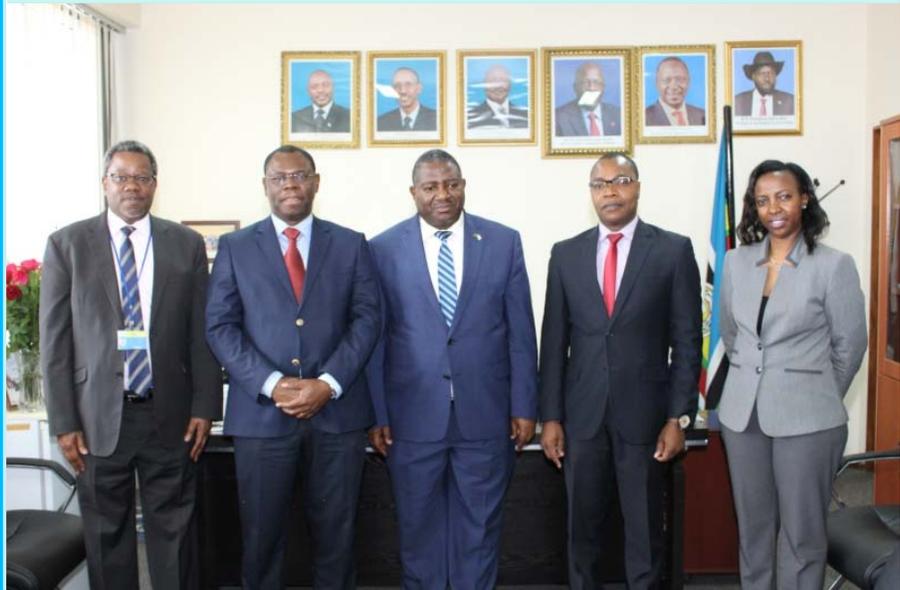




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EAC SECRETARIAT-AFDB STRATEGIZE TO SET UP PARTNERSHIP TO ACCELERATE AFRICA'S TRANSFORMATION THROUGH REGIONAL INTEGRATION



An African Development Bank mission led by Dr. Marcellin Ndong Ntah, Lead Economist and comprising Mr. Patrick Kanyimbo, Regional Integration Coordinator at the Bank's East African Regional Hub (RDGE) in Nairobi visited the EAC headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania. Engineer Mlote, Deputy Secretary General, responsible for Planning and Infrastructure hosted the mission, while technical deliberations were chaired by Eng. Dr. Kamugisha Kazaura, Director of Infrastructure.

Discussions during the two-days of the mission focused on strategic priorities and corresponding indicative operational program to accelerate EAC's integration agenda. These strategic and operational priorities and operations will be articulated in the Bank's programming document, namely the Regional Integration Strategy for East Africa (EA-RISP) 2018-22, which is expected to be approved by the Bank's Board in 2018.

The Mission explained that the EA-RISP seeks to operationalize the Bank's Integrate Africa corporate strategy (2018-25) approved in May this year, and support the implementation of the EAC 5th Development Strategy (2017-21).

(Continued on page 2)

... EA-RISP 2018-22 to focus on regional infrastructure development and strengthening policy and institutional frameworks



(Continued from page 1)

Consultations on the new RISP started last year when the Secretariat presented a number of projects in November 2017 for consideration and support under the RISP. This mission therefore served to discuss the Bank's feedback on the proposed projects and further consult on the RISP prior to its approval by the Bank.

In his remarks, Eng. Mlote thanked the AfDB for honouring the EAC's invitation and thanked the Bank for its ongoing support on a number of projects managed by the Secretariat. He informed the AfDB team that a number of on-going projects are progressing well and promised that those lagging behind will be fast tracked.

In this regard, the DSG noted that EAC is looking forward to the approval of projects proposed to the Bank for funding under the new RISP, which will help operationalize the EAC 5th Development Strategy (2017-21). Many of these projects have high-level political commitment and specifically the infrastructure projects were endorsed by the EAC Heads of State during their Retreat held in Kampala, Uganda in February 2018, where the Bank and other development partners were called upon to collaborate with the EAC Secretariat to mobilize resources for implementation.

