



## In this Issue

- EAC Secretary General Pays Courtesy Call on President Yoweri Museveni
- Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko Takes Over COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Task Force Chairmanship
- EALA Swears in Two New Members
- Top Officials from EAC Partner States and the Republic of South Sudan Discuss Integration of the New Partner State into EAC
- Bujumbura Readies for Regional Petroleum Talks
- Benchmark with the Best in the World, EAC Partner States Urged
- Rights and Freedoms of Persons with Albinism should be central, EALA says
- Nairobi Hosts 1st International High Level Multi-Stakeholders Conference on Promoting Pharmaceutical Sector Investment in the EAC
- EAC Launches Common Market Scorecard 2016
- IOM to Work Closely with EAC on Regional Migration Issues
- EAC Secretary General Receives Credentials from Irish Ambassador
- EAC to Collaborate with Oxford University to Enhance the Community's Institutional Capacity
- EAC/JICA Automotive Industry Experts Meet in Nairobi
- Arusha Hosts East African Community: Exchanging and Trading with the Francophone World Regional Seminar
- World Bank Launches Higher Education Centers of Excellence in Eight Eastern and Southern African Countries
- 5th EAC University Students' Debate on Regional Integration Concluded at the Kigali Independent University

# EAC SECRETARY GENERAL PAYS COURTESY CALL ON PRESIDENT YOWERI MUSEVENI



The Secretary General of the East African Community, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko on 28 October 2016, paid a courtesy call on His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, in State House, Entebbe, Uganda.

The Secretary General briefed the President on various integration matters including progress on consolidation of Customs Union, Common Market, Monetary Union, and Political Federation. The Secretary General also updated the President on the progress and roadmap on the integration of the new Partner State; South Sudan into the Community's projects and programmes.

On his part, the President commended the EAC Secretariat and the Partner States for fast-tracking the joining of the Republic of South Sudan into the Community, which he emphasized, was a great gain in the integration agenda. He noted that this has enlarged the region's political and economic space. H.E Yoweri Museveni urged the Secretary General to fasten the process of Political Federation, adding that his dream was to see a United Africa and not only East Africa.

President Museveni, who is the Mediator of the Inter-Burundi Dialogue, informed Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko that it was important and necessary to engage all stakeholders in the dialogue that is geared towards attaining lasting peace in Burundi. He emphasized that there was need for peace in Burundi for the country to participate and benefit fully in the regional integration process.



## Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko Takes Over COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Task Force Chairmanship



The Secretary General of the East African Community, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko on 31 October 2016, took over the Chairmanship of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Task Force (TTF) over the next year from Dr. Stergomena Tax, the SADC Executive Secretary, who oversaw the work of the Tripartite from July 2015 to October 2016.

Addressing Hon. Members of the Council, Directors and senior officials from the COMESA, EAC and SADC Member States at the hand-over ceremony held at the Hilton Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, commended Dr. Stergomena Tax for the exemplary leadership during the period of the Tripartite, especially given the resource constraints which have delayed the launch of Phase II negotiations and the implementation of other important activities.

The Secretary General noted that there were many hurdles to be overcome in meeting the clear priorities the Tripartite Council had set and he prioritized resource mobilization: finalization of studies for phase II negotiations whereby EAC will work closely with COMESA Secretariat on the necessary actions to be taken; Tariff Offer Negotiations to always be on the agenda of the relevant Policy Organs; and lastly Ratification of Tripartite Free Trade Area.

He disclosed that EAC has pledged to ratify and deposit instruments of ratification by the end of February 2017 and urged all Member/ Partner States to ratify the Agreement before the end of June 2017.

At the hand over ceremony, which was also attended by Dr. Stergomena Tax, the SADC Executive Secretary, Dr. Kipyego Cheluget, the COMESA Deputy Secretary, and Mr. Peter Kiguta, the EAC Director-General, Customs and Trade, the Secretary General pledged to work towards the attainment of the Tripartite Free Trade Area by June 2017.

The main focus during the SADC Chairmanship (July 2015 to October 2016) was to lead the TTF to facilitate Member/Partner States implement the directives of the 3rd Tripartite Summit following the launch of the Tripartite Free Trade Area on 10th June 2015 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt, namely: expeditious operationalization of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area; finalization of outstanding issues on the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement in relation to Annex 1 on Elimination of Import Duties, Annex 2 on Trade Remedies and Annex 4 on Rules of Origin and the legal scrubbing of completed Annexes; and commencement of Phase II negotiations covering trade in services, cooperation in trade and development, competition policy, intellectual property rights and cross border investments. 🌐

## EALA Swears in Two New Members

On 20 October 2016, EALA administered Oaths of allegiance to Hon. Jean Marie Muhirwa from Burundi and Hon Oda Gasinzigwa from Rwanda, filling the hitherto, vacant posts.

The new Members took the Oaths of Allegiance to the EAC Treaty, in accordance with Rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly in an occasion, administered by the Clerk of EALA, before the EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Daniel F. Kidega.

Hon Jean Marie Muhirwa, was elected to replace the late Hon Hafsa Mossi, who was assassinated in unclear circumstances in Bujumbura, on July 13, 2016.

Hon. Jean Marie Muhirwa is a Member of the ruling party, CNDD-FDD since 1994. He is a former Senator and was at one time, Administrator of Bwambarangwe Commune of Kirundo, Northern Province in Burundi. Hon Muhirwa garnered a total of 103 out of the 109 votes cast in the Burundi National Assembly to be elected to the EALA. He has studied and lived in the Republic of Kenya. He also similarly had a stint in the United Republic of Tanzania.

On her part, Hon. Oda Gasinzigwa replaces Hon. Christophe Bazivamo who resigned from his position after being elected as the new EAC Deputy Secretary General, taking the Productive and Social Sectors docket last month.

