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NATIONAL ASSEMBLY TENTH PARLIAMENT – THIRD SESSION

REPORT OF THE IGAD-IPU KENYA DELEGATION TO THE 2ND MEETING OF THE IGAD-IPU EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AND THE 2ND CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF IGAD MEMBER STATES HELD IN KAMPALA, UGANDA

27 -28 NOVEMBER 2008

CLERK'S CHAMBERS
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APRIL 2009

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PREAMBLE

Mr. Speaker,

The Protocol establishing the Inter-Parliamentary Union of IGAD Member States (IGAD-IPU) came into force on 28 November 2007 after being ratified by four IGAD member states, namely: Ethiopia, Djibouti, Sudan and Somalia.

The objectives of IGAD-IPU as stipulated in the Protocol for Inter-Parliamentary Union of IGAD Member States are listed below:

- (i) promote unity and strengthen ties of cooperation among IGAD Member States Parliaments;
- (ii) promote peace, security and stability within the IGAD sub-region;
- (iii) promote and ascertain good governance, transparency and rule of law within IGAD Member States;
- (iv) promote respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, justice and gender equality;
- (v) promote dialogue and exchanges between Parliaments of IGAD Member States and between the Union and other regional Inter-Parliamentary Organizations;
- (vi) promote, create awareness and popularise the aims and objectives of the Union and IGAD among the peoples of the IGAD sub-region.

The first meeting of the Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of IGAD member states, the highest organ of the Union, took place in Addis Ababa on 28 November 2007.

The meeting was attended by Speakers of Parliaments of Djibouti, Ethiopia, Uganda, Sudan and Somalia. Kenya was represented by high level government officials for the parliament was dissolved because of the General Elections in the country.

The first meeting of the Executive Council, the second highest organ of the parliamentary Union took place on 25-26 May 2008 in Khartoum, Sudan under the chairmanship of Hon. Ahmed Ibrahim El-Tahir, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Sudan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Second IGAD-IPU Meeting of the Executive Council and the Second Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of IGAD Member States was held on the side line of the 53rd Session of the Executive Council and the 31st Conferene of the African Parliamentary Union on 28-29 November 2008, Kampala, Uganda.

The core issues deliberated upon were intended to set a clear basis on which to run the affairs of IGAD-IPU that consequently enabled the fulfilment of the Union's mandate. This only possible by strengthening all three organs of the Union: the Conference, the Executive Council and the Secretariat.

These issues included among others:

- the draft structure and budget for IGAD-IPU Secretariat; and
- the selection of a candidate to the post of Secretary General; etc.

CONSTITUTION OF DELEGATION

The Kenya National Assembly as a member of the IGAD-IPU sent a delegation with the sole objective to attend and consequently participate in the deliberations of:

- the Second Meeting of the IGAD-IPU Executive Council; and
- the Second Conference of the Speakers of Parliaments of IGAD Member States.

The delegation comprised the following:

The Hon. Farah M. Maalim, MP (Deputy Speaker – Kenya National Assembly)

Accompanied by:

Ms. Anne Musandu – Third Clerk Assistant/ Secretary to the Delegation

Also in attendance from Kenya was:

Hon. Felix Useru Kanyauchi – former Member of Parliament for Gwassi Constituency and a candidate for the position of Secretary General of IGAD-IPU.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Delegation to the Second Meeting of the Executive Council and the Second Conference of Speakers of IGAD-IPU is grateful to the Hon. Speaker and the Liaison Committee of the Kenya National Assembly for facilitating the visit. The Committee would further like to thank the Clerk of the National Assembly and

parliamentary staff for all the logistical and technical support accorded that guaranteed its successful attendance.

Furthermore, the Delegation specially thanks the IGAD Secretariat headed by the Executive Secretary, Eng. Mahboub Mohamed Maalim who ably facilitated positive and fruitful deliberations.

Last but not least, the Delegation by all means recognizes the people of Uganda whose warm hospitality ensured a comfortable and memorable stay in Kampala.



**HON. FARAH M. MAALIM, MP
DEPUTY SPEAKER AND LEADER OF THE DELEGATION
KENYA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

APRIL 2009

THE SECOND MEETING OF THE IGAD-IPU EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Opening Session

The Second Meeting of the Executive Council of IGAD-IPU was held on 27 November 2008 in Kampala, Uganda under the chairmanship of Hon. Mohamed El-Hassan Elamin, the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Sudan. It was attended by representatives from Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.

The Deputy Speaker welcomed the delegates to the meeting and expressed his hope that the meeting would be of great value to the countries in the region to foster development and integration. He further stated that it was his wish to see the organization grow from strength to strength and make good progress for the future of the people in the region.

