



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

**REPORT OF THE 5TH EAC ANNUAL SECRETARY GENERAL'S FORUM
22ND TO 23RD JUNE, 2017**

**ROYAL PALACE HOTEL
BUJUMBURA, BURUNDI.**

THEME: "15 YEARS OF THE EAC: TOWARDS A BORDERLESS COMMUNITY"

**EAC Secretariat
Arusha-Tanzania
P.O. Box 1096**

ABBREVIATION/SYNONYMS

AGOA	African Growth Opportunity Act
APSEA	Association of Professional Societies in East Africa
CDF	Consultative Dialogue Framework
CM	Common Market
EAC	East African Community
EACSO	East African Civil Society Organization Forum
EALGA	East African Local Government Association
EALS	East African Law Society
EATUC	East African Trade Union Council
GIZ	German Technical Cooperation
MEAC	Ministry of East African Community
PSO	Private Sector Organizations
PPP	Public Private Partnerships
RDC	Regional Dialogue Committee
SG	Secretary General
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
URT	United Republic of Tanzania

Table of contents

REPORT OF THE 5TH EAC ANNUAL SECRETARY GENERAL'S FORUM 22ND TO 23RD JUNE, 2017 BUJUMBURA, BURUNDI,

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The 5th Secretary General Forum was held at Royal Palace Hotel, Bujumbura, Burundi from 22nd to 23rd June, 2017. The Forum provided an opportunity to widen and deepen EAC integration process and ensure enhanced stakeholder participation and inclusivity. The 5th SG's Forum created a space in which all the stakeholders in the integration process were able to take stock of the progress towards the one destiny of the EAC and spelt out the next steps. The dialogue process not only identified common barriers to regional integration but also showcased the success stories in the last 15 years.

The Forum was organized by the EAC Secretariat in collaboration with Regional Dialogue Committee (RDC) and supported by the Germany International Development Agency (GIZ and attended by approximately, 150 delegates.

The list of attendance is hereto attached as **Annex I**.

1.1 Objectives

The core objective of the 5th Annual SG's Forum is therefore to provide an opportunity for the private sector, civil society and other interest groups to share experiences and good practices of the integration process experienced in the last 15 years and work out a coordinated strategy towards a common future of a political integration and a borderless community.

1.2 Theme and Sub-themes

The Theme for the 5th EAC Annual SGs Forum is: **“15 Years of the EAC: Towards a Borderless Community”**.

Subthemes and Topics;

i) Realising the right to work and right to residence within the EAC:

Topic- Achieving a free labour area in the EAC: Eliminating all barriers to free movement of labour and services.

ii) Sustainable development in East Africa:- Topics: Enhancing food security and agricultural value chains in the region

-Localising the climate change agenda: from policies to practical interventions

-Reflections on gender parity in EAC: Tracking inclusivity and participation of women in economic, political and public leadership

iii) ICT and media as enablers of regional integration: Topics- The role of ICT in enhancing the free movement of goods and services within the EAC region. Media as a vehicle for effective citizen participation and engagement within the EAC integration process

iv) Public procurement as a tool for EAC Development: Topic: -

Promoting local production through public procurement

-Local content policy as a way of supporting investment in infrastructure in the EAC

-Exploiting opportunities in EAC infrastructural projects: The role of the private and public sectors

1.3 Methodology

The Forum employed the **Open Space** approach with session facilitators leading concurrent sessions. There was a Keynote Speaker to give an overview on the theme to guide the subtheme discussions.

DAY ONE: 22nd JUNE, 2017

2.0 Opening Ceremony

2.1 Remarks by the RDC Chairperson, Ms, Anne Abeja, East African Law Society (EALS)

The Chairperson to the Law Society of East Africa conveyed greetings from its 1600 members across the region to the participants. She thanked the Government of Burundi for hospitality and agreeing to host the forum.

She commended the great work of the organizers of the Secretary General's Forum team. She also congratulated the Secretary General and the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers for their appointments to their new offices.

The Chairperson enumerated the achievements of the RDC during their tenure of office which includes launch and implementation of the IIDEA project (Incubator for Integration and Development in East Africa) project aimed at stimulating interest in the integration process particularly among the younger members of society. She appreciated the support given to the forum by the Council and requested that more funds be allocated to facilitate implementation and establishment of tracking mechanism of recommendations of the forum. She singled out the need to anchor the SG forum in the office of the SG and designate a substantive officer to handle the forum's affairs besides allocating funding to ensure the forum activities does not depend on donor funds.

Ms. Abeja put forth her indebted happiness upon being given a platform to oversee projects in the community. She however underscored the importance of tracking implementation of the agreed recommendations in order to foster the integration process. She appreciated the work of the gender department at the EAC Secretariat and hailed them for being supportive to the EALS.

She finally wished the delegates fruitful deliberations.

2.2 Welcome Remarks Hon. Isabelle Ndahayo, Minister to the office of the President responsible for EAC Affairs, Republic of Burundi.

The Hon. Minister welcomed delegates to Burundi. She stated that the Forum put forth the principle of widening and deepening the integration through Common Market (as per Article 7). She called upon the Community to consolidate Article 129 and 127 with the regard to harmonizing a borderless community through the actions of civil society. She lauded the coming together of interest groups in the spirit of integration. She reiterated the position of Burundi government through the establishment of a National

Dialogue Committee to bring everyone on board for inclusive integration. She raised concerns over some of the Civil Society organizations that overrule the decisions of the Council of Ministers which would result in slowing down the Integration process.

Madam Hon. Isabelle Ndahayo commended the EAC Secretariat, GIZ and the Regional Dialogue Committee for organizing a successful event. She assured the delegates that the Burundi government had put measures in place to ensure the Forum is held under a secure and peaceful environment.

In her concluding remarks, she wished the delegates fruitful discussions and urged them to come up with implementable recommendations.

2.3 Remarks by Amb. Liberat Mfumukeko , Secretary General, EAC Secretariat

In his welcoming remarks, the SG thanked the people and the Government of the Republic of Burundi for accepting to host the 5th SG forum and for the warm hospitality accorded to the Partner States delegations since their arrival in the beautiful city of Bujumbura. He also welcomed the delegates to the 5th SG forum.

He noted that the forum has realized the required momentum on to deal with regional integration issues collectively agreed upon and review the implementation of the recommendations made during the last four editions of the SG's Forums held in Dar-Es-Salaam-2012, Nairobi-2013; Entebbe-2014 and Dar Es Salaam in March 2016 respectively. He informed the meeting that the EAC has been implementing the CDF since 2012 after its adoption by the 26th meeting of Council of Ministers.

He noted with satisfaction that the EAC have made significant progress towards regional integration and has been acclaimed as the best Regional Economic Community in Africa and especially after the signing of the EAC Monetary Union Protocol in 2013 which is a great milestone towards a more borderless community.

He outlined some of the key achievements as the implementation for the single Customs Territory, the One Stop Border Posts, elimination of Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs), signing of Mutual Recognition Agreements (MRAs) by various professional bodies and harmonization of laws and tax regimes. All the initiatives are geared towards achieving a borderless community.

He informed the meeting that some of the key challenges facing the community includes the slow pace of implementation of the commitments made by EAC Partner States, non-ratification of the Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation by some Partner States, lack of enforcement mechanisms for the removal of NTBs, inadequate sensitization and awareness creation to the EAC Partner States citizens on EAC integration process and the level of citizen awareness and participation in the integration. He appreciated the role of the private sector and civil society organizations and other interest groups in the implementation of the 4th EAC Development Strategy.

2.4 Official opening Remarks by Hon. Dr. A.M. Kirunda Kivejinja, Chair of the EAC Council of Ministers

The Rt. Hon. Kivejinja welcomed all delegates to the 5th EAC Annual Secretary General's Forum – a forum that provides a platform for discussing pertinent issues that concern all the people of East Africa. He expressed gratitude to the Government and people of the Republic of Burundi for accepting to host the Forum, even amidst the current challenges. He emphasised the spirit of brotherhood and being supportive in all circumstances.

