

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

No. 1 of 2024

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO RESUMPTION FROM DECEMBER RECESS, 2023.

Esteemed Honourable Members,

Good morning!

It is with profound gratitude that I welcome each of you back as we convene following a substantial December recess. I trust that this break provided sufficient opportunity for rest, rejuvenation, and meaningful engagement with our constituents, setting the stage for our collective endeavors ahead.

As we reconvene, it is paramount to reflect on our past achievements, identify areas ripe for improvement, and align ourselves with the aspirations of those we represent. Together, as a dynamic Assembly, we possess the capacity to effect positive change, thereby fostering a brighter future for our constituents.

Honourable Members,

Our duty as representatives of the people remains paramount, and I commend each of you for your unwavering dedication to the welfare of our electorates. The challenges before us demand not only dedication but

also a collaborative spirit. Let us carry forward the lessons and experiences garnered during the recess as we resume our legislative responsibilities.

Honourable Members,

As you are all aware, our Assembly engaged in significant activities during the recess period. Notably, we commenced with a week-long consultative meeting between the County Assembly and the County Executive in Mombasa, courtesy of H.E. the Governor, Dr. Julius Makau Malombe as from 10th to 17th December, 2023 . This crucial gathering provided an opportunity to reflect on our County's successes over the past year and to explore avenues for improvement in service delivery. I have every confidence that we are now better equipped to serve our electorates through meaningful engagements and projects implementation oversight.

Honourable Members,

Ifanyi Enoch Onuoha a Nigerian Scholar once said, *“Teamwork is the secret that makes common people achieve uncommon results”*. In this regard, the County Assembly Service Board organized a team building and bonding session between Members of the County Assembly and members of the service from the 15th to the 19th January, 2024 in Mombasa, fostering cohesion, trust, effective communication, and a positive work culture. I am convinced that this exercise has fortified our unity, positioning us to achieve our shared goals as an Assembly.

Honourable Members,

Recently, we held a successful consultative meeting with the Governor at Mutomo on the Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Bill and Policy. I firmly believe that we are now ready to finalize on the two documents. I call upon the Environment, Energy, and Mineral Investments Development and County Delegated Legislation committees to expedite the finalization of these documents so that this House can debate and approve them.

I also extend commendations to the Honourable Members and staff who represented our Assembly and our nation at the East African Legislative Authorities Sports and Cultural Associations games (EALASCA) in Kisumu County as from 29th January to 2nd February, 2024.

Honourable Members,

During the recess, the following Committees took time to execute their respective mandate as follows; -

1. A joint retreat for the House leadership and the Speaker's Panel to review the Assembly progress and performance from February to December, 2023 and also to discuss the way forward on how to expedite pending committee reports/work.
2. A joint meeting between the Liaison Committee, House Leadership, Speakers Panel, County Assembly Service Board and Vice Chairpersons of the County of County Assembly committees held in Pride Inn Azure from 8th to 13th January, 2024.
3. Committee on Implementation undertook a retreat to review the House resolutions in Mwingi from 29th January to 2nd February, 2024.
4. County Budget and Appropriations Committee training by Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) on committee mandate and how to execute statutory documents held at Pride Inn Azure from 29th January to 2nd February, 2024.

Honourable Members,

As we proceeded for the December recess, there was a lot of pending business. I encourage respective committee chairpersons with pending work to move with speed in prosecuting these works so as to ensure timely results since its part of our mandate. More so, I call upon Members of Environment, Energy and Mineral Investments Development and those of Delegated County Legislation to prioritize finalizing their pending work on

the Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization Bill and Policy respectively and table their reports for consideration and approval by this House.

Honourable Members,

The review of our last session's legislative business underscores our commitment to our core mandate. I commend you for the dedication demonstrated during the second session, where we successfully approved crucial Committee Reports, Motions, Bills, engaged in insightful discussions on Statements, and conducted several oversight activities.

As we commence this session, let us reaffirm our dedication to legislation, representation, and oversight. I encourage the prioritization of Bills and Motions aimed at uplifting the livelihoods of our constituents.

Honourable Members,

As we embark on the third session, I encourage open dialogue, constructive debate, and a commitment to the principles that underpin our democratic processes. Our decisions hold the power to shape the trajectory of our County, and it is incumbent upon us to make choices that will stand the test of time.

May this session be marked by collaboration, innovation, and a shared vision for the prosperity of our beloved County. Let us work together with unity of purpose for the benefit of all those who entrust us with their hopes and aspirations.

Honourable Members,

Standing Order No. 18 states that *"The Governor shall address a special sitting of the Assembly once every year and may address the Assembly at any other time within the convenience of the County Assembly."* In this regard, I take this opportunity to remind you of the state of the County Governor's address tomorrow as from 2.30pm. This address will set the

development agenda for this year and I urge all of us to attend and keenly follow since we shall have a subsequent debate on the address.

Honourable Members,

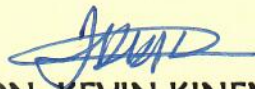
Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 151(1)(d), we are required to Constitute the County Assembly Business Committee whose term ends at the closure of every session. It is imperative to note that this is the Committee tasked with preparation of the County Assembly calendar and scheduling of business to be transacted in the House, and thus we can not transact any business in this House without first constituting this important Committee.

I call upon the respective County Assembly Party Whips to move with speed and nominate their Members to this Committee.

Honourable Members,

In conclusion, I reaffirm my commitment to serving this House candidly and to the best of my ability. As your Speaker, I pledge to assist you in fulfilling your mandate and advancing our 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.

Thank you, and let us commence this session with renewed purpose and determination.



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

Tuesday, 13th February, 2024.