He noted that all over the world, countries were grouping together for common objectives and hoped the IGAD region would benefit from such grouping.

He also thanked the people and the government of Uganda for accepting to host the meeting and for the good hospitality extended to all the delegates since their arrival in Uganda.

Adoption of the Draft Agenda

The Council after considering the draft agenda, adopted the same without amendments.

Adoption of the draft minutes of the First Meeting of the Executive Council

The Council considered the minutes of the First Meeting of the Executive Council and adopted the same without amendments.

Consideration and Recommendation of the Revised Draft Structure and Budget for IGAD-IPU Secretariat

The Council considered the views expressed by Ethiopia on the living standards in Addis Ababa in relation to the budget and confirmed that the draft budget was adequate.

The Executive Secretary of IGAD clarified on the new directives issued by the Assembly of IGAD Heads of State and Government on revitalization of IGAD and Staff rationalization that was also going to consider staff remunerations.

The Council after taking into consideration all the issues presented adopted the Draft structure and the Budget for the IPU Secretariat.

Consideration and Recommendation of the candidate to the post of Secretary General of the Union's Secretariat

Kenya withdrew its candidate in favour of Djibouti's candidate. In the same light, Sudan also withdrew its candidate in favour of the Djibouti candidate. Somalia also stated that for the sake of unity, it was withdrawing its candidate in support of the Djibouti candidate.

Ethiopia and Uganda did not present candidates for consideration but shared the sentiment of Kenya, Sudan and Somalia supported the candidate of Djibouti.

There being consensus, the Council recommended the candidate from Djibouti, Mr. Bourhan Daoud Ahmed for the position of Secretary General of IGAD-IPU.

Djibouti paid tribute and thanked all the member states who supported their candidate and promised to cooperate with all of them in promoting the values of IGAD-IPU. Mr. Bourhan Daoud Ahmed, also proposed that in future IGAD-IPU would endeavour to hold its meetings apart from other conferences and meetings.

Consideration of the Draft Agenda for the 2nd Conference of Speakers of IGAD-IPU.

The Council considered the draft agenda of the Conference of Speakers and adopted the same and recommended it to the Conference of Speakers.

Uganda and Kenya raised the issue of the Kenya candidate being considered for a position in filling the remaining posts in the IGAD-IPU Secretariat. Members agreed that while qualification was paramount in considering the best candidates to fill in vacant positions, equity would be considered to satisfy every member state.

The Chairman in his closing remarks thanked all the participants for their openness and deliberations and wished them a fruitful meeting in the Conference of Speakers.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Executive Council would be communicated after consultation with the IGAD Secretariat.

THE SECOND CONFERENCE OF THE SPEAKERS OF PARLIAMENTS OF IGAD MEMBER STATES

The Agenda of the Second Conference of the Speakers of Parliaments of IGAD Member states included the following pertinent issues:

- 1.0 Adoption of the proposed Draft Structure and Budget for the IGAD-IPU Secretariat.
- 2.0 Selection of candidate to the post of Secretary General of the Union in accordance with the Terms of Reference.
- 3.0 General briefing on the current Political, Economic and Social Situation in the IGAD Region by member states.

Opening Remarks by H.E. Ahmed Ibrahim El Tahir, Speaker of the Sudan National Assembly, President of the Executive Council.

The President welcomed the delegates and expressed confidence of fruitful deliberations. He stressed the importance of peace and security in the region. He further explained that peace and security were paramount because they were required for progress.

Statement by Representative of the Host country.

The representative of the Host country, Uganda welcomed the delegates and expressed his wish for successful discussions.

Statement by Eng. Mahboub M. Maalim, Executive Secretary of IGAD

In his statement, the Executive Secretary expressed concern on the overall ratification of the Protocol for the Inter-Parliamentary Union of IGAD Member States.

He noted that not all member states had ratified the protocol.

It is important to note that Kenya is one of the states that has not complied with this urgent and critical requirement.

Adoption of the proposed Draft Agenda of the Second Conference IGAD-IPU Speakers of Parliaments

The Draft Agenda for the Conference was considered and adopted without amendments.

Adoption of the Draft Minutes of the First Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of IGAD Member States

The Draft Minutes of the First Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of IGAD Member states were adopted.

Adoption of proposed Draft Structure and Budget for the IGAD-IPU Secretariat

The following is a summary of the Draft Budget (Currency US\$) for the IGAD-IPU Secretariat Office was adopted without amendments:

Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Total Budget Requirement
Salary & allowance for staff			794,037,55
Office Rent	3,500,00	12,00	42,000,00
Vehicle purchase	38,000,00	2,00	76,000,00
Office furniture & equipment for new staff			60,000,00
General overhead expense			40,000,00
TOTAL			1,012,037,55

Selection of candidate to the post of Secretary General of the Union in accordance with the Terms of Reference

The fundamental role of the Secretary General is to be CEO of the Secretariat of Union. The Secretary General will aim to intensify regional parliamentary cooperation at different levels, ensuring coordination and fostering political support for the formulation and execution of regional activities. He/She will provide an efficient information network between and for the different Parliaments and help to establish and consolidate networks between sector-specific Parliamentary Committees, paving the ground and preparing a basis for a more institutionalized cooperation in this field.

