Count by rising in his place and calling "count".
- (6) If any member claims a count the Speaker shall direct a count to be taken if:
- (a) He considers that there is a reasonable doubt as to the outcome of the vote in question or
  - (b) Five or more further members rise in their places to support the member claiming the count.
- (7) In the event of the Speaker directing a count, the Clerk shall immediately after such direction ring the count bell for a period of two minutes, and after such interval the votes shall be taken by the Clerk, calling each Member's name separately and asking him or her how he or she desires to vote and recording the votes accordingly. The Clerk shall then announce the number of those who voted for the proposal, those who voted against and those who abstained from voting and the Speaker shall declare the result of the votes.

**Rule 59**  
**Voting in Error**

- 59 If a Member rises in his place before the Speaker has announce the results of the votes, and states that he had voted in error, or that his vote has been wrongly counted and the Speaker is satisfied that the error is a genuine one and not a mere change of mind, he shall order the error to be corrected before declaring the results of the vote.

**PART X11**  
**LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURES**

**Rule 60**  
**Annual Legislative Programme**

- 60 (1) Before the end of each year and following a debate and vote in the House on the Annual Program of the Community, the House Business Committee shall draw up the Legislative Programme for the following year.
- (2) The Annual Legislative Programme shall establish the general outline of the legislation likely to be introduced before the Assembly.
- (3) Where there are urgent and unforeseeable circumstances, an Institution may at any time propose a legislative measure on its own initiative, to be added to the legislative Programme.
- (4) The Clerk shall forward the Annual Legislative Programme to the Governments and National Assemblies of the Partner States.
- (5) The Annual Legislative Programme may be revised at the beginning of the second half of the year.

**Rule 61**  
**Bills**

- 61 (1) Every Bill shall be printed and published in the Gazette before its introduction to the Assembly.
- (2) On publication of the Bill in the Gazette, the Clerk shall immediately dispatch a copy to every Member.
- (3) Matters with no proper relation to each other shall not be provided for in the same Bill.
- (4) No Bill shall contain anything foreign to what its long title imports.



**Rule 62**  
**Urgent Bills**

- 62 (1) Where the House determines on a motion by any Member, that a particular Bill is of an urgent nature, that Bill may be introduced without publication.
- (2) Copies of a Bill referred to in sub-rule (1) shall be distributed to Members and the Bill may be taken through all its stages in a day notwithstanding anything in these rules.

**Rule 63**  
**Prohibition of Bills derogating from Human Rights Covenants**

- 63 No Bill, motion or amendment shall be introduced in the House, which in the opinion of the Speaker or the House is likely to result in the derogation from the enjoyment of any of the particular Human rights and freedoms specified in the United Nations Charter for Human rights, United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights.

**Rule 64**  
**Private Members' Bills: Article 59 of the Treaty**

- 64 (1) Every Member has a right to move a Private Members' Bill.
- (2) The Member moving a private Members' Bill shall be afforded reasonable assistance by the office of the Counsel to the Community.
- (3) The Office of the Counsel to the Community shall afford the Member moving the Private Members' Bill professional assistance in the drafting of the Bill.
- (4) The Clerk shall compile the final Bill to be attached to the motion under sub-rule (5).
- (5) A Private Members' Bill shall be introduced first by way of motion to which shall be attached the proposed draft of the Bill.
- (6) If the motion is carried, the printing and publication of the Bill in the Gazette shall be the responsibility of the Clerk.
- (7) Following the publication of the Bill in the Gazette, the progress of the Bill shall be the same as that followed in respect of a Community Bill.
- (8) A Committee of the House may initiate any Bill within its area of competence.
- (9) A Bill initiated by a Committee shall be introduced by the Chairperson of the Committee in the same manner as a Private Members' Bill.

**Rule 65**  
**Reading of Bills**

65 Every Bill shall, after introduction, be read three times prior to its being passed.

**Rule 66**  
**First Reading**

- 66 (1) At the time of presenting Bills, the Speaker shall call successively each member in whose name a Bill stands on the Order Paper.
- (2) The Member called under sub-rule (1) shall rise and move that the Bill be read the first time and no question shall be put.
- (3) The Clerk shall read aloud the short title of the Bill and the Bill shall then be taken as read the first time.
- (4) A Bill having been read a first time shall stand committed to the relevant Committee without question put.
- (5) The Committee to which a Bill is committed shall present its report to the house within seven days of such committal and thereafter the Bill shall be read a second time on such a day as the Member in whose name the Bill stands, shall appoint:  
Provided that a Committee which does not complete its report within the given period, may by leave of the House, continue its work on the Bill for a further seven days.

