

# THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY THIRD ASSEMBLY - (SECOND SESSION)

### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

No. 24	of 2023
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## COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO RESUMPTION FROM AUGUST RECESS, 2023.

#### Honourable Members,

I am truly delighted to extend a warm welcome to each and every one of you as we reconvene here today, on the 5th of September, 2023, following a well-deserved recess in the month of August. This period of rest has undoubtedly provided us with the opportunity to recharge and renew our energies, enabling us to return to our duties with a fresh perspective and heightened enthusiasm.

As we gather here today, it is important to recognize the significance of the responsibility that has been entrusted to us by the people of Kitui. They have placed their faith in us, expecting us to diligently undertake the tasks and challenges that lie ahead. For this reason, I have no doubt that we are fully capable of meeting and exceeding those expectations.

#### Honourable Members,

As you are all aware, our Assembly was engaged in significant activities during the recess period. From the 14th to the 19th of August, 2023, we participated in the Devolution Conference which was held in Uasin Gishu

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County. Subsequently, from the 19th to the 27th of August, 2023, we were actively involved in the 4th edition of the CASA Games, which took place in Nakuru County. These two events provided us with invaluable opportunities to engage with our legislative counterparts and colleagues in the devolution arena.

#### Honourable Members,

The devolution conference provided us with a valuable opportunity for exchange and benchmarking. I firmly believe that each of us has gained insights that will undoubtedly enhance our legislative endeavors. With a shared commitment to elevating our debates, I have high expectations for the outcomes of this engagement, as its significance was not in vain.

#### Honourable Members.

I wish to express my heartfelt gratitude to all of you for your enthusiastic participation in the CASA games. Your unwavering dedication and determination to excel are truly commendable. Our collective efforts have showcased a relentless spirit of competition and the pursuit of excellence. It's worth highlighting some of our achievements, such as securing the first position in Scrabble, a title we proudly retained from the previous CASA games. Additionally, we attained a well-deserved second position in the Choir competitions, while our badminton and football teams admirably competed up to the quarter-finals, and all the other teams equally performed very well.

I extend my sincere congratulations to all teams for their remarkable display of their talents. Let their accomplishments inspire and motivate us all. As we move forward, I encourage every team to set their sights on even more trophies in the next edition of the CASA games. Your dedication not only reflects positively on our Assembly but also reinforces our commitment to excel in all that we do.

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#### Honourable Members,

it also brings me great pleasure to share that several outstanding individuals, drawn from our esteemed Membership of the County Assembly and the dedicated Service, have been chosen to represent our nation, Kenya, at the East African Legislative Assembly games. Their selection is a testament to their exceptional skills and commitment.

#### Honourable Members,

Allow me to commend you for your commitment to the responsibilities entrusted to you. I acknowledge the significant strides we have collectively achieved so far. Through your diligence, we have successfully passed crucial Motions and Bills, engaged in insightful discussions on Statements, and approved various Committee reports.

As we commence sittings, let us reaffirm our dedication to our roles in legislation, representation, and oversight. Let us demonstrate a steadfast commitment to these duties, unbiased and fearless. As an Assembly, we possess the potential to enact legislation that can profoundly uplift the living standards of our constituents and empower them to lead dignified lives. I implore all Members to continue their proactive contributions by drafting Motions, Bills, Statements, Petitions, and regulations. By doing so, we can transform aspirations into reality. The great people of this County have placed their trust in us, relying on our collective efforts to bring positive change. Rest assured, I stand ready to provide any support necessary to turn these ambitions into tangible achievements.

#### Honourable Members,

As we resume our work, let us carry forward the spirit of dedication and unity that defines us. Let us engage in constructive debates, open dialogues, and thoughtful deliberations that lead to solutions beneficial to us, our constituents and the larger community. Our commitment to transparency,



accountability, and progress will undoubtedly guide us toward achieving the goals we have set for ourselves.

#### Honourable Members,

Before we proceeded for the August recess, the following Committees had pending work that needs to be concluded as soon as practicable:

- 1. Joint Committee on Agriculture and Labour Pending report writing on Joint inspection at Thwake Mega Dam Following the Public outcry on Purported unfair Labour Practices and Inspection of Water Projects in Kanyangi.
- Committee on Basic Education, Training and Skills Development -Pending report writing on VCTs Inspection carried out in Kitui County.
- 3. Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development report writing on Inspection exercise on road projects undertaken in the financial year 2021/2022 in Kitui County.
- 4. Committee on Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments
  - i. Report writing on Inspection of Solar Floodlight in Kitui County.
  - ii. Report writing on Inspection of Sand harvesting sites in Kitui County.
  - iii. Report writing on the Benchmarking on Sand harvesting in Kajiado and Makueni Counties.
  - iv. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on Ikutha ward mining activities which is awaiting Committee scrutiny of Ministry's response and subsequent report writing.
- 5. Committee on Health and Sanitation report writing on inspection of health facilities within the county
- 6. Committee on Finance and Economic Planning Pending report writing exercise on an Inspection carried out on the status of revenue collection in Kitui County.

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- 7. Committee on Labour and Social Welfare report on assessment of workers welfare in county cooperations.
- 8. Ad hoc Committee Pending joint report writing exercise for Ad-hoc committee on insecurity caused by camel herders in the South Kitui game reserve to the residents of Mutha ward, Kitui South Constituency and Committee on Administration and Coordination of County affairs during the site visits for the proposed construction of police stations.

I request the Chairpersons of these Committees to expedite the same and table their reports for consideration and approval by the Assembly.

#### Honourable Members,

Allow me to further highlight some of the work ahead of us between now and the time we break for the December recess. The Assembly will be considering the following important statutory documents:

- The Annual Development Paper for the for the 2024/2025 financial year,
- 2. The Finance Bill for 2023/2024 financial year,
- 3. Supplementary Budget Estimates I for the 2023/2024 financial year, and the
- 4. The County Budget Review and Outlook Paper for the 2022/2023 financial year,
- 5. The Assembly will also be considering the draft policy and legislative proposal on Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation, and any other Motions, Bills, Petitions, and Statements that may arise.

#### Honourable Members.

I once again re-affirm my assurance to serving this House candidly and to the best of my ability. I commit myself, as your Speaker, to assist you to deliver on your mandate and advance your individual and collective

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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.

Thank you, and let us embark on this journey with determination, unity, and steadfast dedication to the task at hand.

SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.

Tuesday, 5th September, 2023.