

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 28th February 2018

The House met at 9.30 a.m.

[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Cheboi) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I see we do not have quorum. I, therefore, order that the Quorum Bell be rung for 10 minutes.

(Quorum Bell was rung)

Order, Members! We now have the required quorum; therefore, business will start.

PAPERS LAID

Hon. A.B. Duale: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to lay the following Papers on the Table of the House:

The Intergovernmental (Alternative Dispute Resolution) Regulations 2018 pursuant to Section 38 of the Intergovernmental Relations Act, 2012.

The Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements in respect of the following institutions for the Financial Year ended 30th June 2017 and the certificate therein:

- i. Industrial Development Bank Capital Limited
- ii. Unclaimed Financial Assets Authority.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Very well. Next order!

PROCEDURAL MOTION

EXEMPTION OF BUSINESS FROM THE PROVISIONS OF STANDING ORDER

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Again, Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. A.B. Duale: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the following Procedural Motion:

THAT, this House orders that the business appearing under Order Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, be exempted from the provisions of Standing Order 40 (3) being a Wednesday

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morning, a day allocated for business not sponsored by the Majority or Minority Party or business sponsored by a Committee.

As Members are aware, Wednesday mornings are meant for debate of Private Members' Bills and Motions. However, the House Business Committee (HBC), in its sittings last night, felt that there is need for this House to consider the reports on the vetting of the various nominees to the offices of Principal Secretaries, Ambassadors and High Commissioners as the statutory timelines for consideration of the vetting reports expires today.

Therefore, morning and afternoon sittings will give us enough time to conclude the deliberations and approve all nominees. This is in keeping with the practice of the House. Thereafter, if need be, the House Business Committee will schedule Private Members' business on any other day. The 14 day window, provided as the statutory timeline for the various committees in approving various nominees for PSs, ambassadors and High Commissioners, come to an end today by midnight. We are under obligation, as a House, to make sure that we give preference and that is what the HBC did. I am sure some more will be done in the afternoon. If the afternoon time will not be enough, we might be forced to extend the sitting until midnight so that we dispose of all these matters.

So it is just a Procedural Motion. I am sure Members will agree with the HBC resolution of last night. I beg to move and ask the Whip of the Majority Party, because I am not seeing the Leader of the Minority Party and Whip of the Minority Party who were with me last night in the HBC meeting; maybe they are still stuck in traffic, to second.

Hon. Washiali: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I want to thank the Leader of the Majority Party for moving this Motion. He has given a very adequate explanation as to why we should have this Procedural Motion. This is in order so that we can change our own programmes as and when need arises, like now it has come. Because we have the timelines, I think it is important that Members understand and support this Procedural Motion so that we can be within the requirements of law.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, I wish to second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Members: Put the question.

(Question put and agreed to)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I wish to rearrange the order of business by placing before you a Message, which would have been done earlier, and then we will come back to Order No. 9.

MESSAGE

SENATE APPROVAL OF PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION MEMBERS

Hon. Members, pursuant to Standing Order 41, I wish to report to the House that I have received a message from the Senate regarding its decision on approval of Members for appointment to the Parliamentary Service Commission. The message reads in part:

“In accordance to provisions of Article 127(2) of the Constitution, by a resolution passed on Tuesday, 27 February 2018, the Senate also approved the appointment of the following Members to the Parliamentary Commission—

- (a) Under subsection (c)(i)—
 - (i) Hon. Naomi Shaban
 - (ii) Hon. Adan Keynan
 - (iii) Sen. Beth Mugo
 - (iv) Sen. Aaron Cheruiyot
- (b) Under subsection (c)(ii)—
 - (i) Hon. Ben Momanyi
 - (ii) Hon. Aisha Jumwa
 - (iii) Sen. George Khaniri”

Hon. Members, you will recall that this House, by a resolution passed on Thursday, 22nd February 2018, the National Assembly approved the seven Members for appointment to the PSC. This, therefore, concludes the bicameral approval of the appointment process and paves way for the commissioners to take oath of office as required under Article 74 of the Constitution before they commence their duties.

I thank you.
Next Order.

PROCEDURAL MOTION

LIMITATION OF DEBATE ON MOTIONS FOR APPROVAL OF STATE OFFICER

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. A.B. Duale: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the following Procedural Motion: THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 97(4), and notwithstanding the House resolution of 14th February 2018 limiting speech in a debate on any Motion, this House further orders that debate on the Special Motions for approval for appointment of nominees to various state and public offices appearing in today’s Order Paper be limited as follows: A maximum of one (1) hour, with not more than fifteen (15) minutes for the Mover in moving and five (5) minutes in replying, and not more than five (5) minutes for any other Member speaking, including the Leader of the Majority Party and the Leader of the Minority Party; and further that priority in speaking shall be accorded to the Leader of the Majority Party and the Leader of the Minority Party, in that order.

