

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY THIRD ASSEMBLY - (THIRD SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

 No.	58	of	2023	

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO DECEMBER RECESS, 2024.

Honourable Members,

In adherence to the approved County Assembly Calendar for Regular Sessions, 2024, to day marks the conclusion of the Third Session of the Third Assembly as the House adjourns for the December long recess, effective Tuesday, 17th December 2024 following the alteration of the Assembly Calendar. In this regard, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 25 (3), a procedural motion on the adjournment for the December recess will be debated to allow the House to proceed with the recess and resume its sittings on Tuesday, 11th February 2025, at 9:00 am.

Honourable Members,

As we proceed into the December recess, I take this opportunity to extend my sincere gratitude to all Members of the County Assembly (MCAs) and staff for their unwavering support and commitment during the Third Session of this Assembly. Your dedication and hard work have been instrumental in the progress we've made as an Assembly, and I look

forward to continuing our collective efforts as we resume our work in the coming year.

Honourable Members,

You can all bear me witness that this recess is very crucial for each 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-American author: "Rest is not a self-indulgent luxury; it is a fundamental priority, an essential requirement of a healthy and productive life." Therefore, havir g this rest is crucial for both our physical and mental well-being.

Honourable Members,

Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, entrusts this House with the constitutional reponsibilities of oversight, representation, and legislation. I applaud this House for carrying out its constitutional duties without fear or favor. As the House concludes its Third Session, which commenced on 13th February 2024, I am honored to reflect on the achievements of this session while charting the path forward. This period has been pivotal for the legislative, oversight, and representative mandates of the Assembly, and I take this moment to share our accomplishments and express gratitude to all who have contributed to our success. This session has been marked by significant milestones that underscore our collective dedication to advancing the interests of our people. Allow me to highlight some of our notable achievements during this period:

A. Key Legislative Achievements

a) Bills

Honourable Members,

During the Third Session, this Assembly successfully passed Seven (7) critical bills aimed at addressing the pressing needs of our people. They include;

- i. The Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Bill, 2023
- ii. The Kitui County Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 2024
- iii. The Kitui County Appropriation Bill, 2024
- iv. The Kitui County Alcoholic Drinks Control (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- v. The Kitui County Finance Bill, 2024
- vi. The Kitui County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2024
- vii. Governor's Memorandum on The Kitui County Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2024.

These laws reflect our commitment to transformative policies that address both immediate and long-term challenges.

b). Guidelines

Honourable Members, this House also approved the Kitui County Public forums Implementation (amendment) Guidelines, 2024

c). Motions

Honourable Members,

During the session under review, this Assembly was able to debate and approve over 80 motions, key among them being;-.

- 1. Motion on approval of membership to the County Assembly Business Committee.
- 2. Motion on approval of the County Assembly Annual Calendar, Third Session (From February 2024 to December 2024).
- 3. Motion on Approval of the Model Intergovernmental Conditional Allocation Transfer Agreement.
- 4. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on the County Delegated Legislation on Kitui County River Basins Sand Utilization and Conservation Policy, 2023.

- 5. Motion on adoption of the report by the joint Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation and Labour and Social Welfare on inspection of water projects in Kanyangi Ward and spot checks at Thwake Mega Dam on labour issues.
- 6. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development on training on advanced parliamentary theory and practice for County Assembly of Kitui in Turkey-Istanbul.
- 7. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Environment, Energy and Minerals Investments Development on study visit to Kajiado and Makueni Counties on sustainable sand harvesting.
- 8. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Environment, Energy and Minerals Investments Development on sand harvesting sites in Kitui County.
- 9. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow County Assembly Sectoral Committees time to consider the Kitui County Fiscal Strategy Paper FY2024/2025 and further allow Committees to undertake oversight activities and resume its sitting on Tuesday 12th March 2024 at 9.00 a.m.
- 10. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development on inspection exercise of roads projects undertaken in the Financial Year 2021/2022 in Kitui County.
- 11. Motion on Governor's address on the State of the County.
- 12. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare and Committee on Appointments on the role of legislature in labour practices and vetting of nominees to public office held in Singapore from 12th to 16th February 2024.

- 13. Motion on adoption of the report by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee on consideration of the Kitui County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the Financial Year 2024/2025.
- 14. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow the Committee on County Budget and Appropriations time to consider the Kitui County Supplementary Budget Estimates II for the FY 2023/2024 and other County Assembly Committees time to undertake oversight activities and resume its sitting on Tuesday 26th March 2024 at 9.00 a.m.
- 15. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on the training on the role of legislature in justice and legal affairs matters, held in Singapore from 4th to 8th March, 2024.
- 16. Motion or adoption of the report by the Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT, and Co-operatives on the role of the legislature in trade promotion held in Singapore from 5th to 11th March 2024.
- 17. Motion or adoption of the report by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee on consideration of the Kitui County Supplementary Budget II Estimates for the Financial Year 2023/2024
- 18. Motion on the Kitui County Supplementary Appropriations II Bill, 2024 (C/As embly Bill No. 1 of 2024)
- 19. Motion on the Kitui County Supplementary Appropriation II Bill, 2024 (C/Assembly Bill No.1 of 2024) with Amendments
- 20. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Implementation on the implementation of House resolutions
- 21. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Health and Sanitation on the status of health facilities within Kitui County.
- 22. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Lands, Infrastructure and Urban Development on the oversight exercise to

- inspect projects undertaken by the Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport from May, 2023-February 2024 across the County.
- 23. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Powers and Privileges on inquiry on its own motion into the conduct of Hon. Munyoki Mwinzi, Hon. Daniel Ngoima Kimanzi, Hon. Priscilla Martha Makumi and Hon. Mary Ndumbu and to establish whether their conduct constitutes a breach of privilege.
- 24. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members to participate in public participation on budget estimates for the Financial Year 2024/2025 from 15th 17th May 2024 and thereafter, undertake Sectoral consideration of the same from 20th -24th May 2024 and resume its sitting on Tuesday 28th May 2024 at 9:00 am
- 25. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Appointments on vetting of nominees to Mwingi Municipality Board.
- 26. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Environment, Energy and Mineral investments development on the inspection of solar flood lights and street lighting in Kitui County.
- 27. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and I rigation on inspection exercise of sand dams constructed across Kitui County in the FY 2023/2024 carried out on 4th to 8th March, 2024.
- 28. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on the inspection exercise on the status of revenue collection in Kitui County.
- 29. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT & Cooperatives on inspection of market sheds,

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- slaughter houses & stock yards across the county carried out on 7th 11th Augus 2023.
- 30. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on the oversight exercise carried to access the welfare of workers in the county corporations carried out from 15th 19th May, 2023.
- 31. Motion or adoption of the report by the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on the oversight exercise carried to access the welfare of worker in the County Vocational Training Centres carried out from 2nd -6th April, 2024.
- 32. Motion on adoption of the 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 conducted from 24th -28th July 2023.
- 33. Motion of adoption of the report by the Committee on Culture, Sports, Youth, Gender and Social Services on the site inspection visit on the status of Lower Eastern Heritage Centre, resources centres and social halls projects funded by the County Government of Kitui, carried out rom 8th 12th May 2023.
- 34. Motion or adoption of the report by the Committee on Culture, Sports, Youth, Gender and Social Services on the inspection of playground: funded by the County Government of Kitui in FY 2022/2023 carried out from 18th to 22nd March, 2024.
- 35. Motion or adoption of the report by the Committee on Basic Education, Training and Skills Development on inspection of County Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) in Kitui County.
- 36. Motion on adoption of the report by the County Budget and Appropriations Committee on consideration of the Kitui County Budget Estimates for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

