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Hon Ali Wario  
09/30/3/2021  
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REPUBLIC OF KENYA



TWELFTH PARLIAMENT - (FIFTH SESSION)  
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY


THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION

REPORT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE  
ASSEMBLY'S REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON-

1. The oversight activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner states in the management of Ebola and Dengue Fever Epidemics
2. The petition from the East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the community

Directorate of Audit, Appropriations and  
Other Select Committees,  
National Assembly,  
Parliament Buildings,  
Nairobi

March , 2021

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 30 MAR 2021	
DAY: TUESDAY	
TABLED BY:	HON ALI. WARIO MP
CLERK-AT THE TABLE:	P MUA T

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**LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONYMS**

EAC East African Community

EALA East African Legislative Assembly

EASCOF East Africa Civil Society Organizations Forum

## **FOREWORD**

This report contains the Committee's consideration of the Reports of the EALA Committee on General Purpose

- a) on the oversight Activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner in the management of Ebola and Dengue Fever Epidemics and;
- b) on the petition from East Africa Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the community.

The reports were tabled at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the 4<sup>th</sup> Assembly held in Arusha, Tanzania from 16<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Subsequently, the reports were transmitted to the National Assembly for deliberation as provided for in Article 65 of the Treaty Establishing the East African Community and subsequently committed to the Select Committee on Regional Integration for consideration and reporting. The Committee considered the reports in a retreat held in Machakos County on 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020.

In considering the reports, the Committee received and incorporated views from the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development.

In considering the level of preparedness of partner states in the management of epidemics, the Committee noted that the free movement of goods and services had the potential to fuel spread of epidemics especially in high risk cross border districts, and there was therefore need for a review of the regional Policy on the management of Communicable diseases, particularly in light of the emergence and spread of COVID 19.

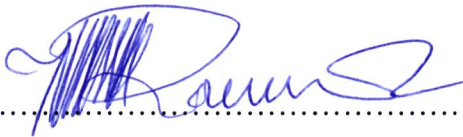
The Committee recommends that in order to address challenges posed by the spread of epidemics, a policy for collaboration in response to epidemics and the spread of communicable diseases should be developed and that the Council of Ministers should fast track the development of the Regional Policy on Management of Communicable Diseases.

On the petition by the East African Community Civil Society Organizations forum on matters of crucial importance to the community, the Committee observed that the petition had raised genuine concerns on matters touching on financing of crucial EAC activities and projects. It was therefore important that the Council of Ministers takes up and implements the East African Legislative Assembly's recommendations on the report.

May I take this opportunity to thank all Members of the Committee for their input during the consideration of these reports. The Committee wants to thank the Office of the Speaker and the Clerk of the National Assembly for the support accorded to Members of the Committee in execution of its mandate.

On behalf of the Select Committee on Regional Integration and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 199(6), it is my pleasant duty to present to this House the Report of the Commit-

tee on its consideration of East African Legislative Assembly Reports of the Committee on General Purpose on the oversight Activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner in the management of Ebola and Dengue Fever Epidemics and on the petition from East Africa Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the community..

Signed..........Date.....14/03/2021.....

**Hon. Ali Wario, CBS MP**  
**Chairperson**  
**Select Committee on Regional Integration**

## **1.0 PREFACE**

### **1.1 Establishment and mandate of the Committee**

1. The Select Committee on Regional Integration is established under the National Assembly Standing Order 212. It was constituted in December 2017 following adoption of a motion on membership of committees by the House.
2. As provided for in the Standing Order 212 (2), the Committee is mandated to;
  - (a) Enhance the involvement of the National Assembly in intensification and development of the integration process in the East African Community and the greater African region;
  - (b) Examine the records of all the relevant debates and resolutions of the meetings of the East African Legislative Assembly;
  - (c) Examine the Bills introduced in the East African legislative Assembly and Acts of the East African Community;
  - (d) Examine records of relevant debates and resolutions of Pan African Parliament, the African Caribbean and Pacific- European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly and other regional bodies;
  - (e) Inquire into and examine any other matter relating to regional integration generally requiring action by the House.

### **1.2 Committee Membership**

3. The Committee comprises of the following Members:

#### **Chairperson**

Hon. Ali Wario, CBS, M.P,  
Bura Constituency

#### **Jubilee Party**

#### **Vice- Chairperson**

Hon. Capt. Ruweida Mohamed, M.P  
Lamu County Women Representative

#### **Jubilee Party**

Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, M.P  
Nyaribari Masaba Constituency  
**NAPK Party**

Hon. Malulu Injendi, M.P  
Malava Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Kubai Iringo, M.P  
Igembe Central Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Janet Teiyaa, M.P  
Kajiado County Women representative  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Mathias Robi, M.P  
Kuria West Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Abdi Mude Ibrahim, M.P,  
Lafey Constituency  
**Economic Freedom Party (EFP)**

Hon. Erastus Nzioka, M.P.  
Mbooni Constituency  
**ND Party**

Hon. Ndindi Nyoro, M.P.  
Kiharu Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Geoffrey Omuse, M.P  
Teso South Constituency  
**Orange Democratic Movement**

Hon. Janet Ongera, M.P  
Kisii County Women Representative  
**Orange Democratic Movement**

Hon. Dr. Gideon Ochanda, M.P.  
Bondo Constituency  
**Orange Democratic Movement**

Hon. Kassim Sawa Tandaza, M.P.  
Matuga Constituency  
**ANC**

Hon. Nasri Sahal Ibrahim, M.P.  
Nominated  
**FORD-K**

Hon. Hilary Kiplang'at Kosgei, M.P.  
Kipkelion West Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. James Mwangi Gakuya, M.P.  
Embakasi North Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Ali Wario Guyo, M.P.  
Garsen Constituency  
**Wiper Democratic Movement Party**

The Hon. Alfred Sambu, MP  
Webuye East  
**ANC**

Hon. Paul Kahindi Katana, MP  
Kaloleni Constituency  
**Orange Democratic Movement**

Hon. Jane Wanjuki Njiru, M.P  
Embu County Women Representative  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. John Kiarie Waweru, M.P.  
Dagoretti South Constituency  
**Jubilee Party**

Hon. Elijah Memusi Kanchory, M.P  
Kajiado Central Constituency  
**Orange Democratic Movement**

### **1.3 Committee Secretariat**

4. The Committee secretariat comprises of:

- |                           |                              |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1) Mr. Abdullahi Aden     | Principal Clerk Assistant II |
| 2) Dr. Kefa Omoti         | Principal Research Officer   |
| 3) Mr. Sidney Lugaga      | Legal Counsel I              |
| 4) Ms. Ruth Mwhaki Gakuya | Clerk Assistant II           |
| 5) Ms. Catherine Mukunyi  | Serjeant At Arms             |
| 6) Mr. Boniface Mugambi   | Sergeant At arms             |

## **2.0 INTRODUCTION**

5. The East African Legislative Assembly is the Legislative Organ of the East African Community established under Article 9 of the Treaty Establishing the East African Community. Article 49 of the Treaty bestows upon the assembly the functions of legislation, oversight and representation and provided for the establishment of committees by the Assembly for such purposes, as it deems necessary.
6. The following reports were adopted by the East African Legislative Assembly during its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of the 4<sup>th</sup> Assembly held in Arusha, Tanzania from 16<sup>th</sup> September to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019, and subsequently forwarded to the National Assembly pursuant to the provisions of Article 65(b) of the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community:-
  - a. Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the oversight Activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner states in the management of Ebola and dengue fever epidemics and
  - b. Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the petition from East Africa Civil Society Organizations forum on matters of crucial importance to the community
7. Article 65 of the Treaty provides for relations between the East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA) and the National Assemblies of the partner States. It is in line with the Treaty provision that the reports were tabled before the National Assembly of Kenya on 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 and subsequently committed to the Committee on Regional Integration for consideration pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 212. The Committee considered the reports in a retreat held in Machakos County on 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.
8. In considering the reports, the Committee sought and received submissions from the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development. The Committee's deliberations and findings specific to each report are briefly discussed hereunder;

## **3.0 CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS FROM THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ADOPTED BY THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

The Committee considered the following reports adopted by the East African Legislative Assembly:-

### **3.1 Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the oversight Activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner states in the management of Ebola and Dengue Fever Epidemics**

9. The Committee considered the report and noted that: -
  - a. Pursuant to the provisions of Article 117 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, Partner States made a commitment to co-operate in, among others, health activities. Further, under Article 118(a) of the Treaty, Partner States undertook to take joint action towards the prevention and control of communicable and

non-communicable diseases and to control pandemics and epidemics of communicable and vector borne diseases that might endanger the health and welfare of residents of Partner States, and to cooperate in facilitating mass immunization and other public health campaigns.

- b. The EALA Committee on General Purpose in exercise of its oversight mandate visited the Republics of Rwanda and Uganda from 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 to assess the level of preparedness of EAC partner States in the management of Ebola Epidemic. The United republic of Tanzania postponed the activity indefinitely.
  - c. The main objective of the activity was to assess the level of preparedness of the EAC Partner States in managing and containing the Ebola and Dengue Fever epidemics, and to explore possible sustainable interventions to combat these epidemics.
  - d. The frequency of disease outbreaks poses a challenge to the EAC region, with each partner State having had at least two notable disease outbreaks in every five year period between 2000 and 2019. Examples of such outbreaks include Rift Valley Fever outbreak in Kenya in 2006, Bird Flu outbreak which was reported along the shores of Lutembe bay in Uganda in 2017, Marburg Fever outbreak in Eastern Uganda, Dengue Fever outbreaks in Tanzania in 2019 as well as several Ebola Virus Disease outbreaks in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
  - e. The EAC Secretariat is mandated amongst others to play an advisory as well as a coordination role to the partner States in order to prevent, control and mitigate the impact in case of occurrence of pandemics. The secretariat had developed a number of initiatives in Ebola emergency response, which included training of laboratory experts, purchase of two mobile training laboratories, staff training, and procurement of reagents amongst others. The secretariat had also reviewed the EAC Regional Contingency plan for Epidemics due to communicable diseases, conditions and other events of public health Concern 2018-2023 to include the one health approach and the EAC one Health regional risk and crisis communication strategy.
10. In its report the EALA Committee had observed that:-
- a. Partner states had made individual efforts at the national, bilateral, regional and international levels to manage and contain the Ebola Viral Disease and other epidemics in the region.
  - b. Migration and trans-boundary trade, facilitated by the EAC common market as well as tourism and the impacts of climate change, are the factors that prompt these outbreaks.
  - c. Most of these diseases are zoonotic in nature and can be transmitted from both animals and humans.
  - d. The frequent movement of people across the borders of the EAC partner states poses a greater risk of spreading communicable diseases from one country to another. The EAC secretariat has embraced the one health approach, a directive from the Health Sectoral Council, to effectively prevent and respond to emergencies of cross border epidemics in the region.

- e. The EAC secretariat has developed a regional contingency plan for epidemics due to communicable diseases, conditions and other events of public health concern. The purpose of the contingency plan is to guide the secretariat in harmonizing and coordinating the national efforts of the partner states to address public health emergencies with primary focus on zoonotic and non- zoonotic infectious diseases.
  - f. The EAC in partnership with KfW and Bernhard Nocht institute for tropical medicine initiated the regional network of public health reference laboratories for communicable diseases projects. The project aims at strengthening sustainable structures and capacities for the rapid identification of infectious disease outbreaks within the territories of the partner states to enable timely and effective response for the prevention of epidemics caused by various pathogens and biological agents of biosafety level. This is a three-year project running up to 2020.
  - g. The Regional contingency plan requires partner States to notify the EAC secretariat in not later than 24 hours of the prevailing epidemic status to enable it undertake coordination and advisory role. This is rarely done.
  - h. The refusal by the United Republic of Tanzania to allow the Assembly to undertake the oversight activity in the Partner State was against the spirit of integration.
11. The report had recommended that the EALA:-
- a. Urges the council of ministers to develop an EAC policy on management of Communicable diseases in the region
  - b. Registers its vote of appreciation to and commend the Development partners such as WHO and GiZ among others, for their technical and financial support to the EAC in the management of Ebola and other epidemics in the region
  - c. Explores ways of establishing and strengthening a collaborative agreement with the WHO and GiZ in enhancing its oversight mandate in the promotion of the health sector in the region.

