

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

NO. 13 of 2025

COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO APRIL RECESS, 2025

Honourable Members,

In adherence to our Assembly-approved Annual Calendar (Regular Session), 2025, this House is scheduled to proceed for the April recess effective today Wednesday, 9th April, 2025. In this regard, this House will be debating a procedural motion on adjournment to proceed for the April recess, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25(3) and resume its sittings on Tuesday 6th May, 2025 at 9.00 am.

Honourable Members.

As we prepare to move and debate a procedural motion on the adjournment of the County Assembly for the April recess 2025, we do so at a time when this Assembly faces significant challenges in executing its constitutional mandate. It is important to take stock of what we have achieved so far, acknowledge the hurdles that have hindered our optimal functioning, and chart a clear path forward in service to our people as stipulated in Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010.

Honourable Members,

Since resuming from the December long recess on Tuesday, 11th February 2025, the House has successfully approved the following motions:

i. Motion on approval of membership to the County Assembly House Business Committee.

- ii. Motion on approval of the County Assembly Annual Calendar (Third Assembly, Fourth Session 2025.)
- iii. Motion on the reconstitution of membership to the County Assembly Sectoral and Select Committees which was later disputed and challenged in court.

Honourable Members,

In addition to legislative work, Members have actively participated in the following key engagements and activities:

- i. Special General Assembly for all MCAs and Speaker's from the 47 County Assemblies held at Kenyatta International Convention Centre (KICC), Nairobi from 19th to 21st February, 2025.
- ii. The 5th Legislative Summit held at the Edge Convention Centre, Nairobi from 14th to 20th March, 2025.
- iii. Report writing exercise on the county oversight tour to inspect the projects undertaken by the county executive during the FY 2023/2024 conducted from 22nd to 26th July 2024, held from 10th to 14th March, 2025 at Mutomo Highway Cottages Hotel.
- iv. The Kitui County Investors Sensitization Forum held at Kanyoonyo Industrial Park from 13th to 14th March, 2025, and
- v. The East Africa Local Authorities Sports and Cultural Association (EALASCA) games held in Kampala, Uganda from 26th February to 2nd March, 2025.

Honourable Members,

We must also be alive to the challenges that have hindered our optimal performance. Key among these is the internal conflict within WIPER Party leadership, which has disrupted Assembly unity, slowed down decision-making and affected our credibility in delivering our legislative and oversight roles.

Equally, the ongoing court case challenging the reconstitution of Assembly Committees which had been reconstituted on 14th February, 2025 has severely impeded our work. These committees are vital for scrutiny of policies, oversight of the executive and expeditious handling of legislative matters. Without them, key documents such as the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for FY 2025/2026 could not be reviewed, thus stalling critical Assembly business.

As we await the Court's ruling, we must remain ready to act promptly once the way is cleared, ensuring our oversight and legislative mandates resume with the urgency they demand, ensuring that our legislative and oversight functions resume without further disruption.

Honourable Members,

As we commence our recess today, I urge all Honourable Members to use this period wisely and engage with your constituents. Let us go back to our people, listen to their concerns and reaffirm our commitment to their welfare. We must return with fresh perspectives that reflect their aspirations.

This recess also offers a valuable opportunity for introspection and reconciliation. It is a chance to reflect on our shared responsibilities and to resolve our internal differences amicably. Let us use this moment to foster honest dialogue, heal divisions, and restore the unity, dignity and purpose of this Honourable House.

As Scripture reminds us:

"Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace."

- Ephesians 4:3 (NIV)

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God."

- Matthew 5:9 (KJV)

"If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

- Romans 12:18 (NIV)

"All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

- 2 Corinthians 5:18 (NIV)

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Let us, therefore, return from this recess with a renewed spirit of service, guided by the enduring principles of unity, integrity and purpose.

Honourable Members.

I would also like to inform you that the County Assembly Service Board (CASB) is currently reviewing the County Assembly of Kitui Strategic Plan (2025-2030) to ensure that we have a robust guiding framework with actionable steps aligned to our objectives. At the appropriate time, you will be involved so that your input can be incorporated.

Additionally, the Board is working on a schedule of events during the April 2025 recess, and this will be communicated to you in good time through the House Leadership.

Honourable Members,

Allow me to also provide an important update on the MCAs Ward Offices Project. The process of transferring land from the County Executive to the County Assembly has proven to be lengthy and time-consuming, posing a significant risk of delays in the implementation of this crucial project.

To mitigate these delays, the CASB resolved to request the Ministry of Roads, Public Works and Transport to undertake the construction of the Ward Offices, guided by standard specifications outlined in various County planning documents. These specifications include:

- (a) A complete office block with:
 - i. MCA's main office (with a wardrobe and a washroom)
 - ii. A boardroom
 - iii. Secretary's office.
 - iv. Ward assistant office
 - v. Personal assistant office
 - vi. Messenger room
 - vii. Store and kitchenette.
- (b) A waiting lobby (gazebo)
- (c) Outside washrooms.
- (d)Cabro-paved compound measuring 100 by 100 feet for parking
- (e) A chain-link fence
- (f) A gate and a signboard.

The Ministry possesses the requisite technical capacity to implement this project efficiently and, importantly, constructing the offices on existing government land will save significant time that would otherwise be spent on land transfer processes.

I therefore urge all Honourable Members to support this noble initiative and to ensure that the necessary funds for the construction of the Ward Offices are allocated in the main budget for the Financial Year 2025/2026.

Honourable Members,

As we look forward to the 6th Edition of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) Games later this year, I urge all team captains to mobilize their teams and commence training during the April 2025 recess. Let us strive to be more competitive than in previous editions, while also embracing the numerous health and wellness benefits that regular physical activity provides. Participation in these games not only promotes teamwork and camaraderie but also contributes to our overall well-being, because indeed, a healthy Assembly is a productive Assembly.

Honourable Members,

Lastly, let us take this recess period as a time for recharging, realignment and renewed commitment. As we return, let it be with clarity of purpose, a spirit of unity, and unwavering dedication to our people's welfare. I remain confident that through collaboration, dialogue and diligence, we shall continue to advance the development agenda of our great County.

I wish each one of you a productive and restful recess.

May God bless our Assembly and the people we serve.

Thank you,

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

9TH APRIL, 2025