- 37. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Basic Education Training and Skills Development on inspection of Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDE) in Kitui County.
- 38. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on assessment of the implementation status of South Eastern Kenya Economic Bloc (SEKEB) Act, 2022.
- 39. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Administration and Coordination of County Affairs and Committee on power and privileges on training on county governance and oversight: ntegrating Administration, Power and Privilege held from 11th 18th May 2024 in United Arab Emirates- Dubai.
- 40. Motion on adoption of the report by a delegation of members from the Committee on Trade, ICT, Industry and Cooperatives and the Committee on Basic Education, Training and Skills Development on training on strategic leadership held from 2nd to 9th June. 2024 in United Arab Emirates-Dubai.
- 41. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members to participate in public participation on the Kitui County Alcoholic Drinks Control (Amendment) Bill, 2024 (County Assembly Bill No.3 of 2024) from 9th -12th July 2024 and resume its sitting on Tuesday 16th July 2024 at 9:00 am
- 42. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members to conduct a County Oversight tour as well as attend the Kitui Agricultural Show and Trade Fair, 2024 from 22nd 26th July 2024 and resume its sitting on Tuesday 30th July 2024 at 9:00 am
- 43. Motion or adoption of the report by a delegation of Joint Committees on Tourism and Natural Resources and the Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs on training on disaster preparedness,

- response and mitigation and transformational leadership held from 17th to 22rd June, 2024 in United Arab Emirates-Dubai.
- 44. Motion on adoption of the report by the joint Committee on Delegated County Legislation and Sectoral Committee on Justice and Legal Affa rs on the Kitui County Public Forum (Implementation) (Amendments) Guidelines, 2024.
- 45. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members of County Assembly to proceed for August recess and resume its sitting on Tuesday 3rd September 2024 at 9:00 am
- 46. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on appointments on vetting of nominees for appointment as members of the Kitui Municipality Board.
- 47. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on County Public Investments and Accounts on the examination of the reports of the Auditor General on the financial statements for the Kitui Water and Sanitation Company Limited (KITWASCO) and Kiambere Mwingi Water and Sanitation Company Limited (KIMWASCO) for the Financial Year Ended 30th June 2019.
- 48. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members of County Assembly to participate in public participation on Annual Development Plan for the Financial Year 2025/2026 and thereafter undertake Sectoral Committees consideration of the same and resume its sittings on Tuesday 24th September, 2024 at 9:00 a.m
- 49. Motion of County importance on insecurity in Kitui County specifically along the areas Bordering Tana River and Garissa Counties.

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- 50. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning on consideration of the Kitui County Annual Development Plan for the Financial Year 2025/2026.
- 51. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members of County Assembly undertake consultative meeting with the Executive and resume its sittings on Tuesday 8th October 2024 at 9:00 a.m
- 52. Procedural motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honburable Members of County Assembly and Staff time to participate in the 5th Edition of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) games, 2024 in Bungoma County and resume its sittings on Tuesday 29th October 2024 at 9:00 a.m.
- Public Investments and Accounts on the Examination of the Reports of the Aud tor-General on the Financial Statements for the County Executive of Kitui and County Assembly of Kitui for the Financial Year Ended 30th June 2020.
- 54. Motion on adjournment of the County Assembly to allow Honourable Members of County Assembly conduct public participation on the Kitui County Finance Bill, 2024 and resume its sittings on Tuesday 12th November 2024 at 9:00 A.M
- 55. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Agriculture Water and Irrigation on training workshop and study visit to Addis Ababa -Ethiopia on advancing entrepreneurship and agribusiness development.
- 56. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on County Budget and Appropriations on consideration of the Kitui County Supplementary Budget I Estimates for the Financial Year 2024/2025.

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- 57. Motion on adoption of the report by the joint Committee on Administration and Coordination of County affairs & Justice and Legal Affairs on the Review of Community Level Infrastructure Development Programme Framework (CLIDP).
- 58. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Agriculture, Water and irrigation on the inspection exercise on boreholes drilled across Kitu County in the Financial Year 2023/2024, KITWASCO and KIMWASCO pipelines, their main water sources and treatment zones conducted from 12th 16th August 2024.
- 59. Motion for enhanced representation, employment opportunities, cultural recognition, and development affirmative action for marginalized/minority communities in Kitui County.
- 60. Motion of county importance on completion of Kwa Siku-Mbondoni road brought under urgent notice (Standing Order No. 30(1).
- 61. Motion or adoption of the report by the Committee on Administration and Coordination of County Affairs on a training workshop on governance and public sector management for improved service delivery masterclass held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- 62. Motion on adoption of the report by the Committee on Health and Sanifation on a training workshop on strategies for strengthening county health systems to expand access to high quality health Services held in Addi: Ababa, Ethiopia from 11th 15th November 2024.
- 63. Motion on alteration of the Assembly Calendar, 2024.
- 64. Motion on adoption of membership to the Special Committee on the proposed removal from Office of the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance, Economic Planning and Revenue Management Mr. Peter Mwikya Kilonzo.