### **3.1.1. Submissions from the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development**

12. The Principal Secretary, Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development, Dr. Kevit Desai informed the Committee that the EAC had taken several actions to implement the treaty provision which included:
- a. Development of an EAC Health Sector policy 2016, which outlines policy mechanisms for addressing communicable diseases. The policy is however being reviewed to address emerging challenges for instance the emergence of the Covid 19 pandemic, which has changed how partner states interact.
  - b. Partnering with KfW of Germany through Bernhard Notches Institute of Tropical Medicine (BNITM) to develop a Regional network of Public Health Reference laboratories for Communicable diseases.

- c. Development of the East African Community Regional contingency plan for epidemics due to communicable diseases, conditions and other events of public Health concern 2018/2023.
- d. Training of medical experts at partner State level for rapid deployment in the partner states in response to pandemics including Corona Virus in the region.
- e. Simulation exercises had been undertaken between the Kenya and Tanzania Namanga border and plans were underway to conduct another field simulation Exercise between Uganda and South Sudan.
- f. Development of the regional Policy on Management of Communicable Diseases. However, following the outbreak of the Covid 19 pandemic, the policy was being reviewed in order to address emerging challenges in the management of pandemics.

### **3.2 Report of the EALA Committee on General Purpose on the petition from East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the Community**

- 13. The Committee considered the report and noted that:-
  - a. The East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSOFF) presented a petition to the EALA titled "*Petition to the East African Legislative Assembly on matters of crucial importance to the community*". The petition was committed to the Committee on General Purpose which inquired into, and tabled its report on the petition before the Assembly.
  - b. The petition had highlighted the following issues:
    - i. Whereas the EAC has grown in Membership since its establishment in 2000, its budget has not been growing proportionately to enable the Community implement the pillars of integration in accordance with the agreed roadmap.
    - ii. That the Partner States contributions towards funding the EAC budget have been dwindling, and further, that some Partner states have not been honoring their contributions as required by the treaty,
    - iii. That whereas the customs union protocol under article 24 provides for the establishment of the Trade remedies Committee, it's now 15 years but the same committee has not been established and operationalized.
  - c. The Petitioners had made the following prayers:
    - i. To engage the Council of Ministers to recommend to the Summit to invoke article 143 and 146 on Partner States that have met the criteria of activation of that particular article. EACSOFF is considering filing a legal suit with EACJ or interpretation of Article 143 of the Treaty.
    - ii. To engage the Council of Ministers to abolish the 0% budget increase stance for EAC.
    - iii. To put a question to the Honorable Member of the Council from The United Republic of Tanzania as to why the Host Partner State which is also a pioneering Partner State did not clear the 2018/19 contribution (89%) and that until the First Quarter of 2019/20, no remittance has been made

- iv. To put a question to the Honorable Member of the Council from The Republic of Kenya as to why the Pioneering Partner State did not clear the 2018/19 contribution (98%) and that until the First Quarter of 2019/20, no remittance had been made
  - v. To put a question to the Council, why it is only Rwanda and Uganda that have contributed for 2019/20.
  - vi. To put a question to the Chair of the Council of Ministers on the actions being taken on Republic of South Sudan that many stakeholders view as a staunch defaulter
  - vii. To put a question to the EAC Secretary General on what actions the SG's office has taken with regards to remittances and implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol
- d. Most countries except the Republic of Uganda had not remitted their quarterly contribution for the FY 2019/2020 in time as required by the Treaty.
  - e. There were issues of continuous existence of Technical Barriers to Trade and Non-Tariff Barriers which hinders cross border trade therefore needed addressed by the EAC Heads of State Summit
  - f. The Republic of Burundi had made great efforts in ensuring they meet their financial obligations to the Community amidst ongoing challenges.
  - g. The maintenance of the zero (0%) increment and budget ceiling for the past decade despite growth in the organs and Institutions of the Community was negatively affecting EAC programmes
  - h. The non implementation of the first 2 pillars of integration, that is the customs unions and Common Market will affect the effective implementation of the other pillars namely the monetary union and the political federation
  - i. There were concerns over the continuous absence of the Minister from the Republic of South Sudan from the Sittings of EALA and the EAC Council of Ministers where he is a Member
  - j. The EALA Committee had made the following recommendations on the petition:  
That the Council of ministers: -
    - i. Urgently addresses the issue of non remittance of funds by the Republic of South Sudan. The EAC Council of ministers should consider invoking article 143 or 146 to impose sanctions against the republic of South Sudan if no payment to the Community is received by the end of October 2019 and put it for adoption before the EAC heads of State Summit in November 2019
    - ii. Commends the Republic of Uganda for honoring its contribution for the FY 2019/2020 to a tune of 72% as on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. Other Partner States should emulate the Republic of Uganda by complying with regulation 23(5) of the EAC Financial Rules and Regulations
    - iii. To finalise the alternative financing mechanisms and table it before the November 2019 EAC Heads of State Summit and to reconsider and remove the zero budget increase ceilings

- iv. With regard to implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol, there was need to expedite the process of the operationalization of the East African Committee on Trade and Remedies as recommended in the report of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment which was tabled in the House on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2019.

### **3.2.1 Submissions from the Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development on the Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the petition from East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the Community**

14. The Principal Secretary, Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development, Dr. Kevit Desai informed the Committee that :

- a. East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) plays a watchdog role in the EAC region by following up on the various stakeholders' performance as outlined in the Treaty and carries out development roles in collaboration with Partner States and Development partners for the benefit of the people of East Africa.
- b. The petition was premised on non-compliance with Treaty provisions by partner States who have not met their financial obligations to the community thus adversely affecting the operations of the EAC Secretariat Projects and programmes. Most of the Partner States had not paid their dues for FY 2018/2019 and by first quarter of FY 2019/20.
- c. The petition had sought the intervention of the Council of Ministers to invoke relevant Treaty provisions and name the Partner States who have not paid their dues to the Community and commend those who had complied with the Treaty provisions.
- d. The current status in addressing the issues raised by the petition was as follows: -
  - i. As at 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020, four partner states had remitted their full contribution to EAC budget for the Financial Year 2019/20 namely Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda
  - ii. Burundi and South Sudan had not remitted their full contribution for the FY 2019/20. This had been attributed to various factors including financial challenges due to global sanctions imposed by the western nations following the political climate in the two countries
  - iii. The challenge of non remittance of Partner State contributions could only be dealt with through a Treaty amendment. The EAC was in the process of developing a framework for sanctions against partner states that failed to meet their Treaty obligations
- e. Article 12 of the Treaty provides that all decisions of the Summit must be through consensus. Arriving at a consensus on some decisions had been a challenge due to geopolitical alignments in the EAC. Partner States also continued to hold leadership positions in the EAC even when their countries were in default.

#### **4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS**

##### **A. ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS OF PARTNER IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EBOLA AND DENGUE FEVER EPIDEMICS;**

15. The Committee made the following observations, that: -

- 1) The free movement of goods and services advocated by the EAC had the potential to fuel spread of epidemics especially in high risk cross border districts.
- 2) There was need for the review of the regional Policy on the management of Communicable diseases in the region particularly in light of the emergence and spread of COVID 19.

##### **B. ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE PETITION FROM EAST AFRICA CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FORUM ON MATTERS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY;**

16. The Committee made the following observations, that: -

- 1) The petition had raised weighty matters touching on financing of crucial EAC activities and projects. It was important that the EALA committee recommendations on the same be implemented by the Council of Ministers; and
- 2) There was need to establish alternative financing mechanisms for the EAC in order to reduce the reliance on Partner States contributions, whose delay affected the operations of the Secretariat and the implementation of EAC planned Programmes and activities.

#### **5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMENDATIONS**

##### **A. ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS OF PARTNER IN THE MANAGEMENT OF EBOLA AND DENGUE FEVER EPIDEMICS,**

The Committee recommendations that: -

- 1) The EAC secretariat and Partner States Ministries of Health are encouraged to develop a policy for collaboration in response to epidemics and the spread of communicable diseases.
- 2) In order to enhance regional preparedness for addressing spread of communicable diseases, centres of excellence for the development of vaccines and storage of emergence response commodities should be developed in all partner States; and
- 3) That the Council of Ministers should fast track the development of the Regional Policy on Management of Communicable Diseases.

**B. ON THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE PETITION FROM EAST AFRICA CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FORUM ON MATTERS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY;**

- 1) The Committee reiterates the EALA recommendation that the Council of Ministers should: -
- a. finalize on the alternative financing mechanisms and present it to the Heads of State Summit for consideration.
  - b. reviews the Zero budget arrangement and puts in place a financing mechanism that reflects current magnitude of EAC institutions and operations.

Signed..........Date.....11/03/2021.....

**Hon. Ali Wario, CBS MP**  
**Chairperson**  
**Select Committee on Regional Integration**

KENYA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT - (FIFTH SESSION)


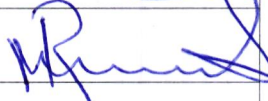
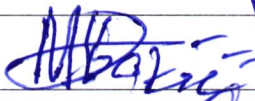
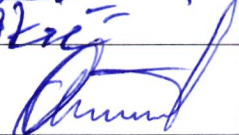


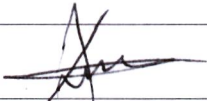

SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION





ADOPTION LIST

REPORT ON THE CONSIDERATION OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY'S REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON-

1. The oversight activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner states in the management of Ebola and Dengue Fever Epidemics
2. The petition from the East African Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the community

Date : 03/3/2021

	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Ali Wario, CBS, M.P. - Chairperson	
2.	Hon. (Capt.) Ruweida Mohamed, M.P. - Vice Chairperson	
3.	Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, MP	
4.	Hon. Cyprian Kubai Iringo, M.P	
5.	Hon. Moses Malulu Injendi, M.P.	
6.	Hon. Janet Marania Teyiaa, M.P.	
7.	Hon. Mathias Nyamabe Robi, M.P.	
	Hon. Abdi Mude Ibrahim, M.P.	
9.	Hon. Erastus Kivasu Nzioka, M.P.	
10.	Hon. Samson Ndindi Nyoro, M.P.	
11.	Hon. Geoffrey Omuse, M.P.	
12.	Hon. Janet Ong'era, CBS M.P.	
13.	Hon. <del>Memusi Ole Kanchory</del> , M.P. Elijah Memusi Kanchory	
14.	Hon. Gideon Ochanda, M.P.	
15.	Hon. Ali Wario Guyo, M.P.	
16.	Hon. Kassim Sawa Tandaza, M.P.	

		
17.	Hon. Nasri Sahal Ibrahim, M.P.	
18.	Hon. Hilary Kosgei, M.P.	
19.	Hon. James Mwangi Gakuya, M.P.	
20.	Hon. Alfred Sambu, M.P.	
21.	Hon. Paul Kahindi Katana, M.P.	
22.	Hon. Jane Wanjuki Njiru, M.P.	
23.	Hon. John Kiarie Waweru, M.P.	

