

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

NO. 17 of 2025

**COMMUNICATION AS RELATES TO THE COUNTY BUDGET FOR THE
FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/2026**

Honourable Members,

Good afternoon.

I wish to draw your attention to the County Budget preparation for the financial year 2025/2026, its consideration process and approval by the Assembly.

Article 224 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 provides that;

"On the basis of the Division of Revenue Bill passed by Parliament under Article 218, each county government shall prepare and adopt its own annual budget and appropriation Bill in the form, and according to the procedure, prescribed in an Act of Parliament"

Honourable Members,

Borrowing from the above provisions, the Supreme law envisages a situation where an enforceable County Budget is a product of the legislative organ of the County Government; this being the County Assembly that is given the legislative authority under Article 185 of the Constitution. It therefore goes

without doubt that the participation of the County Assembly Committees and the House play a mandatory and critical role in budget consideration and approval.

Honourable Members,

One of the key statutory documents for the budget preparation is the County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP). You can all recall that the CFSP for the financial year 2025/2026 was submitted to the Assembly on 28th February, 2025 vide a letter referenced CGKTI/CT/FIN/35/VI/1 dated 27th February, 2025 for consideration and approval by the Assembly.

At the point in time, the term of the County Budget and Appropriations Committee had expired at close of the Third Session and the new Committee formed had been suspended by the Court. With the stalemate, the alternative available was to return the CFSP to the County Executive Committee Member for Finance, Economic Planning and Revenue Management without the County Assembly input as contained vide our letter referenced CAK/FIN/5/IA/VOL.I (7) dated 17th March, 2025.

Honourable Members,

It is critical noting further that the County supplementary budget II for the financial year 2024/2025 was submitted on 11th April, 2025 vide a letter referenced CGKTI/CT/FIN/1/II/(46) and dated 10th April, 2025 for consideration and approval by the Assembly. Consequently, the County Assembly was not able to undertake her mandatory role owing to the same reasons as directed under court orders served to the Assembly on 4th March, 2025 suspending the County Budget and Appropriations Committee among others. The County Assembly thus responded to the County Executive on the matter vide a letter addressed to the CECM for Finance, Economic Planning and Revenue Management referenced CAK/FIN/5/1/Vol.X-L(5) and dated 14th April, 2025.

Honourable Members,

The County Budget for the financial 2025/2026 was submitted to the County Assembly on 30th April, 2025 in adherence to the provisions of Section 129 (2)(a) of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, 2012.

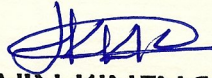
Section 131(1) & (2) of the PFM Act, 2012 provides that;

- (1) The county assembly shall consider the county government budget estimates with a view to approving them, with or without amendments, in time for the relevant appropriation law and any other laws required to implement the budget to be passed by the 30th June in each year.*
- (2) Before the county assembly considers the estimates of revenue and expenditure, the relevant committee of the county assembly shall discuss and review the estimates and make recommendations to the county assembly, and in finalizing the recommendations to county assembly, the committee shall take into account the views of the County Executive Committee Member for finance and the public on the proposed recommendations.*

Honourable Members,

As stipulated above in law and the practice, the County Budget approval process begins by its Committal to the County Budget and Appropriations Committee and the Sectoral Committees. This is a process that takes place prior to the budget approval by the Assembly. It is unfortunate that the situation of the County Assembly Committees has not yet changed since the orders served suspending their operations is still in force. This condition thus brings a set back that the County budget can not be committed to the relevant Committee to jump starts its consideration process as the same shall amount to a contempt of court. My office is however committed to do the necessary once a reprieve is obtained from the court regarding the same.

Thank you,



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

7TH MAY, 2025