2010-12-03

Communique of the 12th ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State

EAC

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COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE
12TH ORDINARY SUMMIT OF
EAC HEADS OF STATE

THEME:
“EAC: A SECOND DECADE OF HIGHER
ACHIEVEMENTS”

NGURDOTO MOUNTAIN LODGE, ARUSHA,
TANZANIA

3RD DECEMBER 2010

EAC SECRETARIAT
ARUSHA, TANZANIA
DECEMBER 2010
TWELFTH ORDINARY SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

JOINT COMMUNIQUÉ


2. THE SUMMIT ELECTED HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT PIERRE NKURUNZIZA OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI TO BE ITS CHAIRPERSON FOR THE NEXT ONE YEAR AND CONGRATULATED HIM UPON ASSUMING THAT ROLE.

4 THE SUMMIT CONGRATULATED THE PEOPLE OF BURUNDI, RWANDA AND TANZANIA FOR CONDUCTING NATIONAL ELECTIONS IN A TRANSPARENT AND CREDIBLE MANNER AND CONGRATULATED HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT PIERRE NKURUNZIZA, HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT PAUL KAGAME AND HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE FOR EMERGING VICTORIOUS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES.


7 THE SUMMIT NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE FIRST DECADE OF EAC INTEGRATION AND DIRECTED THAT THE FOCUS IN THE NEXT DECADE SHOULD CENTRE ON THE THEME OF THE SUMMIT WHICH IS “THE EAC: A SECOND DECADE OF HIGHER ACHIEVEMENTS”. THE SUMMIT DIRECTED THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR THE 4TH EAC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TO FOCUS ON CLARITY
OF CHOICES AND PRIORITIES THAT ARE ACHIEVABLE WITHIN THE BUDGET CONSTRAINTS.


9 THE SUMMIT RECEIVED A PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY CUSTOMS UNION. THE SUMMIT NOTED THAT FULL INTERNAL TARIFF ELIMINATION HAD BEEN ATTAINED ON 1ST JANUARY 2010 AND THAT A ROADMAP FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A FULLY FLEDGED CUSTOMS UNION HAD BEEN DEVELOPED. THE SUMMIT DIRECTED THE COUNCIL TO EXPEDITE THE REALIZATION OF THE FULLY FLEDGED CUSTOMS UNION.

10 THE SUMMIT NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THAT THE AGREEMENT ON THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBLE TAXATION AND PREVENTION OF FISCAL EVASION WITH RESPECT TO TAX ON INCOME HAD BEEN CONCLUDED AND SIGNED DURING THE 21ST SESSION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING.


12 THE SUMMIT RECEIVED A REPORT ON THE FINALIZATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ANNEXES TO THE PROTOCOL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY COMMON
MARKET AND DIRECTED THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO CONCLUDE THE NEGOTIATIONS AND TO FINALIZE THE INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS THAT WILL SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMON MARKET BY APRIL 2011.


15 THE SUMMIT DIRECTED THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO SERIOUSLY ADDRESS THE DELAYS IN OPERATIONALIZING EAC PROJECT MASTER PLANS ESPECIALLY IN THE AREA OF ENERGY GENERATION AND INTERCONNECTIVITY. THE SUMMIT CALLED FOR A LONG TERM ENERGY MASTER PLAN WITH A TIME DIMENSION OF 2050 WHICH SHOULD SHOW WHICH PARTNER STATE SHALL PRODUCE WHAT TYPE OF ENERGY, QUANTITY AND TIMEFRAMES TO ENABLE EFFECTIVE SHARING OF ENERGY RESOURCES. THE SUMMIT EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMOTING AN EAC-WIDE
MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS.


17 THE SUMMIT WELCOMED THE GROWING DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESSES WITHIN THE PARTNER STATES WHICH HAVE ENGENDERED AN ENVIRONMENT OF PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE REGION. THE SUMMIT NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE POLITICAL PROCESSES IN THE REGION ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTENSE, THEY ARE NONETHELESS PEACEFUL AND PLURALISTIC.

18 THE SUMMIT WELCOMED THE APPOINTMENTS OF FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF GHANA, HIS EXCELLENCY JERRY RAWLINGS, AS AFRICAN UNION HIGH LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE ON SOMALIA AND THAT OF HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR DR. AUGUSTINE MAHIGA FROM THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AS THE SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL

19 THE SUMMIT ALSO WELCOMED THE APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR ZACHARY MUBURI-MUITA, FROM THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, AS THE HEAD OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE TO THE AFRICAN UNION MANDATED TO COORDINATE THE AFRICAN UNION –
UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMMES TOWARDS THE PROMOTION OF PEACE AND SECURITY ON THE CONTINENT.

