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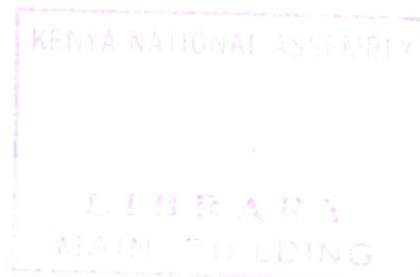
MEETING OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE
FOR EAST AFRICA

HOTEL INTER CONTINENTAL
NAIROBI, KENYA

AUGUST 27TH – 28TH, 2004

BACKGROUND PAPER

MEETING OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE FOR EAST AFRICA



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CONVENING OF THE MEETING

This meeting has been convened in accordance with the planning of EAC Activities for the period July – December 2004. According to a decision made by the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa at its last meeting held on September 16th – 18th, 2002, this meeting should have been held in March 2003. It was not possible to hold the meeting as originally scheduled because of the following reasons:-

- a) during the year 2003, priority under EAC programmes was put on the conclusion of the Protocol for the Sustainable Development of Lake Victoria Basin and the negotiations on the Implementation of Article 75(7) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community ie: the conclusion of the Protocol on the Establishment of the East African Community Customs Union; and
- b) The finalization of work on the Formulation of a Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation within the East African Community.

1.2 PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

At this meeting, the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa is expected to mainly:-

- a) consider a Report of the Sub-Committee on the Formulation of a Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation;
- b) exchange views on current developments in the integration process

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 FORMULATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF ACTION IN POLITICAL CO-OPERATION

2.1.1 Establishment of a Sub-Committee

At its meeting held on September 16th – 18th, 2002 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, the Inter-Parliamentary Committee exchanged views on, among other subjects, the formulation of its comprehensive implementation programme in accordance with its mandate under

Article 21 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African community and the establishment of linkages between the National Assemblies, in their respective roles, on one hand, and the Community and its organs, on the other.

The Committee, therefore, established a Sub-Committee (*initially comprising Honourables Dr Aman Kabourour, Kate S M Kamba, Dr Mukhisa Kituyi, David Musila, Dr A Nsaba Buturo, Dr William Shija and Ben Wacha*) to prepare a proposal on the Committee's comprehensive implementation programme in political co-operation. The Sub-Committee was also charged with addressing different aspects of inter-parliamentary co-operation and make proposals accordingly.

2.1.2 Proposed Comprehensive Programme of Activities in Political Co-operation

The Sub-Committee met on April 25th – 30th, 2004. It considered, among other pertinent matters, the following:-

- a) Co-operation in the international fora;
- b) Co-operation in Defence;
- c) Strengthening of the EAC Institutional framework;
- d) Establishment of Political Federation; and
- e) Sectoral linkages on Co-operation in Political Affairs.

On this basis the Sub-Committee formulated proposals for the Comprehensive Programme, which are contained in the Report attached hereto as Annex I.

The Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa is expected to consider the Report of the Sub-Committee and formulate a Comprehensive Programme of Action in Political Co-operation.

2.2 CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS IN THE INTEGRATION PROCESS

The East African Community uses development strategies as bases for the implementation of its programmes in different areas of Co-operation as stipulated under the Treaty for the Establishment of the African Community.

2.2.1 Areas of Co-operation

For purposes of achieving its objectives the East African Community has, under the Treaty, provided for the establishment of co-operation in the following broad areas:-

- (a) **Trade Liberalisation and development** *(including the development of an East African Trade regime; and the establishment of a Customs Union);*
- (b) **Investment and Industrial Development** *(including the development of an East African Industrial Development Strategy; the rationalisation of investment; the promotion of industrial research and development; the promotion of linkages among industries within the Community; and rationalization in standardisation, quality assurance, metrology and testing);*
- (c) **Monetary and Financial Matter** *(including the systematic development and harmonisation of the Partner States' policies towards the establishment of a Monetary Union; and Banking and Capital Market development);*
- (d) **Infrastructure and Services** *(covering the rationalization and harmonisation of Partner States' policies in roads and road transport, railways and rail transport, civil aviation and civil air transport, maritime transport and ports, inland waterways transport, multi-modal transport, postal services, telecommunications, meteorological services and energy);*
- (e) **Human resources development** *(including fostering of co-operation in education and training and the development of science and technology; enhancement of the role of women in socio-economic development; the free movement of persons, labour, services, right of establishment and residence; co-operation in health, culture, sports and social welfare; development of mass media and outreach programmes);*

- (f) **Development of Agriculture and Natural Resource Management and Utilisation;** and
- (g) **The provision of a conducive environment for development** *(which encapsulates co-operation in political matters including establishment of common foreign and defence policies and promotion of peace and security; co-operation in legal and judicial affairs; and the establishment and enhancement of relations with other regional and international organisations and development partners).*

2.2.2 Achievements to date

Since the revival of the integration process the East African Community Partner States have achieved some tangible results in development. These are fourfold as follows:-

- (a) **Institutional achievements:** These include better articulation of the areas of co-operation and the institutional framework following the upgrading of the Agreement for Co-operation into a Treaty; and rationalisation and harmonisation of policies in the various areas of co-operation on the basis of 5 Year Development Strategies;
- (b) **Confidence – building:** the feeling of integration has been enhanced through, among other developments, the introduction of an East African Passport; introduction of currency convertibility; signing of memoranda of understanding on co-operation in defence and foreign policy co-operation; and encouragement of the establishment of regional private – sector and civil society organisations;
- (c) **Establishment of an East African Customs Union**

Following four years of negotiations on aspects of trade liberalization and development, a Protocol on the Establishment of the East African Community Customs Union was prepared and signed on March 2nd, 2004. The Protocol, which will come into force upon ratification by the three Partner States' later this year, provides for the following aspects of trade liberalisation and development:

- (i) Customs administration *(including establishment of a common external tariff; elimination of internal tariffs and elimination of non-tariff barriers);*

- (ii) *Trade liberalisation (including establishment of a common external tariff; elimination of internal tariffs and elimination of non-tariff barriers);*
- (iii) *Trade related aspects (including Rules of Origin; national treatment; anti-dumping measures; subsidies and countervailing measures; safeguard measures; competition; re-exportation of goods; and restrictions and prohibitions to trade);*
- (iv) *Export promotion schemes (including duty drawback schemes; manufacturing under bond schemes, duty and value added tax remission schemes; and export processing zones);*
- (v) Special Economic zones such as freeports; and
- (vi) Exemption regimes.

The Protocol also provides for measures to address imbalances arising out of the establishment of the Customs Union, for mechanisms for handling trade arrangements with countries and organisations outside the Customs Union and for a common Customs Law of the Community.

- (d) **Development of Economic, Service and Social Sectors;** achievements include the harmonisation of industrial standards; harmonization of monetary and fiscal policies; establishment of a capital market development forum; completion of a study on the Industrial Development Strategy; formulation of a programme for the sustainable development of the Lake Victoria Basin; formulation of an East African Road Network project, cross – border telecommunication connectivity, introduction of an East African Postal Automation project, ongoing development of an East African Energy Master Plan; completion of a study on the development of regional tourism; revitalisation of the inter-University Council for East Africa; development of a regional Gender and Community Development Strategy and Programme; development of a regional Agricultural and Rural Development Strategy; programmes on regional judicial training and approximation of municipal laws into a regional context; a study on the establishment of common foreign policy; and development of programmes in health and education.