In this regard, Dr. Ntah highlighted that the prioritized projects are fully aligned with the 5th EAC Development Strategy (2017-21) and aim at addressing the region's pervasive developmental challenge, namely the slow pace of economic transformation. He explained that the strategic thrust of the RISP is articulated around two pillars, namely (i) Regional infrastructure development for economic transformation; (ii) Strengthening the policy and institutional frameworks

for market integration, investment and value chains development.

Accordingly and as per the Bank's High-5s Agenda, the agreed Bank-supported projects will focus on improving regional infrastructure connectivity to improve the business environment and accelerate transformation. In the transport sector the agreed projects range will focus on cross-border highways and bridging missing links on priority transport corridors, and developing multi-modal transport systems including inland waterways, air and railways.

In the energy sector, priority projects cover electricity generation, transmission lines to facilitate cross-border electricity trade, and promotion of clean cooking solutions. A number of project preparation activities have also been prioritized to increase the stock of bankable regional projects to crowd in investment, including from the private sector and non-traditional investors such as pension funds.

To finance the RISP, the Bank will deploy its full range of instruments including its concessional resources from the African Development Fund (ADF), the dedicated ADF Regional Operations Envelope, its non-concessional African Development Bank window, trust funds and explore innovative financing mechanisms to complement the Bank's statutory resources. The Mission shared information on some of the steps taken by the Bank to unlock innovative financing, (such as Africa50, and Africa Investment Forum), and measures taken by the Bank's President, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina to ensure accelerated delivery of Bank-funded projects. 

Appraisal Workshop on Germany's Support to the EAC integration process held in Arusha



A one-day appraisal workshop on the Federal Republic of Germany's support to the EAC integration process was held on Wednesday 8th August, 2018 at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

The appraisal workshop, which was co-chaired by the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Productive and Social Sectors, Hon. Christophe Bazivamo and Dr. Kirsten Focken, the Cluster Coordinator-EAC-GIZ Programme based in Arusha, was attended by the Director General of the EAC Customs and Trade Directorate, Mr. Kenneth Bagamuhunda, Heads of Departments that are involved in implementing the activities supported by GIZ, and the representative of the German Embassy in Dar es Salaam, Ms. Norzin Grigoleit-Dagya.

Also in attendance were the Consultants undertaking the appraisal exercise for the 4th phase of the EAC-GIZ Support Programme that comes to an end in mid-2019.

Addressing the workshop participants, Hon. Bazivamo commended the long standing support of the German Government to the EAC integration and urged the participants to come up with clear and smart project objectives, outputs and indicators for the next phase of the cooperation.

On her part, Dr. Focken, the Cluster Coordinator-EAC-GIZ Programme, thanked all the participants for active participation and input into the mission. She said that the cooperation will continue in many areas with more focus on implementation to

achieve tangible results and demonstrate the benefits of regional integration in East Africa.

The process of planning for a new phase of the programme started with consultations between the EAC and the German government, which took place on 18 September 2017. The consultations took into consideration the key strategic interventions as laid down in a document presented by the EAC Secretariat.

Both sides agreed in their joint minutes that Regional Economic Integration should remain the priority area for technical cooperation.

In a first appraisal mission held from 12th to 23rd March, 2018, the appraisal team visited the EAC Secretariat and selected stakeholders for discussions in order to pave the way forward. Based on these findings, GIZ developed a proposal.

Implementation of the Customs Union and continued implementation of the Common Market will remain the core areas of support and cooperation. The concept includes support to selected economic sectors through regional cooperation and improved trade integration. It also focuses on strengthening the capacities of the EAC Secretariat and selected regional partners, improved inclusion of the private sector and communication of success stories on regional integration through the Incubator for Integration and Development in East Africa (IIDEA).



EAC Policy Briefs on Aflatoxin Prevention and Control launched in Nairobi



A two day Regional Forum to launch the East African Community (EAC) Policy Briefs on Aflatoxin Prevention and Control came to a close on 16 August 2018, in Nairobi, Kenya.

The workshop, which was geared towards enhancing levels of awareness on Aflatoxin control and prevention in the EAC region, was organized by EAC in partnership with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

To officiate the launch and representing the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation was Prof. Hamadi Boga, the Principal Secretary (PS) in the State Department of Agriculture Research, Ministry of Agriculture, Kenya.

