

e-EAC Newsletter



In this Issue

- **EAC and Germany Hold Successful Government Negotiations**
- **African Development Bank & African Development Fund approve Regional Integration Strategy with Projects worth US\$2 Bn for EAC Region**
- **5th and Final Round of Inter-Burundi Dialogue Concludes**
- **EAC Partner State Register First Veterinary Product Under New Mutual Recognition Procedure**
- **EAC Operationalizes 13 One Stop Border Posts**
- **Minister Urges UN Agency to Pursue All Perpetrators of 1994 Genocide in Rwanda**
- **Push for Ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty as EALA, ICRC Hold Seminar in Arusha**
- **2nd EAC Development Partners Forum Held in Arusha**
- **Arusha Hosts 1st High Level EAC Youth Ambassadors Dialogue on Regional Integration**
- **EALA Enacts the EAC Statistics Bureau Bill**
- **Preparations in High Gear for the 9th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition 2019**
- **EAC Partner States National Medical Laboratory Diagnostics Experts Trained on Early Detection and Diagnosis of Highly Infectious Communicable Diseases**

EAC AND GERMANY HOLD SUCCESSFUL GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS



Germany has committed funding worth 61.5 million Euros to mark the 20th anniversary of her joint partnership with the East African Community.

On 5th October, the EAC Secretariat welcomed a delegation from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to discuss the future cooperation between both sides. These Government Negotiations are another milestone in the close EAC-German development cooperation.

The negotiations were led by H.E. Libérat Mfumukeko, Secretary General of the EAC, and Mr Niels Breyer, Head of the Division East Africa at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) in Germany.

The Head of the German Delegation commended the EAC on its accomplishments and underlined that EAC-German cooperation contributes significantly to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

(Continued on page 2)

... With these new commitments, support of the EAC by the German government now amounts up to approximately €350 million.

(Continued from page 1)

Mr Breyer further elaborated that Germany's support to the EAC is based on Germany's strategy as set forth in the Marshall Plan with Africa that aims to support partner countries in implementing the development visions and reform goals of the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Mr Breyer stressed the need for mutual commitments and called on the EAC to strengthen their own financial resources. He pointed out that closer economic cooperation will lead to the creation of job opportunities and improve the long-term prospects for young people throughout the region. With reference to the health sector, Mr Breyer stressed that a functioning health system is an important element in supporting the EAC in its further sustainable development and serves as a foundation for a strong workforce and thus for sustainable economic development.

In his remarks, EAC Secretary General Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko hailed German support over the past two decades which had enabled the Community to record significant achievements in diverse sectors, namely: Health and Pharmaceuticals, Trade and Customs; Gender and Education; monetary harmonization; institutional capacity strengthening, and; support to the Partnership Fund.

"We at the EAC fully embrace the priority areas embedded in the German Marshall Plan which include: economic diversification and boosting private sector investment and mobilization of private capital; value addition; investment in entrepreneurship, and technical and vocational training," said Amb. Mfumukeko.

Both sides agreed to continue and extend their ongoing cooperation in the two focal areas of cooperation: "Regional Economic and Social Integration" and "Health". In total, the German government committed €61.5 million for programmes with the EAC Secretariat in those fields.

In the area of "Regional Economic and Social Integration", the German side committed €9.5 million for the follow-on programme "Support to the EAC integration process" that will go to promoting intra-regional trade through value addition in productive sectors, better market access, improved customs processes and harmonized standards.

Euro 1 million will be in support for the ongoing programme "Strengthening of a Regional Quality Infrastructure" that focusses on reliable quality control mechanism and services for products traded in the EAC region and exported abroad, specifically in the pharmaceutical sector as well as in subsectors of agro-processing.

In the area of health, the German government has committed €30 million for the Immunization programme which is implemented



through Gavi, the Vaccine alliance. Moreover, €13 million will be for additional support of the Regional Network of Laboratories for Communicable Diseases that aims at enabling the EAC and its Partner States to diagnose potentially epidemic diseases, monitor anti-microbial resistance quickly and reliably on the ground and to launch effective responses immediately. Furthermore, the German government committed €3 million for the ongoing technical cooperation programme "Support to Pandemic Preparedness in the EAC-Region" which supports the EAC Secretariat in its coordinating and advisory role in pandemic preparedness for the Partner States.

With these new commitments, support of the EAC by the German government now amounts up to approximately €350 million.

Germany has been a strong supporter of the regional organization for two decades. On the occasion of this 20th anniversary, the German delegation and the EAC Secretariat joined in celebrations on the evening of 5th October at the EAC Headquarters.

Accompanying Mr Breyer in the German delegation at the bilateral negotiations were Mr Georg Rademacher, Senior Policy Officer for East Africa at the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, and Dr Detlef Waechter, the German Ambassador to Tanzania and the EAC.

With Amb. Mfumukeko for the EAC were Deputy Secretaries General Hon. Christophe Bazivamo (Productive and Social Sectors) and Eng. Steven Mlote (Planning and Infrastructure). Others were the Executive Secretary of the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, Dr Said Matano, and Deputy Executive Secretaries Prof. Mike Kuria (Inter-University Council for East Africa) and Prof. Saidi Kibeyia (East African Science and Technology Commission).



