

THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY THIRD ASSEMBLY - (SECOND SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

NO. 33 of 2023

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO DECEMBER RECESS, 2023.

Honourable Members,

In adherence to the approved County Assembly Calendar for Regular Sessions, 2023, we mark the conclusion of the Second Session of the Third Assembly, adjourning today, Wednesday, 6th December, 2023, for the December recess, 2023. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (3), a procedural motion on adjournment for the December recess will be debated after which the County Assembly shall adjourn without Question put. Our next regular session (Third Session) shall commence on Tuesday, 13th February, 2024, at 9.00 am.

Honourable Members,

You can all bear me witness that this recess is very crucial to every one of us after being here for three months since this House resumed from the August recess. I want to echo the words of Arianna Huffington - A Greek-America Author, 'Rest is not a self-indulgent luxury; it is a fundamental priority, an essential requirement of a healthy and productive life'. Therefore, having this rest is crucial for our both physical and mental well-

being, and further accord you adequate time to interact with your electorates.

Honourable Members,

Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 entrusts this House with the constitutional responsibilities of Oversight, Representation, and Legislation. I commend this House for the steadfast pursuit of its constitutional mandate and I would like to highlight some of our notable achievements during this Second Session, which commenced on 14th February, 2023, and concludes today:

A. Motions

Honourable Members,

During the session under review, this Assembly was able to debate and approve a number of motions, key among them being; -.

- 1. Motion on approval of Membership to the County Assembly Business Committee.
- Motion on approval of the County Assembly Annual Calender from February 2023 - December 2023.
- 3. Motion on approval of Membership to the Speaker's Panel.
- Motion on adoption of the Report by the Committee on Selection on the Change of Membership to County Assembly Select and Sectoral Committees.
- Motion on approval of Report by the Committee on Budget and Appropriations on Consideration of the Kitui County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP) for the Financial Year 2023/2024.
- Motion on adoption of the Report by the Committee on Budget and Appropriations on Consideration of the Kitui County Supplementary Budget II for the Financial Year 2022/2023.
- 7. Motion on approval of the Kitui County Assembly Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2023 (County Assembly Bill No. 1, 2023).

- 8. 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 from 20th -24th March 2023.
- Motion on Adoption of the Report by the Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development on a Workshop on Environment, Lands and Sustainable Infrastructure held on 13th to 18th February, 2023 in Singapore.
- Motion on Adoption of the Report by the Committee on Agriculture,
 Water and Irrigation on Inspection of Yambyu Rock Water
 Catchment in Kivou Ward.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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.
- 13. 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.
- 14. 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.
- 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.
- 16. 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.
- 17. 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.
- 18. Motion on approval of the Report by the Committee on Powers and Privileges on the Inquiry into the Alleged Breach of Privilege and Unethical Conduct of Hon. Sammy Musili Munyithya (Member of County Assembly for Kivou Ward).
- 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).
- 20. Motion on approval of the Report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation on Preparedness and Estimated Budgetary Expenditure towards the Kitui County Agricultural Show and Trade Fair held from 27th to 29th July 2023 at Ithookwe Show Ground.
- 21. 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.
- 22. 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).

- 23. 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.
- 24. Motion on adoption of the Report by a Delegation of the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources on Capacity Building Workshop on Management and Execution of Committee Activities held from 27th February to 4th March, 2023 in Dubai.
- 25. Motion on adoption of the Report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on Consideration of the Kitui County Annual Development Plan (ADP) FY 2024-2025.
- 26. Motion on adoption of the Report by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee on Consideration of the Kitui County Supplementary Budget I Estimates for the Financial Year 2023/2024.
- 27. Motion on removal of Hon. Christopher Nzilu Nzioka from the Position of Deputy Speaker of the County Assembly of Kitui- Pursuant to Section 11A of the County Governments (Amendment) Act, 2020 and Kitui County Assembly Standing Order No. 14(6).
- 28. Motion on approval of the Kitui County Finance Bill, 2023 (C/A Bill No. 4 2023) with Amendments.
- 29. Motion on H.E the Governor's Memorandum on the Kitui County Supplementary Bill, 2023 (C/A Bill No. 5 2023).
- 30. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Appointments on vetting of nominees for appointment as members of the Mwingi Municipality Board.
- 31. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Health and Sanitation on the training on public health sector and governance (best practices in the healthcare management and policy

- formulation), carried out in Istanbul, Turkey from 16th to 20th October, 2023.
- 32. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation on the training of agricultural value chains held from 30th October to 3rd November, 2023 in Singapore.
- 33. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Public Investments and Accounts on training workshop on the role of the committee in scrutinizing public expenditure held in Singapore from 6th to 10th November, 2023.