The House is required to consider and approve 10 nominees for the office of PS and eight nominees for the office of ambassadors and High Commissioners by the end of today.

Considering the time constraint, the HBC last night agreed to limit the time for debate on the said reports not to exceed one hour. This is very crucial if the House approves. The chair has 15 minutes to move and five minutes to reply. So 20 minutes will go with that. The rest of us will have 40 minutes, with each one of us speaking for five minutes, including unfortunately the Leader of the Majority Party. This is so that we expedite this process today morning and afternoon.

The aim of this proposal is to catalyze the process of considering of the committee reports. This is because most committees were vetting one person. It is only the Departmental Committee on Defence and Foreign Relations that vetted eight nominees for the office of ambassadors and High Commissioners and one nominee for the position of PS. This Motion is just procedural; it is in-house. It makes us to comply with the statutory deadline of today.

I beg to move.

I saw Hon. Mbadu coming in and he has just left. Let me ask the only surgeon and a senior Member of the House to second.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I am not so sure if this is the only surgeon in this House. We have plenty of doctors here, unless you are suggesting that most of the others are gynaecologists. And gynaecologists are also surgeons, you know.

Well, proceed Hon. Pukose.

Hon. (Dr.) Pukose: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker and Leader of the Majority Party. You know all of us are doctors, but there are various specialisations. A gynaecologist is also a surgeon but a surgeon on the gynae side. I am a general surgeon. Then you have other specialists: paediatricians, physicians and all that. So it is true, I am the only surgeon.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Well, maybe just as a matter of information, do gynaecologists perform any surgical duty?

Hon. (Dr.) Pukose: They do. That is why I have said they are surgeons on the gynaecologist and obstetrics side.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, I want to support this Procedural Motion which was moved by the Leader of the Majority Party.

From the Order Paper, we have many public officers and State officers who are going to be approved. By limiting time we would be able to cover that. It will be limited to one hour and you have 15 minutes for the Mover, five minutes for reply, five minutes for the other speakers including the Leader of the Majority Party and the Leader of the Minority Party, who, I think will assist us to expedite the approval for these State officers so that they can begin their work with immediate effect.

So, I second this Motion.

(Question proposed)

(Question put and agreed to)

BILL*Second Reading*

THE KENYA ROADS BOARD

(Hon. A.B. Duale on 21.2.2018)
(Debate concluded on 27.2.2018)

(Question put and agreed to)

(The Bill was read a Second Time and committed
to a Committee of the whole House tomorrow)

SPECIAL MOTIONSAPPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
FOR STATE DEPARTMENT FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

Hon. Ali Adan: I beg to move the following Special Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock on the Vetting of Nominee for Appointment as Principal Secretary, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 27th February 2018, and pursuant to the provisions of Article 155(3) (b) of the Constitution, approves the appointment of Prof. Hamadi Iddi Boga as the Principal Secretary, State Department for Agricultural Research.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, research is a driving force behind innovation in science and technology. Therefore, the research study which is being conducted at our research centers has the potential to yield new knowledge that could influence the day-to-day lives of millions of Kenyans.

Prof. Hamadi Boga was born on 3rd December 1967...

(Hon. Chepkut crossed the Floor without bowing)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Order, Hon. Chepkut. You know what is supposed to be done in this House. You will go all the way and perform what is supposed to be performed. Proceed.

Hon. Ali Adan: Prof. Hamadi Boga is a Professor of Microbiology at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) and currently the Acting Vice-Chair of Taita Taveta University since 7th October 2016. He has a Bachelor of Science (BSC) in Botany and Zoology, First Class Honours and a Master's degree in Botany and Microbiology from Kenyatta University in Kenya. He also has a PHD in Microbial Ecology and Microbiology from University of Konstanz in Germany and is undertaking a Postdoctoral Research Study at the Max Planck Institute for Terrestrial Microbiology in Marburg Germany. He is also a Herbert fellow and was 2010/2015 Ambassador of Science for Kenya.