Prof. Boga hailed the EAC Secretariat for prioritizing aflatoxin prevention and control as one of its flagship projects in the region. He disclosed that that Africa loses up to US\$ 670 million annually from lost exports due to aflatoxin contamination.

The PS further said that approximately 40% of food commodities in local markets exceed allowable levels of aflatoxins in foods.

The PS officially launched the 9 sets of policy briefs on Aflatoxin and underscored that they contain key recommendations on strategic policy action and interventions required to mitigate impacts and effects of aflatoxin along the food and feed value chains.

Aflatoxin contamination poses a serious threat to human and animal health, and to the economies of the EAC Partner States. Existing efforts to mitigate aflatoxin at national level have remained fragmented and not adequately supported, technically and financially. The 36th Meeting of the EAC Council of Ministers directed Partner States to mainstream EAC Aflatoxin Prevention and Control Strategy priorities in their national budgets and national agriculture investment plans.

In her remarks, the USAID/Kenya and East Africa Feed the Future Regional Coordinator, Ms. Kathryn Begeal, commended stakeholders for the efforts towards aflatoxin prevention and control.

Ms. Begeal further called on EAC Partner States to make real progress in implementing solutions to aflatoxin contamination such as disseminating information to communities, promoting

(Continued on page 5)

... project to contribute to food security and safety in the EAC and protect human, animal and plant Health.



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farmer use of Alfasafe in extension and input packages, and scaling up improved post-harvest handling practices.

Pursuant to the directive of the Council, the EAC regional project on aflatoxin abatement was launched in 2014 with the aim of preventing and controlling adverse impacts of Aflatoxin along the food and feed value chains. The overall goal of this project is to contribute to Food Security and Safety in the EAC and Protect Human, Animal and Plant Health.

A Regional Forum was then established to create awareness and sensitize high level policy makers and other key stakeholders on the necessary policy action and interventions to mitigate impacts and effects of aflatoxin.

Speaking at the meeting, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Productive and Social Sectors, Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, noted that Aflatoxin prevention and control is one of the flagship programmes implemented by the EAC Secretariat.

Hon. Bazivamo said that the overall goal of the programme is to contribute to food and nutrition security as well as to protect human, animal and plant health in EAC from the adverse impacts of aflatoxin along the food and feed value chains.

Participants at the event included government officers from the line Ministries of Agriculture and Livestock in the EAC Partner States as well as academicians, researchers, animal health, food safety and nutrition experts who shared presentations on observations, lessons learned, new technologies, challenges and recommendations with regard to aflatoxin mitigation efforts.

Addressing the closing session of the event on Thursday, Hon. Mathias Kasamba, the Chairperson of the East African Legislative Assembly Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources commended USAID Kenya and East Africa for funding the EAC Aflatoxin Prevention and Control project, the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture, the Partnership for Aflatoxin Control in Africa, the US Centers for Disease Control, the private sector and other development partners engaged in dealing with the scourge of aflatoxin on the continent.



DOWNLOAD BRIEFS HERE:

<https://www.eac.int/documents/category/aflatoxin-prevention-and-control>

Energy Experts Discuss Enhancement of Sustainable Energy Market in Eastern Africa - Southern Africa - Indian Ocean Regions



A four-day third meeting of the Technical Steering Committee of the project on enhancement of sustainable regional energy market in the Eastern Africa-Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) Region concluded on Thursday 2nd August at Hilton Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya.

The project on enhancement of sustainable regional energy market in the Eastern Africa-Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) Region seeks to address market governance and regulatory related challenges affecting the implementation of energy development projects in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean region. It is supported by a seven million euros fund provided under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) for a period of four years since the signing of the grant delegation agreement with COMESA in May 2017.

The meeting brought together five Regional Economic Communities: The Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC), Intergovernmental

Authority on Development (IGAD), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC). Others were the Regional Association of Energy Regulators, Regional Power Pools, Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Centres, and the European Union Delegation (EUD) to Kenya and Zambia.

The COMESA Regional Association of Energy Regulators for Eastern and Southern Africa (RAERESA) coordinates the implementation of the programme.

The programme has three results areas namely; a regionally harmonized energy regulatory and policy framework that integrates gender perspectives; enhancement of regulatory capacity of the National Regulatory Authorities and Power Pools to proactively influence developments in the energy sector; and lastly, enhancement of renewable energy and energy efficiency to attract invest-

(Continued on page 7)

... meeting incorporates visit to Kenya's renewable energy project, the 25.5 MW Ngong Hills Wind Power Station/Wind Farm.

