

THE EAC COMMON MARKET PROTOCOL, OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR THE LEGAL PROFESSION: 19TH – 20TH MAY 2011 IN DAR ES SALAAM.

Background and Rationale

Under thematic area 2 of the East Africa Law Society (EALS) Strategic Plan of 2008-2012, on Professional Development¹, the EALS plans to equip the members of the national law societies with skills and knowledge on emerging regional and global trends that complement their professional works and ensure that they remain relevant in the unveiling globalization arena. The EALS CLE trainings are intended to complement the CLE regimes being run by the respective national law societies.

There have been a number of developments within the East Africa region as far as the regional integration process is concerned. The four tier regional integration process has already seen the conclusion of the Customs Union Protocol and more recently the Common Market Protocol. The later envisages free movement of goods, services, capital and workers, which are supported by a corresponding right of establishment in the EAC Partner States for each of the EAC citizens.

It is thus clear that the legal profession must play a leading role in defining the legal and policy environment to support the EA integration process as well as a seamless framework for the free movement of legal services across the EAC Partner States. .

It is against this background that the EALS has partnered with the national law societies to conduct CLE trainings for its member-legal professionals on “*The Common Market Protocol: Opportunities and Challenges for the Legal Profession.*”, with support from the SIDA REED Project. The trainings will bring together representatives from the EAC secretariat, the EACJ, the law societies and the EAC national level line ministries to delineate the support role that the legal profession has to play, and the avenues through which they can extend this support.

The EALS will be conducting these seminars as follows:

- 15th October 2010 in Kisumu-Kenya;
- 22nd – 23rd February 2011 in Kampala-Uganda;
- 7th -8th April, 2011 in Bujumbura-Burundi;
- 19th – 20th May 2011 in Dar es Salaam-Tanzania; and
- 27th-28th May 2011 in Kigali-Rwanda.

¹Specifically, the Professional Development focuses on the development of the legal profession in the region.

PROGRAMME

18th May, 2011

Arrival of the non-resident participants and presenters.

DAY ONE (Thursday, 19th May)		
OPENING SESSION		
TIME	AGENDA	RESPONSIBLE CONTACT/PRESENTER
8:30a.m - 9:00a.m	Registration of Participants	TLS Secretariat
9:00a.m – 9:15a.m	Welcome Remarks	Mr. Francis Stolla, TLS President
9:15a.m – 9:30a.m	Introductory Remarks	Dr. Wilbert Kapinga, EALS President.
9:30a.m – 10:30a.m	Key Note Address on the state of the East African Community Integration Process.	Hon. Samuel Sitta (MP), Minister - Ministry for East Africa Cooperation
10:30am – 11:00am	Plenary	Mr. Mpale Mpoki, Vice President - TLS
TEA BREAK AND GROUP PHOTO		
11:30a.m – 12:10p.m	Salient Features of the East African Community Common Market Protocol	Mr. David Ochieng (Phd Candidate), Legal and Trade Policy Advisor for TRIDE -BAC
12:10p.m –12:40p.m	Plenary	Mr. Kamara Mpaya, TLS Representative on the Advocates Committee.
LUNCH BREAK		
2:00p.m-2:45p.m	Implementation framework of the Common Market Protocol: Schedules and Annexes to the Protocol.	Representative from the Ministry for East African Cooperation
2:45pm – 3:40pm	Legal issues in the Operationalisation of the Common Market Protocol: The Role of the Legal Profession.	Mr. David Ochieng (Phd Candidate), Legal and Trade Policy Advisor for TRIDE -BAC
3:40pm - 4:30pm	Plenary	Mrs. Aisha Bade, Hon. Treasurer - TLS
4:30p.m – 5:00pm	Tea Break and End of the First Day	TLS Secretariat
DAY TWO (Friday, 20th May)		
TIME	AGENDA	RESPONSIBLE CONTACT/PRESENTER
9:00am – 9:15am	Recap of day one	TLS Rapporteur

9:15 am – 10:00a.m	Cross border legal practice in an integrated East African Community: A highlight on the ongoing harmonization initiatives.	Prof. Ben Twinomugisha, A lead consultant to the Cross border Practising Bill draft team.
10:00am – 10:30am	Plenary	Ms. Emilia Siwingwa, CEO - TLS
TEA BREAK		
11:00am – 11:40am	The East African Court of Justice: Opportunities and Challenges.	Dr. John Eudes Ruhangisa, Registrar of the East African Court of Justice.
11:40am – 12:10pm	Plenary	Dr. Yitiha Simbeye, Lecturer – Open University of Tanzania.
12:10pm -12:45pm	The East Africa Law Society: Programs, Activities and Structures	Mr. Tito Byenkya, CEO - EALS.
12:45pm – 1:05pm	Closing Remarks	Ms. Joaquine De Mello – EALS Deputy Secretary General and TLS Past President.
01:05pm –	LUNCH AND DEPARTURE	

Saturday 21st May, 2011

Departure for those outside Dar es Salaam