**Rule 67**  
**Bills before a Committee**

- 67 (1) A Committee to which a Bill is committed shall not discuss the principles of the Bill, but only its details.
- (2) The Committee may recommend any amendments in the Bill as it considers fit, if the amendments (including new clauses and new schedules) are relevant to the subject-matter of the Bill.
- (3) The Chairperson of a Committee to which a Bill is committed may accept proposals for the correction of obvious misprint and punctuation errors, and may instruct the Clerk to make necessary amendments to the Bill without any formal amendment being moved by a Member of the House

**Rule 68**  
**Second Reading**

- 68 (1) Subject to this Rule, Chairman of Council of Ministers or other Member in charge of the Bill shall move that the bill be read a second time and may speak to the motion.

- (2) The Chairperson of the Committee to which the Bill is referred or a Member of the Committee designated by the Committee or by the Speaker shall, after the motion for the second reading has been moved under sub-rule (1) and seconded, present to the House the report of the Committee on the Bill.
- (3) A debate shall then ensue on the merits and principles of the Bill on the basis of the explanatory memorandum and the report from the Committee.
- (4) If the motion is carried, the Clerk shall read aloud the short title of the Bill, and the Bill shall then be taken to have been read the second time.
- (5) On resumption of proceedings, any business which the Committee of the Whole House was reported that it has been unable to complete, shall be replaced on the order of business for a subsequent sitting.

**Rule 69**  
**Functions of Committee on Bills**

- 69
- (1) In committee the Clerk shall call the number of each clause in succession.
  - (2) If no amendment is proposed on, or all proposed amendments have been disposed of, the Chairman shall propose the question "That the clause (or the clause as amended) stand part of the Bill".
  - (3) Where:-
    - (a) the Chairperson is satisfied that there has been sufficient debate on the Bill, or
    - (b) all members who wish to speak on it have spoken;  
the Chairperson shall put the question to the Committee for its decision.
  - (4) Any proposed amendments for which notice has not been given shall be handed to the Chairperson in writing.
  - (5) No amendment shall be moved which is inconsistent with any clause already made or any decision already made by the Committee, and the Chairperson may, at any time during the discussion of a proposed Amendment, withdraw it from the consideration of the Committee if in his or her opinion the discussion has shown that the amendment contravenes this sub-rule.
  - (6) If any proposed amendment refers to or is not intelligible without a subsequent amendment, notice of the subsequent amendment must, unless the Chairperson otherwise permits, be given before or when the first amendment is moved, so as to make the series of amendments intelligible.
  - (7) The Chairperson may refuse to propose the question upon any amendment of which less than one days notice has been given.

- (8) Amendments to Bills, shall be debated in the same manner as motions and amendments to motions under these Rules, save with the substitution of the word "clause" for the word "motion" throughout; and any amendment proposed to such an amendment shall be dealt with before a decision taken on the original amendment.
- (9) When two or more amendments are proposed on the same clause, the Chairperson shall call upon the movers in the order in which their Amendments are related to the text of the clause.
- (10) The amendment which in the opinion of the Chairman departs furthest from the text and discussion shall be debated and disposed of first.
- (11) Where two or more proposed amendments to any clause seek to attain the same objective but in different ways, or the wording of the amendments differs, the sponsors of the amendment may be required by the Chairperson to discuss their amendments and to reconcile them or agree on compromise amendments that will be acceptable to their sponsors.
- (12) When every amendment to an amendment has been disposed of, the Chairman shall either again propose the question upon the original amendments as amended.
- (13) The consideration of a clause may be postponed.
- (14) Postponed clauses shall be considered after the remaining clauses of the Bill have been considered and before new clauses are brought up.
- (15) Any proposed new clause shall be considered after the clauses of the Bill have been disposed of and before consideration of any schedule to the Bill: except that a new clause proposed in substitution for a clause which has been disagreed to, may be considered immediately after the disagreement.
- (16) Upon the title of any new clause being read by the Clerk, the clause shall be deemed to have been read the First Time.
- (17) The question shall be proposed "that the clause be read a Second Time" and if it is agreed to, amendments may then be proposed to the new clause.
- (18) The final question to be proposed shall be "That the clause (as amended) be added to the Bill".
- (19) Schedules shall be disposed of in the same way as clauses and any proposed new Schedules shall be considered after the Schedules to the Bill have been disposed of, and shall be treated in the same manner as new Clauses.
- (20) An amendment, new clause or new schedules may be withdrawn at the request of the mover by leave of the Committee before the question has been put on it.