African Development Bank & African Development Fund approve Regional Integration Strategy with Projects worth US\$2 Bn for EAC Region

The African Development Bank (AfDB) and African Development Fund (ADF) have approved the Regional Integration Strategy with Projects worth USD2 Billion for EAC Region. The African Development Bank is among the top EAC Development Partners. The Bank's support in the Region is oriented toward "Accelerating East Africa's Transformation through Regional Integration".

Since July 2017, the EAC Secretariat has been working with the Bank on a proposal to support the EAC priority projects under the Bank's Regional Integration Strategy Paper (RISP) for Eastern Africa (EA-RISP 2018-22). The efforts to engage with the Bank are in line with the outcome of the Joint EAC Heads of State Retreat concluded on 28th February 2018 in Kampala, Uganda, at which the Secretariat was called upon to collaborate with development partners to "Mobilize resources required for implementation of new and ongoing priority infrastructure projects".

A total of 20 projects worth \$2 billion to be implemented by the EAC and EAC Partner States are included under the EA-RISP approved by the Bank's Board of Directors on 10th October 2018 for the next five years.

Accordingly to a press release issued by the Bank on 12th October, 2018 the RISP is the Bank's strategic and programming instrument to guide its support to regional operations in 13 countries, comprising the six EAC Partner States and their congruous neighbours in the greater Eastern Africa region such as Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia and Sudan. EA-RISP is anchored on two mutually reinforcing pillars, namely 'regional infrastructure for competitiveness and structural transformation', and 'strengthening the policy and institutional frameworks for market integration, growing investments and value chains development'.

In line with this strategic thrust, the EAC priority projects included in the RISP cover regional transport connectivity, regional energy infrastructure, regional ICT connectivity, and management of transboundary water resources.

Under the second pillar, the Bank will support projects aimed at accelerating implementation of the EAC single market, trade development including tackling of non-tariff barriers (NTBs), and putting in place policy frameworks for industrialization and promotion of EAC as a single investment destination. On financial market integration, the Bank aims to scale up implementation of the EAC payment and settlement systems integration. A number of knowledge products have also been prioritized,



including publication of the flagship Eastern Africa Industrial Competitiveness Report in collaboration with UNIDO.

The Bank has indicated that the indicative operational program updated at the Mid-Term Review in 2020. A range of instruments will be deployed to finance the selected projects, including the Bank concessional resources under the African development Fund (ADF) window, its non-concessional resources under the African Development Bank (ADB) window, trust funds and blending instruments, including through collaboration with other development partners such as the European Union, French Development Agency (AFD), and China's Africa Growing Together Fund (AGTF).

Approval of the RISP paves the way for the EAC Secretariat to commence engagements with Partner states in implementation of the approved projects. In particular, the Secretariat will sensitize Partner States on the selected regional projects to enhance commitment by Partner States; the Secretariat will leverage its convening power to facilitate joint requests from Partner States to access Bank resources for the prioritized projects; the Secretariat will also coordinate implementation and monitoring for results to ensure countries involved in multinational projects move at the same pace.

As part of its role, the Secretariat is already coordinating preparation studies for several regional infrastructure projects to bring them to bankability and ready for the construction phase. A number of these studies have been funded through the NEPAD-IPPF, a multi-donor facility hosted by the African Development Bank.



5th and Final Round of Inter-Burundi Dialogue Concludes



The 5th and Final Round of the Inter-Burundi Dialogue bringing together political parties and political actors in the Burundian conflict came to a close on 30 October 2018, at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge in Arusha, Tanzania.

The five-day talks were not attended by the government of Burundi and the ruling CNDD-FDD party but their views were taken in through the Kayanza Roadmap of 2018.

Prior to the talks by the political parties and actors, there had been a three-day session between the Facilitator and the alternative voices in Burundi, namely civil society, women, youth and the media.

Speaking at the closing session of the Dialogue, the Facilitator to the talks, retired Tanzanian President Benjamin William Mkapa, said that he would recommend to the Mediator and the EAC Summit to keep in mind the situation in Burundi and to engage both the Government of Burundi and the opposition to agree on the remaining points of disagreement, so that preparations on the holding of free, fair and credible elections in 2020 could be undertaken.

H.E. Mkapa hailed the participants for their dedication to the Dialogue and for producing a good quality roadmap that he said would be useful in resolving the problem in Burundi.

He further thanked the participants for being able to organise themselves and work in one group irrespective of their political affiliations.

The Facilitator said that this would be the last session he would be presiding over as the EAC Facilitator.

"In this regard, I will submit the roadmap that you have developed, the Kayanza Roadmap 2013 and that of 2018, together with a full report of the Dialogue process to the Mediator and through the Mediator to the EAC Summit for reflection on the way forward," he said.

President (rtd) Mkapa thanked the Government of Burundi, the ruling party, opposition political parties in Burundi and outside, key political actors, civil society organisations, women, youth, media, religious groups and the international community for participation in and support for the Dialogue that started in 2016.

"Also, I wish to thank the Special Envoys of the International Contact Group for their concerns and interactions. Special thanks go to EAC, the AU, UN, EU and others for their financial support so far," he said. 

EAC Partner State Register First Veterinary Product Under New Mutual Recognition Procedures



The first licences for a veterinary vaccine submitted for registration under the East African Community's Mutual Recognition Procedure (MRP) have been issued.