**MINUTES OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL INTEGRATION HELD ON WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH, 2021 IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM ON 5<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, CONTINENTAL HOUSE, AT 2.30 PM**

**PRESENT**

1. The Hon. Ali Wario, CBS, M.P. - **Chairperson**
2. The Hon. Capt. Ruweida Mohamed, M.P – Vice Chairperson
3. The Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, MP
4. Hon. Kubai Iringo, M.P
5. The Hon. Elijah Memusi Kanchory, M.P.
6. The Hon. Erastus Kivasu Nzioka, M.P.
7. The Hon. Ali Wario Guyo, M.P.
8. The Hon. Kassim Sawa Tandaza, M.P.
9. The Hon. Nasri Sahal Ibrahim, MP
10. The Hon. James Mwangi Gakuya, M.P.
11. The Hon. Jane Wanjuki Njiru, M.P.
12. The Hon. Paul Kahindi Katana, M.P.

**ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES**

1. The Hon. Sen. Janet Ongera, CBS, MP
2. The Hon. Mathias Nyamabe Robi, M.P.
3. The Hon. Ndindi Nyoro, M.P.
4. The Hon. Abdi Mude Ibrahim, MP
5. The Hon. Gideon Ochanda, M.P.
6. The Hon. Hilary Kosgei, M.P.
7. The Hon. Geoffrey Omuse, M.P.
8. The Hon. Moses Malulu Injendi, M.P.
9. The Hon. John Kiarie Waweru, M.P
10. The Hon. Janet Teyiaa, M.P.

**ABSENT WITHOUT APOLOGIES**

1. The Hon. Alfred Sambu, M.P.

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SECRETARIAT**

1. Mr. Aden Abdullahi - Principal Clerk Assistant II
2. Ms. Ruth Mwhaki Gakuya - Clerk Assistant II
3. Mr. Boniface Mugambi - Serjeant-At- Arms

**MIN. NO. NA/RIC/2021/18**

**PRELIMINARIES**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at forty five minutes past two O'clock and prayers were said.

**MIN. NO. NA/RIC/2021/19                      CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> sitting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 were confirmed as a true record of proceedings of that day and proposed by Hon. Erastus Kivasu Nzioka, M.P and seconded by Hon. Nasri Sahal Ibrahim, M.P.

Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> sitting held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 at 10.00am were confirmed as a true record of proceedings of that day and proposed by Hon. Paul Kahindi Katana, M.P and seconded by Hon. Kubai Iringo, M.P.

Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> sitting held on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 at 2.30 pm were confirmed as a true record of proceedings of that day and proposed by Hon. Kubai Iringo, M.P and seconded by Hon. Paul Kahindi Katana, M.P.

Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> sitting held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 at 9.30 am were confirmed as a true record of proceedings of that day and proposed by Hon. Abdi Mude Ibrahim, M.P and seconded by Hon. Paul Kahindi Katana, M.P.

Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> sitting held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 at 3.30 pm were confirmed as a true record of proceedings of that day and proposed by Hon. Kubai Iringo, M.P and seconded by Hon. Abdi Mude Ibrahim, M.P.

**MIN. NO. NA/RIC/2021/20                      CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Committee considered the following reports: -

1. Report of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Committee on Accounts on its oversight activity to the Lake Victoria Basin Commission to assess the status of implementation of the Assembly recommendations on the EAC Audited Accounts.

The Committee considered the report and made the following observations:

- i. The Lake Victoria Basin Commission just like many other critical institutions and Organs of the East African Community continue to suffer from the effects of delayed remittance of Partner State Contributions to the Community. This has affected the implementation of key projects that are crucial to the management of the Lake Victoria Basin .
- ii. The environmental sustainability of the Lake Victoria Basin catchment remains under threat from pollution, soil erosion ,deforestation and land degradation amongst other factors. This has been attributed to lack of a regional legal mechanism to guide environmental protection.
- iii. The East African Legislative Assembly passed the EAC Forest Conservation and Management Bill, 2015 which put in place a regional framework for the protection and Management of forests in the region. However, the Bill was yet to be assented to by all the Partner States.

- iv. The low staffing levels noted within the ranks of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission reflect the staff challenges experienced by other sister EAC institutions. This has been attributed to an ongoing Institutional Review of EAC which started more than 10 years ago and is yet to be completed.

The Committee made the following recommendations, that:

- i. To address issues of funding, the Lake Victoria Basin Commission should explore alternative funding mechanisms including partnerships with the private sector to ensure resource mobilization and attract funding for its activities.
- ii. For continued environmental sustainability, the Committee urges the LVBC to involve all stakeholders including local populations, religious-based organizations, non-governmental organisations, the civil society and local political leaders to help galvanize support for its activities.
- iii. In order to provide a regulatory framework for the conservation and protection of forests, the Committee supports the EALA recommendation urging the Council of Ministers to urge the Summit to sign into law the EAC Forest Management Bill, 2015;
- iv. To address the challenges associated with the slow institutional review, the Committee supports the EALA recommendation urging the Council of Ministers to conclude the institutional review process

**The report was unanimously adopted having been proposed and seconded by the Hon. Erastus Kivasu Nzioka and the Hon. Paul Kahindi katana respectively.**

2. Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the oversight activity to assess the level of preparedness of partner in the management of ebola and dengue fever epidemics;

The Committee considered the report and observed that: -

- i. The free movement of goods and services advocated by the EAC had the potential to fuel spread of epidemics especially in high risk cross border districts.
- ii. There was need for the review of the regional Policy on the management of Communicable diseases in the region particularly in light of the emergence and spread of COVID 19.

The Committee made the following recommendations, that: -

- i. The EAC secretariat and Partner States Ministries of Health are encouraged to develop a policy for collaboration in response to epidemics and the spread of communicable diseases.
- ii. In order to enhance regional preparedness for addressing spread of communicable diseases, Centre's of excellence for the development of vaccines and storage of emergency response commodities should be developed in all partner States; and
- iii. That the Council of Ministers should fast track the development of the Regional Policy on Management of Communicable Diseases.

**The report was unanimously adopted having been proposed and seconded by the Hon. Elijah Memusi Kanchory and the Hon. Erastus Kivasu Nzioka respectively.**

3. Report of the Committee on General Purpose on the petition from East Africa Civil Society Organizations Forum (EASCOF) on matters of crucial importance to the community;

The Committee considered the report and made the following observations, that: -

- i. The petition had raised weighty matters touching on financing of crucial EAC activities and projects. It was important that the EALA committee recommendations on the same be implemented by the Council of Ministers; and
- ii. There was need to establish alternative financing mechanisms for the EAC in order to reduce the reliance on Partner States contributions, whose delay affected the operations of the Secretariat and the implementation of EAC planned programs and activities.

The Committee made the following recommendations: -

- i. The Committee reiterated the EALA recommendation that the Council of Ministers should:
  - a. finalize on the alternative financing mechanisms and present it to the Heads of State Summit for consideration.
  - b. reviews the Zero budget arrangement and puts in place a financing mechanism that reflects current magnitude of EAC institutions and operations.

**The report was unanimously adopted having been proposed and seconded by the Hon. Ali Wario Guyo and the Hon. Elijah Memusi Kanchory respectively.**

4. Report of the EALA Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources on the oversight activity on the Performance of the Tourism Sector in the Region.

The committee considered the report and observed, that:

- i. The EAC Protocol on tourism and wildlife management was yet to be concluded.
- ii. There was need for well-coordinated regional efforts geared towards improvement of the tourism sector in the EAC as the sector had great potential for development as well as the potential to address high levels of poverty and youth unemployment in the region if well developed.
- iii. The efforts to market EAC as a single tourist destination should be encouraged and resourced.
- iv. Partner States continued to exhibit discriminatory practices against citizens from other partner States that seek to access tourist facilities and sites.

The Committee made the following recommendation, that : -

- i. The Council of Ministers should fast track the conclusion of the EAC Protocol on Tourism and Wildlife Management in order to provide a framework for managing the tourism sector in the East African Community.

**The report was unanimously adopted having been proposed and seconded by the Hon. Nasri Sahal Ibrahim and the Hon. Jane Wanjuki Njiru respectively.**

5. Report of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution on the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in the East African Region.

The Committee considered the report and made the following observations, that:

- i. The successful management of movement of small and light weapons in the region was largely dependent on the implementation of the EAC Peace and Security Protocol. Partner states implementation of the protocol and funding of its activities was below the expected performance levels.
- ii. The EAC Protocol on Peace and Security had been ratified by all Partner States but did not indicate the institution charged with its implementation. There was urgent need of establishing such an institution to handle issues related to peace and security.

The committee made the following recommendation: -

- i. Reiterated its support for the committee recommendations as adopted by the East African legislative Assembly and urged the Council of Ministers to expedite the development of a regional legislative framework for the control of small arms and light weapons in the EAC.

**The report was unanimously adopted having been proposed and seconded by the Hon. Elijah Memusi Kanchory and the Hon. Nasri Sahal Ibrahim respectively.**

MIN. NO. NA/RIC/ 2021/21

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at fifty minutes past three O'clock.

SIGNED.....

(Chairperson)

DATE.....11/3/2021

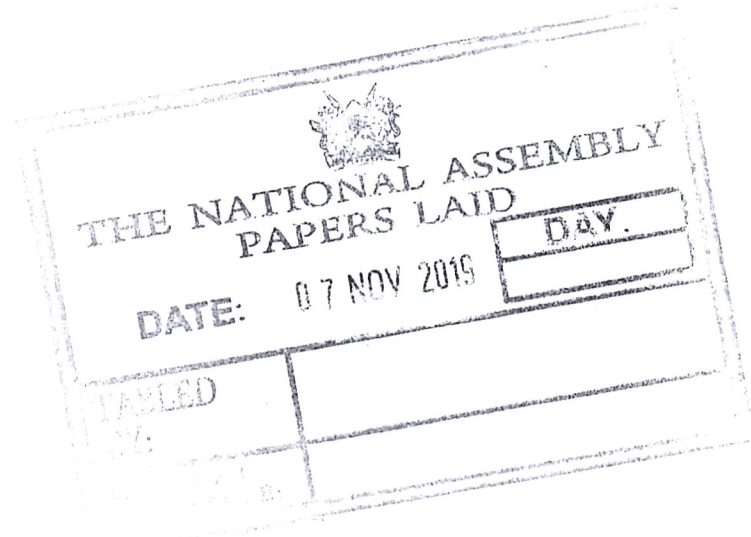


**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY  
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

LAIN ON TABLE  
ON 02/10/2019

*[Signature]*  
PCA

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE OVERSIGHT  
ACTIVITY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS OF PARTNER STATES IN  
THE MANAGEMENT OF EBOLA AND DENGUE FEVER EPIDEMICS**



Clerk's Chambers  
EALA Headquarters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
EAC Headquarters  
Arusha – TANZANIA

2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019

## ACRONYMS

AFENET	AFRICA FIELD EPIDEMIOLOGY NETWORK
BTNIM	BERNHARD –NOCHT INSTITUTE FOR TROPICAL MEDICINE
CDC	CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION
DFID	DEVELOPMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
DRC	DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO
EAC	EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EALA	EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ECHO	EUROPEAN CIVIL PROTECTION AND HUMANITARIAN AID OPERATIONS
EVD	EBOLA VIRUS DISEASE
GAVI	GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR VACCINES AND IMMUNISATIONS
IHR	INTERNATIONAL HEALTH REGULATION
IOM	INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION OF
IPC	INTER-PROCESS COMMUNICATION
IRC	INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE
JEE	JOINT EXTERNAL EVALUATION
MINEMA	MINISTRY OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
MSF	MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERE
NAPHS	NATIONAL ACTION PLANS FOR HEALTH SECURITY
NGO	NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION
OH	ONE HEALTH
PHEIC	PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY OF INTERNATIONAL CONCERN
PPE	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
RDTs	RAPID DIAGNOSTIC TEST
SOP	STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
UNDP	UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
UNFPA	UNITED NATIONS FOR MIGRATION
UNHCR	UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSION FOR REFUGEES
UNICEF	UNITED NATIONS CHILDRENS FUND
URCS	UGANDA RED CROSS SOCIETY
USAID	UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
UVRI	UGANDA VIRUS RESEARCH INSTITUTE
WFP	WORLD FOOD PROGRAM
WHO	WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) is one of the Organs of the East African Community established under Article 9 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community. The Treaty bestows upon the Assembly three cardinal functions: legislation, oversight and representation. In particular, the Assembly largely exercises the oversight function through its Committees. The Committee on General Purpose is one of the six (6) Standing Committees of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) that is specifically charged with among other, matters related to health, education, gender, population and the budget.