- (21) If the question has been proposed on an amendment to an amendment to a new clause or new Schedule, the original amendment, new clause or new Schedule may not be withdrawn until the amendment to it has been disposed of.
- (22) When every clause and Schedule and proposed new clause or Schedule has been dealt with, the preamble, shall be considered and the question put "That this preamble (as amended) be the preamble of the Bill".
- (23) No amendment to the preamble shall be considered which is not made necessary by a previous amendment to the Bill.
- (24) If any amendment to the title of the Bill is made necessary by an amendment to the Bill, it shall be made at the conclusion of the proceedings detailed above, but no question shall be put that the title (as amended ) stand part of the Bill nor shall any question be put upon the enacting formula.
- (25) At the conclusion of the proceedings in the Committee on a Bill, the Member in charge of the Bill may move "That the Bill (as amended) be reported to the House" and the question on the Bill shall be decided without amendment or debate.

**Rule 70  
Third Reading**

- 70 (1) On the adoption of a report on a Bill, the Third Reading may with the leave of the Speaker be taken forthwith and if not so taken shall be ordered to be taken on a day named by the Member in charge of the Bill.
- (2) At the Third Reading of a Bill a motion shall be made "That, the .....Bill be now read a Third Time" and do pass.

**Rule 71  
Re-committal of Bills**

- 71 (1) If any Member desires to delete or amend any provisions contained in a Bill as reported from the Committee of the Whole House or to introduce any new provision in the Bill, he or she may, at any time before a Member rises to move the Third Reading of the Bill ,move that the Bill be recommitted either wholly or in respect only of some particular amendment or amendments .
- (2) No notice of the motion is required and if the motion is agreed to, the Bill shall stand so recommitted.
- (3) When the whole Bill has been recommitted, the Committee shall go through the Bill as provided in Rule 67.
- (4) When the Bill has been recommitted in respect only of some particular amendment or amendments, the Committee shall consider only that amendment or those amendments and any amendment which may be moved to them; except that the Speaker or the Chairperson in his or her absolute discretion, if the amendment or amendments proposed are of a nature that he or she

considers that course to be necessary or desirable, may require the whole Bill to be considered as provided in sub-rule (5).

- (5) At the conclusion of the proceedings in Committee of a Bill recommitted, the Member in charge of the Bill may move "That the House do resume and that the Bill (as amended on recommitment) be reported to it" and the question on it shall be put without amendment or debate.
- (6) If the motion is agreed to, the House shall resume and the Member in charge of the Bill shall report to the House and the House may then proceed to the Third Reading of the Bill as provided in Rule 70.

### **PART XIII BUDGETARY PROCEDURES**

#### **Rule 72**

#### **Assembly's control over implementation of the Budget**

- 72
- (1) The Assembly shall monitor the implementation of the budget of the Community through the Committee responsible for budgetary control and other relevant Committees.
  - (2) No expenditure of any resources of the Community shall be made without approval of the Assembly as provided for in Article 132 of the Treaty.
  - (3) Resources here shall include resources as provided for under Article 132, 133 of the Treaty.
  - (4) Each year the Assembly shall consider, before the presentation of the budget for the following financial year, the problems involved in the implementation of the current budget, where appropriate on the basis of a motion for a resolution tabled by the relevant Committee.

#### **Rule 73**

#### **Presentation of the Budget**

- 73
- (1) Subject to the Provisions of the Treaty, the statement of Estimates of annual Revenue and Expenditure of the Community herein referred to as the Budget shall be presented to the House on such a day as the House Business Committee may appoint.
  - (2) The Chairman of the Council shall, in the Budget present:-
    - (a) The Financial Statement; and
    - (b) Estimates of Expenditure;
  - (3) On presentation of the Budget:
    - (a) the financial statement shall stand committed to the Committee of Ways and Means; and
    - (b) the Estimates of Expenditure shall stand committed to the Committee of Supply

**Rule 74**  
**Committee of Ways and Means**

- 74 (1) There shall be a Committee of Ways and Means which shall be a Committee of the Whole House.
- (2) The Committee shall consider the Financial Statement presented by the Council.
- (3) Upon an Order of the Day for the Committee of Ways and Means being read the Speaker shall leave the Chair without question put and the House shall resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Financial Statement.
- (4) In moving a motion under sub rule (3) the proposer will be entitled to refer to the revenue of the Community and the manner in which he or she proposes the revenue to be raised, and in debating the motion, members will be entitled to refer to similar matters.
- (5) The debate on the motion shall be limited to fifteen days exclusive of the mover's reply.