He re-echoed the objectives of the founding fathers of the EAC Community; notably creation of one market, a region that would guarantee collective security. Once these objectives are pursued, the EAC aspirations would be realized. The Rt. Hon reminded the meeting of the current favourable conditions especially ICT and literature that should be explored by the young generation to find solutions to their problems.

He underscored the importance of the platform in promoting dialogue between the governments of the EAC Partner States, Private Sector Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Professional bodies, Academia, Media, EAC Organs and Institutions as well as development partners and other Interest Groups and lauded the commitment and zeal shown by the respective dialogue parties. He added that it was important for the dialogue

parties to be self-financing and for the academia to provide intellectual leadership and discourse to get solutions to the challenges in society.

He outlined some progress that the region had achieved in economic, social, cultural and political achievements; notably; reduction in transit time for goods and ease of custom procedures; greater facilitation of trade through initiatives like the One Stop Border Posts; removal of non-tariff barriers; implementation of the single customs territory, Common External Tariff (CET), acquisition of ISO (9001: 2008) certification Status by the Secretariat; among others.

On the sub themes of the Forum, he noted the progress on the issuance and use of national IDs thus facilitating freedom of movement within the region; waiver of fees on work permits and resident fees and reduction of the existing work permit and residence fees by some Partner States, harmonization of laws and the finalization of the National Manpower Survey; and the launch of the New Generation EA-e Passport.

On sustainable development and particularly Food Security and Climate change, the EAC is implementing an EAC Food Security Action plan and the climate change policy as well as a Master plan on Climate change; and underscored the importance of the media not only for giving information but also the much needed. He urged the media to understand their role and give informed information.

So far initiatives that have been supported by policy directives from the EAC Council of Ministers to address some of the recommendations that were made during the past four forums, including reduction in the costs of communication via telephones, internet and others means through harmonization of roaming fees by some Partner States, the passing of the EAC Gender Bill by EALA, the Non-Tariff Barriers Bill (currently undergoing assent), EAC HIV/AIDS Act, 2012, the EABC regional code of conduct for doing business among others.

He re-iterated the commitment of the Council in to the implementation of the necessary interventions but also in addressing the emerging challenges along the way.

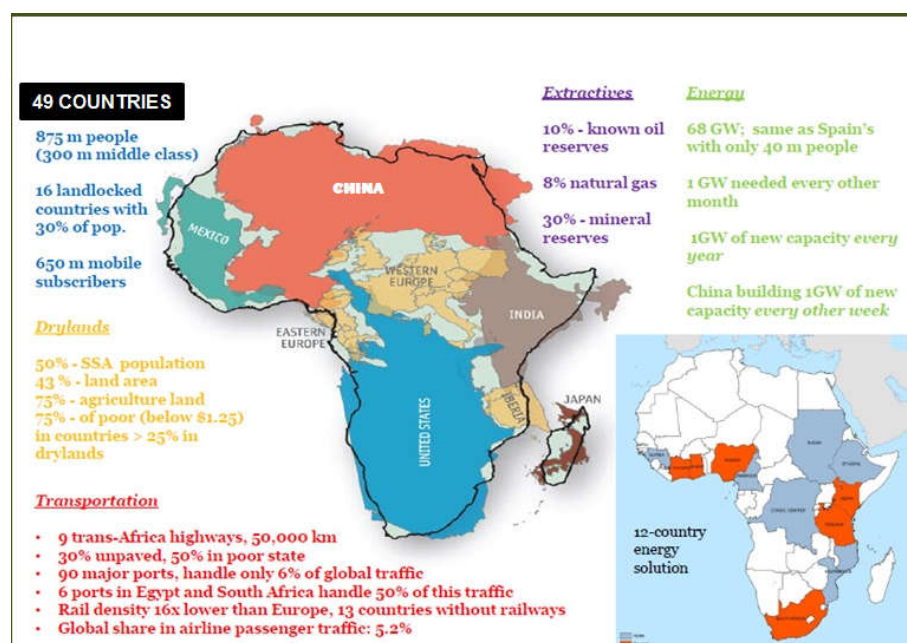
He further pledged the commitment of government of Uganda in supporting the implementation of the recommendations including ensuring active participation of all parties to the Dialogue in the EAC regional processes. He called for genuine partnership to the EAC integration process and wished the Forum fruitful deliberations.