Annex 5 (f) of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly provides for the specific functions of the Committee on General Purpose which include but are not limited to, 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; and
- d) the budgeting function

In the exercise of its oversight mandate, the Committee on General Purpose visited and interacted with a number of stakeholders in the Republics of Rwanda and Uganda from 13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 to assess the level of preparedness of EAC Partner States in Management of Ebola epidemic. The Committee was also scheduled to visit the United Republic of Tanzania to assess their level of prepared in the management of dengue fever, but in his letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> September 2019, Dr. Faraj K. Mnyepe, the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Co-operation communicated to the Clerk of the Assembly about the indefinite postponement of the said meeting (**Annex 1**).

## 2.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY

The principal objective of conducting this oversight activity was to assess the level of preparedness of the EAC Partner States in mananaging/containing the Ebola and dengue fever epedemics, and to explore possible sustainable interventions to combat these epidemics. It was expected that, during this activity the Committee would:

- a) be briefed about the history of the Ebola and dengue epidemics/pandemic and the progress made in controlling/managing the same;
- b) the challenges faced in the management/containment of the these epidemics;
- c) ascertain if there is any specific bilateral or international engagements/interventions to combat the epidemics;
- d) find out the impact/effect of the said epidemics on the economies and welfare of the citizens of EAC; and
- e) in collaboration with the stakeholders, explore possible sustainable mechanisms/interventions to combat these epidemics.

### **3.0 METHODOLOGY**

While undertaking the oversight activity, the Committee:

- i. held meetings with officials from the Ministry responsible for EAC Affairs, , the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization, Directorate of Immigration, Ministry of Emergency Management, Rwanda NGOs Forum and Rwanda Broadcasting Agency and Members of Parliament on the Committee on Health;
- ii. interfaced with officials from the East African Community Secretariat – Department of Health; and
- iii. prepared a report on the above subject matter for consideration by the Assembly.

### **4.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Under to Article 117 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, Partner States made a commitment to co-operate in, among others, health activities within the Community. Precisely, under Article 118(a) of the Treaty, Partner States undertook to take joint action towards the prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases and to control pandemics and epidemics of communicable and vector – borne diseases that might endanger the health and welfare of the residents of the Partner States and to co-operate in facilitating mass immunization and other public health Community campaigns.

Prior to undertaking this oversight activity, the Committee received a brief from the EAC Secretariat (Health Department) which indicated that disease outbreaks are a common occurrence in the East African Region. The brief further noted that the frequency of disease outbreaks poses a challenge to the EAC region: each Partner State has had at least two notable disease outbreaks in every five year period between 2000 and 2019. Examples of outbreaks include Rift Valley Fever, Ebola, Marburg, Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fevers and Yellow Fever. It took Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania six months to contain the 2006 Rift Valley Fever (RVF) outbreaks. The region and neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo have also experienced several outbreaks of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). In January 2017, a Bird Flu outbreak was reported along the shores of Lutembe bay (Lake Victoria) in Uganda. In October 2017, a Marburg Fever outbreak was reported in Eastern Uganda, Kween district, close to the Kenyan border with one confirmed fatality. Recent cases of Dengue fever have been confirmed in parts of the United Republic of Tanzania such as Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Tanga, Morogoro, Lindi, and Dodoma Region. As of week 31 (week ending 4 August 2019), 28 new dengue cases were reported from Dar es Salaam and Tanga (15 cases). It is therefore important that the EAC region prepares for future outbreaks based on international best practices and lessons learned.

### **What is Ebola?**

The Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) is a severe and often deadly disease caused by an Ebola virus. It falls under the category of viral hemorrhagic fevers. A person can get the disease by direct contact with body fluids of an infected person.

### **Signs and Symptoms of Ebola**

The following are the signs and symptoms of Ebola: High fever, severe headache, Fatigue, Muscle pain, Sore throat, Body weakness, Diarrhea, Vomiting, Stomach pain and Bleeding from body openings.

### **Preventive Measures**

- i. Avoid direct contact with body fluids from an infected person;
- ii. Wash hands with soap and water;
- iii. Use protective materials when handling an infected person and contaminated clothes; and
- iv. Allow safe burial of bodies by trained personnel.

## Outbreak of the Ebola Virus Disease

The current outbreak of Ebola in the Eastern part of DR Congo began in August 2018 and is the biggest of the ten (10) to hit the country since 1976, when the virus was first discovered. As of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2019, the total number of confirmed Ebola cases in DRC were 2,988 and total deaths 2,077.

In July 2019, the World Health Organisation declared the Ebola outbreak in DRC a "public health emergency of international concern", a rare designation only used for the gravest epidemics.

According to the Ministry of Health, Republic of Uganda had six (6) Ebola Outbreaks as per the table below:

### HISTORY OF PREVIOUS OUTBREAKS IN UGANDA

EVD indicator (oubreaks)	Gulu 2000	Bundibugyo 2007	Kibaale, 2012	Luwero 2011	Luwero 2012
Total confirmed cases	425	149	15	1	7
Total confirmed deaths	224	37	4	1	4

## 5.0 FINDINGS

### 5.1 Preparedness in the Management/containment of Ebola

During interaction with stakeholders in Partner States, the Committee was briefed about the specific interventions that the Republics of Rwanda and Uganda have made to manage/contain Ebola. It's important to note that the Republics of Rwanda and Uganda have made significant strides in this regard as indicated below.

#### 5.1.2 Republic of Rwanda

The Committee was informed by Dr. Jose Nyamusore, Division Manager, Epidemic Surveillance and Response Division, Rwanda Biometric Centre that six pillars were identified to strengthen the preparedness and readiness of response. The following are the key achievements under the six pillars:

### ***Coordination, Leadership and Finance***

- updated the Ebola virus disease strategic documents, preparedness plans standards operating procedures and the 72 hours response plan.
- established technical and financial partnership, 22,838 plus health workers trained.
- conducted 5 simulation exercises and drills.
- decentralizing Ebola preparedness in most at risk districts.
- signing DRC-Rwanda cross boarder Ebola "Feuille de route" and development of related action plan.

### ***Risk Communication and Community Mobilization and Engagement***

- Have aired the Radio EVD spots on RBA.
- conducted radio outreach mass campaigns in 10 high risk districts.
- activated the toll free 114 for Ebola questions and answers.
- fixed billboards in 8 high risk zones districts and posters in schools, markets and restaurants.

### ***Surveillance and laboratory***

- Developed and revised Ebola case definition (alert, suspect and probable case) for surveillance of EVD at ports of entries.
- Health facilities at community level.
- fever monitoring established at 37 ports of entries and at KIA with daily reporting mechanism and data analysis.
- enhanced National laboratory testing capacity to test Ebola.

### ***Case Management, Infection Prevention and Control***

- renovation of the temporary Ebola treatment center in Regerero- Rubavu.
- assessed the isolation and IPC needs IN 23 health centers located in high risk districts, establishing handwashing at 7 ports of entry: Rusizi I, Rusizi II, Bugarama, Cyanika, kabuhanga, La Corniche and poids Lourd.

### ***Logistics (supplies and emergency transport equipment and material)***

- stockpiling Ebola case management commodities at both central and peripheral level.
- acquisition of 3 ambulances for immediate community suspect case evacuation.
- acquisition of burial site.

### ***Vaccination***

- Received 3,000 vaccine doses (rvsv ZEBOV vaccine) and vaccination of for health workers front liners.

### **Other Interventions**

The Committee was informed that the following interventions have been made through a multi-sectoral approach:

- i. The Ministry in charge of Emergency Management in conjunction with Rwanda Biometrical Center developed a Contingency Plan for Ebola Preparedness and Response.
- ii. In the Ministry, there is a National Disaster Management Committee made up of Ministers in charge of emergency who advise and coordinate relief efforts.
- iii. The National Platform for Disaster Management was established to strengthen disaster risk reduction and management's capacity and enhance preparedness and reduce risks.
- iv. The National Contingency Platform was updated to include provision of non-medical humanitarian action like shelter, hygiene, sanitation, water, food.
- v. The Republic of Rwanda in partnership with DRC gazetted 7 cross border points between Rwanda and Congo. The boarder officials take daily statistics and register the number of people coming into the country and the volume of trade.
- vi. There has been installation of hand washing facilities and awareness campaigning billboards with Ebola campaigns have been placed at the border.
- vii. Use of the existing structure in fighting HIV to sensitize people about the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD).

- viii. The World Health Organization (WHO) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health in continues to provide technical support and enhancing institutional capacity.
- ix. WHO instituted the International Health Regulations (IHR) to which all the Republic of Rwanda is a signatory. The purpose of the International Health Regulations is to prevent, protect against, control and provide a public health response to the international spread of disease in ways that are commensurate with and restricted to public health risks, and to avoid unnecessary interference with international traffic and trade.
- x. WHO Undertook a Joint External Evaluation (JEE) to assess country's capacities to prevent, detect and rapidly respond to public health risks whether occurring naturally or due to deliberate or accidental events.
- xi. The results of the Joint External Evaluation other country-based assessments were used to guide the development of National Action Plans for Health Security (NAPHS). The NAPHS aims to address gaps in a country's health security capacity through a system that aligns to the JEE's recommendations.

### **5.1.2 Republic of Uganda**

The Committee was informed by Dr. Allan Muruta, the EVD Incident Manager, Ministry of Health that:

- i. Uganda shares a common border with DRC in the West with 17 districts directly bordering DRC and additional 6 districts hosting refugees from Eastern DRC; the refugees are from Ebola affected areas.
- ii. High volume movements between the 2 countries for social, cultural, economic & medical reasons through official and unofficial crossing points.
- iii. The EVD Epi-centers in DRC have close proximity with Uganda; threat of importation of Ebola into Uganda remains high.
- iv. WHO categorized Uganda as priority 1 country for enhanced preparedness and readiness.
- v. In Phase 1 of Preparedness, they categorised the districts of Uganda into Risk classification: High Risk (20), Moderate risk (10) and Low Risk (Rest of the Country). Uganda has undertaken enhanced preparedness activities in 20 high & 10 moderate risk districts since August 2018 with support from development partners.

### ***Capacities Built and Key Achievements***

The Committee was further informed that a number of key achievements were made and capacities built during preparedness in the following areas:

#### ***Surveillance:***

- 26/30 at-risk districts have capacity for EVD surveillance and contact tracing
- Community based disease surveillance using village health teams in 12 districts
- 702 alerts reported and investigated since 1 Aug 2018.
- Over 7 million screened at ground points of entry; Entebbe Airport: 225,804 screened.

#### ***Laboratory:***

- 24/30 districts covered with lab training; capacity in place for lab investigation of alert cases.
- 19 Laboratory technicians from Reference Lab trained in Ebola diagnostics – RDTs and GeneXpert.
- Existing National lab specimen referral network – hubs & spoke.
- Specimen transportation materials (triple packaging) are prepositioned

#### ***Logistics:***

- IPC supplies distributed to 10/30 high risk districts.
- Ambulances in place for transportation of EVD patients in country.
- Motorcycles for surveillance activities.
- Regional warehouses were being developed by WFP.

