

**STATEMENT REQUEST ON THE STATUS OF NON-OPERATIONAL HEALTH FACILITIES IN MUTONGUNI WARD**

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 41 (2) (C), I request a statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Health and Sanitation regarding the current status of non-operational health facilities in Mutonguni Ward.

**RECOGNIZING** that the Committee on Health and Sanitation is responsible for overseeing all health-related matters within the County, as outlined in Standing Order No. 190 (5).

**AWARE** that the Second Schedule of our Standing Orders defines the committee’s responsibilities, which include participating in the formulation and implementation of health policies and legislation, overseeing county health services, and approving budget allocations for its designated department to ensure efficient and effective service delivery to the residents of Kitui County.

**FURTHER AWARE** that the right to the highest attainable standard of healthcare is enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya. Article 43(1)(a) explicitly states *that “every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care.”* This provision serves as a foundational guarantee for accessible and available healthcare for all citizens.

**NOTING** that Universal Health Coverage (UHC) is a key component of Kenya’s health policy, designed to ensure that every Kenyan can access essential health services without financial hardship. UHC aims to provide quality healthcare services to all citizens, regardless of socio-economic status, geographic location, or income level.

**FURTHER NOTING** that a healthy population is vital for sustainable development; however, healthcare access in Kitui County remains a challenge, with many remote areas still underserved.

**CONCERNED** that despite the annual budget allocation for the County Ministry of Health and Sanitation having been increasing yearly, many healthcare facilities are neither fully operational nor capable of meeting the

ii Mr. Speaka  
for directions  
at  
8/10/2024

i Clear  
Approval.  
~~John~~  
8/10/2024.

ii PCA  
Have this  
allocated time  
by the H-B-C  
at  
9/10/24

community's needs. This annual budget allocation is meant to cater for funding for the construction of new facilities, hiring more healthcare workers, and purchasing essential medical equipment and supplies.

**FURTHER CONCERNED** that residents of Mutonguni Ward frequently face long travel distances to access healthcare services due to the non-operational status of existing facilities. These include:

- i. Kangondi Dispensary in Kangondi village, which was completed and equipped using Community Level Infrastructure Development Program (CLIDP) funds for the financial year 2023/2024. However, no medical personnel have been assigned to the facility thus rendering it non-operational;
- ii. Utoo Dispensary in Mithiini village, which has also been completed but remains non-operational due to lack of staff and equipment;
- iii. Kakeani Dispensary in Kakeani village, which features a complete but non-operational maternity ward. Funds were allocated in the 2023/2024 County annual budget estimates to equip the ward, but no action has been taken to date. Additionally, the facility lacks essential drugs, forcing residents to purchase them from private pharmacies. This facility serves a significant population, including those from as far as Nguutani ward.
- iv. Tulia Health Centre in Mithiini village, proposed for renovation under the CLIDP budget for the financial year 2023/2024, has yet to see any progress. This facility serves a large number of residents but is also lacking essential drugs.

**ALARMED** that, despite significant investments in constructing these facilities, they remain non-operational and fail to address the healthcare needs of residents in Mutonguni Ward.

**FURTHER ALARMED** that if the issue of non-operational health facilities is not urgently addressed, residents will face substantial barriers to accessing essential healthcare services. This situation could result in serious implications, including delays in seeking treatment, worsening health conditions, and increased morbidity and mortality rates, particularly among



vulnerable groups such as children, the elderly, and individuals with chronic illnesses.

**THEREFORE**, the Committee on Health and Sanitation is requested to submit a comprehensive report to the House within **(twenty-one) 21 days**, detailing the following:

1. Timelines and strategies for operationalizing all completed health facilities in Mutonguni Ward.
2. Incentives that the ministry plans to implement to recruit and retain staff at remote health facilities.
3. Causes of drug shortages in the aforementioned facilities and proposed measures to address these issues.

SIGNED:.....

DATE:.....8/10/2024.....

HON. BENJAMIN MULANDI- (M.C.A)

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, COUNTY OF DALLAS, this 1st day of May, 1964.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_, known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument, and acknowledged to me that he executed the same for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office this 1st day of May, 1964.

Notary Public in and for the State of Texas.

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_.

Witness my hand and seal this 1st day of May, 1964.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

CLERK OF COUNTY CLERK OF DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS