



The East African Community (EAC) is the regional intergovernmental organization of the Republics of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, South Sudan, DRC and the

United Republic of Tanzania, with its headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania. The Vision of the EAC is ***“a prosperous, competitive, secure, stable and politically united East Africa”*** and mission is ***“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”***.

The youth of East Africa are important stakeholders in the EAC processes and form a substantial part of the population. Article 120 (c) of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community<sup>1</sup> provides for adoption of a common approach for involvement of the youth in the integration process through education, training and mainstreaming youth issues into EAC policies, programmes and projects as one of the strategic interventions towards the realization of a fully integrated Community.

In a bid to popularize and encourage youth participation in the integration process, the EAC Secretariat through the Department of Political Affairs under the Nyerere Centre for Peace Research (NCPR) initiated the EAC University Students Debate in 2012. The aim of the debate is to provide a regional platform to promote dialogue among university students and youth and interest them in advocating regional integration initiatives.

Six participants drawn from each Partner State making a total of 42 debaters per event, annually are nominated on the basis of winning, qualifying short essays. In addition, the debate attracts an audience of over 100 students from the hosting country, lecturers from public and private universities; institutions

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<sup>1</sup> The Treaty for Establishment of the East African Community is available at [www.eac.int](http://www.eac.int)

of higher learning are also included in the process. It also attracts representation from youth councils, private sector, civil society, media, technocrats and academia to exchange views on topical issues on the regional integration agenda.

During the debate, one winner from each Partner State is appointed as an EAC Youth Ambassador and the 1<sup>st</sup> runner up is appointed as Deputy EAC Youth Ambassador for a period of one year. They become focal points in their respective Universities/Partner States to advocate the EAC integration agenda through sensitizing, educating and engaging their peers at national level.

The EAC University Students' Debate Model is an interactive and representational style of debating aimed at educating, discussing and making resolutions among the Youth in East African to nurture a bond of "*eastafrikaness*" with a distinct East African identity that is very much desired. The objective of the EAC-University students' Debate Model is to exchange information, share ideas and recognize a common ground.

The specific objectives are to -

- (a) ascertain the analytical skills of debaters;
- (b) encourage research among the debaters about the EAC integration process;
- (c) encourage diplomatic policy formulation among the debaters;
- (d) encourage public speaking and participation in the integration process; and
- (e) discover leadership talent and appoint Youth Ambassadors to champion.

### **3.1 EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY UNIVERSITIES' DEBATE FORMAT**

The East African Community Universities' Debate format is representation of different EAC organs of the EAC and how they relate with each other in the discharge of their respective responsibilities in a bid to support EAC achieve a strong and prosperous region. The organs used include the Secretariat, East African Legislative Assembly, East African Court of Justice and the Council of Ministers.

The Secretariat is the executive organ of the Community. It is responsible for the implementation of different policies of the Community in a bid to achieve the integration agenda. The East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) is the

legislative arm of the Community responsible for making laws that govern the Community.

On the other hand, the East African Court of Justice (EACJ) is the judicial arm of the Community. It is responsible for interpreting the EAC Treaty and also settles disputes amongst parties to different suits. The Council of ministers is the policy organ of the Community and thus it is responsible for the formulation of policies for the Community.

It is thus the combination of the different roles and responsibilities of the organs of the East African Community that the EAC University Students Debate Format is designed.

### ***3.2 MODEL OF THE EAC UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' DEBATE FORMAT***

In the world of debate, there are different types of debate namely:

- 3.2.1 Policy Debates are aimed at convincing the judges on grounds of having a better approach/policy to dealing with a particular a challenge
- 3.2.2 Value debates are aimed at convincing the judges to win the debate on grounds of “values” or reasons. It is on these grounds that judges make decisions in such a debate.

The EAC University Students Debate will emphasize the use of the value and policy approaches given that the EAC Integration is people centered and Private Sector driven. This will give the youth an opportunity to come up with policies that will enable the Secretariat develop programs and initiatives aimed at empowering youth in the region.