20 THE SUMMIT NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WAS A HEAVY PRESENCE OF FOREIGN NAVIES IN THE INDIAN OCEAN AND THE GULF OF ADEN, PIRACY INCIDENTS HAVE INCREASED AND HAVE EXTENDED FURTHER SOUTH INTO THE TERRITORIAL WATERS OF THE EAC PARTNER STATES. THE SUMMIT NOTED THAT PIRACY WAS INCREASINGLY BECOMING A SERIOUS ECONOMIC AND SECURITY THREATS TO THE REGION. THE SUMMIT CALLED FOR COORDINATED EFFORTS AT NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS TO ADDRESS THE THREAT.

21 THE SUMMIT NOTED THE GOOD PROGRESS MADE BY THE UGANDA PEOPLE’S DEFENCE FORCES AND THE KENYA ARMED FORCES IN THEIR JOINT EFFORTS TO DISARM THE ILLEGALLY ARMED PASTORALISTS ON THE COMMON BORDER BETWEEN KENYA AND UGANDA. THE SUMMIT NOTED THAT THE COMING OF LASTING PEACE IN THE REGION ALONG THE BORDER WOULD CREATE THE NECESSARY CONDITIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE EAC ON 1ST DECEMBER 2010 WHICH WOULD USHER IN A HIGHER LEVEL OF COOPERATION ON MATTERS RELATED TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION INCLUDING COOPERATION ON HUMAN SECURITY ISSUES.


24 THE SUMMIT RECEIVED A REPORT ON THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE EAST AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (EADB). IN RECOGNITION OF THE CRITICAL ROLE THE EADB PLAYS IN SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES AND ENHANCING REGIONAL INTEGRATION, THE SUMMIT DECLARED ITS FULL COMMITMENT TO STRENGTHENING THE BANK THROUGH RECAPITALIZATION AND OTHER MEASURES.

25 THE SUMMIT DIRECTED THAT IN THE PROCESS OF UNDERTAKING A COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AND AMENDMENTS OF THE EAC TREATY, CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE NEED TO MAINSTREAM THE LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION WITHIN THE COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO REALIZE EFFICIENT CONTROL AND ACCOUNTABILITY.

27 THE SUMMIT COMMENDED THE WORK BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE VARIOUS EAC ORGANS AND INSTITUTIONS IN THE PROMOTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS EAC PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES. THE SUMMIT URGED THEM TO REMAIN STEADFAST IN CONSOLIDATING THE GAINS OF THE PAST DECADE AND TO HAVE BETTER FOCUS ON ATTAINING HIGHER ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE SECOND DECADE OF THE EAC INTEGRATION PROJECT.


30 THE SUMMIT NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THE OBSERVANCE OF THE EAC 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTER-UNIVERSITY COUNCIL FOR
EAST AFRICA (IUCEA) AND COMMENDED THE ORGANIZERS FOR SUCCESSFUL OBSERVANCE WHICH HAS CONTRIBUTED TO POSITIVE AWARENESS OF THE EAC AND ITS DEVELOPMENT. THE SUMMIT COMMENDED PROF. CHACHA NYAIGOTTI-CHACHA WHO HAS COMPLETED HIS TERM OF OFFICE AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FOR THE EXCELLENT LEADERSHIP OF THE IUCEA IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS. THE SUMMIT WELCOMED PROF. MAYINGA NKUNYA AS THE NEW EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND WISHED HIM WELL IN LEADING THIS IMPORTANT EAC INSTITUTION.

31 THE SUMMIT TOOK NOTE OF THE FORTHCOMING REFERENDUM IN SOUTHERN SUDAN AND WISHED THEM WELL WITH THE PLEBISCITE.

32 THE SUMMIT DECIDED TO HOLD A SPECIAL SUMMIT IN APRIL 2011. THE AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL SUMMIT SHALL BE:

(I) SWEARING-IN OF A NEW SECRETARY GENERAL;
(II) CONSIDERATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON HOW TO ATTAIN A SINGLE CUSTOMS TERRITORY; AND
(III) CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE TEAM OF EXPERTS ON POLITICAL FEDERATION.

DONE AT ARUSHA, THIS 3RD DAY OF DECEMBER 2010

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<th>H.E. PIERRE NKURUNZIZA</th>
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