He has previously held various administrative positions in JKUAT including Chairman of Botany at the Department between 2002 and 2004, Director of the Institute of Biotechnology and Research in 2005, Dean of Faculty of Science in 2007 and Principal of JKUAT, Taita Taveta Campus in Voi from 2007 to 2012. From 2012 to 2016, he was the Principal of Taita Taveta University, initially a constituent college of JKUAT which grew into a full university status. He has an extensive international and local network especially in scientific engagement and collaborations. He was a board member of the World Federation of Culture Collections. He was the Secretary of the African German Network of Excellence in Science. He was the Secretary between 2002 and 2006 and later a Chairman between 2008 and 2010. He has over 66 scientific publications in international journals. He has supervised over 14 PhD and 31 Masters' degree students. He is an active researcher with active international collaborations. He has a very strong track record for networking in terms of fundraising for research. That is the reason why the Committee was very thrilled to give him a nod to take up this challenge.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, other notable achievements of Prof. Boga include the founding of Taita Taveta satellite campus from a humble beginning to a full university status. This is credited to him personally. He has got recognition from the Ministry of Mining and Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for setting up Technical University as the Mining Institute of Kenya. He guided Taita Taveta University (TTU) to be picked by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the German Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the 8th African-German Centre of Excellence with a focus on Mining and Resource Management.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, there is a host CV behind this good professor that we cannot exhaust. However, a few needs to be mentioned. Between 2000 and 2015, he was Secretary to the Kenya Society of Microbiology. Responsibilities included building and maintaining a network of microbiologists in the region, taking minutes, manning the Kenya Society of Microbiology (KSM) secretariat, and day-to-day running of KSM affairs.

Professor Hamadi Boga hails from a humble background, and the Committee thanks the President for nominating him because we feel that he aligned the job with the right human resource. The Committee, in considering Prof. Boga, also considered the leadership and integrity by seeking reports from the Criminal Investigations Department (CID), the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB), the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), among others.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, I wish to inform this august House that the nominee is qualified as he has the requisite expertise with distinguished career in the public service. The Members who vetted him saw this and they were passionate about giving him the job. The nominee is career researcher. He has supervised and mentored numerous knowledgeable Kenyans, and he informed the Committee that he will continue to do so even after assuming office. I take this opportunity to commend His Excellency the President by showing his intentions by having high a caliber of intellectual performers like Prof. Boga in this docket. The are key to delivering his big four agenda.

As I conclude, the excitement surrounding the big four agenda amongst members of the public is sadly not reflected in the 2017/2018 Budget. This is what we noted. I therefore challenge the Budget and Appropriations Committee Chair, as well as the Cabinet Secretary of the National Treasury that the Agriculture docket requires adequate funding to achieve the Government agenda of ensuring food security for Kenyans. I also call upon the CS for

Devolution and Planning to engage the Committee as the nation grapples with the ongoing drought as only through consultation and planning will we ensure that Kenyans' sacred lives are not lost in the vicious cycle of drought.

Drought, crop failure, livestock death and diseases, forest cover depletion and climate change require sufficient interventions. We need to plan and face these challenges as a nation. They are not insurmountable. As a Committee, we are up to the task. We will call upon your office and the Office of the Clerk as we work towards securing Kenyans from hunger, death and starvation.

Finally, I cannot conclude without commending the Committee Members who have shown confidence in my chairmanship, and for their diligence in ensuring that we achieve our objective as well as the aspiration of our constituents. I thank Members for their commitment and dedication to the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock. I promise to provide the leadership that they demand from me. Finally, I thank the Office of the Clerk for encouragement. I also thank the Secretariat, who have been up to the task.

I challenge the nominee to move with speed, upon approval, to prepare and submit conclusive research on issues affecting agriculture, including the Galana-Kulalu livestock agricultural technology matters, among others and propose solutions to these challenges.

Hon. Deputy Speaker, with those remarks, I beg to move and call upon the Vice Chair of the Committee, Hon. Wangwe, to second.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wangwe, Member for Navakholo.

Hon. Wangwe: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I rise to second the Motion as moved by the Chair. I would like to add a few things that the Chairman might not have spoken about.

The objective of this new State Department is clear. The big four agenda of the Jubilee Government speak loudly. We need to do research. We do not want to do agriculture without proper research. That is why it is important that the House approves the State Department for Research and Agriculture in order for this scholar, Prof. Boga, to coordinate the Ministry in terms of research.

The Ministry has various State agencies such as the Kenya Agriculture and Livestock Research Organisation (KALRO) and the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), among others. The activities of those agencies must be well-coordinated by a scholar so that we can have proper output in terms of the product we are going to achieve. Hon. Members can understand that the world has been doing research on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), certified seeds and chemicals to apply. Therefore, we need somebody at the apex of the Ministry to take that kind of career.

The key strengths that we found in this professor, as a Committee, include his respect for the rule of law. When he appeared before the Committee, he confirmed that he is going to respect the rule of law as well as summons and invites from this House. That is a challenge for many State officers, who resist appearing before parliamentary committees. This professor must echo that strength and adhere to it. There is also the clause on compliance with Chapter Six of the Constitution, which he complied with. He is also tax-compliant. He has all the merits required of him under Chapter Six of the Constitution of Kenya.