This debate will comprise of two teams namely Affirmative Team made up of Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Chairperson of the Council of Ministers, Amicus Curiae and the Counsel to the Community. The second team will be the Alternative Strategy Team comprising of the Attorneys General from each Partner State. This has been set as the correct position for this form of dialogue to avoid the word “opposition” used in the context in which it is always perceived.

The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers and the Third Attorney General will have a heaviest work load of defending team position and at the same time they have to introduce an extension to the first third of the debate.

### **3.3 COMPOSITION OF THE DEBATE**

There will be two teams namely; the affirmative and the alternative strategy team. Each team will comprise of 7 debaters drawn from the seven Partner States making 14 debaters from the two teams. There will be at least an odd number of judges 3 to 7 depending on the stage of the competition; a time-keeper and a moderator.

**3.4.1 The Secretary General** will be the head of delegation in this particular debate format because he/she is the Principal Executive Officer of the Community<sup>2</sup> and heads the Secretariat the executive organ of the Community.<sup>3</sup> He/she is Member of the East African Legislative Assembly<sup>4</sup> thus making him/her the appropriate head of delegation. The Treaty provides for the offices of Deputy Secretaries General (DSG)<sup>5</sup> in the services of the Community; they deputize the Secretary General in management of different departments through which the work of the Community is done. Thus, it is upon the Secretary General in the debate to decide which DSG is in charge of his/her team's particular thematic area. It therefore requires a debater to know the respective departments, their work and mandate, in order to make an appropriate appointment.

**The Chairperson of the Council of Ministers** is considered in this particular debate format because he/she heads the Council of Ministers which is the policy organ of the Community<sup>6</sup>. In the second third of the debate, it is most likely that a policy will be developed as an extension of the opening third of the debate. Therefore, the Chairperson of the Council would be the most appropriate to represent the Council at the debate.

**3.4.3 The Amicus Curiae** is based on the principle in law that a person, group or organization can apply to court to be included in proceedings as a party to those particular proceedings as a "friend of the court". In the same breath, of the Treaty allows the Assembly<sup>7</sup> to invite a person to attend its' proceedings provided his/her presence is desirable; which is the case in this particular debate format.

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<sup>2</sup> Art.67(3), Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community as amended on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2006 and 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2007.

<sup>3</sup> Supra, art.66

<sup>4</sup> Supra, art.59(1)

<sup>5</sup> Supra, art.68

<sup>6</sup> Ibid, art.14(1)

<sup>7</sup> Ibid, art.54 (1,2)

**3.4.1 The Counsel to the Community** is the principal legal advisor to the Community<sup>8</sup> and is thus expected to analyze the whole situation, law and policy before he/she can advise the Community. In this debate perspective, he/she is best placed to summarize the whole debate because it is presumed that he/she has been following the debate and has made a proper analysis in order to advise the judges in whose favour they should vote.

The alternative strategy team will be limited to 7 **Attorneys General** from the Partner States on the other hand. This idea is picked from the fact that once an advisory opinion is sought from the EACJ, all Attorneys General from the 7 Partner States are allowed to make submissions on the matter. The Registrar of the Court thus gives notice to all Partner States notifying them in order to be in position to file their views on that particular matter<sup>9</sup>.

In this debate context similarly, the Attorneys General will be on one side so that they can file their defences or offer alternative solutions to different issues that arise in the Community. Each Attorney General will represent his/her Partner States of the Community; referring to each other in order of presentation i.e First Attorney General to Fifth Attorney General e.g(in alphabetical order though the debaters determine in which order they want to present) as follows:-

1. First Attorney General- Republic of Burundi
2. Second Attorney General- Republic of Kenya
3. Third Attorney General-Republic of Rwanda
4. Fourth Attorney General- Republic of Uganda
5. Fifth Attorney General- United Republic of Tanzania
6. Sixth Attorney General- Republic of South Sudan
7. Seventh Attorney General- Democratic Republic of Congo

The time keeper will keep the time in the debate. He/she will time each speaker and give visual and/or vocal time signals to speakers on the reminder of time left so that they will not have to frequently look at the time. He/she will ring a bell to indicate when the time of the speaker has passed. He/she will ensure fairness in a debate and that each speaker is given a minimum time which she or he is expected to speak for and a maximum time that he or she is allowed to speak for.

