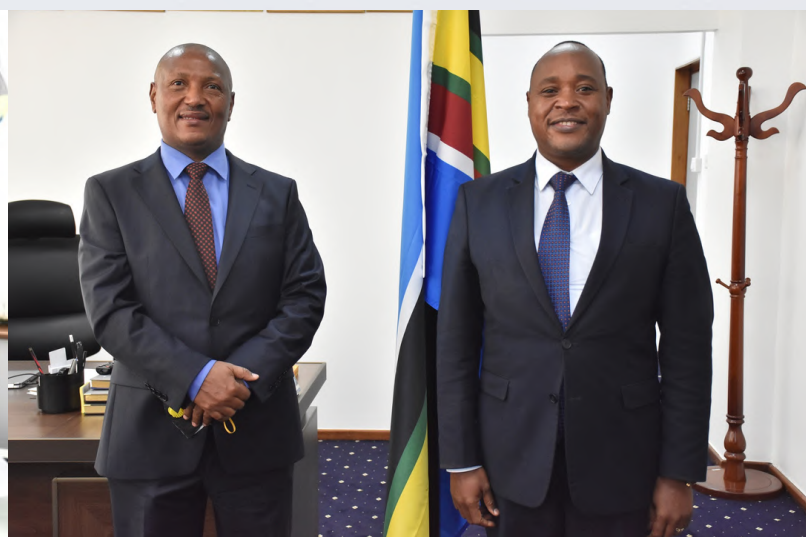




The Secretary General WEEKLY NEWS

Deepening Integration, Widening Cooperation.

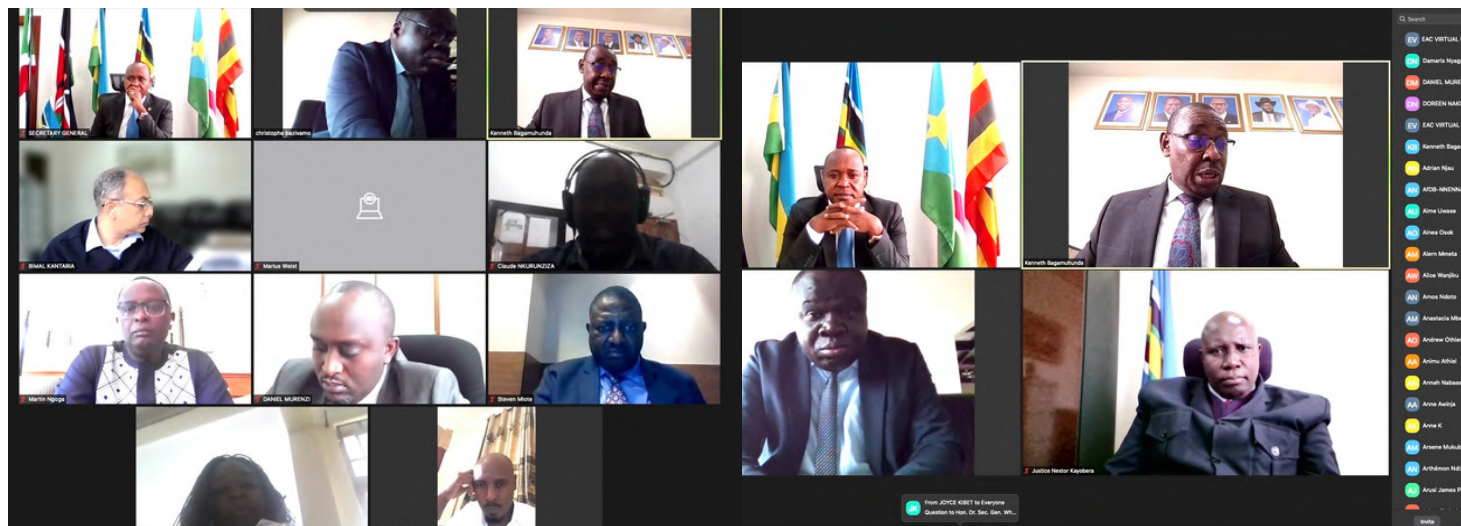
14th August, 2021



KEY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE EAC SECRETARY GENERAL (SG) OFFICE IN THE WEEK

- EAC SG 100 Days in Office Online Forum
- Meeting with Regional Leadership of the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) Sector
- Quarterly Consultative Meeting with Partner States Ministries responsible for EAC Affairs and Trade
- Courtesy Call by Dr. Naim Bilal, Managing Director, Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC)
- Meeting with Top EAC Business Leaders on Strengthening the Region