#### ***Case Management:***

- 7 Ebola Treatment Units (Bwera-Kasese, Bundibugyo, Kabarole, Kasonga-Kikuube, Mbarara, Lacor-Gulu, Kihih), 2 under construction/ renovation (Naguru, i, Entebbe), 1 Isolation facilities (Oli -Arua).
- 14/30 districts covered with case mgt training, with a total of 526 trainees.
- 17/30 districts had Safe and dignified burial teams.
- 13/30 districts with Psychosocial support training teams.
- IPC committees established in 22/30 at-risk districts.

- 9806 health workers mentored on IPC in 562 Health units within 10 high-risk districts.

***Risk communication:***

- Press releases were issued by the Ministry of Health.
- Community leaders were engaged for EVD readiness mobilization in high risk districts; Councillors, Religious Leaders, Traditional healers, LCs
- 05/30 districts covered by trained community based responders: VHT training in 10 districts was ongoing.
- Supported 333,021 household visits.
- Had reached 2,346,133 people with EVD prevention messages.
- Over 618,265 people reached through 13,993 community/group meetings social centres
- 21,635 radio spots and 354 radio talk shows had been aired on 21 radio stations

***Vaccination and therapeutics:***

- 6 vaccination teams trained.
- Over 7,945 vaccinated; 5974 Health workers, 1971 contacts.

***Benefits of heightened Preparedness in Kasese***

According to Dr. Muruta, capacities built during phase 1 of preparedness enabled early detection of outbreak in Kasese:

- The first case was timely detected by trained health workers at Kagando Hospital and referred to the Ebola Treatment Unit that was readily available.
- A sample was collected and laboratory confirmation done by the Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI).
- Patient management by the trained case management team.
- Cross border meeting was held with DRC immediately after confirmation building on established collaboration during preparedness.
- Established community engagement channels were used.
- Vaccinated health workers who were contacts were not at high risk of infection.

- Contact tracing of persons who might have come into contact with infected persons was immediately initiated by trained contact tracers

*As an outcome of preparedness in Kasese*, the outbreak was almost contained with no established local transmission.

The Committee was further informed that the Republic of Uganda developed a "Response and Preparedness Plan" whose overall objective is to contribute to the reduction of EVD related morbidity and mortality in the affected area and prevent transmission to new areas in the country.

According to the Ministry of Health, Republic of Uganda, the government has continued to receive support from Development Partners in the fight against Ebola epidemics as per the table below.

### PARTNERS

SN	Thematic Area	UN Agencies
1	Coordination and Resource Mobilization	WHO, UNICEF, UNRCO, FOA, IOM, WFP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNDP, URCS, IDI, GOAL, IRC, MSF, AFENET, DFID, USAID, ECHO, IRISH AID
2	Surveillance and laboratory	WHO, IOM (PoE), UNHCR, FAO, CDC, AFENET, URCS, DFID, USAID, IRISH AID, China CDC
3	Case management, infection prevention and control	WHO, UNICEF, MSF, IDI, USAID, Baylor
3a	Mental Health and Psychosocial support	WHO, UNICEF, IRISH AID
4	Risk Communication and Social Mobilization	UNICEF, WHO, UNHCR, IOM, C4D – OBULAMU, IRISH AID
5	Vaccination, Therapeutics	WHO, UNICEF, CDC, GAVI

6	Emergency Logistics	WFP,WHO,UNICEF,UNHCR,IRISH AID, USAID, DFID, China CDC, MSH
WASH	UNICEF, UNHCR, WHO, MSF	

#### 5.1.4 Challenges in the Management of Ebola

The Committee was informed that the Republics of Rwanda and Uganda are faced with the following challenges in the management of the Ebola Viral Disease:

- i. Infection Prevention and Control practises and supplies in most health facilities still wanting (slow behaviour change); continued mentorship needed.
- ii. Porous points of entry; several unmanned.
- iii. Weak Community based and disease surveillance system.
- iv. Negative perceptions from DRC spreading into communities in Kasese necessitating continued intensified community engagement.
- v. Response plan largely unfunded.
- vi. Lack of infrastructure to facilitate screening.
- vii. Lack of funding of the Phase 2 Plan affecting scale up of preparedness activities.
- viii. Vaccine shortage – Not all frontline health workers in the high risk districts have been offered vaccine.

#### 5.1.5 Regional Coordination and Initiatives

During her appearance before the Committee, Ms. Alison K. Gichohi, Capacity Building Officer, EAC Secretariat informed the Committee that the EAC Secretariat is among others, mandated to play an advisory as well as coordination role to the Partner States in the EAC region to prevent, control and mitigate the impact in case of occurrence. Accordingly, the Secretariat has implemented interventions aimed at ensuring that the region is prepared and ready to respond at any outbreak especially EVD through a number of initiatives as indicated below:

- i. The 18<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Sectoral Council on Health considered and approved reallocation of 550,000 Euros under the mobile Laboratory project to support the following emergency Ebola response activities in the countries (EAC/SC Health/18/Decision07):
  - a. Accelerated training of laboratory experts.
  - b. Established a training site at the EAC secretariat.
  - c. Imported 2 training mobile laboratories in the EAC region.
  - d. 12 staff were been trained and are proficient in use the mobile Laboratories. These are certified user ready to be deployed. The region now has a team of deployable experts who can use the mobile laboratories, but are also trainers.
  - e. 24 experts (4 from each partner state have been trained on the safe handling of sample use of PPE.
  - f. Have created a contingency buffer fund to buy reagents to support outbreak response in the partner states (to be requested and used on demand in case of an outbreak situation I the country).
  - g. Procurement of additional reagents and supplies including personal protective equipment for the countries.
  - h. Deployed two mobile Laboratories in the field under field condition to test readiness to deploy and ability to operate the mobile laboratories under field condition. This was in June 2019 during the cross-border field simulation exercise at the Namanga.
- ii. The EAC Secretariat reviewed the **EAC Regional Contingency Plan for Epidemics Due to Communicable Diseases, Conditions and other Events of Public Health Concern 2018 – 2023** to include the one health approach, and the **EAC One Health Regional Risk and Crisis Communication Strategy**.

- iii. For proper coordination, management and response to outbreaks in the Partner States, the following Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have also been developed to operationalize the contingency plan;
  - a. SOP – Cross – border Surveillance.
  - b. SOP – Logistics Management.
  - c. SOP – Reporting Emergencies and Activating EAC Emergency Response.
  - d. SOP – Establishment of a Regional Pool of Rapidly Deployable Experts in the EAC.
  - e. SOP – on the management of rumours.
- iv. The Secretariat coordinated joint cross border meeting involving the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Following the WHO announcement of the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in North Kivu and Ituri provinces on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2018, the EAC Secretariat in collaboration with WHO, GIZ PanPrep project, the KfW financed EAC Network of Public Health Reference Laboratories and ECSA Health Community convened a regional meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018 in Entebbe Uganda to explore avenues for collaboration on disease surveillance and Preparedness and response between the EAC Partner States and the DRC.
- v. During the above meeting, Partner States presented updates on the levels of preparedness, they reported that the movement of people in the region increased the risk of transferring / exporting EVD to the EAC region and other parts of the world. This was compounded by the refugee influx to the EAC Partner States.
- vi. It was further noted that countries had undertaken internal and external evaluation of their national plans, and had contingency plans for outbreak response / internal assessment of their capacities, and updated and costed their contingency plans. Partner States had established coordination structures at national and subnational level with operational Teams to respond to outbreak, these had high level commitment and were meeting regularly some twice a week.
- vii. The Partner states had also put in place Rapid Response Teams and each had an Emergency Operations Center.

- viii. Countries had mapped districts / region / provinces and categorized them as high risk, medium or low risk.

#### **5.1.6 Recommendations/undertakings of the joint cross-border meeting**

During the joint cross border meeting involving the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo that was held in Entebbe on 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018, the participants/countries undertook to do the following:

- i. Consider and include the use of Ebola vaccines as one of the measures used to break the chain of transmission of EVD among contacts.
- ii. Include the preparedness activities such as staff training, preparation of necessary protocols and equipment, protocols needed to successfully use the Ebola Vaccine, in the national emergency contingency plans.
- iii. Consider and establish disease surveillance Zones at the border between EAC Partner States, DRC and other neighboring countries, with relevant cross border committees (composed of officials from both countries);
- iv. Facilitate information exchange both formally and informally (phone calls, teleconference, social media like WhatsApp, emails, etc.).
- v. Select official Points of Entry at cross border point and develop capacity for EVD surveillance.
- vi. Conduct mapping of official and unofficial points of Entry in the region; develop a policy framework to guide information sharing between the EAC partner States and DRC.
- vii. EAC Secretariat to develop the Joint Contingency Plans for EVD including resource mobilization in line with the regional contingency plan.
- viii. Partner States to harmonize their EVD contingency plans.
- ix. The EAC Secretariat to develop and implement funding mechanism among Member States for EVD contingency plans.
- x. EAC Secretariat to develop a framework through which non-member states can be supported.
- xi. EAC Secretariat to develop a Monitoring framework for tracking the level of implementation of the contingency plans.
- xii. EAC Secretariat to link Public Health Emergency Operations Centers (PHEOCs) available in the EAC Partner States for information sharing.

## 6.0 OBSERVATIONS

The Committee made the following observations:

- i. The Committee appreciates the individual efforts made by the Partner States at the national level and all the bilateral, regional, and international initiatives so far made to manage and contain the Ebola Viral Disease and other epidemics in the region.
- ii. It was noted that migration and trans-boundary trade, which is facilitated by the EAC common market, by tourism and impacts of climate change are the factors that prompt these outbreaks. Most of these diseases are of zoonotic nature as the transmitted from both animals and humans.
- iii. The frequent movement of people across the borders of the EAC Partner States poses a greater risk of spreading communicable diseases from one country to another. The EAC Secretariat has embraced (Health Sectoral Council Directive) the **One Health (OH) Approach** to effectively prevent and respond to emergencies of cross-border epidemics in the region.
- iv. According to the *East African Newspaper* dated 17<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2019, Ebola may soon be preventable and treatable after a trial of two drugs in the Democratic Republic of Congo showed more than 90% survival rates. The research done indicated that the drugs will prevent deaths if given to infected persons early, and it will be used to treat all patients with the disease in DR Congo.
- v. The same Newspaper further reported that the drugs, named REGN-EB3 and mAb114, work by attacking the Ebola virus with antibodies, neutralizing its impact on human cells. According to Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the US National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, these are the “first drugs that have clearly shown a significant reduction of deaths for Ebola patients”. It was reported that the survival rate among patients was as high as 94% when given REGN-EB3, and 89% when on mAb114.
- vi. The EAC Secretariat has developed a Regional Contingency Plan for epidemics due to communicable diseases, conditions and other events of public health concern. The purpose of the Contingency Plan is to guide the EAC Secretariat in harmonizing and coordinating the national efforts of the Partner States to

address public health emergencies with primary focus on zoonotic and non-zoonotic infectious diseases of public health concern.