Obtaining approval to place veterinary medicines on the market requires a marketing authorisation (licence) from the National Regulatory Authority in each Partner State where the product is to be sold. Until now, this involved applying for a licence separately in each country. The East African Community's MRP system overcomes this lengthy, resource-intensive and often unpredictable process.

Through partnership between EAC, Global Alliance for Livestock Veterinary Medicines (GALVmed) and HealthforAnimals, EAC has implemented an initiative to harmonize the registration requirements and application procedure for veterinary immunologicals across all Partner States leading to mutual recognition. MRP allows applicants to apply simultaneously for licences in multiple countries. This saves time and allows countries and applicants to use their resources more efficiently. MRP increases the likelihood for the sustainable supply of quality-registered vaccines in the region.

Dr. David Balikowa, EAC's Senior Livestock Officer in charge of implementing the project said "The process of developing the MRP system has been very helpful from a regional perspective allowing countries to learn from each other. We are looking forward to having more products registered through this innovative MRP regional system."

Two other products are in the process of registration.



For more information on MRP, visit <https://www.eac.int/documents/category/livestock>

EAC Operationalizes 13 One Stop Border Posts



The East African Community has fully operationalized and trained personnel at 13 One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs) that are aimed at the facilitating trade and free movement of goods in the region.

The operationalization and training of personnel at the OSBPs has significantly reduced the time taken by travellers and trucks at the borders from days to about 1.5 minutes to 30 minutes on average respectively.

The EAC with the support of TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is finalizing the completion of the Malaba OSBP on the Kenya-Uganda border at a cost of US\$7.5 million.

The Commissioner General of the Kenya Revenue Authority, Mr. John Njiraini, who briefed the media on behalf of his colleagues after a two-day meeting of the EAC Committee on Customs at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, further said that TMEA was supporting the construction of OSBPs at Elegu/Nimule (Uganda/South Sudan Border), Tunduma/Nakonde (Tanzania/Zambia) and Moyale (Kenya/Ethiopia).

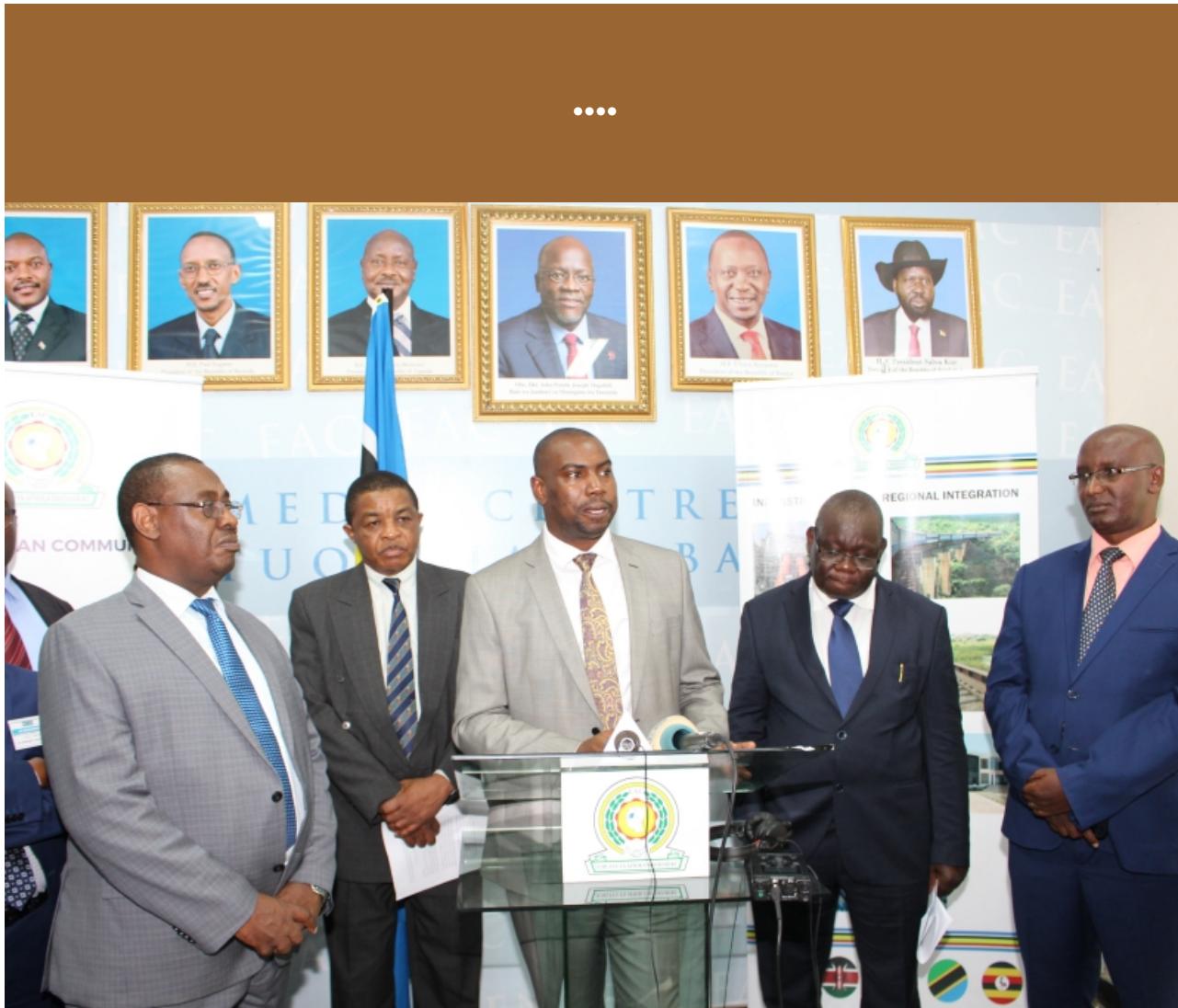
"We recognize that trade is global. Therefore, as much as we smoothen the flow of trade within the EAC, we intend to ensure the flow out and into EAC boundaries with neighbouring countries is smoothed," said Mr. Njiraini, who was flanked by among others Commissioner General Charles Kichere (Tanzania Revenue Authority) and Dickson Kateshumbwa (Acting Commissioner General, Uganda Revenue Authority), and Mr. Kenneth Bagamuhunda, the Director General, Customs and Trade at the EAC Secretariat.