(The full speech is hereto attached as Annex....)

3.0 KEY NOTE ADDRESS

In his opening remarks, Prof. Rogo highlighted three (3) main issues that require the attention of the leadership of the EAC; namely, Ignorance, Hunger and Disease. He gave a historical overview of the colonization of the EAC by Europeans, and how it created boundaries during the famous scramble for African natural resources. He reminded the meeting that, the movement of labour within the EAC region was facilitated by the colonial system through the East African Common Service Organization, the East African Railways and Harbours, and the Airways, and the EAC examinations Council.

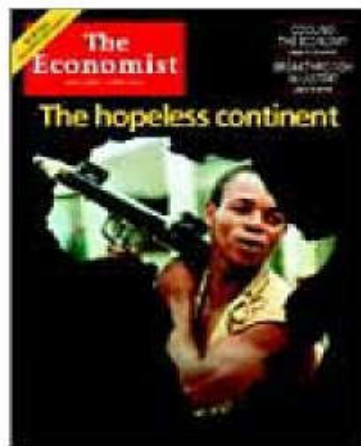
He further expounded on the rich natural resources in Africa as compared to the rest of the world, yet Africa is still dependent on the west for development Aid in spite being a custodian of the largest depository of natural resources, fossil oils and gas, minerals resources and large water bodies. He singled out our Energy production and consumption levels. See diagram below that illustrate Africa's Size and Resource endowment as compared with the rest of the world and her poverty level.



Size of Africa, natural Resource Endowments compared with the rest of the world

The speaker noted that in 2000, Africa was viewed by the west as the hopeless Continent ravaging in civil war and spending a large portion of her GDP on weapons as illustrated by the Economist magazine of 2000. while in 2011 Africa is viewed as a rising star the global arena.

AFRICA 2000



AFRICA 2011



On global trade, the speaker noted that over 90% of African Trade is handled by Egypt and South Africa. He reminded the meeting that development is about market and investors will only commit their resources where the market size is viable. To this end he noted that demographic trends influence regional development priorities. He noted the recent paradigm shift in labour movement globally which is a result of urbanization that has affected consumption patterns. He highlighted that regional integration creates a large market that can influence potential investors hence the need for EAC Partner States to embrace integration to create viable market which stands at over 150 million consumers.

He singled out the health sector and noted four parameters namely; demography, disease patterns; service delivery and health financing within the changing health landscape in the region with the expected reforms in six building blocks for health systems. (Service Delivery, Health workforce, health information systems, access to essential medicines, financing, and leadership/governance).

He further looked at some of the key drivers of regional integration and socio-economic development and linked them to the SDGs. He highlighted goal 17 on economic partnership and argued that partnership begins at home before we seek external support; peace and security; environment; and harmonization of education.

He noted that there is need to redesign the traditional input chain process and posed the six million dollar question **(the Elephant in the Room)**

“Who benefits from the borderless community?” The current situation at the border is mainly lack of trust with border officers by traders; high cost of doing business reduces trade across the borders. To illustrate the need to enhance region integration and tap on the business opportunities in the region, he informed the forum that about 25% of air transport passengers from EAC region to India is comprised of those seeking for health Services. This translates to foreign exchange outflow which adversely affect our countries balance of trade with India.

The speaker also called for change in the way the civil society carries out its business in the region which requires a paradigm shift from confrontational to a win-win situation for all workers.

