



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (SECOND SESSION)
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

_____ (No. 018 of 2023) _____

**APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT TO
REPRESENT THE MAJORITY PARTY IN THE BI-PARTISAN
ENGAGEMENTS IN PARLIAMENT**

Honourable Members,

1. As you are aware, His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces, The Hon. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, who is also the Party Leader of the Kenya *Kwanza* Alliance and the Former Prime Minister and the Party Leader of the *Azimio La Umoja* One Kenya Coalition, The Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, have proposed bi-partisan engagements in Parliament on a number of issues aimed at accommodating the concerns of the Minority Coalition within the parameters of the Constitution and the law.
2. In furtherance of these discussions, I wish to inform you that I have received a letter dated 13th April, 2023 from the Leader of Majority Party of the National Assembly, the Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, MP appointing seven (7) Members of Parliament representing the Kenya *Kwanza* Alliance to be part of the team that shall spearhead and facilitate the bi-partisan engagements. The letter is co-signed by the Senate Majority Leader, The Hon. Sen. Aaron Cheruiyot, MP.

3. Honourable Members, the seven Members of Parliament appointed by the Majority Party are:

- (i) The Hon. Adan Keynan, CBS, MP;**
- (ii) The Hon. George Murugara, MP;**
- (iii) The Hon. Mwengi Mutuse, MP;**
- (iv) The Hon. Lydia Haika, MP;**
- (v) Sen. Esther Okenyuri, MP;**
- (vi) Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale, MP; and**
- (vii) Sen. Hillary Sigei, MP.**

4. Honourable Members, attached to the letter forwarding the seven names, is the draft Motion proposing the establishment of a Joint Select Committee and whose mandate includes the following-


- (a) facilitating a bipartisan engagement in Parliament on the reconstitution of the Selection Panel on the recruitment of chairperson and members of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission;**
- (b) recommending legal, policy and institutional reforms to strengthen the IEBC;**
- (c) collating views from stakeholders on proposals to enhance inclusivity and bipartisanship in the electoral structures in the country;**
- (d) developing and recommending appropriate mechanisms for the reorganization of the electoral system; and**

(e) on the basis of the findings and recommendations of the Joint Committee, preparing a report and a draft Bill or draft Bills for consideration by Parliament.

- 5. Honourable Members,** it is however worth noting that, I am yet to formally receive the names of the Members representing the Minority Coalition in Parliament and the draft text of the Motion as proposed by the Minority Party. As you may be aware Hon. Members, parliamentary practice requires that a Motion of this nature be presented to the House upon negotiations and agreement between the Majority and Minority Coalitions so that what is finally presented to the House is a **harmonized bi-partisan Motion**.
- 6. Honourable Members,** in light of the foregoing, I hereby instruct the Clerk of the National Assembly to forward the proposed motion to the Leadership of the Minority Party in Parliament seeking their concurrence.
- 7. Honourable Members,** the Speaker of the Senate and I have also consulted and agreed that there is need to achieve bi-partisan and bi-cameral consensus on this matter. Consequently, the Speakers of the Houses of Parliament request the Leaders of the Majority and Minority Coalitions in both Houses, to consult and present to the Speakers a harmonized version of the proposed Motion for placement before the Houses of Parliament, **at the earliest available opportunity**. This shall set the stage for the commencement of the bi-partisan engagements in Parliament.

8. Honourable Members, as I conclude, allow me to urge all Members of Parliament to uphold the tenets of the Constitution, respect the process and undertake their engagements with utmost good faith, collegiality and on the basis of consultation, cooperation and mutual reciprocity. Indeed, this will be in keeping with the Motto of our Parliament which is - **“For the Welfare of Society and Just Government of the People”**.

I thank you!


THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES M. WETANG'ULA, EGH, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Tuesday, 18th April, 2023