



THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC)
EAST AFRICAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION (EASTEKO)

Press Release

EALA Committee on Accounts Visits EASTEKO



On the 27th February 2017, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Committee on Accounts visited the EASTEKO Secretariat, in Kigali, for an oversight exercise on the activities of the Commission.

At their arrival at the EASTEKO Headquarters, the EALA delegation was received by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, Ms. Gertrude Ngabirano, and the staff members.

In his opening statement, the head of EALA Members' delegation, Hon. Amb. Jeremie Ngendakumana, recalled the fundamental role of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) in overseeing the EAC institutions in order to provide relevant recommendations to the EAC Council of Ministers and make the EAC institutions serve the East African Citizens.

In her introductory statement, the Executive Secretary of the Commission highlighted the critical role of EASTEKO in the socio-economic development of the east African region and that in order to expedite the implementation of the soon to be approved EASTEKO Strategic Plan, the management will give priority to mobilizing all key stakeholders and in attracting additional funding for regional programs and projects for Science, Technology and Innovation.

Presentations were made by EASTEKO on progress achieved to date in terms of achieving her mandate of promoting and coordinating the development, management and application of science and technology in the partner states for regional integration and socio-economic development. There was constructive discussion on the particular challenges experienced by EASTEKO as a new institution of the East African Community. The Committee made a number of significant proposals aimed at improving the operations of the Commission.

Beside to the visit to the EASTEKO, the EALA Committee paid a visit to kLab (www.klab.rw), the Knowledge Laboratory, located at 6th Floor of Telecom House in Kigali, which is a prominent Rwandan ICT Hub and Incubator. The visit took place on the 28th

February 2017 and was an opportunity for the EALA members to recognize the efforts of the Rwandan Government in striving towards technology catch-up and in empowering the youth.

EASTECO Secretariat.



Views of the EALA Members discussing with the EASTECO Staff at the Commission's Offices



EASTECO Executive Secretary, Ms. G. Ngabirano, with kLab/FabLab Management Team, at kLab.



Young Developer briefing EALA MPs on his project - Hon. Amb. Jeremie Ngendakumana (middle), and Hon. Oda Gasinzirwa (left)



View of EALA MPs at the FabLab of kLab.



Views of young developers in team work (KLab and FabLab).