

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (THIRD SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

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OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE BUNGE TOWER BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Honourable Members,

- **1.** You may recall that on Tuesday, 9th April 2024, I informed the House that the Parliamentary Service Commission was expediting the completion of the *Bunge* Tower with a view to having the building ready for occupation by Members. I also guided the House on the phased occupation of the offices which was to commence on Thursday, 11th April 2024.
- 2. I am pleased to note that great progress has been made towards relocating Members and as of Tuesday, 16th April 2024, fifty-eight (58) Members had moved into the Bunge Tower. Members earmarked to move during the first phase of the relocation are encouraged to liaise with the Clerk to ensure seamless completion of this important exercise.
- 3. Honourable Members, appreciating the journey leading to the achievement of this milestone, I wish to inform the House that His Excellency Dr. William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya & Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces has acceded to our request to grace the Official Opening Ceremony of the Tower on Friday, 19th April 2024.

- 4. The opening of this building will mark a monumental step in the history of Parliament, given that Members of Parliament have been renting office spaces outside the Parliamentary Square, at times, making it difficult to attend Plenary Sittings and Committee meetings. Further, Honourable Members will also remember that the plenary meetings and the premises of the precursor to the Legislature as we know it today, the Legislative Council, were held in prefabricated structures, at what is now the Kenya Railways buildings, more than a century ago.
- 5. In this regard, Honourable Members, on behalf of the Parliamentary Service Commission, and indeed on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to invite all Honourable Members to the official opening of the *Bunge Tower* by His Excellency the President on Friday, 19th April 2024, at the forecourt of the building. The programme of events will commence at 9.00 am. All guests are expected to be seated by 8.30 am.
- **6. Honourable Members**, your presence at the ceremony will signify our collective dedication to enhancing the effectiveness of parliamentary operations and serving the people of Kenya.

I thank you!

THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES F. M. WETANG'ULA, EGH, MP SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 17th April 2024