B. Statements

Honourable Members.

The following statements were requested;

- 1. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on Mining activities in Ikutha Ward.
- 2. Statement request by Hon. Kasungi Kavula on deforestation activities at Ndithi/Endui Hills in Waita Ward.
- 3. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on the concluded Youth International Day held in Kauwi, Kitui West Sub County.
- 4. Statement request by Hon. Boniface Maundu Katumbi on animals loitering in Mwingi and Kitui towns.
- Statement request by Hon. Jeremiah Musee Mutua on transfer of health workers and creation of a new position of a health coordinator and the status of Nguni Health centre and Ivuusya dispensary.
- 6. Statement request by Hon. Munyoki Mwinzi on non-payment of casuals working in the county dispensaries and health centres.

- 7. Statement request by Hon. Dominic Isumail Mwamisi on the deplorable state of Mutha Health centre and other health facilities in Mutha ward.
- 8. Statement request by Hon. Joseph M. Mbite on the County's preparedness on the anticipated El- Nino rains.

C. Bills

Honourable Members.

Bills play a very crucial role in the legislative process in any parliamentary setting because they address societal issues and reflect the will of the people through their elected representatives. During this period, this House managed to approve the following Bills;

- 1. The Kitui County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2023
- 2. The Kitui County Finance Bill, 2022/2023
- 3. The Kitui County Finance Bill, 2023/2024.

In addition, the Assembly has one (1) crucial bill (*The Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Bill, 2023*) which is at the committee stage I call upon the responsible Committees to fast-track the conclusion of the Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Bill and Policy, 2023 during this recess period for their subsequent approval by this House.

D. Oversight activities

Honourable Members,

Throughout this period, the County Assembly Committees diligently carried out oversight activities, inspecting and overseeing various crucial aspects such as:

1. The Committee on Environment, Energy and Minerals Investments inspection of solar flood lights and street lighting in Kitui County.

- 2. The Committee on Environment, Energy and Minerals Investments inspection of Sand Harvesting sites in Kitui County.
- 3. The Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT & Cooperatives inspection of market sheds, slaughter houses and livestock yard across the County carried out on 7th -11th August 2023.
- The Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development inspection exercise on road projects undertaken in 2021/2022 financial year.
- 5. The Committee Culture, Sports, Youth, Gender and Social Services inspection of Resources Centers and Social Halls.
- The Committee Health and Sanitation inspection on the status of health facilities in Kitui County conducted from 17th to 20th April, 2023.
- 7. The Committee on Finance and Economic Planning inspection exercise on the status of revenue collection in Kitui County.
- 8. The Committee on Labour and Social Welfare & Agriculture Water and Irrigation spot check visit at Thwake Mega Dam and inspection of water projects in Kanyangi Ward.
- 9. The Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources inspection exercise of tourism projects funded by the County government of Kitui for the period 2013 2023.

As we acknowledge these achievements, there are pending committee reports and responses to statement requests that require our attention. These pending reports and responses encompass critical areas awaiting our consideration and action.

Allow me to highlight some of the pending Committee work that needs our attention as a House;

A. Reports

Honourable Members,

Some of the pending committee reports are;

- Report by the Committee on Environment Energy and Minerals Investments on the inspection of solar flood lights and street lighting in Kitui County.
- 2. Report by the Committee on Environment Energy and Minerals Investments on the inspection of Sand Harvesting sites in Kitui County.
- 3. Report by the Committee on Environment Energy and Minerals Investments on Bench marking exercise on Sand Harvesting in Kajiado County.
- 4. Report by the Committee on Environment Energy and Minerals Investments on consideration of the Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Bill, 2023.
- Report by the Committee on Delegated County Legislation on consideration of the Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Policy, 2023.
- Report by the Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT & Cooperatives on inspection of market sheds, slaughter houses & livestock yard across the county carried out on 7th -11th August 2023.
- 7. Report by the Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development on inspection exercise on road projects undertaken in the financial year 2021/2022.
- 8. Report by the Committee on Procedure and Rules on formulation of the Speaker's Rules.
- 9. Report by the Committee Culture, Sports, Youth, Gender and Social Services on the inspection of Resources Centers and Social Halls.
- 10. The Kitui County People with Disabilities Draft Bill, 2023.