- vii. East African Community in Partnership with KfW and Bernhard-Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM) initiated the Regional Network of Public Health Reference Laboratories for Communicable Diseases Project. The project aims at strengthening sustainable structures and capacities for the rapid identification of infectious disease outbreaks within the territories of the Partner States to enable timely and effective response for the prevention of epidemics caused by various pathogens and biological agents of Biosafety Level. This is a 3 year project that started in 2017 and will run up to 2020.
- viii. It was noted that Phase 1 of the project, EAC acquired nine (9 ) mobile laboratories and 18 vehicles to help in controlling hemorrhagic fevers, training 70+ laboratory personnel in mobile laboratory diagnostics and biomedical engineers, build a state of the art diagnostic services, ensure regional proficiency testing , development of harmonized standard operating procedures, surveillance of epidemic prone viral diseases and regional exchange of expertise and joint cross boarder investigation while building international networks. Three (3) Field missions will be carried per laboratory in the 1<sup>st</sup> Phase and this will continue in the subsequent phases.
- ix. Whereas the Regional Contingency Plan requires Partner States to notify the EAC Secretariat in not later than 24 hours of the prevailing epidemic status to enable it undertake her coordination and advisory role, this is rarely done.
- x. The refusal by the United Republic of Tanzania to allow the Assembly to undertake this oversight activity in this Partner State is against the spirit of integration and this gesture frustrate efforts aimed at fighting/containing communicable ones in the region. It is important to note that diseases, more so communicable diseases know no geographical/political boundaries or nationalities. With the signing of the Common Market Protocol and African

Continental Free Trade Area, it is expected that the region will witness increased movement of people and volumes of trade. Therefore, the region should work together to contain the disease/epidemic outbreak, which may potentially affect intra-regional and continental trade as well as the welfare of the people of East Africa.

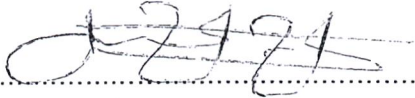
## **7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

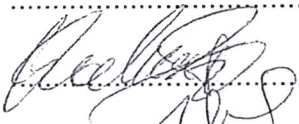
In view of the foregoing, the Committee would like to make the following recommendations:

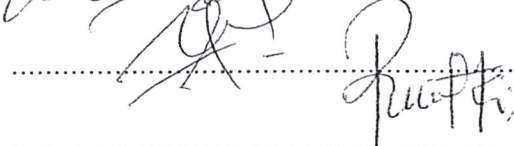
1. The Assembly to urge the Council of Ministers to develop the EAC Policy on the Management of Communicable diseases in the region.
2. The Assembly to register its vote appreciation to and commend the Development Partners such as WHO and GiZ among others, for their technical and financial support to the EAC in the management of Ebola and other epidemics in the region.
3. Urge the Assembly to explore ways of establishing and strengthening a collaborative engagement with the WHO and GiZ in enhancing its oversight mandate in the promotion of the health sector in the region.

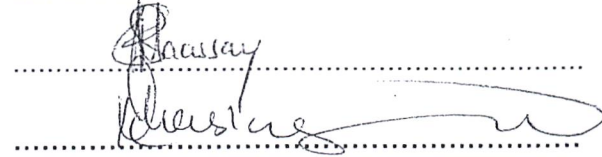
**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE OVERSIGHT  
ACTIVITY TO ASSESS THE LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS OF PARTNER STATES IN  
THE MANAGEMENT OF EBOLA AND DENGUE FEVER EPIDEMICS  
13<sup>TH</sup> – 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019**

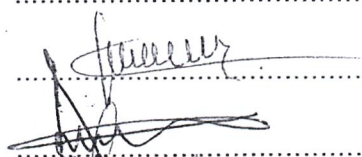
1. Hon. Abdikadir Omar Aden
2. Hon. Ayason Mukulia Kennedy
3. Hon. Dr. Kalinda Francois Xavier
4. Hon. Dr. Makame Abdullah Hasnuu
5. Hon. Kim Gai Duop Ruot
6. Hon. Eng. Maassay Pamela Simon
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16. Hon. Sergon Jematiah Florence
17. Hon. Maryam Ussi Yahya
18. Hon. Uwumukiza Francoise

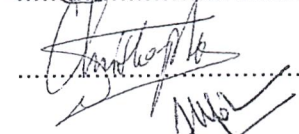
  
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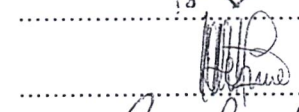
  
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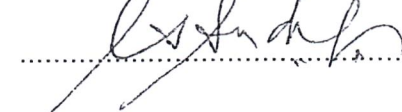
  
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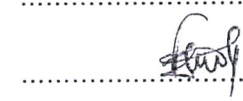
  
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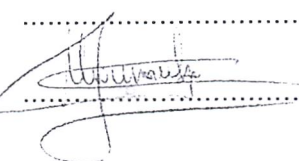
  
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# ANNEX I

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EAST AFRICAN COOPERATION

Telephone: + 255-26-2323201-7  
Fax: +255-26-2323208  
Email: [nje@nje.go.tz](mailto:nje@nje.go.tz)  
website: [www.foreign.go.tz](http://www.foreign.go.tz)



Government City,  
Mtumba Area,  
P. O. Box 2933,  
40466 DODOMA.

*In reply please quote:*

Ref. No.CDA.177/800/01

13 September, 2019

The Clerk,  
East African Legislative Assembly,  
P.O. Box 1096,  
ARUSHA, TANZANIA

**Re: CANCELLATION OF THE OVERSIGHT ACTIVITY TO ASSESS THE  
LEVEL OF PREPAREDNESS OF THE EAC PARTNER STATES IN THE  
MANAGEMENT OF EBOLA AND DENGUE FEVER OUTBREAKS**

Reference is made to your letter with Ref: EALA/GPC/COMM 1(D) dated 27 August, 2019 related to the activity mentioned above.

The United Republic of Tanzania regrets to inform you that, due to unforeseen circumstances requests for this activity to be postponed. New dates would be communicated on due course.

We apologise for any inconveniences that may occur.

We thank you for your continued cooperation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dr. Faraji K. Mnyepe'.

Dr. Faraji K. Mnyepe  
PERMANENT SECRETARY



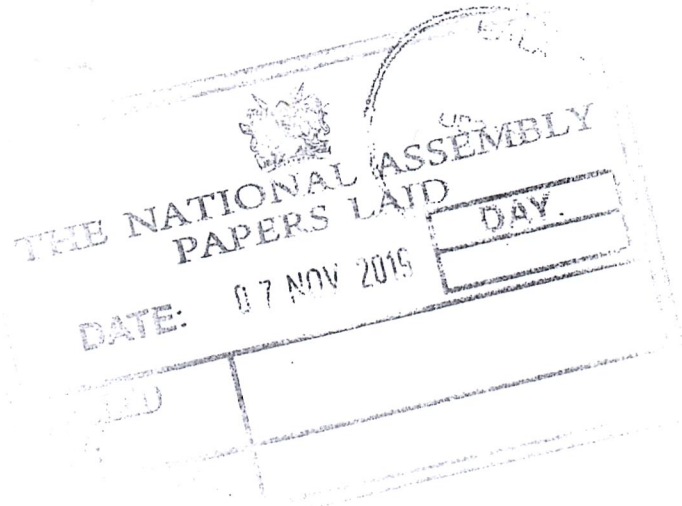
**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY  
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

Laid on Table  
on BY Hon.

ADEN Omar

Abdi Kadir

**REPORT ON THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE PETITION  
FROM EAST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS' FORUM ON MATTERS  
OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY**



Clerks Chambers  
EAC Headquarters  
EALA Wing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Arusha, TANZANIA

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **Hon. Speaker,**

EALA is one of the Organs of the EAC established under Article 9 of the Treaty for the establishment of the EAC. The treaty bestows upon the Assembly three key cardinal functions; Legislation, oversight and representation. The Assembly largely exercises its oversight and representation functions through its Committees and Members.

Article 49 (2) (d) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community provides that the Assembly shall discuss all matters pertaining to the community and make recommendations to the Council as it may deem necessary for the implementation of the Treaty.

Rule 86 Part XVI of the Rules of Procedure of the East African Legislative Assembly provides that Any citizen of the Partner State , 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.

On 26<sup>th</sup> September 2019, East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSOF) presented a petition titled "Petition to the East African Legislative Assembly on matters of crucial importance to the Community" to the Rt. Hon. Speaker which was then referred to the Committee on General Purpose. Accordingly, the Committee proceeded and considered the petition.

## **2.0 METHODOLOGY**

During the consideration of the petition, the Committee;

1. Reviewed the petition from EACSOF;
2. Interacted with petitioner; East African Civil Society Organization Forum represented by Ms. Martha Makege Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ms. Lilian

Alex – Programme Officer and Mr. Jonas Ndunguru – Communication Officer on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019;

3. Interacted with the EAC Council of Ministers and the Deputy Secretary General Finance and Administration.

### **3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The petition presented to the Assembly by EACSOF highlights the following issues;

- 1) Whereas the EAC has grown in Membership since its establishment in 2000, its budget has not been growing proportionately to enable the Community implement the pillars of integration in accordance with the agreed roadmap.
- 2) That the Partner States contributions towards funding the EAC budget have been dwindling. And further to this, that some Partner states have not been honoring their contributions as required by the treaty
- 3) That whereas the customs union protocol under article 24 provides for the establishment of the Trade remedies Committee, it's now 15 years but the same committee has not been established and operationalized.

#### **The Petitioners made the following prayers:**

- i. To engage the Council of Ministers to recommend to the Summit to invoke article 143 and 146 on Partner States that have met the criteria of activation of that particular article. EACSOF is considering to file a legal suit with EACJ on interpretation of Article 143 of the Treaty.
- ii. To engage the Council of Ministers to abolish the 0% budget increase stance for EAC.
- iii. To put the Council on notice that implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol is 15 years overdue.

- iv. To put a question to the Honourable Member of the Council from The United Republic of Tanzania as to why The Host Partner State which is also a pioneering Partner State did not clear the 2018/19 contribution (89%) and that until the First Quarter of 2019/20, no remittance has been made
- v. To put a question to the Honourable Member of the Council from The Republic of Kenya as to why the Pioneering Partner State did not clear the 2018/19 contribution (98%) and that until the First Quarter of 2019/20, no remittance has been made.
- vi. To put a question to the Council, why it is only Rwanda and Uganda that have contributed for 2019/20.
- vii. To put a question to the Chair of the Council of Ministers on the actions being taken on Republic of South Sudan that many stakeholders view as a staunch defaulter.
- viii. To put a question to the EAC Secretary General on what actions the SG's office has taken with regards to remittances and implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol

### 3.1 FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

1). According to the information received from the EAC Secretariat, the total contribution for Partner States for the FY 2018/19 stood at 59% as at 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019. The details are in the table below;

Table 1: Partner States Contributions as at 25<sup>th</sup> June 2019

PARTNER STATES	ARREARS	DUE 2018/19	PAID BY 2018/19		TOTAL DUE
Burundi		8,371,320	408,548	5%	7,962,772
Kenya		8,371,320	8,210,662	98%	160,658
Rwanda		8,371,320	7,322,875	87%	1,048,445
South Sudan	10,956,568	8,371,320	0	0%	19,327,888

Tanzania		8,371,320	7,413,489	89%	957,831
Uganda		8,371,320	6,335,431	76%	2,035,889
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,956,568</b>	<b>50,277,920</b>	<b>29,691,006</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>31,493,482</b>

Source EAC Secretariat

- 2) The Committee noted that most countries except the Republic of Uganda have not remitted their quarterly contribution for the FY 2019/2020 in time as required by the Treaty.
- 3) The Committee expressed appreciation for the Commitment by EACSOFF on following up the integration process through the implementation of the Treaty and protocols of the Community.
- 4) Commended the great effort made by the Republic of Burundi in ensuring that they meet their financial obligations to the Community amidst ongoing challenges.
- 5) The maintenance of the zero (0%) increment and budget ceiling for the past decade despite growth in the organs and Institutions of the Community.
- 6) The issue of continuous existence of Technical Barriers to Trade and Non-Tariff Barriers hinders cross border trade therefore has to be addressed by the EAC Heads of State Summit.
- 7) The Non-implementation of the first 2 pillars of integration customs unions and Common Market will affect the effective implementation of the other pillars which is the monetary Union and the political federation.
- 8) The Committee noted with concern the continuous absence of the Minister from the Republic of South Sudan from the Sittings of EALA and the EAC Council of Ministers where he is a Member in both.