Prof. Khama informed the forum that free borders promote private investments, consumption and job creation but posed several questions: Do we have the 'right DNA' to lead and spearhead the changes? Is a borderless East Africa politically feasible? He noted that the implementation of free borders is often viewed as a technical matter but in reality is a political process. In addition he raised the following question:

1. What are the economic and social costs of a borderless Community?
 - What is the capacity of the Partner States, and the Private Sector to absorb the costs?
 - How do we share the costs across Partner States?
2. What is the priority behavioral change needed?
 - What is the role of civil society?
3. How do we maintain borderless reforms.....? ..to ensure there are*"NO BREXITS!"*
 - What are the roles of Partner States, Private Sector and Professional Associations?

In his concluding remarks he challenged the Partner States to deal with *"the elephant in the room"* i.e. *who benefits from the borderless Community* and secondly do we have the right *DNA* to lead and spearhead the changes towards a borderless community. He noted the need for Benchmarking good practices from other regional economic blocs. ***(The full presentation is hereto attached as Annex II)***

3.1 Keynote address:

Recommendations

- a) Partner States should make a declaration to establish one area network for telephones to reduce the costs of communication via telephones, internet and others through harmonization of roaming charges and establish one air space to facilitate air transportation
- b) Undertake a cost benefit analysis of the work /resident permit fees to inform further decisions on the waiver or stay of the fees

- c) Fast track the harmonization of labour laws and policies to ensure uniformity in all Partner States and enforcement mechanisms should be enhanced through establishment of one stop centres
- d) Partner States should implement agreed commitments and strengthen a framework for tracking implementation as well as feedback
- e) The EAC should task the Inter University Council of East Africa to ensure that the curriculum and training in higher institutions are tailored towards thinking 'East African'
- f) Broaden the scope of the Annual Forum to include politicians (legislature), other EAC Organs and institutions and other key stakeholders
- g) Define the space and participation of women within the concept of a borderless community
- h) Address the issues of mind set of the Youth and obstacles (political) that limit participation of the Youth in the EAC integration
- i) The region should develop a Labour Market information system to facilitate the exchange of young workers in the region.

OPEN SPACE SESSIONS

4.0 SESSION ONE

SUB-THEME: REALIZING THE RIGHT TO WORK AND RIGHT TO RESIDENCE WITHIN THE EAC.

Topic: How best can we achieve free movement of labour and services in the East African Community by Ms. Mary Makoffu, Director Social Sectors EAC Secretariat

Recommendations

- a) The EAC Secretariat should resume meetings of the Sectoral Council of Ministers in charge of Labour to facilitate the fast tracking and implementations of the commitments made in the EAC Common Market Protocol.

- b) Make accessible information regarding free movement of workers in a simplified form to workers and citizens and strengthen sensitization programmes in order to enlighten citizens on the free movement of workers regime in the EAC.
- c) Partner States should address administrative barriers such as age limitations and the salary cap for employment to allow for freedom of movement.
- d) Finalize and adopt a regional framework for Social security coordination as directed by the Council of Ministers (The Social Security Coordination Directive) to allow for portability of social security savings.

SUB-THEME: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN EAST AFRICA

Topic: Enhancing Food Security and agricultural value chains in the region by Mr. Kiringai Kamau.

- a) EAC should develop a value chain policy support framework to support agribusiness through technological innovation and skills development
- b) Develop initiatives for addressing post harvest losses through exemption of taxes on post harvest equipment by the EAC Partner States
- c) Develop and EAC Anti counterfeit law to address substandard products and more specifically farm inputs such as seeds to support the enforcement of rules and regulations for food safety for regional trade in food staples;
- d) Support mechanization, irrigation and other modern farming processes and replace the use of hand hoe (AU Declaration on Transformation for Shared Prosperity and technologies in agribusiness and agricultural value chains, and support the *Campaign to progressively banish the hand held hoe to the museum*)... and agro-processing to enable economies of scale required for regional trade and irrigation.
- e) EAC to prioritize value chains that need to be developed in addressing food security, give priority support to businesses that are along the value chain and Promote Public Private Partnerships
- f) Need to create structures that makes the youths get engaged into production

Topic: Localizing the climate change agenda; from policies to practical interventions by Professor Ratemo Michieka.

