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REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

*Paper laid by the
Mandari Malyu
Hon. Benjamin Njoroge
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August 9, 2018*

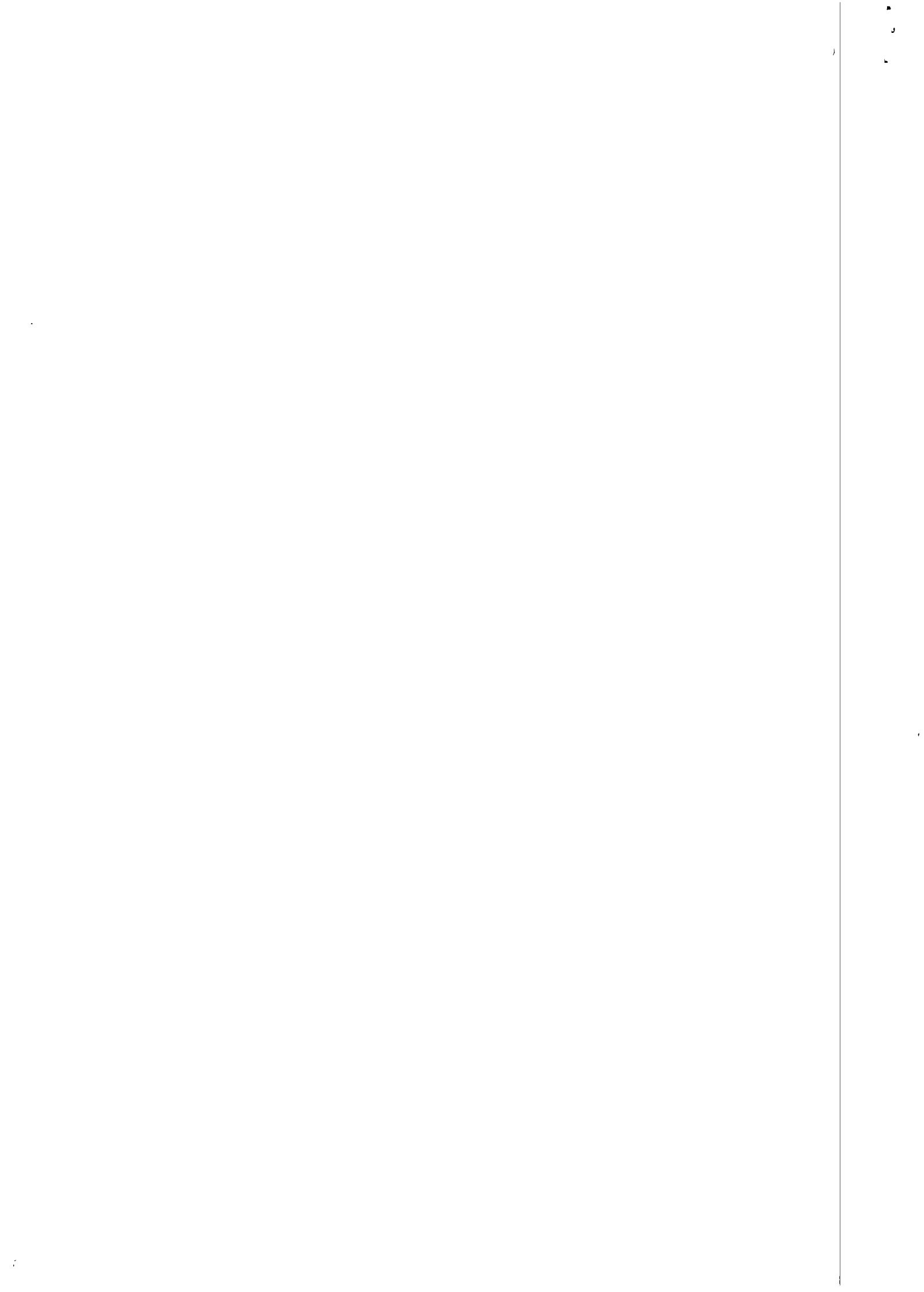


TWELFTH PARLIAMENT (SECOND SESSION)

**REPORT OF THE
DELEGATION FROM THE YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF KENYA TO THE
4TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (AFRICA
REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEETING HELD IN KAMPALA,
UGANDA,
14TH TO 19TH APRIL, 2018.**

Clerk Chambers
Directorate of Legislative & Procedural Services
Main Parliament Buildings
P. O. Box 41842 – 00100
NAIROBI.
2018

JUNE,



DELEGATION REPORT TO THE 4TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEETING HELD IN KAMPALA, UGANDA FROM 14TH TO 19TH APRIL, 2018.

This is a report of the delegation to the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament Meeting which was held in Kampala, Uganda from 14th to 19th April, 2018.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. TITLE.....	1
2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	1
3. INTRODUCTION.....	1
4. OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT.....	1
5. GUIDED TOUR OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING	2
6. ORIENTATION ON THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT.....	2
7. SWEARING-IN OF THE MEMBERS OF THE 4 TH CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT.....	2
8. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS.....	3
9. DEBATES ON THE TOPICS	3
10.RESOLUTIONS	4
11.TOPICS FOR THE 4 TH CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT.....	4
12.NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE 49 TH CPA (AFRICA REGION) ANNUAL CONFERENCE.....	4
13.EXCURSION.....	5
14.CONCLUSION.....	5
15.ANNEXTURES.....	5

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

EBS	Elder of the Burning Spear
EGH	Elder of the Golden Heart
CPA	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
PC	Parliamentary Commission
PoU	Parliament of Uganda
MP	Member of Parliament
EAC	East African Community
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The delegation would like to express its profound gratitude to the Right Honourable Speaker, Hon. Justin B. N. Muturi, EGH, MP and the Clerk of the National Assembly Mr. Michael Rotich Sialai, EBS and the whole Management for according them such an unparalleled opportunity to represent the National Assembly of the Parliament of Kenya at this very important meeting. The delegation also wishes to thank Management for facilitating all the logistical support to make the trip a success.

The delegation is also grateful to the Parliament of Uganda and CPA Secretariat for the warm reception and cordial hospitality offered to them during the entire period of the meeting.

FOREWORD

Hon. Speaker,

The Parliament of Uganda hosted the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament meeting which was held from 14th to 19th April, 2018. The meeting was held under the theme, "**Securing a better future for Africa: Role of the Youth.**" The official opening ceremony of the meeting was held at Hotel Africana while the plenary meetings were held in the Chamber of the Parliament of Uganda in Kampala. The previous CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament meetings were held in Nigeria (2012), Malawi (2013) and Zambia (2014) respectively.

The Uganda meeting brought together participants from Malawi, Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Namibia, Zambia, and the host Uganda. The Meeting was attended by 25 (twenty-five) Members of Youth Parliament from 11 (eleven) Parliaments and Legislatures, and 20 (twenty) observers from the Youth Parliament of Uganda.

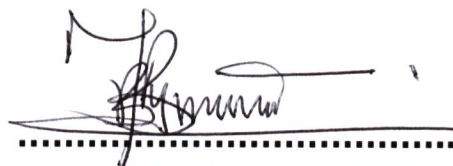
Hon. Speaker,

The Kenya National Assembly participated in the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament meeting and the delegation comprised:

1. Hon. Dr. Makali Mulu, MP - The Regional Representative EAC Sub Region;
2. Hon. Charles Njagagua, MP - Member;
3. Ms. Chelsea Maggie Otieno - Youth Representative from Kenya & Chief Whip of the Opposition of the Youth Parliament;
4. Mr. Imraan Swaleh Shariff - Youth Representative from Kenya & Member of the Youth Parliament;
5. Ms. Miriam Atabo Modo - Clerk Assistant and Secretary to the Delegation

Hon. Speaker,

On behalf of the delegation, it is my pleasant duty and privilege, to present the Delegation's Report summarizing the proceedings and resolutions of the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament meeting, held in Kampala, Uganda from the 14th to 19th April, 2018.