EAC SG 100 DAYS IN OFFICE ONLINE FORUM



Participants during the online forum marking EAC Secretary General 100 days in office held on Wednesday, 11th August 2021

The East African Community (EAC) Secretary-General, Hon. (Dr.) Peter Mathuki, has called for a coordinated approach among the EAC Partner States in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hon. Mathuki called for the harmonization of COVID-19 testing charges and quarantine administrative procedures across the region.

Dr. Mathuki further pushed for the strengthening of public-private sector cooperation for joint investment in the manufacturing of COVID-19 vaccines.

The Secretary General, however, noted that there was immense hope on the horizon with all Partner States having embarked on national vaccination drives.

- Dr. Mathuki was speaking during the SG's First
- 100 Days Forum that focused on the highlights,
- challenges and achievements since he assumed
- office on 27th April, 2021.
- The forum drew 267 participants including
- Permanent/Principal Secretaries from EAC Partner
- States' Ministries of EAC Affairs, Development
- Partners, Members of the Diplomatic Community,
- Private Sector, Civil Society, Staff of EAC Organs
- and Institutions, and the Media.
- Dr. Mathuki disclosed that he had already held
- consultations with the members of the Summit of
- Heads of State to seek their views on how the
- Community should be run.
- "They emphasized the need to take the EAC
- integration to the people at the grassroots, as they
- are the actual owners of the process," said the
- Secretary General.



On the right; EAC Director General of Customs and Trade, Mr. Kenneth Bagamuhunda during the online forum marking EAC SG (left) 100 days in office

Dr. Mathuki said that intra-EAC trade had increased significantly over the past three months and singled out the Namanga border post where he said trade between Kenya and Tanzania had risen six-fold. He said that intra-EAC trade currently stands at less than 15% as compared to 70% within the EU and gave an assurance that the Community would try to raise it over the next five years.

On progress towards the full implementation of the EAC Roaming Framework, Dr. Mathuki reiterated the announcement by Tanzania that it was currently reviewing its legal framework and would be joining the One Network area (ONA) framework on 30th September, 2021.

On the East African Monetary Union, the third pillar of the integration, Dr. Mathuki disclosed that the East African Monetary Institute Act had taken effect on 1st July, 2021 and that the EAC Secretariat had invited interested Partner States to submit proposals or applications to host the EAMI.

“Following this invitation, five EAC Partner States submitted their applications to host the Institute. In line with the EAC procedures, the Secretariat is now in the process of constituting a Verification Committee to verify the said applications, including the suitability of the location and facilities being offered to host the EAMI,” said the SG.

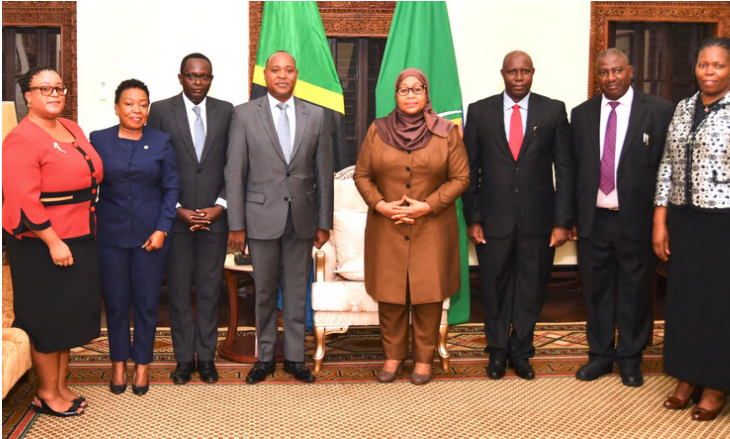
On the EAC Political Confederation, which is the fourth and ultimate stage in the integration, National consultations for the EAC Political Confederation have so far been held for the Republics of Burundi and the Republic of Rwanda. Plans are at an advanced stage to hold similar consultations in the United Republic of Tanzania, the Republic of Rwanda, the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of South Sudan.

