

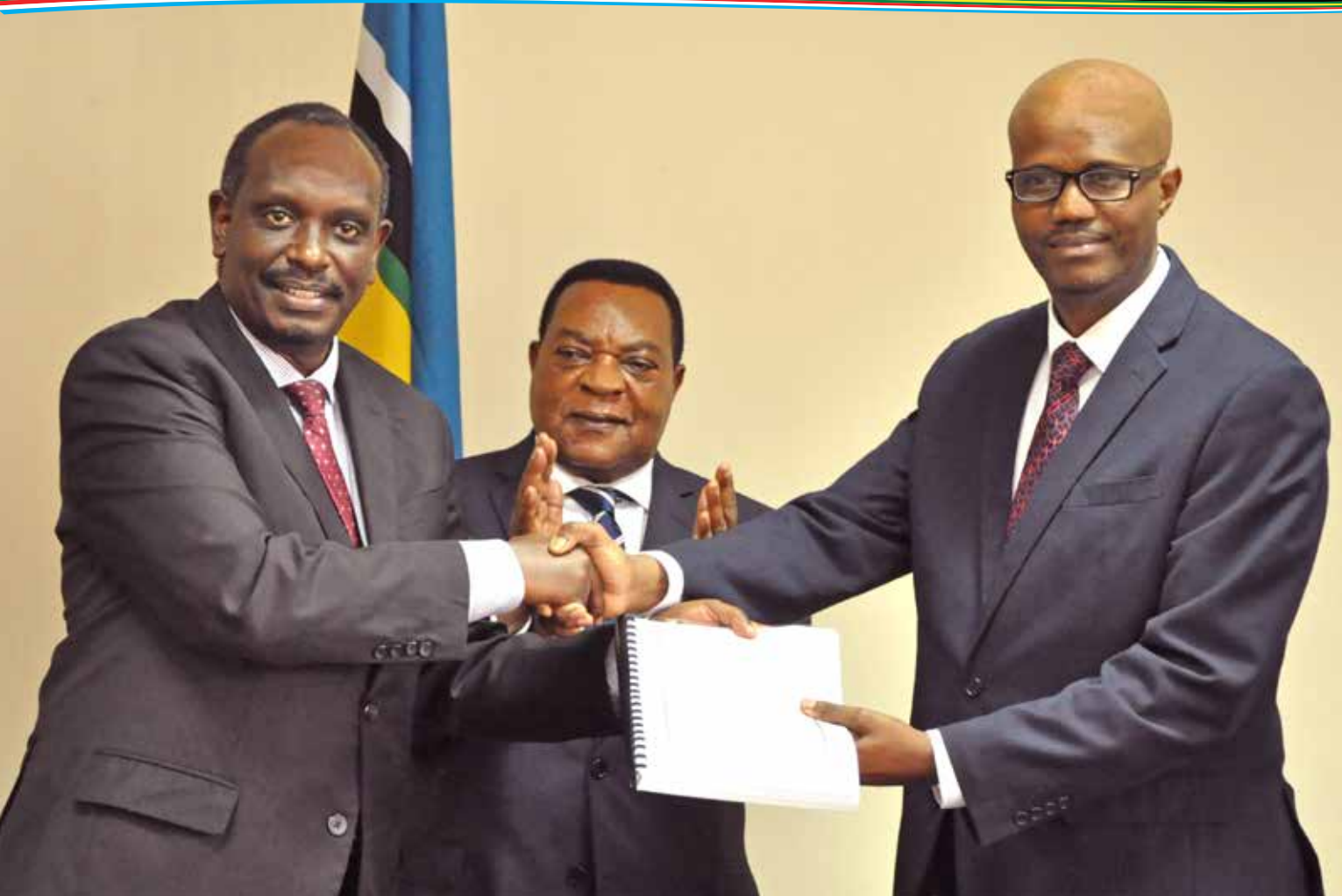


# THE COMMUNITY

ONE PEOPLE. ONE DESTINY

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE EAC

Issue 25 | June 2016



## Libérat Mfumukeko 5<sup>th</sup> EAC Secretary General takes Office

### IN THIS ISSUE

- 16** **IN FOCUS**  
South Sudan finally gains Admission into the EAC
- 18** **INFRASTRUCTURE**  
EAC Heads of State Launch another Road to Connect Central and Northern Transport Corridors
- 35** **TRADE SPECIAL FEATURE**  
State of Play on the EAC-EU EPA Negotiations

# CONTENTS

## 5 FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S DESK

Libérat Mfumukeko - 5<sup>th</sup> EAC Secretary General takes Office

## 6 EDITORIAL

Entry of South Sudan into EAC Timely

## AROUND THE COMMUNITY

7 Dr. Sezibera's Farewell Note

8 Progress on the Establishment of the EAHRC

9-11 Advances in Aviation and Space Technology: The Socio-Economic Effects

12-13 Private Sector gets Code of Conduct

14 The East African Science and Technology Commission – A Brief

15 A Glimpse at the East African Kiswahili Commission

## IN FOCUS

16-17 South Sudan finally gains Admission into the EAC

17 Titbits on South Sudan

## INFRASTRUCTURE

18-19 EAC Heads of State Launch another Road to Connect Central and Northern Transport Corridors

20-21 We'll Continue to Support Infrastructure Development in the EAC

## 22 ENVIRONMENT

East African National Engagements for the Development of Biopama Observatory

## 23-25 AGRICULTURE

Agricultural Transformation: The Case of the EAC Food Security Action Plan

## YOUTH

26 EAC Youth Clubs Spark Interest among High School Students

27 EAC Integration: A Youth Ambassador's View

28 EAC Youth Ambassadors Kenya Chapter 2016/2017 Unveiled

## FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S DESK

Libérat Mfumukeko  
5<sup>th</sup> EAC Secretary General takes Office

5



## 18-19 INFRASTRUCTURE

EAC Heads of State Launch another Road to link Central and Northern Transport Corridors



## 47-49 CULTURE AND ARTS

JAMAFEST A Prime Driver of EAC Cultural Integration



## 16-17 IN FOCUS

South Sudan finally gains Admission into the EAC

## 30-31 PICTORIAL

### TRADE SPECIAL FEATURE

32-34 EAC-COMESA-SADC TFTA Negotiations

35-36 State of Play on the EAC-EU EPA Negotiations

37-39 Enhancing Trade in Professional Services through Mutual Recognition Agreements

40-41 EAC Single Customs Territory Rolled-out

### 42 HOUSE BUSINESS

EALA e-Transactions Bill

### 43-44 EACJ

Milestones in the Life of the East African Court of Justice

### 45-46 SG'S ANNUAL FORUM

4<sup>th</sup> EAC Secretary General's Forum held in Dar es Salaam

### CULTURE AND ARTS

47-49 JAMAFEST: A Prime Driver of EAC Cultural Integration

50 EAC Partner States should invest more in the Creative Economy

### EYE ON AFRICA

51-52 Africa Urged to Invest More in Regional Integration and Continental Trade

53 Africa's Future Lies in the Free Movement of Goods and People Across National Borders

### 54-55 POLICY & STRATEGY

Mitigating Climate Change: A Look at the Progress Made Under the EAC Climate Change Policy

### 56-57 CRASH COURSE

The New Generation International East African e-Passport

### EXTRAS

58 The You Ideology

59 Brain Bashers

## EDITORIAL TEAM

### Managing Editor

Owora Othieno

### Associate Editors

Bobi Odiko

Simon Peter Owaka

### Design Editors

www.media-design.me

### Photo Editor

Florian Mutabazi

### Editor

Aileen Mallya

### Sub Editor

Damaris Wambui Nyaga

### Contributors

Libérat Mfumukeko

Hon. Justice Emmanuel Ugirashebuja

Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera

Stephen Analo

Evans Emmanuel Ayo

Bernard Bakaye

Duncan Karari

Mary Makoffu

Aileen Mallya

Samuel Mpmugo

Florian Mutabazi

Bernard Mwendwa

Ms. Gertrude Ngabirano

Dr. Nehemiah Ngeno

Dorcas Ngure

Robert Mwesigwa Nviiri

Damaris Nyaga

Beryl Nyamgeroh

Bobi Odiko

Simon Peter Owaka

Staicy Wagala

Phyllis Wakiaga

### Photography

Justino Luwali, Hartmut Fiebig,

Abdul Mukhtar Bolyao,

Bernard Mwendwa,

Wikimedia Commons

The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the East African Community. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the permission of the publisher.



EAC Secretary General Libérat Mfumukeko (left) takes the oath of office. Administering the oath are acting EACJ Registrar Geraldine Umugwaneza (centre) and Counsel to the Community Anthony Kafumbe.

## Libérat Mfumukeko 5<sup>th</sup> EAC Secretary General takes Office

The East African Community Heads of State at their 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting held on March 2, 2016 appointed Mr. Libérat Mfumukeko as the new Secretary General of the Community.

Mr. Mfumukeko, a Burundi national, assumed office on April 26, 2016 from Amb. Dr Richard Sezibera whose 5-year non-renewable term came to an end on the same date.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary General, Mr. Mfumukeko served the East African Community in the capacity of Deputy Secretary General in charge of Finance and Administration, following an appointment by the Summit at its 16th Ordinary Meeting held in Nairobi on February 20, 2015.

The New Secretary General is keen on putting in place stringent measures within the regional economic community geared at cost cutting, value for money, accountability and transparency. He is adamant to ensure that the EAC remains an institution characterized by a high performance level, with brilliant employees who can make very valuable contributions to the integration agenda.

Mr. Mfumukeko has remarked that, “a leadership that will take the EAC integration to greater heights and that will be consultative, inclusive, listening but frank, fair and firm,” is the leadership he shall offer for the next five years.

Mr. Mfumukeko joined the EAC from another position of leadership; Director General, Burundi Water and Electricity Utility (REGIDESO), the last position he held prior to joining the EAC. He has also held the Chairmanship of the Steering Committee of the East African Power Pool (EAPP).

The new Secretary General brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his new position, with vast international experience including the establishment of the Burundi Investment Promotion Authority (API) in 2009. He also possesses reckonable international, intercultural and linguistic skills, with fluency in French, English, Kirundi, Kiswahili and Russian, having worked in France, Russia, USA, DR Congo, Rwanda, Ivory Coast and Cameroon. ◆

## Entry of South Sudan into the EAC timely

**T**he admission of the Republic of South Sudan as the sixth member of the East African Community is a welcome development. Africa and the world's youngest nation has close linguistic, socio-cultural, economic and historical ties to East Africa.

These links plus its geographical proximity to the region always made it a natural candidate for membership to the Community. The country's leadership indicated right after its independence its desire to forge even closer ties with East Africa by applying for membership to the world's fastest growing regional economic bloc.

The entry of South Sudan into the EAC what has been branded as perhaps Africa's most natural economic bloc is a win-win for the country and the Community. Before joining the EAC, South Sudan was the only country in Africa that didn't belong to any of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs). The trend all over the world now is towards integrating national markets through RECs. RECs are the African Union's building blocks for the envisaged African Economic Community – a seamless market akin to the European Union.

The inclusion of South Sudan now means the EAC market has grown to approximately 162 million people, an impressive figure by all assessments. The biggest economies in the globe have always been founded on big domestic markets. This expanded market will definitely be a boon for business enterprises in the EAC seeking to widen their business horizons.

As an economy emerging from several years of pre- and post-independence conflict, South Sudan is currently a net importer of almost everything except cattle, from groceries to machinery. The country then offers an excellent opportunity for the business community in East Africa to sell their merchandise.

It is encouraging to hear that the decision by the EAC Summit to admit South Sudan into the Community was received with excitement across the war-ravaged nation. Equally gratifying is that several East African corporates especially from Kenya and Uganda have been operating in South Sudan having entered the fledgling market over the past 10 years. These comprise firms with interests in diverse sectors including banking, insurance, food processing, aviation, hospitality, healthcare and other small enterprises. Now is the time for these and other enterprises to expand their operations.

The foregoing is not to presume that South Sudan will be a net receiver

with nothing to offer to the Community other than being a market for goods and services. The country is endowed with livestock, fertile land, heavy rains and the Nile waters. These are all ingredients for investment in agriculture which could make the country a major exporter of food to the EAC and the rest of the continent.

However, there are also a number of concerns that will need to be addressed before all South Sudan and the Community can reap the benefits mentioned above. South Sudan will have to demonstrate that it is committed to level playing field for commerce with traders from the rest of the region by adhering to the provisions of the EAC Customs Union and Common Market protocols.

Business people from the EAC have previously complained of lack of enforcement of contracts by their South Sudanese counterparts, a fact that has impacted negatively on business. Business only thrives where all parties fulfill their obligations according to an agreed set of rules, with the government as a neutral arbiter in case of disputes.

South Sudan should also acknowledge that years of conflict have undermined its pool of skilled workers. The hiring of skilled workers from other EAC Partner States should therefore not be misconstrued both by xenophobic citizens and government officials as machinations to rob South Sudanese of their jobs. The country will have to borrow from its neighbours as it rebuilds its labour force to perform to the levels required by the competitive regional and global economy.

It is also very clear that economic recovery will be highly dependent on the formation of a national unity government. It is therefore encouraging that President Salva Kiir and rebel leader Dr. Riek Machar have agreed to form a transitional national unity government which will hopefully restore peace and put the country on the track to development.

Beside the Customs Union and the Common Market, the Community is also working on a single currency with a Political Federation as its ultimate goal. Experience within the EAC and other RECs has shown that the implementation of protocols requires a policy of give-and-take, with sacrifices being made by each Partner State. Rigidity must give way to compromise for the integration process to move forward.

We therefore join all East Africans in welcoming our brothers and sisters in South Sudan to the Community. ◆

*Karibuni Sana*

## Dr. Sezibera's Farewell Note



**F**ellow East Africans, when I began my term as the Secretary General of the East African Community, I outlined five broad Strategic Goals that I would focus on to move the integration process forward. The last five years have been an exciting time for me at both the professional and personal levels.

First, we have strengthened our Customs Union, significantly removed barriers to trade and have embarked on the implementation of the Single Customs Territory. Non-Tariff Barriers to trade along our major corridors have come down, and intra-EAC Trade has grown to 26% up from less than 10% a decade ago.

Secondly, the implementation of the free movement of persons and labour provisions as enshrined in the Common Market Protocol have also picked up. Partner States have started the use of National Identity Cards and other national documents for travel within the Community, and the Heads of State Summit have unveiled the New International East African e-Passport for travel within and outside the region. The EAC is, by all intents and purposes, now a Common Higher Education Area with an East African Qualifications Framework. Mutual Recognition Agreements among professionals from various Partner States are now being signed.

Thirdly, Partner States agreed on and signed the East African Monetary Union Protocol in 2013 with a 10-year roadmap to a Single Currency. Even more important is the work that is currently underway towards facilitating financial integration and fiscal harmonisation, which will allow for currency convertibility and an East African Payments System to ease demand on foreign currency for Intra-EAC trade.

Fourthly, the EAC now has a prioritized infrastructure plan and 10-year investment strategy in Rail, Energy, Ports and Harbours, Inland Waterways and ICT. The Summit now holds Infrastructure on a bi-annual basis to review the progress made in infrastructure development. Our nine corridors are receiving sustained attention with impressive results along the Northern Corridor, and revived momentum along the Central Corridor. The construction of the Standard Gauge Railway from Mombasa to Kigali via Kampala is well underway. Investments in electricity generation in addition to the construction of inter-connectors to facilitate cross-border energy exchange has increased significantly.

Fifthly, the people of East Africa are increasingly becoming part of the integration agenda. Our Community agreed on a Dialogue Framework for the Private Sector, Civil Society and other interested parties. We have had sustained, focused dialogue with the private sector.

The Youth, partly through the Youth Ambassadors and other platforms, Women in Business, the Media Fraternity, professional organisations, local governments, farmers' federations, trade unions, the informal sector, among other stakeholders are becoming real partners.

These are the five major areas on which I asked for support from the governments and people of East Africa. I am glad the support was generously provided.

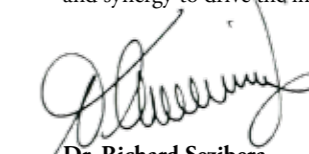
But we have done much more. The strength of our Community allowed it to play a prominent role in the historic Tripartite Free Trade Area agreed at Sharm-el-Sheikh, Egypt in June 2015. While our counterparts in SADC and COMESA negotiated as individual states, our Community negotiated as one entity, showing that our integration is not simply on paper, but is a reality.

We have also developed an Industrialization Policy and Strategy with prioritized sectors which is now under implementation. In September 2015, the EAC held its first ever Manufacturing Summit in Kampala. We have agreed on a Vision 2050 which was launched by the 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit of Heads of State. The Vision aims at transforming our Community into an Upper Middle Income Region by 2050, with a per capita income of more than \$10,000.

Significant progress has been made on the type of Political Federation the region will adopt and on the process towards this crucial pillar, which is the ultimate stage in the integration process.

New institutions have also come on board including the East African Science and Technology Commission, the East African Health Research Commission and the East African Kiswahili Commission. Finally, the Community has also expanded with the admission of South Sudan as a new member. South Sudan is a new country with myriad challenges but their admission into the Community is a return to their natural home. I urge the people of East Africa to welcome our brothers and sisters from Africa and the world's youngest nation with open arms.

We have achieved a lot but we still have a long way to go. I would therefore urge all stakeholders in the integration process to play their roles with utter dedication and thereby create the necessary impetus and synergy to drive the integration process forward. ◆

  
**Dr. Richard Sezibera**  
Ambassador

## Progress on the Establishment of the East African Health Research Commission

By Prof. Gibson Kibiki



Prof. Gibson Kibiki

The East African Health Research Commission (EAHRC) was established by the 5<sup>th</sup> Extra-Ordinary Summit of the East African Community Heads of State that was held on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2007 as an institution of the EAC with a mandate to make available to the Community, advice upon all matters of health and health-related research and findings necessary for knowledge generation, technological development, policy formulations, practices, and related matters.

The vision of the Commission is to have high quality research for improvement of the health and well-being of the people of the Community.

The mission of the EAHRC shall be to coordinate and promote the conduct of health research, source, gather and disseminate the findings for the purpose of policy formulations, which can be applied towards the enhancement of the health of the people of the region.

The Protocol establishing the EAHRC has defined the general objective of the commission as well its specific objectives.

EAC Ministers of Health approved the organizational structure, job descriptions and qualifications for the seven priority positions at the EAHRC and directed the EAC Secretariat to make the necessary preparations to have the commission staff recruited.

### Appointment of the staff

The organizational structure of the Commission provides a total of 11 staff. The 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers (27<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2015) appointed the Executive Secretary, the Deputy Executive Secretary (Research), and the Accountant of the Commission.

### Headquarters

The Commission will have its headquarters in Bujumbura, Burundi. The Headquarters agreement between the EAC and the Government of Burundi was signed on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2015. Currently, the Commission is operating from the EAC headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania. The Commission is awaiting the procurement of office equipment and supplies. The 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary meeting of the Council of Ministers which was held at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania on 14<sup>th</sup>

August, 2015 directed the staff of the Commission to relocate from Arusha to the facilities in Bujumbura by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015. The Council further directed the EAC Secretariat to expedite the process of relocating the staff to Bujumbura. Budget for 2015/2016

The sources of funds for EAHRC shall be the Community budget, contributions, grants and donations from stakeholders and development partners as well as any other source approved by the Council.

The Commission has been provided a budget for the financial year 2015/2016 which will be used on the development of its 5-year strategic plan; the procurement of the necessary equipment supplies and payment of rent, staff salaries and benefits, as well as to support the establishment of the board.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers which was held at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania on 14<sup>th</sup> August, 2015 directed the EAHRC to submit a request for a supplementary budget to be considered by the Council during its 2015 mid-year budget review.

### Priorities for 2016 / 2017

The Commission has set up its priorities for the financial year 2016/2017 which are:

- Promoting the exchange and dissemination of health research information through conferences, workshops, publications and other fora;
- Promoting and improving the quality of health research including clinical trials in the EAC;
- Implementing the EAHRC Strategic Plan;
- Promoting and supporting operational research and innovation for the region and in the Partner States, and;
- Continuing to increase its visibility.

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary Meeting of the Council also considered the expansion of the mandate of the Commission to Medicines and Food Safety as well as Health Professionals and Regulators. The Council directed the Secretariat to prepare a proposal to expand the mandate of the Commission to include the functions of the proposed EAC Medicines and Food Safety Commission and Health Professionals and Regulators for submission to the Sectoral Council on Health for consideration. ◆



Dr. Jean de Dieu Ngirabega

## Advances in Aviation and Space Technology: The Socio-Economic Effects

By Robert Mwesigwa Nviiri

The history of aviation development is marked by mankind's efforts to innovate and perfect aviation/flying techniques so as to improve on the socio-economic status of society, be it civil or military. The turn of the 20th Century saw a heavy leap into the future of aviation. There are four main notable eras of aviation, namely: development of stable heavier-than-air flying machines, Golden Age, Cold War and Post-Cold War eras.

Each of these eras is marked by an outstanding development in the aviation field and varying socio-economic effects.

### Development of Stable Heavier-than-air- Flying Machines

The term aviation, from the Latin *avis* for "bird," was coined in 1863 by the French aviation pioneer Guillaume Joseph Gabriel de La Landelle (1812-1886) in "Aviation ou Navigation aérienne."

The history of aviation dates back to more than 2,000 years from the earliest attempts in kites and gliders to powered heavier-than-air, supersonic and hypersonic flights. The first form of man-made flying objects was kites. The earliest known record of kite flying is from around 200 BC in China, when a general flew a kite over enemy territory to calculate the length of tunnel required to enter the region. Yuan Huangtou, a Chinese prince, survived by tying himself to the kite.

### Helicopters

In 1877, an Italian, Enrico Forlanini, developed an unmanned helicopter powered by a steam engine that rose to a height of 13m, where it remained for some 20 seconds after a vertical take-off from a park in Milano. Thereafter, Paul Cornu's helicopter, built in 1907, was the first manned flying machine to have risen from the ground using rotating wings instead of fixed wings.

### Military Fighter aircraft

To be first does not always guarantee your being the master of all times. The first country to use planes for military purposes was Italy, whose

planes made reconnaissance, bombing and shelling military flights during the Italian-Turkish war (September 1911 – October 1912), in Libya. The first war to see major use of planes in the offensive, defensive and reconnaissance capabilities was World War I (1914 – 1918). France, Britain, Germany and Italy were the leading manufacturers of fighter planes that saw action during the war. As of now, the Americans and Russians lead in aviation development, especially military aviation.