THE HON. DR. MAKALI MULU, MP
THE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE EAC SUB REGION

DATE: 7th August 2018

BACKGROUND

The concept of organizing and facilitating Youth Parliaments has become a standard feature of Parliaments in commonwealth countries and is intended to provide a platform for the young people to be heard on issues that affect their lives. It provides a framework for engaging the Youth to participate in the promotion of peace, democracy and good governance in all member countries. In effect, the Youth have been identified as a key pillar in nurturing and realizing good governance and democracy in Africa. The 4th CPA (Africa Region) meeting of the Youth Parliament was held in Kampala, Uganda from 15th to 19th April, 2018 under theme "*Securing a better future for Africa: the role of the Youth*". The Meeting was attended by 25 (twenty-five) Members of Youth Parliamentarians from 11 (eleven) Parliaments and Legislatures. The meeting made resolutions on matters pertaining youth unemployment, alcoholism and drug abuse, harnessing the youth in leadership, teenage pregnancy and HIV/AIDS, and the Youth and social media. The Youth also resolved to change the age bracket of the Youth Parliament from 11-21 years to 14-25 years. Finally, the Youth agreed that the topic for discussion in the next Youth Parliament meeting should in general cover matters of gender, girl child, homosexuality, economy, technology, climate change, education and agriculture.

The CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament was initiated after a resolution that every country should institute a Youth Parliament to give a voice to young people. In this vein the CPA Africa Region Strategic Plan 2012 – 2015 makes provision for a Regional Youth Parliament to be held on an annual basis.

The Youth Parliament is premised on Article 5 of the Constitution of the Africa Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association which provides for the aims and objectives of the CPA Africa Region. In specific terms Article 5(e) provides for the promotion of peace, democracy and good governance in all member countries. In effect, the Youth have been identified as key in nurturing and realizing good governance and democracy in Africa.

The CPA Africa Region is a grouping of eighteen (18) National Parliaments and forty-five (45) Provincial and State Legislatures in Commonwealth countries in Africa. The Youth Parliament is constituted by two (02) participants (one male and one female) from each of the National Parliaments. Each State or Provincial Legislature sends one (01) participant.

Pursuant to the Strategic Plan, the first annual Youth Parliament was hosted by Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Nigeria in 2012; the 2nd Youth Parliament was hosted by the Parliament of Malawi in 2013; the 3rd Youth Parliament was hosted by the Parliament of Zambia in 2014; and the 4th Youth Parliament was hosted by the Parliament of Uganda in April 2018.

Rule 37 (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament provides for the adoption of the resolutions as agreed and passed by the Youth Parliament which are presented at the next CPA (Africa Region) Annual General meeting.

The CPA Africa Region held the 3rd CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament in Zambia under the theme: "Shaping the Future of Society by Empowering Young People through Youth Parliaments". This provided a platform for the youth to exchange views through debate on issues affecting them. The topics discussed were: -

- (i) the Role of the Youth in Championing Gender Equality in Africa: Equal Opportunities Between Males and Females;
- (ii) the Role of Entrepreneurship in solving Africa's Unemployment Challenge and Boosting Africa's Economy; and
- (iii) how the Tourism Industry can Boost Africa's Economy.

The Youth Parliament is a concept which has become a standard feature of Parliaments in the Commonwealth and is intended to provide a platform for the young people to be heard on issues that affect their lives.

The right of young people to express themselves and to have their opinions heard is enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Declaration and Plan of Action on Africa Fit for Children also affirms the right of youth and children to participate in national development. Therefore, Youth presents an opportunity for the young parliamentarians to communicate with regional and national leaders from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association on issues that affect them.

1.0 OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY OF THE 4TH CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The 4th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Africa Region Meeting of the Youth Parliament was officially opened on Sunday 15th April, 2018, by Honourable Atim Ogwal Cecelia Barabra (MP), Parliamentary Commissioner on behalf of the Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda.

The Opening Ceremony was addressed by:

- Hon. Kabiru Mijinyawa, the Speaker of Adamawa who gave a Key Note Speech
- Hon. Samuel Ikon, the Treasurer CPA Africa Region
- Hon. Dr. Makali Mulu, the Regional representative EAC Sub region, who gave a speech on behalf of the Chairperson CPA Africa Executive

- Hon. Jalia Bintu Lukumu Abwoli, the Chairperson CPA Uganda Branch
- Hon. Nsamba Oshabe (MP), The Treasurer CPA Uganda Branch who gave the closing remarks.
- Hon. Adeke Anna Ebaju, Female National Youth Member of Parliament
- Mr. Ebitu James, Director Social Protection who represented the Minister for Gender, Labour and Social Development

Some of the highlights of the speeches delivered at the opening ceremony include: -

i) The Hon. Cecilia Atim Ogwal, Parliamentary Commissioner

In her opening remarks, Hon Cecilia Atim Ogwal advised the African youths to reject foreign cultures and traditions including homosexuality as they prepared to take up leadership positions in the continent. She further warned that accepting the foreign cultures would be selling the future of Africa. She was quick to point out that in Uganda, besides instituting national laws to promote youth empowerment, the country had also ratified and was a signatory to several international and regional instruments.

In her welcoming message via a video, Right Honourable Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga, Speaker of the Parliament of Uganda welcomed everyone with pleasure to the Pearl of Africa and expressed appreciation for the honour given to Uganda to host the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament. She informed everyone that in light of the theme for the meeting, there was need to address issues seriously. That was amplified by the great need to create a better future for over 200 million youths who formed the core of the workforce of the African continent. She further informed everyone of the need to realize that in those efforts towards preparing the best for young people and creating the right opportunities for them there was no time. The youth population was growing by the day; the pressures were mounting hence leading to increased criminality and desperation. Furthermore, she encouraged those in authority to heed to the call and dedicate all efforts to ensure availability of affordable loans in order to steer commerce and industry, and to invest in human resource through offering the best possible education and create the right environment conducive to innovation in science and technology to drive progress.

Standing in for the Speaker of Parliament of Uganda – Rt. Hon. Rebecca Kadaga, Hon. Cecilia Ogwal expressed agony over foreign cultures and traditions invading and eroding African countries' culture. She urged the youth to therefore reject foreign cultures and traditions including homosexuality as they prepare to take up leadership positions on the continent. Hon. Ogwal said that the theme of the Conference was in line with the African Union Agenda 2063 which seeks to redirect the continent's energy towards the pursuit for integration, prosperity, peace and stability, cultural identity and people driven development. She encouraged the youth to be at the

forefront of formulating and implementing policy since they are the majority in their countries. "Ensure that the implementation of policy will help you realize your dreams and vision. Force governments to pursue your agenda; and in order to pursue this agenda, you must have the legal framework that protects the youth," she said. Finally, she implored the youth to discuss the predicament of climate change and its effects on Africa.

ii) Hon. Hon. Adeke Anna Ebaju - The National Female Youth Representative in the Parliament of Uganda,

She underscored the importance of the youth being a priority in policy planning. She further said that young people in Africa needed not to shy away from making their ideas known and voices heard in the centres of power. "As leaders, the youth can advocate for social justice and equality for all; can campaign for more resources and appropriate technologies and can hold their leaders accountable" she said. She particularly encouraged young women to explore their leadership potential in order to advance inclusivity in the decisions made at all levels of government.

iii) Hon. (Dr) Makali Mulu, MP - The Regional Representative EAC Sub Region

He underscored the need for nurturing the youth into great future leaders in Africa by inculcating in them a sense of democratic and participatory decision making and policy formulation. He noted that out of 1.2 billion people, the Youth aged 15-35 were estimated at about 420 million; and that if that young population was harnessed, Africa would achieve tremendous economic, social and political transformation, growth and development.

iv) Mr. James Ebitu - The Director Social Protection

He represented the Minister for Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda. He said that focus needed be put on education and skills development, job creation in a sustainable job environment in emerging industries as well as strengthening civic participation and leadership, if the youth are to be supported.

v) Hon. Samuel Ikon - Treasurer CPA Africa Region

He noted that young people are social actors of change and progress and a crucial segment of a nation's development; and could become a big asset both individually and collectively to national development if they worked hard and believed in themselves.