Hon. Gasinzigwa was ushered into the House by Hon Dora Byamukama, Hon. Tiperu Nusura and Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema. She was until March this year, Minister of Gender and Family Promotion in the Republic of Rwanda.

Hon. Oda Gasinzigwa has a long career history having participated in various national and regional bodies that were instrumental in advancing women's rights, reconciliation and peace. From 2005 to 2009 she served on the Rwandan Government's National Unity and Reconciliation Commission, which coordinates various activities including tolerance and forgiveness programs in communities and schools.

Hon Gasinzigwa once served as the Executive Secretary of Rwanda's Women Council and was a representative in the National Preparatory Committee for Women's Forum at the International Conference for Peace, Security and Development in the Great Lakes Region.

In addition, she was a Member of the Committee that implemented the "Beijing Recommendations," a platform for action to



promote women's advancement stemming from the 1995 UN Conference on women.



Hon. Gasinzigwa is a holder of a Master of Arts in social sciences, with a focus on gender and development.

Both Members shall now serve the Assembly for the balance of the tenure, which ends in June 2017.



## Top Officials from EAC Partner States and the Republic of South Sudan Discuss Integration of the New Partner State into EAC



A one-day high-level meeting between the Permanent/Principal Secretaries in charge of East African Community Affairs in the Partner States and officials from the Republic of South Sudan (RSS) took place on 25 October 2016, in Kampala, Uganda.

The meeting considered, among other things, capacity building and sensitization priorities for the RSS, projects/programme priorities for RSS, institutional inclusion of RSS into the Organs (EAC Secretariat, EALA, EACJ) and Institutions of the Community, and domestication and implementation by RSS of critical EAC instruments like passports, transit transport documentations, applicable standards in health, trade and civil aviation safety and security.

Addressing the meeting, Uganda's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of EAC Affairs, Mrs. Edith Mwanje, on behalf of the Chair of the EAC Coordination Committee, Amb Dr. Aziz P. Mlima, who is the PS in Tanzania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, hailed RSS's commitment to

the integration process and the internal efforts towards restoration of peace, security and tranquility in the country.

"We are convinced that the meeting of today is a key catalyst to these efforts and will aid in the speeding up of the integration and participation of the Republic of South Sudan in the affairs and processes of the Community," said Ms. Mwanje.

The leader of the RSS delegation, Hon. Aggrey Tisa Sabuni, who is also the Presidential Economic Advisor, commended the Permanent/Principal Secretaries for the efforts that led to the admission of RSS into the Community. He affirmed to the delegates that the situation in South Sudan was calm and things were being sorted out internally and appreciated the support the country was receiving from the region.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## ... integration of the RSS into the Community to be done in phases

(Continued from page 4)

Addressing the delegates, the Secretary General of the EAC, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, said the meeting was being held pursuant to the implementation of a directive of the 17th Extra Ordinary Summit held in Dar es Salaam last month to agree on the priorities to underpin the development of a roadmap for the full integration of South Sudan into the Community.

He said that the proposed roadmap will be used as the benchmark upon which RSS projects, programmes, institutional inclusion, responsibilities and obligations to the EAC will be monitored. The Secretary General urged the meeting to come up with priorities and recommendations to assist the Secretariat to compile the draft roadmap and budget for RSS integration for consideration by both parties before consideration by the EAC Council of Ministers.

Mr. Mou Mou Athian Kuol, the Secretary General of the South Sudan-EAC Secretariat, informed the delegates that South Sudan's joining the EAC was natural because the country has always been historically, culturally and ethnically a part of the greater East Africa region.

Mr. Kuol said that the country's membership in the EAC would enhance cooperation in many areas including: governance, economic, political and defence, adding that it would also harmonize the RSS's legal system, customs and numerous standards with that of the Community and create a web of positive interactions making both internal and external conflict less likely.

The Secretary General revealed that the integration of the RSS into the Community will be done in phases, saying: "Aware of capacity requirements, the implementation shall be phased-in and progressive to allow for South Sudan to build relevant capacity and strengthen its institutions."

He disclosed that in the course of the negotiations for the admission of RSS into the Community, it was agreed that South Sudan will have 3 years after accession to prepare for implementation of the Customs Union and Common Market Protocols. "After the three-year period, RSS will still be allowed to request for additional time in line with EAC laws if it finds itself unable to comply with certain requirements."

He also disclosed that following the linear integration model, the initial focus will be on the Customs Union Protocol (implementation of the Common External Tariff and Single Customs Territory) and key provisions of the Common Market Protocol such as Freedom of Movement of Capital, Services, Goods, Persons and Labour.



## Bujumbura Readies for Regional Petroleum Talks



### EAPCE'17

Burundi  
Kenya  
Rwanda  
Tanzania  
Uganda

EAST AFRICAN PETROLEUM CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

The 8th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition 2017 (EAPCE'17) will be held from 8th to 10th March, 2017 at the Le Panoramique Hotel in Bujumbura, Burundi. The conference organized by the East African Community (EAC) is expected to attract more than 600 participants.

The 2017 edition of the biennial conference under the theme, ***East Africa - An Emerging Hotspot for Oil and Gas Exploration, Infrastructure Development and Commercialization***, aims at promoting the region's petroleum potential and investment opportunities. The last five Conferences have proven a valuable forum for governments and petroleum industry players from around the world to dialogue.

According to the EAC Secretary General, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, the conference is expected to provide a forum for dialogue for all players in the Petroleum industry regionally and internationally.

"It will provide unique networking opportunities with government, private sector, regional organizations, academia, technology developers, investors and civil society," added the Secretary General.

Held since 2003, the East African Petroleum Conferences have provided increasing awareness of the potential for petroleum development in the region and other important developments in the petroleum sector including technological advancements in exploration, development and production.

