KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EAC SECRETARY GENERAL OFFICE IN THE WEEK

- EAC SG Launches EAC-EABC Technical Working Group
- EAC SG flags off the Great African Cycling Safari
- Arusha Regional Commissioner Pays Courtesy call on SG
- New EABC CEO pays courtesy call on EAC SG
- East African Chamber of Commerce (USA) Founder pays courtesy call on EAC SG
- UK High Commissioner to Tanzania & EAC pays a visit to EAC SG
- Ireland Ambassador to EAC presents credentials to SG
- SG joins the Government of Burundi on their 59th Independence Day
NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

- EAC mini-budget passed, $2m to pay overdue bills
- EAC to focus on economic recovery in the current financial year
- EAC region hold talks on strengthening region's private sector
- East Africa: EAC in Bid to Reduce Cost of Air Travel
- EAC –EABC launch Technical Working Group to promote private sector growth
- Technical working group formed to address EAC trade challenges

SG JOINS THE GOVERNMENT OF BURUNDI ON THEIR 59TH INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

Dr Mathuki makes his remarks in Bujumbura, Burundi during the country's 59th Independence Day, next to H. E Evariste Ndayishimiye, President of the Republic of Burundi.
Thursday, 8th July 2021 - The East African Community (EAC) Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki launched a Private Sector Technical Working Group at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania, which is tasked with receiving and synthesising issues received from the private sector at various levels and advise on appropriate solutions.

The team will be responsible for following up on challenges disrupting Intra-EAC trade raised by businesses and support in their resolution by working with the relevant institutions and stakeholders. The team will be chaired by EAC Director General for Customs and Trade, Mr. Kenneth Bagamuhunda and co-chaired by EABC CEO Mr John Bosco Kalisa. It will also entail members from the two institutions.
Speaking at the launch of the TWG, Dr. Mathuki, directed the TWG to be result-oriented by unlocking barriers to trade so that businesses feel the tangible benefits of the EAC integration. “The TWG should come up with a harmonized framework for a collective response by Partner States to COVID-19 in the region. A collective response in the region will guarantee economic recovery in a post COVID era,” said Dr Mathuki.

East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Speaker Hon. Ngoga Martin, “We have an obligation under the Treaty as EAC leaders to strengthen the role of the private sector in the integration process. I am afraid that so far, we haven’t fulfilled this obligation as required of us,” he said.

EABC Executive Director John Bosco Kalisa said the TWG would identify issues that hinder the free movement of goods in the region and have them resolved on a monthly basis.

TWG’s other roles are to: prepare reports and any other relevant documentation for Steering Committee of the TWG comprised of the SG of the EAC and the Chair of the Board of the EABC and the two co-chairs of the TWG; mobilize resources for activities of the TWG, and; any other activity relevant to the above objectives.

**EAC SG FLAGS OFF THE GREAT AFRICAN CYCLING SAFARI**

*Wednesday, 7th July 2021* - EAC Secretary-General Hon. Dr. Peter Mathuki flagged off the Great African Cycling Safari. This Cycling tour will officially kick off on 1st August, 2021 to 25th September 2021, for a period of 55 days under the theme "Experience Africa, Integrate Humanity".

Dr Mathuki praised the cyclist for being East African Heroes by bravely taking the East African Integration agenda to the people of East Africa. The event is set to promote unity, peace and collective development of the Community.
**ARUSHA REGIONAL COMMISSIONER PAYS COURTESY CALL ON THE EAC SECRETARY GENERAL**

**Wednesday, 7th July 2021** - The Arusha Regional Commissioner (RC), Mr. John V. K. Mongella, on Thursday, paid a courtesy call on the EAC Secretary General, Hon. Dr. Peter Mathuki, at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

Receiving the RC, Hon. Dr. Mathuki said that it was the wish of the Summit of EAC Heads of State that the Community should be taken to the people at the grassroots who are its actual owners.

The SG informed the RC that EAC would mount social responsibility programmes for Arusha residents where possible as part of efforts to build goodwill with its host community. He said that the Community was also considering promoting locally produced content as directed by the Council of Ministers especially for textiles and leather products by setting aside special days particularly Fridays where Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and women traders would sell their wares at the EAC premises.

The Secretary General also handed over a consignment of 3,000 bed nets to the Regional Commissioner for distribution to schools and Arusha residents as part of malaria containment measures during the rainy seasons.

**EAST AFRICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (USA) FOUNDER PAYS COURTESY CALL ON EAC SG**

EAC Secretary General, Hon. Dr. Peter Mathuki, and Founder of USA based East Africa Chamber of Commerce Benson Kasue, held talks on developing programmes that will strengthen and promote diaspora involvement in the region’s economic growth.
EABC CEO PAYS COURTESY CALL ON EAC SG

CAPTION: From Left; Mr. Adrian Njau, Trade & Policy Advisor, Ms. Lilian Kiarie, EABC Business Advocacy Expert, EABC CEO Mr John Bosco Kalisa, Ms. Waturi Matu, TMEA Senior Advisor to EAC, Ms. Rachel Muthoga, EU Senior Advisor PPD and Mr. Charles Omusana, EAC Principal Economist and Officer.

"The region’s leadership is all for strong private sector engagement to take the Community to the next level," Dr Mathuki. The two officials held discussions revolving around strengthening collaboration & partnership between the two institutions.
UK High Commissioner to Tanzania & EAC, H.E. David Concar, EAC Secretary General met Hon. Dr. Peter Mathuki, and reaffirmed the UK’s policy to ensure that Sub-Saharan Africa is not sidelined when it comes to accessing COVID19 vaccines.
IRELAND AMBASSADOR TO EAC PRESENTS CREDENTIALS TO SG

Ambassador Mary O’Neill presented her credentials to EAC Secretary General Hon. Dr. Peter Mathuki, for her appointment as Ambassador of Ireland to the EAC in Arusha.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- EAC SG Keynote Address During the African Union Anti-Corruption Day in Arusha.
- Visit from ILO Regional Director to launch the Decent Job Program
- EAC SG Receives the Regional Covid-19 Response on Mitigation & Recovery
- Ministerial Sectoral Council on Tourism & Wildlife

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