(Continued from page 6)

ments in clean energy and build capacity in clean energy in the region as well as the domestication on a demand driven basis. Officiating at the opening ceremony, Kenya's Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Energy, Dr. Eng. Joseph K. Njoroge, noted that the meeting came at a time when the Republic of Kenya was fostering the development and utilization of renewable energies to enhance energy security and expand access to modern energy with the ultimate goals of improving the livelihoods of Kenyans and beyond. He said that it was indisputable fact that sustainable and affordable energy supply was pivotal to realizing economic and social development in the regions.

The Principal Secretary, who was represented by Eng. Julius M. Mwachani, the Secretary for Electrical Power Development at the Ministry, was confident that the initiative on enhancing Sustainable Regional Energy Market in the Eastern Africa-Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) Region will lead to harnessing of the best minds in Africa, and channeling technical and financial resources in an efficient and effective manner to address contemporary developmental challenges, and catalyze the private sector to make it, as mandated, a significant contributor to the development process in Africa.

Addressing the same audience, the Assistant Secretary General (Programmes), of COMESA, Amb. Dr. Kipyego Cheluget, disclosed that the programme will influence developments in the the five RECs' energy sector and enhance the capacity of regulators in providing and enforcing regulations that enhance the regional market. "It will also enhance the renewable energy regulatory frameworks to promote investment in renewable energy and energy efficiency, as well as integrate gender perspectives in energy policy and regulation"

The COMESA Assistant Secretary General, who was represented by Dr. Mohamedain Seif Elnasr, Chief Executive Officer of the COMESA based Regional Association of Regulatory Authorities in the Eastern and Southern Africa, commended the role of the European Union in developing Africa's infrastructure including energy infrastructure and applauded the contribution by the EU through the different European Development Funds and other mechanisms in advancing the implementation of many continental, regional and national projects, related to infrastructure in general and specifically energy projects, among others.

On his part, the Representative of the EU delegation program manager and Ag. Head of Sections Infrastructure, in the Republic of Kenya, Mr. Jean-Noel Gangloff, said that building an energy market that stimulates power trading and promotes energy security, as well as leverages on each countries strengths and shields the risk of country level inadequacies was very important for the

Eastern Africa-Southern Africa-Indian Ocean (EA-SA-IO) Region.

The EU Representative noted that this was an opportunity to integrate the regional electricity market sustainably, which requires the process of consensus building from a policy and regulatory perspective. "It is therefore important that the various actors in the region engage in the process of building a common understanding and a harmonized approach in how the sector is governed", noted the EU Envoy.

He asserted that in partnering with the regional economic organizations on the 7 million Euro regional energy programme, "the European Union recognizes and believes that we can together enhance the regional energy market in a harmonized way, as well as promote energy efficiency and other renewable energy sources, thus taking the development of the regional energy market a step further".

The Program Manager - Infrastructure, European Union in Zambia, Mr. Graham Ching'ambu, noted that the project was not only about rules and regulations but also about the creation of an energy market. In this regard, he pointed out that the project could be a driver for market and industrial growth within the region and could also contribute to lowering production costs hence enhancing competitiveness.

The 3rd meeting of the Programme Technical Steering Committee (PTSC) of the project, which was chaired by the EAC Senior Energy Officer, Mr. Elsam Byempaka Turyahabwe, reviewed progress on the status of implementation of the First-Year Work Programme 2017 – 2018; considered the Annual Report of the Project, and adopted the 2018 – 2019 Second-Year work plan and Budget of the Project on Enhancement of a Sustainable Regional Energy Market in the EA-SA-IO Region.