Delegates can expect high quality technical presentations, exhibitions from a wide spectrum of players from the petroleum sector. The conference programme integrates field excursions to selected sites in each Partner State for delegates to see the rich geological variety that the region possesses as well as the touristic attractions that the region is well known for.

EAPCE'17 is taking place at the peak of EAC's transforming into a Common Market. This transformation is geared towards providing great opportunities for business and investment in all sectors as the single market provides for free movement of goods, capital and services within the region.

For more information on EAPCE'17, visit the conference website:

## Benchmark with the Best in the World, EAC Partner States Urged



East African Community Partner States have been challenged to benchmark themselves with the world's most advanced economies if they are to grow their economies.

Hon. Amanyam Mushega, a former EAC Secretary General, said the EAC needs to revisit and do away with the standard way of judging itself by Sub-Saharan African standards.

"India, Singapore and South Africa, just to mention but a few refused to treat themselves that way. They aimed high, looked at the way the USA, Japan, Germany, UK and the USSR developed their human resources, copied them with the view to competing with them and not fellow third world countries and the results are out," said Hon. Mushega.

"Our problem of remaining poor and beggars is not lack of money or natural resources, it is our mindset. We have put the bar too low. We are not going to be competing with Gambia or Haiti but with Korea, Japan and China, first for our own EAC market and secondly, for the world market," he added.

Hon. Mushega called for heavy investment by the Partner States in human resource development, and urged the Community to compare the number and quality of local skills with those countries that have prospered rather than the comfort zone of Sub-Saharan Africa.

"For EAC to develop, exploit its resources, build industries, not cutting and wrapping imported products for it to build and maintain roads, railways, airports and dams, compete in local and world markets, it must put maximum efforts on the quality of education and skills of its population. Don't say but we are ok. We are not. The EAC is not yet our market," said the retired diplomat.

Hon. Mushega was giving a keynote address titled The Hidden Challenges to Integration and the Way Forward during the opening of a two-day EAC-EU-IMF Conference on Regional Integration

*(Continued on page 7)*

## ... 6% real GDP growth in the EAC in 2016 well above the average for Sub-Saharan Africa

*(Continued from page 6)*

in Arusha, Tanzania. The theme of the conference is "Regional Integration in the EAC: Making the most of the Common Market on the Road to a Monetary Union."

Speaking at the forum, Mr. Abebe Aemro Selassie, disclosed that at six (6) per cent, real GDP growth in the EAC in 2016 was expected to be well above the average for Sub-Saharan Africa, adding that prospects for 2017/18 also remain strong.

Mr. Selassie said that the challenge for the EAC as for other fast growing countries in Sub-Saharan Africa was how to sustain this growth over the medium term, how to ensure that scaled-up public investment and borrowing translates into durable growth and not unserviceable debt, and how to make this growth more inclusive.

"Faster economic growth within the EAC is therefore a potential "game changer" as it holds the promise of improved productivity, competitiveness and welfare gains," said the IMF official.

He noted that while significant progress had been made since the inception of the EAC Customs Union and the Common Market including the establishment of a Single Customs Territory with a Common External Tariff and effective elimination of internal tariffs for goods meeting Rules of Origin – there is still work to be done.

"Customs valuation procedures have also varied across the region, despite the approval of the EAC Customs Valuation Manual," he observed.

In her remarks, Hon. Jesca Eriyo, the EAC Deputy Secretary General (Finance and Administration), said that the Community had made significant progress in the areas of trade, financial and macroeconomic integration as well as building institutions necessary to support the integration process.

"The integration process is benefiting the East African people through increased trade, efficiency and productivity and enhanced financial integration. The recently established Single Customs Territory continues to deliver significant benefits to East Africans, including reduced transit times from port to destinations and fewer documentary requirements," said Hon. Eriyo.

Hon. Eriyo revealed that financial integration in the EAC was deepening and that free movement of labour was becoming a reality, partly aided by the Mutual Recognition Agreements among professional associations including those for architects, accountants and veterinary officers.

She said that to ensure macroeconomic convergence ahead of the monetary union, convergence criteria pertaining to inflation, foreign exchange reserves, fiscal deficits and public debt would have to be achieved and observed.



"The purpose of the convergence process is to ensure that countries enter the monetary union without major disequilibria that could threaten its stability. However, convergence is not an automatic process. The experience of the Euro area shows that a set of mechanisms involving institutions and the use of incentives and corrective procedures to deal with deviations from predetermined paths, have been needed to achieve convergence and keep union members aligned," said the DSG.

The conference was attended by international economists, leading policy makers from the region, ministers of finance, central bank governors, and senior treasury/finance officials, regional capital markets regulators, academics, senior staff from international financial institutions, senior representatives from other monetary unions and civil society organizations, and private sector leaders from the region.



# Rights and Freedoms of Persons with Albinism should be central, EALA says

EALA is resolute that EAC Partner States must now take effective measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination against persons with albinism and to increase education and public awareness in the region. At the same time, the Assembly is fervently condemning all forms of discrimination and attacks against persons with albinism, ritual killings and the trafficking in persons of the same in the EAC Partner States.

The Resolution urging all Partner States to protect the rights and the freedoms of persons living with albinism was moved by Hon Shyrose Bhanji on 20 October 2016, in Zanzibar. The Resolution states that Persons with Albinism have continually been discriminated against with regards to employment as well as when it comes to access to educational, social and financial services. "Subsequently, there are increased systematic violence, brutal attacks on and maiming of Persons with Albinism, targeted for ritual killings due the myths and misconceptions that their body parts are a source of wealth and good charms," Hon Bhanji noted.



The Resolution, seconded by Hon Abubakar Zein and Hon Nusura Tiperu, says, such brutal attacks go contrary to a Resolution guided by of the African Charter for Human and Peoples Rights/Res.263 (LIV) 2013 on the prevention of attacks and discrimination against Persons with Albinism. EALA thus implores Partner States to prioritise affirmative action towards Persons with Albinism for purposes of addressing long history of marginalisation. It states that such matters must focus, in particular, on matters related to education, employment, economic empowerment and decision making.

