



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

 No. 23 of 2023

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO THE AUGUST RECESS, 2023

Honourable Members,

Pursuant to the County Assembly approved Calendar (Regular Session), 2023, this House is proceeding for the August recess effective today Wednesday, 9th August, 2023. In this regard, this House will be debating on a Motion on adjournment for the August recess pursuant to Standing Order No. 25(3) and resume its sittings on Tuesday 5th September, 2023 at 9.00 am.

Honourable Members,

Since the Assembly resumed from the April-May Recess on Tuesday, May 9th, 2023, precisely three months have passed. During this time, we have made significant strides through both Plenary and the diligent efforts of the County Assembly Committees. These accomplishments reflect our unwavering commitment to fulfilling our constitutional responsibilities of legislation, oversight, and representation, as stipulated by Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

Honourable Members,

I am pleased to acknowledge that this House has successfully undertaken a range of legislative and oversight activities. I would like to take a moment to spotlight some remarkable accomplishments that have been achieved, as we direct our attention and efforts towards what lies ahead of us as an Assembly;

A. Motions

The Assembly has approved the following Motions;

- i. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on the County Budget and Appropriations on consideration of the Kitui County Budget Estimates for the FY 2023/2024.
- ii. Motion on adoption of the report by Liaison Committee on the County inspection tour of projects funded by the County Government of Kitui carried out as from 20th -24th March, 2023.
- iii. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation on inspection of Yambyu Rock Water Catchment in Kivou Ward.
- iv. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Budget and Appropriations on consideration of the Kitui County Debt Management Strategy Paper, 2023/2024.
- v. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on consideration of the Kitui County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) 2023-2027.
- vi. Motion on approval of the report by the Committee on Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments Development on the consideration of Kitui County Climate Change Action Plan (2023-2027).
- vii. Motion on approval of the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation on preparedness and estimated budgetary expenditure towards forthcoming Kitui County Agricultural Show and



Trade Fair to be held from 27th to 29th July, 2023 at Ithookwe Show Ground.

- viii. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development on the workshop on Environment, Lands and Sustainable Infrastructure held on 13th to 18th February, 2023 in Singapore.
- ix. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of the Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT, and Cooperatives Training on Legislation, Policy Intervention and the Role of Committee in Trade, Industry, ICT and Cooperatives in Turkey, held on 19th to 27th February, 2023 in Turkey.
- x. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Public Investments and Accounts on the study visit to United Arab Emirates on examination of public expenditure held on 19th to 26th February, 2023.
- xi. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the training on the role of the legislature in the budget making process; Accountability in the public sector held at Dubai United Arab Emirates.
- xii. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation on the training workshop on strategic food security for Kitui County held from 6th to 10th March, 2023 in Malaysia.
- xiii. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of the Committee on Basic Education, Training and Skills Development on the strategic education planning program held from 13th to 17th March, 2023 in Dubai.



- xiv. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of the Liaison Committee on a training workshop on managing committee work and meetings held in Dubai United Arab Emirates.
- xv. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of the committee on Administration and Coordination of County Affairs on training on effective County leadership and Governance in Addis Ababa- Ethiopia (24th to 28th April, 2023).
- xvi. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of the Committee on Health and Sanitation on a training and benchmarking workshop on the roles of legislators in maintaining health care standards held in Mumbai, India.

B. Statements

The following Statements were requested;

- i. Statement request on non-payment of casuals working in the County Dispensaries (Level II) and Health Centres (Level III) in Kitui County.
- ii. Statement on the fire outbreak in Kalundu market on the 16th of April, 2023.
- iii. Statement request on the stoppage of worker's salaries following the staff head count and human resource audit and rationalization.
- iv. Statement request to the Chairperson Committee on Administration and Coordination of County Affairs on animals loitering in Kitui and Mwingi towns.
- v. Statement request to the Chairperson Committee on Health and Sanitation on the recent health worker's transfer under the ministry of Health and Sanitation, creation of a new position of a Health Coordinator under the County Ministry of Health and Sanitation and status of Nguni Health Centre and Ivuusya Dispensary in Nguni Ward.



- vi. Statement request to the Chairperson of Basic Education, Training and Skills Development and Labour and Social Services on the alleged demotion and reduction of ECDE teachers' salaries in Kitui County.

Honourable Members,

I kindly urge the relevant Committees to expedite their efforts in conducting the necessary inquiries and investigations, aiming to provide the House with statement responses at the earliest opportunity. Delaying these responses could potentially render them ineffective, and there is a risk that certain matters could become time-sensitive and ineligible for consideration.

C. Bills

Honourable Members,

This is an area that requires heightened attention from our Assembly. I can distinctly remember issuing a call to action to all County Assembly Committees not long ago, urging them to draft a minimum of two (2) Bills during this Session. In the period preceding to this recess, the Assembly has only managed to approve the **Kitui County Appropriations Bill, 2023**. This has raised concerns for me, considering that we are left with only four months to the end of the session, which is contrary to the goal set earlier.