The facilitator of the topic stated that climate change is the variability of weather in a particular area where information is gathered over a period of time, usually 30 years and above. He observed that the effect of climate change was a major concern in our everyday activities and affects agriculture, human health, water and the general eco system.

He further noted that the consequences of climate change globally have impacted on marine life, human life, wildlife, atmosphere and variations in rain patterns. Some of the notable effects of climate change include; the rising sea levels, floods, droughts and recent wild fires.

Mr. Michieka shared with the participants some of the policies and interventions that have been explored. For example, tree planting to address the effect of deforestation which has a direct impact on climate change i.e. rain fall; breeding of drought resistant crops is an on-going concern for researchers as well as air pollution being addressed by acquiring modern industrial techniques to avoid further destruction of the atmosphere.

He observed that climate change agenda was not well articulated at local level. However, interventions like tree planting, water conservation, smart agriculture are being addressed. He said there was a need for public awareness and participation to achieve meaningful engagement of local communities.

Recommendations

- a) EAC Partner States should develop master plans for land use (physical planning) Urban planning with population projections in consideration
- b) Harmonise actions to manage natural resources – policies, strategies, legislations – including funding and set a benchmark for climate action financing
- c) The EAC should work towards a common (regional) emission target that can be contributed to by the various (NCDs) nationally determined contributions
- d) Popularise Public Private Partnerships for low carbon & climate resilient growth strategies: Climate Smart Agric, diffusion of renewable energies, energy efficiency (with CSOs & Private sector at national and local levels)

- e) Encourage adaptation of simple technologies at local level i.e smart Jiko, solar technology among others to conserve energy and reduce the impact of deforestation.
- f) Enhance climate change education, training and public awareness on the CC Agenda, options & opportunities while ensuring human rights and gender-responsive climate change actions + protection of vulnerable groups
- g) Dialogue Parties should use own transformational power of collaboration to share lessons, pioneer new approaches and technologies, test solutions and share costs and resources - build cross-industry and cross-stakeholder partnerships

Topic: Reflections on gender parity in EAC: Tracking inclusivity and participation of women in economic, political and public leadership by Elizabeth Ampairwe, EASSI.

- i. Partner States should educate women on their rights, translate the relevant legal and policy documents and disseminate up to the grass root level. More concerted in effort in sensitization/awareness creation on what gender really means, need for common understanding, benefits, value addition in peaceful co-existence.
- ii. EAC partner states should reform or repeal all policies, strategies and regulations, which discriminate against women or which in any way limit or negatively affect women's access to, use and control of land and other productive resources
- iii. Fast-track the assent/signing of the EAC Gender Equality development and Bill by the Heads of State and actualize the one third provision in appointive and elective positions in the East African Community; among others
- iv. EAC to embrace the EAC gender barometer as a people-centred instrument to monitor progress on implementation of gender parity commitments
- v. A more holistic approach through male involvement in gender programming for both to appreciate each roles and rights
- vi. Integrate gender concerns and align EAC policies to gender parity including implementation and enforcement of the policies and laws as well as evaluation and reporting

- vii. Fast track the finalization and adoption of the EAC Strategy on Women in Business as a means of enhancing participation of women in cross border trade
- viii. Partner States should develop/ implement special programmes targeting behavioral change – especially at the family level e.g parents should be mindful of inculcating gender parity in children
- ix. there is need for inclusivity – women with special needs/disability must be brought on board. Their participation in political, economic and social affairs within the EAC must be brought to the fore

SESSION TWO

SUB-THEME: ICT AND MEDIA AS ENABLERS OF REGIONAL INTEGRATION

Topic: *Media as a vehicle for effective citizen participation and engagement within the EAC integration process.*

- a) Media should set the regional agenda by stimulating discussions of regional nature, build capacity to report and engage the public on EAC
- b) Have a structured framework for engagement between EAC and media in the region and encourage the media to focus on giving information and citizens feedback
- c) Harmonize media policies in the partners states and adopt a policy which allow media to easily report issues about East Africa Integration
- d) EAC to come up with communication strategy which is packaged in a way that is attractive to media and easily translated at grass root level
- e) Use the media positively as a tool to advance gender parity
- f) Strengthen media house capacity both knowledge and financial capacity on EAC regional integration
- g) EAC to urge partner states to use the governments media houses to have special program which report on EAC regional Integration (radio and television).

