

East African Community Headquarters, Arusha, Tanzania: Monday 1 June 2009: A two-day Migration Management seminar organized by the East African Community Secretariat in conjunction with the government of the United Kingdom is taking place on 3-4 June 2009 at the Tanzania Regional Immigration Training Academy in Moshi, Tanzania.

Participants of the seminar are Immigration Officials from all the five Partner States' Ministries of Internal/Home Affairs and Directorates of Immigration. The British High Commissioner to the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E. Ms Diane Corner and the EAC Secretary General, Amb. Jumas Mwapachu are expected to attend the official opening of the seminar.

According to the seminar programme, participants will share experience on UK's approach to human trafficking, document fraud, asylum claim processing, biometric Visas and how technology could support identification of people. The seminar will also look at UK's approach to immigration investigations and prosecutions and explore the problem associated with nationality swapping in the UK and EAC. During the two-day intervention, participants will study the Orbit Project of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)-an overview of nationality based identification process, piloted in the UK by DRC and how the process could be applied to the EAC.

According to the EAC Director of Productive and Social Sectors, Dr. Caleb Nyamajeje Weggoro, the seminar is very necessary and timely. He said "as the East African region prepares for the establishment of a Common Market, migration management will occupy a very central place in the regional integration process, and therefore the seminar will provide a forum for the Partner States to discuss migration issues, brainstorm for solutions to existing challenges and through dialogue, agree on a way forward to tackle new challenges in the area of migration, its potential benefits within and beyond the East African region".

Dr. Weggoro said Immigration departments play a critical role in the facilitation of free movement of persons and at the same time contributes to enhance the security aspect in border management.

"The regional dimension of addressing migration management cannot be understated especially within the framework of putting in place systems and processes that are well supported by

information, knowledge and well trained personnel,” Dr. Weggoro asserted.

**Directorate of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs
EAC Secretariat
Arusha, Tanzania**

*For any further clarification/information, contact:
Owora Richard Othieno
Ag. Principal Information and Public Relations Officer
EAC Secretariat
Tel. +255784835021*