

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025 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. QUORUM OF THE SENATE

The Speaker, having counted the Honourable Senators present at the commencement of the Sitting and confirming that there was no Quorum, directed that the Bell be rung for ten minutes, pursuant to Standing Order 40;

And there being a Quorum before the expiry of the ten minutes;

The Speaker invited the Clerk to call the Orders of the day.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Speaker conveyed the following Communications from the Chair:

a) The Admission of Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP, following a resolution of the Senate to suspend the Senator

"Honourable Senators,

I have a Communication to make relating to the admission of Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP, back into the Senate, following the conclusion of her suspension.

As Honourable Senators will recall, on 12th February, 2025, I issued a Communication on the implementation of the Resolution of the Senate to adopt the report of the Committee of Powers and Privileges on the conduct of Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP, made on 20th September, 2023. Honourable Senators will also recall that subsequent to the Senate Resolution, Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP filed Petition No. E283 of 2023 and Judicial Review Application E008 of 2023 which sought to quash the recommendations of the Committee of Powers and Privileges and the Resolution of the Senate made on 20th September, 2023.

Honourable Senators will also note that on 28th September, 2023, the High Court at Machakos issued orders whose effect was to suspend implementation of the Resolution of the Senate on the conduct of Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP, pending the hearing and determination of the matter.

The High Court Petition and Judicial Review Application, were subsequently merged by the court, heard and determined on 15th January, 2025. In the judgement, the court dismissed the Petition and the Judicial Review Application. The import of this was that the court order staying the Resolution of the Senate on the Report of the Committee of Powers and Privileges as well as any other consequential orders in the matter that had been filed by the Senator lapsed.

Honourable Senators,

Consequently, in the Communication issued on 12th February, 2025, and in accordance with Section 15 (7) as read together with paragraph 4 of the Third Schedule to the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act, I proceeded to enforce the resolution of the Senate on the report of the Committee of Powers and Privileges. In the Communication, I informed the Senate that the seventy-nine (79) calendar days suspension that were to be applied in the year 2023 would run from Wednesday, 12th February, 2025 to Thursday, 1st May, 2025.

In light of this directive, Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP, commenced her suspension as resolved by the Senate on 20th September, 2023. However, Honourable Senators will recall that on 26th February, 2025, the Senate varied its Resolution on the report of the Committee of Powers and Privileges on the conduct of Sen. Orwoba. The effect of the variation was such that the suspension of the Senator was reduced from seventy-nine (79) Calendar days to thirty (30) Calendar days. Accordingly, the thirty (30) Calendar days suspension commenced on 12th February, 2025 and concluded on 13th March, 2025.

Honourable Senators,

In accordance with the Resolutions passed on 20th September, 2023 and on 26th February, 2025, Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP, is required to tender an apology to the Senate, Honourable Senators, the Clerk of the Senate, and the secretariat of Parliament before being admitted to the Senate. I now invite Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP to tender an apology in the manner prescribed in the Report of the Committee of Powers and Privileges and as adopted by the Senate.

Sen. Orwoba is required to read the prescribed apology verbatim without any addition, omission or amendment. Additionally, the apology shall not be followed by any comment by the Senator or any other Senator."

Thereupon, the Speaker called upon Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP to tender her apology;

And in the failure by Sen. Gloria Orwoba, MP to tender her apology in the prescribed manner;

The Speaker ordered the Senator to exit the precincts of Parliament.

b) Visiting Delegation from Elite Friends Boys School in Kajiado County

"Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, visiting students and teachers from Elite Friends Boys School, Kajiado County. The delegation comprises of thirty-three (33) students and three (3) teachers who are undertaking a study tour to the Senate.

Honourable Senators,

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them all the best during their visit.

I thank you."

c) Visiting Delegation from Chebonei Girls High School in Bomet County

"Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, visiting students and teachers from Chebonei Girls High School, Bomet County. The delegation comprises of ninety-seven (97) students and six (6) teachers who are undertaking a study tour to the Senate.

Honourable Senators,

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them all the best during their visit.

I thank you."

d) Visiting Delegation from Golden Plains Academy, Kitengela in Kajiado County

"Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting teachers and pupils from Golden Plains Academy, Kitengela in Kajiado County. The delegation comprises eight (8) teachers and forty-one (41) pupils, who are in the Senate for a one-day academic exposition.

Honourable Senators,

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them and, on behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you."

e) Visiting Delegation from Ndiai-Ini Girl's Secondary School, Mukurweini Constituency in Nyeri County

"Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting teachers and students from Ndiai-Ini Girl's Secondary School in Mukurweini Constituency, Nyeri County. The delegation comprises two (2) teachers and thirty-six (36) students, who are in the Senate for a one-day academic exposition.

Honourable Senators,

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them and, on behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you."

5. **PAPERS**

The following Papers were laid on the Table of the Senate –

- i) The Social Health Insurance (Amendment) Regulations, Legal Notice No. 55 of 2025.
- ii) The Social Health Insurance (Tariffs for Healthcare Services) Regulations, Legal Notice No. 56 of 2025.
- iii) Report of the Office of Controller of Budget (OCOB) on the National Government Budget Implementation Review for the first six months of financial year 2024/2025.

