The South Sudanese President Salva Kiir has taken up chairmanship of the East African Community (EAC) at the Heads of States Summit in Arusha, Tanzania.

Kiir has taken over from the Burundi Head of State Evariste Ndayishimiye on Friday, November 24 at a time when the regional bloc is confronted with numerous challenges including insecurity in North Kivu, Climate change and currently global adversity.

Speaking during the Summit, Uganda President Yoweri Museveni accented on the importance of regional integration stressing that it is the only way out of independence on foreign aid into prosperity.

Kenya President William Ruto also commented on the security situation in Democratic Republic of Congo saying that East Africa will not walk away from the DRC as it heads towards elections at a time of crises.

President Evariste Ndayishimiye the outgoing chairman of the regional block thanked Heads of States for entrusting him with the privilege of serving the region and for the activity participation during his tenure.

The summit was held under the theme, “Accelerating Economic Recovery through Climate Action and Enhancing Food Security for Improved Livelihoods.

The Summit urged the United Republic of Tanzania; Republic of Rwanda; Republic of South Sudan & the Democratic Republic of Congo to expedite conclusion of National Consultations on EAC Political Confederation by 30th May 2024.

On the Sustainable Financing of the EAC , the Summit has agreed on a 65% (Equal Contribution) and 35% (assessed contributions) financing formulae.

The EAC Summit of Heads of State admits the Federal Republic of Somalia as the 8th Member of the EAC in accordance with Article 3 of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC the regional bloc also comprises #Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, South Sudan and DR Congo.

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