



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)**

**THE SENATE**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020 AT 2.30 P.M.**

1. The Senate assembled at thirty minutes past Two O'clock.
2. The Proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.
3. **NOTICE OF MOTION** - (The Senate Majority Leader)

THAT, AWARE THAT, Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a new strain of Coronaviruses that was discovered in December 2019, is an infectious disease known to cause respiratory infections ranging from common cold, fever, tiredness, aches and pains to more severe health complications;

COGNIZANT THAT this epidemic has no known cure and has spread and killed many people over several countries and continents with the potential of affecting a large percentage of the world population, as the impact of the virus is still unfolding;

FURTHER COGNIZANT THAT the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as a pandemic;

AWARE THAT the Government, upon confirmation of Coronavirus cases in the country, has taken various measures aimed at containing the spread of the disease, including suspension of learning in all educational institutions and the need to minimize attendance to various gatherings;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Parliament Buildings has high human traffic on any given working day, including Members of Parliament, staff, visitors, school children, visiting delegations and witnesses appearing before House Committees;

GIVEN the need for Parliament to institutionalize measures to mitigate the crisis posed by the Virus;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the mechanism set out in Standing Order 30 to convene a Special Sitting of the Senate;

NOW THEREFORE, notwithstanding the Resolution of the Senate made on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, pursuant to Standing Order 29 approving the Senate Calendar

and owing to the need to complement the efforts of the Government in containing the spread of the disease, the Senate resolves to -

- (a) adjourn its Plenary sittings today, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 to reconvene on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at 2.30pm; and
- (b) alter its Calendar accordingly.

4. **MOTION – ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE IN REGARD TO COVID-19**

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, AWARE THAT, Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a new strain of Coronaviruses that was discovered in December 2019, is an infectious disease known to cause respiratory infections ranging from common cold, fever, tiredness, aches and pains to more severe health complications;

COGNIZANT THAT this epidemic has no known cure and has spread and killed many people over several countries and continents with the potential of affecting a large percentage of the world population, as the impact of the virus is still unfolding;

FURTHER COGNIZANT THAT the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as a pandemic;

AWARE THAT the Government, upon confirmation of Coronavirus cases in the country, has taken various measures aimed at containing the spread of the disease, including suspension of learning in all educational institutions and the need to minimize attendance to various gatherings;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Parliament Buildings has high human traffic on any given working day, including Members of Parliament, staff, visitors, school children, visiting delegations and witnesses appearing before House Committees;

GIVEN the need for Parliament to institutionalize measures to mitigate the crisis posed by the Virus;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the mechanism set out in Standing Order 30 to convene a Special Sitting of the Senate;

NOW THEREFORE, notwithstanding the Resolution of the Senate made on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, pursuant to Standing Order 29 approving the Senate Calendar and owing to the need to complement the efforts of the Government in containing the spread of the disease, the Senate resolves to -

- (a) adjourn its Plenary sittings today, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 to reconvene on Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020 at 2.30pm; and
- (b) alter its Calendar accordingly.

*(The Senate Majority Leader)*

Debate arising;

Amendment proposed

THAT the Motion be amended by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph-

- a) *adjourn its plenary Sittings today, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 for two weeks, so as to convene on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 and to thereafter hold one sitting in each week.*

*(Sen. Ochilo Ayacko, MP)*

Debate arising;

Amendment to the amendment proposed;

THAT, the proposed amendment be amended by adding the following words after the words “one sitting in each week”, “on Tuesdays, for two weeks, until Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020”

*(Sen. Fred Outa, MP)*

Debate arising;

There being no other Senator wishing to contribute;

Before the Question was put, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 79, the Speaker informed the House that the Motion did not affect counties.

Question of the amendment on proposed amendment put and agreed to.

Debate on amendment as amended resumed;

THAT the Motion be amended by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph-

- a) *adjourn its plenary Sittings today, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 for two weeks, so as to convene on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 and to thereafter hold one sitting in each week on Tuesdays, for two weeks, until Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020.*

*(Sen. Ochilo Ayacko, MP)*

There being no Senator wishing to contribute;

Before the Question was put, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 79, the Speaker informed the House that the Motion did not affect counties.

Question of the amendment as amended put and agreed to.

**RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY**

THAT the Motion be amended by deleting paragraph (a) and substituting therefor the following new paragraph-

- a) adjourn its plenary Sittings today, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 for two weeks, so as to convene on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 and to thereafter hold one sitting in each week on Tuesdays, for two weeks, until Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

Debate on Motion as amended resumed;

There being no other Senator wishing to contribute;

The Senator for Narok County (Sen. Ledama Olekina, MP) replied on behalf of the Mover, pursuant to Standing Order 59(2)(b)

Before the Question was put, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 79, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Margaret Kamar, MP) informed the House that the Motion did not affect counties.

Question put and agreed to.

**RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY**

THAT, AWARE THAT, Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a new strain of Coronaviruses that was discovered in December 2019, is an infectious disease known to cause respiratory infections ranging from common cold, fever, tiredness, aches and pains to more severe health complications;

COGNIZANT THAT this epidemic has no known cure and has spread and killed many people over several countries and continents with the potential of affecting a large percentage of the world population, as the impact of the virus is still unfolding;

FURTHER COGNIZANT THAT the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) as a pandemic;

AWARE THAT the Government, upon confirmation of Coronavirus cases in the country, has taken various measures aimed at containing the spread of the disease, including suspension of learning in all educational institutions and the need to minimize attendance to various gatherings;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Parliament Buildings has high human traffic on any given working day, including Members of Parliament, staff, visitors, school children, visiting delegations and witnesses appearing before House Committees;

GIVEN the need for Parliament to institutionalize measures to mitigate the crisis posed by the Virus-

FURTHER RECOGNIZING the mechanism set out in Standing Order 30 to convene a Special Sitting of the Senate;

NOW THEREFORE, notwithstanding the Resolution of the Senate made on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2020, pursuant to Standing Order 29 approving the Senate Calendar

and owing to the need to complement the efforts of the Government in containing the spread of the disease, the Senate resolves to -

- (a) adjourn its plenary Sittings today, 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 for two weeks, so as to convene on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2020 and to thereafter hold one sitting in each week on Tuesdays, for two weeks, until Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2020.
- (b) alter its Calendar accordingly.

5. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Margaret Kamar, MP) conveyed the following Communication-

“Honourable Senators,

Following the resolution of the Senate, I now direct that the Sittings of Committees also be suspended for a period of two (2) weeks after which further directions will be given by the Speaker.

I thank you.”

And the time being thirty Minutes past Six O’clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. (Prof.) Margaret Kamar, MP) adjourned the Senate without question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

6. **SENATE ROSE** – at Thirty Minutes past Six O’clock.

**MEMORANDUM**

*The Speaker will take the Chair on  
Tuesday, March 31, 2020 at 2.30 p.m.*

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