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## COMMUNIQUE

### EMERGENCY SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI



1. THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY HEADS OF STATE, THEIR EXCELLENCIES PRESIDENT JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, PRESIDENT YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, PRESIDENT UHURU KENYATTA OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, HON. ALAIN NYAMITWE, MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION REPRESENTING THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI, HON. VALENTINE RUGWABIZA, MINISTER FOR EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, REPRESENTING THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA, HELD AN EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE SUMMIT OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY HEADS OF STATE ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI ON 31<sup>ST</sup> MAY, 2015 AT THE STATE HOUSE CONFERENCE HALL IN DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA.
2. THE SUMMIT WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY H.E. JACOB ZUMA, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA AND H.E. NKOSAZANA DLAMINI ZUMA, CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION. IN ATTENDANCE WERE H.E. SAIDI DJINNIT,

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## COMMUNIQUÉ (...cont)

*(Continued from page 1)*

UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY GENERAL'S SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION; HON. MINISTERS AND ATTORNEYS GENERAL OF THE EAC PARTNER STATES; THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY; THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GREAT LAKES REGION; AS WELL AS REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COOPERATING PARTNERS.

3. THE HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT MET IN A WARM AND CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE.
4. THE SUMMIT RECEIVED THE REPORT OF THE MINISTERS/ CABINET SECRETARIES OF THE EAC PARTNER STATES ON THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI.
5. THE SUMMIT RECEIVED AND CONSIDERED THE REPORT OF THE ATTORNEYS GENERAL/MINISTERS OF JUSTICE AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS.
6. THE SUMMIT RECEIVED A REPORT FROM HE SAIDI DJINNIT, UN SECRETARY GENERAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR THE GREAT LAKES REGION. THE SUMMIT COMMENDED THE EFFORTS OF THE SPECIAL ENVOY WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GREAT LAKES REGION AND THE AFRICAN UNION TO PROMOTE DIALOGUE AND URGED HIM TO CONTINUE WITH THE INITIATIVE.
7. THE SUMMIT EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI FOLLOWING THE VIOLENCE IN BUJUMBURA AND OTHER PARTS OF BURUNDI WHICH HAS RESULTED TO THE DEATHS OF MANY PEOPLE, INFLUX OF REFUGEES IN NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES, DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY AND PARALYZING BUSINESSES IN SOME PARTS OF BURUNDI.
8. THE SUMMIT WELCOMED THE RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER IN THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI AFTER THE ATTEMPTED COUP D'ETAT OF 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2015.
9. THE SUMMIT WAS CONCERNED ON THE CONTINUED POLITICAL IMPASSE IN BURUNDI AND CALLED FOR A POSTPONEMENT OF THE ELECTIONS FOR A PERIOD NOT LESS THAN ONE AND A HALF MONTHS (1 ½). THE SUMMIT APPEALED TO INSTITUTIONS IN BURUNDI INCLUDING THE PARLIAMENT TO FACILITATE THIS POSTPONEMENT.
10. DURING THIS POSTPONEMENT, MEMBERS OF THE SUMMIT LED BY ITS CHAIRPERSON, WILL CONSULT WITH

ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN BURUNDI ON THE WAY FORWARD.

11. THE SUMMIT CALLS ON ALL PARTIES TO STOP VIOLENCE AND EXERCISE RESTRAINT DURING THIS PERIOD.
12. THE SUMMIT CALLS FOR URGENT DISARMAMENT OF ALL ARMED YOUTH GROUPS ALLIED TO POLITICAL PARTIES.
13. THE SUMMIT ENCOURAGED THE GOVERNMENT IN BURUNDI TO CREATE CONDUCIVE CONDITIONS FOR THE RETURN OF REFUGEES TO BURUNDI.
14. THE SUMMIT DIRECTED THE MINISTERS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE EAC PARTNER STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA TO URGENTLY COMMUNICATE THESE AND OTHER DECISIONS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI.
15. THE SUMMIT FURTHER DIRECTED THE MINISTERS TO ENGAGE ALL STAKEHOLDERS IN BURUNDI AND CONTINUOUSLY REPORT PROGRESS TO THE SUMMIT.
16. THE SUMMIT EXPRESSED ITS SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF BURUNDI AND DECIDED TO ACTIVELY ACCOMPANY THEM IN THE EXERCISE OF THEIR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS.
17. THE SUMMIT CALLED UPON THE AFRICAN UNION, THE UNITED NATIONS AND ALL OTHER PARTNERS TO COOPERATE WITH THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY TOWARDS THE ATTAINMENT OF THESE OBJECTIVES.
18. THEIR EXCELLENCIES PRESIDENT YOWERI KAGUTA MUSEVENI OF THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA, PRESIDENT UHURU KENYATTA OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA, AND PRESIDENT JACOB ZUMA OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA THANKED THEIR HOST, HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT JAKAYA MRISHO KIKWETE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA, FOR THE WARM AND CORDIAL HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO THEM AND THEIR RESPECTIVE DELEGATIONS DURING THEIR STAY IN TANZANIA.