**Rule 75**  
**Committee of Supply**

- 75 (1) There shall be a Committee of the Whole House designated as "the Committee of Supply" to which shall be referred the Annual Estimates, any Supplementary Estimates and any Vote on Account.
- (2) Upon an Order of the Day for the Committee of Supply being read, the Speaker shall leave the chair without question put unless a Member moves "That the House do resolve itself into Committee of Supply" for the purpose of enabling the initiation of a debate on the policy implied under a vote.
- (3) The House shall consider the Annual Estimates in Committee of Supply for a period not exceeding seven days.
- (4) The House shall consider any Supplementary Estimates relating to the financial year or any part thereof.
- (5) The House shall consider any vote on account in Committee of Supply.

**Rule 76**  
**Consideration of Resolutions in Committee of Supply**

- 76 (1) When the House is in Committee of Supply the resolution shall be considered in the following manner:-



**(a) On Annual Estimates:-**

- (i) upon the completion of consideration of vote, the Chairperson shall put the question that the amount proposed be provided for under the vote;
- (ii) After a vote has been disposed of, it is not in order to refer to that vote in proceedings on a motion relating to another vote except for the purpose of examples of illustration;
- (iii) The Committee shall not attach a condition or an expression of opinion to any resolution approving a vote;
- (iv) Notwithstanding the rules relating to motions, any Member may request for information relating to the details of any vote;
- (v) The details of the financial provisions proposed to be made by a vote shall be debated, and such debate may extend to the policy implied by the vote; and
- (vi) on the last of the allotted days, the Chairperson shall, at such time as he or she considers necessary to dispose the vote under consideration and shall immediately put severally, the question with respect to the vote not yet considered namely, that the total amounts of the votes outstanding be provided for services specified, and no debate shall take place on the questions put.

**(b) On the Supplementary Estimates:-**

- (i) Consideration of the resolution may not exceed two days:-
- (ii) the debate on supplementary estimates shall be restricted to the expenditure authorized by that supplementary estimate and it is not in order to canvass the policy of, or the expenditure authorized by, any estimate to be supplemented by the supplementary estimate; and
- (iii) In all other matters the provisions of paragraph (a) above shall apply.

**(c) On Vote on Account**

- (i) Consideration of the resolution may not exceed one day;
- (ii) if it appears that a vote on account is unlikely to be fully considered by the end of one day, the Chairperson shall, at any time he or she considers necessary to conclude the business relating to the Vote on Account, put the question necessary to dispose of the Vote on Account.
- (iii) Upon the completion of the consideration of the Vote on Account, the Chairperson shall put the question that the amount proposed be provided for the Vote on Account;

- (2) Any report of resolution from the Committee of Supply shall, unless the House otherwise orders be received and considered immediately upon a motion that the report be adopted.

**PART XIV  
COMMITTEES OF THE ASSEMBLY**

**Rule 77  
Appointment of Committees**

77 The Assembly shall appoint relevant Committees necessary for the efficient discharge of its functions.

**Rule 78  
Standing Committees**

- 78 (1) The House shall have Standing Committees as provided under this rule.
- (2) There shall be the following Standing Committees of the House:-
- (a) Accounts;
  - (b) Legal, Rules and Privileges;
  - (c) Communication, Trade and Investment
  - (d) House Business;
  - (e) Agriculture, Tourism, and Natural Resources
  - (f) Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution; and
  - (g) General Purpose
- (3) The Members of the Standing Committees shall be nominated from among the Members of the Assembly and shall serve for a term of two and half years and thereafter fresh nominations shall be done.
- (4) Subject to these Rules, the Chairman of each Standing Committee shall be elected by the Members of that Committee from among their number and shall serve for a term of two and half years except the House Business Committee.
- (5) Each elected Member shall serve on two Committees other than the House Business Committee provided that a Member may serve on three Committees to reflect equal representation by Partner States.
- (6) The Membership of each Committee other than the House Business Committee shall be **fifteen** and quorum shall be **at least half of the Members**.

**Rule 79  
Functions of the Standing Committees**

- 79 (1) The functions of the Standing committees other than the House Business Committee shall be:

- (a) to examine, discuss and make recommendations on all Bills laid before the Assembly;
  - (b) to initiate any Bill within their respective mandate;
  - (c) to assess and evaluate activities of the Community
  - (d) to carry out relevant research in their respective mandate;
  - (e) to examine policy matters affecting their subject areas;
  - (f) to initiate or evaluate action programmes under those subject areas and to make appropriate recommendations thereon;
  - (g) to examine the Community's recurrent and capital budget estimates; and
  - (h) to report to the Assembly on their functions
- (2) Each Committee shall exercise these functions according to the mandate in ANNEX V as amended from time to time by the House Business Committee.