3.0 PARTICIPATION

The membership of the CPA (Africa Region) stood at twenty-five (25) Youth Parliamentarians. They included the following: -

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| i. | Hon. Lone Tshubanga | Botswana |
| ii. | Hon. Motshwarakgole Prince | Botswana |
| iii. | Hon. Anitra Nhyira Bonozie | Ghana |
| iv. | Hon. Peterkin Ehornea | Ghana |
| v. | Hon. Imraan Swaleh Shariff | Kenya |
| vi. | Hon. Chalsie Maggi Owino | Kenya |
| vii. | Hon. David Milambe | Malawi |
| viii. | Hon. Mary Namanya | Malawi |
| ix. | Hon. John Ashifa | Nigeria |
| x. | Hon. Felicia Kuveh John | Nigeria |
| xi. | Hon. Abubakar Khalifa Usman | Nigeria |
| xii. | Hon. Halima Abu Ali | Nigeria |
| xiii. | Hon. Tibale Earnest | South Africa |
| xiv. | Hon. Thalente Ndebele | South Africa |
| xv. | Hon. Yuhai Nyambusa | Zambia |
| xvi. | Hon. Shepherded Simukonda | Zambia |
| xvii. | Hon. Kagoye Kemigisha | Uganda |
| xviii. | Hon. Timothy Kadaga | Uganda |
| xix. | Hon. Aiyo Florence | Uganda |
| xx. | Hon. Abito Pamela | Uganda |
| xxi. | Hon. Khayyan Mustaf Yakut | Zanzibar |
| xxii. | Hon. Canjamalay Pouvarejen | Mauritius |
| xxiii. | Hon. Mudhoo Luxshine | Mauritius |
| xxiv. | Hon. Bariki Mushi Hellen | Tanzania |
| xxv. | Hon. Hamis Said | Tanzania |

List of Observers from the Host Country

- i. Mugabekazi Anita
- ii. Mayombo Lillian
- iii. Ayebare Trisha Turinawe
- iv. Zimba Hamdan
- v. Malwa Emmanuel Kezman
- vi. Godfrey Mugisha
- vii. Were Dickson
- viii. Buyinza Viola
- ix. Kave Chritine Edith
- x. Abeso Winnie
- xi. Jodriyo Derrick
- xii. Nattabi Maria
- xiii. Atimango Diana

- xiv. Gene Daniel
- xv. Anyarua Gerald Adriko
- xvi. Kisitu Sadruch Junior
- xvii. Mulugi Patience
- xviii. Manzi Elvis
- xix. Sendaula Charles
- xx. Nalugendo Robinah

2.0 GUIDED TOUR OF THE PARLIAMENT BUILDING

The delegates were taken around on a guided tour of the Parliament Building of Uganda. The delegates were informed that the building comprises 350 rooms. Special features of the building included: the Chamber, the Independence Arch, the Coat of Arms and the Water Tower.

The delegates were also taken to *The Parliamentary Corridor of Honour* which had portraits of the Speakers and Deputy Speakers of Parliament since their independence. In the foyer of Parliament above the entrance to the Chamber there was a wooden screen art-piece showing Uganda's rich flora and fauna.

3.0 ORIENTATION ON THE RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Before plenary meetings, the youth parliamentarians were oriented on the Rules of Procedure for the CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament. The orientation was conducted by Mr. Joseph Manzi, Senior Assistant Clerk of Parliament from Malawi and Mrs. Ikiror J.R Semakula, Assistant Director of the Clerks Department for the Parliament of Uganda on 15th and 16th April, 2018.

4.0 SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE 4TH CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT

In line with Rule Number 3 (b) of the Rules of Procedure of the CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament and being the first meeting of the two-year parliament term, each member took oath of office.

5.0 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Members of the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament elected their office bearers as follows: -

(a) The Speakership

- (i) **Rt. Hon. Timothy Kadaga** – Uganda (Male) – **Speaker**;
- (ii) **Rt. Hon. Mary Namaya** – Malawi (Female) – **Deputy Speaker**.

(b) Government Bench

- (i) **Hon. David Milambe** (Male)- Malawi– **Leader of the House**;
- (ii) **Hon. Madhoo Luxshinee** -Mauritius (Female) - **Deputy Leader of the House**;
- (iii) **Hon. Abubakar Khalifa Usman** – Nigeria - (Male) – **Government Chief Whip**;
- (iv) **Hon. Khayyan Mustaf Yakut** - (Female) - **Deputy Government Whip**.

(c) Opposition Bench

- (i) **Hon. Bariki Mushi Hellen** - Tanzania (Female) – **Leader of the Opposition;**
- (ii) **Hon. Prince Motshwarakgole** – Botswana (Male) – **Deputy Leader of Opposition;**
- (iii) **Hon. Chelsie Maggie Owino** - Kenya (Female) – **Opposition Chief Whip;**
- (iv) **Hon. Chanjamalay Pouvarajen** - Mauritius (Male) – **Deputy Opposition Whip.**

6.0 DEBATES ON THE TOPICS

During the plenary meetings, the Youth Parliamentarians discussed five topics as follows: -

Youth Unemployment: *Tackling Rampant Youth Unemployment in Africa: Thinking Outside the Box;*

The African economy is currently characterized by relatively weak economic growth in comparison to the average growth rate achieved in the continent over the past decade. The regional economy was projected to have expanded by only 2 per cent in 2016. Growth was projected to reach 3.4 per cent in 2017 and 3.8 per cent in 2018 (dependent – at least in part – upon a recovery in commodity prices)¹

In 2012, Youth unemployment reached very high levels in numerous countries because of the continuing effects of the global financial and economic crisis, and as a result of the difficulties being experienced by many youths in the transition from education to work. This economic environment created a sense of disillusionment for many young people.

Yet, Youth must also be viewed as a source of dynamism and societal advancement. In general, young people have energy, talent and creativity, and may be leaders of social, political and technological change. Therefore, concerted efforts are needed to ensure that young people are able to reach their long-term potential, contribute fully to and benefit from economic growth, and participate meaningfully in society.

The 4th CPA Youth Parliament meeting sitting at Kampala, Uganda deliberated on the Topic "**Youth unemployment: tackling rampant Youth Unemployment in Africa, thinking outside the box**". During debate the House made observations on the topic. The following are general factors which have contributed to unemployment in Africa: -

¹World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2017.