"The Council of Ministers should impress upon the Partner States to urgently prioritise affirmative action for persons with Albinism by coming up with enhanced interventions that will guarantee the protection and enjoyment of the rights and freedoms of persons with albinism. Such include guarantees for access by persons with albinism to quality and free or affordable sun screen lotion, low vision assistive devices and proper health services, in particular early skin cancer detection and prevention as well as eye care services", the Resolution avers in part.

Article 6(d) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community enjoins the EAC Partner States to uphold, among others, the fundamental principle of good governance including adherence to the principles of democracy, the rule of law, social justice, equal opportunities and gender equality. The same Article further enshrines EAC's recognition, promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights in accordance with the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights.


On its part, Article 2 of the African Charter guarantees every individual, the enjoyment of the rights and freedoms recognized in the African Charter regardless of race, ethnic group, color,

sex, language, religion, political or any other opinion, national and social origin, fortune, birth or other status.

Article 18(4) of the African Charter provides that persons with disabilities enjoy the right to special measures of protection in keeping with their physical or moral needs, in addition to Article 23 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, which provides for the special protection of women with disabilities.

Debate on the floor saw a number of legislators rise up in support of the Resolution. They included Hon. Maryam Ussi, Hon. Susan Nakawuki, Hon. Dora Byamukama and Hon. Valerie Nyirahabineza.

The Members reiterated that people with Albinism suffer a lot of discrimination that is not often reported. "It is important that we extend equal protection to all human beings as a matter of human rights. At the same time, it is important for Partner States to zero rate taxation on protection creams/ screen lotions for use by those with albinism", they said.

The disappearance and killing of albinos continues to be a challenge in some of the Partner States in the region. The Assembly further calls for collaboration with different stakeholders to stem the vice. EALA states that Partner States should institute a collaborative partnership with the Civil Society Organisations, the Private Sector or other actors with the view of eliminating stigma against persons with albinism and promoting the rights, dignity and living conditions of persons with albinism in the region. Collaboration with regional and international organisations are also deemed necessary in promoting the rights, dignity and living conditions of persons with albinism in the region. 

# Nairobi Hosts 1<sup>st</sup> International High Level Multi-Stakeholders Conference on Promoting Pharmaceutical Sector Investment in the EAC



The 1st International High Level Multi-Stakeholders Conference on Promoting Pharmaceutical Sector Investments in the East Africa opened 8 November 2016, at the Laico Regency Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya.

The three-day conference brought together key stakeholders from EAC Partner States including Ministries of Health, Finance and Industry, National Medicines Regulatory Agencies (NMRAs), National Procurement Agencies (NMPAs), AU-NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency, World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the private sector (local and international pharmaceutical manufacturers) as well as international development partners and investors among others.

The overall objective of the conference was to develop a common and shared vision for promoting investments in the regional pharmaceutical manufacturing sector.

In her speech read by Mr. Barrack Ndegwa, the Integration Secretary, Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for East African Community Integration, Labour and Social Protection, Hon. Phyllis Kandie described the pharmaceutical sector is a critical area of cooperation in health matters within the EAC.

Hon. Kandie said the conference was therefore significant as it provides a platform for stakeholders to have a conversation among the policy makers, industry players, the civil society, as well as social and development partners on how to deepen co-operation in the sector. She disclosed to the conference that in 2014, the pharmaceutical market of the EAC was valued at US\$1.9 billion, adding that it was forecast to grow at a compound annual rate of 8.3% to reach US\$4.2 billion in 2024. However, Kenya, which is the leading pharmaceutical producer in the region, with approximately 50% production and rising exports, supplies just 25% of the Kenyan market.

The CS added that Tanzania supplies a declining share of its own domestic medicines market, down from 35% in 2009 to less than 10%-20% today.

The Cabinet Secretary informed the participants that despite these developments, the Pharmaceutical manufacturers operating from within the EAC region generally produce at a cost disadvantage to larger generic product manufacturers internationally due to a variety of reasons including scale, expensive asset base coupled with older technology, higher financing costs plus a lack of integration with active pharmaceutical ingredients suppliers.

## ... About 75% of the EAC pharmaceutical market demand is met through imports



*(Continued from page 9)*

"This situation makes domestically manufactured medicines uncompetitive compared to imports and the regional pharmaceutical market is therefore dominated by imports with domestic manufacturers only meeting less than 30% of the medicines demand."

She called for the Development Partners and other stakeholders to support the growth of the sector by engaging and addressing the concerns of the domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers and potential investors.

On her part, Hon. Josiane Nijimbere, Burundi's Minister of Public Health and the Fight Against AIDS, said medicines have become a very important and powerful tool, now more than ever, in improving the health status of populations and, in the long term, for reducing healthcare costs and ensuring sustainable development through health working human resource.

"I am therefore delighted that the East African Community has decided to hold this conference in collaboration with our Development Partners here present and those who have not been able to make it, raise awareness of various stakeholders on the need to promote investment in pharmaceutical manufacturing."

She underscored the importance of the health sector for the citizens of East Africa as the EAC integration agenda aims at improving sharply standard of living the East African Citizenry.

"To this effect, the development of the pharmaceutical sector and investments is equally critical if we want to achieve the

objectives of the Community."

The EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Productive and Social Sectors, Hon. Christopher Bazivamo said that poor performance of the EAC health sector has contributed to shortage of essential medical products and health technologies, which could be produced within the region by EAC industrial sector.

"About 75% of the EAC pharmaceutical market demand is met through importation of medical products and health technologies while 25% is covered by domestic pharmaceutical production," said Hon Bazivamo.

