Article 7 of the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community provides for a people centred and market driven economy. It has been observed that whereas the Partner States have dedicated tremendous efforts towards the market economy, the people centred aspect of our integration process has not received similar attention. As a result, the people of East Africa remain fundamentally ignorant of the Treaty, and the whole integration process.

The object of this Bill therefore is to provide a legal framework within which the people of East Africa at all levels can be equipped with the necessary knowledge and information about the affairs and activities of the Community.

For that purpose the Bill seeks to establish a Unit within the office of the Secretary General, mandated to coordinate integration education activities in the Partner States, develop relevant materials and set standards and quality control measures amongst other functions.
The respective national institutions currently responsible for conducting civic education in the Partner States are proposed to be national focal points for the purposes of this Bill.

HON. ABUBAKAR ZEIN ABUBAKAR,

*Member, East African Legislative Assembly.*
THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY INTEGRATION (EDUCATION) BILL, 2014.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES

Clause

1. Short title.
2. Interpretation.
3. Objectives
4. Integration Education Unit
5. Functions of the Unit
6. Financial resources of the Unit
7. National focal points
8. Regulations
THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY INTEGRATION (EDUCATION) BILL, 2014

A Bill for an Act

ENTITLED

THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY INTEGRATION (EDUCATION) ACT, 2014

An Act to establish a legal framework for integration education in the Community, and to provide for other related matters.

ENACTED by the East African Community and assented to by the Heads of State.

1. This Act may be cited East African Community Integration (Education) Act, 2014.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

"competent authority" means the relevant authority in the Partner States responsible for carrying out civic education;
“Council” means the Council of Ministers established under Article 9 of the Treaty;

“integration education” means education about the Treaty and the integration process in the Community;

“Secretariat” means the Secretariat of the Community established under Article 9 of the Treaty;

“Secretary General” means the Secretary General of the Community provided for under Article 67 of the Treaty;

“Treaty” means the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community’

“Unit” means the Integration Education Unit established under section 4;

3. (1) The main objective of this Act is to facilitate acquisition of information, knowledge, skills, values and attitudes that are necessary for people East Africa to meaningfully participate in the integration process.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-section (1), the specific objectives of this Act are to—

(a) facilitate increased participation of the people of East Africa in the integration process and activities;

(b) provide for a facilitation mechanism for citizens’ engagement in East Africa;
(c) build a sense of belonging and common identity among the people of East Africa, including developing initiatives that are designed to create the East African identity; and

(d) facilitate and provide education on the Treaty for the establishment of the East African Community.

4. (1) There is established a Unit within the Secretariat known as the Integration Education Unit.

(2) The Unit shall, in the performance of its functions be responsible to the Secretary General.

(3) The Unit shall constitute such offices as the Council may determine.

5. The functions of the Unit shall be to—

(a) coordinate integration education activities in the Partner States with the competent authorities;

(b) develop relevant materials for dissemination in the Partner States;

(c) set standards and quality control mechanisms in integration education;

(d) develop curricular for integration education by the education institutions in the Partner States; and

(e) perform any other functions as may be required to achieve the objectives of this Act.
6. The Unit shall obtain funds from the budget of the Community and from such other sources as the Council may determine.

7. (1) The national focal points for purposes of education integration in the Community shall be the competent authorities in the Partner States.

(2) A Partner State may, notwithstanding sub-section (1), accredit an institution to conduct integration education in that Partner State.

8. The Council may make regulations generally for giving effect to the provisions of this Act.