- Report by the Committee Health and Sanitation on the status of health facilities in Kitui County conducted from 17th to 20th April, 2023.
- Report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the inspection exercise on the status of revenue collection in Kitui County.
- 13. Report by the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on the KICOTEC worker's outcry on salary delays.
- 14. A Joint report by the Committees on Labour and Social Welfare & Agriculture Water and Irrigation on spot check visit at Thwake Mega Dam and Inspection of water projects in Kanyangi ward.
- 15. Report by the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on the inquiry into the operations of the County Public Service Board (CPSB) on the interviews and verification of academic certificates for the Mwingi Municipality Board Members.
- 16. Report by the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources on the inspection exercise of tourism projects funded by the County government of Kitui for the period 2013 - 2023.
- 17. Report by the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on the inquiry into pending legal matters in the Kitui County Executive.
- 18. Report by the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on Assessment of the implementation status of South Eastern Kenya Economic Bloc (SEKEB) Act, 2022.
- Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on Audited accounts of the Kitui County Executive for the Financial Years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- 20. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee Audited accounts of the Kitui County Assembly for the Financial Years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

- 21. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee Audited accounts of the Kitui Water & Sanitation Company (KITWASCO) for the Financial Years 2018/2019; 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- 22. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee Audited accounts of the Kiambere Mwingi Water & Sanitation Company (KIMWASCO) for the Financial Years 2018/2019; 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- 23. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee Audited accounts of the Kitui County Textile Centre (KICOTEC) for the Financial Years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

B. Statements

Honourable Members.

Responses to the following statements requests are also pending, key among them being;

- 1. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on Mining activities in Ikutha Ward.
- 2. Statement request by Hon. Kasungi Kavula on deforestation activities at Ndithi/Endui Hills in Waita Ward.
- 3. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on the concluded Youth International Day held in Kauwi, Kitui West Sub County.
- 4. Statement request by Hon. Boniface Maundu Katumbi on animals loitering in Mwingi and Kitui towns.
- Statement request by Hon. Jeremiah Musee Mutua on transfer of health workers and creation of a new position of a health coordinator and the status of Nguni Health centre and Ivuusya dispensary.

- 6. Statement request by Hon. Munyoki Mwinzi on non-payment of casuals working in the county dispensaries and health centres.
- 7. Statement request by Hon. Dominic Isumail Mwamisi on the deplorable state of Mutha Health centre and other health facilities in Mutha ward.
- 8. Statement request by Hon. Joseph Musyoka Mbite on the County's preparedness on the anticipated El- Nino rains.

Honourable Members,

During the August recess of 2023, both Members and Staff of this Assembly exhibited remarkable participation in the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) games and Cultural Bonanza in Nakuru County. The teams demonstrated exceptional prowess, notably our Scrabble team securing the first position for the second consecutive year. Additionally, our choir did very well attaining position two. Not forgetting both badminton and football teams that competed up to the quarter-finals. As your Speaker, I was impressed by the overall performance of all the teams which reflects our Assembly's diverse talents and capabilities.

Honourable Members.

As we bring this session to a close and embrace the recess, I extend my sincere appreciation for the dedication witnessed in this Assembly.

As your Speaker, I remain committed to guiding this House towards the common good, and championing for the improvement of the economic and social wellbeing of our people. We have been given this opportunity by the residents of Kitui to serve them and I am certain beyond doubt that we shall deliver.

Throughout this recess period, there will be several activities whose details shall be communicated in due time.

Honourable Members.

During this recess, I encourage each Member to reflect on the issues discussed in this House, engage with constituents, and explore avenues for improvement. Let us return with renewed vigor, prepared to address challenges and effect positive change in our community. May this recess offer you valuable time for rest and reflection.

I also take this opportunity to invite you to a Speaker's luncheon at the rise of this afternoon sitting at Parkside Villa Hotel, Kitui as from 4.00pm. I wish all of you safe travels during this festive season. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2024.

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Thank you, and enjoy the recess and the festivities.

HON, KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA

SPEAKER OF ASSEMBLY

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITU!

Wednesday, 6th December, 2023.

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