



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

NO. 2 of 2024

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR AS RELATES TO THE STATE OF THE
COUNTY ADDRESS BY H.E, DR. JULIUS MAKAU MALOMBE; GOVERNOR,
KITUI COUNTY.**

Your Excellency, Dr. Julius Makau Malombe; Governor, Kitui County,
Your Excellency, Augustine Wambua Kanani; Deputy Governor, Kitui County,
Hon. Members of National Assembly present,
Honourable Members of the County Assembly,
The Acting County Secretary,
County Executive Committee Members,
Chief Officers,
The Clergy,
Distinguished Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good afternoon.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to this sitting of the Third Session of this Assembly. You all reckon that this day is indeed of great importance to us

all. Today's sitting is informed by the Kitui County Assembly Standing Order No. 18 which 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."*

Your Excellency,

This Assembly eagerly anticipates your address, marking the second of such occasion since the inception of this Third Assembly. Your willingness to engage with us underscores the pivotal role this Assembly plays in your agenda of the 'Kitui Promise', and that you are ready to continue working with us in order to realize the gains of devolution. We are indeed honoured to host you once again.

Your Excellency,

Being approximately a year and a half since the inception of your administration, it is an opportune time to reflect on the direction, progress, challenges, and achievements we have collectively encountered. County Assembly of Kitui like other Assemblies across the republic has not been devoid of its own experiences so far. We have encountered numerous challenges, for instance, lack of proper facilities and structures, inadequate office space for committees and employees, and inadequate funds.

Your government will be held accountable for its commitment to implementing the Constitution and other policies, including the Kitui County Integrated Development Plan 2022-2027, which serves as the blueprint for sustainable development. The Assembly stands ready to support the effective implementation of these policies and plans.

My clarion call is for the Executive and the Assembly to continue collaborating and being the glue that holds the great people of Kitui together, to constantly work on long term cohesion and to see that the marginalized and the poorest of the poor in our society can see hope in our governance.

Your Excellency,

I want to assure you that this County Assembly shall continue working together in mutual respect and cooperation with the County Executive. We trust that your government will continue to accord the necessary support to the County Assembly and I assure you, we will do the same without compromising our roles.

The Assembly appreciates the support you have extended to our legislative work, including the assent to Budget Appropriations Bills. We are committed to finalizing pending matters, such as the Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization Policy and Bill, 2023 and I urge the relevant committees to expedite their consideration of these legislations for tabling in the Assembly as discussed and agreed during our joint engagement in Mutomo as from 6th to 8th February, 2024.

Your Excellency,

I appeal for your support in addressing critical infrastructure needs of the Assembly. As earlier mentioned, the Assembly lacks adequate facilities and structures which are key in aiding to the realization of our mandate. I call upon your support and collaboration in the following critical infrastructures: -

- i. Construction of Modern Office Block; This is a project which has been approved in all County Planning Documents; the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP), County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP), Annual Development Budget (ADP), and the budget estimates with a corresponding budgetary allocation of Kshs. 190 million. There's a contract in place for commencement of the construction works of these offices which will provide ample office space for both the Members of County Assembly and the Service. Your Excellency, your support in the implementation of this vital Assembly project will be highly appreciated.
- ii. Ward Offices for Members of County Assembly; the Assembly requests allocation of at least one (1) acre of Government land in every Ward

headquarter for construction of Ward offices which are vital for efficient representation and service delivery at the grassroots level. We further request for sufficient budget to implement these projects.

- iii. Construction of the Speaker's residence; It is noteworthy that this project has been approved in various County planning documents across different fiscal years, with an allocated budget of Kshs. 35 million. However, the prolonged implementation period has raised audit concerns, particularly regarding compliance with the recommended timelines by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC). In light of these considerations, the Assembly humbly requests the allocation of at least one (1) acre of land within Kitui Municipality for the construction of this residence.

Your Excellency,

With these remarks, it is my privilege and honour to invite you to address this Honorable House. Welcome.

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

Wednesday, 14th February, 2024.