He urged Partner States to consider implementing incentive packages to promote domestic pharmaceutical production in the region which includes; a uniform preferential margin of 20% for all regionally produced medicines and medical devices in public tenders according to Article 35 of the Common Market Protocol; removal of duties for imported raw and packing materials, pharmaceutical manufacturing related equipment as well as spare parts for the equipment's acquired by domestic manufacturers registered in the EAC; and classification and import restrictions for finished pharmaceutical products that can be produced within the region, based on regional capacity and quality audits of local manufacturers.

The High Level Multi-Stakeholders Conference on Promoting Pharmaceutical Sector Investments conference provides an opportunity and a platform for stakeholders to discuss and agree on strategic areas and policy incentive packages that promote EAC domestic pharmaceutical manufacturers and foster dialogue between policy makers, regulators and pharmaceutical manufacturers.



## EAC Launches Common Market Scorecard 2016



The second EAC Common Market Scorecard (CMS) 2016 which evaluates implementation of the EAC Common Market Protocol was launched on 27 October 2016, in Kampala, Uganda by the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Finance and Administration, Hon. Jesca Eriyo. The Scorecard 2016, which measures Partner States' compliance to the free movement of capital, services, and goods, was developed by the World Bank Group together with Trade Mark East Africa at the request of the EAC Secretariat.

The Scorecard was developed over a period of 18 months under the supervision of the EAC Secretariat and Partner States. The areas of capital, services and goods were selected for scoping as they are fundamental to the operations of the Common Market.

Addressing the participants at the launching, the EAC Deputy Secretary General stated that "a number of reforms have been undertaken since the 2014 CMS. These have brought the total number of non-conforming measures (NCMs) down from 63 in

2014 to 59 in 2016." While this shows progress it should be noted that all EAC Partner States remain largely non-compliant in their services trade liberalization commitments, added Hon. Jesca Eriyo.

Hon Eriyo disclosed to the participants that In CMS 2016 all Partner States were given full marks for compliance. Subsequent scorecards should consider assessing implementation of these commitments. The Deputy Secretary General informed the participants that the Scorecard is well aligned with the EAC's implementation priorities. "It fosters peer learning and facilitate the adoption of best practice in the region".

"The Scorecard will contribute to strengthen the regional market, grow the private sector and deliver benefits to consumers," stated Hon. Eriyo.

*(Continued on page 12)*

## ... Scorecard provides transparent, rigorous, unbiased and client-led data on the key implementation gaps to the integration of the region's economies



*(Continued from page 11)*

She said the implementation in terms of recognition of certificates of origin, an issue repeatedly identified as a significant non-tariff barrier (NTB) in 2014, Burundi continues to earn full points and Kenya continues to score 90 percent. Tanzania's recognition of certificates of origin has improved from 50 to 60 percent; Rwanda and Uganda's scores have both declined, indicating a worsening performance in terms of recognizing certificates of origin of other EAC Partner States. Most countries improved their score on applying tariff equivalent charges, though such charges persist as barriers to intra-EAC trade, stated the EAC official.

Hon Jesca Eriyo disclosed to the participants that the EAC average of resolution of new NTBs for the 2016 period was about 54 percent, better than the 38 percent rate for CMS 2014. The EAC Deputy Secretary General called for greater information sharing regarding the Treaty and Protocol provisions in the Partner States. Some members of the private sector, including private sector apex bodies, were unfamiliar with the Protocol or with the commitments affecting their operations. Hon Eriyo urged Partner States to strongly engage and inform the private sector on the implications on these reforms on their day-to-day operations across the region and develop a private sector reform champions who could help push for implementation.

Catherine Masinde, the Practice Manager, East Africa, Trade

and Competitiveness, World Bank Group, said, EAC Partners have done a commendable effort in removing barriers to free movement of capital, services and goods, but more needs to be done.

She said the EAC Scorecard provides transparent, rigorous, unbiased and client-led data on the key implementation gaps to the integration of the region's economies. It also highlights possible reform areas to improve compliance to the Common Market Protocol".

On his part Vice Chairman of East African Business Council Uganda, Kassim Omary, said it is of utmost importance to measure the extent to which the EAC Partner States are translating the Common Market Protocol into policies that support actualization of free movement of people and workers, goods, services and the rights of establishment and residence within the EAC Partner States. Mr Richard Kamajugo, Senior Director of Trade Mark East Africa in-charge of Trade and Environment, said that the TMEA Program of support to the Common Market Scorecard has been running from 2012 to march 2017, under the EAC Investment Climate Program. He said the total budget support to the program was \$ 10.4m, through IFC and EAC (technical support), under a 5 component program aimed at increasing inter and intra-regional trade and investment through investment climate reforms supporting the EAC Common Market.



## IOM to Work Closely with EAC on Regional Migration Issues



The International Organization for Migration (IOM) will continue working closely with the East African Community (EAC) to address issues of migration within East Africa.

IOM's Regional Director for East and the Horn of Africa, Mr. Jeffrey Labovitz, said that the collapse of commodity prices on the world market and inflation had badly affected economies in East Africa and neighbouring countries, adding that this coupled with ongoing conflict would necessitate migration within the region.

Mr. Labovitz said poorly performing economies would mean people having problems in accessing farming implements and inputs which in turn contribute to low agricultural yields.

Mr. Labovitz noted that EAC Partner States had been quite generous and humane in hosting refugees from neighbouring countries riven with conflict. The IOM official singled out the Ugandan model of refugee management whereby refugees are integrated into local communities and given land to farm rather than being put into refugee camps.

He said the United Republic of Tanzania, which hosts many refu-

gees, was keen on learning from Uganda on how to handle refugees and urged other African countries to follow suit.