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- 65. Motion on H.E the Governor's Memorandum on the Kitui County Supplementary Appropriations Bill, 2024 (C/Assembly Bill No.5 of 2024).
- 66. Motion on adoption of the report by a special committee on the removal from office of the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Finance, Economic Planning and Revenue Management Mr. Peter Mwikya Kilonzo.

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d). Statements

Honourable Members,

The following statements were requested during the period under review;-

- i. Statement request by Hon. Christopher Nzilu on Status update of grading works at Kavou-Ndumoni road in Kyangwithya West ward and inquiry into program Feasibility.
- ii. Statement request by Hon. Bernard Mwangangi Munyasya on the Water shortage in Mwingi town, its environs, and Kiosks along KIMWASCO water pipeline
- iii. Statement request by Hon. Cornelius Ngumbau Muthami on the water shortage in Kitui town and surrounding areas.
- iv. Statement request by Hon. Cyrus Musyoka Kisavi on the recent lay off of some community health promoters in Ikanga/ Kyatune Ward.
- v. Statement request by Hon. Benjamin Mulandi on the status of Roads in Kitui County
- vi. Statement request by Hon. Benjamin Mulandi on the proposed drilling of poreholes across the County in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and the Status of Kyangulu Nzinia Mbuini Kakeaniliani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward on the proposed drilling of poreholes across the County in the Financial Year

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- 2023/2024 and the Status of Kyangulu Nzinia Mbuini- Kakeaniliani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward
- vii. Statement request by Hon. Muthengi Ndagara on Non-inclusivity of Minority/Marginalized communities withing Kitui County
- viii. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on Mining activities in Ikutha Ward.
- ix. Statement request by Hon. Kasungi Kavula on deforestation activities at Ndithi/Endui Hills in Waita Ward.
- x. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on the concluded Youth International Day held in Kauwi, Kitui west Sub County.
- xi. Statement request by Hon. Boniface Maundu Katumbi on animals loitering in Mwingi and Kitui towns.
- xii. Statement lequest 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.
- xiii. Statement request by Hon. Munyoki Mwinzi on non-payment of casuals working in the county dispensaries and health centres.
- xiv. Statement request by Hon. Dominic Isumail Mwamisi on the deplorable state of Mutha Health centre and other health facilities in Mutha ward.

B. Oversight Honourable Mempers,

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Through robust committee work, the Assembly provided diligent oversight to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the execution of public funds. Through comprehensive committee inspection exercise, we have been able to produce detailed reports with recommended actionable solutions that if properly implemented, will strengthen governance and

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fill the profession, the method that the complete the profession is a

accountability in key county departments. The following committees undertook various inspection exercise as outlined below;-

- i. The Committee on Agriculture, Water and irrigation inspection exercise or boreholes drilled across Kitui County in the Financial Year 2023/2024. KITWASCO and KIMWASCO pipelines, their main water sources and treatment zones conducted from 12th 16th August 2024.
- ii. The Committee on Culture, Sports, Youth, Gender and Social Services inspection exercise on Playgrounds funded by the County Government of Kitui in FY 2022/2023 carried out from 18th to 22nd March, 2024.
- iii. The Comm tree on Basic Education, Training and Skills Development Inspection exercise of the Early Childhood Development Centres (ECDE) in Kitui County from 2nd to 6th April, 2024
- iv. The Committee on Labour and Social Welfare oversight exercise carried to access the welfare of workers in the County Vocational Training Centres carried out from 2nd -6th April, 2024.
- v. County oversight tour carried out by the whole House from 22nd to 26th July, 2024.
- vi. The Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT and Cooperatives inspection of County Corporations -KICOTEC Kitui, KICOTEC Mwingi, KICOTEC Mutomo and Ballast Crusher at Kwa-Kilui.