**DONE AT DAR ES SALAAM, ON THIS 31<sup>ST</sup> DAY OF MAY 2015.**

**EAC SECRETARIAT  
ARUSHA, TANZANIA  
MAY 2015**

# EALA Approves USD 110 Million EAC Budget



The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) on 20 May 2015 debated and approved the EAC Budget estimates for the Financial Year 2015/2016 totalling to USD 110, 660,098.

To anchor the said budget, EALA also passed the EAC Appropriation Bill 2015. The object of the EAC Appropriation Bill, 2015 is to make provision for the appropriation out of the budget for the specified amount of money for the services and purposes of the Community for the Financial Year ending 30th of June 2016.

The Budget is allocated (after amendments to the Appropriation Bill) to the Organs and Institutions of the EAC as follows; East African Community Secretariat USD 68,961,054, East African Legislative Assembly USD16,541,436 and the East African Court of Justice USD 4,301,551.

The Inter-University Council for East Africa shall receive USD \$4,507,648, Lake Victoria Basin Commission USD 10,137,163 while USD 3,091,097 is earmarked for the Lake Victoria Fisheries

Organization. On their part, the East African Science and Technology Commission shall receive USD 726,755, East African Kiswahili Commission USD756, 361 and the East African Health Research Commission USD 935,498. A new outfit, East African Competition Authority is set to benefit from receipt of USD 701,530 in the Financial Year.

The 2015/2016 Budget is to be financed by Partner State contributions to the tune of USD 47,566,973 compared to USD 46, 958,273 of the current year and Development Partners support USD 58,555,635 which is a significant drop from USD 75,121,126 of the previous year. Other sources of revenue shall account for USD 4,537, 490.

The 2015/2016 Budget is a drop down from USD 126,110,145 Million in the previous Financial Year. The Budget prioritizes the operationalization of the Single Customs Territory, enhanced

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## ...Chair of Council presented a USD 110 Million Budget to the Regional Assembly on 14 May



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implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol with particular focus on implementation of the new generation EAC internationalised e-Passport and development of the EAC trading, payments and settlements systems.

The EAC Political Federation is also a key priority area on the agenda in the coming Financial Year as the mode of the regional Constitution making process commences. Other areas include development of cross-border infrastructure including roads, implementation of the Vehicle Load Control Law and sensitization of weighbridge operators. The implementation of the EAC Industrialization Policy is also a priority with focus given on upgrading the Small and Micro-Enterprises (SMEs) competitiveness, strengthening the collection and compilation of industrial statistics.

Hon Dr. Abdallah Sadaala Abdallah, Deputy Minister for EAC, United Republic of Tanzania and the Chair of the Council of Ministers presented the Budget Speech to an attentive House.

On 14 May 2015, the Chair of the Council of Ministers moved a Motion that EALA resolves itself into a Committee of Ways and Means to consider and approve the Financial Statement for the Financial Year 2015/16 and a Committee of Supply to consider and approve the Estimates of Expenditure.

The debate was preceded by a Report of the General Purpose Committee (GPC), that was presented by the Chair, Hon Dr. Odette Nyiramilimo.