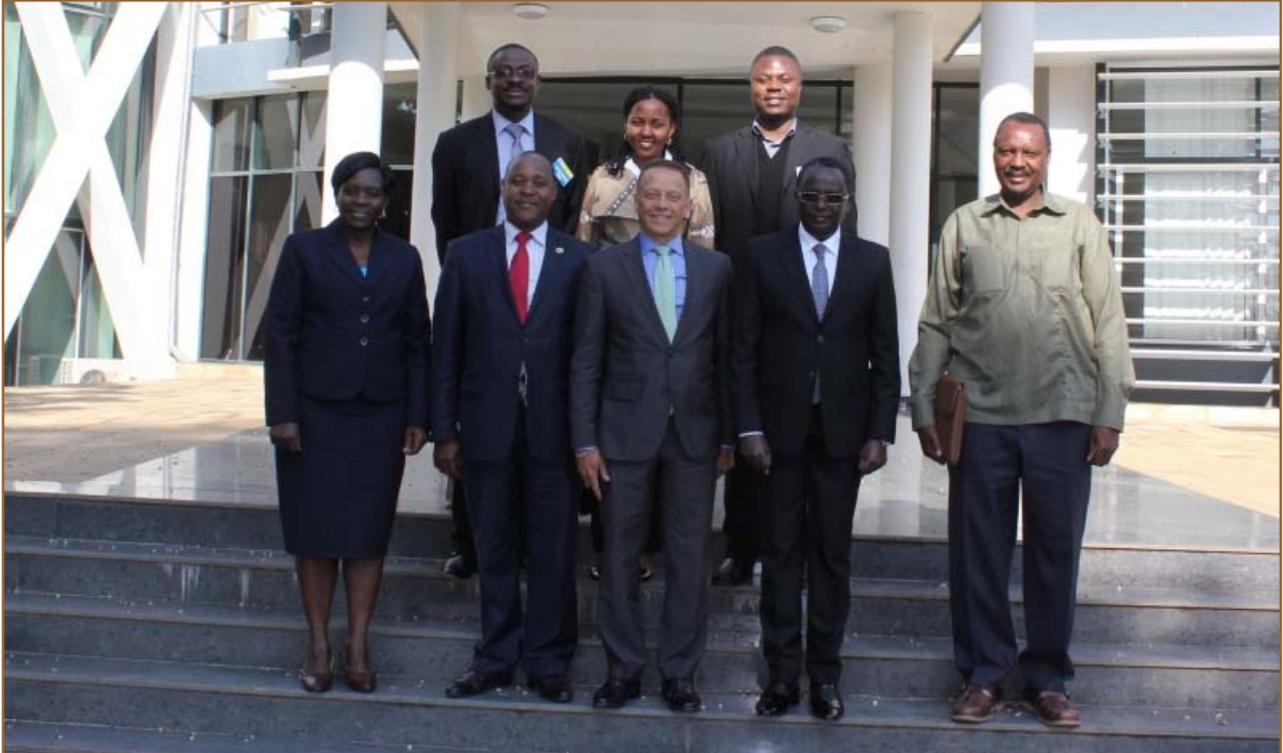
Prior to the energy experts meeting, an awareness-training workshop for regional journalists and communication experts from the participating organizations was conducted on July 30, 2018 as part of the project's communication and visibility strategy.

Communication experts from the RECs, Ministries of Energy, Energy Associations and Power Pools participated in the one-day training and study tour on Kenya's renewable energy project, the 25.5 MW Ngong Hills Wind Power Station/Wind Farm. Journalists from Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, and Burundi attended the training and study tour.

Chairing and hosting of the meeting of the Programme Technical Steering Committee is on rotational basis among the regional blocs hence the Nairobi meeting was chaired and hosted by the EAC. The next PTSC will be held in March 2019 and hosted by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC)



EALA & EABC Set to Deepen Co-operation on Integration Matters



The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and the East African Business Council (EABC) have agreed to deepen co-operation in a bid to strengthen the integration process.

This afternoon, EALA Speaker, Rt Hon Ngoga Karoli Martin, received the EABC Chairman, Mr Nicholas Nesbitt, in the Speaker's Chamber in Arusha, where both officials revealed the need to take the partnership a notch higher.

"Both institutions are to set to deepen areas of co-operation, the specifics of which shall be worked out later in September 2018, under an engagement framework", it was agreed.

Speaker Ngoga rallied for a clear avenue of engagement that institutionalizes the efforts of the regional legislators and the private sector. "This is something we need to bring to fruition so that we strategize together and regularly consult over key matters of integration", he added.

The Speaker remarked that EALA remained keen to enhance its legislative, representative and oversight role for the benefit of all stakeholders including the Business Community. He further lauded the regional private sector body for the tremendous work it continued to undertake in the region noting that it was a major driving force and engine for integration.