**Rule 80  
Select Committees**

- 80 (1) The House may, at any time, upon a motion made after notice given, appoint a Select Committee to be nominated by the House Business Committee, for the consideration or investigation of such matter(s) as the House may refer to it and to report on any such matter(s) to the House.
- (2) A Committee appointed under sub-rule (1) shall elect its Chairperson.

**Rule 81  
House Business Committee**

- 81 (1) The House Business Committee shall consist of:-
- (a) the Speaker who shall be the Chairman;
  - (b) the Chairman of the Council; and
  - (c) two elected Members from each Partner State.
- (2) The House Business Committee shall be constituted as soon as the Assembly is fully constituted.
- (3) The functions of the House Business Committee shall be:
- (a) to manage the affairs of the Assembly;
  - (b) to organize the business and programme of the House;
  - (c) to nominate members of the Standing and other Committees; and\
  - (d) to do any other function that is incidental to the furtherance of the above

**PART XV  
APPLICATION AND AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE**

**Rule 82  
Application of the Rules of Procedure**

- 82 (1) Any Member may, with the consent of the Speaker, move that any rule

be suspended in its application to a particular motion before the House and if the motion is carried, the Rule in question shall stand suspended.

- (2) Should doubt arise over the application or interpretations of these Rules or where any matter is not expressly provided for by these rules or any law, that question shall be decided by the Speaker.

**Rule 83**  
**Amendment of the Rules**

- 83 (1) Any Member may propose amendments to these Rules.
- (2) Any member wishing to propose any amendment to these Rules shall forward his or her proposal to the relevant Committee which shall consider the proposal and report to the House
- (3) Amendments to these rules shall be adopted only if they secure the votes of a majority of Members.
- (3) Amendments to these Rules shall enter into force immediately following their adoption.

**PART XVI**  
**MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS**

**Rule 84**  
**Leave of Absence**

- 84 (1) Every Member shall, during the session of the Assembly or any special Sitting, attend the Sittings of the House unless leave of absence has been granted to him or her by the Speaker.
- (2) except with the permission of the Speaker in writing, a Member shall not absent himself or herself from seven consecutive sittings of the House during any period when the House is continuously sitting.
- (3) Where any Member is alleged to have infringed sub-rule (2), the conduct of such Member shall be referred by the Speaker to the Committee on Legal, Rules and Privileges Committee which shall consider the matter and report to the House.

**Rule 85**  
**Petitions**

**1. Right of Petition**

- (i) Any Citizen of the Partner States, and any natural or legal person residing or having its registered office in a Partner State, shall have the right to address, individually or in association with other citizens or persons, a petition to the Assembly on a matter which comes within the Community's fields of activity and which affects him, her or it directly.

- (ii) Petitions to the Assembly shall show the name, occupation, nationality and permanent address of each petitioner.
- (iii) Petition must be written in the official language of the Community, which is English. Petitions written in any other language will be considered only where the petitioner has attached a translation or summary drawn up in official language of the Community
- (iv) Petitions shall be entered in a register in the order in which they are received if they comply with the conditions laid down in sub-rule (2), those that do not shall not be filed and the petitioner shall be informed of the reasons therefore.
- (v) Petitions entered in the register shall be forwarded by the Speaker to the Committee responsible, which shall first ascertain whether the petitions registered fall within the sphere of activities of the Community.
- (vi) Petitions declared inadmissible by the Committee shall not be filed; the petitioner shall be informed of the decision and the reasons therefore.
- (vii) In such cases the Committee may suggest to the petitioner, that he contacts the competent authority of the Partner State concerned or of the Community.
- (viii) Unless the person submitting the petition asks for it to be treated in confidence, it shall be entered in a public register.

## **2. Examination of Petition**

- (i) The Committee responsible may decide to draw up a report or otherwise express its opinion on petitions it has declared admissible.
- (ii) When considering petitions, the Committee may organize hearings or dispatch Members to establish the facts of the situation.
- (iii) The Committee shall where necessary submit motions for resolutions to the Assembly or petitions which it has considered.
- (iv) The Speaker shall inform petitioners of the decisions taken and the reasons therefore.

## **3. Notice of Petitions**

- (i) Notice shall be given in the Assembly of the petitions entered in the register referred to in Rule 85(1) (d) and the main decisions on the procedure to be followed in relation to specific petitions.
- (ii) The title and a summary of the texts of petitions entered in the register, together with the texts of the opinions and the most important decisions forwarded in connection with the examination of the petitions, shall be made available to the public in a database, provided the petitioner agrees to this. Confidential petitions shall be preserved in the records of the Assembly, where they shall be available for inspection by Members.

**Rule 86**  
**Dissolution of the Assembly**

86 At the expiry of the term of the Assembly, the Heads of State or Government of the Partner States shall issue a proclamation dissolving the Assembly.