#### **4.0 Recommendations**

The Committee recommends to the Assembly to urge the EAC Council of Ministers to;

- 1) To urgently address the issue of Non-remittance of funds by the Republic of South Sudan. The EAC Council of Ministers should consider invoking Article 143 or 146 to impose sanctions against the Republic of South Sudan if no payment to the Community is received by the end of October 2019 and put it for adoption before the EAC Heads of State Summit in November 2019.
- 2) Commends the Republic of Uganda for honoring its contribution for the FY 2019/2020 to a tune of 72% as on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019. Other Partner states should emulate the Republic of Uganda by complying with Regulation 23(5) of the EAC Financial Rules and Regulations.
- 3) Urge the EAC Council of Ministers to finalize the alternative financing mechanisms and table it before the November 2019 EAC Heads of State Summit.

The Committee further recommends to Council to re-consider and remove the zero budget increase ceilings.

- 4) With regard to implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol, there is need to expedite the process of the operationalization of the East African Committee on Trade and Remedies as recommended in the report of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment which was tabled and adopted by the House on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019.

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON GENERAL PURPOSE ON THE PETITION TO THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA) ON MATTERS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY**

1. Hon. Abdikadir Omar Aden
2. Hon. Ayason Mukulia Kennedy
3. Hon. Dr. Kalinda Francois Xavier
4. Hon. Dr. Makame Abdullah Hasnuu
5. Hon. Kim Gai Duop Ruot
6. Hon. Eng. Maassay Pamela Simon
7. Hon. Gasinzigwa Oda
8. Hon. Gatkek Dut Thomas
9. Hon. Karerwa Mo-Mamo
10. Hon. Namara Dennis
11. Hon. Nduwayo Christopher
12. Hon. Nooru Adan Mohamed
13. Hon. Nzeyimana Leontine
14. Hon. Odongo George Stephen
15. Hon. Opoka-Okumu Christopher
16. Hon. Sergon Jematiah Florence
17. Hon. Maryam Ussi Yahya
18. Hon. Uwumukiza Françoise

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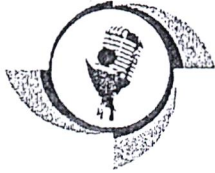
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Maassay  
Maassay

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Christopher

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George Stephen

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Muryahya  
Françoise



**EAST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS' FORUM**  
*Strengthening Civil Society in the Integration Processes*

Plot No. Tazo 155 286, Nane Nane, Njiro, P.O. Box 12583, Arusha, Tanzania  
E-mail: eacsopf@gmail.com, www.eacsopf.net

**19<sup>th</sup> September, 2019**

**Rt. Honourable Martin Karoli Ngoga,**  
**Speaker,**  
**East African Legislative Assembly,**  
**Arusha,**  
**Tanzania.**

**PETITION TO THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA) ON  
MATTERS OF CRUCIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY**

**Rt. Hon Speaker**

**INTRODUCTION**

East African Civil Society Organization Forum (EACSOF) is an inclusive platform for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to dialogue and foster sustainable equitable development in East Africa through participation of CSOs that was founded in 2007 as the autonomous umbrella for all CSOs and NGOs in East Africa. EACSOF carries out capacity building, advocacy and lobbying activities to its member organizations in the pervasive areas of integration including at not limited to Human Rights, Good Governance, Policy Formulation - Policy Information - Policy Dialogues, Trade Negotiations, Special Interest Groups, Budgetary Implications and the like. EACSOF was created in response to provisions contained in Chapter Twenty-Five (25) of the Treaty Establishing the East African Community (EAC) that comprises of Article 127, Article 128 and Article 129.

EACSOF has been constantly following up the integration process of the EAC, with particular interest of observing the implementation of the EAC Treaty, Protocols, Laws developed in EALA as well as Policies, Strategies, Plans and Programs. To that end, EACSOF has developed keen concern on areas that need to be considered by EALA, which are:

**Human Employment | Policy engagement | Institutional Development**



EAST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS' FORUM  
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Plot No. Taso 155 286, Nane Nane, Njiro, P.O. Box 12583, Arusha, Tanzania  
E-mail: eacsosf@gmail.com, www.eacsosf.net

- i. The implementation of the budget of the EAC after being passed by EALA and assented by the Summit.
- ii. Implementation of the Customs Union and Common Market Protocols with specific focus on implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol.

**Rt. Hon Speaker**

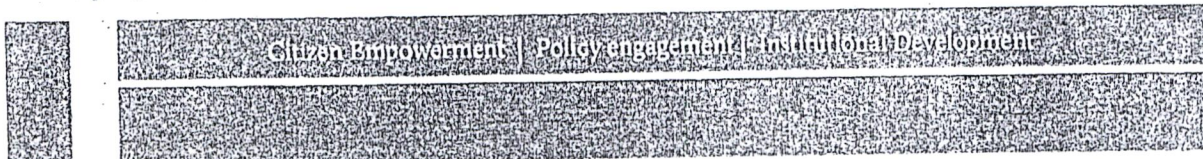
**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BUDGET OF THE EAC AFTER BEING PASSED BY EALA AND ASSENTED BY THE SUMMIT.**

Upon finalization of the Budgetary Procedures of EALA, a Finance Bill emanates which subsequently becomes a Finance Act; that binds all the EAC Partner States to honour their obligations as per article 132 (4) of the Treaty. EACSOF understands that Partner States have competing and urgent priorities, but appreciates that Partner States are committed to attain the Vision of having EAC that is *Prosperous, Competitive, Secure, Stable and Politically United*. EACSOF is seriously worried about the dwindling contributions by Partner States towards financing the EAC and more concerned by the non-remittance by one Partner State, and the general delay of remittances by Partner States to meet their own approved budget of the Community.

On 10th August 2019, *The East African* weekly paper published in its front page a news article with the title '*EAC staff desert duty, return home as cash crunch bites*' that really irked EACSOF. How can our own EAC, the one we are banking on to foster the regional integration lack funds to pay salaries to personnel in service of the Community? Were these statutory obligations of the Community not provided for in the budget? If they were indeed budgeted, why are the obligatory payments not honoured?

**Mr Speaker**

EACSOF undertook a small survey of the performance of the EAC Budget and remittances from the Partner States as a fact finding mission to establish where the problem of our beloved EAC is coming from. A quick glance at the status of Partner States contributions by 25th June 2019 is presented vide *Table I*, and a further glance of Partner States contributions by 13th September 2019 is presented vide





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E-mail: eacsof@gmail.com, www.eacsof.net

Table II and likewise, the trend of average aggregate contributions have been dwindling, where there was no contribution due at the commencement of Financial Year 2013/14, at 25th June 2014, **an aggregate average of 94.25%** was paid by Partner States with 100% compliance by 3 Partner States, 99.93% compliance by another Partner State and 71.33% compliance by the least contributor in that particular year. **Subsequent years with their aggregate average in brackets are 2014/15 (87.57%); 2015/16 (70.5%); 2016/17 (79%); 2017/18 (65%) and 2018/19 (59%).** EACSO has also learnt that despite the EAC expanding its scope in terms of integration level as it is now in the process of implementing the Road Map to attain the East African Monetary Union, which is the third pillar of EAC Integration, as well as the increased institutions of EAC that have among others increased the wage bill, the Council has maintained a stance of **0% budget increase** for the past decade, meaning an effective budget reduction to the EAC.

**TABLE I: Partner States Contributions as at 25th June 2019** Amounts in USD

Partner State	Arrears	Due 2018/19	Paid 2018/19		TOTAL DUE
Burundi		8'371'320	408'548	5%	7,962'772
Kenya		8'371'320	8'210'662	98%	160,658
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Tanzania		8'371'320	7'413'489	89%	957'831
Uganda		8'371'320	6'335'431	76%	2'035'889
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10'956'568</b>	<b>50'277,920</b>	<b>29,691,006</b>	<b>59%</b>	<b>31,493,482</b>

Source EAC Secretariat

**Rt. Hon Speaker**

EACSO has been perplexed by the failure of Partner States to meet their financial obligations to the EAC, and thus effectively breaching the Finance and Appropriation Acts of the Community consistently. Delayed remittances, and failure to achieve





**EAST AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS' FORUM**  
*Strengthening Civil Society in the Integration Processes*

Plot No. Taso 155 286, Name Name, Njiro, P.O. Box 12583, Arusha, Tanzania  
 E-mail: eacsof@gmail.com, www.eacsof.net

100% compliance is detrimental to the survival of EAC, the average aggregate contributions of 2018/19 were a mere 59% to the EAC, which is already suffering 0% budget increase for almost a decade.

**TABLE II: Partner States Contributions as at 13th September 2019** Amounts in USD

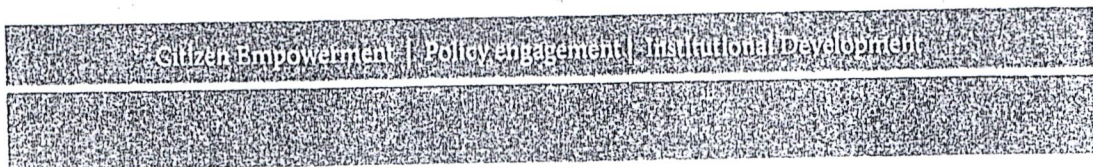
Partner State	Arrears	Due 2019/20	Paid 2018/19		TOTAL DUE
Burundi	5,443,825	8,298,574	0	0%	13,742,399
Kenya	160,658	8,298,574	0	0%	8,459,232
Rwanda	0	8,298,574	1,183,261	14%	7,115,313
South Sudan	19,327,888	8,298,574	0	0%	27,626,462
Tanzania	957,831	8,298,574	0	0%	9,256,405
Uganda	0	8,298,574	6,004,854	72%	2,293,720
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>25,890,202</b>	<b>49,791,444</b>	<b>7,188,115</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>68,493,530</b>

Source EAC Secretariat

**IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CUSTOMS UNION AND COMMON MARKET PROTOCOLS WITH SPECIFIC FOCUS ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ARTICLE 24 OF THE CUSTOMS UNION PROTOCOL.**

Article 5 (2) of The Treaty Establishing the East African Community names the four stages of the EAC integration as

- i. Customs Union,
- ii. Common Market,
- iii. Monetary Union, and ultimately
- iv. Political Federation.





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E-mail: eacsosof@gmail.com, www.eacsosof.net

In order to strengthen and regulate the industrial, commercial, infrastructural, cultural, social, political and other relations of Partner States to the end that there shall be accelerated, harmonious and balanced development and sustained expansion of economic activities, the benefit of which shall be equitably shared.

EACSOF being a platform representing special interest groups that seek to reap benefits of the EAC integration is very concerned with sustained existence of Technical Barriers to Trade (TBTs) and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) both cross border and behind the border that are affecting our spectrum of our members.

In all EAC meetings from Sectoral Committees, Sectoral Councils, Coordination Committee, Council of Ministers and even the Summit of EAC Heads of State and Government, discussions on NTBs have now become a permanent agenda; denying those serious forums of representation of EAC Citizenry moments to consider and develop strategic integration initiatives but rather remaining focused on NTBs whose institutional solution has already been provided for by Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol that establishes the Committee for Trade and Remedies. It is now 15 Years since the Customs Union Protocol entered into legal force; yet the important Committee on Trade and Remedies is yet to be established. It is unfortunate that this is the status of the Committee on Trade and Remedies at the celebration of 20 years of launching of EAC II.

**Rt. Hon Speaker**

**WAY FORWARD**

EACSOF would appreciate action by EALA on the following areas:

- i. To engage the Council of Ministers to recommend to the Summit to invoke article 143 and 146 on Partner States that have met the criteria of activation of that particular article. EACSOF is considering to file a legal suit with EACJ on interpretation of Article 143 of the Treaty, and why it has not been invoked in such circumstances that are detrimental to EAC. EACSOF is anticipating appropriate action by EALA that would resolve the matter.
- ii. To engage the Council of Ministers to abolish the 0% budget increase stance for EAC.