- a) Agriculture being the backbone of most African countries and employing majority of the youths, most African countries have since failed to capitalize on it;
- b) Failure by Governments to develop and impact youth with the requisite skills to gain employment. The youth need more than just a game plan to be successful in achieving their goals;
- c) A lack of start-up capital to enable youth start doing business. This is a dilemma that faces entrepreneurs of all ages, but it is particularly difficult for young people due to their lack of substantive credit history, sufficient collateral or guarantees and of credibility (lack of experience);
- d) Education systems that do not suit the African continent. The education system in most of the African countries is geared to enabling the youth to pass out with their qualifications based on academic knowledge and prepare for seeking a job;
- e) Africa is a well-endowed continent in terms of natural resources. However, there is inadequate development and utilization of natural resources in Africa which could act as a stepping stone for youth employment and economic development;
- f) Underdeveloped infrastructure in Africa that acts as a disincentive for investment by youths in the Africa;
- g) A dependent mindset among the Youth should be developed in order to tackled unemployment; and
- h) A failure to encourage value addition to facilitate innovations by the youth;

Alcoholism and Drug Abuse - *Why are many young people in Africa resorting to alcoholism and drug abuse? How can the situation be reversed?*

The debate on alcoholism and drug abuse exists in most commonwealth countries in Africa. Indeed, there is a dramatic increase in drug abuse, illicit production and trafficking in narcotic drugs among the youth in Africa there by posing a threat to their health and well-being as well as increasing incidents of addiction and crimes.

Despite the existence of international drug control conventions and relevant Africa Regional Commitments, Resolutions, Declarations and Plan of Actions on combating alcohol and drug abuse that recognize the continuing obligation to curb alcohol and narcotic drug abuse, drug abuse is still a big problem among the youth.

In the times in Africa drug problem has assumed new dimensions that threaten the economic, social and political structures of affected countries, through acts of violence

perpetrated against their democratic institutions through the extensive economic power of illicit drug organizations.

In fact, there is a serious concern that despite the existence of legislative and policy control measures in many Member States, the trends in drug and alcohol abuse among the youth resulting into human suffering, loss of life, social disruption, accidents, crimes and the spread of AIDS has increased.

The 4th CPA Youth Parliament meeting sitting at Kampala, Uganda deliberated on the Topic **"Alcoholism and Drug Abuse: why are many young people in Africa resorting to alcoholism and drug abuse? How can this be reversed?"** During debate on the topic, the House made observations on the subject matter. The Assembly observed that key to causes of alcoholism and drug abuse among youth in Africa includes the following: -

- a) Absence of clear legislations with deterrent punishments and failure to strictly enforce laws on minimum age for alcohol consumption.
- b) Low tax rates imposed on alcohol by government resulting to increased demand and consumption of alcohol by youths.
- c) Weak implementing agencies like police to ensure effective implementation of policies and laws on alcohol consumption and drug abuse.
- d) Inadequate counselling and rehabilitations centres for proper management of alcohol and drug abuse victims.
- e) Inadequate peer counselling programmes that ensure that the youths understand the dangers of alcoholism and drug abuse.

Teenage Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS Epidemic - Mitigation Measures;

Girls aged 15 to 19 years old account for about 11% of all births worldwide. Almost all the births (95%) happen in low and middle-income countries. For each year, about 16 million girls aged 15 to 19 and some 1 million girls under 15 give birth. Africa has the world's highest rates of adolescent pregnancy. In Uganda, the Uganda Demographic health survey 2011 indicates that 49% were married by 18 years of age.

Adolescents and young people represent a growing share of people living with HIV worldwide. In 2016 alone, 610,000 young people between the ages of 15 to 24 were newly infected with HIV, of whom 260,000 were between the ages of 15 and 19. Only 15 per cent of adolescent girls and 10 per cent of adolescent boys aged 15-19 in sub-

Saharan Africa, the region most affected by HIV, have been tested for HIV in the past 12 months and received the result of the last test.

In 2014, 79% of new HIV infections among adolescents occurred in Africa. Many African countries already have youthful populations - for example, 51% of the populations of South Sudan are under the age of 18. It is estimated that the number of 10 to 24-year-old Africans is set to rise to more than 750 million by 2060. This means that, even if current progress is maintained, new HIV infections among young people are expected to increase.

The 4th CPA Youth Parliament meeting sitting at Kampala, Uganda deliberated on the Topic **"Teenage Pregnancy and HIV/AIDS: Teenage pregnancy and HIV/AIDS epidemic -mitigation measures."** During debate on the topic, the youth Parliamentarians observed as follows:

- (i) Governments should design appropriate sex education programmes that should be incorporated in the School curriculum to help the youths gain information, skills and motivation to make healthy decisions about sex and sexuality. This will ultimately curb teenage pregnancies and prevent HIV/AIDS.
- (ii) Laws relating to teenage pregnancies and HIV epidemic should be strictly implemented to curb the consequences associated with the vice.
- (iii) There is need to create more jobs for the youths or empower them to create jobs to ensure that they are actively engaged and occupied to prevent redundancy.
- (iv) Governments should encourage and sensitize parents about the need for parents' involvement in nurturing children. This will promote good parent-child communication and relations, a foundation for parental guidance and counselling of teenagers.
- (v) There is need to encourage the youths to participate in religious activities, programmes and teachings that will enhance life values like abstinence until marriage.
- (vi) Governments should create awareness among the youth about self-awareness and respect for self. This will enhance self-dignity and integrity.
- (vii) Governments should promote information sharing among teenagers through peer counselling since teenagers easily learn from their peers than any other group or person. This will promote problem solving and good decision making.

- (viii) Governments should evaluate cultural practices to discourage those that promote teenage pregnancies and early marriages.
- (ix) There is need for Governments to promote gender equity to ensure that girls are not perceived as the only ones responsible and affected by teenage pregnancy. This will ensure collective responsibility of both genders.
- (x) Parents should be sensitized about the need to provide for the needs of their children to minimize the likelihood of teenagers being taken advantage of through provision.

Harnessing the Youth in Leadership - *How can young people play a more transformational role in politics and leadership;* and

The Commonwealth Charter under article 13 recognizes the importance of young people in the affairs of Commonwealth countries and their positive and active role in promoting development, peace and democracy. Statistics show that presently the world is home to the largest generation of youth in history, with 1.2 billion aged between 15 - 24 years with expected growth of 1.9 billion young people projected to turn 15 years old by 2050.

Within this premise, in July 2006, the Summit of the African Union in Banjul, the Gambia upon realizing the importance of the youth in the Africa development agenda, adopted the African Youth Charter (AYC) as a political and legal document which provides the strategic framework to youth empowerment and development at the continental, regional and national levels.

Indeed, young people have a proven capability to bring change, and are a vital and valuable resource for the present and the future and therefore need meaningful participation and equal partnership in driving Africa's development agenda.

The youth form an instrument for transformational change in leadership. Transformational leadership is a style of leadership where a leader works with subordinates to identify needed change, creating a vision to guide the change through inspiration, and executing the change in tandem with committed members of a group.

The 4th CPA Youth Parliament meeting sitting at Kampala, Uganda deliberated on the Topic ***"Harnessing the Youth in Leadership: How can young people play a more transformational role in politics and leadership?"*** During debate on the topic, the youth Parliamentarians observed as follows:

1. There is an inadequate number of appropriate policies and legal frameworks aimed at increasing representation of youth in decision-making at local, national, regional and international levels;

2. There is inadequate funding to the education sector affecting skilling and empowerment of the Youth;
3. There are inadequate appropriate platforms for the development, training, skilling and tooling of youth in leadership and development;
4. The youth should not make themselves cheap and be used by others to fight their battles. The youth should use their knowledge and talent to achieve their own interests and goals;
5. The youth should be given opportunities by the older persons to take up leadership positions;
6. The youth should be encouraged to participate in politics and developmental issues. This will enable the youth to make decisions on matters affecting them;
7. The youth should be encouraged to participate in leadership right from the onset when they are young. This helps the youth to gain the skills and experience needed for leadership;
8. There is need to promote access to technology by the youth since technology improves communication, networking and innovations thereby creating jobs;
9. Community development programmes for the youth should be supported by the government;
10. The youth should undertake voluntary work and technical work to increase their experience;
11. The youth should be patriotic and show interest to issues affecting their countries;
12. The youth should be permitted to determine their mission, mandate and destiny in the development agenda. This will enable them achieve their objectives and define their purpose;
13. The youth should demand for accountability from their leaders. This will keep the leaders in check.

