Fourth Session (791)

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2025 (MORNING SITTING)

- The Senate assembled at thirty minutes past Nine O'clock. 1.
- 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 at the expiry of the ten minutes;

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

4. COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR – MEETING BETWEEN THE SENATE AND THE CABINET SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR AND NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DEATH OF MR. ALBERT OMONDI OJWANG AT THE CENTRAL POLICE STATION IN NAIROBI

The Speaker conveyed the following Communication from the Chair:

"Honourable Senators,

I have a communication to make regarding the meeting between the Senate and the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen, EGH, on the circumstances surrounding the death of Mr. Albert Omondi Ojwang, at the Central Police Station in Nairobi City County.

Honourable Senators,

As you may recall, during the Sitting of the Senate held yesterday, Tuesday, 10th June, 2025, the Senator for Migori County (Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP)

sought a Statement pursuant to Standing Order 53(1) from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding the unfortunate death of Mr. Albert Omondi Ojwang while in custody at the Central Police Station in Nairobi. Pursuant to Standing Order 53(3), I allowed Senators to make comments on the statement by Sen. Oketch.

All Senators who spoke on this matter expressed grave concern over the inhumane treatment and resultant death of Mr. Albert Ojwang while at the Police Station. The Senators demanded for urgent action from the relevant government agencies, particularly the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, the Inspector General of Police and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority.

Subsequently, following the comments by Senators on the Statement and in view of the urgent nature of the matter which is of nationwide concern considering the expression of grief by the public, I directed that the Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Interior and National Administration, appears before the Senate accompanied by the Inspector General of Police, the Chairperson of the Independent Policing Oversight Authority and the Chairperson of the National Police Service Commission to respond to concerns from Senators for and on behalf of the people they represent. The matter at hand relates to the safety and well-being of persons in custody at police stations across the country, and in particular, the circumstances surrounding the unwarranted treatment and grotesque death of Mr. Ojwang.

Honourable Senators,

As you are aware, Wednesday mornings are reserved for Questions to Cabinet Secretaries. However, special arrangements must be made for the Senate to engage with the Cabinet Secretary and his team on this issue. Consequently, I will very shortly allow the Senate Majority Leader to move a Motion for the temporary suspension of this sitting pursuant to Standing Order 38. The period of suspension of the sitting shall not exceed two (2) hours. The time will be used for the Senate to engage with the Cabinet Secretary and his team, after which normal business as scheduled in the Order Paper will resume, beginning with the Questions scheduled for reply by the Cabinet Secretary.

You will acknowledge that this is indeed an unprecedented occurrence in the Senate. It is, however, necessary that this route is taken to allow for the necessary flexibility to get a report on concrete action being undertaken by the Cabinet Secretary and his team and for Senators to effectively interrogate the matter.

During the session with the Cabinet Secretary and his team, the proceedings will be open. Media access will be granted, and so is the live broadcasting of

the session. Accordingly, the Hansard Editor is directed to prepare a special report thereon.

I thank you."

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

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the Business Laws (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 51 of 2024) be now read a Second Time.

(The Senate Majority Leader – 29.05.2025)

Debate interrupted on Wednesday, 4th June, 2025 (Afternoon Sitting) resumed for the Mover to reply;

Mover replied;

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

And the Speaker, acceding to the request, deferred the putting of the Question to a later date.

6. PROCEDURAL MOTION - TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SITTING PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 38

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 38, the Senate do suspend its proceedings for not more than two hours in order to allow Senators to efficiently interrogate the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, the Inspector-General of Police and the Chairpersons of the Independent Policing Oversight Authority and that of the National Police Service Commission regarding the safety and wellbeing of arrested persons in police custody and, in particular, the circumstances surrounding the death of Albert Ojwang.

(The Senate Majority Leader)

And there being no Senators wishing to contribute;

Before the Question was put, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 84 (2), the Speaker ruled that the Motion does not affect counties;

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And the Speaker having ascertained that there was Quorum, pursuant to Standing Order 42 (1);

Question put and agreed to.

Thereupon, the sitting stood suspended at ten minutes past Ten O'clock.

7. **SENATE RESUMED** – (The Speaker in the Chair).

And the time being One O'clock, the Speaker interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

8. **SENATE ROSE** – at One O'clock

MEMORANDUM

The Speaker will take the Chair on Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.