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid art.69

<sup>9</sup> Ibid art. 36(3)

The moderator will guide the deliberation and help students to keep the discussions focused and directed. He/she will provide them with the sense of productivity, purpose and ensure that participants remain committed to the discussions. At every a third of the debate for two minutes, he or she is allowed to make an intervention whenever the judges have requested for a moment to discuss a particular issue.

- i. The Judges will be to listen to the students, rate each speaker, evaluate the debate and give points for improvement for each team;
- ii. To summarize up crucial aspects of the debate and decide which team has presented the more successful argument on the moot before announcing the winning team and winning points as well as declaring the Best Speakers, first and second runner up of the debate.

#### **4.0 SPEAKER ROLES**

The speaker roles all arise from the different provisions of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community as discussed below.

- i. He/she introduces his/her team, the motion and defines the keywords;
  - ii. Give an outline of how the debate will run (lays out the team strategy by outlining how the points have been distributed amongst the team members, for easy adjudication);
  - iii. Presents arguments in favour of his or her case as allocated to the Secretary General by the team and
  - iv. Presents statistics and evidence to support his/her arguments.
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- i. Rebut the arguments of the First Attorney General;
  - ii. Emphasize the points tabled by the Secretary General through presenting more statistics and evidence in support of the team's case and
  - iii. Present arguments in support of the points allocated him or her by the Secretary General.

- i. Rebutts the arguments coming from the Second Attorney General and re-emphasizes his or her team's points;
- ii. Creates an extension for the affirmative team (most likely, a policy or more reasons in favour of the motion) and
- iii. In situations where a policy has been developed as an extension, the Chairperson of the Council must present evidence to prove his/her arguments in support of the policy.

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- i. Rebut the arguments of the third Attorney General and
- ii. Defend the arguments and policy (if any) of the Chairperson of the Council.

v

- i. Outlines the points of clash in the debate and
- ii. Weighs the debate while emphasizing why his/her side wins the debate.

## **4.2 ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY TEAM**

- i. Introduces his/her team, outlines the strategy that his/her team is going to use to rebut the Affirmative team's arguments for easier adjudication.
- ii. Rebutts the arguments of the Secretary General and
- iii. Discusses the points the team has allocated to him/her.

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- i. Rebut the arguments of the Deputy Secretary Generals;
- ii. Emphasize the points and arguments of the First Attorney General;
- iii. Discuss the points allocated to him/her by the First Attorney General and
- iv. Adduce evidence and statistics in favour of the First Attorney General's arguments.

- i. Outline the strategy for rebutting the strategy of the Chairperson of the Council (This is because at this point we have a new debate developing);
- ii. Rebutts the arguments of the Chair of the Council;
- iii. Provides an extension to the strategy of the First Attorney General (First third of the debate) and

- iv. Emphasizes the points and arguments of the Second Attorney General.

**x**

- i. Rebuts the arguments of the Amicus Curiae and
- ii. Emphasizes the points and arguments of the Third Attorney General.

**v**

**v**

- i. Rebuts any new arguments coming up from the summarization of Counsel to the Community and
- ii. Outlines the points of clash in the debate and weighs the debate while emphasizing why his/her side wins the debate.

### ***THE MODERATOR***

- i. He/she shall open and close the debate rounds;
- ii. He/she will control the debate through calculated interventions as and when is necessary;
- iii. Remind the debaters of the rules of the debate and how it will run and
- iv. Will ensure that all teams have registered and their names forwarded to judges before the debate begins.

## **5.0 TIME ALLOCATION**

- i. The Chair of the Council and the third Attorney General will be allocated 6 minutes because of the burden of proof they carry;
- ii. The other speakers on both teams will be allocated 5 minutes in each debate round;
- iii. The first and last minutes will be protected time for each debater. No ***points of Information*** will be allowed during the first minute and the fifth.
- iv. The Moderator will step in at every third of the debate for two minutes and his allowed to make an intervention when judges have requested for a moment to discuss a particular issue.

