



**EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY**

**EAST AFRICAN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION (EASTEKO)**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **Mr. Badru Ntege, Ugandan, elected as inaugural EASTEKO Governing Board Chair**



*Mr Badru Ntege taking the oath in the First Ordinary Meeting of the EASTEKO Governing Board 20 June 2017 (Photo/Irakoze R.)*

The East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTEKO) held its first-ever meeting of the newly constituted Governing Board, in Entebbe – Uganda, from 20 to 21st June 2017.

Mr. Badru Ntege from Uganda was elected as the first Chair of the East African Science and Technology Commission (EASTEKO). Mr. Ntege, who is representing Ugandan Private Sector, is a group Chief Executive Officer of NFT Consults, a Ugandan private company operating in East Africa.

The Board also elected Professor Manasse Mbonye, the Director General of the National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST) – Rwanda as the Rapporteur.

The Elected Chair pledged to work hand-in-hand with all the Board members to support Science, technology and innovation to transform people’s lives within the region.

“For me it’s a realization of one of my passions; I am humbled to sit in the middle of academic professors. I expect to be guided by you, and I know you are also on my side”, Mr. Badru said.



*From left; Professor Manasse Mbonye elected Rapporteur (from Rwanda), Mrs. Gertrude Ngabirano, Executive Secretary of EASTECO and Mr. Badru Ntege, the Governing Board Chair, from Uganda (Photo/Irakoze R.)*

On Behalf of EAC Secretariat, Hon. Jesca Eriyo the Deputy Secretary General in charge of Finance and Administration, representing the EAC Secretary General, called on EASTECO Board members to play their role very diligently and exhibit good leadership.

“You are one board today. You are not individuals, and you pledged here that you are not going to represent interest of governments or an authority, or somebody else other than the interests of EASTECO. So, that is what we expect of you. Let’s have ideas that are going to be implementable, that are going to change the lives of our people,” she added.

Mrs. Gertrude Ngabirano, Executive Secretary of EASTECO took the board through EASTECO objectives and functions, and presented the Commission’s successes. She said that the commission aims to promote and coordinate the development, management and application of science and technology to support regional integration and socio-economic development. In her remarks, Mrs. Ngabirano said the

Board will facilitate EASTECO to move science and technology forward. “I encourage you to think EASTECO,” she urged.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017, after a one day Board orientation session, the Board members took the oath of allegiance. They promised to be loyal and honest, in performing their duties of serving the Community.



*EASTECO Board members in a group photo (Photo/Irakoze R.)*

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