Youth and Social Media - *Do the Benefits outweigh the risks?*

The UN Charter guarantees every individual's right to freedom of speech and expression which shall include the freedom of the press and other media. Further, Article 9 of the African charter on Human and Peoples Rights guarantees every

individual's right to receive and impart information which shall include the right to express and disseminate his or her opinions within the confines of the law, including using social media platforms.

Social media is a form of electronic communications through which users create online communication to share information, ideas, personal messages, and videos including social networking and micro blogging sites.

Over 9 percent of the African population uses social media with the youth making up the biggest proportion of social media users due to the many benefits accruing from social media platforms such as twitter, Facebook, what's up etc. some of the benefits of social media include; it creates a platform for individual ideas to get known to the general public for debate, it's used as a voice for the voiceless and dis-advantaged members of society, it increases collaborations and marketing platforms for business products and ideas among others benefits.

Despite advantages of social media, there are shortcomings of social media such as creating a skewed self-image, laziness due to perceived convenience in communication, cybercrime and bullying, decreased face to face communication skills, reduced family closeness among others.

The 4th CPA Youth Parliament meeting sitting at Kampala, Uganda deliberated on the Topic **"The Youth and Social Media: Do the benefits outweigh the risks."** During debate on the topic, the youth Parliamentarians observed as follows:

- 1) There is need for Governments to sensitize the youth in Africa to utilize social media for education purposes and as a platform to raise awareness of matters of public importance.
- 2) There is need for Governments to sensitize the youth on use of social media as a platform to air out ideas and innovations to the public and not for exposure to harmful activities.
- 3) There is need for Governments to advocate for proper use of social media as a platform to boost entrepreneurship and online transactions thereby creating employment for the youth;
- 4) There is need for Governments to establish recreational facilities like parks, sports centers and youth development programmes to keep the youth active in a constructive way;
- 5) There is need for Governments to sensitize the youths on the risks that may arise out of unregulated use of social media such as health complications of the eyes, ears and other body organs.

- 6) Governments should put in place policies that provide for;
 - (i) the control and regulation of the content produced on social media;
 - (ii) stringent measures for those who abuse social media;
 - (iii) moderation and monitoring of the content of social media so as to eliminate pornographic and immoral content;
 - (iv) age limit for access to social media;
 - (v) creation of local social media platforms that are in tandem with the cultural and social set up of the African society;
 - (vi) to skill and train the youth to positively utilize social media as a means of helping them to compete globally for online jobs; and
 - (vii) deliberate measures to ensure equality amongst the youth by availing them with internet and internet gadgets; this will offer an opportunity to skill all the youth for online jobs.
- 7) Parents should be exemplary in the use of social media and should be encouraged to take keen interest in the material that their youthful children are exposed to.
- 8) There is need for Governments to create awareness programs for the youth to be sensitized on the proper use of social media and how to exercise self-control and personal protection while using social media.
- 9) There is need for Governments to employ experts in cybercrime to sensitize the youth on how to handle cases of cybercrime and how to expose fraudulent characters.
- 10) There is need for Governments to establish tribunals and disciplinary Committees to specifically manage cyber-crime and defaulters of social media use.

7.0 RESOLUTIONS

After debate on each topic, the meeting came up with resolutions. The resolutions were adopted and are attached to the report as ***Appendix I***.

8.0 TOPICS FOR THE NEXT CPA (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEETING

The Meeting deliberated on several areas to determine the topics for the 5th Youth Parliament meeting. These areas were gender, social, health and education, technology and economy.

The topics proposed by the Government side were: -

- a) Intensifying sustainable development with emphasis on agriculture.

- b) Is it worth for Africa to stand against western world on climate change?
- c) Is there an extreme need to improve human resource development and technology in Africa?
- d) Unless the education system is reviewed and emphasis is made more on qualified staff, Africa will continue to suffer.
- e) The need for subsidizing girl child in Africa.”

The topics proposed by the Opposition side were:

- a) catastrophic challenges of homosexuality facing Africa
- b) Should the African Government support the replacement of jobs with machines, bearing in mind the unemployment situation in Africa?
- c) Diverse resources for sustainable economic and social development through unification and value addition: How can Africa benefit from its natural resources?”

The House agreed that the CPA Africa Regional Secretariat would help the Young Parliamentarians to come up with specific topics and theme for debate during the 5th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament meeting. However, the meeting emphasised the need to consider the issue of homosexuality and climate change.

9.0 NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ATTEND THE 49TH CPA (AFRICA REGION) ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The Regional Secretariat guided the meeting that the Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the Youth Parliament are the ones who usually attend the main CPA (Africa Region) Annual Conference to present the resolutions of the Youth Parliament. As such, the meeting was informed that the Speaker, Mr. Timothy Kadaga and Deputy Speaker, Ms. Mary Namaya will be the ones to attend the CPA (Africa Region) Annual Conference in Botswana in August, 2018 to present Resolutions made by the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament.

10.0 EXCURSION

The delegates were taken to a number of places including: the Catholic and Anglican Martyrs Shrines in Namugongo, Kagulu Hill and the Source of River Nile in Jinja. The Source of River Nile is one of the tourist destination areas across the globe and was declared one of the Seven Wonders of Africa. River Nile is the world’s longest river stretching 6,650 kilometres crossing ten countries in Northern Africa. Finally, the delegates enjoyed a Cultural Gala Night at Ndere Centre.

11.0 CONCLUSION

The importance of Kenya's participation in the 4th CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament cannot be over emphasized. CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament provides a useful platform for dialogue among the Youth Parliamentarians in order to unlock their potential in the region. The meeting noted that African youths have tremendous wealth and untapped potential and are the majority of the population.

Therefore, Governments in the CPA (Africa Region) were urged in the strongest terms to ensure youth representation in various leadership positions. Governments were also urged to ensure continued prioritization in addressing most of the issues affecting young people including: HIV/AIDS, unemployment, corruption, drugs and alcohol abuse among others.

Hence, the resolutions made would address and call to action of all the relevant stakeholders to prioritize the needs of the young Africans.

12.0 ANNEXTURES

Annex I: Resolutions of the 4th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (Africa Region) Youth Parliament

RESOLUTIONS OF THE 4TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (AFRICA REGION) YOUTH PARLIAMENT

WHEREAS the Youth Parliament is premised on Article 5 of the Constitution of the Africa Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association which provides for the aims and objectives of the CPA Africa Region and specifically Article 5(e) provides for the promotion of peace, democracy and good governance in all member countries;

AND WHEREAS as a means of implementing the provisions of the Constitution of the Africa Region Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the CPA Africa Region adopted a Regional Strategic Plan where in Objective 3 seeks to pursue the ideals of democracy and good governance and specifically target 4 provides for an annual Youth Parliament as a platform through which the youth can be reached and sensitized on Article 5 of the Constitution;

AWARE THAT in accordance with target 4, the first annual Youth Parliament was hosted by Akwa Ibom State House of Assembly, Nigeria in 2012; the 2nd Youth Parliament was hosted by the Parliament of Malawi in 2013; the 3rd Youth Parliament was hosted by the Parliament of Zambia in 2014; and the 4th Youth Parliament was being hosted by the Parliament of Uganda;

FURTHER AWARE that Rule 37 (a) of the Rules of Procedure of the CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament provide for the adoption of the resolutions as agreed and

passed by the youth Parliament which there after shall be presented at the next CPA (Africa Region) Annual General meeting;

NOW THEREFORE, we the Members of the 4th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (Africa Region) Youth Parliament having attended plenary for two days on 16th and 17th April, 2018 in the Chambers of Parliament of Uganda hereby adopt the following as our resolutions to be presented at the next CPA (Africa Region) Annual General meeting;

1. MOTION ON YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT: TACKLING RAMPANT YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT IN AFRICA THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX.