On recruitment to 49 vacant positions within the EAC that had been advertised earlier this year, Dr. Mathuki said that the Community had received more than 20,000 applications for the positions, noting that the deluge of applicants was a demonstration of the eagerness of East Africans to serve in the Community.

The Secretary General said that the profiling and shortlisting of candidates had already been completed, adding that the Partner States through the Council of Ministers had already resolved outstanding issues that had been blocking the recruitment.

EAC SG 100 DAYS IN OFFICE HIGHLIGHTS

HEADS OF STATE VISITS



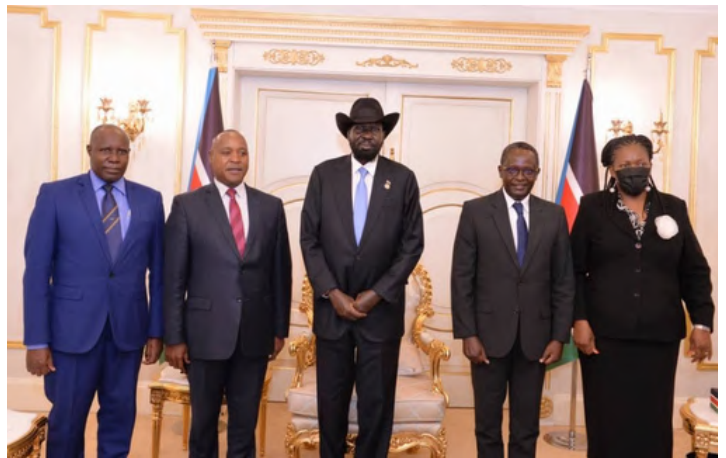
EAC SG courtesy call on the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, at State House in Dar es Salaam.



EAC SG courtesy call on His Excellency President Paul Kagame, Republic of Rwanda, at State House, Kigali.



EAC SG courtesy call on President of Burundi, His Excellency Évariste Ndayishimiye, at the Presidential Palace, in Gitega, Burundi



EAC SG courtesy call on President of the Republic of South Sudan, His Excellency Salva Kiir Mayardit at his office in Juba, South Sudan.



EAC SG courtesy call on the President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency Yoweri Museveni at State House, in Entebbe, Uganda.



EAC SG courtesy call on President of Zanzibar, Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, at State House, Zanzibar

PRIORITIES OF EAC HEADS OF STATE IN STRENGTHENING THE EAC INTEGRATION AGENDA

Priorities per Partner State	
United Republic of Tanzania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The need for a comprehensive review of the Treaty and other legal instruments to reflect the current times. • The need for review of the EAC Partner States contribution; putting in place mechanism to ensure all members meet their statutory obligations. • The need for creation of employment opportunities for youth in the region
Republic of South Sudan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enacting mechanisms to increase South Sudan's level of participation in intra-regional trade • The need for the Community to enhance the integration of South Sudan into the Community
Republic of Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure EAC integration takes its rightful place as envisioned in formation of Community. • Creation of jobs and wealth for the people of East Africa. • Elimination of trade barriers to ensure market access of her goods.
Republic of Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support private sector to play its rightful role in the integration process. • Fast track the various Summit decisions on regional integration projects and programmes. • Need for EAC Organs and Institutions to work in harmony to achieve the objectives of the community
Republic of Burundi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional unity & enhanced regional connectivity through infrastructure development i.e.: roads • Ease in communication and movement of persons and free flow of goods
Zanzibar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased Intra- EAC trade among East African Community Partner States • Resolution of Non-Tariff Barriers – i.e. harmonisation of regional standards • Investment in blue economy

DOCUMENTARY ON EAC SG 100 DAYS IN OFFICE

CLICK [HERE](#)

HIGHLIGHTS ON EAC SG 100 DAYS IN OFFICE - VIDEO

CLICK [HERE](#)

EAST AFRICAN HEALTH PLATFORM PAYS COURTESY CALL ON EAC SECRETARY GENERAL



A delegation from the East African Health Platform (EAHP) led by their Chair Dr. Aflodis Kagaba, today paid a courtesy call on the Secretary General of the East African Community, Hon. (Dr.) Peter Mathuki at the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

.....
On the right; EAHP Chair Dr. Aflodis Kagaba and EAC SG Dr. Peter Mathuki

EAC Secretary General challenged the EAHP to put their advocacy in health policy formulation in action in order to promote the development of health policies and legislation in the Community.