The meeting drew participation from Commissioners General and Commissioners of Customs in the EAC Partner States.

Mr. Njiraini disclosed that in order to resolve the problem of lack of information to business, Trade Information Portals (TIPs) had been installed in Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

"Tanzania is in the process of establishing the trade portal. The TIPs will also be installed at a later stage in Burundi and South

(Continued on page 7)



(Continued from page 6)

Sudan. The link of the EAC Trade Portal is <http://tradehelpdesk.eac.int>," said the KRA Commissioner General.

"We urge businesspeople to start using these tools and propose how procedures can be simplified. It will be developed as a regional trade facilitation index given its ability to facilitate decision making and implementation of trade reforms," he said.

The tax chiefs noted that the Single Customs Territory (SCT) had registered remarkable benefits since its implementation in July 2014.

"So far, all imports are cleared under the Single Customs Territory Framework and clearance time has significantly reduced for both ports and Customs. Currently, the region is piloting undertaking exports under the Single Customs Territory," they said.

The rollout of the export regime under SCT commenced on 20th July, 2018 on a pilot basis. The pilot run involves clearance of selected export goods through the Northern Corridor

and the Port of Mombasa. As at 22nd October, 2018, the Uganda Revenue Authority, Rwanda Revenue Authority, Kenya Revenue Authority and Kenya Ports Authority were already involved in implementing the SCT exports pilot.

On Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs), the Commissioners General and Commissioners of Customs said that they were working closely to streamline the process of conducting trade in the region.

The Commissioners revealed that they were in the process of review the EAC Customs Management Act (EACCMA 2014) which has been in force since the commencement of the EAC in 2000.

"So far, the Partner States have submitted draft proposals which were considered in a meeting held on 31st July to 4th August, 2018. A lot of progress has been made through further inputs into the Partner States proposals as well as identification of new areas that require information of new regulations i.e. deployment of staff under the SCT, guidelines on the customs valuation of used items, additional export promotion schemes, and compliant trader programme," they said.



Minister Urges UN Agency to Pursue All Perpetrators of 1994 Genocide in Rwanda

Tanzania's Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Community Cooperation, Amb. Dr. Augustine Mahiga, has urged the UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT or Mechanism) to continue to track the last fugitives from justice of the 1994 genocide in Rwanda and to ensure the genocide does not happen again.

Amb. Mahiga said it was unfortunate that the genocide happened in Africa, adding that the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the precursor to the Mechanism, was established in Arusha, Tanzania, to address the injustices occasioned by the genocide and ensure that it is not repeated.

Amb. Mahiga further called on the Mechanism to engage in capacity building in law, prosecution and related areas for national judiciaries and regional courts in Africa.

The Minister said that the Mechanism was a repository of information for all and a centre of excellence from which the world will continue to learn about genocide.

Amb. Mahiga was speaking at the IRMCT Grounds in Lakilaki, Arusha, during the 2nd Arusha International Organizations Open Day.

The Minister under whose docket EAC Affairs falls urged EAC Partner States to deepen cooperation in areas of good governance, human rights, democracy and social justice, adding that all protocols touching on these areas should be revisited and revitalized.

Amb. Mahiga said that issues of human rights were inseparable from the rule of law and democracy, and that this was the essence for the establishment by the African Union of the African Court for Human and Peoples Rights.

He said that there were many yawning gaps with regard to human rights in several African countries, adding that respect for human rights was a value that should be institutionalized, nurtured and passed on to future generations.

The Minister urged the media to actively carry out its role of popularizing and informing the people on what was happening in the society.

He said the government of Tanzania was cognizant of the various



challenges facing the many international organizations in Arusha, adding that his Ministry would continue to work closely with them to resolve the outstanding administrative issues.

He described Arusha as the home of critical peace processes that had brought peace and stability to many countries in the region.

Speaking at the event, EAC Secretary General Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko said that the EAC would continue focusing on opening up markets to enhance trade and free movement of persons, improving the business climate to enable the development and competitiveness of the private sector and make the region an attractive investment destination, in order to spur economic growth and generate additional incomes for EAC citizens.

"Going forward, the Community has already mobilized more than US\$2.5 billion in funding for various development projects in the Partner States, projects that will be implemented within the next three to five years in health, education, agriculture and other sectors," said Amb. Mfumukeko.

In his remarks, Mr. Olufemi Elias, the Registrar of IRMCT and the host of the event, said that the diversity of the organizations that make up the international community in Arusha is what inspired international organizations to share a common objective to reinforce their connections with one another and even more importantly with the local community by offering insights into their mandates and functions in the spirit of partnership.

