

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

_____ (No. 32 of 2025)_____

GUIDANCE ON THE INCIDENT OF VIOLENT ALTERCATION BETWEEN A SITTING MEMBER AND A FORMER MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT ON WEDNESDAY 9TH APRIL 2025

Honourable Members,

- 1. You will recall that, on Wednesday, 9th April 2025, I issued a Communication regarding an incident of violent altercation that occurred within the precincts of Parliament. The incident involved the Hon. Umulkher Harun Mohamed, MP, a Nominated Member of this House, and the Hon. Iman Falhada Deko, MP, former Senator and current Member of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA).
- 2. In that Communication, Honourable Members, I directed that the Hon. Falhada explains herself to the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Service Commission in writing on Monday, 14th April 2025, by 5.00pm. I further ordered that the Member be precluded from accessing the precincts of Parliament, Parliament Buildings and facilities for a **period of ninety days**, save for Monday, 14th April 2025, being the day she was to deliver her written explanation to the Speaker.

- **3. Honourable Members,** I also indicated that, upon reviewing the response by Hon. Falhada, I would guide the House on any further or other action that could be taken, not only on the two Members involved in the altercation, but also on the Member claimed to have recorded the video of the incident.
- 4. Honourable Members, I wish to inform the House that indeed, the Hon. Falhada delivered her written response to my Office on 14th April 2025, as directed. Upon receipt of her written explanation, I reviewed it concurrently with the explanation and apology tendered by the Hon. Umulkher to this House on Wednesday, 9th April 2025. Further, I reviewed the incident report submitted to me by the Serjeant-At-Arms through the Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly and the video clip of the incident, despite it being an unauthorised recording.
- **5. Honourable Members**, from my review, I have satisfied myself that whereas the Hon. Umulkher Harun Mohamed, MP was involved in the altercation, she appeared to be the victim in the violent altercation and not the provocateur. Accordingly, she bears no fault in the matter, hence I will not prefer any sanction on her.

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6. Honourable Members, with respect to the Hon. Falhada, the EALA Member of Parliament, and having carefully considered her detailed account of the altercation and the apology therein, I note that although her actions toward the Hon. Umulkher were indeed unwarranted, they were not pre-meditated. I also note that she expressed unreserved remorse and apology for the incident.

- 7. However, the Hon. Falhada was a visitor who decided to tag along another visitor into the precincts of Parliament. I noted that the visitor appeared to have been very enthusiastic in her engagement in the unfortunate altercation! As a former Member of this House and also a sitting Member of EALA, the Hon. Falhada did bear a greater responsibility to be of good behaviour.
- 8. Consequently, I invoke the provisions of Standing Order 1 and vary the period of her exclusion from the precincts of Parliament, from the ninety (90) days I pronounced on Wednesday, 9th April 2025 to forty-five (45 days). For clarity, the forty five-day period commenced on Wednesday, 9th April 2025 when I gave the order *vide* Communication No. 18 of 2025. For the avoidance of doubt, the period effectively ends on Monday next week, that is, on 9th June 2025.
- **9. Honourable Members,** you may also recall that when I reported to this House the unfortunate incident of violent altercation, the House was in profound shock at the claim that a Sitting Member of this House recorded and circulated a video of the incident. To this end, I indicated that should the claim be ascertained, that abhorrent act would attract the sanctions under the Standing Orders and the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Act (Cap. 6).
- Honourable Members, witness accounts have identified the Hon.
 Lawrence Mpuru Aburi, MP, the Member for Tigania East, as the Member believed to have made and circulated the video recording.

- **11.** I take exception to the Member's irresponsible conduct, given that he is a senior Member of this House, and therefore, bears a higher level of responsibility befitting a ranking Member in upholding the dignity of the House.
- **12. Honourable Members,** I hasten to emphasize that any form of indignity by one of us becomes an indignity to all of us, this House and indeed to the institution of Parliament as a whole. I implore all of us who are Members of this House to collectively safeguard the dignity of this august House in the manner we conduct ourselves in the Chamber, within the precincts of Parliament or elsewhere in our private or public life.
- 13. Accordingly, Honourable Members, having considered the circumstances surrounding this matter, and having duly allowed the Hon. Lawrence Mpuru Aburi reasonable opportunity to reflect on his conduct, I will now allow the Hon. Lawrence Mpuru Aburi, MP, should he be present in the House, to rise in his place now and proceed to tender an appropriate apology to this House. If he is not present in the House now, I will allow him to tender his apology at the next appropriate time, in the presence of the Speaker.
- **14.** The Clerk of the National Assembly is hereby instructed to take necessary action to enforce the directions.

The House is accordingly guided.

I thank you.

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

Wednesday, 4th June 2025 Page 4 of 4