It was resolved that:

- a) African countries should promote agriculture which is the backbone of most African countries to enable youths to get employment opportunities;
- b) Governments need to develop and impact the youths with the requisite skills to gain employment. The youth need more than just a game plan to be successful in achieving their goals. They must be equipped with the adequate knowledge, skills and support;
- c) The youth should be provided with start-up capital to enable them start doing businesses.
- d) Governments should tailor make the education systems to better suit the African continent; students should be taught subjects that are relevant and beneficial to the students to better prepare them for employment;
- e) There should be total change of mindset of the youth. The youth should be taught not to solely depend on their governments but to use the resources provided by the governments as stepping stones and to empower themselves;
- f) There is need to support the entrepreneurship subjects in the tertiary institutions that help to develop the various skills of the youth;
- g) There is need to develop and utilize the natural resources in Africa to create more employment opportunities;
- h) There is need to improve the resources and infrastructure in Africa that will attract more investments in the African continent thus creating more employment opportunities for the youth;
- i) There should be policies by governments to improve the skills of the youth;

- j) Governments should enter into free trade agreements amongst themselves. This will promote movement of labour thus creating job opportunities for the youth;
- k) There should be deliberate effort by Governments to have value addition to the innovations by the youth. This not only encourages the youth to make more innovations but also creates more jobs and opportunities for the youth;
- l) There is need to revise and evaluate the youth policies in place. This evaluation will enable the Governments to make a reasoned judgment of what policies are best suited for them;
- m) The youth should be provided with information that will guide them in making their choices; this can be through television or radio talk shows;
- n) There is need to have exchange and benchmarking programmes for the youth to enable them learn from their counterparts and to better understand the peculiar circumstances applicable to different countries;
- o) There should be an association or organization for the youth in Africa to help them better front their issues and concerns; and
- p) Governments should put in place a policy to employ the youth who have just completed their studies to enable them gain experience.

2. MOTION ON TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND HIV/AIDS: TEENAGE PREGNANCY AND HIV / AIDS EPIDEMIC - MITIGATION MEASURES.

During the debate, members observed that the main causes of teenage pregnancy and HIV epidemic are: lack of parental guidance, peer pressure, failure by parents to provide basic needs and alcoholism, among others.

It was resolved that:

- a) Governments should design appropriate sex education programmes that should be incorporated in the School curriculum to help the youths gain information, skills and motivation to make healthy decisions about sex and sexuality. This will ultimately curb teenage pregnancies and prevent HIV/AIDS.
- b) Laws relating to teenage pregnancies and HIV epidemic should be strictly implemented to curb the consequences associated with the vice.
- c) There is need to create more jobs for the youths or empower them to create jobs to ensure that they are actively engaged and occupied to prevent redundancy.

- d) Governments should encourage and sensitize parents about the need for parents' involvement in nurturing children. This will promote good parent-child communication and relations, a foundation for parental guidance and counselling of teenagers.
- e) There is need to encourage the youths to participate in religious activities, programmes and teachings that will enhance life values like abstinence until marriage.
- f) Governments should create awareness among the youth about self-awareness and respect for self. This will enhance self-dignity and integrity.
- g) Governments should promote information sharing among teenagers through peer counselling since teenagers easily learn from their peers than any other group or person. This will promote problem solving and good decision making.
- h) Governments should evaluate cultural practices to discourage those that promote teenage pregnancies and early marriages.
- i) There is need for Governments to promote gender equity to ensure that girls are not perceived as the only ones responsible and affected by teenage pregnancy. This will ensure collective responsibility of both genders.
- j) Parents should be sensitized about the need to provide for the needs of their children to minimize the likelihood of teenagers being taken advantage of through provision.

3. MOTION ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE; WHY ARE MANY YOUNG PEOPLE IN AFRICA RESORTING TO ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE? HOW CAN THIS BE REVERSED?

Members highlighted the following as the major causes for alcoholism and drug abuse among the youth in Africa: peer pressure, family neglect, idleness, inducing advertisements for alcohol, easy access to and cheap cost of alcohol and drugs, among others.

It was resolved that:

- a) African Governments should collectively prioritize measures to address drug abuse, illicit production and trafficking in narcotics.
- b) There is need to sensitize youth against the dangers of alcoholism and drug abuse.
- c) Governments should enact clear legislations with deterrent punishments and strictly enforce laws on minimum age for alcohol consumption.
- d) Governments should increase tax on alcohol to make it expensive for the youth to afford and consequently, discourage them.
- e) There is need to strengthen the implementing agencies like police to ensure effective implementation of policies and laws on alcohol consumption and drug abuse.

- f) Governments should establish free counselling and rehabilitations centres for proper management of alcohol and drug abuse victims.
- g) Governments should formulate policies that prohibit the sale of cheap alcohol especially through local brewing.
- h) Youths should be encouraged to take up leadership positions that will instil in them a sense of responsibility and life values.
- i) Youths should be encouraged to participate in religious activities and programmes to enhance good morals and life values that will poster self-discipline and positive living.
- j) There should be a collective move by Governments to ban certain drugs like shisha which appeals more to the youths.
- k) Governments should create peer counselling programmes and ensure that the youths understand the dangers of alcoholism and drug abuse. The peer counsellors will then apply the knowledge and skills acquired to assist and support their peers to discourage them from engaging in alcoholism and drug abuse.
- l) Governments should establish strong partnerships to acquire high-tech equipment for effective detection of alcoholism, drug abuse and drug trafficking.
- m) There is need for Governments to promote games and sports programmes for the youths. This will ensure mental and physical engagement to curb idleness.

4. MOTION ON THE YOUTH AND SOCIAL MEDIA; DO THE BENEFITS OUTWEIGH THE RISKS? HOW CAN THE UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS OF SOCIAL MEDIA TO THE YOUTH BE ADDRESSED?

During the debate, members observed that there are both benefits and risks involved in the use of social media;

The benefits include; provides a platform for individual ideas to be known by the general public, it's used as a voice for the voiceless and disadvantaged members of society, it increases collaborations and online-marketing platforms for business products and ideas, online employment opportunities, improved communication, boosts self-esteem, used for advocacy and encourages research.

The risks include; time wasting, promotes pornography and immorality, platform for black mail, malice and slander, cyber-crime and bullying, adaptation of bad habits such as homosexuality, health risks, promotes terror activities, promotes laziness due to perceived convenience in communication and reduces face to face communication skills.