Under this area a major achievement has been the conclusion of the Protocol the Sustainable Development of the Lake Victoria Basin. The Protocol, which was signed on November 29th 2003, provides for among other, aspects of sustainable development, the following:-

- (i) equitable and reasonable utilisation of water resources;
- (ii) protection of the ecosystems;
- (iii) sustainable development of natural resources including
- (iv) fisheries and agriculture;
- (v) development of trade, tourism and infrastructure;
- (vi) environmental protection;
- (vii) safety of navigation and security; and
- (viii) establishment of an apex management body

The level of integration can now be assessed on the basis of a review of the tripartite projects and programmes within the current Development Strategy. This review is shown in the summarised notes contained in Annex II.

The Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa is expected to consider and exchange views on the integration process.



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

**INTER-PARLIAMENTARY
CO-OPERATION**

**Meeting of the Sub-Committee on
the Formulation of
Comprehensive Programme of
Action on Political Co-operation**

**Nairobi, Kenya
April 28th – 30th, 2004**

(Ref: EAC/SR/15/2004)

**EAC SECRETARIAT
Arusha, Tanzania
April, 2004**

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CO-OPERATION

MEETING OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE FORMULATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON POLITICAL CO-OPERATION

REPORT OF THE MEETING

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1. Convening of the Meeting

The Meeting was convened in accordance with the planning of EAC Activities for the period January –June 2004. The specific purposes of the Meeting were to:

- (a) Receive and consider the Report of the Task Force of Experts on the Formulation of a Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation within the EAC framework; and
- (b) make proposals on the Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation to the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa.

1.2. Participation

The Meeting was attended by Hon Members of the Sub-Committee from the National Assembly of the Republic of Kenya, the National Assembly of the United Republic of Tanzania and the East African Legislative Assembly. In attendance were senior officials from the three Legislative Assemblies and the East African Community Secretariat. The names of the participants at this Meeting are shown in the list attached to this report as Annex III.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Uganda sent a message indicating its inability to send Members of the Sub-Committee to attend.

The Sub-Committee was informed by the Secretariat that the Meeting ought to proceed and that Uganda would be availed with a copy of the report for consideration.

1.3. Bureau of the Meeting

The Meeting was chaired by Kenya. Hon G G Kariuki, MP, EGH, Chairperson, Defence and Foreign Relations Committee, National Assembly of Kenya was in the chair. Tanzania (Mr Angumbwike Lameck Ng'wavi, Clerk Assistant to the National Assembly of Tanzania) was rapporteur.

While opening the Meeting, the Chairperson welcomed the visiting delegations to Kenya. He underscored the need for the Partner States to integrate in all sectors of development as outlined in the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community. He observed that the business of the Sub-Committee was important as it was aimed at laying the ground work for enhancement of not only inter-parliamentary co-operation but also regional political co-operation with the ultimate aim of establishing a Political Federation.

The Sub-Committee observed a moment of silence in memory of the late Hon James W Wapakabulo, Second Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Uganda and Chairperson of the East African Community, Council of Ministers, who passed away on March 27th, 2004.

1.4. Agenda

The Sub-Committee adopted the agenda proposed by the Secretariat and attached hereto as Annex I.

2.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE TASK FORCE OF EXPERTS ON THE FORMULATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON POLITICAL CO-OPERATION WITHIN THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

The Sub-Committee received and considered the Report of the Task Force of Experts on the Formulation of a Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation within the East African Community (Ref EAC/TF/03/2003 July – December). It also considered the provisions of :

- (a) Article 5 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community (on objectives of the East African Community); and

- (b) Articles 123 – 125 of the Treaty (on Co-operation in Political Matters including political affairs; regional peace and security; and defence).

On the basis of the report of the Task Force the Sub-Committee noted the following key issues which have a bearing on the formulation of the Comprehensive Programme:

2.1. Co-operation in international fora

(a) Foreign Policy Co-ordination

A Memorandum of Understanding on Foreign Policy Co-ordination was concluded by the Partner States on January 22nd, 1999. Under the provisions of the memorandum, the Partner States have undertaken to co-operate in foreign policy co-ordination and to promote and articulate the East African Community policies and strategies for the purposes of:

- (i) marketing the East African Community abroad;
- (ii) maximization of advantages of combined and harmonised efforts in addressing regional needs in international fora; and
- (iii) the advancement of co-operation in such areas as may from time to time be agreed upon.

The Memorandum, which is operational, therefore, has established linkages between the Secretariat and the Partner States' capitals and missions abroad, focal co-ordination points, collaboration in diplomatic and consular activities; collaboration in economic and social activities, liaison and exchange of information and collaboration in administration and capacity building.

Pursuant to a directive made at the First Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State held in Kampala on April 13th, 2002, the Council of Ministers is also widely consulting on the most appropriate mechanism for the Partner States' negotiating as a bloc at such international fora as the World Trade Organisation and the ACP-EU relationships under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement.

(b) Establishment of a Common Foreign Policy

The Council of Ministers, at the Second Meeting held on September 13th, 2002 commissioned a Study on the establishment of a common foreign policy. The purpose of the Study was to mainly examine the Partner States' existing foreign policies and foreign policy behaviour over a period of time. Analyses based on findings would serve to inform the changes, opportunities and recommendations

for the harmonisation and operationalisation of an EAC common foreign and security policy.

The Report of the Study has been presented to the Secretariat and is due for consideration by the Partner States' Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs at their meeting scheduled for June 29th 2004.

2.2. Co-operation in Defence

The Partner States concluded a Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation in Defence on November 30th, 2001. The Memorandum, which is operational, provides for:

- (a) areas of co-operation (including military training, joint operations; technical assistance; visits and exchange of information);
- (b) institutional co-ordination; and
- (c) access and movement of the Partner States' Armed Forces.

2.3. Strengthening of EAC Institutional framework

There is need to strengthen the EAC institutional framework with a view to:

- (a) enhancing implementation of decisions of the Council of Ministers on different areas of co-operation;
- (b) ratifying concluded agreements, protocols and other tripartite instruments in order to ensure they come into force in a timely manner;
- (c) enhancing co-operation between the organs of the Community e.g. through the formulation of a legislative programme by the Council of Ministers; and
- (d) addressing the frequency of the Meetings of the Council of Ministers.

The Sub-Committee noted that solutions to problems in this regard could be found in:

- the Partner States' establishment of Ministries responsible for East African Community;

- prioritisation of work in the Ministries responsible for Foreign Affairs with a view to according EAC matters more prominence;
- establishment of a progress monitoring mechanism on EAC matters; and
- enhancement of the information flow between the Secretariat and the National Assemblies as key stakeholders in co-operation in political affairs.

2.4. Establishment of a Political Federation

The question of the establishment of a Political Federation which is a requirement of Sub-Article 123(3)(f) and Article 123(6) of the Treaty, has been addressed by both the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa and the East African Legislative Assembly.

At its meeting held on September 16th – 18th, 2002, the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa deliberated on this matter. It decided that recognising the benefits to be derived from the fast establishment of an expanded market, the Summit of Heads of State be urged to direct the Council of Ministers to initiate the process towards the establishment of a Political Federation as provided for under Article 123(6) of the Treaty.

During the Fourth Session of its First Sitting held on June 4th – 6th, 2002, the East African Legislative Assembly received the Interim report and recommendations of the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the Study and Review of Processes and Stages of integration in the East African Community . The Study which addressed all key aspects of the development of the integration process, the systematic establishment of the Community through the Customs Union, the Common Market, the Monetary Union and ultimately the Political Federation, and the establishment of the Political Federation (with specific reference to the Munanka Select Committee Report on the East African Federation 1975) was unanimously adopted by the Legislative Assembly.