"As a concept, the International Organizations Open Day has generated a lot enthusiasm and excitement within participating organizations as well as the general public. This has inspired us as international organizations to increase interactions in order to bridge the gap between the international organizations and the local community," said Mr. Olufemi.



Push for Ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty as EALA, ICRC Hold Seminar in Arusha



Stakeholders keen to reduce the proliferation of Small and Light Weapons (SALW) now want EAC Partner States to ratify the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) to mop out illegal arms. A seminar on Arms Trade Treaty and its Complementarity to the Regional Arms Control Instruments for Partner States organised by the EALA and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) took place in Arusha yesterday.

EALA Member, Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema, speaking on behalf of the Speaker, Rt Hon Ngoga Karoli Martin, said it was vital for the region to seriously tackle the matter of illegal arms saying the security challenges were beyond inter-state issues but a concern for intrastate initiatives.

Hon Rwigema said insecurity played a role in hindering development, destabilizing leadership and resulted in poor economic development among others. The legislator added that violent crimes as well as arms trafficking, transnational criminality, which were may times related to presence of illegal arms would threaten the continent if not checked.

"In addition, with the EAC now implementing the Common Market Protocol that envisages free movement, there is imminent fear of increase in cross-border crime. Unfortunately, free movement of persons does not only involve those in search of opportunities, but it inevitably also involves free movement of criminals.

This can be destabilizing and calls for closer co-operation by the agencies. Articles 123,124 and 125 of the EAC Treaty explicitly

underscores security as a critical component in supporting; consolidating and protecting regional integration", Hon Rwigema said.

The legislator remarked that the African continent was repositioning itself to be a significant player in global trade. He therefore called for all effort to be inculcated to ensure regional and continental peace and security. Hon Rwigema said it was necessary for all Partner States to ratify the Treaty. At the moment, all Partner States have signed the Treaty but none of them has ratified the same. The EAC Partner States are among the 38 countries that have signed but not ratified the Treaty according to the Head of the Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat, Mr Dumisani Dladla.

Dr Philip Mwanika, ICRC Focal Point in Charge of Multilateral Affairs and Humanitarian Diplomacy, remarked that the Assembly was a critical stakeholder in so far as reducing armed violence and conflict mitigation is concerned. We have particularly been made aware of the work of the Committee on Regional Affairs and Conflict Resolution towards conducting fact finding mission and advancing conflict transformative dialogue sessions with civil society and governments pertaining to some still protracted social contexts in the region", Dr Mwanika said.

The ICRC, he said, was keen to continue in its mandate of supporting citizens in the armed conflict areas. Dr Mwanika lamented over the bulk of civilian suffering occasioned by presence

(Continued on page 10)

... more must be done to revert what can be a crisis of small arms in future

of conventional weapons and cited the indiscriminate and direct attacks against civilians, hospitals and even humanitarian workers. The expert therefore called for responsible arms transfers and enforcement of rules and norms connected to international arms trading as a means to preventing the risks of weapons they provide from being used to commit, or facilitate serious violations of human rights.

Dr Mwanika said over the thirty-plus years of work in South Sudan and Somalia, the ICRC could attest to a slow-motion effect of conventional weaponry in displacement and more indirect suffering due to cumulative deterioration of basic services, life chances and livelihoods.

Dr Mwanika also informed the seminar of positive developments and dynamics citing conscious action towards armed violence reduction as a means to realizing peace and security. The multilateral expert enumerated the Nairobi Protocol, Kinshasa Convention, the EAPCCO Protocol and the Mifugo Protocol as key resources in dealing with the scourge of small arms and light weapons.

The Head of the Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat, Mr Dumisani Dladla, said whereas importation and related issues of buy and sale of arms is a sovereign right of nations, states must work together to assess the risk of proposed transfers. He said that nations need to take measures to regulate arms imports where necessary and which may include looking at the import systems as well as requesting information from an exporting state regarding a pending or actual authorization of shipment.

The objectives of the seminar were to demystify certain provisions of the ATT which have raised concerns for Member States in the region, to provide a platform towards listening to perspectives of other states and regional organization on ratification of the ATT; to understand other similarities and differences between the Nairobi Protocol and the ATT (UNPOA) and to take a pragmatic approach to understand the ATT reporting obligations and identify ways to harmonise transparency obligations under the Nairobi Protocol.

According to the ICRC, more must be done to revert what can be a crisis of small arms in future.

"East Africa is one of the regions in the world that is gravely affected by small arms and light weapons and yet no single East African state is a party to the Arms Trade Treaty," said Eve Massingham, Regional Legal Advisor for the ICRC. "The failure of any East Africa state to ratify the treaty seems to be holding others back. The purpose of today's seminar is to bring representatives from the East African community together to speak collectively about the Arms Trade Treaty and what roadblocks they face to ratifying it", she added.

The ATT which entered into force in Dec 2014 is part of the International response to the tremendous human suffering caused by the widespread and poorly regulated availability of conventional weapons in establishing for the first time a global norm for responsible arms transfers, the ATT represents a historic achievement.