While the concept of using the airplane as a weapon of war was generally laughed at before World War I, the idea of using it for photography was one that was not lost on any of the major military powers. Radiotelephones were also being explored on airplanes as communication between pilots and ground commander grew more and more important.

The socio-economic effects of the developments in aviation during the first years at the turn

of the century were: increased employment in the aviation sector; improvement in means of State defence to ensure protection of a country's economic and national interests, and: increased research work leading to gainful employment and higher standards of living.

### Golden Age (1918 – 1939) Era

The years between World Wars I and II saw great advancements in aircraft technology. In aviation, we refer to this era as the Golden Age. Airplanes evolved from low-powered biplanes made from wood and fabric to sleek, high-powered monoplanes made of aluminum. After World War I, experienced fighter pilots were eager to show off their new skills. Air shows sprang up around the world with air races, acrobatic stunts, and feats of air superiority meant to attract would be aviators and defenders of the nation; not to forget the romantic side of the story. The air races drove engine and airframe development to great heights. ➔



A jetliner from the defunct East African Airways

The socio-economic impact of aviation technology advancements of the Golden Age was that of making aviation a reliable and fast means of transport both in civil and military terms of volume and speed. There was increased sharing of knowledge in aviation experiment results which led to further improvement in aircraft design and employment. The improved fighter planes saved on the numbers of infantry being sent to the frontline and their survival from the onslaught of enemy forces.

**Cold War Era (1945 – 1991)**

The Golden Age period was short lived with the start of World War II in 1939 which saw the shift from civil aviation development to military adventurism and competition. It was found out that a moderate fleet of long-range bombers could deliver a deadly blow to the enemy, so great efforts were made to develop countermeasures.

After the War, the supersonic interceptor aircraft were produced in considerable numbers. By 1955, most development efforts now shifted to guided surface-to-air missiles following the German invention of the V-2 rocket and Soviets' mobile *Katyusha* multiple barrel rocket launcher. However, the approach diametrically changed when a new type of nuclear-carrying platform appeared that could not be stopped in any feasible way: the intercontinental ballistic missiles. The possibility of these was demonstrated in 1957 with the launch of the first earth satellite - *Sputnik 1* by the Soviet Union. This action started the Space Race between the nations of the two powerful blocs – West and East.

Despite the military race after World War II, commercial aviation also grew rapidly in tandem using mostly ex-military aircraft to transport people and cargo. The first commercial pressurized jet airliner to fly was the British de Havilland Comet. While a technical achievement in itself, the plane suffered a series of failures in that the shape of the windows which were rectangular led to cracks due to metal fatigue. The fatigue was caused by cycles of pressurization and depressurization of the cabin that eventually led to the sudden catastrophic failure of the plane's fuselage structure - flatter. To do away with this problem, research led to the development of oval shaped aircraft windows, in use till today.

USSR's *Aeroflot* became the first airline in the world to operate sustained regular jet services on September 15, 1956 with the Tupolev Tu-104. The Boeing 707 and DC-8 which established

new levels of comfort, safety and passenger expectations, ushered in the age of mass commercial air travel, dubbed the Jet Age.

In 1961, the sky was no longer the limit for manned flights, as for the first time in history, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin orbited once around the planet within 108 minutes, and then used the descent module of *Vostok 1* to safely re-enter the atmosphere and reduce speed from Mach 25 using friction and converting velocity into heat. The United States not to be left lagging behind in space technology responded by launching cosmonaut Alan Shepard into space on a suborbital flight in a Mercury space capsule. With the launch of the *Alouette 1* in 1963, Canada became the third country to send a satellite in space. The space race between the United States and the Soviet Union would ultimately lead to the landing of Man on the moon in 1969.

The socio-economic impact of the introduction of jet transporters was the increased intercontinental air travel and economical transportation of cargo and passengers over long distances. This led to an economic boom with increased tourism activities and standard of living due to the large employment opportunities in both the aviation and space industry.

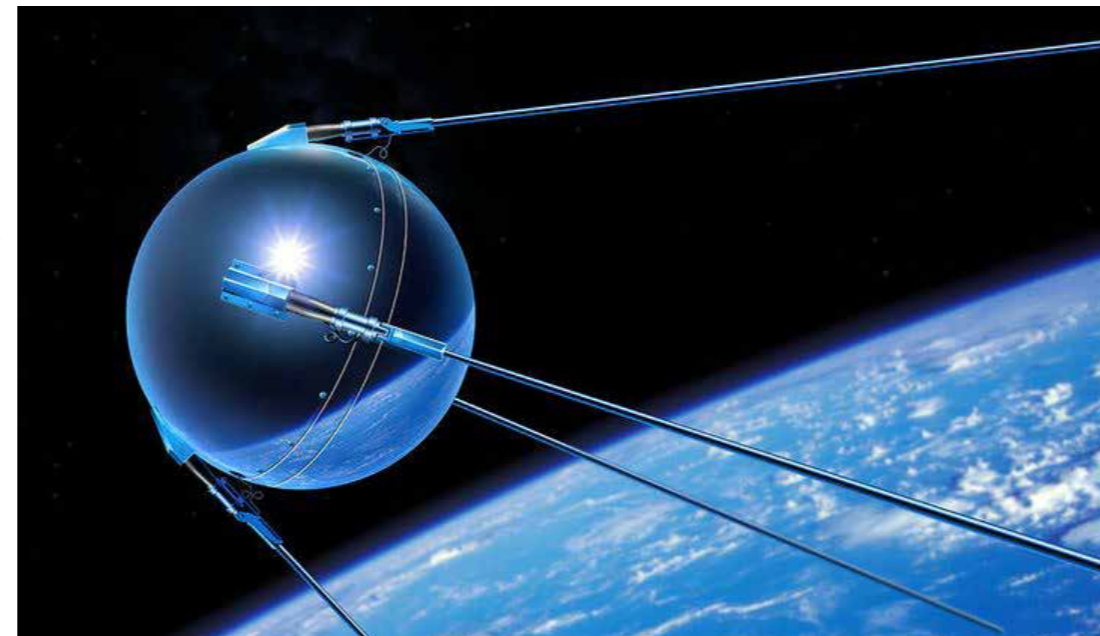
**Bigger or faster – Which way to go?**

The same year that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin set foot on the moon, Boeing unveiled the Boeing 747 and the British-French Consortium *Aérospatiale-BAC*, the Concorde supersonic passenger airliner which both had their maiden flights. The Boeing 747 was the largest commercial passenger aircraft ever to fly, and still carries millions of passengers each year, though it has been superseded by the Airbus A380, which is capable of carrying up to 853 passengers.

In the early 1960s, the Soviet aircraft construction bureau of Alexei Tupolev started a project on the construction of a supersonic passenger airliner, TU-144. The maiden flight of the TU-144 was on December 31<sup>st</sup>, 1968, two months before that of the Concorde. However, on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1973, in Paris during the Air show at Le Bourget, the TU-144 suffered a catastrophe when all of a sudden it went into an uncontrollable pitch, broke up in mid air and thus, crashed to the ground. All the six crew perished together with eight residents on the ground in the suburb of Gussenville where the wreckage fell. A quarter century later on, de-classified accident investigation reports were to reveal that there was more than just structural failure

related to this accident. In 1975, Aeroflot started regular service of the Tu-144 - the first supersonic passenger plane ever built to enter commercial service. However, due to high operational costs that led to very expensive tickets, Aeroflot ceased operating the TU-144 on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1978 after three years of operations.

In 1976, British Airways and Air France began supersonic service across the Atlantic with Concorde. Following the Air France flight AF 4590 catastrophe in Paris on July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2000 British Airways and Air France also ceased the Concorde flights in 2003. This was the only recorded fatal Concorde accident during its 27-year operational history. It was the beginning of the end for the Concorde as an airliner.



*Sputnik 1*

Socio-economic impact: The introduction of supersonic passenger flights for competitions' sake although a show of technological advancement, was an economically counterproductive venture. The Soviet economists saw no economic sense with its continuation, thus their early scrapping of the TU-144 operations in order to save their socialist economy. The Western bloc pushed on with the project for the sake of showing economic muscle, but a true economist would wonder why the Concorde was scrapped from service in 2003 after 27 years of operations yet the B-747 is still going strong. That was one project that cost the ordinary citizen a fortune just for the sake of pioneering political ideologies.

**Outer Space is the Limit**

The last quarter of the 20<sup>th</sup> century saw a slowing

in the pace of advancement. No longer was revolutionary progress made in flight speeds, distances and technology. This part of the century saw the steady improvement of flight avionics, and a few minor milestones in flight progress. In 1975, USA began the construction of the Space Shuttle, the first space vessel that would be re-used upon return to earth and land like a conventional aircraft. On 12<sup>th</sup> April, 1981 the Space Shuttle *Columbia* made its first orbital flight, proving that a large rocket ship can take off into space, provide a pressurized life support system for several days, and re-enter the atmosphere at orbital speed, precision glide to a runway and land like a plane.

In 1984, the Soviets came up with their answer to a Space Shuttle, *Buran*. They carried out the maiden flight on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 1985, four

years after *Columbia*. Subsequent flights followed on 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 1986, April, May and June 1986. The last flight was carried out on 15<sup>th</sup> April, 1988 after it was evident that the Cold War was ending. All in all, *Buran* made 24 flights. As for the Americans, the disintegration of *Columbia* on 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2003 after 28 space missions saw an end to the programme. Following an independent investigation into the cause of the *Columbia* accident, President Bush decided to retire the Shuttle orbiter fleet by 2010 in favour of the *Constellation program* and its manned *Orion* spacecraft. However, President Obama signed the NASA Authorization Act on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010 which officially also brought the *Constellation program* to an end.

In 1986, Dick Rutan and Jeana Yeager flew an aircraft, the *Rutan Voyager*, around the world

unrefueled, and without landing. In 1999, Bertrand Piccard became the first person to circle the earth in a balloon. Focus was turning to the ultimate conquest of space and flight away from faster than the speed of sound.

Socio-economic impact: The exploration of outer space and introduction of space labs brought with it various advantages in aviation, agricultural and medicinal technology. It was found out that some metals could only be fused together or alloys made in conditions similar to those in outer space. Such metals are titanium and wolfram, used in hot sections of combustion engines.

**Enter the Super Heavy Airlifters**

The Americans unveiled a super heavy lift cargo plane, the Lockheed C5 Galaxy in 1968. It was the largest military cargo transport of the times. However, the C-5 Galaxy had a complicated development; significant cost overruns were experienced and Lockheed suffered significant financial difficulties. Shortly after entering service in 1969, fractures in the wings of many aircraft were discovered and the C-5 fleet was restricted in capability until corrective work was conducted. Lockheed came up with C-5M Super Galaxy, an upgraded version with new engines and modernized avionics designed to extend its service life beyond 2040.

Not to be outdone, on 26<sup>th</sup> December, 1982 the Soviets unveiled the Antonov An-124, the world's second highest gross weight production cargo airplane behind the Boeing 747-8F and the third heaviest operating cargo aircraft. As of now, over 40 are in service (with 26 civilian models with airlines) in Ukraine, Russia, the United Arab Emirates and Libya.

The Soviets further came up with the Antonov An-225 Mriya (Ukrainian: *Mriya*, means "Dream" or "Inspiration"), NATO name: 'Cossack'. The An-225 is a strategic airlift cargo aircraft with a gross weight of 640 tonnes that was designed to airlift the *Energia* rocket's boosters and the *Buran* space shuttle for the Soviet space program. Among its many records, it holds the absolute world record for an airlifted payload of 189,980 kilos.

Socio-economic impact: as was the case with the space shuttle and supersonic transporters, the An-225 project proved to be uneconomical and thus it was stayed. However, there are renewed interests by some entrepreneurs to have it back in the air once more as demand for deliverance of humanitarian supplies as armed conflicts and disasters increases.

**Post-Cold War Era**

The Post-Cold War era has also shared its piece of challenges in the aviation industry. Major disruptions to air travel in the 21<sup>st</sup> century included the closing of U.S. airspace due to the September 911 attacks, and the closing of most of European airspace after the 2010 volcano eruption of *Eyjafjallajökull*.

**The Case for East Africa**

Increased terrorist attacks on aviation coupled with non-conformity of international aviation standards by some air operators have also led to disruptions of air transport and counter measures that at times inconvenience passengers. In 2007, the EAC established the Civil Aviation Safety and Security Oversight Agency – CASSOA, as an institution charged with assisting the Partner States' Civil Aviation Authorities (CAAs) in their obligations to oversight the air industry in terms of safety and security. Since then, the region has witnessed the harmonisation of civil aviation regulations, concerted harmonised efforts to prepare for and address audit findings by the International Civil Aviation Organisation, and capacity building in the inspectorates of the Partner States' CAAs. EAC is the only REC so far with a regional Centre for Aviation Medicine. The region is now working on a framework for the establishment of a regional aircraft accident and incident investigation unit once the Partner States reach consensus on the modalities.

Given the trend of air transport development in the region and the implementation of the Yamoussoukro Decision on liberalization of air transport, it is likely the region will witness the revival of a regional East African airline. The region is encouraged to take leaf from the history of aviation development in order to reform its air transport industry.

Socio-economic impact: Research in the transport sector shows that 80% of goods, be it cargo or otherwise, at any given time are in transit mode. Therefore improved safety and security in aviation leads to increased investment in air transport and a boost in both passenger and cargo operations. This in turn leads to increased employment opportunities as demand rises for efficiency, safety and security in the industry, and finally, a higher standard of living. ♦

*Mr. Robert Mwisigwa Nviiri is the Executive Director of CASSOA*

# Private Sector gets Code of Conduct

By Dorcas Nguni



Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni endorses the Code of Conduct for the Private Sector in East Africa during the 17<sup>th</sup> EAC Heads of State Summit.

The East African Community Heads of State, H.E Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli Chair of the Summit of the EAC Heads of State and His counterparts, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of the Republic of Uganda, H.E Paul Kagame President of the Republic of Rwanda, H.E Uhuru Kenyatta President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Dr. Joseph Butore, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President of the Republic of Burundi and H.E during the 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit of the East African Community Heads of State launched the East African Code of Conduct for Business within the region at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge in Arusha, Tanzania on March 2, 2016 2016.

The launch was preceded by the unveiling at the East African Business Leaders' Summit by Dennis Karera, EABC Chairman and various CEOs that included; Mr. Vimal Shah, CEO Bidco Africa, Mr. Faustin Mbundu, Chairman MFK Group and Ms. Phyllis Wakiaga, CEO of Kenya Association of Manufacturers.

The Code was developed following a comprehensive development process that included various consultations from EABC's national focal points, key members, the GIZ office in Kenya and national civil society organisations.

The Code of Conduct together with its Rules and Procedures formulation serves to guide the actions of EABC members consistent with their individual company's Code of Ethics and other existing national and international level codes. It is aimed at enhancing ethical business practices in the areas of Human Rights, Labour Standards, and Environment, Consumer protection laws and standards and Anti-corruption.

EABC members endorsed the document during the East African Business Summit when it was unveiled by the Chairman Mr. Dennis Karera. By endorsing the Code of Conduct, EABC members demonstrated their commitment to offering safe and reliable products/services, which will strengthen regional integration by fostering consistent implementation of business practices that ensure service/product quality, enhance customer satisfaction, facilitate commercial partnerships, and build trust within the region.

The EAC Code of Conduct for business will be managed by a Code secretariat hosted by EABC, whose duties will include: promoting business ethics and motivating others to become Code members; managing member registry; facilitating training and workshops and

web portal management for providing information on business ethics. Subsequently, a Code committee consisting of representatives of selected member companies and other stakeholders shall be appointed by the Secretariat to review, investigate and resolve reports of transgression of code by members submitted by the Secretariat.

Companies appending signatures to the Code are formalising their commitment to nine principles underpinning three key areas of importance: respect of human rights; environmental protection and ethical practices in their investments. They have agreed to:

- East African Community: Comply with all laws and regulations of the EAC and its individual member states, whether doing business at national level or across the EAC
- Workplace: Commit to complying with prevailing legislation, good governance, industrial guidelines and international standards
- Shareholders and Investors: Comply with principles of good corporate governance
- Consumers: Comply with consumer protection laws and standards applicable in the EAC

**“Code of Conduct promotes the highest ethical standards in all of the Company's business dealings. We affirm that the private sector is the engine of growth and socio-economic development for the East African Community. This Code provides common values to support regional economic integration and trade for prosperity in the EAC. EABC strongly encourages all of its members to endorse the Code that we've introduced today.”**

Lilian Awinja, Ag. Executive Director of the East African Business Council.

- member states, and ensure that their products and services observe health, environmental and safety requirements.
- Suppliers, Contractors and Agents: Comply with all legal and contractual obligations and uphold high ethical standards in procurement and other processes. Insist of the same commitment from their suppliers and agents.
- Competitors: Comply with competition laws and regulations
- Community: Observe the ethical norms of the communities affected by their operations
- Governments: Comply with all laws and regulations within the EAC and in the individual member states.
- Environment: Comply with environmental laws and regulations and implement environmentally sustainable practices. They also commit to sustainable development and full life cycle responsibility for their products/services

Commitment status to the Code has been formulated into two categories; Silver Membership for organisations currently not under any national/international level Code; those that need to put in place relevant policies, procedures and internal structures that promote integrity and ethical conduct within their companies and Gold level Membership for those in an existing national/international level Code.

The Code explains the standards of behaviour that EABC expects of its members in their daily activities and dealing with others. It also identifies guiding principles to help them make decisions consistent

with EACs values and reputation. Member Companies have the opportunity to self-report any violations to the Code so as to prevent investigation by the Code Management structure and companies will receive support in resuming compliance.

Code of Conduct promotes the highest ethical standards in all of the Company's business dealings. It applies to all Directors, Officers, and all employees of the Company and its subsidiaries within the EAC region. Vendors and

Suppliers are also subject to these requirements as adherence to the Code will be a condition for conducting business with Companies.

Each member is responsible for demonstrating integrity and leadership by complying with the provisions of the Code of Conduct, Rules and Procedures, Company policies and all applicable laws. By fully committing to the Code, companies will pledge to treat their stakeholders with respect, to run their businesses responsibly, to act in compliance with applicable laws and regulation, and to be actively involved in promoting integrity and corruption prevention. ◆

## The East African Science and Technology Commission – A Brief

By Ms. Gertrude Ngabirano



Ms. Gertrude Ngabirano, EASTECO Executive Secretary



Dr. Saidi Kibeya, EASTECO Deputy Executive Secretary

The 5<sup>th</sup> Extra ordinary summit of the EAC Heads of State held on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2007 established the East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTECO) as an institution of the EAC. This is in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Treaty on the Establishment of the East African Community as set out on Chapter 16, Article 103 (a), whereby the Partner States undertook to promote cooperation in the development of science and technology within the Community, and as per the functions of the EASTECO as set out in The Protocol on the Establishment of the East African Science and Technology Commission. The Treaty in Article 103, recognizes the fundamental importance of science and technology in economic development.

### Objectives of the Commission

The Development Objective of EASTECO is to promote and co-ordinate the development, management and application of Science & Technology to support regional integration and socio-economic development.

#### EASTECO's specific objectives include:

- Regional Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) policy formulation;
- Joint development & application of science and technology;
- Promotion of regional research centres of excellence;
- Exchange and utilization of scientific information;
- Public and private sector partnership in development and application of STI;
- Resource mobilization for STI in the community;
- Fostering scientific and technological innovation in the Partner States (Seeding for future growth);
- Development, adoption and utilization of ICT and the adoption of new & emerging technologies, and;
- Promotion of the exchange and utilization of scientific information, and to support the dissemination of research and development findings in the Partner States;

The Headquarters agreement between the EAC and the Government of Rwanda was signed on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2014 and Rwanda allocated office premises to EASTECO in Kigali. The offices of the Commission are located Telecom House, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Kacyiru in Kigali. EASTECO has been operational since mid-July 2015.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers (April 2015) appointed Ms. Gertrude Ngabirano as the Executive Secretary, Mr. Saidi Kibeya as the Deputy Executive Secretary (Programmes) of the Commission, as well as Mrs. Odeth Bateta and Mr. Methuselah Mbajo as the Administrator and Accountant respectively. All the four recruited members of staff have already reported in Kigali. The recruitment of additional staff is planned for the Financial Year 2016/2017.

### Official Launch of EASTECO

With the support of the Government of Rwanda and specifically the Ministry of EAC Affairs, it is planned to hold an official launch of the EASTECO in Kigali, Rwanda during the month of November 2015.

### Going forward

EASTECO will work in collaboration with relevant institutions from the EAC Partner States including the Ministries responsible for Science and Technology in the Partner States, the National Science and Technology Commissions/Councils, universities, Research Institutions, Civil Society, and the Private Sector, among other stakeholders. The immediate activities for the Commission include:

- The development of a regional STI policy
- The development of a 5-year Strategic Plan
- The establishment of Regional Technology & Innovation Centres
- The establishment of partnerships with relevant regional and international organisations

Ms Ngabirano is the Executive Secretary of EASTECO

## A Glimpse at the East African Kiswahili Commission

By Prof. Kenneth Inyani Simala, Ph.D

The East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC) has been established by means of a protocol unanimously ratified by all the Partner States of the East African Community. The Protocol provides that the Commission will be advising EAC Partner States on research, teaching, learning and development through policy formulation, knowledge generation and curriculum review, and standardization of terminologies in Kiswahili as a *lingua franca*.



Prof. Simala Inyani, EAKC Executive Secretary

The vision of the Commission is to be the leading body in the promotion and coordination of the development and usage of Kiswahili for regional unity and sustainable socio-economic development in Partner States. EAKC's mission is to ensure the development of Kiswahili for regional and international interaction for political, economic, social, cultural, educational, scientific and technical development of the Partner States.

#### EAKC's broad objectives are:

- To use Kiswahili to enhance political, economic and social unity within the EAC;
- To encourage and develop mutually beneficial collaboration between and amongst member Kiswahili Councils, Governments and other organizations, public and private;
- To meet local, national and regional development needs;
- To resolve issues in every appropriate sector of Kiswahili usage within EAC;
- To develop human resource capacity in Kiswahili in East Africa and beyond, and;
- To support and facilitate institutions involved in Kiswahili research, training and promotion.

