

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI
THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THIRD ASSEMBLY - (FOURTH SESSION)
COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

No. 30 of 2025

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR AS RELATES TO THE STATE OF THE
COUNTY ADDRESS BY H.E, DR. JULIUS MAKAU MALOMBE; GOVERNOR,
KITUI COUNTY.**

Your Excellency, Dr. Julius Makau Malombe; Governor, Kitui County,
Your Excellency, Augustine Wambua Kanani; Deputy Governor, Kitui County,
Honourable Members of National Assembly present,
The County Commissioner,
Honourable Members of the County Assembly,
The Acting County Secretary,
County Executive Committee Members and Governor's Advisors,
Chief Officers,
Members of Staff from both the Assembly and the Executive,
The Clergy,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good afternoon.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this sitting of the Fourth Session of the County Assembly. This day marks a significant occasion in our legislative

calendar — the delivery of the State of the County Address by His Excellency the Governor.

Today's sitting is informed by the Kitui County Assembly Standing Order No. 18 which stipulates that *"The Governor shall address a special sitting of the Assembly once every year and may address the Assembly at any other time within the convenience of the County Assembly."*

During the evening sitting of Thursday, 26th June 2025, I informed this House that my Office had received a communication from His Excellency the Governor conveying his intention to address the Assembly today.

Your Excellency,

This Assembly warmly welcomes your address, marking the third of its kind since the commencement of this Third Assembly, and given that it has been a year, four months and twenty-four days since your last address to this August House which you did on Wednesday, 14th February, 2024.

Your willingness to engage with us underscores the pivotal role this Assembly plays in your agenda of the '*Kitui Promise*', and that you are ready to continue working with us in order to realize the gains of devolution. We are indeed honoured to host you once again.

Honourable Members,

Section 30(2)(k) of the County Governments Act, 2012, mandates the Governor to deliver an Annual State of the County Address. In this regard, the address should include, but is not limited to, the following:

- a) A report on measures taken in the realization of the national values as provided under Article 10 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010;
- b) An annual report on the implementation status of County policies and plans pursuant to Section 30(2)(j) of the County Governments Act, 2012;

- c) A report on the performance of the County Executive Committee and the County Public Service, pursuant to Section 47(3) of the Act;
- d) A report on citizen participation in the affairs of the County government, pursuant to Section 92(2); and
- e) Any other information the Governor may deem necessary.

Honourable Members,

As provided for under law and established parliamentary practices, the Address must be delivered in the Assembly to accord it the legitimacy required for consideration by the House. This mirrors the national practice where the President of the Republic of Kenya, under Article 132(1)(b) of the Constitution, addresses a joint sitting of Parliament annually, and may do so at any other time.

At the conclusion of the Governor's address, the sitting shall stand adjourned. As per Standing Order Nos. 20(4) and (5), the Address shall be laid on the Table of the House as soon as practicable, and debate thereon shall not exceed four sitting days.

Honourable Members,

Allow me to express my appreciation to all who made time to attend this Sitting - the Representatives of the National Government, Political Leaders, County Executive Committee Members, Governor's Advisors, Chief Officers, Clergy, Civil Society Groups, and members of the general public.

I also take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the Governor for his unwavering support in enabling the Assembly to discharge its mandate, particularly through budgetary allocations to support:

1. The construction of the Kitui County Assembly modern office block;

2. The purchase of land and commencement of the construction of the Speaker's Residence, and
3. The acquisition of land and initial funding for the construction of Members' Ward Offices.

Your Excellency,

While we recognize your support, I take this opportunity to kindly urge your Office to continue promoting cordial relations between the Assembly and the Executive by facilitating consultative forums between the two arms of government.

I also wish to raise an issue of concern among Members of the County Assembly regarding site handovers. Members have expressed dissatisfaction over not being adequately notified or involved in these events. I kindly request your esteemed Office to ensure that Members are informed in good time, preferably at least a day in advance, to enable proper scheduling of their engagements and to enable their effective participation.

Honourable Members,

In accordance with Article 6(2) and Article 189(1) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which provide for cooperation between the National and County Governments, I wish to humbly appeal for a continued and strengthened working relationship between the County Government of Kitui and the National Government, led by the Office of the County Commissioner at the County level. We deeply appreciate the support already extended by the National Government, including in areas of security, infrastructure and development programs. May this cooperation continue to flourish for the benefit of our people.

I also wish to appeal to the Judiciary to support and complement the County Government in the process of shaping sound and responsive policies and laws.

The Judiciary remains an essential partner in interpreting laws and ensuring justice and fairness for all, and we look forward to a collaborative relationship that promotes the rule of law and equitable service delivery.

To the Clergy present, we recognize your ever-present role in nurturing moral values in our society. We humbly seek your continued spiritual guidance and prayers as leaders, so that we may act with wisdom, compassion and integrity in service to our people.

Fellow leaders and stakeholders,

I extend a warm invitation to all development partners, community-based organizations, private sector players and individual citizens to actively participate in public engagements and forums organized by the County Government. Public participation is not only a constitutional imperative under Article 10 and Article 174(c) but also a cornerstone of devolution. It ensures that decisions made truly reflect the will and aspirations of the people.

Your Excellency, Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me also take this opportunity to highlight that in the recent past, the working relationship between the County Assembly and the Executive experienced certain challenges. However, I am pleased to report that those differences are now water under the bridge. Today, the two arms of government are working closely together in harmony, guided by mutual respect and a shared commitment to the service of the people of Kitui.

As of today, it is exactly two years, one month, and two days to the next General Election in Kenya, which is scheduled for Tuesday, 10th August 2027. With such limited time remaining, we must rise above partisanship and focus our energies on unity, cooperation and impactful leadership. There is neither room nor time for unnecessary conflicts or political distractions. Our priority

must be the fulfilment of the promises we made to our people when they entrusted us with leadership.

Your Excellency,

We reiterate our unwavering commitment to collaboration and mutual respect. The Assembly will continue to constructively engage the Executive while remaining steadfast in its constitutional mandate of legislation, oversight and representation.

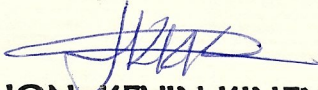
In the same spirit, we kindly appeal for your continued support in addressing the Assembly's outstanding infrastructure needs, particularly the completion of the Modern Office Block and the construction of Members' Ward Offices through adequate and sustained budgetary allocations in subsequent financial cycles.

Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen

With these remarks, it is now my honour and privilege to invite His Excellency the Governor, Dr. Julius Makau Malombe, to deliver the State of the County Address.

Welcome, Your Excellency.

Clerk, next Order!


HON. KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA
SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.

Tuesday, 8th July, 2025.