The Sub-Committee took note of the Interim Report a copy of which is attached hereto as Annex II

2.5. Sectoral linkages on Co-operation in Political Matters

Other relevant matters under Co-operation in Political Affairs are also specifically handled by:

- (a) the Interstate Committee on Security (Interstate Security);

- (b) the Sectoral Council on Co-operation in Defence (Interstate Defence)
- (c) the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa (co-operation between the National Assemblies and East African Legislative Assembly; and
- (d) Foreign Policy Co-ordination (the Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs).

The Sub-Committee recommends to the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa to:

- (a) consider and adopt the above key issues in Co-operation in Political Matters as part of the basis for the Comprehensive Programme of Action in Political Co-operation;
- (b) consider and recommend that:
 - (i) Partner States' Ministries responsible for Foreign Affairs accord East African Community sufficient prominence to enable the systematic development towards establishing a Political Federation;
 - (ii) The Partner States consider the establishment of Ministries responsible for EAC affairs;
- (c) the Secretariat:
 - (i) establishes a progress monitoring mechanism on the implementation of the Treaty and decisions of the Council of Ministers;
 - (ii) keep all relevant stakeholders including the Legislative Assemblies and their relevant Parliamentary Committees always posted of EAC developments.

3.0 FORMULATION OF PROPOSALS FOR A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMME OF ACTION AND POLITICAL CO-OPERATION

The Sub-Committee considered the following matters:

3.1. Performance Output

By the provisions of the Treaty (Articles 2 and 5), the Partner States have agreed to establish an East African Customs Union and a Common Market as transitional stages to, and integral parts of the East African Community, subsequently a Monetary Union and ultimately a Political Federation. Subsequent political unity through successive economic convergence is the ultimate objective of the integration process.

3.2. Key milestones

The Sub-Committee upon consideration of the objectives of the Community and the cornerstones of co-operation in Political Matters as outlined in Articles 4 and 123 – 125 of the Treaty respectively, identified the following key milestones necessary to achieve the expected output:

- (a) Establishment of a common foreign policy;
- (b) Establishment of a common security policy;
- (c) Establishment of a common defence policy;
- (d) Establishment of a peace-building mechanism;
- (e) Enhancement of democracy, the rule of law, accountability, transparency, social justice, equal opportunities, gender equality as well as recognition, promotion and protection of human and peoples rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights;
- (f) Safeguarding of common values, fundamental interests and independence of the Community;
- (g) Enhancement of relations with other regional and international organisations and development partners;
- (h) Establishment of an EAC Ministerial Organ within the Community's institutional framework; and
- (i) Consolidation of comprehensive sectoral programmes in all areas of co-operation.

The Sub-Committee recommends to the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa to consider and adopt the above-mentioned milestones towards the ultimate establishment of a Political Federation.

3.3. Plan of Action

Considering the key performance output and the milestones for achieving it, the Sub-Committee considered the necessary activities for a time-based Plan of Action which is shown in the Matrix below:

1.0 TARGET: ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLITICAL FEDERATION BY THE YEAR 2010				
2.0 MILESTONES	ACTIVITY	ACTION PARTY	TARGET DATE OF ACHIEVEMENT	EXPECTED OUTPUT
(a) Establishment of a common foreign policy (Article 125)	(i) Enhancement of the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Foreign Policy Cooperation;	Partner States/Secretariat Parliaments and Legislative Assembly	Ongoing	Maximization of advantages of combined efforts in addressing EAC issues of international fora
	(ii) Conclusion of the Study on the establishment of a common foreign policy;	Council Ministers/Summit of Heads of State/Parliaments and Legislative Assembly	November 2004	Enhancement of the achievement of the strategic objectives of the Community including establishment of common missions abroad.
	(iii) Inclusion of establishment of a common foreign policy on agenda of foreign affairs committee of the Legislative Assemblies	Parliaments and Legislative Assembly	Immediate	
(b) Establishment of a common security policy (Peace and Security) Article 124	(i) Expediting the establishment of regional mechanisms for security (<i>through training of personnel mobilisation and sensitisation of the population, establishment of disaster preparedness plans and implementation of Operational plans to combat terrorism and Drug Trafficking; addressing key</i>	Council of Ministers Partner States/ Parliaments and Legislative Assembly (Parliamentary Committees on Defence and Foreign Affairs)	Immediate	Promotion of peace and security and maintenance of good neighbourlines

	<p><i>problems like the LRA insurgency in Northern Uganda and the Great Lakes civil wars)</i></p> <p>(ii) Enhancement of co-operation among security agencies <i>(through strengthening of interstate co-operation activities and adoption of UN Model Law on Mutual Assistance in criminal matters).</i></p> <p>(iii) Establishment of a regional policy on management of refugee <i>(including issues of repatriation and re-settlement).</i></p>	<p>Partner States, Parliaments and Legislative Assembly (Parliamentary Committees on Foreign Affairs and Defence)</p> <p>Council of Ministers Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p>	<p>Immediate</p> <p>Immediate</p>	<p>Promotion of peace and security and maintenance of good neighbourlines.</p>
<p>(c) Establishment of a common security policy (Defence) <i>(Articles 124(1), (2), (3) and 125)</i></p>	<p>Enhancement of the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Co-operation in Defence</p>	<p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>Promotion of peace, security and stability within and good neighbourlines among the Partner States</p>
<p>(d) Establishment of peace building mechanisms</p>	<p>(i) Establishment of confidence building measures to reduce mutual suspicion e.g. easing of border crossing</p>	<p>(i) Partner States, Parliaments and Legislative Assembly, Civil Society Organisations e.g. Amani Forum of East African Parliamentarians</p>	<p>Immediate</p>	<p>Enhancement of Unity</p>

		<p>(ii) Reduction of suspicion and enhancement of interaction among populations</p> <p>(iii) Conflict prevention through the Establishment of Conflict Research Centres and sensitisation of the people on the importance of peace keeping</p> <p>(iv) Involvement of all stakeholders e.g. politicians, "civil society organisations, religious centres"</p>	"	
<p>(e) Enhancement of democracy, the rule of law, accountability, transparency, social justice, equal opportunities, gender equality and promotion of human rights (Article</p>	<p>(i) Promotion of Gender Equality through affirmative action and ensuring equal opportunities;</p> <p>(ii) Promotion of Social justice through enhancement of rights awareness and observance;</p>	<p>Partner States Secretariat Parliament and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliament and Legislative Assembly</p>	<p>Immediate</p> <p>"</p>	<p>Fulfilment of Treaty's fundamental principles</p>

6)	<p>(iii) Enhancing democracy through opening up political space,</p> <p>(iv) Establishment of similar democratic practices e.g. parliamentary representation;</p> <p>(v) Harmonisation of election dates</p> <p>(v) Enhancement of the rule of law (<i>through fair and objective administration of law and justice empowerment of National Assemblies on the on training of judicial personnel, police and security personnel, simplification of the law sensitisation of the population on their rights and obligations of watchdog Ministries and agencies review of anti corruption legislation.</i>)</p>	<p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliament and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p>	<p>Immediate</p> <p>"</p> <p>Partner States</p> <p>Immediate/ ongoing</p>	<p>Fulfilment of Treaty's fundamental principles</p>
(f) Safeguard common value fundamental interest and independence of the Community	(i) Establishment of a forum for consultations between the private sector, civil society organisations, other interest groups and appropriate institutions	Secretary General Parliaments and Legislative Assembly	Immediate	Strengthening of the Community as a legal person in international law