### ***Phases of the Debate***

The debate is divided into 3 parts, as follows:-

- i. Opening third(1/3);
- ii. Extension (2/3);
- iii. Weighing and summing up of the debate (3/3)



## **6.0 EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL DEBATE**

The East African Community Secondary School Debate does not have any provision for the moderator. That means that the 2 minutes breaks for the moderator to intervene are done away with, reducing the debate time by only four minutes. This will give the secondary school students time to be precise and the point. The speaker roles remain the same as in the University Debate format.

The debates will be adjudicated out of 100% for each speaker. The judges will look at the:-

- i. Content in terms of “What is said” the material presented by the speakers and Judges will assess its credibility and relevance to the debate;
- ii. Style in terms of “How it is said” how the speaker presents the material. The Judge assesses aspects such as: posture, voice, use of language, dressing, audibility, eye contact, use of notes, use of humor and persuasiveness.
- iii. Point of information “how the speaker has used the technique” of debating. The Judge will consider things like: how the speech related to the team case, how the speech was structured, whether the speaker used peroration and whether the speaker kept time.
- iv. Speaker role “how well a speaker fulfills” his/her responsibilities in the allocated debating position.

SPECIFIC	PERCENTAGE	DETAILS
CONTENT	40%	The judge will consider the quality of information used and how it is supported with relevant research or authorities.
STYLE	20%	The judge will consider how a debater uses the information he/she has in order to defend and support his/her

		<p>team's position.</p> <p>This also involves marks for time-management.</p>
POINTS OF INFORMATION (P.O.I)	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 marks will be awarded to how well a debater controls the flow in the way he or she takes POIs during their time on the flow.</li> <li>• 5 marks will be awarded to how a debater uses the opportunities he/she gets by considering the type of questions asked and their relevance to the team's strategy.</li> <li>• These marks are awarded to avoid dormancy by some debaters who only speak during their speech time and forget about the rest of the debate especially if they are in the first third of the debate.</li> </ul>
SPEAKER ROLE	30%	<p>In this area, a judge will look into how well a debater has fulfilled his/her responsibilities in the allocated debating position.</p>

- i. Participants will improve their analytical, advocacy and leadership skills;
- ii. Participants will acquire adequate information about the EAC integration process through research;
- iii. Participants will be able to appreciate diplomatic mechanisms to policy formulation and resolution of disagreements; and

- iv. From these debates the departments of Political Affairs, Corporate Communication and Social Sectors will appoint EAC Youth Ambassadors to spearhead regional integration among their peers.

**East African Community  
Secretariat  
Arusha Tanzania**

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graph TD; A[Secretary General (5mins)] --> B[Deputy Secretary Generals e.g of Political Federation (5mins)]; B --> C[Chairperson of the Council (6mins)]; C --> D[Amicus Curiae (5mins)]; D --> E[Counsel to the Community (5mins.)]; F[Attorney General of the United Republic of Tanzania (5mins)] --> G[Attorney General of the Republic of Rwanda/South Sudan (5mins)]; G --> H[Attorney General of the Republic of Uganda]; H --> I[Attorney General of the Republic of Burundi/DRC (5mins)]; I --> J[Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya (5mins)]; K[Intervention by moderator (2mins. max)]; L[Intervention by moderator (2mins Max.)];
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The flowchart illustrates the agenda for the 2019-2020 Annual Meeting of the African Union High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on the Rule of Law and Human Rights. The meeting is structured into two main sections, separated by a horizontal line. The first section includes the Secretary General (5mins), Deputy Secretary Generals (5mins), Chairperson of the Council (6mins), Amicus Curiae (5mins), and Counsel to the Community (5mins.). The second section includes the Attorney General of the United Republic of Tanzania (5mins), Attorney General of the Republic of Rwanda/South Sudan (5mins), Attorney General of the Republic of Uganda, Attorney General of the Republic of Burundi/DRC (5mins), and Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya (5mins). There are two intervention slots for the moderator, each lasting 2 minutes maximum, located between the two main sections and after the second section.

## ***MODEL OF THE EAC SECONDARY SCHOOL DEBATE FORMAT***