**Rule 87**  
**Commencement**

87 These rules shall come into force on the day of adoption by the Assembly.

**Rule 88**  
**Adoption of Rules of Procedure**

- 88 (1) The first sitting of the Assembly elected under the Treaty shall be an informal meeting during which the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly shall be adopted.
- (2) The Clerk shall convene and preside over the informal meeting of the Assembly under sub-rule (1)

**ANNEX 1**

**PRAYER**

Almighty God who in Your wisdom and goodness has appointed the offices of Rulers and parliaments for the welfare of Society, good of all human lives upon it and the just Government of its people: we beseech You to look with Your abundant favour upon us Your servants, whom You have entrusted with the performance of such important trust in This Community. Let Your blessings descend upon us here assembled. And grant that we may treat and consider all matters that shall come under our attention and deliberation in so just and Faithful a manner as to promote Your Honour and glory, and to advance the peace, prosperity and welfare of this region and of those whose interest You have committed to us. Amen.

**ANNEX 2**

**DECLARATION OF A MEMBER'S FINANCIAL INTERESTS**

- 1 Before speaking in the Committees, any Members who has a direct Financial interest in the subject under debate shall disclose his/her interest to the House or Committee orally unless it is obvious from the written declaration made by him or her pursuant to rules 2 and 3 of this Annex.
- 2 (1) Each Member shall be required to make a detailed declaration of his or her professional activities.
- (2) Members shall also list any other paid functions or activities in so far as these are relevant.

3. The declaration referred to in rule 2 of this Annex shall be made in writing and entered by the Clerk of the Assembly in a register, the form of which shall be determined by the House. This register shall be open to the public for inspection .

### **ANNEX 3**

#### **PROCEDURE FOR ELECTION OF A MEMBER TO PRESIDE AT THE SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY IN THE ABSENCE OF THE SPEAKER**

1. The Clerk shall preside in the election of a Member to preside the Assembly in the presence of the Speaker. The Sitting shall be informal but in the Chamber of the House.
2. The nominations for candidates for election of a Member to preside in the Assembly shall be done on the floor of the House.
3. The Member wishing to propose a name for the person to preside shall rise in his or her place, and upon catching the eye of the person presiding, shall state that "I wish to propose that Hon\_\_\_\_\_do take the Chair to preside in the Assembly for today's Sitting and subsequent Sittings until such time as the Speaker may be present". The proposer shall be seconded and if the Member proposed consents to the nomination, he/she shall be deemed to be duly nominated.
4. If more than one Member has been duly nominated, the presiding officer shall call for a vote by show of hands. The Member scoring the highest number of votes shall be declared elected and conducted to the Chair of the Speaker.
5. If only one Member is nominated, he or she shall be declared elected and conducted to the Chair of the Speaker
6. The Member elected would then make extempore and brief remarks expressing gratitude for having been elected and submitting himself/herself to the will of the House, the supremacy of the Rules of the House Business and laying claim to the privileges of the Assembly and the Members.
7. The Member elected would make a short adjournment and would lead a procession to the "Office of the Speaker" for the Assembly and the Members.
8. The Speaker's procession would then return to the House for continuation of the rest of the Business
9. During the debate in the House, thereafter, all Members shall refer to the Member elected as Mr. or Madam Speaker.

### **ANNEX 4**

#### **THE DRESS CODE**

##### **For the Hon. Speaker**

The Hon. Speaker when in the Chamber shall have:-

- (i) a wig with no tails and ears which shall be used on ceremonial occasions. However, the Hon. Speaker may opt to use the wig on normal sitting days.

- (ii) A gown with the colours of the EAC whose background should be blue.
  
- (iii)
  - a. a black or dark navy blue suit
  - b. a white shirt or blouse
  - c. a black tie or scarf with EAC logo and one EAC tie/scarf; and
  - d. a pair of black shoe and socks.
  
- (iv) The Speaker shall be annually provided with the above working attires.

#### **For Hon. Members**

Members will be required to enter the Chamber, Lounge or Dining Room decently and properly dressed befitting the dignity of the House. The particulars of the attire will be as follows:-

##### **(i) For Gentlemen**

- a. Should be decently and smartly dressed (coat, blazer, shirt, tie, long trousers, socks and shoes).
- b. Safari suit (short or long sleeved)
- c. Decent national dresses of any of the Partner States of the EAC.
- d. Decent traditional or religious attire.
- e. Service uniforms.

##### **(ii) For Ladies**

- a. Should be decently and smartly dressed (trouser or skirt suits, skirt (below the knee), blouses, shoes, while the gloves and hats will be optional.
- b. Decent national dresses of any of the Partner States of the EAC.
- c. Decent traditional or religious attire.
- e. Service uniforms.