To realize these objectives, EAKC will work with EAC Partner states and other stakeholders elsewhere to:

- Establish and strengthen working relationships with those responsible for Kiswahili;
- Coordinate establishment of National Kiswahili Councils and other member institutions;
- Initiate and promote professional and other Kiswahili Associations;
- Establish the Management Board of EAKC;
- Develop and launch the EAKC Strategic Plan 2016-2021;
- Initiate and strengthen collaborative Kiswahili research and sharing of findings;
- Encourage and assist Partner States develop centres of advanced study in Kiswahili;
- Develop a comprehensive electronic network linking Kiswahili users;
- Facilitate publication and dissemination of Kiswahili materials;
- Identify Kiswahili training needs and undertake training in specific areas;
- Assist Partner States promote curriculum reform so as to offer quality education for the production of Kiswahili professionals;
- Use Kiswahili in various activities to promote the meaning and value of East African unity;
- Initiate, assist and encourage the development of Kiswahili as a language of wider communication in EAC;
- Contribute to the attainment of sustainable development of EAC through the use of Kiswahili;
- Strengthen and consolidate long standing political, economic, social, cultural and traditional ties between EA Partner States through Kiswahili;
- Assist members of EAKC in Partner States with capacity building and management of Kiswahili institutions;
- Assist Partner States with special needs in Kiswahili develop the language;
- Encourage staff and student exchanges among Kiswahili institutions in Partner States;
- Coordinate resource mobilization for the various programmes and projects of the Commission;
- Enhance the use of Kiswahili in the conduct of official business and public life within the EAC Partner States;
- Coordinate policy formulation on Kiswahili;
- Monitor and evaluate implementation of Kiswahili policy in Partner States, and;
- Establish linkages and collaborations with institutions and organisations that use Kiswahili.

So far a staff of three has been recruited in order to lay the ground for the above activities at the Commission's headquarters in Zanzibar, United Republic of Tanzania. More staff will be recruited soon to help operationalize the Commission's Secretariat and planned activities. ♦

Prof. Simala is the Executive Secretary, EAKC

# South Sudan finally gains Admission into the EAC

By Simon Peter Owaka



EAC Heads of State in a group photo outside the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge, Arusha after the 17<sup>th</sup> Summit meeting.

South Sudan was finally admitted as a member of the East African Community on March 2, 2016, essentially become the regional bloc's sixth Partner State as member countries of the EAC are called.

The Summit of the EAC Heads of State at its 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting held at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge near Arusha, Tanzania decided to admit South Sudan as a member of the Community. The Summit was acting on the recommendations of a report of the EAC Council of Ministers on the negotiations for the admission of South Sudan into the Community. Admission of new members into the Community is a prerogative of the Summit.

The Summit further designated its Chairperson to sign the Treaty of Accession with the Republic of South Sudan. From then on, it was not a matter of whether South Sudan would join the Community but when?

Accepting his country's admission into the EAC, South Sudan's Second Vice President James Wani Igga described the Summit's decision as a historic event for the country and the region.

Igga, who represented President Salva Kiir at the Summit meeting, said South Sudan's forefathers aspired to join the EAC over five decades ago, adding that the entry into the Community marked a turning point in South Sudan's history and foreign policy.

"South Sudan previously had no freedom of choice as part of Sudan. After independence in 2011, we made a clear statement that we wanted to join the EAC because this is where we belong," Igga said, as he allayed fears among some East Africans that his country would be a burden to the Community.

Igga said South Sudan's entry into the Community would be of mutual benefit, adding that Africa's youngest nation offered a market and an investment destination for entrepreneurs in the EAC. The VP said South Sudan also had petroleum which it would sell to the region.

South Sudan has been wracked by a civil war which broke out due to a power struggle within the SPLM. A peace agreement has since been signed to establish government of national unity between President Salva Kiir and his former Vice President Dr. Riek Machar. East African leaders played a critical role in brokering the agreement with talks being held alternately in Arusha and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

With a population estimated at 12 million, the entry of South Sudan into the Community means an expanded market for businesses in the region. Having attained independence less than five years ago, the country is a net importer of almost everything except cattle. It is in need of all kinds of goods, services and assistance to develop highly skilled manpower to run both its private and public enterprises. Already, several multinationals in East Africa such as KCB Bank Group, Equity Bank, CFC Stanbic and the Cooperative Bank have set up base in the country. KCB which started investing in the country immediately after the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2005 now has branches in all the country's initial 10 states.

The country's admission into the EAC is the fulfilment of a dream held by South Sudanese leaders in the mid-20th century: that South Sudan should be part of a federation with the rest of East Africa as opposed to British plans then that the country should be part of the Republic of Sudan.

As the British Raj embarked on rolling back its empire, once branded "the empire on which the sun would never set, South Sudanese leaders pleaded with the departing colonial power to grant them independence or allow them to become part of East Africa which lay south. They were fearful of potential racial discrimination, slavery, oppression and marginalization by the more populous, Arabized and Islamic northern part of the country. Well, for unknown reasons, the British didn't listen to their pleas and instead let the South be part of the Republic of Sudan.

Civil war inevitably broke out after Sudan was granted independence in 1956. This was the First Sudanese Civil War which lasted up to 1972 when Southern Sudan became Autonomous Region. This arrangement lasted until 1982 when it was abrogated by then Sudanese President Gaafar al Nimeiry who also annexed parts of the Southern Sudan Autonomous Region where oil had been discovered. The second Sudanese Civil War broke out in 1983 when Dr. John Garang De Mabior, then a colonel in the Sudanese Army led mutinous troops to form the Sudan Peoples' Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A). The

war lasted for nearly two decades and only ended with the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in Nairobi in 2005.

The CPA restored southern autonomy with an Autonomous Government of Southern Sudan being formed with Garang as the President. Garang was also the First Vice President under a national unity government based in Khartoum. The CPA also provided for a referendum after six years at which Southern Sudan would vote either to remain part of or break away and become an independent state. Dr. Garang died just three weeks after the signing of the CPA in a helicopter crash while returning from an official visit to Uganda. His death left a huge void in the SPLM/A as he commanded respect and reverence across most of the country.

In January 2011, a referendum was held to determine whether South Sudan should become an independent country and break away from Sudan. Approximately 98.83% of the population voted for independence. The country formally became independent on July 9, 2011. South Sudan formally applied for admission into the EAC on November 10, 2011. An application made earlier by the Republic of Sudan to join the Community had earlier been rejected by the Summit because the country did not meet the required criteria for admission. Foremost among the reasons for rejection of the application was that Sudan did not share a border with any of the five Partner States.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Extra-Ordinary EAC Summit held on April 24, 2012 in Arusha considered the report on the application and directed the Council to expedite the process. In implementing the Summit directive, the Council of Ministers constituted an EAC Verification Team which undertook a verification mission to South Sudan from July 15 – 31, 2012. Upon consideration of the outcome of the Verification Mission, the 14<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit held on November 30, 2012 directed the Council to commence negotiations with South Sudan on the application.

Based on the Summit directive, the 30<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council of Ministers adopted a roadmap for the negotiations with South Sudan and approved the commencement of the negotiations to be undertaken at three levels, namely: Technical Team; Permanent/Principal Secretaries, and; Ministerial/Cabinet Secretaries. The negotiations were carried out between March and October 2015 at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha.

In their report, the Ministers/Cabinet Secretaries noted that:

- South Sudan met the threshold for admission into the EAC, and;
- There will be need for capacity building, sensitization and institutional strengthening for South Sudan to attain the requisite capacity to implement EAC programmes and projects. ◆



## TITBITS ON SOUTH SUDAN

### Did you know that South Sudan...

- Is the youngest country in the world? It was only on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2011 that South Sudan gained independence following a referendum that passed with 98.83% of the vote, when it spun-off from the country of Sudan.
- Is one of Africa's most linguistically-diverse countries? It has several hundreds of language groups.
- Is home to the Boma National Park, situated close to the Ethiopian border? The Park is vast expanse of wilderness that is home to wildlife including migratory herds of over a million Mongalla gazelle, white-eared kob, tiang and antelope.
- Is now the second largest Partner State within EAC and 42<sup>nd</sup> largest country in the world?
- It is a landlocked country in eastern Africa with plains in the north and center and highlands in the south, along the border with Uganda and Kenya.
- Is bordered by Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan, and Uganda?
- Is also home to the White Nile River which passes through South Sudan? The White Nile is one of two tributaries of the Nile River.
- Contains many natural resources such as petroleum, iron ore, copper, chromium ore, zinc, tungsten, mica, silver, gold, and hydropower? It has vast and largely untapped natural resources, characterized by a subsistence economy.
- Is the most oil-dependent country in the world, with oil accounting for almost the totality of exports, and around 60% of its gross domestic product (GDP)?
- The country's currency is known as South-Sudanese Pound.

### South Sudan: Quick Facts & Figures

- ✓ Area: 644,329 sq km
- ✓ Population: 12,042,910 (July 2015 estimates)
- ✓ Ethnic Groups: Dinka 35.8%; Nuer 15.6%; Shiluk; Azande; Bari; Kakwa; Kuku; Murle; Mandari; Didinga; Ndogo' Bviri; Lndi, Anuak, Bongo; Lango; Dungotona; Acholi (2011 estimates)
- ✓ Religion: Animist, Christian
- ✓ GDP per capita: \$2,100 (2014 estimates)

Data compiled by Damaris Nyaga

EAC Heads of State

# Launch another Road to Connect Central and Northern Transport Corridors

By the Community Team

**E**ast African Community Heads of State on March 3, 2016 launched the construction works for the Arusha-Holili/Taveta road which will provide an additional link between the Central and Northern Transport corridors.

The launch of the Tanzanian section of the Arusha-Holili road which links up with the Taveta-Voi road on the Kenyan side came in the wake of the 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary EAC Heads of State Summit which was held at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge in Arusha one day earlier.

Presidents John Magufuli (Tanzania), Uhuru Kenyatta (Kenya), Yoweri Museveni (Uganda), and Second Vice Presidents Joseph Butore (Burundi) and James Wani Igga (South Sudan) respectively officially launched the works at Tengeru Township on the Arusha-Moshi road. Rwandan President Paul Kagame was represented at the event by his EAC Affairs Minister, Ms. Valentine Rugwabiza.

The Heads of State reaffirmed their commitment to facilitate intra-regional trade by implementing the Community's ambitious 10-year Infrastructure Development Strategy especially through the construction of a vast and reliable road network in addition to ports, railways and power generation plants.

Speaking at the event, President Magufuli who is also the Chairman of the Heads of State Summit, disclosed that the road would include the expansion of the 14.1 km stretch from Arusha to Tengeru and the 28.3 km Arusha by-pass which combined would cost US\$1.3 million. President Magufuli thanked the Japanese government and the African Development Bank (AfDB) for agreeing to provide financing for the project.

Dr. Magufuli emphasized the need for building high quality roads noting that in Tanzania 67% of cargo was transported by road. He urged the road contractor to ensure the road was built to the required standards and warned that cancelling contracts due to poor performance was not unusual for him as a former roads minister.

He said industrialization was also a priority for the region saying this was the surest way to solve high rates of unemployment and poverty.

"We produce cotton, wool and leather which are used for manufacturing clothes and shoes. I don't see why our people should be wearing second hand clothes and shoes. Why should we export leather as a raw material and then import poor quality shoes which wear out within three to four days?" he asked.

On the EAC One Area Network which is now operational in Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya, Dr. Magufuli said it was regrettable that Tanzania was yet to join the network due to rampant corruption at the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

He revealed that TCRA had lost TShs400 billion (\$183 million) in irregular deals, adding that those involved had not only been sacked but would also be investigated and prosecuted.

In his remarks, President Kenyatta said East Africans were ahead of their governments in the integration process, adding that the onus was on governments to enable people do business by removing barriers to trade. "Governments should build roads, pool energy sources to ensure reliable power supply across the region and build industries. We should abandon the artificial borders put in place by the colonial powers which divided communities and now pose barriers to trade and movement of people. Let us eliminate these borders so that our people can move and trade freely," President Kenyatta said.

President Kenyatta said leaders in the region had resolved to work together in order to create wealth, employment and build industries which will promote exports.

"Value addition and manufacturing will increase our share of trade on the world market which is currently low," said the Kenyan leader, and expressed optimism that the liquid petroleum gas from Tanzania would soon be available for sale on the Kenyan market.



EAC Heads of State cut the ribbon to launch the construction works for the Tanzanian section of the Arusha-Holili-Taveta-Voi road

Speaking at the function, the Japanese Ambassador to Tanzania and EAC, Mr. Masaharu Yoshida, described roads as the basic infrastructure to promote regional integration and trade, reduce the distribution costs and enhance economic development in the region.

"Japan has contributed by constructing many trunk and regional roads, in many cases through cooperation with international organizations like AfDB and transferring of maintenance and management skills through various projects," said Yoshida.

Also at the function were the Chairperson of the EAC Council of Ministers Amb. Dr. Augustine Mahiga, Kenya's EAC Affairs and Labour Minister Phyllis Kandie and Japanese Ambassador to Tanzania and the EAC, H.E. Masaharu Yoshida.

The Japanese envoy said the Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road which was completed in December 2014 had improved the capacity of the corridor between Arusha and Athi River which connects Dar es Salaam and

Nairobi where 40% of exports from Kenya to Tanzania 20% of exports from Tanzania to Kenya flow through.

He said Japan would continue providing assistance for the construction of transport corridors on the African continent.

"The 4<sup>th</sup> Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in 2008 proposed the facilitation of border procedures and then developed the construction of One Stop Border Project (OSBP) facilities or capacity building for customs. TICAD V in 2013 further promoted the initiative by implementing 'The Project on Capacity Development for International Trade Facilitation in the Eastern Africa region' which is focusing on supporting OSBP operationalization, establishment of efficient customs clearance system," said Yoshida.

He said the TICAD VI which will be held in Nairobi in August 2016 will also focus on infrastructure development and OSBPs. ◆

## We'll Continue to Support Infrastructure Development in the EAC - AfDB Regional Representative

By Simon Peter Owaka



Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has reaffirmed its commitment to support the infrastructure development within the East African Community (EAC).

Mr. Gabriel Negatu, the Regional Director of the bank's Eastern Africa Regional Resource Centre, said AfDB shares the EAC's vision of an open region that is competitive with the outside world, and recognizes that functional and efficient infrastructure is the key to harnessing Africa's huge potential and delivering sustainable development.

Mr. Negatu said the role of the bank was to help East Africa unlock its development potential by addressing constraints such as inadequate infrastructure and the financing required thereof.

"The Bank's Ten Year Strategy (2013-2022) as well as the new Regional Integration and Policy Strategy all recognize shared cross-border regional infrastructure projects as the best means of accelerating connectivity and promoting deeper integration. Our support on this project and other regional projects underscores these strategies," he said.

Mr. Negatu disclosed that for the EAC region, the bank's current portfolio consisted of 116 ongoing projects with a total commitment value of US\$5.65 billion of which about 83% (US\$4.72 billion) had been allocated to infrastructure, adding that for Tanzania the total value of ongoing projects was US\$1.88 billion of which 88% (\$1.66 billion) was allocated to infrastructure.

Mr. Negatu was speaking at Tengeru Township along the Arusha—Moshi road in Tanzania during the official regional launch of the construction works for the Arusha—Holili road section (Tanzania component) by the EAC Heads of State Summit on March 2, 2016. The road which is a joint project between Kenya and Tanzania of runs from Arusha through the Holili/Taveta border towns and on to Voi which is on the Northern Transport Corridor.

Mr. Negatu said that the road would transform the lives of the communities on its route in addition to promoting tourism and fostering regional cooperation and integration.

"Consistent with the goals of the Government of Tanzania and those of the other EAC member states, the bank recognizes infrastructure development is at the heart of the economic development process that reduces the cost of doing business, attracts private sector investment, enables production and service delivery, links market centres and contributes to the sustainability of the quality of live through the redistribution of wealth," he said.

The AfDB official hailed the strong partnership between the EAC and development partners which had resulted in the construction of the crucial link road.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank Trademark East Africa for financing the One Stop Border Post at Holili/Taveta, which together with our intervention will ease the movement of goods and services between Tanzania and Kenya, and the other EAC countries. I would also like to acknowledge the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for their consideration to finance the rehabilitation of the Tengeru—Holili section of this all important road link," said Negatu.

"The Arusha—Tengeru section in Tanzania and the Mwatate—Taveta section in Kenya, both being funded by AfDB and the governments of Tanzania and Kenya are part of the important road link, the Arusha—Holili/Taveta—Voi Road linking the Central Corridor in Tanzania and the Northern Corridor in Kenya," he added.

He said the road when completed would reduce transport costs between Arusha and Voi, facilitate cross-border trade, enhance tourism, improve accessibility to markets and social services, thereby contributing to poverty reduction, adding that already trade revenue on both sides of the road had increased significantly.

Negatu said that given the huge demand for investments in infrastructure, it was imperative for governments to adopt innovative financing approaches.

"I am pleased to inform you that a majority of Regional Member Countries, including in the EAC now have access to AfDB window. For Tanzania, three projects have benefited from the window including the BRT (Bus Rapid Transport system) Phase 2, Transport Sector Support Programme, and the Arusha Water Supply and Sanitation for a total value of \$512 million," he said.



Mr. Gabriel Negatu

"Over and above the normal Bank financing mechanisms, innovative financing instruments include the Africa50 Fund with projected investments of \$3 billion for 2014-2018; the Africa Growing Together Fund, which is a partnership with China with initial funding of \$2 billion, and; Partial Risk/Credit Guarantees (PRG) instruments," he said, adding that PRGs had proved to be catalytic in giving comfort to the private sector to invest by helping to reduce risk for infrastructure projects.

He singled out three issues that EAC Partner States would need to address while considering future endeavours in the development of infrastructure, namely:

- The role of the private sector in the provision of infrastructure through public-private partnerships (PPP);
- Greater emphasis on adequate policy and regulatory frameworks, and strengthening the capacity of the executing agencies and the line ministries for policy-making, planning, regulation, monitoring and follow-up, and;
- The sustainability of the infrastructure investment. The bank is aware that more has to be done to support the sustainability of the investment by improving the maintenance strategy and financing.

The event was attended by Presidents John Magufuli (Tanzania), Yoweri Museveni (Uganda) and Uhuru Kenyatta (Kenya). Rwandan President Paul Kagame was represented by his EAC Affairs Minister Valentine Rugwabiza. Burundi and South Sudan were represented by their Second Vice Presidents Joseph Butore and James Wani Igga respectively. ◆



Participants at the Tanzania EAC BIOPAMA Observatory workshop

## East African National Engagements for the Development of Biopama Observatory

By Beryl Nyamgeroh

In 2015, the East African Community Secretariat became the host of the Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management that serves the East African Community (EAC) countries. Following a regional kick-off meeting to introduce the EAC Observatory to users and providers, a series of national engagements has been taking place in the EAC countries since the last quarter of 2015.

Kenya, followed by Uganda and Rwanda were the first countries engaged in October and December 2015 respectively, whilst the two remaining countries, Tanzania and Burundi, will take part in this exercise in the first quarter of 2016.

The purpose of the national engagements is to allow a larger group of stakeholders from each of the partner states to engage at a more detailed level with the planned functioning of the Observatory and provide feedback and input into their needs and requirements as well as data they could contribute to the broader community.

The EAC National Engagement Workshops which took place in Kenya, 22 October 2015, Uganda, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and Rwanda 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015, were an introduction and in-depth presentation on the Regional Reference Information System (RRIS) of the EAC Observatory for Biodiversity and Protected Areas Management. Experts and participants from various governmental and non-governmental institutions attended to discover the RRIS and contribute their knowledge on existing information and data as well as provide insights into key products needed in the EAC region to support Protected Areas decision-making.

The engagements in the three countries provided a platform for discussion on the RRIS and allowed for identifying the gaps and improvements that could be made, such as the need for technical training on the RRIS, the importance of promoting responsible and accountable data sharing and strategically identifying priority areas. From all three workshops there was mutual agreement that a focus on the development of a State of Protected Areas report, as a key product of the EAC Observatory, helps to prioritize data collection for input into the report and the report itself would be very useful to identify priority areas for interventions and resources.

Key partners for the EAC Observatory were also identified, such as the Centre of Excellence in Rwanda, the Regional Centre for Mapping of Resources for Development (RCMRD) in Kenya and the Directorate of Environmental Affairs in Uganda. The two institutions and the government ministry in the respective countries focus on the collection of biodiversity data and natural resources data and making it accessible to interested parties, including local communities.

Reflecting on the results of the workshop in Uganda, Bob Kazungu, Forestry Officer at the Ministry of Water and Environment of Uganda stated: *"The workshop was a success given the fact that the platform for data capture and sharing provides an avenue to have a one stop centre at the region in order to have information on biodiversity. As a country, we are struggling to obtain useful information that has been scattered in various institutions, and any such support is greatly appreciated. The meeting brought together experts in policy, data management and GIS & remote sensing, which provided varied means to forge a road map for effective data collection for BIOPAMA"*. ◆

## Agricultural Transformation The Case of the EAC Food Security Action Plan

By Moses Marwa

The agricultural sector makes a significant contribution to the GDP of the five East African Community Partner States. Agriculture is also a leading employer with over 80 percent of the EAC population being employed in the sector. The economies and livelihoods of people in East Africa are hence predominantly dependent on agriculture.

Agriculture and Rural Development therefore feature prominently under Articles 105 to 110 in the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC and Article 45 of the Common Market Protocol. The Sector is guided by the Sectoral Council of Ministers responsible for Agriculture. In cognizance of the importance of the sector and its contribution to poverty alleviation and food security, the EAC Food Security Action Plan (FSAP) was adopted by the Summit in 2011. FSAP guides the coordination and implementation of flagship regional agricultural projects and programmes designed to address various challenges hindering the sector.

Progress made on several fronts include: the development of governance instruments for strengthening regional coordination of the sector; instruments to ensure food and nutrition security and safety, and; interventions to promote agricultural value chains for crops, livestock and fisheries. An enabling agricultural policy and regulatory environment is key to unlocking the enormous potential in the region in order to realize the desired levels of transformation. In this regard, the instruments developed and interventions undertaken will be of significance in revolutionizing the growth of the agricultural sector within the EAC.