Finally, the professor is not a very wealthy man. He is a man living within the means of his salary. He declared that he is Kshs50 million worth of himself. We would want to see that when he gets into office by living within his means in terms of his earnings.

With those very many remarks, I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

I will give the first shot to Hon. Mwakuwona Mwashako, the Member for Wundanyi. It is five minutes for Members.

Hon. Mwakuwona: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I support the Motion on approval of Prof. Hamadi Boga as the Principal Secretary for State Department for Agricultural Research.

As I mention a few things about the professor, I thank the President for nominating him. I know the professor personally. He is the first Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Taita Taveta University. I want to submit to this House that Prof. Hamadi Boga is a scholar who has had a 10-year stint at Taita Taveta University and has proven to be a 21st Century leader. This university started at a time when the former President Kibaki gave opportunity for regional universities to come up. Indeed, Prof. Boga was given that opportunity and he did not disappoint, particularly the people of Taita Taveta County.

Today, the university has many campuses around. When it started, people thought that Prof. Boga did not know what he was doing. I want to submit to this House that he opened a campus at a place called Ngerenyi in Mwatate Constituency, which focuses on agricultural research. His appointment to head the State Department for Agricultural Research is one of those things which give my heart a lot of joy and the people from coast region as well. I want to submit to this House that we have very few professors from the coast region. So, when we get a learned fellow like Prof. Hamadi Boga, we want to see him excel in everything he does. Three weeks ago, the university signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the University of Helsinki from Finland. The MOU was on research on climate change and issues that will affect agriculture in the future. Prof. Boga will be one of the Principal Secretaries who will move this country to the next level.

With that, I support the Motion for approval of appointment of Prof. Boga.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let us have the Member for Soy. Hon. Member, did you slot your card and you are not so sure whether you want to contribute on this one? Are you waiting for another one or you got a little confused somewhere?

Hon. Kositany: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I was busy consulting with the Woman Representative for Uasin Gishu County.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I understand, proceed.

(Laughter)

Hon. Kositany: We were consulting on county matters and not any other matter.

I rise to support the appointment of Prof. Boga as the Principal Secretary, State Department for Agricultural Research. I want to thank His Excellency the President for having fished out very qualified people to help him run the agenda of Government. My advice to the appointee is that he should be available, move around the country and talk to farmers so that he can know the issues affecting them. He must come up with a road map of how farmers, like me, are going to be paid promptly for any produce they deliver to Government silos, like the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) and even manage milk prices.

Of late, we have seen a situation whereby farmers deliver their produce to NCPB and have to beg to be paid. They have been begging for their money and praying for rain. They have put their money into tilling their land and waited to harvest the crop which they later deliver to NCPB. Thereafter, they suffer again waiting for payment. I want to challenge this PS to come up with a road map so that farmers will no longer have to queue to deliver their crop and for payment.

Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let us have the Member for Mandera West, Hon. Yussuf Haji.

Hon. Yussuf Adan: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I was consulting with the Member of Lafey who is my neighbour.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: These consultations are really creating a lot of unnecessary confusion.

Hon. Yussuf Adan: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I also stand to support this Motion as a Member of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock. I know the importance of research in agriculture and I support the appointment of Prof. Boga as the PS, State Department for Agricultural Research.

The major problem in this country today is food security. This is as a result of using seeds and animal genetic products that have not been properly researched, tested and certified. In the rural areas, after harvesting, farmers select the best seeds and store them somewhere for planting in the next season. The establishment of a fully-fledged State Department for Agricultural Research is, indeed, the way forward.

The professor's CV has been read out here and it is very impressive indeed. We have a lot of hope in him. I want to request him to immediately put systems in place to make sure that in future we use seeds and other agricultural inputs which are properly researched, certified and of world-class standards. Kenya is known because it is a leader in almost everything, including agricultural production. Here, we have cattle which can produce about 80 liters of milk per day. But, still, with effective research and having somebody like Prof. Hamadi Iddi, we hope to move forward. Therefore, I have all the confidence in him and request this House to unanimously support and give him this job so that he can help us to move forward.

Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Very well, let us have the Member for Ruiru. You see, that is the problem of placing your card in a machine that is far from where you are seated. I can see Hon. Sankok has been misplaced from his seat.

Hon. King'ara: Asante sana, Mhe. Naibu Spika. Unajua huu ni wakati wa kutafuta uwiano, ndiyo maana unaona watu wanazungumza hapa na pale. Nasimama kuunga mkono hili jina la Prof. Hamadi Iddi Boga. Kulingana na matokeo ya kamati yetu teule ya Bunge tuliona ni mtu ambaye amesoma na kutembea maeneo mbalimbali. Hapa Kenya, kuna ukosefu wa utafiti katika kilimo. Kwa hivyo, tukipata mtu ambaye atatuelekeza kwa utafiti mwafaka, naona maendeleo na kilimo kitakuwa cha hali ya juu.