In weighing the benefits and risks, Members agreed that the benefits outweigh the risks and thereafter made the following resolutions;

- a) Government to sensitize the youth in Africa to utilize social media for education purposes and as a platform to raise awareness of matters of public importance.
- b) Governments to sensitize the youth on use of social media as a platform to air out ideas and innovations to the public and not for exposure to harmful activities;
- c) Governments to advocate for proper use of social media as a platform to boost entrepreneurship and online transactions thereby creating employment for the youth;
- d) Governments to establish recreational facilities like parks, sports centres and youth development programmes to keep the youth active in a constructive way;
- e) Governments to sensitize the youths on the risks that may arise out of unregulated use of social media such as health complications of the eyes, ears and other body organs.
- f) Governments should put in place policies that provide for;
- g) the control and regulation of the content produced on social media;
- h) stringent measures for those who abuse social media;
- i) moderation and monitoring of the content of social media so as to eliminate pornographic and immoral content;
- j) age limit for access to social media;
- k) creation of local social media platforms that are in tandem with the cultural and social set up of the African society;
- l) to skill and train the youth to positively utilize social media as a means of helping them to compete globally for online jobs;
- m) deliberate measures to ensure equality amongst the youth by availing them with internet and internet gadgets; this will offer an opportunity to skill all the youth for online jobs.
- n) Parents should be exemplary in the use of social media and should be encouraged to take keen interest in the material that their youthful children are exposed to.
- o) Governments to create awareness programs for the youth to be sensitized on the proper use of social media and how to exercise self-control and personal protection while using social media.
- p) Governments to employ experts in cybercrime to sensitize the youth on how to handle cases of cybercrime and how to expose fraudulent characters.

- q) Governments to establish tribunals and disciplinary Committees to specifically manage cyber-crime and defaulters of social media use.

5. MOTION ON HARNESSING THE YOUTH IN LEADERSHIP; HOW CAN YOUNG PEOPLE PLAY A MORE TRANSFORMATIONAL ROLE IN POLITICS AND LEADERSHIP?

During the debate, it was observed that presently the world is home to the largest generation of youth in history, with 1.2 billion aged between 15 - 24 years and about 1.9 billion young people projected to turn 15 years old by 2030.

Young people have a proven capability to bring change and are a vital and valuable resource for the present and the future and therefore need meaningful participation and equal partnership in driving Africa's development agenda.

The youth form an instrument for transformational change in leadership. Transformational leadership is a style of leadership where a leader works with subordinates to identify needed change, creating a vision to guide the change through inspiration, and executing the change in tandem with committed members of a group. Cognizant of the above, it was resolved that;

- a) Government should put in place appropriate policies and legal framework aimed at increasing representation of youth in decision-making at local, national, regional and international levels, and in particular;
- b) To prioritize youth leadership development programmes in the national agenda;
- c) establish integrated mechanisms for meaningful participation of youth leadership; and
- d) enhance youth capacity and employability skills building;
- e) prioritize partnership building and resource mobilization for the youth;
- f) Government should increase funding to the education sector to at least 15% of each Member State's national budget in order to empower the youth. This was agreed by African Leaders at the Abuja African Union Summit and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda;
- g) To provide appropriate platforms for the development, training, skilling and tooling of youth in leadership and development;
- h) Youth should form different fora and Associations such that they have a bigger voice to advocate for the issues of the youth such as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association;

- i) The youth should not make themselves cheap and be used by others to fight their battles. The youth should use their knowledge and talent to achieve their own interests and goals;
- j) The youth should be given opportunities by the older persons to take up leadership positions;
- k) The youth should be encouraged to participate in politics and developmental issues. This will enable the youth to make decisions on matters affecting them;
- l) The youth should be encouraged to participate in leadership right from the onset when they are young. This helps the youth to gain the skills and experience needed for leadership;
- m) Governments should promote access to technology by the youth since technology improves communication, networking and innovations thereby creating jobs;
- n) Community development programmes for the youth should be supported by the government;
- o) The youth should undertake voluntary work and technical work to increase their experience;
- p) The youth should be patriotic and show interest to issues affecting their countries;
- q) The youth should be permitted to determine their own mission and mandate. This will enable them achieve their objectives and define their purpose;
- r) The youth should demand for accountability from their leaders. This will keep the leaders in check.

Annex 2: Rules of Procedure for the CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament.



**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR
THE CPA (AFRICA REGION)
YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

*ADOPTED ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 2012
IN AKWA IBOM STATE, NIGERIA AND AS
AMENDED IN LILONGWE, MALAWI
ON 23RD AUGUST, 2013*

**RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR
THE CPA (AFRICA REGION)
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*ADOPTED ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 2012
IN AKWA IBOM STATE, NIGERIA AND AS
AMENDED IN LILONGWE, MALAWI
ON 23RD AUGUST, 2013*

**CONFIGURATION AND OFFICE BEARERS
OF THE CPA (AFRICA REGION)
YOUTH PARLIAMENT**

RULE:

1. The Youth Parliament shall consist of two Members drawn from each National Branch of the CPA (Africa Region) and one member from state/provincial/legislatures with gender balance. However, the hosting branch shall have additional four (4) members and not more than six (6) ex-official members as observers. Observers shall take part in all activities of the Youth Parliament except voting.
2. The Youth Parliament shall consist of two sides of the House, divided equally into the Government Side and the Opposition Side.
3. In addition to the Speaker and Deputy Speaker, the Youth Parliament shall have other office bearers as follows:-
 - (a) Leader of the House and Deputy Leader of the House;
 - (b) Leader of the Official Opposition and Deputy Leader of the Opposition;
 - (c) Government Chief Whip and Deputy Government Whip;
and
 - (d) Opposition Chief Whip and Deputy Opposition Whip.

TENURE OF OFFICE OF YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIANS

4. (a) A Youth Parliamentarian shall serve in office for a maximum period of two years from time of nomination or election.
- (b) A member of the CPA Youth Parliament shall take oath of office at the First Meeting.

SPEAKER AND DEPUTY SPEAKER

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

5. The Speaker of the Youth Parliament shall be the Presiding Officer of the Youth Parliament.
6. The Speaker of the Youth Parliament shall be assisted by a Deputy Speaker.
7. The Youth Parliament shall elect a Speaker during its first meeting.
8. The election of a Speaker shall be presided over by the Clerk of the National Assembly of the host branch or an officer designated to conduct the election on his or her behalf.
9. The Government and Opposition side shall nominate one candidate each for the elections, whose names shall be duly seconded.
10. If only one candidate is nominated, he or she shall be declared to have been duly elected Speaker.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

11. The procedure for election of the Deputy Speaker shall be the same as that of the Speaker.
12. The election of the Deputy Speaker shall be presided over by the Speaker of the Youth Parliament.
13. In order to ensure that there is gender equality, the Deputy Speaker shall be of the opposite gender to that of the Speaker.

DUTIES OF THE SPEAKER

14. The Speaker shall preside over the proceedings of the Youth Parliament.
15. The Deputy Speaker shall take the Chair when requested to do so by the Speaker. He or she shall perform the duties and exercise the authority of the Speaker in relation to all proceedings until the Speaker resumes his or her seat.
16. The Speaker and Deputy Speaker shall be accorded proper respect by every Member of the Youth Parliament.
17. A Member shall refer to the Speaker as "Mr. Speaker or Madam Speaker" and the Deputy Speaker as "Mr. Deputy Speaker or Madam Deputy Speaker" at all times.

18. LEADER OF THE HOUSE

Leader of the House is a member elected by members of the government side of the House.

Duties

- (a) He or she briefs the House on the business which government intends to bring to the House.
- (b) He or she must always be in touch and liaising with the Speaker and other office bearers on the timing of every item of business to be discussed in the House.
- (c) To move procedural motions, e.g. to curtail debate, or for the House to adjourn sine die.
- (d) At the end of the sitting, he or she summarizes the resolutions and decisions of the House.