To enhance the delivery of services in the agricultural sector, the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security (SCAF) to put in place three sectoral committees to advise in the respective areas, namely: Sectoral Committee on Crops; Sectoral Committee for Animal Resources, and; a Sectoral Committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development.

### Food and Nutrition security in the EAC

While some EAC Partner States have put in place instruments at the national level to mitigate food and nutrition insecurity, the efforts are fragmented. A regional multi-sectoral and coordinated approach for addressing the multi-faceted issues of food and nutrition security is lacking. In September 2014, the EAC Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP) was adopted by the SCAF. The EAC FNSP is designed to streamline and stimulate efforts aimed at addressing food insecurity in the region. It provides a framework for action that strengthens linkages between nutrition, health, food security, agriculture, development, and other sectors to ensure a reduction in malnutrition. The development of a strategy and action plan to implement the FNSP is currently underway.

### EAC SPS Agenda

Sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures (SPS) is an agreement under the World Trade Organization focusing on how governments can apply food safety, animal, fish and plant health measures and regulations. In 2013, the EAC SPS Protocol was adopted by the Council of Ministers. The objectives of the Protocol encompass protection of human, animal and plant health and promotion of trade in food and agricultural commodities within the Community and between the Community and other trading partners. The protocol also seeks to strengthen cooperation and coordination of SPS measures and activities at the national and regional levels. The implementation of the Protocol is underway with Partner States developing legal instruments to domesticate it.

In facilitating implementation of the EAC SPS Protocol, Sanitary Measures for Fish and Fishery Products were developed and launched in March 2014. The EAC is the first Regional Economic Community to launch such measures in Africa. The aim of the SPS measures is to safeguard and promote the EAC fisheries sector by facilitating EAC fish and fisheries products to access international markets. Other SPS measures at an advanced state of completion include draft harmonized SPS measures on food safety, and measures for plants, animals, birds and bees.

In the context of the SPS architecture, the EAC Secretariat has stepped up interventions on aflatoxin prevention and control. Aflatoxin is a poison produced by a fungi residing in the soil and dead decaying matter in the field. Aflatoxin contaminates key staple crops including maize and groundnuts and poses a serious threat to human and animal health. It leads to heavy post-harvest and trade-related losses. Under the EAC Regional Project on Aflatoxin Abatement, steady progress has been made in the development of an EAC evidence-based aflatoxin implementation strategy and action plan. A total of eleven multi-sectoral technical papers have been developed purposely to inform the development of an EAC regional policy and strategy and implementation plan on aflatoxin. The critical topics covered in the papers include impacts of aflatoxin on animal and human health; standards for food and feed; biological control of aflatoxin; post-harvest handling; alternative uses and disposal systems for contaminated products, and; economic impact on trade.

In addition, a five-year communication strategy on aflatoxin control and prevention has been developed. The strategy is designed to address a robust multi-sectoral aflatoxin reduction initiative across the health, agriculture, livestock, trade, industry and environmental sectors.

As part of the aflatoxin interventions, the 31<sup>st</sup> Council of Ministers adopted the **EAC Regional Post-Harvest Handling and Storage Measures for Aflatoxin Abatement**. The measures have been developed →

to assist Partner States in: the implementation of integrated systems of post-harvest handling; storage and processing methods to minimize aflatoxin contamination, and; to improve the knowledge of local scientists, farmers, storage operators, processors, distributors and consumers about aflatoxin prevention and control measures.

### EAC Commitment to the CAADP process

The African Union's (AU) Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP) is Africa's flagship policy framework for agricultural transformation, wealth creation, food security & nutrition, economic growth and prosperity for all. EAC has embraced and domesticated the CAADP agenda through the auspices of the EAC FSAP. The EAC CAADP Compact has been developed with the objective of facilitating the coordination of cross-cutting programmes of a regional nature. It seeks to ensure stronger alignment between regional and national agricultural programmes in the region. Implementation of the EAC CAADP Compact will be realized through a Regional Agricultural Investment Plan. Impact and outcomes of the interventions undertaken will be measured by a CAADP Compact Results Framework that is under development. In June 2014, the AU Heads of State and Government adopted the Malabo declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods. The Malabo Declaration is a rededication to the Principles and Values of the CAADP programme, and directly addresses agricultural transformation and food security in the 2015-2025 decade. EAC is committed to the implementation of the Malabo Declaration. The overarching commitments in the Declaration include 'Commitment to Ending Hunger in Africa by 2025,' and a 'Commitment to Boosting Intra-African Trade in Agricultural commodities and services.' These commitments are pertinent to and of great relevance to the EAC integration process.

### Enhancing Access to Information

EAC has established online systems to foster information exchange and support evidenced-based decision-making. The two systems are the Regional Food Balance Sheet (RFBS) and the Animal Resources Data Base (ARIS). The RFBS generates information about staple foods produced and traded in the Partner States so as to ensure food security and facilitate trade. The ARIS database is an important tool for generation of data and information to guide decision-making and influence policy making on strategic investments in the livestock and fisheries sub-sectors.

### Promoting Agro-industry and agro-enterprise development

Agro-enterprises make important contributions to employment and income generation in developing countries. They have key roles in the production, processing and distribution of food and fiber and are central actors in developing sustainable agricultural value chains. The East African Agro-Industry and Agro-Enterprise Development Programme



*A healthy maize crop on a Kenyan farm*

(EADP) has been developed with the aim of attracting and enabling private sector investment in the EAC agricultural sector. EADP is expected to contribute towards transforming a high proportion of EAC produced agricultural commodities into differentiated high-value products for local, regional and international markets. The programme aims at strengthening capacities of different actors, particularly agro-processing small-scale enterprises and producer groups, in governance, management, technology and marketing along the value chain.

### Unlocking the potential of the Livestock and fisheries sub-sectors

The livestock and fisheries sub-sectors have a central role in building the economies and livelihoods of East African citizens as evidenced by the high and increasing demand for livestock and fish products. However, the sub-sectors are faced with many challenges. Existing policies and regulatory frameworks are often restrictive and act as barriers to market participation of producers and traders.

To promote sustainable development of the livestock and fisheries sub-sectors, a number of key instruments have been developed and adopted by the Sectoral Council on Agriculture and Food Security.

### EAC Aquaculture Development Strategy

The EAC Strategy and Implementation Plan on Sustainable Aquaculture Development targets the promotion of the aquaculture sector. The strategic interventions identified for aquaculture development include: creating a conducive and enabling environment for investment; developing suitable aquaculture production systems; availability and access to inputs (feeds, seed, capital, etc.); improving extension, advisory services, and outreach; improving access and sustainable management of resources; enhancing research, education and training in aquaculture; marketing; regional trade, market analysis, infrastructure development and post-harvest added value; strengthening producer organizations; regulation and control, and; monitoring and evaluation.

### EAC Livestock Policy

The EAC Livestock Policy focuses on a coherent set of strategic decisions and actions for enhancing growth in livestock productivity and competitiveness. The policy seeks to enhance the growth of the sector to 5% annually. The policy envisions a "vibrant livestock industry contributing significantly to improved living standards of EAC citizens, economic growth and sustainable natural resources management by 2025."

### The Reinforcing Veterinary Governance Project in EAC

With the support of the AU, the Reinforcing Veterinary Governance in Africa Project (VETGOV) is currently under implementation. The project is dedicated to strengthening regional institutions to play their roles of coordination, harmonization, and integration with the aim of stimulating a more conducive environment for public and private investors in the livestock sector. Under VETGOV, National Livestock Policy hubs have been formed in all the EAC Partner States.

### Plan of Action for Enhancing Resilience of Pastoralists in the EAC

The socio-economic importance of pastoralism in East Africa cannot be overemphasized. Over 90% of cattle, sheep and goats in East Africa are owned by pastoral and agro-pastoral communities. Pastoralism creates employment, generates revenue and contributes significantly to the high and increasing demand for livestock and livestock products in the national and international markets. However, the contribution of pastoralism to economic development is underestimated and often omitted in national and regional accounting systems.

A Plan of Action for Enhancing Resilience of Pastoralists in Arid and Semi-Arid Lands in the EAC was adopted by the 31<sup>st</sup> Council of Ministers. Implementation of the plan will inform policy interventions necessary to reposition and revolutionize the sector.

In addition, a number of initiatives are being undertaken to improve the delivery of veterinary services to the animal resources sector. The main ones include:

- **Harmonization of Registration of Veterinary Vaccines.** In an effort to ease access to and use of vaccines for control of diseases, the EAC has developed Mutual Recognition Procedures for registration of animal vaccines. This is aimed at supporting the livestock sector in the region by enhancing access to vaccines for management of disease.
- **Mutual Recognition Agreement among Veterinary Professionals.** Pursuant to the EAC Common Protocol Provision on Trade in Services, the EAC Secretariat has focused on the development of a Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) in to enhance access to services across borders. The MRA will enhance the service delivery in the animal resources sector in the region. ◆

*Mr. Marwa is Principal Agricultural Economist at the EAC Secretariat*

# EAC Youth Clubs Spark Interest among High School Students

By Alice Maro

Noting that the youth are important stakeholders in the Integration Agenda, the EAC Secretariat established EAC Youth Clubs at secondary schools in the Republic of Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania during the month of September. The Clubs are a platform to achieve the realisation of a fully integrated Community.

Starting in the city of Nairobi from 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015, through to Dar es Salaam from 28<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> September 2015, the EAC Secretariat brought together 10 secondary schools consisting of school heads, patrons, student leaders, along with experts from the Secretariat, Ministries responsible for EAC Affairs, Education and Youth Affairs and representatives of GIZ, to establish EAC Youth Clubs in secondary schools.

In the establishment of the Clubs, the EAC Secretariat collaborated with two organizations namely; Sauti ya Jamii Programme and Vision for Youth, in Kenya and Tanzania respectively, to implement the programme, with support from its development partner, the German International Development Agency (GIZ). Under the guardianship of Sauti ya Jamii Programme and Vision for Youth, the Clubs will be established as Raising the Flag, an initiative aimed at sensitising the youth through education, training and mainstreaming of youth issues into EAC policies, projects and programmes for strategic interventions.

The two-day workshops left participants with a better understanding of the benefits and opportunities that the Community has to offer them, plus brand awareness of the EAC logo, anthem and symbols through the dissemination of communication publications, youth policy documents and branding of the venue with EAC flags and banners.

In order to have smooth operation of the Clubs, participants agreed on the sharing of EAC calendar of events (via MECAs), so as to directly and regularly involve the youth in the Integration Agenda and a draft action plan outlining the best methods for the establishment and operationalisation of EAC Clubs in Secondary Schools. At the end of the workshops, schools walked away with an EAC flag, to be hoisted beside national flags at their respective schools.

The EAC Youth Clubs were borne out of the annual EAC University Students Debate. In 2012, the EAC Secretariat saw the growing need to engage the youth and raise their awareness on EAC processes, leading them to create an annual Debate.

The Debate, which brings together representatives from the private sector, civil society, media, technocrats and academia, provide a regional platform to promote dialogue among university students and interest them in advocating for regional integration initiatives. As an outcome of the annual Debate, five (5) EAC Youth Ambassadors are appointed as focal points in their respective Partner States and Universities, to collaborate with the EAC Secretariat and MEACAs in sensitising other students on the EAC integration processes, benefits and challenges.

Since August 2012, the EAC Youth Ambassadors have been engaging and empowering students to enhance their contribution to the EAC integration agenda, through effective peer training and establishment

of EAC Youth Clubs in Universities across the Partner States.

The successful roll-out of this initiative necessitated the establishment of EAC Clubs in Secondary Schools, to further build on this formidable structure of sensitization activities, which coordinates and promotes youth dialogue, sensitization and awareness creation on the EAC Integration Process, right from the secondary to the university level.

To kick-start the process of establishing EAC Clubs in secondary schools, the EAC Secretariat conducted a pilot phase workshop in Burundi in 2014, which brought together Ministry of East African Affairs (MEACA) officials and officials responsible for youth from the five (5) EAC Partner States. A later visit to some of the secondary schools in Burundi where the EAC Clubs had been established showed positive progress. ◆

Alice Maro is the EAC Communications Expert.



Group photo with IAA students and faculty staff to consecrate the launch of the EAC Youth Club at IAA campus.

# EAC Integration: A Youth Ambassador's View

By Evance Emmanuel Ayo

The East African Community Youth Ambassadors' Platform is an initiative which was launched during the Second EAC Debate from 2<sup>nd</sup>- 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2013. The initiative supports youth by training and equipping them with leadership skills so that they can sensitize their peers on EAC integration.

The main objectives of this platform are:

- To ensure continued participation of the youth in EAC integration matters;
- To encourage networking among university students to enhance EAC integration;
- To popularize the EAC integration agenda through creation of platforms that encourage sharing of experiences;
- To prepare the youth for future leadership roles by making them ambassadors of integration in the region

The EAC Youth Ambassadors' platform looks at the EAC integration from three angles:

- Political integration
- Social integration
- Economic integration

## Political Integration

From a political angle, the Youth Ambassadors' Platform looks at the integration as the entry point to the achievement of the East African Political Federation.

I view Political Federation as the ultimate goal of EAC integration as provided for under Article 5 (2) of the Treaty and the EAC Development Strategy 2006-2010. It is worth noting that the attainment of the Political Federation is a process and not an event.

The benefits of the envisaged Political Federation have been summarized thus by H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of Republic of Uganda: "We have everything to gain from an East African Political Federation in terms of political stability, greater feeling in safety in numbers and as an economic entity better able to fight poverty."

The EAC already has in place an anthem, which is indicative of the steps being taken towards the attainment of a political federation.

It is my personal view that national and regional associations of young people should be encouraged to promote the purposes of the EAC particularly international peace and security, friendly relations among nations based on respect for the sovereignty of states, the final abolition of colonialism, and of racial discrimination and other violations of human rights.

## Social integration

Young people in every field of human endeavour are destined to guide the fortunes of mankind. At the social level, the Youth Ambassador's Platform looks at the Integration as a platform for providing good quality education to young

East Africans in addition to tackling the issue of unemployment which is a challenge facing all the five EAC Partner States today. In addition to education, the integration also avails Partner States the opportunity to provide better and affordably healthcare to their citizens through cross-border movement and addressing health issues through joint efforts.

## Economic Integration

From an economic perspective, the platform looks at the Integration as the foundation of economic growth in East Africa through policies to promote intra-regional trade. In addition to the Customs Union and the Common Market, the EAC is in the process of implementing the East African Monetary Union Protocol whose goal is attain a single currency for the region by the year 2024.

The Integration can also be viewed as a stepping stone to creating a suitable environment in conserving and exploiting natural resources for the benefit of the people. It also provides a foundation for the provision of better quality of life for citizens by formulating policies and laws that will among other things make the region secure and inclusive for people with disabilities. Partner States are also making joint investments in infrastructure and clean energy sources. EAC Partner States are also working to boost industrialization which is expected to spur economic growth as well as reduce unemployment and poverty.

## Perspectives of EAC youth look on the Integration?

**Sarah Emmanuel Student from Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenya**

*There is mutual respect and cooperation amongst the Partner States. They are also increasingly approaching issues as bloc at the global level. I am convinced that young people wish to have an assured future and that peace, freedom and justice are among the chief guarantees that their desire for happiness will be fulfilled.*

**Reginald Saria, student at Institute of Accountancy, Arusha, Tanzania**

*Economic growth means an increase in the amount of goods and services produced per capita over a period of time. There is faster economic growth among the Partner States.*

**Callixte Nsengiyumva, Nyerere Centre for Peace Research, EAC Secretariat, Arusha**

*I am convinced that education and cultural exchanges of young people among the Partner States will promote in future generation a spirit of peace, mutual respect and understanding across national borders. This will improve inter-state relations and strengthen peace and security in East Africa.*

**Raymond Maro from the Nyerere Centre**

*There is a political push in by the EAC leaders to fast-track the Political Federation. Young people should be brought up in the knowledge of the dignity and equality of all men, without distinction as to race, colour, ethnic origins or beliefs. They should also have respect for fundamental human rights and for the right of all peoples to self-determination. ◆*

Mr. Ayo, an EAC Youth Ambassador, is a student at the Institute of Accountancy in Arusha.

# EAC Youth Ambassadors Kenya Chapter 2016/2017 unveiled

By Ben Mwendwa



Outgoing EAC Youth Ambassador Robi Chacha (second left) hands over the official documents to his successor Fred Aluda. Looking on are their respective deputies, Rachael Omukhulu (left) and Vivian Ouya.

The EAC Youth Ambassadors Kenya Chapter 2016/2017 has officially taken over from their predecessors with great optimism and zeal to steer and maintain the momentum set by their predecessors.

In a colourful ceremony presided over by the East African Affairs Principal Secretary Ms Betty Maina in the state Departments' Boardroom, the Fred Aluda led team was presented with an opportunity to exploit the set up clubs and explore more prospects towards realizing their mandate as the EAC Youth Ambassadors.

Introducing the new Leaders to the Principal Secretary, the Director in charge of Social Affairs Dr. Alice Yalla enumerated numerous success stories courtesy of the joint efforts of the Department and the subsequent Youth Ambassadors. She cited institutions of higher learning which have embraced the integration process to the extent of setting up sections specifically for the same. Some institutions the Director indicated; United States International University (USIU), University of Nairobi, Bondo University (set up an institute of Research on integration matters) and Moi University which is on course.

The Director applauded the outgoing team for working tirelessly in initiating many clubs and engaging robustly in social media which has so far attracted over 800,000 followers. She challenged the incoming team to maintain the momentum and ensure the already initiated clubs remain active as a way of maintaining their sustainability.

The outgoing group listed the activities they have engaged in during their tenure with the last happening in Pwani University where an EAC Club was launched in December 2015 attracting a record-breaking turnout. The group, according to the outgoing Deputy Ambassador Rachael Omukhulu also engaged in Community Social Responsibility through tree planting and charity work. She appreciated the overwhelming support given by the Ministry which she supposed

made their tenure very successful. The outgoing Ambassador, Robi Chacha indicated the challenges the group underwent but with optimism all were surmountable. The Principal Secretary in charge of EAC integration, Ms Betty Maina extolled the programme and appreciated the fact that it was in tandem with the Government's agenda. She indicated that Youth engagement is at the core of the Government and such programs ought to be supported since the youth has a wider reach hence spreading integration through them was a sure way. "Partnering with young people is one of our core focuses as a Ministry" said the PS.

She encouraged the new Ambassadors to implement the already set programs before initiating innovative ones noting that the success of the established clubs will determine the successive steps in this course. She lauded the social media platforms and encouraged physical participation where the group could engage very key stakeholders. "Let's make efforts and cascade this worth program to get the real issues from the main stakeholders like the truck drivers, vendors, border posts management, EALA MPs and other key stakeholders". This, the PS said will be a sure way of dealing with the real issues affecting the pace of the Integration process. She gave an assurance of the ministry's support and partnership towards success on the same.

Mr Kamau Chege; Senior Assistant Director, who has been coordinating the Youth activities in the Department indicated that the process of identifying the ambassadors is merit based and as such their diligence is assured.

The 2016/2017 team will be led by Fred Kahi from Technical University of Mombasa and deputized by Ms. Vivian Ouya of the Moi University School of Law. Others are; Mutua James, Victor Ndede and Valerian Gakenia.

The ceremony was also attended by Barrack Ndegwa, the Integration Secretary and other Heads of Departments. ◆



Bujagali Power Station is a hydroelectric power station across the Victoria Nile that harnesses the energy of its namesake – the Bujagali Falls – in Uganda.



Smiling faces; Former Secretary General of EAC Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera (L) with the new Secretary General of EAC Mr. Libérat Mfumukeko.



Ms Damaris Nyaga from Corporate Communication Department, handover a photo book to the former Secretary General Amb. Augustino Maiga as the Chair of Council Amb. Augustino Maiga looks on during the handover ceremony.

# PICTORIAL



Section of EAC staff applauding during the handover ceremony of the Secretary General.



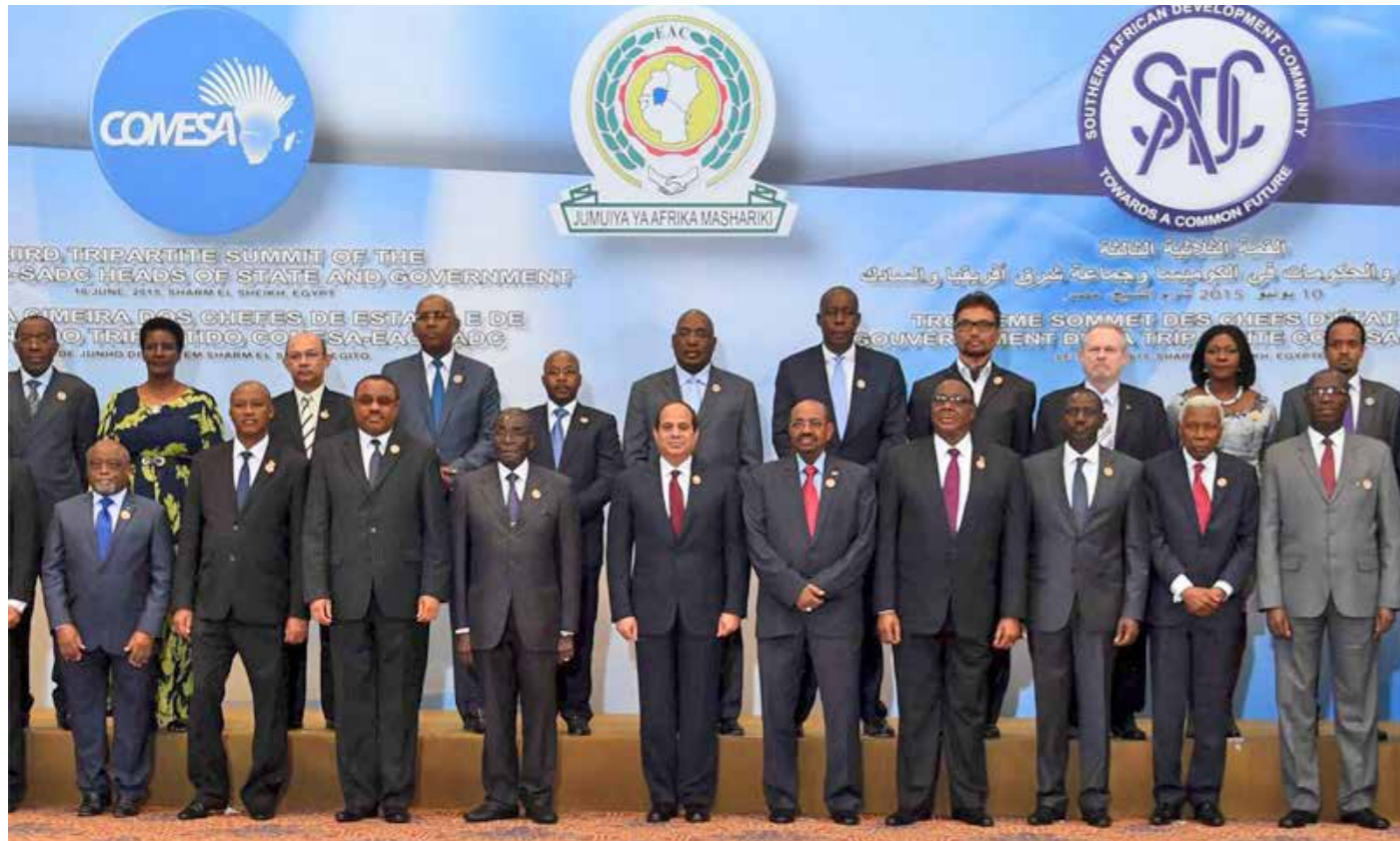
The staff of EAC sing EAC anthem during the handover ceremony of the Secretary General.