##### **(iii) For the Clerk**

The Clerk when in the Chamber his uniform will comprise the following:

- (i) a gown whose background shall be blue with the colours of the EAC and distinct from those of other Clerks;



- (ii) a black or dark navy blue lounge suit;
- (iii) long sleeved light blue or white shirt or blouses;
- (iv) black shoes and socks; and
- (v) a tie, black or blue/scarf with EAC logo or an EAC tie or scarf.

**(iv) For the Principal Clerk**

The Principal Clerk and other Clerks when in the Chamber their uniforms will comprise the following:-

- (i) a gown with blue background and the colours of the EAC;
- (ii) a black or dark navy blue suit;
- (iii) a long sleeved light blue shirt or blouse;
- (iv) black shoes and socks; and
- (v) a tie black or blue/scarf with EAC logo or EAC tie or scarf.

**(v) For the Serjeant-at-Arms**

The Serjeant-at-Arms will when in Chamber:-

- (i) a long black tailored tunic jackets made to measure with shoulder flaps and embroidered finishing;
- (ii) a long black trouser with stripes or scarves;
- (iii) a long white sleeved shirt or blouse collarless;
- (iv) a white scarf;
- (v) a pair of white hand gloves; and
- (iv) black officers shoes and socks.

**(vi) For the Assistant-Serjeant-at-Arms**

Same as that for the Serjeant-at-Arms but distinguished by the lack of stripes on the trousers.

**(vii) For the Commissionaires**

The Commissionaires shall put on a tailored white uniform (a blazer and a trouser with blue or green stripes) with a black belt and black shoes.

- (viii) The Clerk, Principal Clerk and other Clerks, the Serjeant –at-Arms, Assistant Serjeant- at-Arms, and the Commissionaires shall be annually provided with their uniforms.

**(ix) For the Strangers**

**Speaker's Gallery**

Strangers in the Speaker's Gallery shall be dressed as follows:

**Gentlemen**

- (i) Decently and smartly dressed (coat, blazer, shirt, tie, long trousers, socks, shoes);
- (ii) Safari suit short or long sleeved;
- (iii) Decent national dresses of any of the Partner States of the EAC.
- (iv) Decent traditional or religious attire;
- (v) Service Uniform

**Ladies**

- (i) Decently and smartly dressed (trouser or skirt suits, skirt (below knee), blouses, and shoes; while the gloves and the hat will be optional.
- (ii) Decent traditional or religious attire.
- (iii) Decent national dresses of any of the Partner States of the EAC.
- (iv) Service Uniform

**Public Gallery, Lounge and Dining**

No person, even if otherwise qualified shall be admitted to the Lounge, Dining Room, or Public Gallery unless they are in the opinion of the Serjeant- At-Arms smartly and decently dressed which means long trousers/scarves, Shirts/blouses, socks, shoes or Service Uniforms.

**ANNEX 5  
FUNCTIONS OF EACH STANDING COMMITTEE**

Arising from the functions of the Standing Committees as specified in the provisions of Rule (79) which constitute the basis of the Committees to carry out their role and functions, each Committee will carry out the following specific functions:

## A. THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTS

- (i) The main functions of this Committee are to carry out a post audit review and scrutiny of the expenditure incurred by the EAC Secretariat, the Organs and Institutions of the sums appropriated in an annual budget approved by the EALA upon presentation by the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the EAC.
- (ii) The post audit review and scrutiny of the expenditure will be on the basis of an annual audit report of the Audit Commission, pursuant to provisions of Articles 49(2) (c) and 134; this function is a post budget and implementation of the budget by Organs and Institutions of the EAC.
- (iii) The post audit function encompasses the need to monitor the implementation of the budget in a manner similar to internal audit, pursuant to Rule 72 (1).
- (iv) However, the functions of this Committee do not extend to discussion and scrutiny of the budget for the forthcoming Fiscal Year.
- (v) At the end of each post audit review and scrutiny of an audit report of the Audit Commission, the Committee shall present a report with recommendations to the House for debate and adoption.