In a bid to enhance the budgeting process, the Committee called for a review of the EAC Budget Act. It also calls for the building of capacity of Members to enable them handle the Medium-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) budgeting process. The GPC also calls upon the Assembly to urge the Council of Ministers to define the roles and responsibilities of the Finance and Administration Committee, including its Terms of References and the extent to which powers are given to it.

The Committee is also emphatic that there is need to further curtail excess travel, enhance implementation of the decisions and directives of the Council of Ministers. It thus insists that the directive on Video Conferencing be further adhered to, and that all departments within the EAC should adjust their budgets to reflect the same.

The Committee was further concerned that the social sectors at the EAC have been chronically underfunded over time and thus calls for the re-allocation to the extent possible in order to restore some activities of the sector to allow for their effective implementation. The GPC also calls for the overall strengthening of EAC Sensitisation policy and the requisite prioritization in funding.



## Dar Hosts EAC Secretary General's Private Sector CEO Forum

The Secretary General of East African Community, Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera has assured Chief Executive Officers of Private Businesses and Business Leaders/Owners in Tanzania that the governments in the region were determined to do away with non-tariff barriers (NTBs) that continue to present a serious challenge to regional trade and integration in East Africa. He said NTBs account for a significant proportion of the high transportation costs, which are estimated to be 60-70% higher than in the U.S. or Europe, and 30 percent higher than in Southern Africa.

Amb. Sezibera, who was speaking at the breakfast meeting with Tanzania's Private Sector CEOs and leading Business Owners held on 14 May 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Dar es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro, said "in March this year, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) passed a law that will compel Partner States to eliminate barriers and end protectionism that had hindered smooth trade. The object of the Bill, which was moved by the Council of Ministers, is to provide a legal mechanism for the elimination of identified non-tariff barriers (NTBs) in Partner States and the Bill now awaits assent by the Summit for it to become operational.

The Secretary General informed his guests that due to the growing portfolio of the EAC projects and programmes, and also in order to diversify the EAC resource base and cut on donor dependency, there was need for the Community to tap into the potential funding from the private sector through the establishment of an EAC Private Sector Fund.

Amb. Sezibera informed Tanzania's business community that the ongoing initiative to set up a US\$ 20 Million EAC Private Sector Fund was to boost the participation of the private sector in the ongoing market integration. "The idea behind the fund is to see how we can ensure that the private sector plays a bigger role in the integration of EAC. The fund will be used to address various challenges facing the private sector within the EAC" disclosed the EAC official.

The Chair of East African Business Council Mr. Felix Masha commended the Council of Ministers for the appropriate decisions it continues to make towards the improvement of the business environment in the EAC region including the approval of the Consultative Dialogue Framework, which has facilitated consultations with the East African private sector to be institutionalized.

He also commended the East African Legislative assembly for passing the EAC Elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTB Bill) which is expected to significantly reduce the number of NTBs in the region and enhance the realization of the EAC integration benefits.



The Chair of EABC drew the attention of the Secretary General on a number of outstanding issues that need to be addressed and they include; fast tracking implementation of the Single Custom Territory so that the intended benefits can be realized by removing unfair competition and encourage efficiency and competitiveness in EAC.

There is also the need to strengthen the capacity of the National NTBs Monitoring Committees to enable them conclude their tasks more efficiently for the benefit of all EAC members states.

On the list is also the need to expedite harmonization of domestic, excise, income and value added taxes and harmonization of product standards. The harmonization of product standards at the regional level is very slow and the adoption of approved EAC product standards at national level is very slow and the capacity of institutions charged with this responsibility needs to be enhanced. "It is also important that we work together to develop regional quality mark and an EAC regional technical regulations framework".

On air transport, the EABC Chair reiterated the urgent need for the Partner States to liberalize the EAC airspace as a matter of urgency to facilitate trade competition in the region. "It is ironic that air fares between EAC capital cities are higher than a round trip between these cities and Dubai or even close to the fare to North America" stated Mr. Masha.

He urged for the expedition of the adoption and operationalization of the EAC Air Transport Regulations; harmonization of regulatory fees and charges in the region in order to have a level playing field and enhance competition for the air operators in the region; and the provision of national treatment to EAC national air operators, passengers and cargo in all EAC Partner States.