The EAC Secretary General Mr. Libérat Mfumukeko (R), in discussion with Deputy Secretary General in charge of Political Federation Mr. Charles Njoroge.



EALA Speaker, Rt. Hon Daniel Fred Kidega (L) with Hon. Justice Dr. Emmanuel Ugirashebuja, the Judge President of EACJ.



Group picture of African government leaders and delegates with the World Bank President Jim Yong Kim (2<sup>nd</sup> left) at the Tripartite summit three major regional economic committees; the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, the South African Development Community, and the East African Community, aimed at unifying them into one trade bloc.

## Progress on the Negotiations and Implementation of Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement

By Dr. Nehemiah Ngeno

**A**t the 1<sup>st</sup> Tripartite Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Kampala in October, 2008 leaders of 26 African countries met and took a bold step to establish the largest trading arrangement in Africa.

The bloc brings together three regional economic communities - Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) - into a single free trade area. The Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) makes up over half of Africa's population and GDP and by the number of countries involved in it is one of the largest free trade areas in the world.

When launching the TFTA negotiations in Johannesburg on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tripartite Summit of Heads of State and Government gave the negotiators the mandate to negotiate market integration. An Agreement on the Movement of Business Persons was also to be negotiated on a parallel track to that on market integration. Similarly, the Tripartite Summit mandated its officials to develop Work Programmes and modalities for cooperation on industrial and infrastructure development.

The ultimate aim of negotiating market integration was to reach an Agreement covering trade in goods, trade in services and other trade related matters. The negotiations were to be carried out in two phases with negotiations on trade in goods planned to be concluded in Phase I. Phase II negotiations trade in services cooperation in trade and development, competition policy, intellectual property rights and cross border investments.

Phase I negotiations were launched in June 2011 with the goal of concluding them within 24-36 months, but were only concluded in May 2015. This paved the way for the signing of the TFTA Agreement on 10 June 2015 in Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt. It has been agreed that the Agreement will come into force 30 days after 14 Tripartite Member/ Partner States deposit instruments of ratification.

### Main Elements of the Agreement

The TFTA Agreement introduced ambitious policies and mechanisms for boosting intra-Tripartite trade through elimination of tariffs on goods originating from the region; elimination of NTBs and quantita-

tive restrictions; and elimination of unnecessary and unjustifiable TBTs and SPS measures.

The Agreement also introduces common rules of origin which will be used to determine the eligibility of goods from within the region for the purpose of conferring preferential treatment. The Tripartite Member/Partner States have also agreed to promote trade amongst themselves through cooperation on customs matters, trade facilitation and movement of goods in transit.

Whereas regional cooperation is meant to promote intra-regional trade, any occurrences of dumping, subsidization or surge of imports would harm domestic industries. The Tripartite Agreement provides mechanisms which could be employed to address any harmful effects such occurrences. These include anti-dumping and countervailing measures, safeguard measures and preferential safeguards measures whose condition for application are clearly defined to avoid abuse.

Others area of cooperation provided by the TFTA Agreement include: establishment of special economic zones to promote faster economic development in the region; and, protection of infant industries. In the later case any Tripartite Member/Tripartite State which restricts imports to protect infant industries must have taken reasonable steps to deal with the difficulties faced by the infant industries. This applies to any state who wants to apply similar measures to address balance of payments problems caused by a surge in imports.

### Issues for Consideration in the next Phase of Negotiations

When signing the TFTA Agreement the Tripartite Summit also signed the Sharmel Sheikh Declaration launching the Tripartite FTA and the commencement of Phase II of negotiations, and adopted a Tripartite FTA Post Signature Implementation Roadmap.

The Declaration directed that work on outstanding areas from Phase I of the negotiations, namely: Annex 1 on Elimination of Import Duties, Annex 2 on Trade Remedies and Annex 4 on Rules of Origin, should be finalized. It is also directed that work on industrial and infrastructure development be expedited and negotiations on Movement of Business Persons continue on a separate track.

The Post Signature Implementation Roadmap provides amongst others that negotiations on Elimination of Import Duties (exchange of tariff offers), Rules of Origin and Trade Remedies should commence by August 2015. It called on the Tripartite Member/Partner States to designate and notify TFTA Focal Points to the TTF by July, 2015 and to ratify and deposit of instruments of the TFTA Agreement within 12 months after the launch.

Phase II negotiations are expected to start in January 2016 and to be concluded before the end of 2017. This work will be preceded by the establishment of the Technical Working Groups and any other institutional frameworks necessary to move the process forward. These negotiations face the risk of not starting on schedule as resource to support the process are yet to be secured.

### Progress on Implementation of Tripartite Agenda

This section provides progress in the negotiations since the signing of the Agreement, especially with respect to elimination of import duties, rules of origin and trade remedies. It also reviews progress of work on industrial and infrastructure Pillars and negotiations on the Movement of Business Persons; and the designation and notification of TFTA Focal Points and ratification and deposit instruments of the TFTA to the Tripartite Secretariat.

### Negotiations of Market Integration Pillar

Negotiations on elimination of import duties, rules of origin and trade remedies were to be concluded on Phase I of the Tripartite negotiations, but since they were not the Tripartite Summit directed that they are concluded as part of the built in Agenda in Phase II. Conclusion of negotiations in these areas is critical because they are the drivers of trade in the region.

Tripartite countries which are not in the same FTA and therefore do not engage in preferential trading are required liberalize tariffs amongst themselves through a process of exchange of tariff offers. For example, EAC does not have trade preferences with SACU, DR Congo, Eritrea and Ethiopia and has therefore prepared and made tariff offers to these countries. EAC has also made tariff offers to Egypt because while Egypt is in COMESA FTA with four EAC countries, it does not have any trade preferences with Tanzania which is not a member of COMESA.

In this regard, EAC is negotiating exchange of tariff offers with Egypt and SACU. The EAC and Egypt negotiations have been concluded, while negotiations with SACU are ongoing. The four (4) for Non-FTA countries Angola, Eritrea, Ethiopia and DRC have not responded to the tariff EAC offers. The EAC will continue to engage these countries.

Trade in any FTA is governed by rules of origin to ensure that only goods produced in the region benefit from the preferential trading arrangements. At the moment each Tripartite REC has its own rules of origin so it has been necessary to come up with one set of rules of origin to apply in all the Tripartite Member/Partner States. The rules have not been finalized hence the Tripartite Summit directed that negotiations should be concluded within six to twelve months from the signing of the agreement. ➔

# State of Play on the EAC-EU EPA Negotiations

By Marie Angelique Umulisa

Significant progress has been made in negotiating trade remedies. The only outstanding issues are finalization of two Articles of Annex II on Trade Remedies and the guidelines to govern implementation of the Annex. As the negotiations proceed participating parties have been encouraged to apply the WTO provisions.

## Implementation of Other Areas of the TFTA Agenda

Negotiation on the movement of business persons is expected to lead to an Agreement that will facilitate trade in the Tripartite by making it easier for business persons to move freely within the TFTA. Unfortunately progress towards agreement in this area has been slowed by considerations relating to security and protection of domestic labour markets instead of international best practices.

However, following the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Tripartite Technical Committee on Movement of Business Persons (TT-CMBP) held in Nairobi on 24-27 August, 2015 only Articles 5 on Guiding Principles and Article 16 on Dispute Settlement remain outstanding. Article 5 has been referred to the Technical Committee of Senior Officials for guidance.

It is recognised that trade in the TFTA will always be limited if production and trade on industrial goods remains low in the region. This applies particularly to production of intermediate and capital goods which are necessary inputs to enhance the productive capacities to address supply side constraints. A Technical Committee on the Pillar was therefore set up to develop a work plan and mechanisms for promoting industrial development in the region.

The committee has developed a Work Programme/Roadmap and Modalities for Cooperation which is awaiting consideration and adoption by the Tripartite Council of Ministers. This will be followed by the development of an appropriate instrument for cooperation on the Pillar.

A similar committee was established to promote infrastructure development in the region with the objective of reducing the cost of doing business. Progress on this Pillar has been limited largely because of lack of resources, mainly because of donors' reluctance to support processes that may require large financial support in the end. The Member/Partner States should consider alternative mechanisms for financing the work of this Pillar.

The requirement by the Tripartite Post Signature Implementation Road Map that Tripartite Member/Partner States designate and notify the TTF of their Tripartite Focal Points (TFPs) by July, 2015 has not met. Similarly, no Tripartite Member/Partner State has ratified and deposited instruments of ratification. Although it is expected that these processes will take time it is recommended that the Partner States consider fast tracking the processes to signify the importance EAC attaches to the Tripartite FTA.

## Role of EAC Secretariat in the TFTA Negotiations

The EAC Tripartite Secretariat has played a pivotal role in the Tripartite negotiations, especially in providing logistics for meetings; commissioning and synthesising research papers; developing negotiating positions; producing reports; and disseminating of negotiation outcomes and documents. The Secretariat will continue with these tasks, including the supporting negotiations of the unfinished work of Phase I and Phase II of the Tripartite negotiations.

The other specific responsibilities of the EAC Tripartite Secretariat in Phase II include:

- Finalization of the post signature implementation plan, including development of a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the plan.
- Training and capacity building of negotiators on phase 2 issues.
- Supporting EAC Partner States to undertake Tripartite preparatory meetings.
- Dissemination of information on the TFTA in the Partner States.
- Supporting the Tripartite Committees on Movement of Business Persons, industrial development and infrastructure development.

## Challenges and the Way Forward in the TFTA

Whilst the signing of the TFTA agreement is a momentous event, much remains to be done. The nuts and bolts of the agreement in the form of further liberalization of tariffs and rules of origin remain unfinished. Phase II negotiations, especially trade in services which is the other backbone of the free trade area, needs to start and get finalized as scheduled.

The Tripartite Member/Partner States should take the lead in financing the negotiations and other Tripartite activities and ensure regular attendance and participation by their officials in Tripartite meetings. This is necessary to ensure the timelines of the negotiations are met and the priorities of the Tripartite receive the required attention.

The Tripartite Member/Partner States should ensure the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA) negotiations are aligned the TFTA. This could be achieved by agreeing that they negotiate CFTA as a bloc. This will guarantee that the outcomes of the CFTA do not contradict TFTA policies. ◆



EAC-EU EPA Negotiations team in Brussels on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014

The East African Community – European Union (EAC-EU) Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations were concluded and the Agreement initialled on October 14, 2014. As part of the preparations for signature and eventual ratification of the Agreement, the Parties have jointly undertaken the legal scrubbing of the Agreement and are in the process of translation of the text into the EU official languages and Kiswahili.

## EU Market Access Offer

The EU Market Access offer, whose implementation began on the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008 (EU Market Access Regulation 1528/2007), consists of duty free and quota free access for all EAC exports to EU.

## EAC Market Access Offer

The EAC Market Access offer consists of liberalization of 82.6% of imports from the EU over a twenty five (25) year transition period. These are all based on reductions from the EAC Common External Tariff (CET).

### This liberalization will occur in three phases:

- Phase 1: involves only products with a CET of zero percent (raw materials or capital goods) which amounts to 64.4% of EAC imports from EU (1,934 tariff lines) upon entry into force of the EPA;

- Phase 2: EAC Partner States will liberalize a further 15.3% (1,082 tariff lines) within 7 to 15 years upon entry into force of the EPA. Products in this category are intermediate inputs attracting CET of 10%;
- Phase 3: EAC PS will liberalize a further 2.9% (990 tariff lines) of her imports from the EU within 12 to 25 years after entry into force of the Agreement. Included in this phase are finished products attracting a CET of 25%, whose availability at lower cost is deemed to have a positive effect on consumer welfare, and not to have a potentially negative impact on EAC industrialization?

### Exclusions from liberalization:

- 17.4% of EAC imports from EU will be excluded from liberalization (1,432 tariff lines).
- Includes EAC List of sensitive products (59 tariff lines).
- Criteria for including products on this list included:
  - contribution to rural development, employment, livelihood sustainability;
  - promotion of food security;
  - fostering infant industries;
  - contribution to government revenues;
  - Products deemed to contribute to or have a potential to contribute to increased production and trade competitiveness;
  - products subsidized by the EU are on this list. ➔

## EAC's interests in the EPA

The EAC has ensured that the EPA is structured to reflect a number of key principles, which include: strengthening regional integration in the EAC; an asymmetric approach with respect to liberalization of trade and in the application of trade related measures and trade defence instruments; allowing the EAC Partner States to maintain regional preferences with other African countries and regions and contributing to addressing the production, supply and trading capacity of EAC Partner States.

With regard to liberalization, the EAC negotiated to ensure priority for its development objectives through exemptions, long transition periods and safeguard clauses, which would minimize the costs of adjustment and facilitate new production.

The EAC Partner States negotiated for policy flexibility for revision of the tariff lines committed for liberalization under the EPA in the context of preserving the prospect for the wider African regional integration processes (i.e. the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite FTA and Continental FTA).

The EPA also contains provisions on trade defence instruments that would give EAC the opportunity to impose measures in cases where EU imports were to increase in such quantities that they would threaten domestic producers and industry.

These include:

- bilateral and multilateral safeguards (including pre-emptive safeguards – where in exceptional circumstances require immediate action, i.e. for food security);
- Infant industry protection measures i.e. EAC can impose non-tariff measures or re-introduce Most Favored Nation (MFN) tariff for up to a period of 10 years with the possibility of a 5 year extension; and antidumping and countervailing measures.

Customs and Trade Facilitation is another important chapter in the EPA. Enhanced cooperation in this area will help to improve, simplify and standardize customs procedures and to increase transparency.

Under the EPA, the EU has agreed to provide support to the EAC partner states in the areas of implementation of activities aimed at harmonizing customs standards and trade facilitation measures, information exchange on customs legislation and procedures, protecting and facilitating legitimate trade, and application of modern customs techniques including post release controls and simplified procedures.

The development of standards in Sanitary and Phytosanitary Standards (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) are also important factors in accessing markets. In the area of SPS, the EAC and EU agreed to cooperate with the aim of safeguarding human, animal and plant health or life, ensuring transparency in application of SPS measures to trade, promoting technology transfer and more fundamentally establish and enhance the EAC Partner States' capacity to implement and monitor SPS standards in accordance with international best practice.

As regards TBT, the EAC and EU agreed to cooperate in promotion of greater use of international standards in technical regulations and conformity assessments in the Parties' territories.

Further, the EAC and EU agreed on development cooperation that would support the region to address a number of supply-side constraints and also provide adjustment measures (i.e. creation of a compensatory framework) that would mitigate against any negative consequences that may arise from the implementation of the EPA (i.e. revenue loss, job loss).

In addition, the EAC and the EU have agreed to review the Agreement after every 5 years.

## Way Forward: Implementation

Focus will now be placed on assessing the implementation aspects of the EPA and developing a Programme to enable effective implementation of the obligations as well as exploiting opportunities arising from the Agreement.

Sensitization and public awareness on the EPA – to enable understanding by stakeholders of their roles in the Agreement and how the agreement may impact on existing initiatives (i.e. COMESA, EAC SADC Tripartite FTA, CFTA negotiations, etc):

Policy makers mainly in the executive and legislative arms in the Partner States will require a more than basic understanding of the EPA if they are to design policies that respond to and create an environment for the exploitation of the benefits of the partnership agreement.

Private sector will benefit greatly from being informed of how to harness the market access opportunities created by the EPA.

Capacity Building for EPA Implementation, i.e. training of government and private sector officials on selected subject areas such as on the application of the EAC-EU EPA Rules of Origin, and on monitoring and evaluation.

Undertake an impact assessment of the EPA on the long-term industrial, agricultural development and revenue of the EAC and proposing measures that would mitigate the costs associated with its implementation.

Monitoring the implementation of the EPAs will be required in order to assess progress, identify any challenges and determine the way forward. ◆

*Ms. Umulisa is Principal Trade Officer in the Directorate of Trade and Customs at the EAC Secretariat*

# Enhancing Trade in Professional Services through Mutual Recognition Agreements

By Mary Makoffu and Staicy Wagala

## The EAC Context

The EAC Common Market Protocol (CMP) was signed by the EAC Heads of State on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2009 and entered into force on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2010. The Protocol provides for free movement of goods, persons, labour, services and capital within the Community and actualizes the rights of establishment and residence. The CMP is supplemented by Annexes which set out more detailed provisions on each of the aforementioned freedoms and rights, and on the removal of restrictions on cross border provisions of services.

The freedoms and rights contained in the CMP are relevant to East African professionals who are members of regulated professions and who wish to exercise their professions elsewhere in the region. However, the two most directly applicable provisions under the CMP are found in Article 5.2 (e), which states that the Partner States agree:

*To remove measures that restrict movement of services and service suppliers, (and) harmonise standards to ensure acceptability of services traded.*

Article 5.3(a) states that, to facilitate the implementation of the CMP, Partner States will *cooperate to harmonise and mutually recognize academic and professional qualifications.*

Article 11 fleshes out the commitment on mutual recognition by stating that:

*11.1 For the purpose of ensuring the free movement of labour, the Partner States undertake to:*

- Mutually recognize the academic and professional qualifications granted, experience obtained, requirements met, licenses or certifications granted in other Partner States and
- Harmonise their curricula, examinations, standards, certification and accreditation of educational and training institutions

*11.2 The implementation of this Article shall be in accordance with Annexes to be concluded by the Partner States.*

In line with the Article cited above, and to facilitate the free movement of skilled and professional services, the EAC has agreed to: harmonise and mutually recognize academic and professional qualifications granted; experience obtained; requirements met, and; licenses or certificates granted in other Partner States.

In all Partner States, there are a number of regulated services which cannot be allowed to move across borders without prior authorization, licensing or certification of individual skills and knowledge because of policy and public interest. In professions such as law, accountancy, architecture, engineering, medicine, nursing, dentistry and veterinary medicine, prior approval is vital.

When the Partner States agreed to cooperate in trade and economic activities, they explicitly agreed on market access through scheduling of commitments in relevant service sectors. However, the scheduling of market access commitments was not sufficient to secure free movement of regulated services. Furthermore, explicit recognition was needed in trade and cooperation for the different authorization and regulatory processes for the sectors where prior approval is vital.

Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) between Partner States' statutory regulating bodies was adopted as the agreed upon mechanism to foster mobility of professional services across the region.

## What are MRAs?

When regulated services are traded from one country to another, the question of market access for foreign suppliers becomes an issue. MRAs have therefore evolved as a way of allowing foreign service suppliers to provide their services into regulated markets without the need for duplicate authorization processes in both the supplier's home country and destination market or 'host country.' The use of the word 'mutual' implies that these arrangements are reciprocal though this does not necessarily mean that the requirements of either side are identical. Moreover, the word 'recognition' has not always implied full authorization in the importing country; it may simply mean that there is recognition of the level of testing or certification already carried out in the exporting country which may then be supplemented in the host state.

MRAs generally take one of the following three forms:

- There can be harmonizing MRAs which seek to create a common standard in which underlying educational curricula and training regimes are identical. This approach is often used as a starting point by regional economic communities seeking to create MRAs. It is often abandoned quickly as it has very little immediate effect as harmonized standards are time-consuming and politically difficult to negotiate;
- They can be competency-based MRAs which seek to recognize that regional agreements can be based on the recognition of different qualifications which are all based on the same underlying competences, and;
- They can be managed MRAs which recognize that although basic underlying competences are largely shared, there are essential elements of practice which are local. These MRAs therefore permit regulatory authorities in the host country to impose some 'compensatory' measures on the migrant professional. These measures might range, for example, from a test on specific local legal, regulatory and cultural issues or a retirement to work in association with a local professional. ➔



A graduation ceremony at Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda.

One thing that all MRAs have in common is that they cover the following seven issues:

- **Governance.** MRAs need to include answers to the following questions: Who is responsible for authorization and registration of professionals in the sector under consideration? What dispute resolution arrangements exist? What arrangements are made for deepening regional collaboration?
- **Mode of supply.** An MRA should also cover the temporary presence of service suppliers as well as permanent establishment, and take account of the role played by commercial organizations as well as authorized individuals in the supply of services.
- **Scope of authorization.** An MRA will need to set out the scope of the practice being permitted to any foreign qualified persons authorized under the terms of agreement. These will often take their lead from UN Central Product Classifications (CPC) used as a basis for gathering statistics in trade which are also frequently used by countries in scheduling market access commitments under General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) or in bilateral treaties. GATS is a treaty of the World Trade Organization that entered into force in January 1995 as a result of the Uruguay Round negotiations.
- **Eligibility.** MRAs also set out the minimum requirements that a professional in one country has to fulfill before they can use the MRA to access the market in another country. These minimum requirements may range from detailed specifications about the

content of prior training and experience through eligibility to use the MRA simply on the basis of a professional title or qualification already acquired in another country

- **Equivalence.** Eligibility under an MRA does not, on its own, necessarily provide the basis for accessing the market. A foreign qualified professional who is 'eligible' under an MRA may still be subject to compensatory measures before they can be deemed to have achieved "equivalence" and have obtained the right to access the host country's market.
- **Automaticity.** This refers to the degree of discretion involved in making determinations under the MRA
- **Post-approval conditions.** Once recognition has been granted under an MRA, the agreement may also specify whether there are ongoing conditions attached, such as regular submissions of home country approval documentation, proof of indemnity insurance cover or compliance with continuous education and training requirements.