He/She will contribute to strengthening the democratic efficiency and effectiveness of the Parliaments in the sub-region; promoting bilateral and multilateral cooperation among Parliaments in the region and to bringing closer to IGAD the parliamentary structures of the region.

Being the Chief Executive Officer of the IGAD-IPU, the Secretary General will focus on strengthening the sub-regional parliamentary dimensions thus contributing to the enhanced overall cooperation in IGAD.

He/She will promote sub-regional approach in the process of IGAD integration and will assist positioning the sub-region as a whole at the African scene and globally.

The Secretary General shall report to the Speakers of the Parliament of the Member states, and is responsible for the Secretariats consistent achievement of its mandate and in this regard he/she will be responsible for the financial and administrative management in programs development.

The Conference then confirmed the appointment of Djibouti's Mr. Bourhan Daoud Ahmed for the position of Secretary General of IGAD-IPU.

General Briefing on the Political, Economic and Social Situation in the IGAD Region by Member States

The President of the Executive Council called upon Kenya to give a general briefing of its current political, economic and social situation. The President noted that Kenya had during the First Conference sought to have this agenda item included during subsequent conferences.

In the briefing, the Deputy Speaker, Hon. Farah M. Maalim, MP enlightened the Conference on the current political situation in Kenya. He gave a follow up of what had been achieved as the country got back on track following the widespread violence, untold human suffering, internal displacement and incalculable loss of property that characterized the aftermath of the disputed elections in December 2007. He explained that Kenya was in the process of

ensuring the future integrity of the electoral process and gave an overview of both the Kriegler Independent Review Commission and the Waki Commission. He further informed the Conference that Kenya's constitutional and legal framework relating to elections had a number of weaknesses and inconsistencies that would be revised to ensure a solid foundation for coping with the challenges that future elections would be likely to present.

On the economy, the Deputy Speaker explained the achievements of the Constituency Development Fund and also told the Conference about Kenya's Vision 2030 economic development plan to develop several different economic zones in various parts of the country. On the existing global financial crisis, the Government had put in place mechanisms to closely monitor the situation and its likely short and long term effects on Kenya's economy and to determine how best the country could mitigate against these likely effects.

On the social front, he informed the Conference that Kenya was still grappling with the issue of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) but acknowledged that Government had been able to resettle a large number and was currently working towards ensuring that all IDPs are resettled.

In addition, the Deputy Speaker gave outline of Kenya's position in its fight against HIV/AIDS stating that the Government continued to steadily ensure more and more People Living with HIV/AIDS were receiving free Antiretroviral treatment from Government hospitals. He further explained the recently launched voluntary male circumcision campaign as part of the country's national HIV prevention strategy.

The President lauded Kenya's comprehensive briefing.

Sudan briefed the Conference on the continued implementation of the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement based on three points: peace, democracy and economic growth.

On Darfur, the Conference was informed that there were continuous efforts aimed at bringing lasting peace and that it was the government's responsibility to bring peace. However, Sudan took issue with the International Crime Court's support for a warrant of arrest against the country's President. The charges against the President were uncalled for and uncultured in terms of political development.

Ethiopia expressed the need for peaceful co-existence with Eritrea denoting the consequences of instability.

Uganda expressed the importance of the pending signing of the peace agreement with Joseph Kony of the Lord's Resistance Army so that Northern Uganda could settle in peace.

Closing

In closing, the Executive Secretary urged the Member States to remain united so as to ultimately improve all aspects of life for all citizens. He said that IGAD-IPU supported:

- efforts of development in the region;
- peace efforts in all IGAD member states; and
- strengthening of relations between member countries.

The newly appointed Secretary General for IGAD-IPU:

- thanked all members for their support;
- promised to serve efficiently;
- said that he would act to have an effective and functioning institution as soon as possible; and
- would spare no effort to execute the tasks ahead with professionalism.

Kenya expressed fervour in the role that Parliaments could play in brokering peace between warring factions within the region.

Ethiopia proposed that in future, it would be in the interest of the Union to have media coverage of its proceedings so as to enlighten various interested parties.

The Speaker of the Djibouti Parliament proposed that the next meeting of the Executive Council be held in Djibouti. Members noted that all arrangements of future meetings would be communicated in due course.