# Media Fraternity Resolves to Root Out "Brown Envelope" Journalism



The 7th East African Community (EAC) - East African Business Council (EABC) Media Summit concluded 15 May 2015 at the Hyatt Regency Dar es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro, with the media fraternity resolving to root out the culture of "brown envelope" journalism within and outside the newsrooms.

The 7th Media Summit, which was attended by over 220 Policy Makers, Media Owners, Chief Executive Officers of Media Houses, Editors and practicing journalists in East Africa, and held under the theme *The Role of the Media in Deepening Democracy in the Region*, also resolved to fast track the process of establishing the proposed East African media advocacy body by November 2015.

The Media Summit was officially opened by the United Republic of Tanzania's Minister of East African Cooperation, Hon. Dr. Harrison Mwakyembe, on behalf of the Chair of the Summit of the EAC Heads of State, H.E. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete.

In attendance at the official opening were; the Secretary General of East African Community, Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera; the Judge President of the East African Court of Justice Hon. Justice Dr. Emmanuel Ugirashebuja, Ambassadors accredited to the EAC, among others.

While closing the 7th Media Summit, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Bernard Membe stated that today the people of East Africa were increasingly expressing confidence and pride in their bright future as one people bound in one destiny under the flagship of the Community and the media factor in the entire future outlook of the region was very critical.

He called upon the Media to tell the development story and galvanize the general public in the positive development effort of EAC regional integration process. He affirmed the United Republic of Tanzania's support to the Journalists' initiative to form a regional body that will champion and advocate for the interests of the professionals and media fraternity in the region.

"We are excited about the process to establish a regulatory body that will make policies to safeguard media freedom in the region, set rules and standards of media practice, and be an initiator and custodian of the protocol on investment in the media industry in the bloc. It is really high time that we have harmonized media laws and practice in the region", Hon. Membe reiterated.



# EAC Media Scholarship Fund Launched

~ 600 Students from the Region to Benefit

The German Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania, and also accredited to the EAC, H.E Egon Kochanke launched the EAC Media Scholarship that will be administered at the Aga Khan University Graduate School of Media and Communications in Nairobi, Kenya.

The launch of the Scholarship Fund took place on 14 May 2015 during the 4th EAC-EABC Media Award Gala Dinner at the Dar es Salaam Serena Hotel, Tanzania.

Addressing the Guests that included the Chair of IPP Media and Chief Guest, Dr. Reginald Mengi; the Secretary General of the East African Community, Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera; the Judge President of the East African Court of Justice, Hon. Justice Dr. Emmanuel Ugirashebuja; winners of the EAC-EABC 2013/2014 Media Awards; and Media CEOs and fraternity, the German Ambassador said a professional and pluralistic landscape can be a catalyst for social transformation and democratic participation in East Africa "because only an educated and informed population can actively participate in decision-making processes in a society".

H.E. Kochanke reiterated that quality education of those working in the media was a crucial factor in enhancing governance and deepening democracy in the East Africa and that one of the crucial prerequisites for a flourishing media landscape was a positive enabling environment, including a legal framework that encourages freedom of expression, open discussion and a diversity of opinions.

He said, apart from a broader geographic representation, the EAC Media Scholarship Fund will help promote a gender balance among students and that the students at the regional Media School will be the next generation of media managers and leading journalists promoting social change in the EAC.

The Director of KfW Dar es Salaam Office, Mr. Wolfgang Solzbacher disclosed that the German Government through the German Development Bank, KfW, will make available a grant amounting to 14 million Euros to support the AKU Graduate School of Media and Communications. Out of this, 2 million Euros will be used to co-finance the EAC Media Scholarship Fund.

He said KfW will co-finance the construction and equipment of the AKU-GSMC new campus in Nairobi, Kenya. It will also finance technical expertise for the development of the curricula and materials for the Professional Development Short Courses at the School.

Mr. Solzbacher further disclosed that every year, the EAC will be entitled to designate five "EAC Scholars" for the duration of the Scholarship Fund and that this year, EAC will nominate the first



five Scholars for the Professional Development Short Courses at the School. Masters students will be supported under the Fund from 2016. In total the German Financial Cooperation in collaboration with the EAC and AKU, will finance scholarships for 600 students at the AKU-GSMC over the course of the programme.