Rt Hon Ngoga said it was vital for stakeholders in the integration process to think 'regional in their approach to issues' saying the nationalistic tendencies should be discarded.

On his part, the EABC Chairman, Mr Nesbitt reiterated the EABC was focused on the ultimate prize of full integration and said the apex body as part of its strategy would be aligning itself with key institutions to realise mutual beneficially relationships.

Mr Nesbitt informed the Speaker that EABC would be holding a full Board meeting in Arusha in September 2018 and that a second meeting between both institutions (EABC and EALA) was necessary to discuss the "nuts and bolts" of co-operation.

The EABC Vice Chairman, Mwine Jim Kabeho said the Private Sector had continued to face a number of challenges which the Assembly was best placed to address while EABC's Ambassador (and former EALA Chair of the Legal Rules and Privileges Committee), Hon Peter Mathuki said it was necessary for both institutions to interface and resolve many issues for a stronger integration and for posterity's sake. 

50 Million African Women Platform to be Up and Running by early 2019



A four-day workshop bringing together implementing agencies of the 50 Million African Women Speak (50MWS) project, a software developing firm and representatives of the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the project financiers, is currently underway in Lusaka, Zambia.

The 50MWS Project is being implemented by three different Regional Economic Communities (RECs), namely the East African Community (EAC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern (COMESA), and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

COMESA, which is coordinating the 50MWS Project, recently hired Izertis, a Spanish consulting firm to develop the 50MWS platform and the main objective of this workshop is for the implementers to clarify the scope of the platform and provide design inputs to the consulting firm.

The 50MWS Project aims at contributing to the economic empowerment of women through the provision of networking platforms to access information on financial and non-financial services so that they can start, grow or scale up their businesses.

At the opening of the workshop, Ambassador Dr. Kipyego Cheluget, COMESA Assistant Secretary General, assured the AfDB that the 50MWS project will be implemented for the benefits of all women.

Amb. Cheluget said that the different implementing RECs had held consultative meetings with their stakeholders to gather their views on how they want the project to be implemented.

"This is an opportunity for us to utilise the feedback from our partners," Ambassador Kipyego said.

"This project comes when RECs are moving towards Digital Economic Integration, towards the full adoption of digital technologies with the objective of establishing seamless processes across the RECs Partner States to enable ease of doing business/trade and to enhance regional integration using ICT as a tool," Amb. Kipyego added.

Amb. Kipyego urged the participants to volunteer ideas that would assist the consulting firm to create user-friendly platforms that could easily be accessed by women entrepreneurs.

The COMESA official suggested that the ideal platform should have unique features differentiating it from other multiple social media platforms that were already in existence.

Ms. Mary Makoffu, EAC Director of Social Sectors and head of the EAC delegation to the workshop, said in her opening remarks that the project was being implemented at a time when the EAC Partner States were rolling out instruments of Digital Trade to minimize physical barriers to trade in the region.

Ms. Makoffu said that the 50MWS project would complement ongoing efforts to enhance the EAC economic integration agenda.

David Sabiti, COMESA 50 MWS Coordinator, expressed hope that women entrepreneurs would start using the platform six months after the Lusaka workshop.



Curtain Falls on the Inaugural EAC Games in Bujumbura

The curtain fell on the inaugural East African Community (EAC) Games 2018 themed *Fostering EAC Integration and Peace through Sports*, which kicked off on 16th August 2018 in several play grounds within Bujumbura City and at the Gitega Stadium in Burundi, on Wednesday 29th August 2018.

At the end of the 14-day gruelling competition in 12 disciplines, the Republic of Burundi bagged the highest number of medals (10), followed by Uganda (9), then Kenya (8), and Tanzania trailed with (4). The Republics of Rwanda and South Sudan were expected but did not show up for the event. The 12 sporting disciplines were Football (women), Netball (women), Volley Ball (men), Volley Ball (women), Rugby 7s (men), Lawn Tennis (men), Lawn Tennis (w), Boxing (men), Boxing (women), Karate (men) Half Marathon (men), and Half Marathon (women).

Burundi won three (3) Gold medals in Lawn Tennis (w), Boxing (w), and Karate (m); six (6) Silver medals in Football (w), Volley Ball (m), Volley Ball (w), Rugby 7s (m), Lawn Tennis (m), and Boxing (m); and one (1) Bronze medal in Netball (w).