Sisi Wakenya tunajigamba kuwa wakulima lakini hatuna chakula cha kutosha. Nchi yetu inaagiza chakula kingi sana kutoka nchi nyingine ilhali tuko na ardhi ya kutosha. Umuhimu wa kilimo ni kujitosheliza sisi wenyewe. Kwa hivyo, itabidi mwenzetu mteule aweze kuisaidia Kenya ndiyo tuweze kuuza chakula nje na sio kukiagiza kutoka nje. Akifanya hivyo, atakuwa amefanya kazi ambayo inastahili na inayolingana na masomo yote ambayo alisoma katika vyuo

vikuu mbalimbali kama alivyoieleza kamati yetu ya Bunge. Vile vile, ombi langu ni sisi Wabunge kutoka upande wa Serikali na upande wa Upinzani tumuunge mkono na tumsaidie wakati ako mashinani akifanya utafiti. Akija eneo lolote lile, tumsaidie ili aweze kuleta utafiti ulio na mwelekeo mwema. Ninajua kwamba Kenya itakomaa katika sekta ya kilimo na maendeleo.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono Hoja hii.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Next is the Member for Ainabkoi.

Hon. Chepkut: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I take this opportunity to congratulate the Professor. I have been wondering that, in Kenya, all these intellectuals do not translate their acquired knowledge, expertise and authority into practice. I urge the PS for the State Department for Agricultural Research to translate the intellectual discourse into practice. You know very well that Rift Valley, especially the North Rift, is planting a lot of maize, wheat, cash crops and also do value addition. We also produce a lot of milk. The Kenya Cooperative Creameries (KCC) is paying us Kshs24 per litre, while last year they were paying Kshs43 per litre. I want the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and the Cabinet Secretary of the National Treasury to put a lot of money into agriculture so that the inputs, especially fertilisers and seeds, are subsidised so that whatever we harvest is commensurate to our production. You can see that the cost of production is very high. At the same time, is it logical to get the money for importing maize from abroad when we have money that we can use and subsidise the seeds, fertilises and, of course, the fuel so that the cost of production comes down?

This PS is a renowned and distinguished scholar. I humbly urge him to translate what he has acquired into practice. At the same time, Articles 129, 130 and 131 of the Constitution empower the President to nominate him. It is the duty of Parliament to approve. We do not have problems. We shall comply. We will approve, but I want CSs and PSs to respect Members of Parliament because we are the cardinal pillars by the Constitution of this country. We approve all State officers. Therefore, whatever we say they must comply and respect MPs because we are very important people. When we go to their offices, they keep us waiting. A classic example is Charles Keter. He is a good man because he has been a Member of Parliament. He is one of the great people of this country. He is accessible and available.

Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, before I give the Floor to the next Member, let me recognise, in the Speaker's Gallery, the presence of Mwangeka Girls High School from Wundanyi, Taita Taveta County; Twin Bird Academy, again, from Wundanyi, Taita Taveta County; and Kidule Primary School, again, from Wundanyi, Taita Taveta County. Well, I do not know whether there is a coincidence between the nominee we are discussing and the presence of pupils and students from that particular county. I do not know, but if it is a coincidence, maybe it is a better one. Of course, you know their MP was the first one to contribute in support of this particular Motion.

I proceed to give the Floor to that grandfather Member of this House, Hon. Jimmy Nuru Angwenyi, and Member for Kitutu Chache North, who just dealt a blow on his issues of petition.

Hon. Angwenyi: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker, for giving me a chance to contribute to this important appointment.

Kenya's economy is based on agriculture, but in the last few years we have not demonstrated that we really value that base of our economy. The amount of money we vote

towards agriculture is very little compared to the contribution made by agriculture to this economy. For example, the planting season started yesterday when it started raining in most parts of the country. It started raining in the Rift Valley, Nyanza region and some parts of the Central region. I was inquiring this morning and I got information about rain in Kenya. Subsidised seeds and fertilisers have not been given to farmers yet we expect to have food security in this country. I know this Professor will bring some change in that ministry. I am sure because I have been a lecturer. When you implement what you have been thinking or reading about, you can make a change. I am sure he is going to bring change in that ministry. When he gets there, I hope he will deal with the cartels that have been involved in the industries of production of milk, maize, wheat, coffee and tea.