Mr. Labovitz was speaking when he paid a courtesy call on the EAC Secretary General, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

In response, Amb. Mfumukeko thanked IOM for its close cooperation with the EAC on matters of migration and refugees, adding that refugees need food, medical assistance and educational facilities for their children.

The Secretary General said that the Ugandan model of integrating refugees into host communities was good because it enabled refugees to stabilize and continue with their lives as they wait for normalcy to return to their countries of origin.

Some of the critical migration challenges facing the EAC include: the free movement of persons and labour; internally displaced persons, and; forced migration. The EAC has been working with IOM to address the free movement of persons and labour and in the collection of migration data. ●

## EAC Secretary General Receives Credentials from Irish Ambassador



The Secretary General of the East African Community, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, on 5 October 2016, received credentials from the Ambassador of the Republic of Ireland to the United Republic of Tanzania, H.E Ambassador Paul Sherlock, who has also been accredited to the EAC.

In the Ambassador's accreditation letter dated 30th August, 2016 addressed to the Secretary General of the EAC, the Irish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Charles Flanagan, appoints Amb. Paul Sherlock as the Irish representative to the EAC.

The Secretary General warmly welcomed Amb. Sherlock to the EAC and briefed him on the current achievements in the pillars of the regional integration and development process. He said the Community had expanded tremendously within a short spell of time, which has necessitated the Community to review its institutional set-up and work on sustainable financing mechanism.

Amb. Mfumukeko further informed his guest of the reforms he had instituted within the Organs and Institutions of the Community aimed at cost cutting and prudent financial management.

In his remarks, Amb. Sherlock hailed the Secretary General for the good work he and his team were doing in deepening the regional integration agenda. He said achieving the Customs Union and the Common Market and moving towards a Monetary Union within such a short time for the Community was commendable.

Amb. Mfumukeko and the Irish envoy discussed several issues including the status of the EAC-EU Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) and the Inter-Burundi Dialogue. They also explored areas of collaboration in trade and investment, agro-processing, tourism and ICT.

The Secretary General informed Amb. Sherlock that the EAC Secretariat was ready to mobilize and send an EAC Mission to Ireland to meet the Irish Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Tourism and Investment Agencies, and other stakeholders to concretize the specific areas of cooperation.

Also present at the accreditation ceremony were Mr. Robert Hull, the Second Secretary at the Embassy of Ireland in Dar es Salaam, Deputy Secretaries General Mr. Charles Njoroge and Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, and other senior officials at the EAC Secretariat.



# EAC to Collaborate with Oxford University to Enhance the Community's Institutional Capacity



A delegation from the University of Oxford University in the United Kingdom led by Stephen Peel concluded a two-day working visit to the East African Community Headquarters, with the aim of exploring possible avenues of establishing mutually beneficial long-term collaboration between the University and the EAC.

Welcoming the Oxford University officials to the EAC headquarters, EAC Secretary General Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko hailed Oxford University for expressing interest to support the Community to achieve its integration agenda.

The Secretary General briefed his guests on the progress the EAC had made in implementing the Customs Union and the Common Market protocols and preparations towards a Monetary Union, adding that there were high expectations among the people of East Africa to ensure that the three protocols were fully implemented.

Amb. Mfumukeko said that EAC was focused on building a firm base for East Africans through increased competitiveness, value added production, trade and investments and industrial development, all of which would be achieved through implementation of the pillars of integration.

The Secretary General said that "the proposed collaboration between Oxford University and the EAC would provide an effective

and practical way to foster advancement of knowledge and build the Community's institutional and research capacity of the Community."

On his part, Mr. Peel applauded the EAC for the impressive progress made so far in deepening the regional integration agenda and said that Oxford University was keen on strengthening its relations with the EAC.

Mr. Peel said the University was keen on making a contribution to sustainable economic growth and industrial development to ensure attainment of the EAC integration agenda.

"Promoting industrial development is a crucial element for driving systematic and progressive socio-economic development as well as promoting a country's or region's competitiveness in the international economic order," said Mr. Peel.

Amb. Mfumukeko and the University team agreed to explore possible areas of collaboration in capacity building for EAC staff through on-the-job training and executive education programmes as well as joint research projects and studies.

This joint initiatives will inform decision making, facilitate implementation of the Protocols and increase the Community's capacity to negotiate trade agreements.



# EAC/JICA Automotive Industry Experts Meet in Nairobi



A three-day meeting attended by a broad spectrum of stakeholders and experts from the Automotive Industry, Finance, Customs and Trade sectors as well as vehicle manufacturing company representatives from the East African Community Partner States concluded at the Sarova Panafric Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya.

The main objective of the meeting organized by the EAC and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), was to review and validate the progress report of the Comprehensive Study on Automotive Industry and provide inputs towards finalization of the same and also inform the EAC and potential private sector investors (both foreign and domestic) on policy options and modalities to promote and develop the motor vehicle industry in the region.

The EAC Industrialization Policy and Strategy (2012-2032) aims at 'transforming the manufacturing sector in EAC through higher value addition and product diversification based on comparative and competitive advantages of the region' and is currently under implementation. The 16th Ordinary Summit of the East African Community Heads of State of 20th February, 2015 "directed the EAC Council of Ministers to study the modalities for promotion of motor vehicle assembly in the region, and to reduce the importation of used motor vehicles from outside the community, and to

report progress to the 17th Summit."


The Summit at their 17th Ordinary Meeting held on 2nd March, 2016 took note of the progress and roadmap towards finalization of the Comprehensive Study on the Automotive Industry in the region and directed the Council to expedite the process and to the 18th Summit.

In implementing the Summit directives, the EAC Secretariat partnered with JICA, which commissioned a consultancy study to be finalized in April 2017. The draft progress report on automotive industry in the EAC outlining the status of automotive industry in the region, and the initial policy issues emerging from the benchmarking missions was prepared. The team embarked on consultative missions to EAC Partner States to compile baseline information on the status of the automotive industry, and to Vietnam and Japan for a benchmarking exercise from 20th September to 7th October, 2016.