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E-mail: eacsot@gmail.com, www.eacsot.net

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- iii. To put the Council on notice that implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol is 15 years overdue. EACSOF is considering filing a litigation in the EACJ on this matter, as it affects East Africans.
  - iv. To put a question to the Honourable Member of the Council from The United Republic of Tanzania as to why The Host Partner State which is also a pioneering Partner State did not clear the 2018/19 contribution (89%) and that until the First Quarter of 2019/20, no remittance has been made? and whether that does not display commitment and leadership?
  - v. To put a question to the Honourable Member of the Council from The Republic of Kenya as to why The Pioneering Partner State did not clear the 2018/19 contribution (98%) and that until the First Quarter of 2019/20, no remittance has been made? and whether that does not display commitment and leadership?
  - vi. To put a question to the Council, why is it that at the end of the 1st Quarter it is only Rwanda and Uganda that have remitted for 2019/20, does that mean the others are not committed?
  - vii. To put a question to the Chair of the Council of Ministers what actions is the Council contemplating to take on the Republic of South Sudan, that many stakeholders view as a staunch defaulter.
  - viii. To put a question to the Secretary General (as an Ex Officio Member of EALA), what action has his office taken with regards to remittances and implementation of Article 24 of the Customs Union Protocol; and why has he not made any public statement with regards to those two matters.



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E-mail: [eacsof@gmail.com](mailto:eacsof@gmail.com), [www.eacsof.net](http://www.eacsof.net)

Ms. Martha J. Makenge

**EACSO Program Coordinator and Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Submitted by;

**East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSO)**

P.O.Box 12583

*Njiro, NaneNane, Arusha, Tanzania | PLOT NO TASO/55/ 286*

**Cell:** +255 786 027 746

**Landline:** +255 27 254 9029

**E-mail:** [eacsof@gmail.com](mailto:eacsof@gmail.com)

**Website:** [www.eacsof.net](http://www.eacsof.net)

*Celebrating a Decade of Making EAC Integration Work for the Citizens*

COPY

H. E. Liberat Mfumukeko

Secretary General

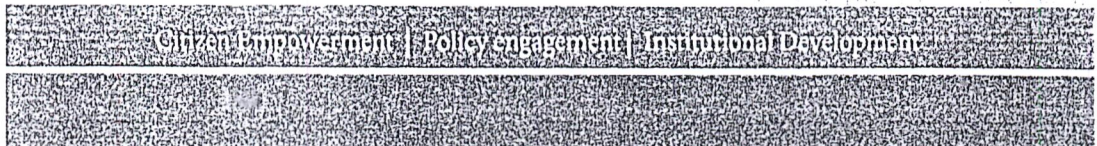
East African Community Secretariat

Arusha

Tanzania

H. E. Dr. Richard Sezibera

Chairman - Council of Ministers





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Plot No. Taso 155 286, Nane Nane, Njiro, P.O. Box 12583, Arusha, Tanzania  
E-mail: eacsopf@gmail.com, www.eacsopf.net

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Kigali,  
Rwanda.

Hon Abdikadir Aden Omar  
Chairman - General Purpose Committee  
EALA  
Arusha  
TANZANIA

# EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY



## STATUS OF PARTNER STATES' BUDGETARY CONTRIBUTIONS

The status of Partner States' contributions as at 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 is as reflected below:

**Table 1A: Status of Contributions by Partner States towards the EAC Main Budget (EAC Secretariat, EALA, EACJ, LVBC, EAKC, EASTECO, EAHRC & EACA) - amounts in USD**

PARTNER STATE	ARREARS	CONTRIBUTION DUE 2019/20	CONTRIBUTION PAID 2019/20		TOTAL OUTSTANDING (EAC Main Budget)
1. Republic of Burundi <sup>(1)</sup>	4,301,378	8,298,574	-	0%	12,599,952
2. Republic of Kenya	160,658	8,298,574	-	0%	8,459,232
3. Republic of Rwanda <sup>(2)</sup>	-	8,298,574	1,183,261	14%	7,115,313
4. Republic of South Sudan	19,327,888	8,298,574	-	0%	27,626,462
5. United Republic of Tanzania	957,831	8,298,574	-	0%	9,256,405
6. Republic of Uganda <sup>(3)</sup>	-	8,298,574	6,004,854	72%	2,293,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,747,754</b>	<b>49,791,444</b>	<b>7,188,115</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>67,351,083</b>

(1) Republic of Burundi: USD1,977,824 was disbursed, reducing the arrears which amounted to USD6,279,202 as at 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019.

(2) Republic of Rwanda: USD2,139.64 for last Financial year was first cleared before recognizing the contribution for FY'2019/2020.

(3) Republic of Uganda: In addition to the USD6,004,854 reflected as contribution for FY'2019/2020, the arrears which stood at USD1,818,338 on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 were fully cleared.

B. INTER UNIVERSITY COUNCIL OF EAST AFRICA (IUCEA), amounts in USD

PARTNER STATE	ARREARS	CONTRIBUTI ON DUE 2019/20	CONTRIBUTIO N PAID 2019/20		TOTAL OUTSTANDIN G (IUCEA Budget)
1. Republic of Burundi	5,598,790	729,995		0%	6,328,785
2. Republic of Kenya	6,168	729,995		0%	736,163
3. Republic of Rwanda	2,799,885	729,995		0%	3,529,880
4. Republic of South Sudan	2,102,108	729,995		0%	2,832,103
5. United Republic of Tanzania	2,434,809	729,995		0%	3,164,804
6. Republic of Uganda	3,413,619	729,995	496,765	68%	3,646,849
<b>Total</b>	<b>16,355,379</b>	<b>4,379,970</b>	<b>496,765</b>	<b>11%</b>	<b>20,238,584</b>

C. LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANISATION (LVFO), amounts in USD

PARTNER STATE	ARREARS	CONTRIBUTI ON DUE 2019/20	CONTRIBUTIO N PAID 2019/20		TOTAL OUTSTANDIN G (LVFO Budget)
1. Republic of Burundi	-	515,211		0%	515,211
2. Republic of Kenya	599	515,211		0%	515,810
3. Republic of South Sudan	345,083	-			345,083
4. United Republic of Tanzania	1,062,153	515,211		0%	1,577,364
5. Republic of Uganda <sup>(4)</sup>	-	515,211	156,043	30%	359,168
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,407,835</b>	<b>2,060,844</b>	<b>156,043</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>3,312,636</b>

(4) From July 2019 to date, the Republic of Uganda has disbursed to LVFO a total of US\$360,961 from which US\$204,918 was set off to pay arrears outstanding as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and the balance of USD156,043 reported as contribution for FY'2019/2020.

Trend of Cumulative disbursements from Partner States in percentage, FY2009/10-2019/20, as at end of each quarter

Financial Year / Percentage received as at	FY'08/09 \$23.32M	FY'09/10 \$27.97M	FY'10/11 30.75M	FY'11/12, \$33.67M	FY'12/13; \$35.37M	FY'13/14, \$38.07M	FY'14/15; \$41.89M	FY'15/16; \$41.89M	FY'16/17; \$41.89M	FY'2017/18; \$50.23M (6P. States)	FY'2018/19; \$50.23M (6P. States)	FY'2019/20 \$49.79M (6P. States)
Q1. 30th September	10.44%	29.32%	18.90%	25.67%	32.66%	31.71%	4.27%	6.86%	6.60%	8.53%	23.00%	14.00%
Q2. 31st December	19.93%	59.82%	63.02%	58.20%	68.86%	54.71%	28.28%	32.48%	36.79%	32.77%	41.00%	
Q3. 31st March	50.84%	91.20%	99.99%	95.58%	69.72%	72.84%	65.20%	45.52%	57.24%	46.00%	53.00%	
Q4. 30th June	91.30%	99.57%	100.00%	96.58%	97.14%	94.25%	87.57%	78.55%	81.26%	65.00%	63.00%	

Source: EAC Directorate of Finance



LMD ON TABLE ON  
20/9/2019  
*[Handwritten signature]*

TO: THE SPEAKER  
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

18<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2019

Dear Rt. Hon. Sir,

RE: PETITION TO ALLOW A MOTION SEEKING PARLIAMENTARY ENDORSEMENT OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY'S BID TO HOST THE 2030 FIFA WORLD CUP.

#### INTRODUCTION.

Rt. Hon. Sir, my name is Nelson Akolebirungi, a pan-African, writer, and a soccer fan. I realized that the East African Community member States have the potential to win the bid of hosting the 2030 FIFA World Cup if they officially place their bid next year 2020. Chances are high for East African Community member States to win this bid because;

- a) The FIFA World Cup was last played on the African soil in 2010.
- b) Other global continents have recently had their share of hosting i.e. South America (2014), Europe (2018), Asia (2022), and North America (2026). Therefore 2030 is ripe for any African bid especially East African Community.
- c) The harmony and cooperation which the East African Community Member States have exhibited for close to 20 years.

Rt. Hon. Sir, apart from promoting soccer in East Africa, there are a couple of other reasons why I think the East African Community should strongly place the bid to host FIFA World Cup early next year (2020) below are a few of them.

- To win the hearts and interests of the youth towards "the integration vision" of East African Community i.e. soccer is held with much regard among a sizable number of youth across the East African Community.
- To promote political, economic, and social integration among the East Africa Community member States.
- Marketing tourism, and sports tourism potentials of East African Community.
- Strengthening the solidarity of the people of East African Community member States (social integration) and adding a measureable "feel- good" effect on natives.
- Strengthening diplomatic relations and cooperation among East African Community leaders.
- To grab the opportunity for substantial economic and social benefit for our host cities as well as providing the stability needed to propel the E.AC's ability to host other global events for years to come.
- To kick start the celebrations to mark 20 years existence of East African Community

#### ACTIVITIES

Rt. Hon. Sir, I am coordinating with a good team of stake holders and well-wishers of East African Community to see the success of the official public endorsement event scheduled to take place on 8<sup>th</sup>

December 2019 at Mandela Stadium. We are not only looking forward to organizing a friendly soccer game between Uganda Cranes with the National Team of Rwanda but also organizing the attendance of the following East African Community heads of states;

- 1) H.E Paul Kagame (The current chairperson East African Community)
- 2) H.E Yoweri Museveni. (The President of Uganda)
- 3) H.E Uhuru Kenyatta (The President of Kenya)
- 4) H.E John Magufuli (The President of Tanzania)
- 5) H.E Salva Kira (The President of South Sudan)
- 6) H.E Pierre Nkurunziza (The President of Burundi)


#### CONCLUSION

Rt. Hon. Sir, I have petitioned to Hon. Mathias Kasamba (Constituency Uganda) to move this motion if he obtains the floor to do so.

This petition is made in good faith to promote "the social, economic, and political integration vision" of the East African Community. Therefore Rt. Hon. Sir, I hope that you will consider the noble spirit of my petition.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



NELSON AKOLEBIRUNGI

EVENT COORDINATOR

0783831339

nakolebirungi@yahoo.com

CC. The 2<sup>ND</sup> Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of East African Affairs

CC. The Minister of Education and Sports

CC. The State Minister of Sports

CC. The State Minister for East African Affairs

CC. A member of East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)

CC. The Member of Parliament Mwenge North

CC. The regional delegate, Federation of International Football Association (FIFA)

CC. The President Federation of Uganda Football Association (FUFA)

CC. The Chief Executive Officer Vision Group Uganda

CC. The Chief Executive Officer Nation Media Uganda

CC. The President Uganda Sports Press Association (USPA)