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

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

1. Reports

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Honourable Members.

Some of the pending committee reports are:

- i. Report by the whole County Assembly on the oversight tour carried out from 22nd to 26th July, 2024.
- ii. Report by the Committee on Trade, Industry, ICT and Cooperatives on the inspection of County Corporations -KICOTEC Kitui, KICOTEC Mwingi, KICOTEC Mutomo and Ballast Crusher at Kwa-Kilui.
- iii. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Executive for the Financial Year 2022/2023
- iv. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Assembly for the Financial Year 2022/2023
- N. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui Water & Sanitation Company (KITWASCO) for the Financial Year 2022/2023
- vi. Report by Fublic Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kiambere Mwingi Water & Sanitation Company (KIMWASCO) for the Financial Year 2022/2023
- vii. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Textile Centre (KICOTEC) for the Financial Year 2022/2023
- viii. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of Receiver of Revenue -Revenue statements for the financial year 2022/2023
- ix. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of Kitui County Empowerment Fund for the financial year 2022/2023

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- x. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Assembly Car and Mortgage (Members) Scheme Fund for the financial year 2022/2023
- xi. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Assembly Service Board Employees' Car and Mortgage Fund for the financial year 2022/2023
- Development bon a study visit and a training workshop on administration of integrated multi-sector early childhood education and capacity to improve the well-being of children held in Addis Ababa- Eth opia from 25th to 29th November, 2025
- xiii. Report by the Kitui County Assembly Leadership on a study visit to Istanbul, Turkey on leadership and excellence from 25th to 29th November, 2024.
- xiv. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Revenue Fund for the financial year 2022/2023.
- xv. Report by Fublic Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Executive for the Financial Years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- xvi. Report by Fublic Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Assembly for the Financial Years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- xvii. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitul Water & Sanitation Company (KITWASCO) for the Financial Years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- xviii. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kiambere Mwingi Water & Sanitation Company

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- (KIMWASCO) for the Financial Years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.
- xix. Report by Public Investments and Accounts Committee on audited accounts of the Kitui County Textile Centre (KICOTEC) for the Financial Years 2019/2020; 2020/2021 and 2021/2022.

2. Statements

Honourable Members.

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

- i. Statement request by Hon. Jeremiah Mutua on various County Staff appointed on Acting capacities
- ii. Statement request by Cornelius Kiteme Muthami on operationa ization of the office of the County Attorney
- iii. Statement request by Hon. Jeremiah Mutua on the Status of Nzouni Primary School Stadium, Nguni Ward – Mwingi Central Sub County
- iv. Statement request by Hon. Rose Kasyoka Kathoka on unjustified dismissal and unfair labour practices by the County Public Service Board and the Office of the County Secretary on Chief Officers and other County Staff
- v. Statement request by Hon. Benjamin Mulandi on the status of Nonoperational Health facilities in Mutonguni
- vi. Statement request by Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia on Solar lights (Mlika Mwizi) repair and maintenance across Kitui County
- vii. Statement request by Hon. Anthony Musyimi Musyoka on the Kitui County You h Engagement forum, 2024
- viii. Statement request by Hon. Charity Kathathi Musyoka on the distribution of assistive devices in Kitui county
- ix. Statement request by Hon. Boniface Maundu Katumbi on cleaning and garbage collection in all markets in Kyangwithya East Ward

