



EASTERN AFRICA GREENS FEDERATION (EAGF)

CONGRESS MEETING REPORT

Kigali, Rwanda | 8th – 9th May 2026

Venue: Hotel Olympique, Kimironko, Kigali, Rwanda

Organizer: Africa Center for Peace Security and Environmental Affairs (ACPSEA)

Host: Democratic Green Party of Rwanda (DGPR)

Chairperson: Hon. Dr. Frank Habineza, President – EAGF

Secretary: Ms. Sharon Katuura, Executive Director – EAGF

Purpose of the Congress

The Eastern Africa Greens Congress convened delegates from member countries to reflect on the achievements of the federation, commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Global Greens, strengthen regional collaboration, discuss emerging political and environmental challenges, and identify strategic actions for strengthening the Green movement across Eastern Africa.

DAY ONE – 8th May 2026

Opening Session

The meeting was officially opened by the President of the East African Greens Federation, **Hon. Dr. Frank Habineza**, he welcomed the Country delegates from Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Somalia and Rwanda. He emphasized the importance of regional solidarity among Green parties and highlighted the significance of the occasion highlighting the recent concluded Global Greens 25th Anniversary celebrations, what it represents for the Greens and called upon members to continue strengthening green ideology, environmental justice, democracy, and peace in Eastern Africa. He mentioned that this event would also serve as an occasion to celebrate the 25 years since Global Greens was established in 2001 **in Canberra Australia**. The delegates would highlight achievements recorded, challenges faced and possible future solutions.

Update on EAGF Activities 2025–2026

The Executive Director, Ms. Sharon Katuura, presented achievements realized over the previous year. These included forming and strengthening Women and Youth Leagues, reviewing the EAGF Constitution, participating actively in Global Greens anniversary activities, supporting Uganda's electoral activities, conducting trainings, and mobilizing resources through fundraising and proposal development. The Executive Director also outlined priorities for the coming year, including institutional strengthening, promotion of green ideology, democratic participation, fundraising, communication systems improvement, research, and knowledge management. Delegates emphasized the need for stronger communication structures, inclusion of elderly persons in programming, mentorship of women and youth leaders, and grassroots mobilization.

Country Reports

Country representatives presented updates from their respective Green parties. Rwanda highlighted achievements in senate representation, nationwide ideological trainings, and increased parliamentary participation. Burundi focused on youth and women empowerment despite political insecurity challenges ahead of the 2027 elections. Uganda shared updates regarding the recently concluded elections early this year, the transition from Ecological Party of Uganda to Green Forum and preparations for gazettelement and future elections. Somalia emphasized the importance of green politics in addressing climate change and electoral participation, while calling for stronger regional cooperation and capacity building. Kenya reported on preparations for the 2027 elections, expansion of regional offices, strengthening membership systems, and efforts to popularize the green ideology at grassroots level.

Dialogue on Climate Change, Human Rights and Environmental Justice

Mr. Niels van den Berge, Dutch climate expert and former Member of Parliament representing GroenLinks, led a dialogue on climate justice and global inequalities. Discussions focused on unfair global economic systems, exploitation of African resources, the need for stronger international collaboration, and increased African representation in global governance structures. Delegates discussed renewable energy transitions, electric mobility, food security, carbon reduction initiatives, and opportunities for collaboration between European Greens and African Green parties. Examples from Rwanda and Uganda on electric mobility and renewable energy policies were highlighted as important regional innovations. ***A request to extend his activities of sustainable affordable housing projects to all East African countries was presented and he promised to take into consideration.***

Global Greens 25th Anniversary Panel Discussion

Ms. Lucie Kagendo delivered a keynote presentation tracing the history, structure and evolution of the Global Greens movement. Delegates were encouraged to actively participate in Global Greens working groups focusing on climate justice, biodiversity, democracy, women, youth and indigenous rights. Key discussions focused on financial sustainability, participation in Global Greens activities, leadership development, and the importance of consistent member contributions. Participants stressed the importance of ownership, accountability, communication, political participation, and grassroots engagement as foundations for building stronger Green parties in Eastern Africa.

Women and Youth Empowerment Session

Mr. Beyle Guy Mukunzi facilitated discussions on women and youth empowerment and gender equality in politics. Delegates reflected on the need for gender-sensitive policies, mentorship, inclusion of persons with disabilities, the elderly and cross-border collaboration among women and youth leaders. The session emphasized mentorship, continuous gender audits, and creating enabling environments for women and young people to actively participate in political leadership.

Dialogue on Peace, Security and Intra-Party Democracy

Mr. Charles Bbaale delivered a presentation on intra-party democracy, peacebuilding and nonviolence. The session emphasized patience, sacrifice, peaceful coexistence, political maturity and the importance of supporting one another within political parties. Leaders from Rwanda shared testimonies on persistence in politics and encouraged delegates to remain united in advancing Green ideology across the region. Delegates agreed that peace, solidarity, integrity and the spirit of Ubuntu are central values for the Green movement. **DAY TWO – 9th May 2026**

Recap and Strategic Planning

The Executive Director presented a recap of Day One proceedings, which delegates unanimously adopted as a true reflection of the discussions. Further discussions focused on the EAGF Strategic Plan, fundraising approaches, and strengthening institutional coordination mechanisms.

Review of Organizational Structures: Women's and Youth Wings

The Congress reviewed the status of the Women and Youth Wings within EAGF. Delegates acknowledged that although progress had been initiated, there remained a need for stronger coordination and active engagement.

Women's Wing

The Women's Wing reported that the structure is still in its formative stage and that only limited activities have been implemented so far. Members acknowledged that the women's structure has not yet been sufficiently active across the region. However, efforts are underway to strengthen coordination and mobilization. It was noted that Ms. Lucy Kagendo and Ms. Sharon Katura are currently developing a proposal aimed at mobilizing resources to support the activities and growth of the Women's Wing.