Mr. Michael Meyer, the Dean, Graduate School of Media and Communications (GSMC) Aga Khan University in Nairobi informed the guests that the target market for the GSMC was practicing journalists. "Our game is to raise their game. We want impact", asserted the Dean, adding that "His Highness Aga Khan is very clear in what he expects from his news groups – balance, fairness, accuracy, depth".

He said His Highness Aga Khan was deliberately building global institutions and that much of what he (Aga Khan) wants to do was in East Africa. "Over the next 10 to 15 years, we will invest upwards of 1 billion dollars – more than half of that, nearly \$700 million, will be here in Tanzania".

Mr. Meyer said that the Graduate School of Media and Communications aims at changing the game and to raise standards of Journalism in the region and to change the way the media is perceived and to help create the world-class journalism that a rising East Africa deserves.

The Secretary General of the East African Community, Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera hailed the initiative saying, "it was timely and will go along way to enhance and develop the capacity of our journalists in the region hence further deepening and widening democracy and pluralism in the bloc".

# EAC-USAID Launch Project to Improve Health Services Along Cross-Border Sites



In its efforts to achieve an AIDS-free generation, the East African Community Secretariat in collaboration with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) launched a five-year project on Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership (CB-HIPP) designed to extend integrated health services in strategic border areas and other transport corridor sites.


CB-HIPP, which is also been supported by the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and Trade Africa, will complement the more-than-\$1 billion U.S. Government investment in the region and efforts led by the EAC to safeguard the health of people living, working and traveling along the transport corridors and cross-border sites.

"As populations in cross-border towns increasingly move across the region, they become vulnerable to infectious diseases, which, without proper treatment, can easily be spread along the transport corridors," said Karen Freeman, USAID/Kenya and East Africa Mission Director.

"CB-HIPP will encourage civil society, governments and Regional Economic Communities to expand health services to restrict the

spread of HIV and other infectious diseases, as well as bring together social structures and grass root organizations to implement HIV-prevention activities," she said.

Targeting key populations, including female sex workers, men having sex with men, drug users, truck drivers, migrant workers, people living with HIV and other vulnerable community members, CB-HIPP will provide outreach and stamina to the burgeoning population and accelerated mobility of East African citizens. It will also serve as a platform for the U.S. Government to strengthen its joint and strategic partnership with the EAC.

"Our partnership with the U.S. Government will continue to be expanded and strengthened through mutual development and U.S. donor funding for our programs," said Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera, EAC Secretary General. "CB-HIPP also provides an opportunity for the EAC to conduct strategic discussions on joint priorities, which will inform the upcoming 5th EAC Strategy (2017-2021) and the USAID Regional Strategy (2015-2020) under development," he said. 



## EAC Establishes Youth Clubs, Engages University Students on Regional Integration



In its effort to take the integration agenda closer to the students' community in Arusha, the Headquarters of the Community, the EAC Secretariat participated in the 'Youth to Cooperate World Forum' held at the Tumaini University Makumira (TUMa) over the last weekend of May 2015.

This event gave the Community a firm platform to engage and interest students in advocating for regional integration initiatives.

The Forum brought together over 1,000 university students from six different universities in Arusha. Apart from the Community's outreach, students were also stimulated on insightful topics on education, self-leadership, soft skills and business development techniques, all of which to prepare them for life after graduation.

"By involving the youth in regional integration, we will not only be increasing their capacity on the (integration) process, but will also be providing the East African region with a pool of

competent and talented young men and women equipped to carry out the work of the Community," said Mr. Owora Richard Othieno, Head of EAC Corporate Communications and Public Affairs. "We're looking forward to establishing more Youth Clubs around the country and to working closely with other higher institutions in order to reach our goals," he said.

As a way of pushing the integration agenda even further, the EAC, together with joint efforts from the EAC Youth Ambassador to Tanzania and Institute of Accountancy Arusha (IAA) faculty members, launched an EAC Youth Club at IAA campus also over the weekend.

Bringing together over 100 students to this memorable event, the newly established Club will provide students with a caring and supportive environment for access and inclusion to regional sensitization and educational activities on the EAC.



