



The Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly Margaret Zziwa. Picture: File

## Eala MPs in plot to finally topple Zziwa

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MEMBERS OF the East African Legislative Assembly (Eala) plan a final assault on Speaker Margaret Zziwa at its next session, due in Nairobi from November 19.

After the Members of Parliament failed to push through a motion to remove Ms Zziwa at the third Eala session concluded in Kigali on October 29, some 35 of them have signed up to move a vote of no confidence motion against her.

The MPs say the move is aimed at restoring the reputation of Eala and bringing to an end the paralysis that has rendered the assembly dysfunctional for more than a year with business of the House at a standstill.

A statement to be delivered in Nairobi seen by *The EastAfrican* gives an opinion on the several adjournments of proceedings in Kigali due to lack of quorum. It says the situation was intentionally created by one group of MPs with the knowledge of the Speaker to forestall House business.

"Noting further that on October 30 proceedings of the House were adjourned *sine die* due to lack of quorum by the same group of members, and recalling

that previously the members of the Assembly have expressed their dissatisfaction with the manner in which the Speaker has conducted the affairs of the Assembly," the statement reads. "We have deliberated fully and identified that the Speaker is the root cause of the paralysis pertaining to the Assembly and are concerned that the continued paralysis, if not immediately addressed, will totally cripple the operations of the Assembly and hence defeat the purposes for which it was created."

The members said efforts to resolve the problem amicably were futile as they were blocked by the Speaker herself, hence the need to remove her so as to allow the Assembly to function.

"The overwhelming majority of members will ensure that the will of the Assembly is exercised and the pending motion for removal of the Speaker, dated April 1, 2014 and tabled in the House, is transacted as urgent business of the House," the document adds.

The anti-Zziwa brigade says it will also chastise Tanzanian member Shy-Rose Bhanji, whom they accused of disgracing them, for her "indiscretions and excesses."