

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

NO. 50 OF 2024

# COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO THE INAUGURAL BUNGE MASHINANI INITIATIVE.

Honourable Members of the County Assembly,

County Assembly Service Board,

Distinguished Guests,

Members of the Service,

Esteemed Residents of Migwani Ward,

Members of the General Public,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning,

It is with immense gratitude and pride that I address you today on this historic occasion of the inaugural Bunge Mashinani initiative, hosted here at Migwani AIC Primary School in Migwani Ward. This day marks a significant milestone in the journey of governance in our County. It represents our unwavering commitment to transparency, inclusivity and bringing the operations of the County Assembly closer to the people we serve.

As we gather here, I am reminded of the words of Kenya's founding leaders who envisioned a nation where governance would be a shared responsibility. Today, we are taking deliberate steps to realize that vision by creating a platform where your voices as the people of Migwani and Kitui County at large can be heard directly and actively incorporated into our decision-making processes.

#### Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Bunge Mashinani initiative is a bold demonstration of our resolve to decentralize legislative engagement. By holding our sessions in the grassroots, we aim to bridge the gap between the Assembly and the people. This initiative will not end with this inaugural session but will continue as a key feature of our governance structure going forward.

We are committed to ensuring that every Sub-County in Kitui County has the opportunity to host such a forum, thereby making every resident feel involved and represented. It is our hope that through consistent engagement, we can foster trust, mutual understanding and accountability in the way we govern. This approach also helps to demystify the work of the County Assembly. By engaging with you in your community, we hope to shed light on the legislative, oversight and representative roles of the Assembly, thus making our operations more accessible and transparent.

### Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Public participation is not just a constitutional requirement but a cornerstone of effective governance. The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, in Articles 10, 174, and 196, as well as the County Governments Act, 2012, emphasize the importance of involving citizens in county planning, budgeting and legislative processes.

Your involvement ensures that the decisions we make as your representatives are informed by the realities on the ground and are reflective of your needs and aspirations. Forums like this are designed to provide a space where your ideas, concerns and recommendations can guide the formulation of policies and the prioritization of development projects.

I urge all of us here today to recognize the power and responsibility of participation. It is through active engagement that you can hold us accountable and ensure that public resources are utilized effectively and efficiently for the benefit of our County.

#### Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen.

One of the primary goals of this initiative is to foster trust and unity between the County Assembly and the people of Kitui. As we deliberate here today, let us remember that we are all working towards a common goal: the betterment of our communities and the prosperity of our County.

For this trust to thrive, we as leaders must remain accessible, transparent and accountable. At the same time, we rely on you, the public, to engage constructively, offer solutions and support the initiatives designed to uplift our County.

#### Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This session provides a unique opportunity for us to reaffirm our commitment to the people of Kitui County. As their representatives, we must always strive to uphold the values of integrity, diligence and accountability.

I challenge the MCAs to ensure that every project initiated in your Wards is followed through to completion. Oversight is one of our key responsibilities, and it is through diligent monitoring that we can ensure prudent use of public resources. Let us commit to regular follow-ups, proactive engagement with

implementing County Ministries and effective communication with our constituents regarding the progress of ongoing projects.

Moreover, I urge you to prioritize legislation that directly addresses the needs of our people. Let us focus on drafting laws and policies that promote sustainable development, enhance service delivery and empower our communities economically and socially.

## Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Equally, allow me to emphasize the importance of supporting your elected Member of the County Assembly. Your MCAs is your voice in the Assembly. They represent your concerns, advocate your priorities and work tirelessly to bring development to your Ward.

I urge you to support them by attending barazas, engaging with them during Ward development planning meetings and providing constructive feedback on their work. Working together with your MCAs creates a united front that amplifies your voice and strengthens their ability to deliver on their mandate. Development is a collaborative effort and your unwavering support is critical in ensuring that your MCAs succeed in championing your interests. Let us build a culture of mutual respect and shared responsibility as we journey toward a better future for Migwani Ward and Kitui County at large.

#### Honourable Members, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In conclusion, this forum is a testament to the transformative power of collaboration. It is a reminder that governance is most effective when it is inclusive, participatory and grounded in the needs of the people.

To the residents of Migwani Ward, thank you for your warm hospitality and for hosting this historic event. Your participation here today is proof that we are moving in the right direction. To the Honourable Members, let us use this

platform to commit ourselves to the ideals of public service and ensure that the decisions we make in the Assembly truly reflect the will of the people. Let this be the beginning of a new chapter in governance, one where the Assembly and the people walk hand in hand towards a brighter and a prosperous future.

Thank you, and may God bless you all.

HON. KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA SPEAKER, KITUI COUNTY ASSEMBLY TUESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024