

JOINT COMMUNIQUE FOR THE EAST AFRICAN HEADS OF STATE SUMMIT, NAIROBI, 27-29 AUGUST 2004

At the invitation of His Excellency Honorable Mwai Kibaki, President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda and His Excellency Benjamin William Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania; held a three-day Summit in Nairobi, Kenya, from 27-29 August 2004.

Their Excellencies Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and Benjamin William Mkapa were received, on arrival at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, by the Host President, His Excellency Honorable Mwai Kibaki.

Their Excellencies were accompanied by delegations that included a team of Ministers.

The three Heads of State proceeded to the venue of the Summit at Windsor Golf and Country Club, which provided a serene environment for the Summit. The Summit was conducted in an informal and private consultative manner, which provided their Excellencies with a friendly, brotherly and relaxed working atmosphere.

The Summit undertook a broad review of the status of the East African Community integration process, and examined further ways and means of deepening and accelerating the process.

The Summit specifically focused critically on Article 5 (2) of the East African Community Treaty, which states inter alia:

“In pursuance of the provision of paragraph 1 of this Article, the Partner States undertake to establish among themselves and in accordance with the provisions of this Treaty, a Customs Union, a Common Market, subsequently a Monetary Union and ultimately a Political Federation in order to strengthen and regulate the industrial, commercial, infrastructural, cultural, social, political, and other relations of the Partner States to the end that there shall be accelerated, harmonious and balanced development and sustained expansion of economic activities, the benefit of which shall be equitably shared”

After a thorough review of the above Article, and concerned about the tardiness therein, the Summit resolved to expedite and compress the process of integration so that the ultimate goal of a Political Federation is achieved through a fast track mechanism.

In order to achieve the above objective, the Summit directed that a Committee of three persons be set up immediately. The Committee's mandate is to examine how the fast track mechanism can be achieved. The established Committee is mandated to commence its work immediately and submit its report to the next Regular East African Community Summit, scheduled for 30th November 2004.

The Heads of State further reaffirmed their commitment to a speedy implementation of all the Protocols and Instruments signed within the framework of the East African Community Treaty. They further directed that all Protocols and Instruments not yet ratified by the Member States should be ratified by 30th November 2004.

Their Excellencies President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and President Benjamin William Mkapa conveyed their condolences to His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki, the Government, the

bereaved family and the people of Kenya on the untimely death of Hon. Karisa Maitha, Minister of Tourism and Wildlife.

Their Excellencies President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and President Benjamin William Mkapa expressed warm appreciation to His Excellency Honorable Mwai Kibaki, the Government and the people of the Republic of Kenya for the warm hospitality extended to them and their delegations during their stay in the Republic of Kenya; which facilitated the fruitful deliberations and successful outcome of the Summit Meeting.

DONE AT NAIROBI ON 28TH AUGUST 2004.

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H.E. Mwai Kibaki
PRESIDENT
Republic of Kenya

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H.E. Yoweri K. Museveni
PRESIDENT
Republic of Uganda

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H.E. Benjamin W. Mkapa
PRESIDENT
The United Republic of Tanzania