Japanese academicians shared their global best practices of promoting the automotive industry in the EAC region while the Partner States made presentations on the status and challenges facing the automotive industry in their countries.

It was observed that the motorcycle sector is growing rapidly in the EAC region. With the rise in number, the sales price drops due to economies of scale. Further, along with the increase of production volumes, local production is gradually initiated for parts and materials that meet the effective minimum production scale. In addition to the complete build-up unit sales itself, demands are increased for repair services and their associated areas (forward linkage effect). This sector therefore offers opportunity for rapid development and needs to be initial entry point for rapid development of the automotive industry.

The study missions to Vietnam and Japan revealed that the usage of local content was one of the drivers for the growth of the automotive sector. This is an area that EAC needs to explore further and adopt appropriate measures which will consequently spur the development of the sector.

The experts also noted, among other things, the need for policy coherence within different sectors for the progress of the automobile sector. It was also observed that for the automotive industry to grow there is need for volumes that can lead to economies of scale and therefore, a regional approach to develop the sector and leverage on the EAC, COMESA and SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area. 

# EAC Hosts Exchanging and Trading with the Francophone World Regional Seminar



From the 2nd to the 4th of November 2016, the French Embassy to Tanzania, in cooperation with the East African Community (EAC), and with the support of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development, is organising a regional seminar on "East African Community: Exchanging and Trading with the Francophone World" at the EAC headquarters in Arusha.

This seminar was launched on the morning of Wednesday the 2nd of November by H.E. Mrs Malika Berak, Ambassador of France to Tanzania and H.E. Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, EAC Secretary General.

The aim of this seminar is to raise awareness on the added value of multilingualism and, more specifically, of knowing French for trade and exchanges at regional, continental and international levels.

As stated by the Ambassador of France to Tanzania during the opening, "French is a language spoken in East Africa, a "neighbourhood" language, a language of business. Multilingualism is a major asset to be promoted to the youth. Cross border activities are very important within the EAC as well as with its neighbouring countries. The development of these activities includes the ability to share one or several regional languages and the ability to speak one of the continental languages."

During his opening speech, the Secretary General of the EAC underlined the following message "We as a regional body need to be open to different languages as we expand in addition to the current languages recognised by the Treaty, that is, English and Kiswahili. The 15th Ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of States requested the EAC Secretariat to look into the possibility of including French as a working language of the Community. In addition to this, a recent assessment by the European Union also recommended that EAC should develop modalities of including the use of French especially when advertising for tenders within the region to provide for the Francophone Partners States."

This seminar unites representatives of the EAC and of the French Embassies in Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania, the EAC business council Director General, Lillian Awinja, as well as representatives of the African Union Commission and of the International Organisation for Francophonie. In addition, academics from different universities of the region (University of Nairobi, Makerere University, Open University of Tanzania, University of Burund) are also present. The Head of the Education Cooperation unit, Mrs. Odile Cobacho, is representing the French MFA. On the economic side, multiple companies are contributing to the round tables and the discussions, more specifically on tourism and hospitality.



# World Bank Launches Higher Education Centers of Excellence in Eight Eastern and Southern African Countries

## ACE II Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project



IUCEA WORLD BANK GROUP

The Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project (ACE II) – which seeks to strengthen 24 competitively selected centers to deliver quality, market-relevant post-graduate education in Eastern and Southern Africa – was launched in Nairobi by the Inter University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) and the World Bank.

The five-year project will work to build collaborative research capacity in five regional priority areas: industry (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), agriculture, health, education and applied statistics. The \$140 million project is financed by the World Bank in form of credit to eight participating countries. These include Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia. IUCEA, an East African Community institution responsible for coordinating the development of higher education will facilitate and coordinate the project.

Hon. Fred Matiangi, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Education, in his remarks to the participating country delegates, thanked the World Bank for its support for the education sector. He also called on all governments to end bureaucratic delays that slow project implementation.

"We don't get any useful results from being bureaucratic. Governments should not be a hurdle; they should be a facilitating entity."

Dr. Sajitha Bashir, World Bank's Practice Manager for its Education Global Practice, said that the Bank sees this as a broader effort to build technical and scientific capability for Africa's socio-economic transformation.

"Without these highly specialized professional skills and without that critical mass, we don't think that Africa can transform itself," she said.

Over the project's duration of five years, the selected ACEs are expected to enroll more than 3,500 graduate students in the regional development priority areas, out of which at least 700 would be PhD students and more than 1,000 would be female. It also plans to facilitate publication of at least 1,500 journal articles, launch more than 300 research collaborations with the private sector and other institutions, and generate about US\$30 million in external revenue.

Prof. Colletta Suda, Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Kenya, noted the great need for training in science and technol-

ogy in the region, which currently lags behind in generating sufficient graduates in these fields.

"We have a shortage of graduates in engineering, manufacturing and construction, which translates to fewer skilled professionals with specialized knowledge in areas like oil and gas, energy and railways industries," she said. "The scale of the need for highly skilled and specialised labour in the region is so large that it is unsustainable to send most of our post-graduate students abroad for training."

Suda added that it makes sense to pool the Eastern and Southern Africa region's existing human and financial resources into a few specialized centers that would have the explicit mandate of offering quality education and relevant research to serve the entire region's needs.

All centers of excellence (ACEs) were selected through an objective, transparent and merit-based process. Out of the 92 eligible proposals submitted, 24 were selected from universities across the eight participating countries. Each ACE will receive US\$4.5 – \$6m to implement its own proposal.

It is envisaged that at the end of the project the centers will have developed sufficient capacity to become sustainable regional hubs for training and research in their specialized fields, capable of leading efforts to address priority development challenges and improve lives in the region.

