

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

SECOND ASSEMBLY- THIRD SESSION (2019)

**COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION, TRAINING AND SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT**

**RESPONSE TO COUNTY ASSEMBLY MOTION ON
IMPLEMENTATION OF MODEL EARLY CHILDHOOD
DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION (ECDE) IN KITUI COUNTY.**

**The Clerk's Chamber
County Assembly of Kitui,
Assembly Buildings,
Kitui, Kenya.**

OCTOBER, 2019

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ANNEXTURES

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1.	Annex 1	Motion on implementation of Model Early Childhood Development Education in Kitui County.
2.	Annex 2	Response on the implementation status of the motion on implementation of Model Early Childhood Development Education in Kitui County.

1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Mr. Speaker,

During the afternoon sitting of Tuesday 3rd July, 2018, The County Assembly approved the motion on implementation of Model Early Childhood Development Education in Kitui County (**See Annex 1**).

The House resolved that;

1. The CEC Member for Basic Education, ICT and Youth Development to ensure that;

- i. The County Government complies with Early Childhood Service Standard Guidelines when constructing ECDE classrooms, provision of water and toilets, and upgrade the existing ones to match with the guidelines;
- ii. The County Government to allocate funds to cater for implementation of permanent school feeding programmes to benefit all ECDE children which will protect the right to basic nutrition and ensure higher retention and transition rates;

2. The Kitui County Public Service Board to:

- i. Establish an Inspectorate Unit to deal with standards, quality supervision, monitoring and evaluation of ECDE curriculum and further employ of ECDE Centre Managers and primary schools to ensure independence of the two institutions;
- ii. Employ ECDE teachers on a permanent and pensionable basis as well provide them with decent working conditions and terms of service like medical cover, pension, protection against unfair dismissal, and all other consequent benefits;
- iii. Consider employing a minimum of two ECDE teachers in every ECDE Centre, each to serve the different cohorts;

3. The CEC Member for Basic Education ICT and Youth Development and the Kitui County Public Service Board to avail the implementation plan of the above

resolutions within 60 days from adoption of this Motion in furtherance of the provisions of Standing Order no. 181.

On 6th July, 2018 the motion was forwarded to the County Executive Committee Member of Education, ICT and Youth Development. The Committee during her sitting held on 25th July, 2019 scrutinized the availed report and noted that it did not address the issues raised in the motion. The committee resolved to write to the CEC Member Ministry of Education, ICT and Youth Development via a letter referenced CAK/9/3/VOL.II (119) to avail a detailed report addressing all the pertinent issues raised in the Motion to be tabled in the House within Seven (7) days from the dates of this letter. (See Annex 3). The response on the letter was received by the office of the Clerk on 7th August 2019 and forwarded to the committee for scrutiny and report to the House on the status of the implementation of the aforementioned motion.

2. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS.

2.1 That the County Government complies with Early Childhood Service Standards guidelines when constructing ECDE classrooms, provision of water and toilets, and upgrading existing guidelines.

Response.

The National pre-primary education policy standard guidelines (2018, pg11) provides for the standard size of an ECDE permanent classroom to measure 8 by 6 meters accommodating a maximum of 25 children. In addition, the classroom should be built together with a toilet (1:10 for girls; 1:30 for boys with urinal), and kitchen and food store facilities.

With effect from 2018/2019 FY the county Ministry of Education resolved to implement these guidelines as shown in a survey and analysis on page number 5 of the annexed response on the motion.

2.2 Converting ECDE classroom to ECDE centers.

Response.

A standard ECDE center has 2 classrooms, a food store, Toilets for girls, boys and for teachers, a kitchen, water tank and playfield with outdoor play equipment and talking walls.

The annexed response show a 5 year implementation plan for the expanding the existing ECDE classrooms to ECDE centers status.

2.3 *School feeding programme*

The national pre-primary Education Policy Standards Guidelines (2018 pg. no.3) requires that pre-primary schools provide children with a mid-morning meal (snacks, enriched porridge or milk) during the 10.00 am break.

Currently, the County Government of Kitui does not have a feeding programme, though the Ministry has a proposed analysis for implementing the programme if funded as clearly outline in the response attached to this report.

2.4 *Establishing an inspectorate unit to deal with standards, quality supervision, monitoring and evaluation of ECDE curriculum and employ ECDE Centre managers to manage ECDE Centres separate from primary schools.*

The County Ministry of Education has already created the unit of Quality Assurance and assessment in the Directorate of Basic Education to deal with all matters of Quality Assurance for Early Childhood Education, including monitoring and evaluation of ECD teaching and learning.

The unit is headed by an Assistant Director at the HQ while filed work is coordinated by the Eight Sub-County ECD coordinators stationed at each sub county H/ Quarters. Their job descriptions have already been revised to include the mandate on quality assurance.

2.5 *Employment of ECDE Teachers on Permanent and Pensionable terms.*

County Government ,through the Council of Governors, have already expressed their reservation on implementation of the new scheme of service at county levels due to the high wage bill required , and are still negotiating with the National Government for TSC to take up the responsibility of employing ECDE Teachers in line with its mandates.

2.6 *The County Government should consider employing a minimum of two ECDE Teachers in every ECDE Center, for PP1 and PP2.*

The National Pre-primary Education Policy Standard Guidelines, requires that every ECDE have one teacher for each PP1 and PP2 Class of 25 Children. Such a teacher should possess a minimum qualification of Diploma in ECDE and be registered with TSC. Currently, the County has 2,156 ECDE teachers in its payroll, out of which only 1,195 are trained/qualified and registered with TSC. In addition to the 1,874 County run ECDE centers, 334 do not have a single County ECDE teacher. They rely on poorly paid and unqualified casuals engaged by parents.

The County Ministry of Education has proposed that ECDE teachers be increased to 3,748 for each ECDE center to have two teachers (PP1 and PP2).

3.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

To enable the County Ministry of Education, ICT and Youth Development increase access to universal basic quality and equity education, the committee strongly appeals to Budgets and Appropriations Committee to make a deliberate effort to source funds in subsequent budget estimates to functionalize and save the ministry from total collapse. This is because the proposed budget for FY 2019/2020 has a lean recurrent budget with no development allocation, thus making it difficult to implement programmes and projects in this approved motion.