



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDING TO THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS TO URGE PARTNER STATES TO IMPLEMENT APPROPRIATE MEASURES TO PREVENT AND MANAGE FOOD LOSS AND WASTAGE

(Moved under Articles 49(2d), 59(1), 105 and 110 of the Treaty and Rule 26 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly)

WHEREAS one of the key areas of cooperation of the Partner States under Chapter Eighteen of the Treaty is agriculture and food security through which the Partner States undertook in Article 105 to cooperate in the area of agriculture and food security in order to achieve food security within the Community;

AND WHEREAS under Article 110 of the Treaty, the Partner States agreed to harmonise food supply, nutrition and food security policies and strategies and to initiate and maintain strategic food reserves;

RECOGNIZING that all Partner States are parties to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) of 1966, which recognises the right to adequate food for everyone in Article 11, para. 1 and 2);

AWARE that Target 12.3 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 2030, emphasises halving per-capita global food waste and consumer levels and reducing food losses along production and supply chains through the transformation of agri-food systems;

FURTHER RECOGNISING that on 29th September 2023, the world observed the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW) with a call to action for public and private entities to reduce food loss and waste through the transformation of agri-food systems;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the Council has adopted for the Community, the EAC Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FNSP), 2016, the EAC Food and Nutrition Strategy 2019-2023 and the EAC Food Security Action Plan 2019-2023 with the overriding objective to eliminate hunger and malnutrition by the year 2023;

NOTING that the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) 2022 report on the State of Food Security and Nutrition in the world reveals that global hunger still affects around 9.2 percent of the world population (between 691 and 783 million people) and that hunger is on the rise in all sub-regions of Africa;

CONCERNED by the alarming level of food loss and waste which occurs throughout the entire supply chain from farm stage to harvest to households, including the raw materials and produce lost in the farming stage, harvesting processes, during transportation and storage, as well as food that consumers don't finish at restaurants or throw out at home;

FURTHER CONCERNED that about one-third of global food supplies are wasted or lost (2.5 billion tonnes around the world), and, in developing countries, 40% of food loss and waste occurs at post -harvest and processing stages, with the highest magnitude of losses amongst fruits and vegetables while, for milk and dairy, losses occur at the distribution stage of the value chain;

AWARE that at the EAC level, the 2024 World Population Review indicates that food loss and waste are estimated at 103 kilograms per capita and 1.2 million tons per year for Burundi; 103 kilograms per capita and 8.9 million tons per year for DRC; 99 kilograms per capita and 5.4 million tons per year for Kenya; 164 kilograms per capita and 2.1 million tons per year for Rwanda; 103 kilograms per capita and 1.6 million tons per year for Somalia; 103 kilograms per capita and 1.1 million tons per year for South Sudan; 103 kilograms per capita and 4.5 million tons per year for Uganda and 119 kilograms per capita and 6.9 million tons per year for Tanzania;

RECALLING that, the 23rd Ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State held in November 2023 reaffirmed the commitment of the Heads of State to address climate change and food security including promotion of sustainable agricultural practices, investment in climate resilient technologies, and the development of regional policies to foster adaptation and strengthen post-harvest handling, water harvesting, value addition and irrigation;

CONVINCED that it is urgent and necessary for Partner States to act in order to fulfil the commitments under the Treaty and of the Summit of EAC Heads of State by

adopting innovative integrated approaches which offer the opportunity to prevent, reduce and manage food loss and waste as well as alleviate its negative impact of the environment, such as intelligent packaging, bio packaging solutions, online food sharing services, climate -friendly refrigeration systems that help cold chains become more sustainable;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY AS FOLLOWS: -

THAT in accordance with Articles 49(2) (d), 105 and 110 of the Treaty, the Assembly recommends to the Council of Ministers to:

- (a) Conduct a study on food loss and waste and their impact on climate change in all the EAC Partner States;
- (b) Urge Partner States to conduct awareness campaigns to sensitize their citizens on the need to minimize food loss and waste;
- (c) Urge Partner States to adopt the innovative approaches recommended by the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) to prevent, reduce and manage food loss and waste;
- (d) Develop a new EAC Food and Nutrition Strategy and Action Plan (to replace the EAC Food and Nutrition Strategy 2019-2023 and the EAC Food Security Action Plan 2019-2023), including concrete measures to address food loss and waste.

Moved by:

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Seconded by:

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