IUCEA, the ACE II regional facilitation unit, will provide forums for the private sector and ACEs to share knowledge on collaborative research ideas. It will also supervise a competitive scholarship program in which 30 regional students in STEM will be financed for two years to attain a Master's degree in any of the ACEs.

Prof. Alexandre Lyambabaje, Executive Secretary of IUCEA said the institute values this new partnership with governments in the region.

"We value this new partnership to improve the quality of training and research in higher education, and reduce the skill gaps in key development priority areas."



# Kigali Independent University Hosts 5<sup>th</sup> EAC University Students' Debate on Regional Integration



The 5th EAC University students' debate, themed "Youth Participation in Electoral Democracy", concluded at the prestigious Kigali Independent University (ULK), with the appointment of the new EAC Youth Ambassadors for next one year.

Addressing the students and guests at a colourful gala dinner and award ceremony, the Founder and President of Kigali Independent University, Prof. Dr. Rwigamba Balinda, reiterated that debates train students in critical thinking and creativity which are important for their success in the digital age as well as in knowledge acquisition and development.

Prof. Dr. Balinda said that debating enhances an individual's communication skills and encourages research, adding that it also inculcates the culture of agreeing to disagree in addition to promoting tolerance and peaceful co-existence in the society.

"At national, regional and global levels, debating/communication skills are essential in negotiations and dialogues," said the scholar.

The ULK President challenged the youth to play an active role in promoting the EAC integration agenda by mobilizing, sensitizing and advocating for fellow students and youth through the EAC Youth Ambassadors' Platform.

"Our commitment and assurance as educators/higher learning institutions is that we shall continue providing you with a condu-

cive environment, guidance and support to make your requisite contribution. We in Rwanda have established debating clubs in universities, secondary schools and held national inter-university and secondary school students' debates on regional integration annually," said Prof. Balinda.

Speaking during the same occasion, the EAC Deputy Secretary General (DSG) in charge of Political Federation, Mr. Charles Njoroge, said one of the cardinal objectives of the EAC University students' debate is "building a critical mass of youths as drivers of the integration process" and to spread the gospel of integration among peers and build strong relationships and networks that will solidify the integration process.

The DSG urged Ministries responsible for EAC Affairs in the Partner States and political leaders to support the work of the EAC Youth Ambassadors, who have been selected this year, to effectively promote and implement their integration programmes.

These include but are not limited to mobilization, sensitization and information sharing with their peers," said Mr. Njoroge.

He said the 5th Debate was a transition that marks the end of term for the EAC Youth Ambassadors for 2015/2016, but also ushers in the beginning of a new term for the new EAC Ambassadors for 2016/2017.

*(Continued on page 20)*

## South Sudan expected to participate in the 6th edition of the Students' Debate.

*(Continued from page 19)*

He urged the new and outgoing Ambassadors to continue being proactive and advocating for the EAC integration in whatever they do so as to sustain their slogan: "EAC Youth – We move it."

At the end of the debate, Mr. Patrick Ssemwogerere, from the Uganda Christian University in Mukono, Uganda emerged the Best Male Debater, while the Best Female Debater was Ms. Munduru Lucy Mega, from the International University of East Africa in Kampala, Uganda.

The Best Debating Team was the Alternative Strategy Team that comprised Patrick Ssemwogerere from Uganda Christian University, Iribagiza Rose Kelly from National University of Rwanda's College of Business and Economics, David Ndika from University of Dar es Salaam, and Muthuri Brian Kithinji from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya.

The newly appointed EAC Youth Ambassadors and their Deputies for the period 2016/2017 are as follows:

- Rwanda: Ms. Iribagiza Rose Kelly from the National University of Rwanda (Ambassador) and her Deputy is Ms. Yves Rene Uwayo also from the National University of Rwanda
- United Republic of Tanzania: Yohana Mayenga from the University of Dar es salaam (Ambassador) and his Deputy is Ms. Suzane W Mollel from Makumira University in Arusha, Tanzania
- Kenya: Ms. Yvonne Anna Gathoni Muriithi Muthuri from the Catholic University of Eastern Africa in Nairobi (Ambassador) and her Deputy is Muthuri Brian Kithinji from Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology
- Uganda: Muhumuza Umar from the Mbarara University of Science and Technology (Ambassador) and his Deputy is Ms. Naluyima Agwang Samantha from Makerere University in Kampala

University Students Debaters from the Republic of Burundi were expected but did not show up. The Republic of South Sudan that has just joined the Community is expected to participate in the 6th edition of the Students' Debate.

The Secretariat organized a two-days Training of Trainer's and an induction workshop for the newly appointed EAC Youth Ambassadors on EAC integration, structures and processes that took place from 2nd to 3rd November 2016, at the Kigali Independent University. 





# EAPCE'17



## THE 8<sup>TH</sup> EAST AFRICAN PETROLEUM CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

Le Panoramique Hotel, Bujumbura, Burundi  
8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2017



### THEME

**EAST AFRICA - An Emerging Hotspot for Oil and Gas Exploration, Infrastructure Development and Commercialization**



THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI



THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



THE REPUBLIC OF UGANDA

[www.eapce17.eac.int](http://www.eapce17.eac.int)



**Editorial Team:**

*Owora Richard Othieno; Simon Peter Owaka; Aileen Mallya; Bobi Odiko; Florian Mutabazi; Damaris Wambui; J.R.Luwali (Photographer) & Mukhtar Abdul Bolyao (Photographer)*

Visit the EAC Web Portal at <http://www.eac.int> to read these and more stories online.  
You can also download the EAC Newsletter by logging onto <http://www.news.eac.int>

*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.  
[www.eac.int](http://www.eac.int)*

*For further information please contact:  
Richard Owora Othieno, Head of Department | Email: [othieno@eachq.org](mailto:othieno@eachq.org) | Tel: +255 784 835021*