D. Oversight activities

The County Assembly Committees have been able to carry out the following oversight activities;

- i. Committee on Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments inspection exercise on Sand harvesting within the County.
- ii. Committee on Labour and Social Welfare assessment of workers' welfare in the County Corporations.



- iii. Committee on Trade, industry, ICT and Cooperatives inspection of markets sheds, abattoirs, stock yards across the County.
- iv. Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services inspection of Social Halls and Resource Centres.
- v. Committee on Finance and Economic Planning inspection of the status of revenue collection in Kitui County.
- vi. Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation inspection exercise on the Kitui County Agricultural Show and Trade Fair, 2023.
- vii. Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development inspection exercise on roads projects undertaken in 2021/2022 Financial Year in the County.
- viii. Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources inspection exercise of County Tourism Sites.
- ix. Committee on Health and Sanitation inspection exercise on status of the health facilities within the County.
- x. Committee on Basic Education, Training and Skills Development inspection exercise on the status of Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) in Kitui County.

Honourable Members,

It is worth acknowledging that most of the Committees have concluded their oversight duties. Regrettably, as we proceed for this recess, the reports outlining their findings and actions taken have not yet been presented. I wish to reiterate my call to these Committees, underscoring that their tasks will only be considered complete once the Assembly adopts the corresponding reports. The recommendations within these reports hold great importance, as they serve as a blueprint for the County Executive's implementation strategies.



Honourable Members,

As elected leaders of this County, we are directly accountable to the electorates by ensuring effective and efficient service delivery. The people of this great County have bestowed on us a high calling which we should endeavor to deliver as envisioned in Article 1 (2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. I therefore urge Members to utilize the legislative tools at our disposal to make this a reality.

The great people of this County are certainly banking their trust in us. As your Speaker, I commit myself to assist you to deliver your mandate and advance your individual and collective responsibility to the people of Kitui County. We all need each other in order to attain a vision of a prosperous and self-sufficient County.

Honourable Members,

I am alive to the fact that some Committees have pending work as highlighted above that needs to be concluded as soon as practicable. In this regard, I request the Chairpersons of Committees with pending works to expedite the same and table their reports for consideration and approval by the Assembly.

Honourable Members,

I wish to bring to your attention that this August recess will be a busy one for all of us. To start with, I wish to inform you that my office received a letter from the office of the Count Secretary inviting us to the upcoming Biennial Devolution Conference, 2023. The aforementioned conference will be held as from 15th to 19th August, 2023 in Uasin Gishu County under the theme ‘*10 years of Devolution: the present and future*’. I therefore extend my invitation to you all to this important devolution event which provides an opportunity for us to interact, network and share experiences.



Honourable Members,

As the saying goes, all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. On this premise, I wish to inform you that the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) has organized the 4th edition of the CASA Games and Cultural Festival, 2023 which will be held in Nakuru County. This week-long sporting event will be for all the forty-seven County Assemblies.

The theme for the 4th edition of CASA Games is “ *Inculcating integration and social interactions through sports and diverse cultures*”. The sporting event will take place from 19th to 27th August, 2023 with the official opening on Monday 21st August, 2023, 9.00am at Afraha Stadium, Nakuru County.

Honourable Members,

Our County Assembly will be participating in various sport disciplines with participants drawn from both Members of the County Assembly and Members of Service. My office and that of the Clerk has made meticulous arrangements for all participants to undertake proper trainings in readiness for this important annual sporting event. You will all agree with me that such events provide an opportunity for us to interact, showcase our sporting talents, and appreciate our rich and diverse cultural heritage.

Honourable Members,

The travelling day to Nakuru shall be on Saturday 19th August, 2023. This is to allow teams sufficient time to acclimatize before the commencement of the games. It is important to note that the Chairperson for the Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender, and Social Services Hon. Judith Wanza, is the point person coordinating all Honourable Members on issues related to the CASA Games.



Equally, the Office of the Clerk has designated the Chair, Assembly CASA Games Coordinating Committee Mr. Harrison Otieno to be the point person coordinating all staff related issues.

Honourable Members,

The flagging off ceremony has been organized to take place at our Assembly parking area immediately after the rise of the House. I will be officially handing over the flag to the County Assembly team leader; the Chair for the Assembly Committee on Culture, Youth, Sports, Gender and Social Services flanked by Members of her Committee. Therefore, I extend a warm invitation to all of you to join and witness this event.

I take this opportunity to extend my best wishes to all the teams taking part in both their practice sessions and the actual competitions. I encourage you to proudly represent our Assembly and strive to achieve victory by earning trophies across various disciplines.

Thank you and God bless you all.



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

Wednesday, 9th August, 2023.