Uganda got five (5) Gold medals in Netball (w), Volley Ball (m), Volley Ball (w), Rugby 7s (m), and Boxing (m); two (2) Silver medals in Boxing (w) and Half Marathon (m); and two (2) Bronze medals in Lawn Tennis (m) and Lawn Tennis (w).

Kenya took home three (3) Gold medals in Lawn Tennis (m), Half Marathon (m), and Half Marathon (w); three (3) Silver medals in Lawn Tennis (w), Karate (M), and Half Marathon (w); and two (2) Bronze medals in Half Marathon (m) and Half Marathon (w).

The United Republic of Tanzania took home only three medals; one (1) Gold medal in Football (w), one (1) Silver medal in Netball (w), and one (1) Bronze medal in Karate (m).

Gracing the closing ceremony was the First Vice President of the Republic of Burundi, H.E. Gaston Sindimwo, who commended the East African Community Secretariat and the Partner States for organizing the Games geared towards enhancing the citizens' support and popular participation in the integration agenda.

Addressing the same occasion, the Secretary General of the East African Community, Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko said hosting and providing a lot of support to the 1st EAC Games in Bujumbura and Gitega was a true demonstration and commitment by the Republic of Burundi to the EAC integration agenda.



(Continued on page 11)

... Burundi bags the highest Medals while Tanzania trails



(Continued from page 10)

He said the 1st ever EAC Games had offered yet another opportunity to the sportsmen and women to have a regional platform to show case the rich and diverse sporting talents the East African region has to offer in the overall context of the integration process.

He noted that the succesful conclusion of the EAC Games was yet another demonstration of the long-standing and now rapidly growing fraternal relations and networking among the ordinary citizenry in the region. "The event affirms our resolve to work together to promote peace, harmony stability and unity in East Africa. This marks the beginning of holding regular EAC Games which demonstrates our resolve as East Africans to move the Integration towards greater levels in widening and deepening the cooperation in all fields of life of our peoples", affirmed the EAC official.

Ambassador Jean Rigi, the Permanent Secretary who represented the Minister to the Office of the President Responsible for East African Community Affairs noted that the First Edition of the EAC Games had been very significant to many for years to come because it has made it possible for the youth around the Region to come together and acquaint themselves with the realities of the East African Community. "It has also developed a sense of bondage, which is critical for deepening and widening East African Community integration".

He urged the participants to nurture the ambition and the desire to play better in the 2nd Edition of the Games, with a much deeper sense of integration.



EAC Organs and Institutions' Pre-Budget Conference for FY 2019/2020 held in Arusha



A two-day Pre-Budget Conference for the EAC Organs and Institutions for the Financial Year 2019/2020 is held at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

The Conference is being attended by Members of the General Purpose Committee of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), Permanent and Principal Secretaries, senior officials from Partner States, Heads of EAC Organs and Institutions, and staff from the Secretariat.

Gracing the opening session of the Conference was Uganda's Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of East African Community Affairs, Mrs Edith Mwanje, who commended the Secretariat for convening the meeting and involving key stakeholders in the Community's Budget Cycle.

Addressing the delegates, Hon. Abdikadir Omar Aden, the Chairperson of the Committee on General Purpose of EALA noted that EAC had registered commendable milestones which should be applauded and up-scaled to greater heights and achievements. However, he noted that there were challenges impacting on the smooth operation of projects and programmes, which need to be addressed urgently.

He disclosed that the Assembly was giving notice of the intention to, among others, introduce a Public Finance Management Bill

that will fill all the gaps existing in the EAC Budget Act of 2008, whose provisions are continually disregarded.

He disclosed that EALA will pursue changes in recruitment (transparency), Human Resource matters in the Community as well as conditions of service of the staff of the Community, which fall under the mandate of the Committee on General Purpose. "It is no longer business as usual where policy decisions are made at the behest and will of particular entities, groups and even individuals", noted Hon. Abdikadir Omar Aden.

The Chair of the General Purpose Committee pledged to lay a firm foundation for better cooperation between all stakeholders, Organs and Institutions of the Community.

On his part, Eng. Steven Mlote, the Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, who represented the Secretary General, cited achievements made in the implementation of programmes under the four Pillars of EAC integration during the Financial Year 2017/18.