These days raw coffee on the world market goes for at least Kshs120 per kilogramme but in Kenya farmers are paid Kshs15, Kshs20 or Kshs25 per kilogramme. Who takes the balance of Kshs100 per kilogramme? Like my colleague has said, the PSs we are approving for appointment should listen to us. This is because we have the issues that affect our constituents, who are Kenyans. We are the people who have got those issues and we express ourselves to them so that they can take some steps.

When we get the budget, again I ask this House to see to it that we have adequate funding for the agriculture sector. We want this economy to grow. Certain countries which have been depending on their agricultural production have moved from Third World to First World. Brazil and Malaysia are examples yet the kind of production they have is not comparable to what Kenya can produce. It is only that Kenya is not investing adequately in agriculture so that we can produce more so that we can move from Third World to First World.

When these appointments are made and the nominees take over, we should call them here and express our issues as MPs. They will be part of the public participation to try to find out what they need to do to improve production and food security in this country which is one of our major agenda in the Jubilee Government.

With those few remarks, I beg to support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Member for Isiolo North

Hon. Hulufu: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I would like to support the Special Motion on the Approval for the Appointment of Prof. Hamadi Boga as the Principal Secretary for the State Department for Agricultural Research.

Ours is an agricultural country and research plays a very key role in enhancing agricultural productivity. Those of us from agricultural backgrounds see research as key in attaining national food and nutritional security. As a country, we have not invested substantially in the agriculture sector, despite the fact that we are part of the African Union (AU). In line with Maputo Declaration, we are supposed to commit 10 per cent of our national Budget to agriculture. We have not done that. Apart from supporting the Motion, I would like to support what the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock has said, that they need to work very closely with the National Treasury. As parliamentarians, we need to also call upon the National Treasury to enhance the budget ceiling for State Department for Agricultural Research.

Research plays a very key role in agricultural production. All our agricultural research institutions are funded poorly. I would like to thank His Excellency the President for creating State Department for Agricultural Research under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and

Fisheries. The creation of this particular department is a good starting point to enhance our investment in agricultural research as a country. Being an agricultural country and being very much dependent on agriculture in terms of our national income, it is important to appreciate that climate change is affecting our ability to feed our population. As we speak, large part of our Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) is food insecure today. It depends on relief food which is not provided in substantial quantities.

If proper agricultural research is done in the part of our country which is arable, we will get appropriate plants, seeds and varieties and animal breeds. We will not only feed ourselves but also we can turn our country into a net exporter of food rather than importing food as a country. Therefore, I support the appointment of Prof. Hamadi who is a refined researcher and an accomplished academician. When I look at the Report of the Committee which assessed him for suitability for proposed appointment, we have no doubt that this particular new department which ought to have been created many years ago will help us, as a country, to achieve one of our key pillars which His Excellency the President has identified as things that we need to focus on for the next four years which is food security. If we allocate a lot of resources to this particular department, we will be food secure.

Therefore, I support the appointment of Prof. Hamadi Boga. I thank His Excellency the President for creating this very important department which will enable us to allocate resources to research. Thank you very much.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let us have Hon. Leshoomo Maison

Hon. (Ms.) Leshoomo: Asante sana, Mhe. Naibu wa Spika. Mimi pia naunga mkono haya mambo ya kilimo. Tunaelewa vizuri sana kwamba Kilimo ndicho muhimu zaidi kwa wananchi wa Kenya. Ikiwa hatutatenga pesa za kutosha kwa idara ya kilimo, itakuwa ngumu kwa Wakenya kuendelea kupata mavuno yao.

Kuhusu Kamati ya Kilimo na Mifugo; kila wakati tukijaribu kutenga pesa kwa kilimo; mara kwa mara, unakuta pesa zinaenda pahali pengine. Naunga mkono Hoja hii nakusema ni muhimu tutenge pesa nyingi kwa sekta ya kilimo. Wizara ya Kilimo, Mifugo na Uvuvi iko na idara nyingi. Wafugaji wanaumia sana. Pesa ikitengwa kwa mambo ya mifugo, sisi ndio tunaumia. Ukame na njaa zinamaliza wanyama. Maji inategemewa kwa mambo ya wanyama. Kwa hivyo, tunaumia kabisa kama wafugaji. Kama sasa, kila mtu anaona katika Kenya vile mifugo wanakufa kwa sababu ya ukosefu wa maji na nyasi.

Kuna hadithi moja ambayo hatuwezi kukubali. Kuna wakati tunatenga pesa nyingi sana ya nyasi na ya kununua chakula cha ng'ombe lakini hatuelewi zina kwenda wapi. Kwa hivyo, tunataka tutenge pesa nyingi ili zisaidie mifugo.

Pia, tunaunga mkono mambo ya mahindi na Kahawa ambayo inategemea mvua. Tukiwa na maji mengi, hatutakuwa tukilia mvua haijanyesha kama kuna unyunyizaji wa maji kwa mimea yote.