Analysts contend that the ATT as contrasted with other control laws provides a blueprint for action to reduce human suffering by all States in the arms supply chains. By adopting the ATT, States have recognized that arms and ammunition can no longer be regarded as just another form of commercial goods. At the very core of the Treaty is the need to subject the transfer of conventional arms, their ammunition, and parts and components to strict criteria, with the aim of ensuring that weapons do not end up in the hands of those who would use them to commit serious violations of international human rights law or other serious crimes.

Mr Oluwafisan Bankale, Representative of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) said illicit rampant of SALW was rampant in the region due to a culture fueled by several conflicts including civil wars in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire and Guinea Bissau. At the same time Tuareg rebellions in Niger and Mali and the terrorism activities in Mali and Nigeria had led to the leak of stock in to the hands of terrorists.

EALA Member, Hon George Odongo reiterated that the Treaty been specific to the Partner States means we need to interrogate the issues at the Partner States levels and EALA is capable of holding the conversation with the national parliamentary committees. The Assembly is interested in peace and security and the prevalence of arms hampersthe aspect.

"ATT looks at the demand and supply side and it is therefore vital to look at the entire trajectory including matters of stockpile management. EALA RACR wants to continue in the engagement with ICRC", he said. "We are keen to look at the ratification issue and to aggregate the regional and international commitments," Hon Odongo added.

Prior to the meeting, the ATT Head of Secretariat, Mr Dumisani Dladla and the ICRC Focal Point in charge of Multilateral Affairs & Humanitarian Diplomacy, Dr Philip Mwanika paid a courtesy call on Speaker of EALA, Rt Hon Ngoga Karoli Martin. 

2nd EAC Development Partners Forum Held in Arusha

The 2nd East African Community Development Partners Consultative Forum aimed at promoting better coordination of development support to the EAC by various development partners was held today at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

The forum sought to foster synergies and leverage available resources while avoiding duplication of efforts in financing EAC programmes and projects.

Addressing the forum, the EAC Secretary General, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko said over the last five years, Development Partners had committed about \$500 million direct and technical support to various aspects of the EAC integration.

"With this revamped collaboration, the EAC has been able to progress the integration agenda with remarkable speed," said the Secretary General.

He disclosed that the main contributors to the EAC Development Programmes include Germany, the USA through USAID East Africa, European Union (EU), and the African Development Bank. The total German contribution to EAC amounts to €286,541,354.42; USAID \$237,823,555; and the EU Euro 65,000,000.

Amb. Mfumukeko expressed EAC appreciation for the approval of the African Development Bank Regional Integration Strategy Paper for Eastern Africa (EA-RISP 2018-22), in which EAC Projects worth about US\$2 billion have been considered in the RISP indicative operational programme. This includes loans to the EAC Partner States for regional programmes and grant to the EAC.

The Secretary General said that the EAC has transformed itself from a loose co-operation framework into a fast-emerging, solid and dynamic regional economic bloc. He added that the EAC has evolved strong institutions and vigorous programme delivery, which are already making an impact on the economies of the region.

Amb. Mfumukeko disclosed to the participants that the EAC has been ranked as first among the eight (8) Regional Economic Communities (RECs) from the recently Africa Regional Integration Index Report launched in Addis Ababa through the collaboration between the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the African Union Commission (AUC).

He however called for more partnerships with the business community and, in particular, the East African Business Council in



industrial development through investment in private sector development, improvement of doing business environment and finally an enhance.

On his part, the head of Delegation of the European Union, Amb. Roeland van de Geer, said the forum is valuable for Development Partners to ensure an alignment of their respective cooperation programmes with those of the EAC.

He appreciated the willingness of the EAC Secretariat to engage on sector specific priority areas particularly on key regional priorities given the wide and ambitious portfolio of EAC.

Amb. Roeland emphasized the need for involving all EAC institutions and representatives of key regional non-state actors including the private sector in the forum to share their valuable experience of regional integration.

Amb. Roeland assured the EAC that all Development Partners are willing to support the key priorities of as EAC articulated in the 5th Development Strategy endorsed in February 2018.

In his remarks, Mr. Marcellin Ndong Ntah, the lead Economist from the African Development Bank said the Development Partners Consultative Forum promotes the principle of ownership of the development assistance that may be availed to the EAC and its Partner states to drive Region's development agenda.

Mr. Ndong hailed the EAC for establishing the forum noting that it would enable better coordination of development assistance by Development Partners to the Community.

The 2nd EAC Development Partners Consultative Forum was attended by: Ambassadors accredited to the EAC; Members of the Proposed EAC Development Partners Group; Other EAC Development Partners and Representatives from EAC Organs and Institutions among other.



Arusha Hosts 1st High Level EAC Youth Ambassadors Dialogue on Regional Integration



The 1st High Level EAC Dialogue on Regional Integration themed "Harnessing Young People's Participation in the Political Process" opened on 6th November 2018, at the East African Community (EAC) Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

The dialogue aimed at providing an inclusive space for young people to critically and objectively reflect on the progress made so far; challenges encountered; and prospects for enhancing meaningful youth participation in the political process within the East African Community.

Addressing the meeting, EAC Deputy Secretary General, in charge of Political Federation, Mr. Charles Njoroge, said the EAC recognizes that youth are an integral part, and also an important key resource in socio-political development of the Community. As such, the EAC has been undertaking a number of activities to promote dialogue among the youth that enhances their participation in regional integration.