19. LEADER OF OPPOSITION

Leader of opposition is a member elected by the members from the opposition side

Duties

- (a) He or she responds to issues raised by the government side as a way of setting pace from the opposition side on any motion. In this regard, it is the duty of the Leader of the Opposition to support the government policies which he or she feels are good for the citizens and object to those seen not to be good and then offer alternative views.
- (b) He or she liaises with the Leader of the House on any parliamentary issue which, in his or her opinion, needs to be brought to the attention of the government side or the Speaker, usually on how business should be conducted in the House.

20. PARTY WHIP

Whips and their deputies will be elected by the respective sides of the House.

Duties

- (a) He or she is responsible for ensuring that the Members support the position of his or her party on any issue that is brought on the floor of the House.
- (b) He or she ensures that the Members are present in the Chamber at all times and must be notified in case a member wishes to be absent for a reason.
- (c) He or she is expected to compile list of names of Members from his or her party who to want to contribute on a debate on a particular motion and submits those names to the Speaker.

21. OFFICERS OF THE CPA YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Clerk of the CPA Youth Parliament

There shall be the Clerk of the CPA Youth Parliament who shall be designated by the hosting branch.

The duties of the Clerk of the CPA Youth Parliament shall include the following-

- (a) Preparing the business of the House in consultation with the Speaker;
- (b) Reading out an item on the Order Paper to be discussed by the House;
- (c) Advising the Speaker on matters of procedure; and
- (d) Taking minutes of the proceedings with the assistance of officers of the National Assembly.
- (e) A Clerk at-the-Table of the National Assembly shall render such advisory support to the Clerk of the CPA Youth Parliament as may be necessary during Sittings of the House.

The Clerk of the CPA Youth Parliament shall be assisted by two other Clerks-at-the Table.

Sergeant-at-Arms

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall be designated by the hosting branch.

The CPA Youth Parliament shall have a Sergeant-at-Arms who shall have the following responsibilities, among others-

- (a) Leading the Speaker's procession into and out of the Chamber;
- (b) Announcing the arrival of the Speaker in the Chamber;
- (c) Enforcing the Speaker's orders; and
- (d) Recording the attendance of Members in the Chamber.

22. SITTINGS OF THE CPA YOUTH PARLIAMENT

The CPA Youth Parliament shall observe the following Sitting times

Time	Activity
9.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.	Meeting
10.30 a.m. - 11.00 a.m.	Tea Break
11.00 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.	Meeting
12.30 p.m. - 2.00 p.m.	Lunch Break
2.00 p.m. - 3.30 p.m.	Meeting
3.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.	Tea Break
4.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.	Meeting
5.00 p.m.	Adjournment

23. ORDER OF BUSINESS

Order of business shall be as follows:

- a) Prayer;
- b) Swearing-In of new Members;
- c) Communication from the Chair or Announcements;
- d) Debate on the topics; and
- e) Adjournment.

24. RULES OF DEBATE

- (a) A Member shall only speak in the English language.
- (b) A Member who wishes to contribute to any issue shall stand from his or her seat and shall only speak after being recognized by the Speaker.
- (c) A Member shall not interrupt another Member who is speaking unless he or she wants to inform the Speaker that the person who is speaking is not following the rules of debate. This shall be done through a Point of Order.

- (d) A Member speaking in debate must at all-time use language that is polite.
- (e) A Member shall not be allowed to make false statements in the House during debate.
- (f) A Member shall not make any personal attack on another Member.
- (g) A Member speaking in debate shall do so while standing in his or her place. All debate shall be addressed through the Speaker. A Member who is not contributing to any debate in the House shall sit in his or her place in silence.

25. POINT OF ORDER

- (a) A Member may, at any time, call upon the Speaker to clarify or give a ruling on a matter of procedure by rising in his or her seat and calling on a point of order.
- (b) Once the Speaker has recognized a Member rising on a point of order, the Member may raise his or her point of order in a period not exceeding one minute.
- (c) The Speaker shall immediately rule on the point of order. The Speaker's ruling on any matter shall be final and shall not be a subject for debate.
- (d) A Member shall not disturb proceedings of the House by raising unnecessary points of order.

28. VOTING PROCEDURE

- (a) The Speaker shall call upon those in favour to say "YES" and those against to say "NO". If the decision of the Chamber is clear, the Speaker will declare that either the "Ayees" or "Nos" have it, as appropriate.
- (b) Where the voice vote is not clear, the Speaker shall ask those in favour to stand in their places and be counted and then all those against to stand in their places and be counted.
- (c) The Clerk shall count the Members voting "Yes" or "No" and the Speaker will declare the result, which shall be the resolution of the House.

29. DRESS CODE

The Dress Code shall be black trousers/skirts and white T-shirt with logos of the hosting branch and/or the CPA Africa Region. The T-shirts shall be provided by the CPA (Africa Region).

30. DISCIPLINE

- (a) Members shall stand up from their seats when the Speaker is entering and leaving the Chamber in a procession.
- (b) As a gesture of respect, when entering and leaving the Chamber, every male Member shall bow to the Speaker while the female Member will curtsy.

31. CONCLUSION OF CPA YOUTH PARLIAMENT MEETING

Each Meeting of the CPA Youth Parliament shall conclude with the following:-

- (a) Adoption of resolutions to be submitted before the next Annual General Meeting of the CPA Africa Region.
- (b) Selection of a topic for presentation before the next Annual General Meeting of the CPA Africa Region.
- (c) Nomination of two members, male and female by the regional secretariat to attend the next CPA Africa Region Annual General Meeting and present the resolutions and the selected topic.

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FAX: (265) 01 774 196 • E-mail: parliament@malawi.net

Annex 3: Amendments to the Rules of Procedure

1. Rule 1;

Rule 1 is amended by:

- (i) inserting the words **“aged between 14 to 25 years”** immediately after the word “members” appearing in line 1
- (ii) inserting a new sub rule (1)(a) immediately after rule 1 to read as follows;

“(1) (a) A sitting of the Youth Parliament of the Commonwealth (Africa Region) shall be held in the Parliamentary Chamber of the Host Country”

2. Rule 30

Rule 30 is amended-

- (i) In sub rule (b) by inserting the words **“unless he or she is physically handicapped”** immediately after the word “shall” in the first line;
- (ii) In sub rule (f) by inserting the words **“unless he or she is physically handicapped”** immediately after the word **“shall”** in the first line.

3. Rule 37

Rule 37(c) is deleted and substituted with the following:

- (c) The Speaker and Deputy Speaker of the sitting Parliament shall attend the next CPA (Africa Region) Annual General Meeting and shall present the Resolutions and selected topics for the next Youth Parliament.

Annex 4: Prayer for the CPA (Africa Region) Youth Parliament

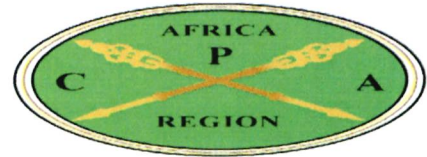
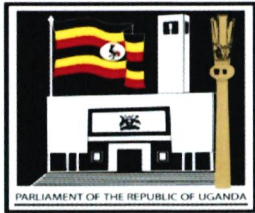
Almighty God,
We praise and thank you
For your bringing us together
Through the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
(Africa Region)

We pray and thank you
For our parents and our leaders

We ask you to bless us
And to give us wisdom
As we meet to discuss issues concerning
The welfare of the youth of the CPA
(Africa Region)

We pray in your Mighty Name,
Amen

Annex 5: Oath of the Members of Parliament



OATH OF MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

I,,
swear in the name of the Almighty
God/solemnly affirm that I will give
faithful service to the Office of Member
of Parliament of the Commonwealth
Parliamentary Association [Africa Region]
without fear or favor. [So help me God]

SWORN before me this day of
....., 2018.

.....

.....

**Clerk of the CPA Youth Parliament
Member**