# EALA Wants Standards of Education Raised



The regional Assembly is calling for urgent measures to raise the bar on education standards and to maintain quality control as the EAC strives in its quest to harmonise curricula, Speaker, Rt. Hon Daniel F. Kidega has said.

The EALA Speaker on 21 May 2015, received a delegation of officials from a regional civil society think-tank, Twaweza, led by the Executive Director, Aidan Eyakuze and launched a report on the state of literacy and numeracy in the region.

The findings of the report dubbed: Are our Children Learning – Literacy and Numeracy across East Africa were later shared with EALA Members.

The report presents evidence from data collected in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania in the year 2013. In all three countries, the Uwezo Assessment reached a total of 326,610 children aged between 6-16 years in 366 districts and was carried out in a random sample of about 150,000 households.

For every household, a short set of questions was administered to collect basic information. The enumerators then recorded details about the child whether he/she attends school and which grade.

Mbeya District in the United Republic of Tanzania is ranked first out of the 366 districts where the research was done with a mean pass rate of 86.1% on combined test for all children aged between 10-16 years while Gatundu District in Kenya, takes second position with 85%. Nyeri North (Kenya), Nairobi and Laikipia East complete the first top five spots on the regional log respectively.

Kampala District which tops in Uganda is placed at position 82 regionally with a mean score of 64.7%. Bukoba Urban comes second in Tanzania and 12th regionally with 79.7% and is followed in 3rd position by Arusha District which ranks 19th in the regional bar.

In Uganda, Mbarara takes the 2nd position nationally and is placed at number 118 regionally while, Wakiso District at position 121 regionally is 3rd in the national ranking.

According to the Report, two out of three pupils enrolled in Standard 3 in East Africa do not have Standard 2 level literacy or numeracy skills. Even more worrying is the fact that one out of four Standard 7 pupils do not have Standard 2 literacy and numeracy

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## ... as Uwezo Report on Literacy reveals shocking findings

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skills. The Report states that about 25% of Standard 7 children remain unable to pass the literacy and numeracy UWEZO tests set at the Standard 2 level.

The collection of data was led by Twaweza Director, Dr. John Mugo (Kenya), Team Leader, Dr Mary Goretti Nakabugo (Uganda) and Country Co-ordinator, Ms. Zaida Mgalla (Tanzania).

Presenting the findings, Dr. Mary Goretti Nakabugo reiterated the need for a strong foundation in education noting that was the only way to sustainable education.

"It is shocking that students in University are failing to construct simple sentences," the don added.

Twaweza Kenya Country Co-ordinator, Dr. Emmanuel Manyasa stressed the need to have value in money spent in the education sector while Zaida Mgalla, Country Co-ordinator, Twaweza, Tanzania, said it was not time to celebrate the soaring enrollment levels but rather that it was key to have children stay in school and to learn.

The report further reveals that there are large differences in test results among countries in East Africa as is the case with pass rates between districts within individual countries.

In essence, the report suggests that there has been little change in learning outcomes since the regional assessment started in 2009/10.

The report states that learning outcomes are highest in Kenya and lowest in Uganda. Within each country, learning outcomes are best in the urban and more developed districts and worst in the remote, rural districts.

"Evidently, completing six years of schooling does not necessarily translate into genuine learning for many pupils", the Report states in part.

The authors of the report hope the results shall provide meaningful evidence to accompany the various efforts, both public and private, that seek to improve learning across the region.

According to the Twaweza Executive Director, Aidan Eyakuze, focus in region should be on learning and quality.

"The progress made to increase access and gender parity is to be commended. However we must ensure that the national figures do not hide local variations. Although this does not mean we need to abandon or ignore access issues, these data clearly show that the core focus for East African education over the coming years should be about quality and ensuring that children are in school and they are learning.", Mr. Eyakuze said.

EALA Member Hon Martin Ngoga called for wider net to include Rwanda and Burundi in the future surveys and called on the Partner States to revisit their policies to enhance education.


In her remarks, Hon Judith Pareno regretted that poverty was a major factor to poor education. "...rather than bridging the gaps, Uwezo results show that through our education, the poorer we are, the poorer we become. What then, if not education, will the poor hold onto? Does it mean that all the poor must move into the cities for their children to learn?" She noted that the debate needs to be sustained.