He informed the meeting that the involvement of the youth in EAC affairs is provided for under Article 120 (c) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community, which emphasizes the adoption of a common approach for involvement of the youth in the integration process.

Mr. Njoroge disclosed to the meeting that in a bid to strengthen youth involvement in the EAC integration processes, in July 2013 the EAC Council of Ministers adopted the EAC Youth Policy to guide the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Community's programmes that address youth issues.

"I am confident that during this two day dialogue we will reflect on opportunities for meaningful youth participation in the political processes at the individual, organizational and societal levels," he added.

On his part, the Kenyan Ambassador to the United Republic of Tanzania, Hon. Dan Kazungu called for the youth to be more involved in EAC affairs in an effort to heighten their understanding and awareness of the EAC integration process.

Amb. Kazungu urged the EAC Secretariat to develop strategic programmes which will further enhance young people's participation in the regional integration agenda.

Dr. Kirsten Focken Programme Manager for the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) said the dialogue creates a great opportunity for youth to identify the opportunities for meaningful participation and assess young people's participation in the political processes in East Africa.

Dr. Focken called for the EAC Secretariat to engage and enable the young people of today to lead East Africa tomorrow.

The two-day Platform is being attended by over 50 East African Youth Ambassadors.



EALA Enacts the EAC Statistics Bureau Bill

EALA debated and passed the EAC Statistics Bureau Bill, 2017 yesterday afternoon. With that, a new institution to be known as the EAC Statistics Bureau is now in the offing should the Heads of State assent to the enacted Bill. The Bill which was deferred at the last Sitting in Arusha, sailed through yesterday afternoon with Members emphasizing its importance as the integration process makes strides and progresses towards the Monetary Union.

The EAC Statistics Bureau Bill, 2017, seeks to establish the Statistics Bureau as an Institution of the Community under Article 9 of the Treaty and Article 21 of the Protocol on Establishment of the EAC Monetary Union. The Bill provides for the functions, powers, governance and its funding with a view to establishing an institution responsible for statistics in a bid to support the East African Monetary Union.

On October 3rd, 2018, at the 1st Sitting of the 2nd Session, the Minister for EAC, Burundi, Hon Isabelle Ndayayo, on behalf of the Council of Ministers moved a Motion to postpone the debate on the crucial Bill. The debate on adjournment was preceded by presentation of the Report of the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment (CTI) on the EAC Statistics Bureau Bill, 2017 by the Chair of the Committee, Hon Gai Deng.

The Hon Minister then informed the House that, the EAC Statistics Bureau Bill, 2017, which was a Council Bill needed time for more consultation before debate can ensue. Particularly, the United Republic of Tanzania had vide a letter to the Clerk of EALA on October 1st, 2018, requested for reinstatement of the earlier provision of clause 7(2)a of the said bill, in effect, rejecting the amendment proposed by the EALA Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment (CTI) submitted to the Council of Ministers on September 24th, 2018. However, updating the House yesterday, the Chair of Council of Ministers, Hon Julius Maganda ceded ground to the proposal and remarked that both Council of Ministers and the Committee on Communication, Trade and Investment had concurred that the clause be retained as is.



The envisaged East African Community Statistics Bureau is responsible for the development, production and dissemination of Community statistics in order to support the establishment of the Monetary Union. At the stage of second reading yesterday, several amendments were incorporated as contained in the schedule.

Prior to the enactment of the Bill, Members at debate who rose in support of the same were Hon Rose Akol, Hon Mohammed Mnyaa, Hon Amb Fatuma Ndangiza, Hon Dr Francois Xavier Kalinda, Hon Dr Ngwari Maghembe, Hon Dennis Namaara, Hon Simon Mbugua and Hon Chris Nduwayo. Others were Hon Adam Kimbisa, Hon Oda Gasinzigwa, Hon Dr Woda Jeremiah Odok, Hon Maryam Ussi, Hon Dr Gabriel Aher, Hon Susan Nakawuki, Hon Mukasa Mbidde, Hon Fancy Nkuhi and Hon Josephine Lemoyaan.

Hon Marie Claire Burukukiye, Hon Kim Ghai, Hon Mathias Kamsoba, Hon Pierre Celestin Rwigema, Hon Jean Muhiirwa also gave a nod to the Statistics Bill.

The Bill is now to be forwarded to the EAC Heads of State for assent in line with Article 63 of the Treaty for the EAC.



Preparations in High Gear for the 9th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition 2019

The 9th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition 2019 (EAPCE'19) will be held from 8th to 10th May, 2019 at the PrideInn Paradise Beach Resort, Convention Center and Spa in Mombasa, Kenya.

The conference organized by the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat and the EAC Partner States is expected to attract more than 1,000 participants.

The 2019 edition of the biennial conference under the theme, *East African Region: The Destination of Choice for Oil and Gas Investment Opportunities to Enhance Socioeconomic Transformation*, aims at promoting the region's petroleum potential and investment opportunities. The last eight Petroleum Conferences have proven a valuable forum for governments and petroleum industry players from around the world to dialogue. According to the EAC Secretary General, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko, while the conference provides a forum for dialogue for all players in the Petroleum industry regionally and internationally, the 2019 edition of the Conference is also in line with the EAC Vision 2050 that aims to transform the region into an upper-middle income region by the year 2050.

"Energy is one of the vital infrastructure 'enablers' of EAC Vision 2050 and the level and intensity of commercial energy use in the region is a key indicator of the degree of economic growth and development," added the Secretary General.