(Articles 4, 127, 129)	<p>of the Community.</p> <p>(ii) Establishment of economic independence;</p> <p>(iii) Enhancement of the legal capacity of the Community as a body corporate</p>	<p>Council of Ministers Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p>	<p>Immediate</p> <p>Immediate</p>	
(g) Enhancement of relations with other regional and international organisations and development partners (Article 130)	<p>(i) Enhancement/Establishment of relations through accreditation with AU (EAC is already accredited to UN System);</p> <p>(ii) Expedition of ongoing consultations on the harmonisation of Partner States' parallel and multi-membership in regional organisations within the Customs Union context</p>	<p>Secretariat Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p>	<p>Immediate</p> <p>"</p>	<p>Enhancement of cooperation</p> <p>Strengthening of the Community</p>
(h) Capacity building	<p>(i) Engagement of expertise on regional co-operation to advise and guide;</p> <p>(ii) Collection of views through seminars, meetings and print and audio media involving all stakeholders e.g.</p>	<p>Council of Ministers Parliaments and Legislative Assembly</p> <p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly Civil Society</p>	<p>Immediate</p> <p>"</p>	<p>Enhancement of awareness and involvement of all stakeholders</p> <p>"</p>

	<p>National Assemblies, Civil Society, organisations on the EAC ideals and establishment of a Political Federation;</p> <p>(iii) Public invitations for views of East Africans to submit memoranda on EAC ideals and establishment of a Political Federation</p>	<p>Organisations</p> <p>Partner States Parliaments and Legislative Assembly Council of Ministers</p>	<p>“</p>	<p>“</p>
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(i) Establishment of EAC Ministers within EAC institutional framework	(i) Designation of Ministries for EAC matters at Cabinet level	Partner States	Immediate	To reduce the burden on Co-ordinating Ministers
	(ii) Establishment of resident EAC Ministers	Summit of Heads of State	2007 (following amendment of the Treaty)	
	(iii) Establishment of EAC Desk Officers in the National Assemblies	Partner States	Immediate	To enhance co-operation among National Assemblies and the East African Legislative Assembly
(h) Consolidation of comprehensive sectoral programmes in all areas of co-operation	(i) Consolidation of comprehensive implementation programmes in all areas of co-operation	Council Ministers	of 2010	Merger of all sectoral strategies in preparation for the Political Federation.
	(ii) Amendment of the Treaty	Partner States	2007	

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- *For purposes of specific discharge of work under the above matrix, reference to Parliaments/Legislative*

Assembly (EALA) connotes the Foreign Relations Committees.

The Sub-Committee recommends to the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa to consider and adopt the above Comprehensive Programme of Action Plan on Political Cooperation.

4.0 CONSIDERATION OF A DATE FOR THE MEETING OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE FOR EAST AFRICA

The Sub-Committee exchanged view on the suitable timing for the Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa at which its (the Sub-Committee's) report would be considered. It recalled that at the last Meeting of the Committee held on September 16th – 18th, 2002, Kenya offered to host the Meeting.

The Sub-Committee, while taking cognisance of impending business at the National Assemblies and the East African Legislative Assembly especially on the budgets, stressed the need to convene this Meeting as soon as possible. In this regard it noted the possibility of convening the Meeting on May 28th – 30th, 2004.

The Sub-Committee recommends that:

- (a) the Hon Speakers of the National Assemblies and the East African Legislative Assembly consult with a view to convening the Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa on May 28th – 30th, 2004;
- (b) the Hon Speaker of the National Assembly of Kenya decides on the venue in Kenya for the Meeting.

5.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

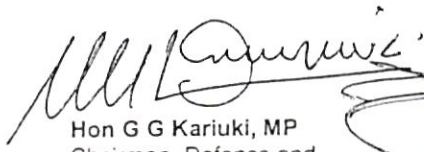
5.1. Non participation by the Republic of Uganda

The Sub-Committee expressed its regret that the National Assembly of Uganda was unable to participate at both the Meeting of the Task Force of Experts and at the last and this Meeting of the Sub-Committee. It noted the need to find out the reasons that gave rise to this development.

The Sub-Committee decided that the Chairpersons of the Foreign Relations Committee of the National Assemblies of Kenya and

Tanzania and the East African Legislative Assembly follow up this matter through the offices of the respective Hon Speakers.

SIGNED this 30th day of April, 2004 by the Heads of Delegation.



Hon G G Kariuki, MP
Chairman, Defence and
Foreign Relations
Committee,
National Assembly of Kenya



Hon Dr William F Shija, MP
Chairman, Foreign Affairs
Committee
Tanzania Parliament



Hon M Shamalla, MLA
Member, Regional Affairs
and Conflict Resolution Committee
East African Legislative



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

**Meeting of the Sub-Committee on the
Formulation of a Comprehensive Programme of Action
on Political Co-operation**

Nairobi, Kenya
April 28th – 30th, 2004

AGENDA

- 1.0 Consideration of Report of the Task Force of Experts on the Formulation of a Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation within the East African Community
- 2.0 Formulation of proposals for a Comprehensive Programme of Action on Political Co-operation
- 3.0 Consideration of a new date for the Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee for East Africa
- 4.0 Any Other Business

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EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON
REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND
CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

**REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
ON THE STUDY AND REVIEW OF
PROCESSES AND STAGES OF
INTEGRATION IN THE EAST
AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

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y Inter-

- (iii) EAC-Sectoral Committee on facilitation of movement of Persons, Immigration, Labour/Employment and Refugees.

3.2 During part of the Second and Third Sittings held on April 20 and 30, the Committee deliberated at length on the task and its Terms of Reference as you had pursuant to provisions of Rule 8(2) (g) of the Rules of Procedure, referred to them at the sitting of the EALA on January 25, 2002 in Kampala. A sizeable amount of work was done, though it was not possible to complete the study due to a number of factors.

4.0 MATERIAL/LITERATURE REFERRED TO

4.1 The Committee received and perused the following material/literature, deemed relevant to the study:-

- (i) The Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, 2000;
- (ii) The East African Community Development Strategy 2001 to 2005;
- (iii) Report of Select Committee on East African Federation by Hon. I.M. Bhoke Munanka, Chairperson (Former East African Legislative Assembly), 1975.

5.0 MODUS OPERANDI AND THE TERMS OF REFERENCE

5.1 The Committee considered all aspects of the Terms of Reference and the likely modus operandi and noted that in respect with the dominant requirement in the T.O.R., i.e. the views of the East Africans, the only appropriate mechanism that would satisfy that requirement would involve the following steps:-

1.4.2 to gauge the views and opinions of East Africans on a political federation through a referendum;

1.4.3 to present a report of findings to the EALA by June, 2002 for their consideration ; and

1.4.4 to do any other matters relating thereto.

2.0 REFERENCE TO PREVIOUS STUDY

Hon. Speaker, the Committee has had the advantage of perusing through a Report of the Select Committee on East African Federation, 1975 of the former East African Legislative Assembly, chaired by the Hon. I.M. Bhoke Munanka. The collective view of the Committee is that the Munanka Report is a worthy working and reference document for any study on the question of deepening and sustaining integration in East Africa, especially by way of political federation. Thus, the Committee wishes to commend the Members of the former EALA and specifically those who constituted the Munanka Committee for the commitment to the spirit of East Africa in those final and difficult days of the defunct EAC. Also, the Committee would recommend the reading of the Munanka Report for all Members of this Assembly.