Hon. Abubakar Zein said the region needed to rid itself of discrimination in education especially when it comes to women and children from poor family.

Hon. Hafsa Mossi talked about the importance of education and worried over the inability of graduates to express themselves. She noted that the number of girls dropping off from school because of pregnancy and marriage was a big problem in the region.

The region was challenged to improve the quality of education. "Why are the education standards in Europe and other western countries better than ours? is it that Africans do not have good teachers and good schools or what we are lacking?" pondered Hon Leonce Ndarubagiye. He remarked that bad performance in many schools in the continent was also as a result of corruption, poverty and lack of motivation in the education sector.

"We need to urge Governments and the Private Sector to highly motivate the teachers and educators", he said.

Hon. Patricia Hajabakiga urged Partner States to strive to ensure the budget in the education sector was commensurate with the populace so as to meet the actual demand. 

# Assembly Strongly Condemns Attack on Garissa University in Kenya



Following the recent terrorist attack in Garissa University College in Kenya that led to the death of over 140 persons, EALA now wants further intensification of the co-operation by the Partner States and the establishment and ratification of a mechanism to implement decisions in the quest to fight terrorism and to restore peace and security in the region.

A Resolution to this effect was tabled by Hon Jeremie Ngendakumana and unanimously passed on the floor of the House as the House adjourned sine die (indefinitely) on 21 May 2015.

The Resolution calls on the EAC Council of Ministers to establish and ratify a mechanism that aids implementation of decisions made in the areas of peace and security. It calls for the need to strengthen international, regional and sub-regional cooperation aimed at enhancing the region's capacity to prevent, combat and effectively eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. In line with this, the Assembly urges the Partner States to take and strengthen national measures as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and to block their means of delivery to the region.

Hon Ngendakumana asserts that terrorism continues to pose a serious threat to regional peace and security, the enjoyment of human rights social and economic development of the Partner States and that they have become more diverse with an increase in terrorist attacks.

The EAC Treaty envisages strong political relations, peace and security as critical factors in creating a conducive environment for regional cooperation and integration. At the moment, there are a number of initiatives in place aimed at promoting peace and security. Such include the conclusion of the EAC Protocol on Peace and Security, although this is bedevilled by constant delays according to Hon Jeremie Ngendakumana.


The Resolution also calls on the Partner States to seal any loopholes and to ensure the suppression of financing of terrorist acts

as well as the condemnation of increased use of technology in particular the internet for the purpose of recruitment of the terrorists.

Contributing to the debate, Patricia Hajabakiga called on the Partner States to jointly support each other when such attacks take place.

Hon Emerence Bucumi mourned the passing away of innocent students in Garissa recently as said the loss was too grave. "We have lost an entire generation and this is sad. We need to strengthen co-operation to build our capacities to address the terrorism issue," she said.

Hon Hafsa Mossi also condemned the attack. "It was sad given that many of those killed come from marginalized communities and this is a double blow. We need to be united as East Africans and contain the terrorists who are trying to destabilize our region. When you attack one Partner State, you indeed attack all Partner State and we must put in place a counter-terrorism strategy", the legislator said.

Hon Susan Nakawuki called for urgent funding to support the fight against terrorism while Hon Nusura Tiperu called on all public and private institutions to beef up security. 

*Garissa University College was founded in 2011 as a constituent College of Moi University, in the facilities of the former Garissa Teachers Training College. It was the first and only public institution offering degree courses in the North Eastern Province and based around 200km from the border of Somalia, was considered to be one of the safest spots in that region.*

*On April 2nd, 2015, gunmen attacked the institution and took away lives of at least 148 people of whom 142 were students, 3 were soldiers and 3 were police officers. Up to 587 students escaped but 79 were injured. The attack was the deadliest since the 1998 Al Qaeda twin bombings of the US Embassies in Nairobi and Dar se Salaam which left 200 people dead. Last year, the Westgate Shopping Mall was attacked in which another 67 persons lost their lives.*

## ESA-IO Chiefs of Prisons/Correctional Services Meet in Mombasa



The inaugural meeting of Chiefs of Prisons and Correctional Services from the Eastern and Southern Africa - Indian Ocean (ESA-IO) region, organized by the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat closed 22 May 2015, at the Nyalı International Beach Hotel in Mombasa, Kenya.

