



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)**  
**THE SENATE**  
**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2021 AT 2.30 PM**

1. The Senate assembled at thirty minutes past Two O'clock.
2. The Proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.
3. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Speaker conveyed the following Communications from the Chair:-

**a) Visiting delegation from Nairobi City County Assembly**

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Speaker’s Gallery this afternoon, of a visiting delegation from the Nairobi City County Assembly. The delegation consists of officers from the Assembly’s Research Services Department, who are undertaking an exposure visit on the operations of the Senate to tap into the experiences of the National Parliament.

I request each Member of the delegation to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the usual Senate tradition. They are-

- (i) Paul Gisore, Senior Research Officer
- (ii) Daisy Ngao, Research Officer
- (iii) Melvin Wachira, Research Officer
- (iv) Yvonne Njagi, Research Officer

Honourable Senators,

On behalf of the Senate, and on my own behalf, I welcome the delegation to the Senate and wish them well for the remainder of the visit.

I thank you.”

**b) Meeting of Senators with the Council of Governors**

“Honourable Senators,

As you are aware, devolution is the cornerstone of our Constitution and hence we should make concerted effort to protect it and make it flourish. Resultantly, I cannot underscore the important and strategic role that the Senate has in this framework on devolution, as espoused in Article 96 of the Constitution. As a Senate therefore, we must shape and influence the discourse on devolution across all levels, and ensure that our counties are adequately resourced and that we judiciously oversight counties, to deliver services to “*Wanjiku*”.

The Constitution of Kenya in Article 6(2) recognizes that governments at the national and county levels are distinct and inter-dependent and shall conduct their mutual relations on the basis of consultation and cooperation. Consequently, our linkage with devolved institutions is critical to enable us to deliver on our mandate on safeguarding counties and their governments.

Honourable Senators,

One such institution which we have continued to make effort to work with closely is the Council of Governors. As you may be aware, the Council of Governors recently elected its leadership and is now chaired by the Governor of Embu County, Hon. Martin Wambora.

This is to inform you that the Standing Committee on Devolution and Inter-governmental Relations has organized a meeting with the newly appointed leadership of the Council of Governors to discuss the “State of Devolution.” The meeting is scheduled to take place in **the Senate Chamber, Main Parliament Buildings** on **Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2021** at **9.00 am**

The purpose of this communication is to extend an invitation to all Senators and to urge you to attend this important meeting.

I thank you.”

**4. PAPERS**

The following Paper was laid on the Table of the Senate-

The Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on the 2021 Budget Policy Statement and Medium Term Debt Management Strategy.

*(Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget)*

**5. NOTICE OF MOTION** – (Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget)

THAT, pursuant to Section 25 (7) of the Public Finance Management Act and Standing Order 180 (7) of the Senate, this House adopts the Report

of the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on the 2021 Budget Policy Statement and Medium Term Debt Management Strategy, laid on the Table of the Senate today, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.

## 6. STATEMENTS

### a) Pursuant to Standing Order 47(1)

- 1) The Senator for Trans Nzoia County (Sen. Michael M. Mbito, MP) made a statement regarding investing in mental healthcare post – Covid – 19 pandemic.

Thereupon, the Senator drew the attention of House on how the economy has been devastated by the COVID-19 pandemic, noting that the journey to recovery will be a long and difficult one, particularly, for African economies and will be strongly dependent on the resilience and productivity of the workforce.

The Senator also noted that it was estimated that mental illnesses cost \$2.5 trillion globally in 2010 and this cost will rise to over \$6 trillion by 2030, most of which are indirect and are due to productivity losses associated with mental illness, including absenteeism and presenteeism at the work place.

The Senator further urged African governments to proceed with implementing the WHO Global Mental Health Action Plan (2013-2020), which has been endorsed by most African UN member states and which provides a road map for national investment in mental health. This would enable mental health to be included in national health insurance schemes as part of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). At the same time, there is need to consider stimulus packages and improvement of the regulatory environment to incentivize employers to protect and promote the mental health of their workforces.

- 2) The Senator for Vihiga County (Sen. George Khaniri, MP) made a Statement concerning alleged electrocution of wild animals, most recently within the Soysambu conservancy.

Thereupon, the Senator informed the House that three of the endangered distinct giraffe species, Rothschild's giraffe, were electrocuted in Soysambu Conservancy within Nakuru County as a result of low hanging power line is disheartening to say the least.

The Senator noted that it was not the first time that such an incident was happening and that in the last two years, at least 11 giraffes and dozens of birds have been electrocuted at the conservancy by sagging Kenya Power cables.

The Senator also informed the House that after the above report was aired in the media, there has been a reactionary response, particularly by the Kenya Power Company. The Senator urged caution on the part of Kenya Power, especially when live power lines had to pass through a wildlife habitat, hence posing a great danger to the animals.

The Senator further implored the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife to strive to find solutions to the human-wildlife conflicts across the country and pay prompt compensation to affected residents in case of damage of property or injuries to humans by wild animals, while at the same time urging the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government and the Kenya Wildlife Service to bring to an end the poaching menace.

Following contributions by Senators, the Speaker referred the matter to the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources and the Committee on Energy, pursuant to Standing Order 47 (3).

- 3) Nominated Senator (Sen. (Dr.) Alice Milgo) made a statement on the importance of encouraging girls to pursue courses in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM).

Thereupon, the Senator informed the House that, according to a UNESCO report titled, **“Cracking the Code: Girls and Women Education in STEM”**, only 35 per cent of STEM students in higher education globally are women and this was an issue of concern, as such careers are referred to as the jobs of the future, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa.

The Senator also noted that, according to the United Nations Institute of Statistics, less than 30 per cent of the world’s researchers were women and that women in STEM fields published less, were paid less for their research, and did not progress as far as men in their careers.

The Senator further emphasized the importance of engaging with girls at primary and secondary school levels to raise the visibility of STEM subjects as a potential career trajectory, noting that one such collaboration is the DigiGirlz programme, which inspires high school girls to pursue STEM subjects by providing them with the opportunity to interact with Microsoft employees and receive computer and technology training.

- 4) The nominated Senator (Sen. (Dr.) Getrude Musuruve) made a statement on the annual International Mother Language Day celebrated on 21<sup>st</sup> of February every year

Thereupon, the Senator drew the attention of the House to the International Mother Language Day that is celebrated every year to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism around the world.

The Senator also informed the House that the idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day first came from Bangladesh, after which the General

Conference of the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) decided to celebrate February 21<sup>st</sup> as International Mother Language Day from November, 1999 and UNESCO on 16 May, 2007, through a general resolution, called upon member states to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by peoples of the world. The Senator noted that, in the same resolution, the General Assembly proclaimed 2008 as the International Year of Languages to promote unity in diversity and international understanding through multilingualism and multiculturalism.

The Senator, while encouraging universities and colleges to offer courses in vernacular languages, emphasized the need to encourage multilingualism, as a country, so that vernacular languages do not disappear, as well as the need to embrace new strategies of salvaging vernacular languages.

**b) Pursuant to Standing Order 48(1)**

- i) Nominated Senator (Sen. (Canon) Naomi Waqo, MP) sought a statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign relations regarding alleged insecurity in Marsabit County.
- ii) Seneta wa Kaunti ya Kilifi (Sen. Stewart Madzayo, MP) aliomba Kauli kutoka kwa Kamati ya Usalama wa Taifa, Ulinzi na Mahusiano ya Kimataifa kuhusu madai ya ukatili wa Maafisa wa polisi na kupigwa kwa mfanyibiashara, Mama Kadzo Karisa, katika Eneobunge la Ganze, Kaunti ya Kilifi.
- iii) Nominated Senator (Sen. Naomi Shiyonga, MP) sought a statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding the death of Ms. Jacklyn Mugure at the OTC stage area in Nairobi City County, allegedly from a stray bullet.

**7. THE COOPERATIVE SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 11 OF 2020)**

(Sen. (Dr.) Agnes Zani, MP)

(Second Reading)

***(Resumption of debate interrupted on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2021)***

***(Division)***

Order deferred.

**8. MOTION – ADOPTION OF REPORTS OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS ON AUDIT REPORTS FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVES FOR FINANCIAL YEARS 2015/2016, 2016/2017, AND 2017/2018 (VOLUMES 1, II AND III)**

(Chairperson, Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments)

THAT, this House adopts the Reports of the Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments on the consideration of the Audit Reports of

the following County Executives for the Financial Years 2015/2016, 2016/2017, and 2017/2018, laid on the Table of the Senate on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 –

- (i) **Volume I** -
  - a) Baringo
  - b) Elgeyo Marakwet
  - c) Homa Bay
  - d) Kakamega
  - e) Kiambu
  
- (ii) **Volume II** -
  - a) Kisii
  - b) Mandera
  - c) Mombasa
  - d) Taita Taveta
  - e) Kilifi
  
- (iii) **Volume III** -
  - a) Garissa
  - b) Wajir
  - c) Narok
  - d) Kericho
  - e) Lamu

***(Resumption of debate interrupted on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021)***

***(Division)***

Order deferred.

9. **MOTION – ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEDIATION COMMITTEE ON THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 26 OF 2018)**

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Mediation Committee on the consideration of the Early Childhood Education Bill (Senate Bills No. 26 of 2018), laid on the Table of the Senate on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2021, and pursuant to Article 113 of the Constitution and Standing Order 161 (3) of the Senate Standing Orders, approves the mediated version of the Bill.

*(Chairperson, Mediation Committee – 23.02.2021)*

Debate interrupted on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2021 resumed;

Debate arising;

And there being no other Senators wishing to contribute;

Mover replied;

Raising a point of order pursuant to Standing Order 61 (3), the Chairperson of the Mediation Committee (Sen. Okong'o Mogeni, MP) requested for the deferment of the putting of the Question to a later date;

And the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Rose Nyamunga, MP) acceding to the request, nominated Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2021 as the day when the Question shall be put.

10. **MOTION – ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SESSIONAL COMMITTEE ON COUNTY PUBLIC ACCOUNTS AND INVESTMENTS ON AUDIT REPORTS FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVES FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/2015 (1ST JULY, 2014 TO 30TH JUNE, 2015)**

Order read;

Motion made -

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Sessional Committee on County Public Accounts and Investments on the consideration of the Audit Reports of the Bomet; Homa Bay; Isiolo; Kakamega; Kiambu; Laikipia; Kisumu; Mandera; Migori; Mombasa; Murang'a; Nandi; Nyeri; Samburu; Siaya; Tana River; Tharaka Nithi; Trans Nzoia; Turkana and Wajir County Executives for the Financial Year 2014/2015 (1st July, 2014 to 30th June, 2015), laid on the Table of the Senate on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.

And the time being thirty minutes past six o'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Rose Nyamunga, MP) interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

11. **SENATE ROSE** – at thirty minutes past six O'clock.

**M E M O R A N D U M**

*The Speaker will take the Chair on  
Thursday, February 25, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.*

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