These included, among others, completion of the necessary arrangements for roll-out of all products within EAC to be transacted under the Single Customs Territory; enhancement of application of the Electronic Cargo Tracking System on the Northern

(Continued on page 13)

... consensus and agreement reached on the Community's Global and Sector-specific priority areas for the FY 2019/20.



Corridor; enhancement of customs automation in all Partner States through upgrades of the Customs systems and migration to more advanced and robust systems; and initiation of an inter-connectivity program to address weaknesses in customs valuation and monitoring of goods across the region.

The region made stride in completion of the construction of twelve (12) One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs). These include (Holili/Taveta; Rusumo; Ruhwa/ (BR)/Ruhwa (RW); Nemba/Gasenyi; Kagitumba/Mirama Hills; Busia (KE)/Busia (UG); Mutukula (TZ)/Mutukula (UG); Malaba (KE)/Malaba (UG); Kabanga/Kobero; Horohoro/Lunga Lunga; Sirari/Isebania; and Namanga).

He disclosed that to promote the region's textile and leather industries, the review of the EAC Common External Tariff (CET) was underway, to among other outcomes, set rates that will provide incentives for value addition, as well as cushion the industry from dumping.

On the other hand, Partner States had taken measures to promote the textile and leather sectors through enforcement of conformity with Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) requirements, particularly for the used under-garments and synthetic shoes.

The Deputy Secretary General highlighted the challenges impacting on implementation of Community activities that include slow disbursement of funds by Partner States. "For instance, the status of contribution by Partner States towards the EAC main budget as of 29th August, 2018 was at 6% per cent, thus seriously affecting implementation of the activities planned for the first Quarter of the Financial Year 2018/19", asserted the EAC official and urged Partner States to remit their contributions in time to enable the

EAC Organs and Institutions deliver on their mandates.

The Deputy Secretary General proposed seven (7) global priority areas during the Financial Year 2019/20 to be considered by the Conference namely; consolidation of the Single Customs Territory (SCT) to promote intra-EAC trade; development of regional infrastructure (roads, railways, ports, energy, etc.); and enhancement of free movement of all factors of production and implementation of commitments on other areas of cooperation as envisaged under the Common Market.

Others include enhancement of regional industrial development through investment in key priority sectors, skills development, technological advancement and innovation to stimulate economic development; implementation of the Roadmap towards the EAC Monetary Union; promotion of regional peace, security and good governance, and completion of the Constitution-making for the EAC Political Federation; and finally institutional transformation, focusing on implementation of the Institutional Review recommendations, alternative financing and improvement of performance management at the EAC Organs and Institutions.

At the end of the Conference, consensus and agreement were developed in relation to the Community's Global and Sector-specific priority areas for the FY 2019/20.



IUCEA - World Bank Scholarship Recipients for 2018/2019

On May 4, 2018, the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), the Regional Facilitation Unit for the Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence (ACE II) Project, announced a Call for Applications for Masters fellowships targeting female students in the nine participating countries of Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, Zambia, Uganda, Mozambique and Malawi.

The aim of the competitive scholarship is to enhance the participation of young African female scientists at postgraduate level, encourage regional student mobility and identify and cultivate future leaders in the region.

A total of 30 fellowships were available for the 2018/2019 academic year and another 30 will be announced next year. The selected students will study full time at any of the 24 ACEs in the priority disciplines of the ACE II Project, namely: (i) STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) or Industry, (ii) Agriculture, (iii) Health, (iv) Education and (v) Applied Statistics.

The Scholarship will cover cost for tuition, stipend, research, visa fees, laptop, books/stationeries and a round trip air ticket between the beneficiary's home country and the study destination.

Names of candidates recommended for the award, areas of specialization and host institutions can be viewed on the list below. IUCEA shall contact all scholarship recipients through personal contacts submitted at the time of application.

"We congratulate the successful applicants and extend to them our best wishes for success in their studies. We have no doubt that when they return to their country of origin after completing their studies, they will play meaningful leadership roles at national and regional levels in identified priority science and technology areas for Africa," said Prof. Goolam Mohamedbhai, the Chairperson of the Independent Selection Panel.



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW LIST OF STUDENTS AWARDED MSc. FELLOWSHIP UNDER THE ACE II PROJECT FOR 2018/2019 ACADEMIC YEAR](#)

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