



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**  
**EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**STATEMENT OF INVITATION TO RT. HON PIE NTAVYOHANYUMA TO ADDRESS MEMBERS OF THE EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DURING THE 1<sup>ST</sup> MEETING OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SESSION OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY IN BUJUMBURA, BURUNDI: 14<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2010**

Your Excellency, Therence SINUNGURUZA, the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Republic of Burundi,

Your Excellency, Rt. Hon. Pie NTAVYOHANYUMA, Speaker, Burundi National Assembly,

Hon. Dr. Diodorus Kamala, Chairperson of the Council of Ministers,

Hon. Ministers,

Hon. Members of EALA and the National Assembly of Burundi,

The Deputy Secretary General, East African Community,

Your Excellencies, Members of the Diplomatic Corps,

All invited guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is with great pleasure that I stand before you to welcome my good friend and colleague, the Rt. Hon. Pie Ntavyohanyuma, an accomplished and reputable politician, family man, academician, writer and a former top civil servant to address you.

As a Member of the EAC Speakers Forum, I am grateful to the people of Kayanza for having re- elected him to continue his political career at National level. I am

also grateful to Members of the Burundi National Assembly for having re – elected him to the high office of Speaker of the National Assembly.

His successful re-election is testimony of his astute service for his people and his country. We as Members of the EAC Speakers Forum view the Rt. Hon. Ntavyohanyuma as an elder of great vision, wisdom and foresight. I am therefore excited about his re-election to both positions.

The EAC Speakers Forum stands to benefit a lot from his profile as it progresses towards positively influencing important decisions in the EAC and towards enhancing relations between EALA and National Parliaments. These foundations were laid down during his tenure as Chairperson of the Forum.

In addition to his excellent profile, the Hon. Ntavyohanyuma is also a backbone of community development ethos in his constituency and the Country. His participation in several community development and human rights initiatives has attracted a lot of support and resources for the people of Burundi. His achievements in the pursuit of justice, peace and human rights have also endeared him to regional peace initiatives with the Parliament of Rwanda and the Parliament of the DRC; and in 2009 he chaired a joint meeting of the Speakers from the 3 countries to lay strategies for peace in the parliamentary context.

With those few remarks, I would now wish to execute my humble duty to invite the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly of Burundi, the Hon Pie Ntavyohanyuma, to address this August Assembly.

You are most welcome.