

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

NO. 6 of 2025

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO CONCERNS OVER THE RECONSTITUTION OF ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES.

Honourable Members,

My Office is in receipt of two letters from some Members of the County Assembly both dated 11th February, 2025, in which they express concerns regarding the reconstitution of Assembly Committees, particularly on the issues of lack of consultation and consensus among affected political parties and non-compliance with the gender threshold.

Honourable Members,

At the onset, allow me to emphasize that the process of constituting committees of the Assembly is guided by the relevant provisions of the Standing Orders of the County Assembly of Kitui, as well as established in law and parliamentary practice. Specifically, the placement and allocation of members to committees is a function of the respective political parties, which are responsible for nominating their members in accordance with their internal mechanisms and procedures. Standing Order No. 153 (1) provides that the Committee on Selection shall in consultation with County Assembly Parties nominate Members who shall serve in a Committee. The House in approving such nominations, does not interfere with the prerogative of political parties in this regard.

Honourable Members.

Further, the issue of gender parity in committee composition is similarly a primary responsibility of political parties, which are required to adhere to constitutional and statutory requirements when nominating members. The

County Assembly, upon receiving the names as submitted by the political parties, ensures compliance with the applicable Standing Orders, which provide for and guide on the process of committee constitution for each specific committee under reconstitution.

Honourable Members,

In light of this, I advise and guide that any concerns regarding the manner in which members were placed in committees or any perceived failure to meet gender thresholds should, in the first instance, be addressed within the structures of the respective political parties taking into account the interests of independent Members and small parties as envisaged under Standing Order No. 154(2). If unresolved, the matter may be escalated through the appropriate channels as provided for under the Standing Orders of the Assembly, such as the Selection Committee pursuant to Standing Order No. 153(2).

Honourable Members,

I appreciate your dedication to the integrity of Assembly processes and assure you that the Office of the Speaker remains committed to upholding the rules and procedures that govern the conduct of Assembly business. Should there be any further clarification required on this matter, my Office remains open for engagement.

Thank you.

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

Friday, 14th February, 2024.