3.0 EXECUTION OF THE MANDATE

3.1 Hon. Speaker, the Committee held three sittings on April 19, 20 and 30, 2002 in Arusha to deliberate on the modality for the execution of the mandate. The sittings of April 19 and 30 as was the case with the five Standing Committees, was used for the purpose of receiving an up date from the EAC-Officers servicing the EAC-Sectoral Committees. In the case of our Committee, briefs were received on the work of the:-

- (i) EAC-Sectoral Committee on Interstate Defence;
- (ii) EAC-Sectoral Committee on Interstate Security;

- 1.2 Hon. Speaker, the sequence of the processes and the stages as currently stipulated in the requisite documents of the EAC, including the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, the East African Community Development Strategy, 2001 to 2005, put the Political Federation as the final stage. The sequence starts with the setting up and operationalization of the organs of the EAC, which was completed on November 30, 2001. The first major step to deepening the integration is the creation of a Customs Union. This would be sequentially followed by the creation of a Common Market and Monetary Union with a common currency.
- 1.3 Hon. Speaker, during the debate, unanimity among the Members of the Assembly was lacking on whether the sequence as stated above should be the sequence of the integration processes. In the final analysis there emerged three distinct approaches, viz:
 - 1.3.1 that the sequence of the stages as stated in EAC documents be adhered to;
 - 1.3.2 that, the stages as stated in the EAC – documents be pursued concurrently; and
 - 1.3.3 that, the formation of a political federation should come first.
- 1.4 Hon. Speaker arising from the foregoing and following the concise manner in which the Hon. Maj. Gen. Mugisha O. Muntu (Uganda) summed up the variant views on the Motion; you then ruled and referred to the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution the following salient issues which also translate into their Terms of Reference. These are:-
 - 1.4.1 to study and review the processes and stages of integration within the East African Community;

Phase One – Capacity Building

- 5.1.1 to invite persons with knowledge on the processes of regional integration not limited to East Africa; to attend scheduled sittings of the Committee; either in Arusha or during the visits in 5.1.3 below, to present both oral and written submissions;
- 5.1.2 to hire some expertise in the realm of regional integration to advise and guide the work of the Committee;

Phase Two – Collection of views

- 5.1.3 to hold meetings with the various leaders of the governments of the Partner States; and
- 5.1.4 to hold meetings; with Members of the Parliaments of the Partner States;
- 5.1.5 a public notification to all East Africans through the print and audio media that the Committee was carrying out the study; the notification to specify the Terms of Reference;
- 5.1.6 a public invitation for all East Africans to submit written memoranda containing their views and recommendations on how the task could be dealt with;
- 5.1.7 the Committee to hold sittings and visit specific centres/places within the three Partner States;

6.0 CONSTRAINTS TO EXECUTION OF THE TASK

6.1 Hon. Speaker, arising from the above, the Committee noted the following as constraints to proper execution of the task, in the period upto June 30, 2002. These are:-

6.1.1 inadequate financial provision to meet the costs that the modus operandi above would entail;

6.1.2 inadequate time within which to seek, find and assemble the resources (human) identified above as appropriate;

6.1.3 inadequate time within which to carry out the survey of the views of East Africans, (i.e. to collect and collate) and be able to write a report.

7.0 REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

7.1 Hon. Speaker, in consideration of the foregoing, the Standing Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution would like to report and recommend to the House as follows:-

7.1.1 That, this be noted and adopted as an Interim Report;

7.1.2 That, leave be granted for the Committee to sit again and complete the assignment.

8.0 MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

The Members of the Committee as appointed on January 22, 2002 are:-

The Hon. Kate S.M. Kamba - Chairperson

The Hon. Said B. Jecha

The Hon. Lt. Gen. Adan Abdullahi
The Hon. Maxwell Shamala
The Hon. Ochieng G Mbeo
The Hon. Irene Ovonji-Odida
The Hon. G. Mugisha Muntu Oyera (Maj. Gen.)
The Hon. Beatrice M Shellukindo
The Hon. Lydia Wanyoto-Mutende

9.0 CONCLUSION

Hon. Speaker, in conclusion, I would like to record the gratitude of the Committee and my own to you and the House for having found it appropriate that we should start our work by the study of such an all important subject to East Africans. The Committee commends this report and recommendation to the House and in the same breath assures the House that they remain committed to proper conclusion of the task and submission of a comprehensive report in the very near future. Finally, the Committee is grateful to the Clerk of the Assembly and the staff for facilitating their work.

Thank you.

SIGNED:

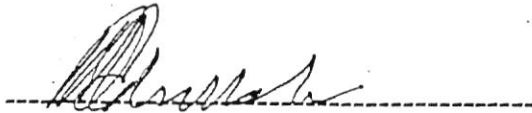
Kate Kamba

HON. KATE S.M. KAMBA
CHAIRPERSON

MAY 24, 2002



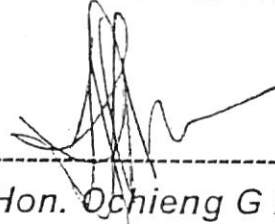
Hon. Said B. Jecha



Hon. Lt. Gen. Adan Abdullahi

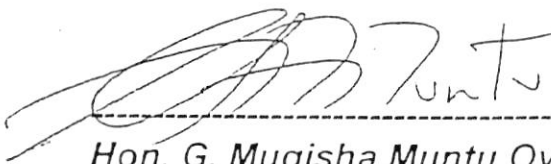


Hon. Maxwell Shamala



Hon. Ochieng G Mbeo

Hon. Irene Ovonji-Odida



Hon. G. Mugisha Muntu Oyera (Maj. Gen.)



Hon. Beatrice M Shellukindo



Hon. Lydia Wanyoto-Mutende

List of Participants

KENYA

1. Hon G G Kariuki, MP, EGH
Member of Parliament and Chairman of Defence and
Foreign Relations Committee
National Assembly of Kenya
P O Box 41842 00100
Nairobi
Tel No: 221291
Fax No: 336589
E-mail: bunge@swiftkenya.com
2. Hon Mwandawiro Mghanga
Member of Parliament and Defence and Foreign
Affairs Committee
National Assembly of Kenya
P O Box 41842 00100
Nairobi
Tel No: 0722 316388
E-mail: mwandawiro2002@yahoo.com
3. Hon Syonng'h'oh Zaddock Madiri
Member of Parliament and
Pan African Parliament)
National Assembly of Kenya
P O Box 41842 0100
Nairobi
Tel No: 221291
Fax No: 336589
E-mail: bunge@swiftkenya.com
4. Hon Suleiman R Shakombo
Member of Parliament
National Assembly of Kenya
P O Box 30310 00100
Nairobi
Tel No: 676612
E-mail: sshakombo@hotmail.com

5. Hon Daniel L Khamasi
Member of Parliament
National Assembly of Kenya
P O Box 8048
Nairobi
Tel No: 0721 702834
E-mail No: bunge@swiftkenya.com

6. Mrs Serah Kioko
Clerk Assistant
National Assembly of Kenya
P O Box 41842
Nairobi
Tel No: 221291
Fax NO: 336589
E-mail: bunge@swiftkenya.com

7. Mr S Njenga Njuguna
Research Assistant
Kenya National Assembly
P O Box 41842 00100
Nairobi
Tel No: 221281 Ext 32622
E-mail: njengan99@yahoo.com

TANZANIA

1. Hon Dr William F Shija
Member of Parliament and Chairman of Foreign Affairs
Committee, Tanzania Parliament
and
Member of Pan African Parliament
P O Box 9503
Dar es Salaam
Tel No: 255 744 399488
E-mail: pyramidtz@yahoo.com