The two day meeting was attended by the Chiefs of Prisons and Correctional Services of EAC Partner States and neighbouring states of Seychelles, Mauritius and Somalia. The main objectives of the meeting were to share experiences and knowledge as well as build on areas of mutual concern in respect to prisons and correctional services within the region.

Addressing the participants at the official opening of the meeting, the Commissioner General of Prisons of the Republic of Kenya Mr. Isaya Osugo said the ESA-IO meeting provided a platform for deepening engagements with a sole intent of developing competences necessary for effective management of the region's correctional facilities and specifically on areas revolving around maritime security, terrorism, radicalization and cyber crime in general.


"I wish to note and commend the efforts of the EAC Secretariat in expanding regional scope of integration and collaboration by inviting Chiefs of Prisons/Correctional Services of other neighbouring States to a regional forum that we are inaugurating today."

Mr Isaya Osugo reiterated that the inter-linkages of the regional blocs would not have come at a better time considering the challenges being faced by the region, owing to cross border issues affecting the sub sector which calls for concerted efforts.

On his part EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Political Federation Mr. Charles Njoroge noted that the ESA-IO meeting provides an opportunity to discuss on what can be done jointly within the sub sector at regional level in an effort towards addressing the various security challenges along the coast of the Indian Ocean.

The EAC Official disclosed to the participants that in October 2010, upon the approval of Ministers responsible for Maritime Security, the EAC embarked on the road towards implementing a comprehensive Regional Strategy and Action Plan to combat piracy, which to date has been escalated to cover all maritime offenses.

Mr Njoroge underscored the importance of the ESA-IO partnership to focus on what can be undertaken within a structured and formal setting. "I believe that come the end of this meeting, we will have gained more knowledge on our correctional structures and identified relative strengths and weaknesses."

The Deputy Secretary General called upon the Commissioners General of ESA-IO to work on the modalities for transfer of convicts for ease of rehabilitation and preparation for re-integration into the society. This can only be achieved within the context of proximate practice anchored by similarities in training, legal regimes and practice, added Mr Njoroge. 

# Kampala to Host 1<sup>st</sup> East African Manufacturing Business Summit

The first East African Manufacturing Business Summit will be held 1 and 2 September 2015 at the Speke Resort in Kampala, Uganda.

Themed *Unleashing the Manufacturing Potential of East Africa*, the Summit seeks to address existing gaps in the policy and business environment by bringing together key manufacturers, supply industries, wholesalers and retailers as well as policy makers from the East African region and beyond.

This is in response to the realisation that most manufacturing industries are highly technical, cost-sensitive and economies of scale bearing investments that are strongly dependent on an effective business environment and efficient supply and downstream industries. While in consequence value chains and sales markets stretch across boundaries, most policies and business networks tend to be still localized.

The Summit shall cover both industry specific topics as well as cross-cutting thematic areas, with parallel sessions to provide participants with an opportunity to freely choose sessions that are of most interest to their current operations and future plans.

In addition, the Summit follows an innovative formula spearheaded by EAC and EABC that merges policy advocacy and dialogue meetings between the private and public sector that may give way to long term positive effects for the sector with technical and Business-to-Business (B2B) networking components that are designed to have a direct and immediate positive effect on the bottom line of the participating business leaders – for example in B2B meetings with potential raw material, technology and service suppliers, financiers and trade outlets from all over the region.

Participants can expect a wide range of high quality technical presentations reflecting developments in the manufacturing value chain in East Africa and around the world. The Summit shall provide a forum for discussing the legal and policy framework and the overall business environment prevailing in the region.

The Summit being organized by the EAC Secretariat and the East African Business Council (EABC) is expected to attract participation from the EAC region and around the world.

For more information on the 1st East African Manufacturing Business Summit visit: <http://www.eabc.info/manufacturing-summit>



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*EAC Update e-newsletter is published by the Department of Corporate Communications and Public Affairs  
East African Community (EAC) | P.O. Box 1096 | Arusha - Tanzania.  
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