SUB-THEME: Public procurement as a tool for EAC Development.

The Presenter noted that some of the EAC Partner States have no central coordinating agency responsible for setting standards, M&E, and Reporting on LCRs. In addition, a standard definition of LCRs is lacking as well as

Report of the 5th EAC Annual Secretary General's Forum 22nd -23rd June, 2017

information on industry/sector capacities. There are no quality standards for most sectors because Q-Marks are optional in some countries.

The Presenter informed the meeting that WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Investment Measures (TRIMs) seeks to ensure that goods purchased within a country do not discriminate against international competitors.

He observed that Article 35 of the EAC Common Market Protocol provides that “the Partner States shall not discriminate against suppliers, products or services originating from other partner States, for purposes of achieving the benefits of free competition in the field of public procurement.” Discrimination is evident currently in the region.

However, definition of local provider is proving to be a challenge: Resident Vs Citizen Providers; Local capacity issues: quality and quantity data not available to inform policy and practice; High Cost of capital to enable private sector deliver the contracts; Information asymmetry; local content opportunities in Government for the private sector are not timely provided; unfair competitions from foreign suppliers that have access to better opportunities and facilities; Complaints handling has many tiers: Uganda (3), Kenya (1); Tanzania (2) and Rwanda (2), Burundi (2). This may inhibit local production. In most cases, a 4th tier is the court; Delayed payments: Available data show that entities are experiencing time overruns on up to 90% of their projects; Cost-overrun (Corruption): Almost 70% of the project costs are above Entities’ Budgets; Go e-GP.

He made a number of recommendations, notably; publishing of all procurement opportunities on a central electronic clearinghouse and disseminating the same information directly to business organizations; streamlining and standardization of tender documentation and prequalification procedures across procuring entities; Tailor the technical, financial and other qualification and prequalification requirements to the size and complexity of the procurement opportunities; Avoidance of bundling multiple requirements into one large contract; providing meaningful feedback to unsuccessful bidders on the strengths and weaknesses of their

tenders and areas for improvement; implementing and enforcing rules regarding prompt payment of local businesses at the prime and subcontract levels and hold procuring entities accountable for delays.

He concluded that Public procurement can be a useful tool to address socio-economic policy objectives like promoting Trade and Investments. However, there is need to have the right infrastructure in terms of: People: Behavior attributes, skills and competencies; Systems: - structures, processes, and practices; Technology: – E-procurement; Sustainability: – policy framework, social and environmental issues.

Full presentation is attached as annex...

Recommendations

- a) Develop an EAC Local Content Policy with a clear definition of local contents for the region and define the targets for the Local Content requirements
- b) EAC should expedite the completion of the regional procurement policy and legal frame work
- c) There is need for capacity assessment of undertaken by EAC in close collaboration with EABC for priority sectors across the Partner States
- d) EAC Partner States to identify areas where citizens need to effectively participate and ring fence such areas in terms of local content requirements
- e) Need to create special purpose vehicles to support local companies (PPP vehicles)
- f) Participation by the private sector in the original contracts that are to be signed is key
- g) Make quality marks compulsory to enhance quality , competition and innovation (EAC Quality Mark)

DAY TWO: 23RD JUNE, 2017:

SESSION THREE: CLOSING CEREMONY

Remarks by the Dialogue Parties

Remarks by Secretary General, East African Community

Remarks and Official Closing - Ministry of Regional Integration, Republic of Burundi

Mr. Andre is yet to submit the speech by Hon. Minister even after following up with him several times.

ANNEXES

- Annex I List of delegates
- Annex II Presentation of Keynote address
- Annex V Status of implementation of the previous recommendations of the SG Forum.
- Annex VI Action plan for key recommendations