



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY
EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

**MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY URGING THE
EAC COUNCIL OF THE MINISTERS AND PARTNER STATES TO
PROMOTE AGRO-ECOLOGY TO STRENGTHEN FOOD
SOVEREIGNTY AND FOOD SECURITY.**

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

WHEREAS under Article 105 of the Treaty, Partner States undertook to cooperate in the agricultural sector to achieve food security and rational agricultural production within the Community by ensuring food sufficiency increasing the production of crops for domestic consumption and export;

AND WHEREAS prioritizing agroecology and sustainable agricultural practices is fundamental to ensuring food security, environmental sustainability, and climate resilience within the Community;

AWARE that Agroecology emphasizes improving the livelihoods and well-being of farmers, workers, and communities involved in food production;

NOTING that agriculture is the mainstay of EAC economies, contributing, on average, 27% of GDP and employing over 70% of the population and that agricultural commodities constitute about 65% of the volume of intra-regional trade in the EAC;

RECALLING the global commitment under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture by 2030;

APPRECIATING the Council for developing and the Partner States for implementing several policies and strategies to promote agriculture and food security, including the EAC Agriculture and Rural Development Policy, the EAC Food and Nutrition Security Policy and the EAC Food

Security Action Plan, which have incorporated principles that align with agroecology, such as diversified food production, improved soil fertility, reduced dependency on external inputs, adoption of Climate-Smart Agriculture and enhanced resilience to climate shocks;

ACKNOWLEDGING with gratitude, the technical and financial support provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Centre for Food and Adequate Living Rights (CEFROHT) to the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources to facilitate enhancement of the capacity of the Members in agroecology and food systems transformation;

RECOGNISING with appreciation, the Partner States that have adopted National Agroecology Strategies designed to strengthen national food system policies, put agroecology on the policy agenda, and address issues from agricultural production to natural resource management, value chains, and markets;

CONVICED that promoting agroecology contributes to empowering communities to control their food systems, thereby addressing the root causes of hunger and malnutrition, fostering resilience, and promoting environmental and social justice;

CONCERNED that despite the broadly supportive regional frameworks of agroecology, there are still implementation gaps, such as:

- (i) lack of institutional coordination.
- (ii) Inadequate role of agricultural extension services in promoting agroecological knowledge and practices to smallholder farmers.
- (iii) Limited involvement of small-scale women and youth farmers who should play pivotal role in the transition to agroecological farming.
- (iv) Limited financial resources and incentives for farmers to adopt agroecological methods.
- (v) Limited awareness and capacity building train farmers and integrate agroecology in agricultural education.
- (vi) Lack of comprehensive, disaggregated trade data specifically for "agroecological products", which remain largely unrecorded in official statistics while they could play a significant role if formally recognized and supported;

INVOKING the provisions of Article 49 (2) (d) of the Treaty, which empowers the Assembly to discuss any matter pertaining to the Community and make recommendations to the Council;

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

THAT in accordance with Articles 49(2) (d) and 59 (1) of the Treaty, the Assembly:

- (a) Commends the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the Centre for Food and Adequate Living Rights (CEFROHT) for the financial and technical support extended to the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism and Natural Resources to support the Capacity Building Seminar on Agroecology, held in November 2024 in the Republic of Uganda; and
- (b) Urges the Council and Partner States:
 - (i) to enhance the implementation of regional policies and legal frameworks that foster cooperation and policy coherence to support sustainable and resilient agroecological systems in East Africa.
 - (ii) to enhance promotion and facilitating agricultural extension services in effectively promoting agroecological knowledge and practices to smallholder farmers within the Community;
 - (iii) to enhance support and efforts to train farmers, and raise public awareness on agroecology to boost agriculture and food security;
 - (iv) to strengthen programmes to support smallholder farmers, local communities, and civil society organizations through training, access to organic inputs, integrate agroecology into agricultural education, promote awareness campaigns in order to accelerate the adoption of agroecological methods;
 - (v) to promote multi-stakeholder engagement including government, civil society, private sector, academia, and farming communities, in advancing agroecology across the region, and the formation of regional alliances, platforms, and knowledge-sharing networks to promote best practices, innovations, and experiences related to agroecology.

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