Naunga mkono Hoja hii. Tunataka kuhakikisha pesa zimetengwa kwa hiyo idara kwa sababu imebeba mambo mengi na inahitaji pesa ndio isonge.

Asante, Mhe. Naibu wa Spika.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Brighton Leonard

Hon. Yegon: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I would like to support the appointment of Prof. Hamadi Iddi Boga as the Principal Secretary for State Department for Agricultural Research.

Realising that agriculture is among the four pillars of this particular economy, we require research as a foundation to production of food and agriculture. Kenya's economy depends majorly on agriculture. Therefore, we need to look at tea, coffee and macadamia among other products that are exported. We need to look at research on issues to do with variation of prices, especially of tea from the East and West. Those are among the things that we expect Prof. Hamadi to look into.

We need to look at research to bridge the gap on why we are still importing sugar and maize while we have adequate land and labour to handle such issues. We need to have a paradigm shift and move from traditional farming to modern farming, and a shift from rain-fed economy to irrigation economy. That is why we require Prof. Boga in that particular department. Looking at the advent of GMOs, there is need to properly research and build on the positives of GMOs and also research on the health hazards that they pose. Research, therefore, will lead to improved crop and also livestock production marketing, among other issues.

Therefore, I support the Motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I see all Members support the Motion. Let us have the Mover to reply.

Hon. Ali Adan: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. From the outset, I want to thank Members for making such valuable contributions to this Motion. Their sentiments have been noted. As the Chair of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, I will convey some of those very valuable points that have been noted by Members in this House. I want to thank them for contributing to this Motion.

I would like to clarify just one or two things. There was the issue on intellectuals who often do not translate into intellectual prowess. More often than not, we have brilliant minds employed in positions but they end up underperforming. That is basically true. What is different for Professor Boga is that he is a career researcher. Therefore, he will put his technical and conceptual skills into the work that he has set out to do.

A lot also has been said about the budget. Basically, the resources must follow functions. This is what we are asking the Executive to do. I want to repeat that the excitement out there about the big four agenda in terms of agriculture is not captured in the Budget for the 2017/2018 Financial Year, sadly so. The 2017/2018 Budget is Kshs10 billion short of what we had last year. The Committee also noted that certain research institutions have researchers who are only waiting for donors. We need the department to be adequately resourced.

With those remarks, I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARIES
FOR STATE DEPARTMENTS FOR DEVOLUTION AND PLANNING

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Is that the Chair of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning? Proceed, Hon. Limo. I hope we will not be very wordy this morning.

Hon. Limo: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I rise to move a Special Motion for the approval of the Principal Secretary of Planning that is Dr. Muia...

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The best way for you to do it is to go through the Motion and then start with the reply. I know you know that very well.

Hon. Limo: Hon. Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the following Special Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning on the Vetting of Nominees for Appointment as Principal Secretaries, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 27th February 2018, and pursuant to the provisions of Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution, approves the appointment of Dr. Julius Muia and Mr. Nelson Marwa as Principal Secretaries, State Department for Planning and State Department for Devolution, respectively.

These nominees appeared before the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning on Wednesday, 21st February, 2018. The Committee examined their suitability on the basis of the criteria set out by the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act of 2011. We noted that the Clerk of this House had already sent an invitation for the public to submit memoranda. By the time we vetted these two nominees, the National Assembly had not received any memorandum. During the vetting exercise, the Committee engaged the two nominees. I wish to start in summary with Dr. Muia.

Dr. Julius Muia is the nominee for the Principal Secretary for Planning. We noted that this nominee has impressive CV. The nominee has a PhD in Finance and he also has a Master's Degree in Business Administration and Bachelor's Degree in Commerce. He has a wealth of experience in the public and private sectors, the latest being as the Director-General of the Vision 2030 Delivery Board. He was involved in the formulation of Vision 2030. The nominee also exhibited a very clear knowledge of topical issues on economic planning which is the major role he is nominated to do. I do not want to delve into so many details but in summary, all the requirements for the appointment to this position, especially touching on Chapter Six, was provided to the Committee.

In our view, the issues which are very important for this particular State Department will come in August 2019 revolving around the census. The census is very important because population is the main factor when it comes to sharing of resources in this country. This nominee exhibited a lot of knowledge in terms of managing the processes which will deliver the much-needed accurate data during the census. He also exhibited a lot of knowledge in playing a key role in ensuring that the planning process, both at the national and the county levels will be brought together and deliver on the big four agenda. Having gone through the whole vetting process, it is the view of our Committee that this candidate is suitable for this position.