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

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

EAPCE'19 will take place at a time when the EAC has embarked on a journey to implement the Vision 2050. The objective of the energy sector development under the EAC Vision 2050 is to ensure sustainable, adequate, affordable, competitive, secure and reliable supply of energy to meet regional needs at the least cost. By 2050, the region's target is to transform the energy landscape to be characterised by efficient distribution of petroleum products with sufficient strategic reserves.

Important Conference Dates:

- Open Submissions of Abstracts: 1st October, 2018
- Open Registration: 30th October, 2018
- Abstract Submission Deadline: 31st December, 2018

- Notification of Acceptance: 28th February, 2019
- Exhibition Booth Hire Deadline: 30th April, 2019
- Conference Start: 8th May, 2019
- Conference End: 10th May, 2019

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS:

Abstracts are invited on the range of topics outlined below. Presenters should submit an abstract of not more than 500 words in length using Times New Roman font type of size 12, with 1.5-line spacing.

EAPCE'19 Conference Topics:

A: Exploration and Development

- i. Licensing regimes
- ii. East African Rift Basins
- iii. East African Coastal Basins
- iv. Offshore Exploration Opportunities
- v. Exploration in inland Basins
- vi. Petroleum Data Management

B: Commercialization and Infrastructure Development

- i. Meeting the Regional petroleum needs
- ii. Crude Oil and Refines Petroleum Products Pipelines
- iii. Exploring on Exportation and Refining Options for Crude Oil
- iv. Natural Gas and LPG Infrastructure development
- v. Oil and Gas to Power Projects

C: Economic and Financial Aspects of Petroleum Projects

- i. Field Development and Reservoir Management
- ii. Financing of Oil and Gas Projects
- iii. Oil and Gas Markets and Impact of global prices
- iv. Petroleum Fiscal Regimes

D: Cross Cutting Issues

- i. Managing Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE) and Social Impacts on Oil and Gas Operations
- ii. Local Content - Capacity Building, Goods and Services in the Oil and Gas Industry
- iii. Policy, legal and Regulatory Framework
- iv. Technological Advancement
- v. Petroleum Revenue Management and Governance
- vi. Supporting Infrastructure for Oil and Gas Development
- vii. Managing Stakeholder Expectations

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION:

All submitted abstracts must focus on the conference theme and topics. The author's biography and a passport size photograph must accompany each Abstract. Biographies shall be limited to 150 words and shall be written using complete sentences in the 3rd person and should contain information on position, career history, education and professional achievements. Multiple abstract submission is PERMITTED. Abstracts submission will be done online through the EAPCE'19 website, www.eapce19.eac.int. The submission platform will close at midnight 31st December, 2018 GMT +3.



EAC Partner States National Medical Laboratory Diagnostics Experts Trained on Early Detection and Diagnosis of Highly Infectious Communicable Diseases

A four-week long practical Training of Trainers (ToTs) course involving twelve (12) medical laboratory experts from the EAC Partner States' National Public Health Reference Laboratories (NPHLs), concluded on Friday, 26th October, 2018 at the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM) Headquarters in Hamburg, Germany.

The training was conducted from 1st to 26th October 2018 and focused on the assembly, operation, use and field deployment of the nine High Technology EAC Mobile Medical Laboratory equipment, reagents and supplies for the early detection and diagnosis of various highly infectious biological agents such as the various Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers (VHFs), namely: Ebola, Marburg, Crimean-Congo Fever, Yellow Fever, among others which are endemic in East and Central Africa.

Currently, the EAC with technical and financial support from Germany through the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the German Development Bank (KfW) and the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine (BNITM) is implementing the "*East African Community Regional Network of Mobile Medical Reference Laboratories for Communicable Diseases Project*." In 2016, Germany committed an initial three-year funding of Euro 10 Million for the project. Negotiations are currently underway for additional funding of Euro 13 Million for the year 2020 and beyond.

The main objective of the EAC Mobile Medical Laboratories Project is to strengthen capacities in all six EAC Partner States to respond to pathogens of biosafety level 3 and 4 nature and other outbreaks of highly infectious diseases that are prone to cause cross-border epidemics by rapid mobile diagnostic capacities that enable timely interventions through joint collaboration,



linkages and cross-border networking among the National Public Health Reference Laboratories (NPHLs) in each of the EAC Countries. The participating NPHLs in the Partner States are: Institut National de Santé Publique (INSP), Burundi; National Public Health Laboratory Services, Kenya; National Reference Laboratory (NRL), Rwanda; Public Health Laboratory and National Blood Transfusion Centre, South Sudan; National Health Laboratory Quality Assurance and Training Centre (NHLQATC), Tanzania and Central Public Health Laboratories (CPHL), Uganda.

In addition, the EAC Mobile Laboratories Project has broad actions that include the training of various health and medical laboratory technical experts on the early detection and diagnosis of highly infectious pathogens and exchange of knowledge among Partner States at regional, national and sub-national levels, including joint disease outbreak investigations and response in cross-border areas.





Editorial Team:

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

Visit the EAC Web Portal at <http://www.eac.int> to read these and more stories online.

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

www.eac.int

*For further information please contact:
Richard Owora Othieno, Head of Department / Email: OOTHieno@eachq.org / Tel: +255 (0)27 216 2100*