(The Senate Majority Whip)

- iv) Petition by the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union on the non-compliance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement and non-remittance of SHA 2.75% deductions towards public health insurance coverage.
- v) Petition by the Kenya Medical Practitioners, Pharmacists and Dentists Union on unfair terms service and delay in absorption of all the 8,571 health workers under Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Contract.

(The Deputy Senate Minority Whip)

6. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

Requests for Statements Pursuant to Standing Order 53 (1)

- i) The Senator for Machakos County (Sen. Agnes Kavindu, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Health regarding the operations of the Social Health Authority (SHA) being conducted by private individuals.
- ii) The Senator for Machakos County (Sen. Agnes Kavindu, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget regarding alleged wastage and lack of prioritization of public resources in Machakos County.
- iii) The Senator for Marsabit County (Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing regarding the construction of Korongo road in Karen, Nairobi City County.
- iv) The Senator for Marsabit County (Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding cases of foreign nationals working in Kenya's informal business sector.
- v) The Senator for Marsabit County (Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries regarding the ongoing livestock vaccination programme in the country.
- vi) The Senator for Kisumu County (Sen. (Prof.) Tom Ojienda, SC, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing regarding the current state, operational challenges and future plans for the revitalization of the Port of Kisumu.
- vii) The Senator for Kisumu County (Sen. (Prof.) Tom Ojienda, SC, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations regarding the transfer of core county functions by the County Government of Kisumu to the City of Kisumu.
- viii) The Senator for Kisumu County (Sen. (Prof.) Tom Ojienda, SC, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries regarding the state of rice farming in Kisumu County.

7. THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS (REVENUE RAISING PROCESS) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 11 OF 2023)

(The Senate Majority Leader)

Order for First Reading read;

(276)

Bill read a First Time and committed to the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget.

8. THE BUSINESS LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 51 OF 2024)

(The Senate Majority Leader)

Order for First Reading read;

Bill read a First Time and committed to the Standing Committee on Trade, Industrialization and Tourism.

9. THE PUBLIC FUNDRAISING APPEALS BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 36 OF 2024)

(The Senate Majority Leader)

Order for Second Reading read;

Order deferred.

10. THE ENVIRONMENT LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 23 OF 2024)

(Sen. Abdul Haji, MP)

(Second Reading)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Thursday, 13th February, 2025)
(Division)

Order deferred.

11. THE COUNTY CIVIC EDUCATION BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 4 OF 2024) (Sen. Esther Okenyuri, MP)

(Second Reading)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Thursday, 13th February, 2025) (Division)

Order deferred.

12. THE HERITAGE AND MUSEUMS BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 8 OF 2023)

(The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare)

(Second Reading)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Tuesday, 11th March, 2025)
(Division)

Order deferred.

13. THE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 40 OF 2024) (Sen. Joyce Korir, MP)

(Second Reading)

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Wednesday, 12th March, 2025 – Afternoon Sitting)
(Division)

Order deferred.

14. MOTION - REPORT OF THE MEDIATION COMMITTEE ON THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 12 OF 2023)

(Vice- Chairperson, Mediation Committee)

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Mediation Committee on the Conflict of Interest Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 12 of 2023), laid on the table of the Senate on Thursday, 5th December, 2024 and further that pursuant to Article 113 (2) of the Constitution and Standing Order 167 (3) of the Senate, approves the mediated version of the Bill.

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Thursday, 27th February, 2025) (Division)

Order deferred.

15. MOTION - CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND BUDGET ON THE 2025 BUDGET POLICY STATEMENT

Order read;

Motion made and Question Proposed;

THAT, the Senate, <u>adopts</u> the Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on the 2025 Budget Policy Statement, laid on the Table of the Senate on Wednesday, 12th March, 2025, and pursuant to Section 25 (7) of the Public Finance Management Act and Standing Order 186 (7) of the Senate, <u>approves</u> the 2025 Budget Policy Statement.

(The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget – 13.03.2025)

Debate interrupted on Thursday, 13th March, 2025 resumed;

And there being no more Senators wishing to contribute;

The Vice-Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget, replied on behalf of the Mover;

Pursuant to Standing Order 66 (3), the Vice-Chairperson requested for the deferment of the putting of the Question to a later date;

And the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP) acceding to the request, deferred the putting of the Question to a later date.

16. MOTION - CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND BUDGET ON THE 2025 MEDIUM TERM DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the Senate, adopts the Report of the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on the 2025 Medium Term Debt Management Strategy, laid on the Table of the Senate on Wednesday, 12th March, 2025.

(Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khawale, MP on behalf of the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget)

Debate arising;

And the time being thirty minutes past Six O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Veronica Maina, MP) interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

17. **SENATE ROSE**

- at thirty minutes past Six O'clock.

MEMORANDUM

The Speaker will take the Chair on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 9.30 a.m.