



EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Works on Blue Economy
Presented at the Partnership Meeting
Durban, South Africa



Presentation Outline



- Background on the EAC
- Mandate of the EAC
- Geographical coverage
- Instruments on ocean governance
- Key interventions on Coastal and Marine Resources Management

Background Information on EAC

- EAC is the regional intergovernmental organizations and one of RECs under AUC.
- Made up of six countries i.e. Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Uganda and Republic of South Sudan.
- The objective of the community is to develop policies and programme aimed at widening and deepening co-operation among Partner States in political, economic, social and cultural fields, research and technology, defence, security, legal and judicial affairs for their mutual benefits.

Background Information on EAC (2)

- In pursuance of the Treaty, Partner States undertake to establish among themselves;
 - ❖ **A Custom Union**
 - ❖ **A Common Market**
 - ❖ **A Monetary Union**
 - ❖ **Political Federation**
- This is for the purpose of strengthening and regulating the industrial, commercial, infrastructure, cultural , social, political and other relations of Partner States.



EAC TREATY

The **Vision** of EAC is a prosperous, competitive, secure, stable and politically united East Africa.

EAC Mission: *to widen and deepen Economic, Political, Social and Cultural integration in order to improve the quality of life of the people of East Africa through increased competitiveness, value added production, trade and investments.*

EAC Treaty- Spells out Areas of Cooperation

Chapter 12 to 28 of the Treaty.

- **Trade and Investment**
- **Industrial Development**
- **Monetary/Fiscal Affairs**
- **Infrastructure/Services**
- **Science & Technology**
- **Agriculture & Food Security**
- **Environment & Natural Resources**
- **Energy**
- **Tourism & Wildlife**
- **Health**
- **Education**
- **Human Resources**
- **Defence/Security**
- **Legal/Judicial Affairs**
- **Foreign Affairs**
- **Gender, Sports & Culture**

One BIG Market 7



MARKET

East Africa: over 170 million

Burundi 11.1 million

Kenya 46.8 million

South Sudan 12.5 million

Rwanda 13.0 million

Tanzania 52.5 million

Uganda 38.3 million

Area (land) 2.48 Mil

Sqkm

**Source: EAC Statistics (2016)*

South Sudan joined EAC in November 2017

Instruments on ocean governance

- EAC has established instruments for environment and natural resources management.
- Partner States recognize that development activities may have negative impacts on the environment leading to degradation and depletion of natural resources.
- Partner States also recognize that a clean and healthy environment is a prerequisite for sustainable development.
- **Under the Treaty**, Partner States agree to amongst other things to;
 - ✓ *Foster co-operation in the joint and efficient management and sustainable utilization of natural resources*
 - ✓ *Co-operate and coordinate their policies and actions for the protection and conservation of the environment and natural resources against all forms of degradation and pollution emanating from developmental activities.*
 - ✓ *Ensure sustainable utilization of natural resources like lakes, wetlands and other aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.*

Instruments on ocean governance (2)

- Regarding management of water and marine resources; the **Treaty mandate Partner States** to co-operate through:
 - ❑ *Establishment and adoption of common regulations for the better management of coastal zone, marine parks, reserves, wetlands and controlled areas*
 - ❑ *Adoption of common policies and regulation for the conservation, management and development of fisheries resources*
 - ❑ *Adoption of common policies to ensure joint fossil fuel exploration and exploitation along the coast and rift valley.*



Instruments on ocean governance (3)

- The **EAC Protocol on Environment and Natural Resources Management** (Under review) calls for amongst other things, development and harmonization of policies, laws and strategies for the sustainable use of Coastal and Marine Resources.
- Under the Protocol on ENRM, Partner States agree to:
 - cooperate to prevent and reduce pollution of the marine and coastal environment*
 - Ensure sound environmental management of the NRs of the marine and coastal environment*
 - Adopt measures for monitoring, evaluation and control*
- Partner States also agrees to take full measures to :
 - Prevent and reduce pollution caused by discharging and dumping of wastes from ships or man made structures at sea; and*
 - Prevent and reduce pollution caused by exploration and exploitation of the sea-bed and its subsoil.*

Instruments on ocean governance (4)

- Other Instruments to support ocean governance includes:
 - ❖ **EAC Vision 2050**
 - Calls for rationale and sustainable utilization of natural resources.
 - ❖ **EAC Transboundary Ecosystem Management Bill (2015)**
 - Calls for strengthening co-ordination and collaboration in the management of transboundary and shared ecosystems.
 - ❖ **EAC Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy**
 - Promote sustainable management and development of fisheries and aquaculture in the region.
 - ❖ **EAC Climate Change Policy and Strategy**
 - Recognize ocean as reservoir of carbon i.e. storing huge chunks of Dimethyl Bromide
 - Advocates measures to strengthen resilience and productivity of coastal and marine resources .

Key interventions on coastal and marine resources management

- The blue economy is an emerging global issue which refers to sustainable exploitation of water resources.
- There have been blue economy activities like marine and coastal tourism and therefore the concept is not altogether new in the region.
- Despite development of the key instruments, little efforts have been done so far in formulating and implementing regional programs on coastal and marine resources management.
- However, Kenya and Tanzania have taken measures to revive maritime transport by building and expanding ports and shipping facilities to extend maritime reach.

Key interventions on coastal and marine resources management (2)

- The two countries have established National Coast Guard Service and Task Force to oversee their territorial waters and resources.
- Since coastal and marine resources are mostly transboundary in nature, there is a need to strengthen coordination and collaboration mechanisms to secure success in managing these valuable aquatic resources for sustainable development

--The END--

Asante Sana!