

EAC gets new Secretary General

■ **ARUSHA, TANZANIA**-On 25 April 2016, Amb. Dr Richard Sezibera handed over the seat of Secretary General to Libérat Mfumukeko.

Libérat Mfumukeko was appointed to the position on 2 March 2016 by the Summit of the EAC Heads of State for a single five-year term. Prior to his appointment as Secretary General, Mr Mfumukeko served the East African Community in the capacity of Deputy Secretary General in charge of Finance and Administration.

Mfumukeko joined the EAC from another position of leadership – Director General, Burundi Water and Electricity Utility (REGIDESO), the last position he held prior to joining the EAC. He has also held the Chairmanship of the Steering Committee of the East African Power Pool (EAPP).

Mfumukeko brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new position, with vast international experience including the establishment of the Burundi Investment Promotion Authority (API) in 2009.

The new Secretary General boasts international, intercultural and linguistic skills, with fluency in French, English, Kirundi, Kiswahili and Russian as well as having worked in France, Russia, USA, DR Congo, Rwanda, Ivory Coast and Cameroon.

● About Libérat Mfumukeko.

Libérat Mfumukeko is a Burundian diplomat and civil servant. He is the Secretary General of the East African Community (EAC). He was appointed to that position by the East African Community Heads of State on 2 March



HAND OVER: (L-R): Hon. Peter Mathuki, EALA MP; H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi and Dr Richard Sezibera display EAC Observer Mission Report.

COURTESY PHOTO

2016, to assume office on 26 April 2016 for a five-year term, replacing Richard Sezibera.

At the time of his appointment, he was the Deputy Secretary General responsible for finance and administration at the EAC headquarters in Arusha,

Tanzania. Prior to that, he served as an adviser to the President of Burundi. He served as the Director General of REGIDESO, Burundi's energy and water utility, and was also the Chairman of the Steering Committee of the East African Power Pool (EAPP).

According to the EAC Secretariat, Mfumukeko is fluent in English, French, Kirundi, Kiswahili and Russian. He has a long foreign experienced career, having worked in Cameroon, DR Congo, France, Ivory Coast, Russia, Rwanda and USA.

● Former EAC Secretary Generals.

Francis Muthaura

Is a former Kenyan civil servant and close ally of former President Mwai Kibaki. He is the former Head of Civil Service and Secretary to the Cabinet.

From 14 March 1996 to 24 April 2001 he was the Secretary General of the East African Community.[2] Previously, he held several ambassadorial positions under the rule of former president Daniel arap Moi.

Amanya Mushega

Is a Ugandan lawyer, politician, diplomat, and civil servant. He served as the secretary general of the East African Community (EAC) from 2001 until 2006.

Juma Volter Mwapachu 2006-2011

Juma Volter Mwapachu is a Tanzanian politician and former Secretary General of the East African Community.

He was elected as Secretary General of the East African Community by the Summit of EAC Heads of State on April 4, 2006. Prior to this appointment, Mwapachu was Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary and Tanzania's permanent delegate to UNESCO

Richard Sezibera 2011-2016

Richard Sezibera is a Rwandan physician, politician, diplomat and civil servant. He was the 4th Secretary General of the East African Community. He was appointed to that position by the East African Community Heads of State on 19 April 2011 for a five-year term. His term ended on 26 April 2016, when Libérat Mfumukeko of Burundi, became the 5th Secretary General of the East African Community.