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- x. Statement request by Hon, Alphonse Musyimi Mukwayu on the proposed Thaana Nzau scheme in Kyome Thaana Nzau.
- xi. Statement request by Hon. Alphonse Musyimi Mukwayu on the proposed extension of Songea Thitani Water Pipeline in Kyome Thaana Nzau.
- xii. Statement request by Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia on non-payment of market guards across the County
- xili. Statement request by Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia on the state of Migwani Level 4 Hospital in Migwani Ward
- xiv. Statement equest by Hon. Anthony Musyoka Musyimi on Health Infrastructure and Staffing shortages in Kiomo/Kyethani
- xv. Statement equest by Hon. Alphonse Musyimi Mukwayu on the operationalization of Thitan Mortuary in Kyome / Thaana Ward
- xvi. Statement request by Hon. Mary Mwende Mutune on the alleged theft/vandalism of Kitui County Textile Centre
- xvii. Statement request by Hon. Hussein Mwandia on Land ownership and titling in Kitui County
- xviii. Statement request by Hon. Godfrey Muthengi Ndagara on the status of Water projects in Tharaka Ward
- xix. Statement request by Hon. Boniface Maundu Ratumbi on the status of the proposed construction of 100M³ Masonry tank at Misewani village in Kyangwithya East Ward and other water projects.

C. Enhanced Public Participation Forums

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During the period under review, we enhanced citizen engagement by holding various public participation forums to ensure that legislative processes were inclusive and reflective of the will of the people pursuant to the Article 196(b) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. These forums have fostered stronger connections between the Assembly and the people it

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serves. Some of the public engagements we held during this session includes;-

- i. Public participation on the Kitui County Finance Bill, 2024
- ii. Public participation on the Kitui County Alcoholic Drinks Control (Amendment) Bill, 2024
- iii. Public participation on the Kitui County Budget Estimates for FY 2024/2025.
- iv. Public participation on the Kitui County Annual Development Plan (ADP) 2025/2026.

Honourable Members

The Assembly enhanced these forums to ensure that more people have the opportunity to share their views on various legislation / statutory documents by organizing virtual public participation exercise through Google Meet platform. This approach has proven to be the most interactive and effective way to reach Kitui residents living outside the county and allow them to voice their concerns. Virtual public participation has many benefits, including increasing accessibility for individuals who may have otherwise been unable to attend in-person meetings due to distance, time constraints, or mobility challenges. It also promotes greater inclusivity by allowing a wider range of voices to be heard, fostering a more diverse and representative dialogue. Additionally, virtual platforms offer convenience, enabling participants to engage from the comfort of their homes, thereby encouraging more people to take part in the decisionmaking process. Coing forward, I will continue to advance this initiative to reach even more people, ensuring that all residents have a platform to contribute to the development of our community

Honourable Members,

As the saying goes, 'All play and no work makes Jack a dull boy,' our Assembly participated in this year's CASA games held in Bungoma County from 18th to 27 h October 2024. Both Members of the County Assembly and staff exhibited remarkable performance across various disciplines. All teams demonstrated exceptional skill, with our Scrabble team securing first place for the third consecutive year. As your Speaker, I was deeply impressed by the overall performance of all the teams, which reflects the Assembly's diverse talents and capabilities.

Honourable Members,

As we bring the Third Session to a close and embrace the recess, I want to express my heart elt appreciation for the dedication and hard work shown by every member of this Assembly. I encourage all Members of the County Assembly to take this time to reflect on our shared vision for a prosperous Kitui County. As your Speaker, I remain unwavering in my commitment to guiding this House toward the common good, while advocating for the continued improvement of the economic and social well-being of our people. The trust placed in us by the residents of Kitui is one we take seriously, and I am confident that we will fulfill our promise to them. The achievements of this session stand as a testament to our collective resolve, and I am certain that we will carry this momentum forward into the next session

Honourable Members,

During this recess. I encourage each member to take time for reflection on the important issues discussed in this House, engage with your constituents, and explore opportunities for meaningful improvement. Let us return with renewed energy and a clear focus, ready to tackle challenges and drive positive change in our community. May this break provide you with the valuable time needed for both rest and thoughtful reflection.

As we approach this joyful season, I wish each of you safe travels, a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year 2025. May this festive period bring you peace, joy, and well-deserved rest. May you enjoy both the recess and the celebrations with loved ones.

Thank you!

HON. KEVIN KINENGO KATISYA
SPEAKER, COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.
Tuesday, 17th December, 2024.