

REPUBLIC OF KENYA THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

_____ (No. 020 of 2025) _____

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION EXERCISE ON THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

Honourable Members,

- As you may recall, the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 4 of 2025) was read a First Time on Wednesday, 12th March 2025 and referred to the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration. The Bill seeks to amend the Constitution of Kenya to entrench the National Government Constituencies Fund, the Senate Oversight Fund, and the National Government Affirmative Action Fund in the Constitution.
- 2. Consequently, on 15th March 2025, in compliance with Articles 118(1)(b) and 256(2) of the Constitution and Standing Order 127(3), the Clerk placed advertisements in the local dailies inviting the public and stakeholders to submit memoranda on the Bill.
- 3. Honourable Members, as observed by our courts, amending of a country's constitution, more so our Constitution, should be a sacrosanct public undertaking and its processes must be undertaken very transparently and in strict compliance with the country's supreme law.
- **4.** Article 256(2) of the Constitution provides that 'Parliament shall publicise any Bill to amend the Constitution, and facilitate public discussion about the Bill.' it is for this reason that we must therefore conduct a granular public participation exercise on this Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2025.

- 5. In this regard, **Honourable Members**, the House Business Committee and the National Assembly General Legislative Caucus resolved that, in addition to receiving written memoranda and consulting relevant stakeholders, the public participation exercise be extended to all the counties and constituencies so as to accord majority of Kenyans an opportunity to express themselves on the Bill.
- 6. Honourable Members, with regard to the administrative arrangements to facilitate public participation, the House Business Committee and the National Assembly General Legislative Caucus also resolved that the country-wide public participation be undertaken from Monday, 5th May 2025 to Wednesday, 7th May 2025. Consequently, I now direct the Clerk to communicate the full details of the programme for the information of the public, through print and electronic media advertisements, on Monday, 21st April 2025.
- 7. Honourable Members, I implore all of you to avail yourselves to spearhead and participate in this very noble activity. I also direct the Clerk to organize a *Kamukunji* on **Tuesday**, **29**th **April 2025**, where Members will be apprised on the modalities of the public participation exercise to be conducted in all the counties and constituencies.
- **8.** The House is accordingly guided.

I thank you.

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

Thursday, 17th April 2025