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STATEMENT REQUEST ON THE FIRE OUTBREAK AT KALUNDU MARKET ON THE 16TH APRIL, 2023.

Mr. Speaker Sir,

Pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No 41 (1) (c), I would like to request for a statement from the chairperson committee on Labour and Social Welfare concerning the fire outbreak incidence which occurred at Kalundu Market (near Beach bar and restaurant) on 16th April, 2023;

Aware That the Committee on Labour and Social ^{welfare} is mandated to oversight the department of Disaster and Emergency Services under the office of the Deputy Governor whose major role is to ensure a sound response system to emergencies and disasters not limited to fire outbreaks among others;

Further aware that the department of fire-fighting acquired a fire brigade which should be used in the event of such occurrences on a 24 hour basis by sufficient staff assigned to operate the equipment;

Concerned that on the 16th April, 2023 at Kalundu Market, near Kitui Beach Bar area a fire broke out at around mid-day which lasted over six hours hence causing huge losses of unknown value;

Cognizant that the business premises affected by the fire outbreak is located in Kitui town CBD while efforts to conduct the firefighting department to put off the fire were futile since the firefighting engine was purportedly said to be in Nairobi for routine servicing;

Further Cognizant that, in the past similar incidences occurred with no efforts to rescue buildings among them the then Tourist Hotel (which housed the county human resource department) and the then County Treasury Buildings which were all razed down on varied dates;

THAT the Committee carries out an enquiry and report back to this house within 21 days to unearth the facts on the following issues:

Speaker
You may approve.
17/05/2023

Chair
Approved.
[Signature]
17/05/2023

1. Inquire into the cause of the fire outbreak and the losses caused as a result thereof;
2. The circumstances behind the continued inefficient response by the department of fire fighting in the county and where possible recommend corrective measures;
3. Inquire into whether the County Emergency Fund could consider compensation to traders who incur losses occasioned by acts of negligence by fire fighting department of the county.

Signed  Date 10/5/23

Hon. Boniface Maundu Katumbi - MCA

MCA KYANGWINTHYA EAST WARD