2. Dr Aman W Kabourou
Member of Parliament
Parliament of Tanzania
and
Member of Pan African Parliament
P O Box 639, Ujiji
P O box 9133, Dar es Salaam
Tel No: 0744 308086
E-mail: akabourou@hotmail.com

3. Mr Japhet Sagasii
Director, Table Office Department
Parliament of Tanzania
Office of the National Assembly
P O Box 941
Dodoma
Tel No: 026 2322761-5
Fax No: 026 2324218

4. Mr Angumbwike Lameck Ng'wavi
Clerk Assistant
Parliament of Tanzania
P O Box 941
Dodoma
Tel No: 255 26 2322761
Fax No: 026 2324218
E-mail: angwabi@yahoo.com

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

1. Hon Maxwell Shamala
Member, EALA
P O Box 18329
Nairobi
Tel No: 0722 717273

2. Hon Ochieng G Mbeo
Member, East African Legislative Assembly
East African Community
P O Box 1096
Arusha
Tel No: 0744 355 323
E-mail: ochiengnm@hotmail.com

3. Mr J N Bundi
Clerk
East African Legislative Assembly
P Obox 1096
Arusha
Tel No: 255 745 764 384
Fax No: 255 27 2503003
E-mail: bundi@eachq.org

EAC-SECRETARIAT

Hon Wilbert T K Kaahwa
Counsel to the East African Community
P O Box 1096
Arusha
Tel No: 2504253
Fax No: 2504255
E-mail: kaahwa@eachq.org



**REVIEW OF THE TRIPARTITE
PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES
WITHIN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE EAC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY,
2001 - 2005**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The EAC Development Strategy for the period 2001 –2005, was launched by the Heads of State on 24 April 2001. In line with the overall objective of the East African Community as set out in the Treaty, the priority programme in the Strategy aims at widening and deepening cooperation among the Partner States in political, economic, social and cultural fields, research and technology, defence, security and legal and judicial affairs for their mutual benefit. This wide coverage of activities has sometimes been interpreted as being ambitious. However, being the first strategy following coming into being of the Community, the aim of the strategy was to lay a foundation for systematic implementation of the Treaty.

According to the Treaty, a Customs Union is supposed to be the entry point into the Community. Therefore, the priority programme focuses on the establishment of a Customs Union and commencement of the process towards establishment of a Common Market. These are viewed as the starting points for laying the foundation for attaining a strong and internationally competitive single market and investment area in the region.

With the signing on 2nd March 2004 of the Protocol on the establishment of the EAC Customs Union, much has been achieved in terms of having the right policy framework in place. However, the real task will be commencing the process of actualization of the EAC Customs Union, which is supposed to take a transitional period of five years, in the remaining lifespan of the Strategy.

2.0 FINDINGS OF THE MID-TERM REVIEW

A Mid-term review of the Strategy was undertaken in June 2003. The objective of the review was to analyse the overall design and implementation of the Development Strategy, leading to an

assessment of its impact to date focusing on the key elements of its effectiveness, relevance and impact on the economies of the East African Community Partner States. The evaluation was also to consider sustainability issues and propose a way forward for the remaining duration of the Development Strategy, as well as making recommendation for the development of a future Strategy on expiry of the current one. Lessons learnt were to be presented as indicators for the formulation of successor Development Strategies.

The overall conclusion of the mid-term review was that due to its coverage of broad range of areas, the Development Strategy was extremely ambitious. However, the document was well articulated and had gained acceptance and commitment from stakeholders in the three Partner States.

Though implementation of the Policy action Matrix had lagged behind some of the deadlines set, this was not surprising given the extensive coverage of the Development Strategy, its comprehensiveness and the targets set being too ambitious. Despite this criticism, the implementation of the Development Strategy was found to be one of the most successful implementation of a trading bloc in Africa so far. This was attributed to the level of co-operation and political goodwill that the EAC continues to enjoy.

The review also revealed that the Secretariat had been put under considerable pressure to perform a wide range of tasks, some beyond its initial scope of work. In spite of this, the Secretariat has succeeded in achieving well given the financial, structural and human resources constraints under which it operates.

3.0 STATUS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES AS PER THE EAC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY(2001-2005)

The EAC Development Strategy, 2001 - 2005, has 23 policy areas, each having specific activities, timeframes for their implementation and the lead implementing agencies. Implementation is usually spearheaded by Sectoral Committees, which report to the Council through the Co-ordination Committee. The following sections attempt to summarize the status of implementation of the projects and programmes, in accordance with the Development Strategy.

1. Macroeconomic Policy Coordination

Regular consultations to harmonise fiscal and monetary policies are undertaken under the Fiscal and Monetary Affairs Committees and Pre and Post Budget consultations of Ministers for Finance.

2. Harmonization of Fiscal and Monetary Policies

Preparations for undertaking a study on pre-requisites for introduction of a single currency are advanced with funding from Partner States. IMF to fund a study on Monetary Union.

3. Free Movement of Capital

The following activities are on-going:

- (i) Putting into place enabling legal environment for cross listing of stocks completed.
- (ii) Cross-listing of companies quoted in Nairobi Stock Exchange undertaken in the Uganda Stock

- Exchange. Similar cross-listing in Dar Stock exchange underway.
- (iii) Full liberalization of capital accounts in all the Partner States on-going.

4.Trade Liberalization and Development

The following is being undertaken:

- (i) The Protocol on the establishment of the East African Community Customs Union, together with its Annexes, has been concluded and was signed by the Heads of state on 2 March 2004.
- (ii) Commencement of implementation of the Protocol is scheduled from 1st January 2005, following ratification targeted by for end September 2004.
- (iii) Draft EAC Competition Bill and Customs Management Bill are awaiting enactment by the East African Legislative Assembly.

5.Enhancing Supply Capacity in Productive Sectors

The following activities have been undertaken:

- (i) The documents on the Common Agriculture and Rural Development Policy and Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy were adopted by the 7th Council of Ministers' meeting.
 - (ii) The Second Phase of the "Study on Liberalisation of Tourism Towards a Single Market in East Africa" has been completed and the draft final study report considered by the Committee on Tourism and Wildlife Management.
 - (iii) The 7th Council adopted Terms of Reference for the Operationalisation of the East African Tourism Council.
-

- (iv) Partner States have agreed to develop a mechanism for countering negative travel advisories.
 - (v) An EAC Panel of Experts has prepared Draft Criteria on Proposed Standards for the Classification of Hotels, Restaurants and other Tourist Facilities and Proposed Standard Guidelines for the development of Non-Graded Establishments. This exercise will be completed by Dec. 2004 when the final criteria will be prepared. Upon completion and approval of the criteria, national workshops and a regional workshop will be held to sensitise stakeholders on EAC Standards and Classification.
 - (vi) An EAC Industrial Development Strategy was adopted by the Council at its 7th meeting.
 - (vii) A draft EAC Model Investment Code is awaiting finalization by the Trade, Industry and Investment Committee and thereafter adoption by the Council.
-

6. Development of Areas of Common Economic Interests

Lake Victoria Development Programme

The following key activities are ongoing:

- (i) The protocol on the establishment of Lake Victoria Commission has been concluded. The Protocol establishes a regional structure for coordinating key actors on the Lake.
- (ii) A comprehensive development strategy for Lake Victoria and its basin has been developed.