## B. THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL, RULES AND PRIVILEGES

- (i) The main functions of this Committee are broadly, to receive, review, scrutinize, investigate the complaints against legal entities within EAC of denial/deprivation of enjoyment or inappropriate enjoyment, and use contrary to provisions of the Treaty, Protocols and Agreements by any persons resident within the EAC, regardless of the legal status or the presence of such persons; oversight of the work of EAC – Sectoral Committees and organs.
- (ii) The broad functions as in (i) above, hinge on complaints falling within but, not restricted to provisions of:-
  - (a) Chapter Twenty-Four – Legal and Judicial affairs;
  - (b) Chapter Twenty Nine General, Transitional and Final Provisions;
  - (c) Complaints of breaches of the provisions of:
    - Rule 3 Independent Mandate, Privileges and Immunities;
    - Rule 4 Incompatibilities.
  - (d) Complaints of alleged breaches of the established Code of Conduct, Dress Code for Members, staff and strangers.
  - (e) Establishment of requisite codes of conduct and dress for Members, staff and strangers while within the precincts of the Assembly.
  - (f) Investigation into and recommendation of solutions of breaches/non

compliance with provisions of Annex II – Declaration of a Member's Financial Interests; of the Rules and Procedures.

- (g) The receipt and disposal of proposals for the amendment of the Rules of Procedure.
- (h) Complaints and alleged non-compliance with provisions of the Treaty.

### **C. THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, TRADE AND INVESTMENT**

(i) The main functions of this Committee are broadly to receive reports on the status of implementation of the provisions of the Treaty falling within their mandate; complaints of non-compliance in facilitating the achievement of the objectives/goals of the Treaty; oversight of work and activities of the Sectoral Committee of the EAC and organs charged with implementation of provisions in this realm.

(ii) The broad functions in (i) above shall hinge on the following provisions of the Treaty, but not limited to them, these are:-

- (a) Chapter Eleven - Co-operation in Trade, Liberalization and Development.
- (b) Chapter Twelve - Co-operation in Investment, & Industrial Development.
- (c) Chapter Thirteen - Co-operation in Standardization, Quality Assurance, Metrology and Testing.
- (d) Chapter Fourteen - Monetary and Financial Co-operation.
- (e) Chapter Fifteen - Co-operation in Infrastructure and Services.
- (f) Chapter Twenty-Five - The Private Sector and Civil Society.
- (g) Chapter Twenty-Six - Relations with other Regional and International Organizations and Development Partners.

### **D. THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, TOURISM, AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

(i) The main functions of this Committee are broadly to initiate/review Legislation; receive/call for reports from Sectoral Committees, monitor/oversight of implementation of programmes/projects; receive and investigate complaints of non-compliance or failure to facilitate efforts to achieve objectives/goals; carry out studies of specified aspects of the programmes/projects in their realm.

- (ii) The broad function will hinge on the following provisions of the Treaty, though not limited to them;
  - (a) Chapter Eighteen - Agriculture and Food.
  - (b) Chapter Nineteen - Co-operation in Environment and Natural Resources Management
  - (c) Chapter Twenty - Co-operation in Tourism and Wildlife Management.

**E. THE COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

- (i) The functions of this Committee would revolve around the implementation of the provisions of the Treaty relating to regional affairs; the receipt of reports of the EAC – Sectoral Committees responsible for affairs following this realm; the initiation and conduct of studies, investigations; receipt of reports of complaints for non-compliance and the general oversight of the implementation of the programmes/projects/legislation in this realm.
- (ii) The broad functions will hinge on the following provisions of the Treaty, though not limited to them.
  - (a) Chapter Seventeen - Free Movement of Persons, Labour, Services, Right of Establishment and Residence.
  - (b) Chapter Twenty Three - Co-operation in Political Matters.
  - (c) Chapter Twenty-Seven - Co-operation in other Fields.
  - (d) Chapter Twenty-Six - International Organisations and Development Partners.
- (ii) The mode of operation will involve receipt of briefs and reports from the relevant EAC Sectoral Committee(s) in Chapter Seven of the Treaty. This will be in addition to the work in this area which the Committee could initiate on their own volition, or and that referred to them by the Hon. Speaker and the House.

**F. THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE**

- (i) The functions of this Committee would revolve around the oversight of the progress made in the implementation of those provisions of the Treaty, which address matters of general application on the EAC in relation to the role and functions of the EALA. In that regard, the Committee would initiate studies and investigation, call for and receive reports of the

work of bodies, programmes and projects on such matters. As the Committee may find appropriate upon the receipt of reports from EAC Sectoral Committees; they would refer certain matters to such Committees for further study and report.

(ii) In carrying out their functions, the Committee would hinge on the oversight of the work of the EAC and Sectoral Committees emanating from the following provisions of the Treaty; though not restricted or limited to them:

- (a) Chapter Sixteen - Co-operation in the Development of Human Resources, Science and Technology.
  - (b) Chapter Twenty One - Health, Social and Cultural Activities.
  - (c) Chapter Twenty Two - Enhancing the Role of Women in Socio-Economic Development.
- Pre-budgeting function.

Done at Arusha, Tanzania on 2001