“The time for advocacy is over, now its time for actions and solutions as the region facing a number of challenges on health including the Covid-19 pandemic,” said Dr. Mathuki.

The Secretary General informed the EAHP delegation that EAC Partner States have been cooperating in the implementation of various initiatives under the health sector such as taking joint action towards the prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases, and the control of pandemics and epidemics; the promotion of management of health delivery systems to enhance the efficiency of health care services within the Partner States; development of a common drug policy; harmonization drug registration procedures, and; harmonization of national health policies and regulations.

Dr. Mathuki urged EAHP to promote the coordination and harmonization of the regional response measures to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in a holistic multisectoral approach and help in strengthening national health policies, systems and infrastructure for the welfare of the population.

On his part, the EAHP Chairperson, Dr. Aflodis Kagaba, reaffirmed EAHP's commitment to facilitating growth and effective contribution of health while promoting regional health integration for the benefit of the EAC population.

Dr. Kagaba hailed the EAC for establishment of the Consultative Dialogue Framework and Regional Dialogue Committee of which EAHP is a member, adding that much more needs to be done to put the concept of people-centred and private sector-led integration into practice.

KENYA BROADCASTING CORPORATION IN TALKS WITH EAC ON LIVE BROADCASTING EAC EVENTS



EAC Sec-Gen Dr. Peter Mathuki, Justice Nestor Kayobera, President of the East African Court of Justice accompanied by EALA MP Hon. Kennedy Musyoka and other EAC staff with KBC CEO Dr. Naim Bilal and director Mr. Charles Mulila after the meeting.

Kenya Broadcasting Corporation is in discussions with the East African Community about a partnership to broadcast EAC events live.

The Managing Director of KBC, Dr. Naim Bilal, who made a courtesy phone call to EAC Secretary General Peter Mathuki, said that EAC is a strategic partner in providing services to the East African family, hence the need to improve coverage of its events.

According to Bilal, the ground so far covered by the EAC must be fully highlighted that it requires partnership.

For his part, the EAC Secretary General said his team has been urged to lead the demystification of its activities, noting that coverage of EAC events is needed.

EAC Secretary General said his team has been urged to lead the demystification of its activities, noting that coverage of EAC events is needed.

He urged KBC to lead the initiative and called on other national broadcasters from the Member States to join the cause.

Dr. Mathuki said the EAC will seek other national broadcasters by partnership, including the possibility of live coverage.

“KBC as an official broadcaster, should lead this initiative with other national broadcasters in the Member States and lead other broadcasters in showing EAC’s results,” said Mathuki.

KEY VIRTUAL FORUMS THIS WEEK

Meeting with the Regional Leadership of the Micro and Small Enterprises (MSMEs) sector



Presentation on:

BRIEF ON CMSEO-EA AND PROPOSED COLLABORATION WITH EAC

During the meeting between EAC Secretary General and the regional leadership of the MSMEs sector

Venue: Virtual
Date: 11th August 2021

Presented by:
Richard Muteti HSC
CEO, Confederation of Micro and Small Enterprises Organisation, East Africa CMSEO-EA
Regional Project Manager, EAC MSMEs Trade Fair

East African Community Secretary General Dr. Peter Mathuki held a virtual meeting with regional leaders in the Micro and Small Enterprises Sector and deliberated on areas of collaboration.

Richard Muteti, CEO, Confederation of Micro and Small enterprises Organisations, East Africa called for enhanced funding and support to the preparations and staging of the EAC MSMEs Trade Fairs to promote regional integration and cross-border trade.

"It is critical that MSMEs are involved in EAC Committees and programs that impact on the sector," he said.

Mr Muteti also called for policy interventions and the need to involve regional MSMEs in foreign exposure missions and engagements.

The MSMEs leader also called for the need for the East African Development Bank to create a line of credit for MSMEs.