A mutual recognition agreement or MRA is therefore an agreement by which two or more countries agree to recognize: each country's academic and professional qualifications granted, experience obtained; requirements met; licenses or certificates granted. This enables a foreign trained professional to provide services lawfully in his/her own country and also provide the same in another country which is a party to the MRA.

### EAC Approach to Mutual Recognition

There are three professions in the region that so far have signed an MRA, namely: Accountants, Architects and Engineers. Accountants and Architects pioneered signing of the first MRA under the Common Market Protocol in July and September 2011 respectively. Engineers from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda signed a MRA in December 2012.

The three negotiated MRAs have all been based on the competency-based approach. This is based on the understanding that there is sufficient underlying commonality in the qualifications and form of practice of the professions in the Partner States that are signatories to the MRAs. What this approach implies, however, is that not all Partner States have participated fully in the MRA from the outset, as qualifications and regulatory frameworks must first reach the defined EAC recognized minimum level which would indicate equivalence in the competences gained through the required education and training.

The use of the competency-based MRAs means that an EAC national who is licensed to practice a profession that is covered by an MRA and from a Partner State that is party to it, is automatically eligible for recognition elsewhere in the EAC. Such an individual can obtain recognition by presenting to the competent authority of the East African country in which he or she wants to practice, with the evidence of his or her professional qualification and good standing at home. The host authority should then approve the candidate's application for a license

to practice within 30 days, and if it is not approved, should provide a written explanation as to why the application for a license has been delayed or rejected.

Once approved, an eligible EAC national may practice by being physically present in the host Partner State, either on a temporary or a permanent basis. A licensed professional from another Partner State is also entitled to be treated in the same way as a member of the local profession under the terms of the MRA, that is, they cannot be charged higher fees or have conditions put on their practice which would not apply to local practitioners.

To date, 216 Accountants have pursued practice opportunities in other Partner States. There have also been 15 requests for recognition and eight (8) licenses have been granted through the Architects' MRA. Nine (9) engineers have requested recognition so far and five (5) licenses have been granted through the MRA.

Although these numbers seem to be rather low at first glance, one should bear in mind that the ratio of MRA applicants to the number of professionals in the EAC does not significantly deviate from the European Union experiences. In addition, all MRAs are still new instruments. ◆

*Ms Makoffu is the Director, Social Sectors at the EAC Secretariat  
Ms Wagala is the Trade Policy Advisor, GIZ-EAC Programme*

### Licenses and Admissions granted through MRAs in the EAC

Country of Destination	Accountants	Architects	Engineers
Burundi	7	0	0*
Kenya	18	6	0
Rwanda	146	0	2*
Tanzania	21	0*	3
Uganda	24	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>

\* Countries are not yet part of a MRA. Source: Assessment studies of EAC accountants, architects and engineers presented at a validation workshop in Nairobi, Kenya, November 2013.

# EAC Single Customs Territory Rolled-out

By Stephen Analo



A container terminal at the port of Dar es Salaam

The Single Customs Territory popularly known as the SCT has rolled out on both the Northern and Central Corridors. It has even caused a lot of interest as far as Zambia, Malawi and the Democratic Republic of Congo who are reported to be more than ready to adopt the framework. Major business players in the region including Bakhresa and Vivo Energy, Uganda Ltd are reporting tremendous achievements in turnaround time and profits, value-addition that is directly linked to the SCT.

The mode of transacting Customs business within the EAC region, the SCT, has had a very tumultuous beginning. From debate on its definition, questions on where else it is practiced in the world and stakeholders fears and generalized pessimism that comes with any big transformational project. However, several months down the line success stories are unfolding following the implementation of the SCT.

With the implementation of the SCT, a region known to see trucks take 18 days and 21 days to reach Kampala and Kigali respectively, is witnessing a turnaround time of about 5 and 7 days respectively. In some cases self-clearing firms are reported to be doing the same stretch in as less as three days. For transporters this translates into great

savings. One can actually realize three to four trips in a month instead of one trip that was previously realized. The cost of transporting a container is reported to have reduced from USD 3470 to USD 1750 between Mombasa and Kampala. Where there was concern and fears on loss of jobs, we are witnessing increased business developments at the borders and realignment of business strategies by Clearing and freight forwarding agents, who are very critical players in the SCT and the economies of this region.

Unlike many initiatives at the EAC, the SCT is the only programme in the recent past that remains close to the hearts of the Heads of State. When the Summit pronounced itself on the Implementation of the SCT, the urgency of the matter may have escaped the EAC Secretariat. This may explain why the Heads of State of Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda moved with haste to commence the implementation of the SCT resulting in what came to be known as the COW—Coalition of the Willing. However, the intervention of the Heads of States had a very positive impact. Whereas the EAC Secretariat had developed the broad framework for the implementation of the SCT, the direct lead provided by the Heads of State created the much needed momentum to propel the SCT to the success we are witnessing now. Indeed, this

momentum is evident in what is happening on the Central Corridor more than on the Northern Corridor. Implementation on the Central Corridor started much later as compared to the Northern Corridor. However, the latest assessment on the implementation of the SCT indicates that there is not only willingness but the roll-out of products on the SCT on the Central Corridor is moving with amazing speed. There is high level of flexibility and a great deal of cooperation in sorting out issues.

## What is the SCT?

The SCT is but a stage towards full attainment of the Customs Union achievable by:

- the removal of restrictive regulations and / or
- minimization of internal border controls on goods moving between the Partner States with an ultimate realization of free circulation of goods

## The Objectives of SCT

The broad objectives of the SCT are to realize:

- Seamless flow of goods to enhance intra EAC trade
- Lowering clearance costs of goods within the region
- Shifting from physical controls to electronic clearance processes
- Coordination between agencies responsible for clearance of goods
- Enhanced compliance through a regional wide mechanism
- Building a foundation for EAC Common Market and internal single market
- Realizing economies of scale and optimal use of resources in clearance of goods
- Supportive institutional and legal framework for business.

## How the SCT Operates

- Goods imported into the Customs Union shall be entered only once in the country of destination and released at the first port of entry to the destination Partner State
- Duty paid goods shall not change destination into another Partner State except where permission is granted by both Partner State
- Duty paid goods shall not change destination into another Partner State except where permission is granted by both Partner State
- Duty paid goods released to the destination Partner State for home use shall be subjected to customs control through the Electronic Cargo Trucking System (ECTS).

## Untold story

When the history of the SCT is finally written, the success of the programme will be found to rest in the mobilization of resources both human and otherwise. Faced with the slow base towards a fully-fledged Customs Union, the SCT Framework came into being as a 'push' to step into the fully-fledged Customs Union. But it took a great deal of skills, strategy and unwavering leadership to mobilize and structure resources for the SCT. Donors, consultants, the High level Task Force, Permanent Secretaries, the Technical Working Groups and the SCT Coordinators and the SCT M&E Committee have and continue to play critical roles in bringing value addition in the process of conceptualizing, designing and rolling out the SCT.

However, there is one team that worked in the background: the Mwanza Team. This team consisted of the Director of Customs, his staff and consultants. Their task was to:

- To debate the logic of every step taken
- To interpret and understand not only the meaning but the spirit of outcomes of all meetings on SCT
- To draft, review and refine SCT documents
- Research and re-align the principles of the SCT to international Customs practice
- Back-stop the Technical Working Groups (TWGs)

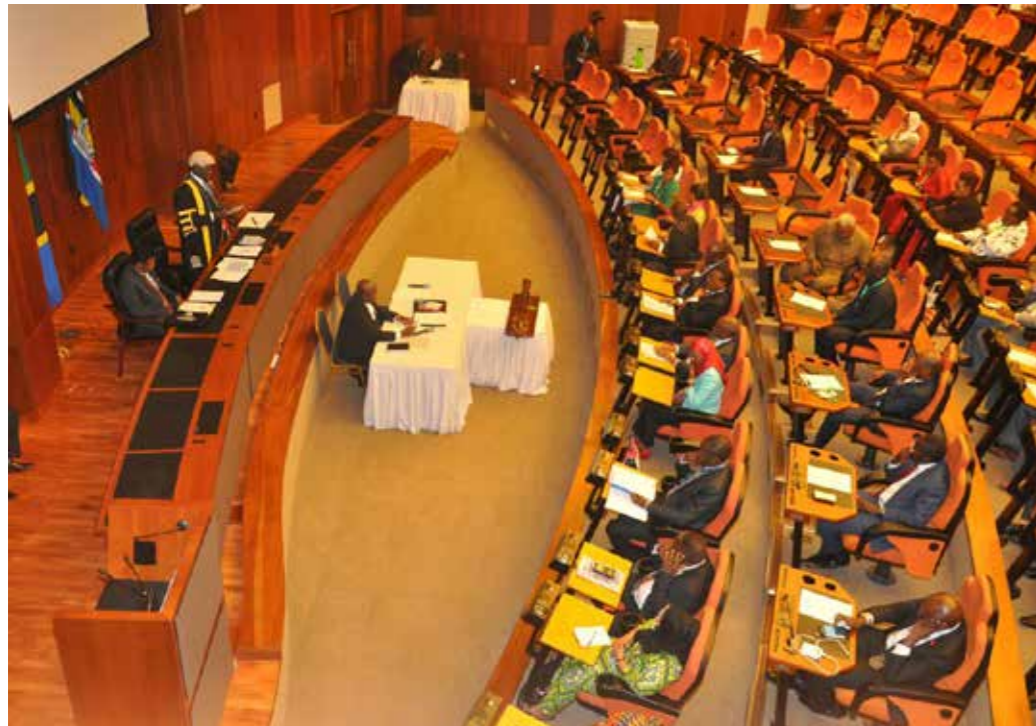
## What is the Next Step?

The focus of the SCT implementation process is one to continue rolling out products on the SCT particularly intra-trade product, address technological and administrative demands as well as continue creating awareness among the peoples of East African about the SCT. ♦

*Mr. Analo is the Customs Training Expert at the EAC Secretariat*

## Region Set to Realize e-Business as EALA Enacts Electronic Transactions Bill

By Bobi Odiko



The East African Legislative Assembly at one of its sessions held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

On October 8<sup>th</sup> 2015, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) passed the EAC Electronic Transactions Bill, 2014 paving way for the business and corporate world to transact business using digital means.

Debater after debater supported the Bill saying it would grow the economies of Partner States and the region. The Bill had a number of clauses revised and or inserted to reflect relevancy and consistency.

The Electronic Transaction Bill, 2014 seeks to meet the need of exploiting electronic transactions in the modern day business transactions. The Bill further wants to promote technology neutrality in applying legislation to electronic communications and transactions and to develop a safe, secure and effective environment for the consumer, business and the Governments of the Partner States to conduct and use electronic transactions.

Debate on the Bill was adjourned at the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Assembly held in August 2015 in Kampala, Uganda, to pave way for stakeholders to make additional input.

The adjournment came after a request for deferment of the debate by

the Chair of Council of Ministers, Hon. Dr. Abdallah Saadaala was approved. The Chair of Council of Ministers reiterated total support of the Bill but added there was need for more time for the consolidation of further inputs and comments by stakeholders.

At the same time, consultations are being called to allow for enrichment of the Report of the Committee of Communication, Trade and Investment. In his ruling then, Speaker, Rt. Hon. Daniel F. Kidega directed that the Bill whose initiator is Hon. Dr. James Ndahiro, be brought back to the Order paper during the Nairobi Sitting.

Nancy Abisai, Hon. Fredrick Ngezebuhoro, Hon. Mike Sebalu, Hon. Shyrose Bhanji, Hon. Zein Abubakar and Hon. Susan Nakawuki gave a firm nod to the Bill. Other

members also in support of the Bill were Hon. Patricia Hjabakiga, Hon. Martin Ngoga, Hon. Sarah Bonaya, Hon. Leonce Ndarubagiye, Hon. Valerie Nyirahabineza, Hon. Adam Kimbisa, Hon. Joseph Kiangoi, Hon. Twaha Issa Taslima, Hon. Abdullah Mwinyi, Hon. AbuBakr Ogle, Hon. Bernard Mulengani, Hon Peter Mathuki and Hon. Chris Opoka.

The Members urged Partner States to embrace the Electronic Transactions Bill and harmonize their laws to the regional law in order to create a proper environment for all possible users and beneficiaries of ICT in the region and beyond.

The debate was preceded by tabling of the revised report of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Industry on the public hearings of the Electronic Transactions Bill, 2014 by the chairperson, Hon. Mukasa Mbidde.

The Chair of Council of Ministers, Hon. Dr. Saadaala reiterated the support of the Bill saying all Partner States were of the same frame of mind when it comes to the tangible benefits of electronic transactions. ◆

*Bobi Odiko is the Senior Public Relations Officer at the East African Legislative Assembly.*

## Milestones in the Life of the East African Court of Justice

By Hon. Justice Dr. Emmanuel Ugirashebuja

The East African Court of Justice (EACJ) has yet again attained essential milestones over the past one year. Firstly, while the Court has been leading on so many fronts, it was lagging behind in having women at the helm in both its Appellate Division and First Instance Division. That changed in February 2015 when Lady Justice Monica Mugenyi was appointed as the Principal Judge of the Court's First Division. She has accomplished a lot in the legal sector, having served in the High Court of the Republic of Uganda and the Attorney General's Office. The Court will benefit heavily from Justice Lady Mugenyi's experience in its pursuit of becoming a world class court dispensing quality justice for a united and prosperous Community.

The second vital milestone is the delivery of the first preliminary ruling which arose from the Miscellaneous Application No. 558 of 2012 in Civil Suit No. 298 of 2012 of the High Court of Uganda in the case: **Attorney General of the Republic of Uganda vs. Tom Kyarubwenda**. The ruling established certain important principles in as far as the interpretation and application of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC is concerned. The Court established that:

- Reading Articles 27, 33 and 34 of the Treaty together, the interpretation and application of the Treaty by the EACJ is binding on all national courts and tribunals of all Partner States of the Community;
- The purpose of a preliminary ruling is to enable national courts to apply the EACJ's interpretation to the facts of a case before a national court; and to enable that court make a judgment; and;
- If the Partner States have decided to contract out of the above general principle and accord concurrent jurisdiction in the Treaty to both the EACJ and the national courts and tribunals, the interpretation of this Court takes precedence over that of the national courts and tribunals on similar matters.

Thus far, the Court holds that Article 34 of the Treaty confers on the EACJ the exclusive jurisdiction to interpret the Treaty and to annul Community Acts. The future effectiveness of the EAC Law/Jurisprudence will depend on its relationship with the national courts. The Court has and will continue to play a crucial role in the regional integration process.

However, the following are other landmark cases the Court has determined as the decisions summarized below:

### **Calist Andrew Mwatela, Lydia Wanyoto Mutende, Isaac Abraham Sepetu vs. East African Community**

This was the first reference to be launched at the EACJ. In their application, the applicants challenged the validity of the meeting of the

Sectoral Council on Legal and Judicial Affairs (the Sectoral Council) held on 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2005 and the decisions taken by the said meeting in relation to Bills pending before the East African Legislative Assembly (the Assembly). The applicants sought an order by the Court that the report of the Sectoral Council meeting held from 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2005 was null and void ab initio and all decisions, directives and actions contained in or based on it were null and void.

The Court found that the establishment of the Sectoral Council was inconsistent with the provisions of Article 14 (3) (i). However, due to the fact that the said Sectoral Council had taken place almost four years prior to the filing of the reference, a number of other decisions must have subsequently been made by the Council. Hence, the Court deemed it wise not to annul the decisions of the Sectoral Council retrospectively, but rather prospectively. Given the circumstance of the Case, the Court established the principle of prospective annulment.

### **Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o and Others vs. the Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya and Others**

This was the second reference to be launched at the Court in 2006. The applicants challenged the manner in which the Kenyan government had selected the country's nine representatives to the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). The Court ruled that the Kenyan government had held a "fictitious election in lieu of a real election" which was a blatant breach of the Treaty. In this case, the Court elaborated the meaning of elections for purposes of EALA members.

### **James Katabazi and 21 Others vs. Secretary General of the EAC and the Attorney General of the Republic of Uganda**

In 2004, the applicants were charged with treason and misprision of treason and consequently they were remanded in custody. However, in 2006 the High Court of Uganda granted bail to 14 of them. Immediately thereafter, the High Court was surrounded by security personnel who interfered with the preparation of bail documents and the 14 were re-arrested and taken back to jail.

The Court established that the Fundamental Principles and Operational Principles espoused in Article 6 (d) and 7(2), respectively, are justiciable before the Court. It is notable that the case had human rights aspects. Even though the Court did not and still does not possess jurisdiction on human rights matters, the court emphatically held that: "While the Court will not assume jurisdiction to adjudicate on human rights disputes, it will not abdicate from exercising its jurisdiction of interpretation under Article 27 (1) merely because the reference includes allegation of human rights violation." ➔



### The Attorney General of the Republic of Rwanda vs. Plaxeda rugumba

This case was an Appeal of the Decision of the First Instance Division. The applicant, Plaxeda Rugumba, argued that the arrest and detention by the Rwanda's security agents without trial of Lieutenant Colonel Seveline Rugigana Ngabo was a breach of the fundamental principles of the Community, to wit; Articles 6(d) and 7(2) which demand that Partner States shall be bound to govern their populace on the principles of good governance and universally accepted standards of human rights.

Among other things, the Attorney General of Rwanda argued that the Applicant (as she was then in the First Instance Division) had not exhausted local remedies which is a well-established principle of international law. The Appellate Division upheld the Decision of the First Instance Division that: "Unlike other legal regimes in this field, the EAC Treaty provides no requirement for exhaustion of local remedies as a condition for accessing the East African Court of Justice."

### Alcon International Limited vs. Standard Chartered Bank of Uganda and 2 Others

The Appellate Division expounded the principle of jurisdiction of the Court. The Court held that in the practice of EACJ, the word jurisdiction is used as a unitary concept to denote three essential elements which enable the Court to operate:

- *Jurisdiction ratione materiae*; concerned with the power of the Court to entertain and decide the subject matter of the complaint before it. (Art. 23 & 27);
- *Jurisdiction ratione personae*; the capacity of the parties to appear before the Court as applicants or as respondents or in any other capacity, and ;
- *Jurisdiction ratione temporis*; focuses on the temporal condition of the dispute before the Court, such as time bar or limitation. (Art. 30 & general principles).

**Reference for a Preliminary Ruling under Article 34 of the Treaty made by The High Court of the Republic of Uganda in the Proceedings between the Attorney General of the Republic of Uganda and Tom Kyahurwenda**

This is the first preliminary ruling made by the EACJ. The Preliminary Reference arose out of a Miscellaneous Application before the High Court of the Republic of Uganda ("the High Court") arising from Civil Suit No. 298 of 2012 between Tom Kyahurwenda and the Attorney General of Uganda. The High Court stayed the proceedings pending the preliminary ruling of the EACJ ("the Court").

#### The Court held that:

- Article 34 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community grants this Court exclusive jurisdiction to interpret the Treaty and to invalidate Community Acts;
- National courts and tribunals are entitled to entertain matters involving the violation of the Treaty and the application of the provisions of the Treaty within the context of Articles 33 and 34 ;
- Decisions of this Court in the interpretation of the Treaty take precedence over decisions of the national courts and tribunals on similar matters ;
- Articles 6, 7 and 8 of the Treaty are justiciable before the national courts and tribunals of the Partner States ;
- While they remain inoperative, paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Article 123 of the Treaty are not justiciable both before this Court and before the national courts and tribunals, and;
- The decision as to the costs in this Preliminary Ruling and as to the appropriate remedies is a matter for the High Court of the Republic of Uganda to pronounce in the context of the proceedings in the underlying suit before the High Court

The Court continues to receive a number of cases as its jurisdiction has been extended on matters of trade and investment as the Community continues the process of implementing the Customs Union and Common Market Protocols. ◆

*His Lordship Justice Dr. Uginashebuja is the Judge President of the EACJ*

# 4<sup>th</sup> Annual EAC Secretary General's Forum Held in Dar es Salaam

By Duncan Karari

The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Secretary General's Forum for Private Sector, Civil Society and Other Interest Groups was held from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania with participants drawn from the civil society, private sector and members of other interest groups from the Partner States.

Addressing the participants during the official closing session on 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2016, Dr. Ramadhan Mwinyi, the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Tanzania noted that the forum was a showcase of how to engage dialogue for stakeholders in the integration process.

"This being the 4<sup>th</sup> year of consistent dialogue is testament of the commitment of all stakeholders to an all-inclusive sustained engagement in the EAC integration process," said Dr. Mwinyi

Dr. Mwinyi, who represented the Minister for Foreign Affairs, East African, Regional and International Cooperation, Amb. Augustine Philip Mahiga, reassured the participants that the region would actively respond to the needs of the civil society, private sector and other interest groups.

The forum was organized by the EAC Secretariat in collaboration with the Ministries of EAC Affairs, East African Local Government Association; East African Business Council; East African Civil Society Organisations Forum; East African Law Society, and; the East African Trade Unions Confederation with funding from the German International Development Agency (GIZ).

In his remarks, the EAC Secretary General, Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera, challenged the citizens to lead the anti-corruption crusade in East Africa by electing into public office leaders of integrity.

"Democracy should be about citizens determining their stake in how they want to be governed, empowering citizens to become prosperous and improving the dialogue of what model of countries they want to have," said Dr. Sezibera.

Amb. Sezibera emphasized the need for EAC citizens to stop rewarding corrupt and unethical leaders by rejecting them at the ballot box.

The German Ambassador to Tanzania and EAC, Mr. Egon Kochanke, while giving his remarks commended the EAC Secretariat and the participants for institutionalizing the annual event saying the forum would yield positive outcomes for the integration process.

Amb. Kochanke said it was encouraging that out of the 76 resolutions emanating from the forum over the past three years, more than 20 resolutions had been fully implemented, adding that about 40 resolutions were well on track to implementation.

"We are impressed by the rich discussions that transpired throughout the forum and the diversity of citizens representations from all spheres of EAC," said Amb. Kochanke.

The EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Productive and Social Sector, Hon. Jesca Eriyo, noted the private sector's steady progress towards promoting transparency and accountability through the launch of the Code of Conduct for the Private Sector by the EAC Heads of State at their 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March in Arusha.

Giving the keynote address, Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi, of the Asian Institute of Democracy and Electoral Assistance, challenged African leaders to embrace social justice and democracy by establishing strong and independent electoral commissions.

Meanwhile, the EAC Secretary General officially launched the new EAC mobile application which seeks to provide real time news updates and improve access to EAC information through mobile phones.

Also present at the Forum was the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Political Federation, Mr. Charles Njoroge

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Secretary General's forum will be held in September 2016. Here are some of the general recommendations of the Forum.

#### Recommendations of the Forum:

- Declare EAC a zero tolerance zone on corruption within a period of five (5) years;
- There should be continuous Civil Society, Private Sector and other interest groups engagement with the EAC especially through social media besides the SG's Forum which is held on annual basis;
- Local governments should be engaged through their associations in EAC activities especially through the relevant Sectoral Councils;
- During conflict situations, there should be engagement of all groups in the mediation process including youth and women;
- There should be integration of Gender in the governance processes;
- Ensure Partner States ratify the AU Charter on decentralization. ➔



German Ambassador to Tanzania and EAC Ergon Kochanke (left) with EAC Secretary General Dr. Richard Sezibera at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha.

**Electoral reforms in the Region**

- Partner States to expedite the conclusion of the EAC Good Governance Protocol;
- EAC should develop an Election Scorecard to hold elected leaders accountable

**Protecting the Civic Space in the EAC**

- EAC should develop a framework to support the activities of Civil Society Organisations in the region, and
- EAC to formulate a model law on Freedom of Information access
- EAC Secretariat to facilitate the participation of the EAC Women, Peace and Security Networks in peace and security dialogue with the EAC

**Electoral Processes on Trade and Investment**

- Professionals should be encouraged to establish strong national and regional umbrella bodies to engage on electoral matters with governments;
- A forum should be established for the private sector to discuss issues with the political leaders on electoral processes to promote trade and investment in East Africa.

**The role of the private sector in fighting corruption**

- Partner States should adopt the e-Procurement System to promote transparency in tendering;
- Conduct lifestyle audit for elected leaders and holders of public office;
- Paperless border transactions should be fast-tracked to reduce opportunities for corrupt practices

**Extractive Industries and Marginalization**

- EAC Secretariat should be urged to join the Extractive Industry and Transparency initiatives (EITI) to ensure local communities benefit from the local resources;
- Partner States to invest in getting the geological data before negotiating mining contracts, and;
- Harmonize taxes and fiscal terms in the extractive sector across the region

**Fiscal Decentralization**

- Elected leaders as custodians of public resources at the decentralized level should exercise fiscal jurisprudence in order to ensure maximization of social welfare through transparency and accountability;
- There is need to increase the fiscal base at the decentralized unit to increase trade and investment

**Rights-based Approach to Universal Health Coverage**

- EAC Partner States should abide by the Abuja Declaration on health financing of 15% budgetary allocation;
- EAC Partner States to abide by the Kigali Declaration on Universal Health Coverage;
- EAC to develop a model framework for community empowerment, participation and engagement for attaining Universal Health Coverage.

# JAMAFEST

## A Prime Driver of EAC Cultural Integration

By Bakaye Lubega

The biennial Jumuiya Ya Afrika Utamaduni Festival (JAMAFEST) is fast gaining prominence among the elements that define and give expression to the uniqueness of the East African Community integration process. Like other significant facets such as the EAC Flag and the EAC Anthem that symbolize a common East African identity, JAMAFEST seeks to reinforce the unity of East Africans, notwithstanding their splendid diversity.

JAMAFEST, which has been variously described as “a new culture,” “an East African culture,” “a brilliant melting pot of cultural expressions,” has its roots in the hosting of the first edition in 2013 in Kigali, Rwanda. The colourful Kigali fiesta spurred so much enthusiasm in the region for trailblazing the celebration of cultural diversity in East Africa.

The Kigali Festival featured a carnival, art exhibitions, a symposium, live performances, films, literary works, a fashion show and comedy night. Participants also got to tour the Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre in addition to getting involved in Umuganda, a unique aspect of Rwandan culture that entails citizens coming together to engage in community service. The Festival’s theme was “Fostering East African Community Integration through Cultural Industries.”

JAMAFEST 2013 was more than just a platform for interaction and free entertainment. It provided a useful learning experience which in the words of Zipora Gatungu, a Kenyan exhibitor: “It gave us opportunity to see different cultural products from different countries and comparing with our own meant that the more I see, the more I have learned.” Like many other exhibitors at the JAMAFEST Village, Gatungu was also thankful for the brisk business the event generated.

The 2013 event was a significant step for the region to harness its abundance of creative talents and rich cultural heritage to promote economic growth, create jobs and foster social cohesion. It fulfilled the vision of the EAC Council of Ministers, which is most directly credited with the emergence and success of this EAC regional Arts and Cultural Festival.

The Second Edition of JAMAFEST was held at the at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC) in Nairobi from 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2015. Each JAMAFEST is developed around a theme. This year’s fete was built around the theme “Unleashing the Economic Potential of Cultural and Creative industries in the EAC.” A theme song was also composed and sang throughout the festival period to remind the festival goers to reflect on the focus of the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of JAMAFEST.

The event staged over a period of seven days, featured not only a carnival, plastic art exhibitions, symposium, live performances, films, literary works, fashion show, comedy, poetry, storytelling, acrobatics, but also a cultural village exhibition which included paintings, carvings, handi-



Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto at the Tanzanian Literary Works stand during the JAMAFEST Festival. On the far is Tanzanian Director of Culture Development, Prof. Hermas Mwasonko.

crafts, pottery, traditional medicine, food and beverages, literary works, a children’s village and plenty of opportunities to connect with arts and culture enthusiasts. Participants also got an opportunity to perform at the University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University as a way of reaching out to young people with messages on the EAC integration.

This 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of JAMAFEST attracted over 1000 artistes from the five EAC Partner States. Initially, 500 participants had been targeted, but surprisingly the host nation Kenya alone was able to mobilize 520 participants, Burundi 25, Uganda 230, Tanzania 2015, and Rwanda 70. In the end, the count stood at 1060.

As participants danced through Nairobi streets during the JAMAFEST 2015 carnival, more than 60,000 Nairobians stood mesmerized by street sides, through shop windows and office balconies. Work could wait. The carnival lived up to its billing! And this was just the curtain-raiser for the weeklong fete.

Yet the carnival was not the only trail the 2015 edition of JAMAFEST would be blazing. Over at KICC, the festival venue, the JAMAFEST Village, provided a thoroughly captivating daytime break ahead of the spellbinding performances. During the week-long festival, 21,000 people are estimated to have visited the Village where Partner States showcased the best their cultures have to offer. It was delightful to see many school children, the future of the EAC integration, coming in droves to visit the cultural village and attend the performances.

Showtime at the Tsavo Ball Room at KICC attracted capacity crowds on each of the six days that featured performances. Also for the second time, arts and culture scholars and intellectuals from across the region were →

in Nairobi to breed new thinking on the place of culture and the arts in regional integration. The 2<sup>nd</sup> JAMAFEST Symposium provided a forum for over 150 academics, cultural practitioners, policy makers and cultural managers to interact, and interrogate the theme of this year's festival: *Unleashing the Economic potential of Culture and creative Industries in the EAC*.

The evolution and establishment of the event over its short existence can be perceived as a response to meeting the objectives of JAMAFEST which are:

- To provide a platform to showcase culture as primary driver of regional integration and sustainable development;
- To bring together East African cultural practitioners, Policy makers and administrators to celebrate the shared rich and diverse cultural heritage;
- To provide space for intercultural dialogue among the people of East Africa,
- To foster economic development of the EAC by nurturing the growth of a strong culture and creative industries sector;
- To deepen the awareness and knowledge of the diverse aspirations within the EAC through an ongoing process of exposing the peoples of the region to each other culturally by means of the development of their creativity;
- To expose children and EAC youth to the arts and traditions of the region as a basis for building vibrant and dynamic institutional support for their development as citizens of the future East Africa, and;
- To promote arts and culture as a tool in the celebration and branding of an East African identity and image.

These objectives speak to the utility of JAMAFEST as a prime driver of cultural integration within the EAC as captured in these excerpts from the speech by H.E. William Ruto, Kenya's Deputy President, who officially opened JAMAFEST 2015 at the KICC:

The East African Treaties may be negotiated by Ministers and Presidents but the biggest and perhaps most enjoyable agreements are written in Bongo Flava- through the music of Diamond and Christina Shusho; through the genius of Anne Kansiime and the tones of Sauti Sol. The arts are often the best part of any culture because they go straight to the heart. The vision of an artist, the precision of a sculptor and the twist of a dancer does not require a passport or a visa to cross the borders. This festival is not just for cementing our social relations as East Africans but it is also a strategy to promote mutual trade, cultural and artistic cooperation among our people. When we appreciate each other, we understand each other; we can work together and succeed at anything we choose. When we understand each other-our union cannot be defeated.

Beyond the dramatic and inspirational performances on stage, the music, the dance and folklore; the artistic manifestations of painting, sculpture, craft; beyond the exhibition of our cultural creativity, and; our way of life, JAMAFEST engenders a nostalgic pride among East Africans - who and what we are, what we are capable of achieving, what we possess, our peculiarities and similarities, and that which is excellent among us. A sense of warm rivalry in presenting to the world our best inspires the preparation of national contingents which separately and collectively showcase the ingenuity and talents of East Africa as a whole.

This deepens in East Africans a sense of unity as the cultural face of East Africa is presented in its diverse splendour. It fosters a sense of pride in things East African. JAMAFEST offers a unique opportunity to depict the life of the people of East Africa, the Region, their heroes, morals, myths, traditions, beliefs, creativity and ways of life and cultural expression. It provides a forum for the people of the region to experience each other's culture, and in the process cultivates tolerance, harmony and appreciation of differences, an integral element of any movement towards integration.

Deepening and widening regional integration and the advancement of the economic, social and cultural development of the East African peoples is the overarching principle of the EAC and is among the ideals set forth in the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC. Article 119 of the Treaty provides for the Partner States to undertake to promote closer cooperation amongst themselves in culture and sports with respect to the promotion of cultural activities, including the fine arts, literature, music, the performing arts and other artistic creations, and the conservation, safeguarding and development of the cultural heritage of the Partner States including, historical materials and antiquities; among other activities aimed at promoting an East African identity.

The Treaty entreats Partner States' governments and citizens "to recognize and acknowledge and appreciate the intrinsic value of JAMAFEST" and its "potential for setting high standards, developing an East African culture and fostering regional unity..." The importance of cultural promotion and development towards regional integration cannot be over emphasized. The aesthetic value of our culture and the arts enriches our lives amidst the challenges and struggles for competitiveness in the increasingly difficult social and economic environment of the EAC.

JAMAFEST provides the mechanism for uniting us as a region in celebration of our achievements and accomplishments as we triumph over our adverse experiences. It is East Africa's premier cultural festival and should therefore be structured to make possible the greatest participation of East African citizens.

The vision of moving JAMAFEST "beyond event to process," is a critical one. The process of ongoing interaction among East African artistes and citizens and the continuous exposure of aspects of our culture to the wider EAC through organized activities is necessary for more active participation of East Africans in JAMAFEST.

The economic boom which JAMAFEST presents to the host Partner State and tourism generally in the region underscores its impact on development in East Africa. Each edition of the festival refreshes the cultural industries of the region with new talent. New productive outlets are generated for the multiplicity of local talent waiting to be unearthed or propelled to prominence.

JAMAFEST must persist in spite of challenges to its continuity. Competing demands for limited resources always pose a big challenge to the hosting of the next edition and necessitates commitment by Partner States. Thus, the need to establish sustainable financing arrangements at the EAC Secretariat including cost-sharing among participating countries and the private sector.

All this said and done, we look forward to many more JAMAFESTs. ◆

*Mr Lubega is the Principal Culture and Sports Officer at the EAC Secretariat.*



*Rwanda traditional dance group*

# EAC Partner States should Invest more in the Creative Economy

By Simon Peter Owaka

The Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi, Kenya from August 2<sup>nd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, 2015 played host to the Second Edition of the Jumuiya ya Afrika Mashariki Utamaduni Festival (JAMAFEST). JAMAFEST, which is held biennially, seeks to harness East Africa's wealth of creative talents and diverse cultural heritage to promote economic growth, create employment and foster social cohesion.

The event, which drew more than 1,000 artistes from the five East African Community Partner States, featured among other things a carnival, plastic art exhibitions, a symposium, live performances, films, literary works, fashion show, comedy, poetry, storytelling, acrobatics and a cultural village exhibition.

It was in essence a fiesta for cultural practitioners from the EAC to showcase their best products in culture and the arts. Apart from cross-border trade, culture is the other major frontier for regional integration.

As we look forward to the next edition of JAMAFEST that will be held in the Republic of Uganda in 2017, we should take a critical look at the state of the creative economy in East Africa. The UN Conference on Trade and Development estimated in its 2010 report that world exports of creative goods and services was worth \$592 billion. The UNCTAD report further revealed that Africa's share of the global creative economy stands at less than 1%, with the key contributors being North African countries and South Africa.

The report hints at underinvestment in the creative and cultural industries in Africa as well as the sector's potential for growth. A UNESCO Mapping Study on Culture and Creative Industries in the EAC region is estimated to be worth \$10 billion. Despite this, the region is unable to fully exploit its vast wealth in art, craft and music. The report indicates that the contribution of creative industries to direct employment is a meagre 4.5 per cent of all total employment.

Limited investment in creative and cultural industries coupled with the slow growth of the sector inevitably creates a gap that is usually filled by imports of cultural products and services from the more developed countries in Western Europe and North America. The danger in these kind of imports is that they perpetuate cultural imperialism – the economic, technological and cultural hegemony of the developed nations which influences the direction of both economic and social progress, defines cultural values and standardizes civilization worldwide.

Partner States' governments then need to address five main areas to

promote the creative economy in East Africa. First, creative education from primary to undergraduate levels should be reformed so that graduates are equipped with the types of skills and knowledge needed for both the knowledge and creative economy, including entrepreneurial skills.

Secondly, there is a need to support the creative economy with the requisite legal and financial services. These include enactment of intellectual property laws and giving practitioners in the sector access to credit facilities to promote their enterprises.

Thirdly, is to look into the many benefits that will accrue from merging culture and the creative economy. Because of distance and poor infrastructure, the EAC stands to gain a lot from strengthening the relationship between culture and the creative industries, with real potential to expand markets, for commercialization, to extend reach and innovate.

Fourth, is the need to develop traction for the sector. One major challenge for the creative economy all over the world is that it is invisible to governments and the wider economy. This is particularly true in East Africa where cultural mistrust of the sector runs deep. Governments need to embark on large scale projects which can ultimately change opinion and raise the sector's profile.

Last but not least is the urgency to grow markets for products of the creative economy. Due to low income levels and underdeveloped domestic markets, creative entrepreneurs need to have markets across Africa and beyond if they are to create viable enterprises.

Managed well, the creative and cultural industries have the potential to inter alia contribute to economic development, trade, regional growth, employment and tourism.

We at the EAC wish our governments the best as they work to promote the growth of the cultural and creative economy in the region. As they do so, we ask them to take heed of some words of wisdom from America's 36<sup>th</sup> President Lyndon Johnson as he signed into law the National Foundation on the Arts and the Humanities Act of 1965. The Act was America's first grand public investment in its arts and culture industries.

In President Johnson's signing remarks, he said: "Art is a nation's most precious heritage. For it is in our works of art that we reveal to ourselves, and to others, the inner vision which guides us as a nation. And where there is no vision, the people perish." ◆

# Africa Urged to Invest More in Regional Integration and Continental Trade

By the Community Team

Africa will have to invest more in regional integration and promote intra-continental trade to make itself more competitive on the world market.

East African Community Secretary General Amb. Dr. Richard Sezibera said that now is the time for the continent to create a fully African market in goods and services including financial services.

Former EAC Secretary General Dr. Sezibera said that to be competitive on the global stage, the EAC and other regional economic communities in Africa must first promote trade amongst their members as a matter of priority even as they seek to capture more markets in the industrialized countries.

Dr. Sezibera said the EAC Single Customs Territory and Common Market protocols would only have meanings if Partner States invested more in the manufacturing sector and particularly through value addition for commodities produced in the region.

"We cannot build a Common Market for other countries or regional economic blocs to sell their goods to us, a Customs Union of importers. We need things to trade with each other and to trade with others," said the SG.

He recalled the Community's initiative to host the first ever Manufacturing Summit, adding that the EAC must boost the manufacturing sector to spur economic growth.

"Manufacturing currently accounts for about 10% of GDP. This must be changed and it is clear that industrialization will have to be East Africa-wide to succeed. Actions at national level, if not accompanied by regional value chains, will not succeed. I look forward to increased focus on this sector in collaboration with the East African Business Council, financial institutions, academia and the public sector."

Noting that the Community's infrastructure development programmes were on track, the SG disclosed that most of the One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) had been completed and would be operationalized soon. He hailed the Partner States for ratifying the OSBP and Axle Weight Control Bills.

"This puts our Community in good stead to strengthen the operations of our Customs Union. As we increasingly become an effective Customs Union on the ground, we shall have to do the same for East Africa's airspace. I therefore urge for acceleration of the unification and domestication of our airspace during 2016," he said.

"You cannot be a functional Customs Union if you exclude the airspace. You can't be a Customs Union on the ground alone," he added. The SG was addressing EAC members of staff drawn from the Community's Organs and Institutions on January 18, 2016 at the Main Conference Hall at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania. Staff from institutions based outside Arusha listened to the

SG via video teleconferencing.

Dr. Sezibera outlined the Community's challenges for the year 2016 as follows:

"We need to achieve the broad objectives of a fully-fledged EAC Single Customs Territory; strengthen operations of the Common Market Protocol, and; speed up the process towards the realization of the EAC Monetary Union by setting up the proposed institutions to underpin the protocol," he said.

The SG further said the Community shall embark on the implementation of the 5<sup>th</sup> EAC Strategic Plan (2016-2021) with a focus on intensification of activities and programmes in social, economic and political cooperation towards a fully integrated East Africa. He exuded confidence that East Africa would continue to be at the forefront of regional integration and growth.

"The Single Customs Territory continues to deliver benefits to East Africans both on the Central Corridor as well as the Northern Corridor. Financial integration is deepening. Free movement of labour is becoming a reality, certainly for Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda. Now that the United Republic of Tanzania has concluded her presidential election, I look forward to her full participation in this programme," said the SG, adding that he was also looking forward to the launch of the new generation e-East African Passport this year. ➔

*"This is the time for shared industrialization and creating value chains across countries and regions."*

Dr. Richard Sezibera, Ambassador, Secretary General



Former EAC Secretary General Amb Richard Sezibera

He singled out the signing of the Tripartite Free Trade Area between COMESA, EAC and SADC as a milestone in 2015.

“The Tripartite FTA, if it succeeds, is the future of Africa. It is an ambitious agenda for 26 countries which when fully implemented, has the potential to move our continent from the margins of global trade. It lays a good basis for the Continental Free Trade Area. We must now work hard to ensure that work on the other pillars of this initiative are concluded,” said Dr. Sezibera.

Dr. Sezibera disclosed that the Inter-University Council for East Africa had come up with a policy framework that would transform the region into a Common Higher Education Area that would consist of policies and qualification benchmarks acceptable across East Africa. He noted that Mutual Recognition Agreements among professional associations was also facilitating the free movement of labour in the region.

The SG, however, cautioned about headwinds that the Community was likely to sail this year.

“These headwinds are not just for East Africa but the world as a whole. In the aftermath of the immigration crisis in Europe, questions are being asked about open borders and markets. The rules-based global trade regime under the World Trade Organization is under stress. The

slowing down of growth in emerging markets, particularly the BRICS countries, with the concomitant fall in commodity prices continues to put pressure on government budgets across Africa affecting, in many ways, EAC Partner States,” he said, adding that East Africans would have to integrate their economies more closely so as to effectively counter the headwinds.

On the proposed East African Monetary Union, the SG noted that the clock was ticking on the region’s march towards a Single Currency by the year 2024.

“The Monetary Affairs Committee as well as the Fiscal Affairs Committee are working to make sure we meet the deadlines contained in the East African Monetary Union Protocol.”

The SG urged the staff to identify and actively engage champions of regional integration who will help market the EAC agenda to other East Africans.

“As it were, ideas traditionally flow from opinion leaders to the masses. These champions of integration are to be found in government, within the business community, professional associations, civil society, trade unions, the academia and among the youth.” ◆

## Africa’s Future Lies in the Free Movement of Goods and People Across National Borders

By Phyllis Wakiaga

Someone once asked me what I know about Angola, and I excitedly started to list all the things I had seen, read and watched on television about this country.

When I was done, she asked me if I had been to Angola and if I know these things to be true.

I said I hadn’t. She then remarked that it was a pity we Africans only know about each other from what we are told.

I grasped the gravity of the issue at hand: That what we hear and see about our trading partners are things that may be far from reality when we visit and trade together.

The visit a fortnight ago by Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari, a year after that of his predecessor, shows the increasing realisation by African leaders of the need for intra-Africa trade and investment.

While Kenya is a member of the East African Community, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Tripartite Free Trade Area, Nigeria is a member of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Both the Tripartite and ECOWAS regional trading blocs constitute a market opportunity of about 950 million people out of Africa’s population of 1.1 billion.

The two countries or regions have the opportunity to speed the realisation of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area expected to be achieved by 2028.

Towards this end, Kenya and Nigeria signed a bilateral trade agreement on September 6, 2013, with the objective of enhancing trade and investments in agriculture and agro industry, horticulture, manufacturing, solid minerals, tourism, oil and gas and financial services.

Kenya’s exports averaged Sh2 billion, while imports averaged Sh313 million between 2004 and 2014, making Nigeria a significant trading partner for Kenya.

The two countries have committed to double their trade and investment levels in five years.

Kenya and Nigeria are examples of many African countries that have shown interest in bilateral trade.

The deepening regional integration in Africa has also positioned the



Mrs Phyllis Wakiaga

continent as a leading destination for trade and investments to countries in Europe, North America and Asia.