- (iii) Operationalisation of the Vision and Strategy Framework for the Management and development of Lake Victoria Basin
- (iv) The implementation of projects under the Partnership Agreement and one such notable one is the establishment of a Resource Centre for Lake Victoria Basin at EAC Secretariat
- (v) The implementation of the Mt Elgon Ecosystem Conservation Project in collaboration with IUCN
- (vi) The Development of guidelines for the Transboundary Natural Resources (to be completed by August)
- (vii) Preparation of the Lake Victoria Environment Management Project 2nd Phase.
- (viii) Collaboration with main stakeholders operating in the basin in strategic project identification and monitoring

7. Co-operation in Integrated Water Resources Management and Development and Minerals Development

The following activities are being implemented:

- (i) The harmonisation of the Mineral Policies and Mining Legislation and Development of a Programme on Mountain Ecosystems; and
- (ii) A programme for development of Water Vision, Water Policy and an EAC Comprehensive Integrated Water Resources Development Strategy.

8. Development of Infrastructure and Supportive Services

Roads:

The following activities have been undertaken:

- (ix) In April 2003, the second Consultative Meeting on roads, The EAC Roads' Development Partners Consultative Meeting, was held in Arusha at the Ministerial Level. This meeting was a follow up of the 1st consultative meeting held in May 199, and had the following objectives:
- Brief the development partners on the progress in the implementation of the agreed sections of the Roads Project;
 - Brief the development partners on the implementation of the agreed Framework actions;
 - Review the prioritisation of the Road Project sections;
 - Review the financing of the agreed road sections and request for further funding for the outstanding sections of the agreed Road Project and for the new priority roads; and
 - Brief the development partners on other infrastructure developments ongoing at the Community.
- (ii) The World Bank confirmed availability of US dollars 400-500 million for the three Partner States' national road sector programmes for the next three years; and the European Union indicated availability of Euros 375 million over a 5-year period from the EDF VIII and IX resources. ADB expressed continued support for the regional integration projects through its multi national funding window.

Telecommunication:

The Secretariat and the Regulatory Authorities have initiated and are carrying out the following activities:

- (i) Study on Harmonisation of Regional Communications Regulatory Strategy, which focuses on various regional issues including harmonisation of national ICT Policies. This study is supported by GTZ;
- (ii) Development of Comprehensive Communications Strategy for Lake Victoria Basin, supported by SIDA;
- (iii) Study on Regional Interconnection supported by the Commonwealth Telecommunication Organisation (CTO). The Preliminary Report proposes an Inter-Region Interconnection Service (IRIS). The Service is expected to harmonise telecommunications tariff in the region.
- (iv) East African Submarine Fibre Optic Cable System (being implemented by telecom operators with international gateway licence); and
- (v) Implementation of the East African Postal Automation Project, part financed by the East African Development Bank (EADB).

Civil Aviation

The Council has approved for signature and implementation of the following:

- (i) the Tripartite Agreement on Search and Rescue;
- (ii) memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Implementation of the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) Safety Audit Recommendations and is developing an MOU on Cooperation in Aviation Security and Safety Issues in the region.
- (iii) The execution of several studies, projects and programmes in the sub sector in order to transform its operations and thereby enhance its contributions in the economic development of the region.

Railways

Activities undertaken in this sector include the following:

- (i) The Council of Ministers decided that the three railways work very closely together with a view to harmonizing their restructuring programmes and if possible work towards joint concessioning.

As a result of consultative meetings held between the Partner States, an understanding has been reached that Kenya and Uganda Railways Corporations be jointly concessioned, while Tanzania Railways Corporation is concessioned separately but with close harmonization of the processes. The timetable for the restructuring processes of the three railways has been agreed upon and necessary negotiations are on going.

- (ii) The Sixth Summit of the Heads of State held in Arusha on 2nd March 2004 directed the Community to come up with an EAC Railways Master Plan to guide the development, restructuring and regional policy development in the sub sector.

A Railways Investors Consultative Meeting at the Community level is planned sometime in 2004 to drum up support on the need for enhanced investments in the railways and the available opportunities for the public/private sector joint ventures in the sub sector.

Inland Waterways

The major focus of the Community has been the enhancement of navigational safety on Lake Victoria. In this context, the following has been undertaken:

- (i) A study supported by the French Government and executed by the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) has been finalised and proposals accepted by the Partner States.
- (ii) Arising out of the study, a Draft Lake Victoria Transport Bill, which currently awaits consideration by the Sectoral Council on Legal and Judicial Affairs, has been developed.

Meteorology Sub Sector

The Community works closely with the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) towards the development of the meteorological services in the Partner States. The following activities have been undertaken:

- (i) A Memorandum of Understanding has been signed between the WMO and the EAC Secretariat to consolidate the collaboration.
- (ii) Establishment of collaboration with National Meteorological Services (NMSs) and the neighbouring regional blocs including the Draught Monitoring Centre, Nairobi (IGAD); and the Draught Monitoring Centre, Harare (SADC).

- (iii) a study on a five year Meteorological Development Plan and Investment Strategy has been commissioned. The main objective of this study is to prepare a comprehensive five years Plan and propose an investment strategy to realise the plan.

Standardization (SQMT)

The following activities have been undertaken:

- (i) 409 standards have been harmonized, adopted by the Council and notified to WTO as East African Standards. 30 draft Standards have been harmonized and are awaiting adoption by the Council as East African Standards.
- (ii) To facilitate implementation of the EAC Protocol on Standards, Quality Assurance, Metrology and Testing, the Secretariat has procured funding from the Federal Government of Germany of Euro 1.5 million. The aim of the project is to create internationally acceptable SQMT structure to facilitate trade within the EAC Customs Union.
- (iii) The Bureaux of Standards have established a close working relationship among themselves. In this context, the following tripartite technical sub-committees which meet regularly have been established:
- Regional inter-laboratory testing sub-committee;
 - Quality Assurance sub-committee;
 - Standardisation sub-committee;
 - Metrology sub-committee ; and
 - Testing sub-committee.

9. Develop Adequate and Reliable Energy supply in the Region

The following activities are under implementation:

- (i) The preparation of the East African Power Master Plan, which begun on March 3rd 2003, with the signing of consultancy services contract between the BKS Acres (PTY) Ltd., the consultants and the East African Community. Funding for the preparation of the Plan amounting to US\$ 746,993 has been secured from the Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (Sida) through its trust funds within the World Bank. The overall objective of the Study is to prepare a Regional Power Master Plan for mutually beneficial development of the interconnection of Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania power systems.
- (ii) Conclusion of Nairobi Conference on Petroleum Exploration and Investment Opportunities, 5th -7th March 2003.
The main objective of the Conference was to explore ways of tapping the petroleum potential of East Africa.
- (iii) Implementation of the Songo Songo gas project in Tanzania with the possibility of extending the gas pipeline from Dar es Salaam to Tanga and Mombasa. The Songo Songo gas project was is expected to start fuelling the electric power plant in Dar in May 2004.
- (iv) Next Petroleum conference is scheduled to be held in Kampala, Uganda in March 2005.

10. Development of Human Resources and Science and Technology

The Criteria for the establishment of EAC Regional Centres of Excellence was considered and adopted by the 6th Council of Ministers, which met in January 2004.

The criteria will guide the EAC in determining centres, which qualify to be upgraded into regional training centres in order to enhance quality training of human resources in the region.

On Science and Technology, a draft protocol on the establishment of the East African Science and Technology Council has been prepared and will be discussed by stakeholders in October 2004.

A meeting between the East African Heads of National Commissions/Councils of Science and Technology and the Secretary General EAC, agreed on a new time frame to operationalise the Council by November 2004.