The meeting emphasized the need for clear commitments and practical actions to revitalize women's participation and engagement within the Eastern Africa Greens Federation (EAGF). Members agreed that the Women's Wing should align its work with the EAGF Strategic Plan and focus on building stronger regional coordination and visibility.

The following key commitments and action points were proposed:

1. Reactivation of the Women's Wing WhatsApp group to improve communication and coordination among members.
2. Development of a comprehensive action plan by 15th June 2026, aligned with the EAGF Strategic Plan.

3. Implementation of online activities at both country and regional (EAGF) levels, with a progress report expected by August 2026.
4. Establishment of a fundraising committee to develop a resource mobilization strategy for women-focused initiatives.
5. Strengthening political influence by increasing women and youth parliamentary representation and promoting policies that attract younger voters, including employment creation, affordable transport, and internet accessibility.
6. Exploration of projects that can attract funding from international partners and development agencies.
7. Identification of sustainable income-generating and self-financing initiatives to support the long-term sustainability of the Women's Wing.

The meeting encouraged women leaders across member parties to take a more proactive role in implementing these commitments and strengthening the visibility of women within Green movements in the region.

Youth Wing

The Youth Wing reported that efforts are being made to revive and strengthen youth engagement within EAGF. Members noted that, although youth structures in some countries particularly Somalia have shown relative activity, overall regional youth engagement remains limited and requires renewed energy and coordination.

The meeting stressed the importance of building a vibrant and active youth movement capable of advancing Green ideology and increasing youth participation in political and governance processes across Eastern Africa.

The following priorities and action points were agreed upon:

1. Development of participation indicators for each member country to monitor and strengthen youth engagement.
2. Holding monthly youth meetings to enhance coordination and accountability.
3. Encouraging every youth member to participate in Global Greens (GG) working groups or Global Young Greens (GYG) platforms.
4. Promoting mentorship and capacity-building initiatives for young leaders within member parties.
5. Developing a Youth Wing action plan aligned with the EAGF Strategic Plan, similar to the Women's Wing framework.
6. Encouraging member countries to initiate and implement youth-led activities under the spirit and objectives of EAGF, with progress reports to be submitted by August 2026.
7. Supporting the youth team to manage and regularly update the EAGF website.
8. Strengthening EAGF's presence on social media platforms, including Facebook and X (formerly Twitter), to improve outreach and visibility.
9. Regularly documenting and reporting activities being implemented by member parties.

10. Organizing both online and in-person capacity-building sessions for youth leaders across the region.

The congress emphasized that revitalizing the Youth Wing is essential for the future growth and sustainability of Green politics in Eastern Africa and called upon all member parties to actively support youth participation and leadership development.

Open Debate on Future Perspectives

The open debate session provided delegates with an opportunity to discuss the future direction of the federation. Discussions focused on communication systems, membership subscriptions, working groups, monitoring and evaluation systems, resource mobilization, communication strategies, fundraising, merchandise production, and stronger coordination among member parties. Delegates also discussed the legal status of Mazingira Green Party of Kenya in relation to the EAGF Constitution and the need to maintain one recognized political party membership per country within the federation as the Constitution states.

KEY RESOLUTIONS OF THE CONGRESS

The Congress adopted the following resolutions, which were moved by Mr. Charles Bbaale and seconded by Hon. Dr. Frank Habineza. The resolutions were unanimously approved by all members present.

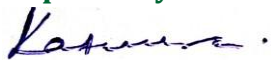
1. EAGF shall strengthen communication systems and integrate a comprehensive communication strategy within the Strategic Plan.
2. Member parties shall receive reminders and invoices regarding annual membership subscription fees.
The membership fee is 50 USD and annual subscription is 100 USD.
3. All member parties should clear their membership subscriptions by 30th July annually.
4. EAGF shall pursue formal registration in Rwanda after completion of Green Forum registration processes in Uganda.
5. The Executive Director shall circulate the EAGF Constitution and Activity Plan to all member parties.
6. Mazingira Green Party of Kenya was deemed legally ineligible for EAGF membership under Article 4 of the Constitution.
7. Member parties that have not fulfilled their financial obligations shall not exercise voting rights within the federation.
8. Each member country shall nominate at least three representatives to participate in Global Greens working groups including youth, women, biodiversity, climate, democracy and indigenous affairs.
9. EAGF shall establish regional sub-working groups aligned to the Global Greens working groups.
10. The federation shall strengthen social media platforms and assign communication focal persons to regularly share EAGF activities and achievements.
11. EAGF website will be developed and maintained by the youth wing.
12. EAGF shall strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems to assess the impact of its activities and programs.

13. The federation shall prioritize fundraising strategies, including proposal writing, merchandise production, partnerships and resource mobilization initiatives.
14. Women and Youth Wings shall develop concrete action plans and periodic progress reports aligned to the EAGF Strategic Plan.
15. Member parties committed themselves to promoting peace, non-violence, democracy, inclusion, environmental sustainability and regional solidarity.

Closure

Hon. Dr. Frank Habineza thanked all delegates, facilitators and organizers for their active participation and commitment to strengthening the Green movement in Eastern Africa. He called upon all member parties to implement the agreed resolutions and continue working together in solidarity. The Congress was officially closed with delegates wishing one another safe journeys back to their respective countries.

Prepared by:



Ms. Sharon Katuura

Executive Director, Eastern Africa Greens Federation (EAGF)

Reviewed by:



Ms. Lucy Kagendo

Secretary General, Eastern Africa Greens Federation (EAGF)

Approved by:



Hon. Dr.

Frank Habineza

President, Eastern Africa Greens Federation (EAGF)

Appendix

1: List of participants attached