There are initiatives such as the Indian Ocean Rim Association, the African Growth and Opportunity Act and Economic Partnerships Agreements, which are aimed at enhancing trade and investment between Africa and the rest of the world.

Africa’s full potential in trade and investment is, however, constrained by challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, existence of tariffs and non-tariff barriers, high costs of energy, overlapping regional trading arrangements, perennial conflicts, illicit and counterfeit trade, stringent regulatory environment, tariff escalations, dumping and inefficient ports.

The manufacturing sector is key to Africa’s economic growth, needing more support by the governments within the existing national and global best practices.

Africa’s economic growth and development lies in maximizing intra-Africa trade and investment opportunities.

African governments need to invest more in addressing the challenges and enhancing intra-African trade, both in the medium and the long term. ◆

The writer is Chief Executive Officer of the Kenya Association of Manufacturers

EAC Partner States should invest more in the Creative Econom Mitigating Climate Change:

# A Look at the Progress Made Under the EAC Climate Change Policy

By the Community Team

**A**frica is very vulnerable to climate change because most economies on the African continent including those in the East African Community (EAC) Partner States are generally dependent on natural resources that climate-sensitive. The dependence on rain-fed agriculture in the EAC region means that agricultural production is highly vulnerable to climatic variability and climate change.

In November 2009, the 11<sup>th</sup> EAC Heads of State Summit called for the development of a regional climate change policy to address the intensifying effects of climate change. The *Climate Change Policy* was approved by the 9<sup>th</sup> Extra Ordinary Summit in April 2011. The policy is a commitment by Partner States to cooperate in addressing the impact of climate change and is in fulfillment of the EAC's objectives to develop policies and programmes that deepen the regional integration process.

The objective of the Climate Change Policy is to guide Partner States and other stakeholders on the preparation and implementation of collective measures to address climate change in the region. The implementation of the policy is supported by the EAC Climate Change Strategy (2012/13-2015/16) and the EAC Climate Change Master Plan (2033). The Strategy gives the direction and scope of implementation of the Policy over a shorter time-frame, defining necessary actions and resources needed to achieve the goal. The Master Plan provides the regional long-term vision on addressing climate change. Key sectors prioritized by the strategy as vulnerable to climate change include Agriculture, Water, Energy, Biodiversity, Tourism, Physical Infrastructure, Human Health, Trade and Industry.

## Achievements

The EAC Secretariat, which coordinates the implementation of the Climate Change Policy and its implementation instruments, has initiated various programme and project activities to realize the objectives of the policy.

## Climate Vulnerability and Impacts Assessment

One of the critical steps in enhancing the adaptive capacity is to carry out a Vulnerability and Impacts Assessment (VIA). VIA allows countries to assess most vulnerable populations and sectors to the adverse effects of climate change and specify interventions. The Inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines vulnerability to climate change as the degree to which geophysical, biological and socio-economic systems are susceptible to and unable to cope with the adverse effects of climate change. The ongoing VIA will assist EAC Partner States to improve their understanding and assessment of

impacts, plan adaptation measures and support decision making. The process will eventually produce a hotspots' map for East Africa and an adaptation plan for the Lake Victoria Basin.

The EAC Secretariat is undertaking a VIA through the Planning for Resilience in East Africa through Policy, Adaptation, Research and Economic Development (PREPARED) project, funded by the US Government through USAID Kenya/East Africa. The project further seeks to address key threats to trans-boundary freshwater ecosystems with high biodiversity value. Interventions include monitoring and mitigating threats to water quantity and quality. A key output will be an Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) framework for the holistic, adaptive management of trans-boundary freshwater ecosystems in the region.

Initiatives to improve access to safe drinking water supply and sanitation services are also being addressed with a focus on the Lake Victoria Basin. The basin faces considerable challenges including: the resiliency and sustainability of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) services in the basin due to unplanned urban growth; growing competition for water; increasing weather variability and uncertainty due to climate change, and; a limited capacity in EAC Partner States to confront these issues. PREPARED is supporting initiatives to improve access to safe drinking water supply and sanitation services in the basin through institutional support to the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC), local government units, and water and sanitation service providers to support integrating WASH with biodiversity conservation and climate change resiliency efforts.

## Climate Change Communication Strategy

The EAC is also developing a Climate Change Communication Strategy to support public awareness among communities with a view to empowering them to respond effectively to climate change and its impacts. The strategy is an integral part of the Lake Victoria Basin Vulnerability Impact Assessment process. The communications strategy aims at equipping stakeholders with timely and relevant information that can be used in making informed decisions in climate change adaptation. The awareness creation targets policy makers including: members of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA); senior government officials from the Partner States; technical experts including academic and research institutions; the private sector, and; civil society.

## EAC Climate Information Network

Through the PREPARED programme, the EAC Secretariat is working with the Centre for International Earth Science Information Network at Columbia University's Earth Institute, to establish a Climate Change Information Network and a Regional Climate Change

Information and Knowledge System and Clearinghouse. The Information Network will improve access to and sharing of climate change information between climate information producers and end-users. The regional climate information and knowledge management system, to be hosted at the EAC Secretariat, will compile, manage and share existing data, information to support informed planning and decision making for climate change adaptation in East Africa and serve as clearinghouse.

## Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture

The EAC Secretariat is promoting Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) through the Programme on Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation in the Eastern and Southern Africa which covers the COMESA-EAC-SADC regional economic blocs. The programme targets not less than 1.2 million small-scale farmers who are expected to adopt well-tested CSA practices that combine crop production, conservation agriculture and livestock management with agroforestry. CSA includes various sustainable agriculture, land, water and forest management practices aimed at enhancing the resilience of agricultural production, reduce emissions from agricultural activities and improve livelihoods. National Climate Smart Agriculture Task Forces have also been established to provide technical guidance on CSA policies and practices in the Partner States. The programme is supported by the Royal Norwegian Government, the Department for International Development (UKAid) of the UK and the European Commission.

## Consolidation of the African Common Position on Climate Change

As an accredited observer organization to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) since December 2012, the EAC Secretariat supports comprehensive preparations for the regional and international policy forums particularly those of the UNFCCC. National and regional preparatory meetings to identify climate change priorities and develop position papers on the issue are prepared to inform national and regional engagement during the Conference of Parties to the UNFCCC and Meeting of Parties to the Kyoto Protocol.

In collaboration with COMESA, SADC and the African Union Commission through the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment, EAC has been working to consolidate a unified African position on Climate Change as a basis for the Africa Group of Negotiators under the UNFCCC. The capacity of African negotiators to articulate continent's position within the UNFCCC has been strengthened. So far, more than 150 African Climate Negotiators have been trained with eight (8) position papers being produced.

## Implementation of the EAC Disaster Risk Reduction Strategy

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is a framework consisting of ways and means of minimizing disaster risks by reducing the degree of vulnerability and increasing the resilience capacity of the communities. The objective of the *EAC Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) Strategy* is to provide a framework for collaboration and partnership in DRRM for the EAC Partner States. DRR is a critical tool for climate change adaptation. Hence, the Strategy bears a strong link to the already existing climate change adaptation instruments. To provide a legal basis for DRR operations in the region, the formulation of an EAC Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Bill is underway.

## Challenges

### Inadequate Funding

The biggest challenge facing the implementation of the EAC Climate Change Policy is limited funding. Many of the priority activities remain underfunded while the majority of ongoing activities are fully reliant on support by Development Partners. In 2010, the Council of Ministers established the Climate Change Fund which purpose was to mobilize sustainable and predictable financial resources from various existing and emerging sources of climate change finance. The Fund is yet to be capitalized with adequate financial resources despite the proliferation of multiple international climate change and carbon finance mechanisms. The operationalization of the Fund is therefore of utmost urgency. The EAC Secretariat, in partnership with the East African Development Bank, is in the process of applying for accreditation as a Regional Implementing Entity to enable EAC to directly access funds from the Adaptation Fund established under the Kyoto Protocol and the new Green Climate Fund.

### Climate Change Legal Framework

The lack of a regional legal and institutional framework for climate change is one of the challenges affecting the implementation of the Climate Change Policy. The EAC Secretariat is facilitating the development of a Regional Climate Change Bill to give legal basis to its Climate Change Policy. The Bill will make it possible to effectively coordinate regional climate change initiatives through a regional coordination structure, operationalize the EAC Climate Change Fund and establish an EAC Carbon Credit Exchange to facilitate trade in carbon credits generated through Clean Development Mechanism projects. ◆

New Generation

# International East African e-Passport Launched

By Damaris Wambui Nyaga

**E**ast African Community Heads of State Summit on March 2, 2016 launched the New International East African e-Passport at their 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Meeting held at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge in Arusha, Tanzania.

The Summit further directed that the new e-Passport be issued with effect from January 1, 2017 with the phase out programme for the current East African and National Passports from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

The Summit also directed Partner States to undertake awareness creation programmes and other continuous outreach programmes on the International East African e-Passport.

Below is a brief Crash Course on the New Generation International EA e-Passport.

**Crash Course on the New International EA e-Passport.**

- **History and Efforts towards Internationalization of the East African Passport.** The East African passport was introduced in 1998 as a document to facilitate movement of East Africans within the region. With the accession of the Republics of Rwanda and Burundi into the Community in 2007, the Chiefs of Immigration recommended that a team of immigration experts meet to review the 2005 passport technical specifications and designs with the aim of upgrading the security features; making the proposed design conform to International Standards and to include the national features of the Republics of Rwanda and Burundi into the new Generation East Africa Passport design.

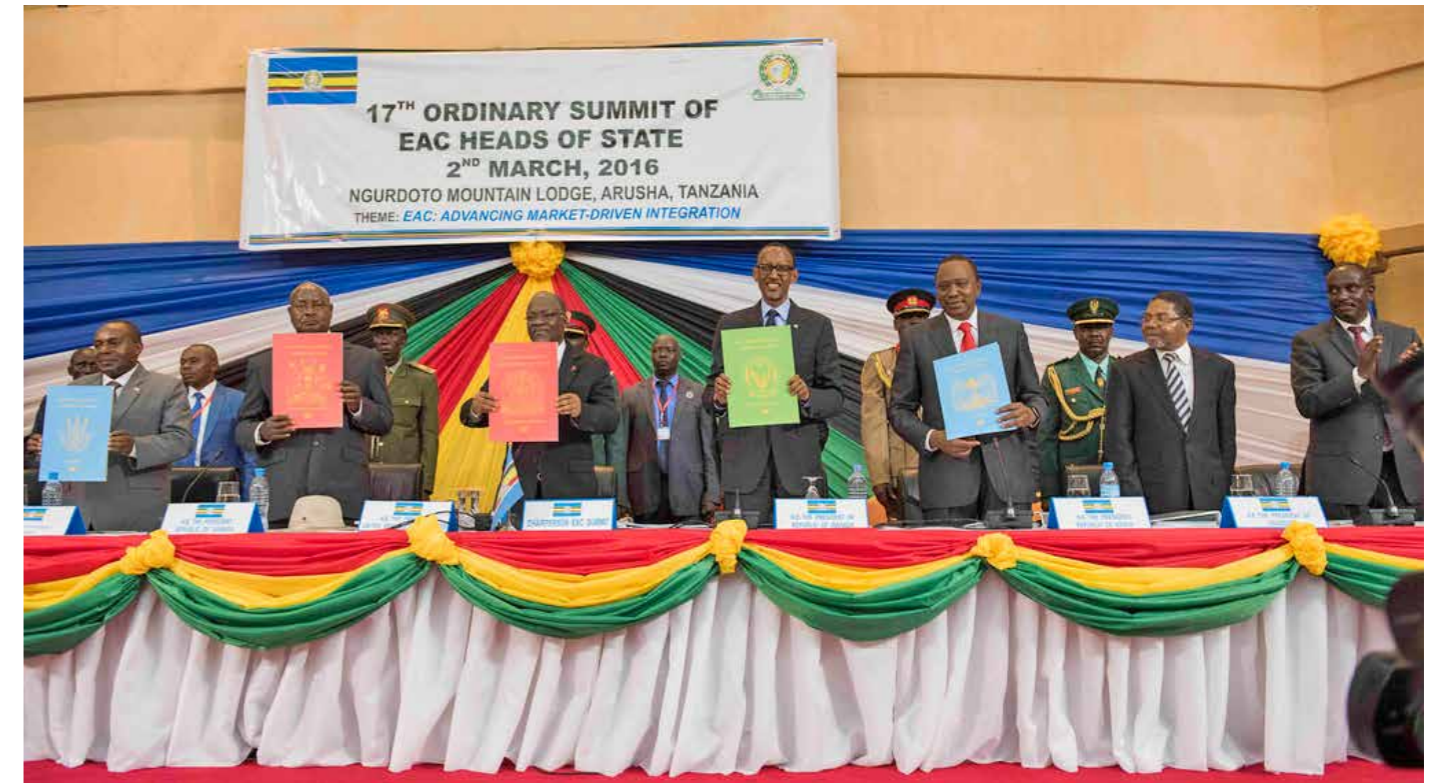
The technical specifications and design were considered and endorsed by the Chiefs of Immigration in March 2012.

- **When was the New Generation International East African e-passport launched?** During the 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit, Their Excellencies, the EAC Heads of State launched the New Generation International East African e-passport
- **What is an e-Passport and what are its distinct features?** An e-passport is a passport which features microchip technology. An integrated circuit (chip) within its pages contains the data that are essential in verifying the identity of the passport holder. These data

include the personal data found on the data page of the passport, the bio metrics of the passport holder, the unique chip identification number, and a digital signature to verify the authenticity of the data stored on the chip. The chip technology allows the information stored in an e-Passport to be read by special chip readers at a close distance.

The chip stores the same data visually displayed on the data page of the passport; the passport holder picture stored in digital form; the unique chip identification number; a digital signature to detect data alteration and verify signing authority; and additional data, as defined by specific issuing governments.

- **What is the difference between the existing machine readable passport (MRP) and the e-passport?** An MRP is a passport that contains a machine-readable zone (MRZ) printed in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) standards. It is capable of being read manually and with the use of a machine. An e-passport has an embedded IC chip where the photograph and personal information of the bearer are stored in accordance with ICAO specifications. This information can be read by chip readers at close distance. An e-Passport also contains a machine-readable zone.
- **Benefits of the New Generation International East African e-Passport?**
  - The e-passport measures up to the world (ICAO) standards for travel documents and are in use in over 100 countries worldwide.
  - Issuance of e-passports will allow each Partner State to offer world-class consular services to its nationals
  - The e-passport is highly secure, hence avoids passport reproduction and tampering.
  - It facilitates faster clearance of travelers by immigration checks.
  - E-passports provide travelers benefits such as use of automated border clearance or “E-gates”, automated issuance of boarding passes, and faster travel arrangements with airlines.
  - For countries, the use of electronic passport also provides better border protection and security.
  - Countries have greater confidence and acceptance of the e-Passport since it is enhanced with biometric technology
  - The New International East African e-Passport will enable East Africans to travel to any destination in the World.



East African Presidents (left to right), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joseph Butore of the Republic of Burundi; President Yoweri Museveni of the Republic of Uganda; President John Magufuli of the United Republic of Tanzania; President Paul Kagame of the Republic of Rwanda and President Uhuru Kenyatta of the Republic of Kenya launches the new International East African E-Passport at the 17<sup>th</sup> Summit as the President of Zanzibar Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein and former EAC Secretary General, Amb Richard Sezibera look on.

- **What are Biometrics?** Biometrics are the unique and measurable physical characteristics of an individual that include face recognition, fingerprints, and iris scans. The e-passport technology uses these to verify the identity of the passport holder. It captures the fingerprints of the passport holder for identification using the Automated Fingerprint Verification System (AFIS).
- **What happens to the old East African Passports and the National Passports?** During the 17<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Summit held on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2016, Their excellencies, the EAC Heads of State launched the New Generation International East African e-passport and directed that commencement of issuance takes effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017; and implement the phase out programme for the current East African and National passports from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018.

- **Will there be additional requirements needed for the processing of e-passports?** Personal appearance will be required for the taking of biometrics (i.e., fingerprints, photo, and signature).
- **Can existing holders of the MRP simply surrender their passports and have them converted to an e-passport?** Holders of MRPs who wish to be issued with an e-passport can make a request to the Directorate/Department of Immigration services to have their passport cancelled and apply for an e-Passport. ◆

# You are Enough, you do not Need Validation

By Samwel Mpamugo - theyouideology.com



Society lies to you that you will be worthy of respect (or be enough) as a human being only when you achieve (and keep achieving) higher goals – and not before. It's a lie because the goal post is constantly shifting. You achieve a milestone only to have another set before you. It can be exhausting when your value as a person is tied to getting or being more.

This lie creates undue pressure. For many, the pressure mounts daily because they're convinced that they must first acquire more stuff before self-worth is conferred on them. So they grind away, getting more, hardly content and still feel unworthy.

### See Your Worth

Contentment is the belief that you are enough as a human being at each point in life as you work hard at getting better and attaining higher levels.

For instance, I have a bachelor's degree and currently pursuing my MBA. But before I get my graduate degree, I appreciate who I am now.

I am adequate and secure in my person as I push for better. Before the MBA, my worth is in place. I make the MBA, it doesn't make me. Right now, I am enough as a person.

Some people achieve goal after goal and remain confused about their adequacy as persons. It's a tough place to be because you're blinded to who you are, what you've done and what you already have.

### Enjoy Where You Are

If no one has told you (or you probably need reminding), I would like to clearly state that: YOU ARE ENOUGH! Yes, YOU. So far, you've done well and I appreciate the person that you've become in your journey. Right now, you are a person of value. It's not dependent on how much more you achieve, but the fact that you're a human being – and that's enough!

You're not yet a billionaire, but you're a millionaire (or not) – for now, that's enough! You may not be the perfect parent or spouse, but you work hard to improve – that's enough. You work hard on your job and you're getting better – that's enough. Appreciate and enjoy where you are as you plot the next level. Celebrate who you are now and what you've attained as you grow. You are enough! ♦

If you've lived long enough, you'll relate to a person's need for validation. Subconsciously or not, we're always asking, "I'm I doing okay?" We go about life wondering if we're getting it right. At each turn, we look out for signs – from loved ones, institutions and other sources – that confirm we're doing well.

We're energized by the assurance from what we consider credible sources and frustrated by the lack of affirming words or action. That said; when should we be affirmed? When do we qualify for the pat on the back?

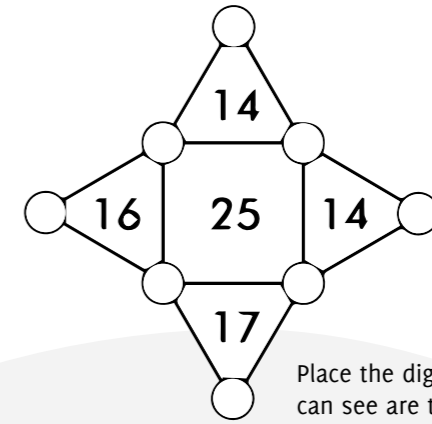
### The Lie and Struggle

Our fast-paced modern culture communicates a clear message: do more, be more, get more. We call it: 'the grind', 'the rat race', 'the hustle' – whatever the term – the idea is to constantly break your own record because your life depends on it.

Get a degree, get a job, get married, get kids, buy a home, get more degrees, get a better job, move to a nicer neighbourhood, climb the corporate ladder, climb higher – and the demands never end. Is it ever enough? When at each peak, you're told to do more.

I'm for hard work and attaining higher levels, but my concern is the nagging inadequacy that people experience with success – a situation where success becomes the struggle.

# Brain Bashers



1

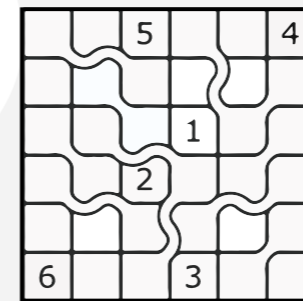
Place the digits 1-8 into the grid. The numbers you can see are the totals for the surrounding numbers.

2

4 shepherds were watching over their flocks and they were commenting on how many sheep they each had. If Alan had three more sheep, then he'd have one less sheep than Brian. Whereas Dave has the same number as the other three shepherds put together. If Charles had three less sheep, he'd have exactly treble the number of Alan. If they were evenly distributed they'd each have eleven sheep. How many sheep does Alan have?



3



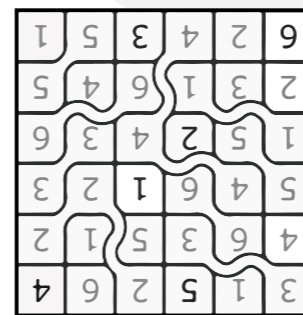
Complete the grid such that every row and column contains the digits 1 to 6. All squares that are connected contain the same digit.

4

What is represented by this Brain Bat?  
 Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins  
 Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins  
 Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins Vitamins

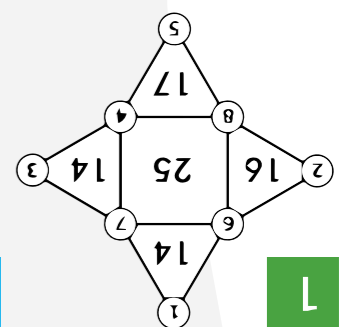
7

Multi-vitamins



3

If we denote Alan by A, Brian by B, Charles by C and Dave by D we can find the answer in the following way. Since  $A+B=C+D$  and  $A+B+C+D=44$ , it is easy to see that D has 22 sheep. So  $A+B+C=22$ . We can use this along with the two other facts,  $A+B=3$  and  $C=3A$ , to find that A has 3, B has 7, C has 12 and has 22. In a little more detail:  
 $A+B+C=22$  (1)  $A+B=3$  (2)  $C=3A$  (3)  
 Rearrange (3) to give  $C=3A + 3$  and replace the C in (1) to give  $A+B+3A+3=22$ . Simplified this gives  $B=19-4A$  (4). Rearrange (2) to give  $B=A-4$ . Use (4) in the place of B to give  $19-4A - 4$  to give  $A=3$ . Now use A to work out B, and then C. QED.



1



The Community is published by the  
Corporate Communications and Public Affairs Department,  
East African Community Secretariat  
P.O. Box 1096, Arusha, Tanzania  
Tel: 255-27-2162100/8 Fax: 255-27-2162120  
[eac@eachq.org](mailto:eac@eachq.org)  
[www.eac.int](http://www.eac.int)  
ISSN: 0856-7808

*ONE PEOPLE. ONE DESTINY*