11.Co-operation in Social Sector Issues

Health

The East African Disease Surveillance Network (EAIDSNet) received funding from the Rockefeller Foundation. The funding is for a period of three years and it will facilitate the hiring of a Health Coordinator, implementation of regional disease surveillance activities and the production and dissemination of a regional newsletter on the network's activities. The Coordinator is expected to be on board during the second half of 2004.

The Medical Associations and Dental Associations from the three Partner States have formed an East Forum called the Federation of Medical and Dental Associations of East Africa (**FEMDA**). The Federation was officially launched on 24th April 2004, in Nakuru by His Excellency, the Vice President of the Republic of Kenya, Hon. Moody Awori.

Education, Culture and Sports

Terms of reference to facilitate the regional study on the Harmonisation of Education curricula in East Africa were adopted by Council in January 2004. The study is expected to focus on the existing curricula of the Partner States as well as the national goals and objectives of education with a view to harmonising curriculum content, education structures, policies and legal frameworks.

EAC Students Essay Writing Competition

The EAC Essay competition was officially launched on 2nd March 2004, by the Chairperson of Summit His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the republic of Uganda. The objectives of the Essay writing competition are:-

- to create awareness among the school going population about the activities of the East African Community;
- to enable students analyse from their own perspective the benefits of the regional integration process; and
- to foster a deeper understanding among the students on the existing cultural, historical and political ties of the people of East Africa.

The National Awarding ceremonies are scheduled for July while the regional level will coincide with the November 30th Summit of the Heads of States.

12. Easing of Border Crossing

Modalities of internationalising the East African passport have been completed. The colours of sky-blue for ordinary passport, green for service/official and red for diplomatic passports have been respectively adopted.

Issuance of inter-state passes commenced on 1st July 2003.

A single immigration Departure/Entry card has been designed and adopted by the Partner States.

The process of waiving the students visa fees have also been finalised and students from the three Partner States do not have to pay any fee at any entry point.

The issue of Issuance of identity cards to Nationals by Tanzania and Uganda was addressed by a team of Experts in March 2004 and an EAC proposal on the process will be prepared in October 2004 after consideration of the requirements from both Tanzania and Uganda.

13. Labour and Employment

Harmonisation of the procedures of work permits and the classification process has been finalised and adopted by Council. East African citizens are expected to pay 50% of the total fee charged for any work permit in the Partner States.

The Labour studies on the harmonisation of Labour laws and Employment Policies are at their final stages of compilation. A Stakeholders workshop will be held in July this year to enrich and validate the Study findings.

14. Legal Judicial and Judicial Affairs

1.0 Institutional achievements

Achievements have included the upgrading of the 1993 Agreement Establishing the Permanent Tripartite Commission for East African Co-operation into the Treaty, the establishment of Sectoral Councils and Sectoral Committees to articulate each agreed area of co-operation and the launching of the Development Strategies.

In legal and judicial affairs, the starting of a project on harmonization of municipal laws in the East African Community context and the harmonization of regional judicial training syllabi and activities have been prominent.

Co-operation in this area has also guided the drafting of annexes to the treaty in such areas as trade liberalization and development; sustainable development of Lake Victoria Basin; combating of drug trafficking, search and rescue operations; road and inland waterways transport etc....

2.0 Confidence-building measures

There have been developments meant to foster the feeling of integration among the people and to facilitate an East African identity. In the area of the movement of persons these have included the introduction of the East African Passports and temporary passes, the re-introduction of the Interstate Passes, the abolition of charges on temporary importation of private vehicles across regional borders, and the establishment of special immigration counters for East African travelers at the region's airports.

15. Political Affairs - Foreign Policy Co-ordination

In political matters, achievements have included the signing of Memoranda of Understanding on Co-operation in Defence and Foreign Policy Co-ordination. Under the auspices of this Memorandum, the Partner States harmonise their activities abroad and strive to jointly market the region.

16. Peace and Security

An on-going Process.

17. Promoting Broad Participation of Stakeholders

The following activities are on-going:

- (i) The development of the regional framework on Gender and Community Development is in the final stages. Partner States stakeholder's consultative forums and a regional stakeholder forum have already taken place. The final draft Framework document will be discussed and validated by the Gender and Community Development Committee in September 2004
- (ii) A draft Private Sector Development Strategy has been formulated and is awaiting incorporation of comments of the Partner states.

- (iii) Preparations for undertaking a study on promotion of small and medium enterprises (Jua Kali/Nguvu kazi) are advanced with funding from the Partner States.
- (iv) A Trade Disputes Settlement Mechanism has been provided for under the EAC Customs Union Protocol and Regulations to govern the mechanism were adopted as an annex to the Protocol.
- (v) The last five years have also witnessed growth in the participation of the civil society, professional, women and private sector organizations in the integration process. To this extent, organizations such as the East African Business Council, the East African Trade Union Council, the East Africa Law Society, the East African Magistrates and Judges' Association, the East African Youth Council, the East African Investment Promotion Authority Organisation, the Joint Research Council for East Africa, the East African Tourism Council and an East African Communications Regulatory Authority have in one way or another participated in the activities of the EAC.

18. Relations with other regional and international organizations

In accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, the Partner States have sought to foster co-operative arrangements with other regional and international organizations whose activities have a bearing on the Community. In this regard;

- (a) the Community is accredited to the United Nations, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the Bretton Woods Institutions.
- (b) The application for accreditation to the African Union will be considered at the next AU Session of the Assembly of Heads of State;
and
- (c) the Community has established working relationships with COMESA, IGAD and SADC

19. Strengthen Capacity of Secretariat

- Secretariat is much Stronger in terms of number of Professional Staff,
- Capacity building is ongoing
- Private Sector desk at EAC – Transferred to EABC
- More support from EAC from Germany, Finland, France, Sweden, World Bank, IMF, DFID, USAID

20. Strengthen Institutions of Cooperation

This is an on-going process focusing on EADB, IUCEA and LVFO

21. Operationalization of the Organs of the EAC

The East African Legislative Assembly – Operational

The East African Court of Justice – Operational

22. Co-ordination

Two Permanent Secretaries workshop held. This is one of them.

Two workshops on East African Negotiating a s a block held.

23. Distributions of Benefits and Costs

The Study has been undertaken and also published.

24 Lake Victoria Development Programme

The following key activities are ongoing:

- (x) Operationalisation of the Vision and Strategy Framework for the Management and development of Lake Victoria Basin

- (xi) The implementation of projects under the Partnership Agreement and one such notable one is the establishment of a Resource Centre for Lake Victoria Basin at EAC Secretariat
- (xii) The implementation of the Mt Elgon Ecosystem Conservation Project in collaboration with IUCN
- (xiii) The Development of guidelines for the Transboundary Natural Resources -(to be completed by August)
- (xiv) Preparation of the Lake Victoria Environment Management Project 2nd Phase.
- (xv) Collaboration with main stakeholders operating in the basin in strategic project identification and monitoring

4.0 CONCLUSION

As already noted, implementation of the Development Strategy has proceeded very well, though some target dates have not been met. However, as a development tool, the Strategy has succeeded in mobilizing the Governments of the Partner States and other stakeholders in pushing forward the integration agenda in a systematic manner.

Finally, the lessons learnt in the implementation of the 2nd Strategy, shall be taken into account in the formulation of the next one for the period 2006-2010. These are areas where changes need to be made in order to increase the effectiveness, management and control of the Development Strategy implementation process.

**EAC Secretariat
Arusha, Tanzania
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