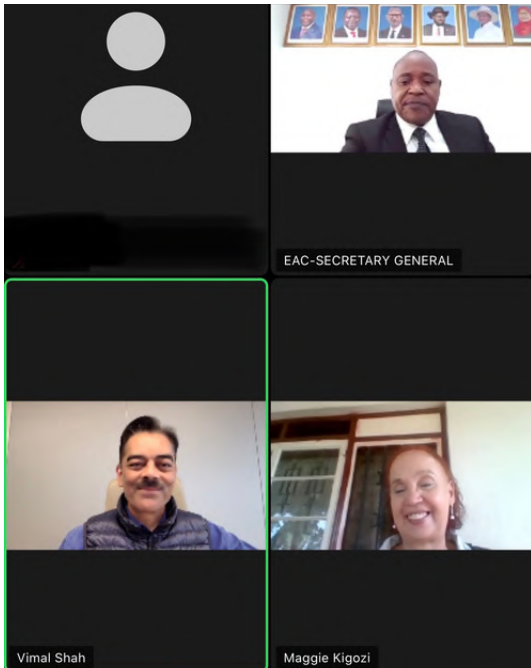
"There should be a promotion of East African products internationally and a program for skills enhancement for East Africans," he said.

On his part, EAC Secretary General, Dr. Peter Mathuki called upon the team to work with the EAC in drafting a legal framework for funding of MSMEs activities.

"There's also a need for concerted efforts and a coordinated approach in handling Covid-19. There is need for joint investment by the Public and Private sector in local production of Covid-19 vaccines.

KEY VIRTUAL FORUMS THIS WEEK

Meeting with top Regional Business leaders



EAC Secretary General held a meeting with top regional business leaders to deliberate on areas of collaboration to unlock bottlenecks disrupting the region's economic growth.

Meeting with the Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Facilitation Authority



The Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Facilitation Authority held a meeting with EAC Secretary General and EAC infrastructure desk deliberating on areas of collaboration to strengthen their partnership and deliver more results to East Africans

Pictured; Mr. Omae Nyaredi, Executive Secretary , Northern Corridor Transit and Transport Facilitation Authority

KEY VIRTUAL FORUMS THIS WEEK

Consultative meetings with EAC Ministers



Chair of the EAC Council of Ministers, Hon. Adan Mohamed and Kenya's Principal Secretary for EAC & Regional Integration, Dr. Kevit Desai in a meeting on the status of EAC programs.



EAC Secretary General together with senior EAC officials held a consultative meeting with Rwanda's State Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Prof. Nshuti Mannasseh and Rwanda's Minister for Trade Hon. Beata Habyarimana to discuss ongoing EAC activities and strategies to strengthen the integration agenda.



NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

- Tanzania, Kenya harmonize Covid-19 test charges
- Uganda resumes Covid-19 vaccination after acquiring new doses
- Zanzibar records increased tourist arrivals
- East Africa Tourism web Portal introduced to promote regional tourism
- EAC yajivunia kuogezeka kwa biashara kati ya Tanzania na Kenya
- Tanzania overtakes Kenya as Uganda's largest imports source in EAC
- Report on DR Congo admission to EAC awaits a ministerial decision
- Kenya to host EAC center for aviation medicine

UPCOMING EVENTS

- CEOs Breakfast Roundtable Engagement on EAC Regional Integration- Arusha
- African Union Permanent Representatives Committee meeting
- Engagement with Regional Leaders of Local and County Governments
- Meeting with African Development Bank Group Regional Director, East Africa Resource Centre
- 10th Joint Sectoral Council on Cooperation in Defence Matters, Inter- State Security and Foreign Policy Coordination
- EALA Planning meeting



HONOURING THE LIFE OF
Maria Ruhere
EALA Committee Assistant

The EAC Secretary General joins EAC staff in mourning the passing of Ms. Maria Ruhere, a dedicated and diligent staff who until her demise was a Committee Assistant at EALA. Her death is a deep loss to the East Africa Community at large. Our prayers and thoughts are with her family, friends and loved ones.

MAY HER SOUL REST IN PEACE



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

**EAC Close, Afrika Mashariki Road
P.O. Box 1096, Arusha
United Republic of Tanzania
Tel: +255 (0)27 216 2100
Email: eac@eachq.org**

www.eac.int

©Copyright 2021 EAC. All rights reserved



@jumuiya | @pmathuki