I want to move to the second nominee. The second nominee is not a stranger to this House. He is Mr. Nelson Sospeter Marwa. He is a nominee for the position of Principal Secretary, State Department for Devolution. This nominee is famous and has been in the news for many reasons. He has been working in the Coast region, first as a County Commissioner, and lately, as the Regional Co-ordinator.

Mr. Marwa holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from South Gujarat University in India. He started his career back in 1992 as a District Officer, popularly known as DO at the time. He has risen through the ranks to the latest position of Regional Coordinator for the Coast region.

During the vetting process, the nominee exhibited a lot of knowledge and experience in public administration. He understands issues concerning counties, and, therefore, devolution.

The main issues currently in devolution are the implementation of the devolution process, including the full transfer of functions and the coordination of functions which appear to be interrelated or shared between the national Government and county governments. He exhibited a lot of knowledge on these issues and, in our view, this candidate is going to deliver.

In conclusion, the Committee having considered the suitability, capacity and integrity of the nominees, and pursuant to Article 155 of the Constitution and Section 8 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act No.33 of 2011, recommends that the National Assembly approves the nomination and subsequent appointment of Dr. Julius Monzi Muia to the position of PS, State Department in the Ministry of National Treasury and Planning and Mr. Nelson Sospeter Marwa to the position of PS, State Department for Devolution, Ministry of Devolution and Arid and Semi-Arid Areas.

The Committee, having considered these individuals have no doubt that they are fit for these positions. This House, at some point, gets disappointed. When we vet PSs and other public officers, they appear very good. In fact, they coil their tails when they appear before committees, but when they are approved, they grow horns and ignore the public. The National Assembly is recognised in Article 95 of the Constitution. It is the real representative of the people. It is mandated to articulate issues affecting Kenyans. When we appear in offices of these public officers, we do not appear as individuals, but as representatives of the people.

(Applause)

Therefore, if they are not ready to serve the public, they should quit instead of becoming a big disgrace to the President. The President has given them an opportunity to deliver services to the people, but they do not let the public know what they are doing. So, at the end of the day, in the public domain, people are not aware what the Government is doing. For instance, planning involves all the sectors of the economy, including planning for county governments. This is national planning. I expect Dr. Julius Muia to rise above office issues like getting bogged down in paperwork. He should come out and implement what he is planning and not just planning on paper. We want to see plans implemented. How do we plan for many years and not see anything? They should be visible. They should come out.

We do not doubt Mr. Marwa, but I would like him to know that he is no longer dealing with the rough terrain of the Coast. He will now be required to link the national Government with county governments. We need harmony between the national Government and county governments. I do not expect him to be very abrasive like he has been at the Coast. He had to be tough in the murky waters of the Coast to ensure that the *Al Shabaab* does not access this country, but now he needs to be very professional and diplomatic when dealing with governors and the Council of Governors. Currently, we want delivery of service. I do not expect these officers to ignore this House. We are representatives of the people.

The Committee wishes to thank the Office of the Speaker and the Office of the Clerk for the logistical support accorded to it during the vetting exercise. Further, the Committee wishes to thank all the stakeholders for their participation in the approval hearings. The Committee is also thankful to the media for the coverage of the proceedings during the vetting exercise thus enhancing accountability and transparency of the exercise.

On behalf of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, I would like to urge this House to vote and approve the appointment of Dr. Julius Monzi Muia and Mr. Nelson Marwa Sospeter to the positions of Principal Secretary, Planning and Principal Secretary, Devolution, respectively.

I hereby ask the Vice-Chair of our Committee to second this Motion. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Member for Roysambu, the Vice-Chair of the Committee.

Hon. Ndirangu: Thank you, Hon. Deputy Speaker. I rise to second this Special Motion. Having considered the suitability, capacity and integrity of both nominees and pursuant to Article 155(3) of the Constitution and Section 8(2) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act No.33 of 2011, I wish to second this Special Motion that this House approves the nomination and subsequent appointment of Dr. Julius Monzi Muia to the position of PS, State Department for Planning, in the National Treasury and Mr. Nelson Marwa Sospeter, PS, State Department for Devolution, Ministry of Devolution, Arid and Semi-Arid Areas.

In our vetting and interviews, no member of the public, officials or groups brought any memoranda mentioning the two officers adversely. It shows that they are very special people. They are examples of humble and down-to-earth servants who are patriotic and who have a distinguished performance in delivery of services in the sphere of public service. Both gentlemen are modest and of a Christian background and they value public service more than personal aggrandisement.

[The Deputy Speaker left the Chair]

[The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele) took the Chair]

The two officers represent the best crop of Jubilee technocrats and administrators. I thank His Excellency the President for casting his net wide to ensure that members from all communities and all regions, in the spirit of regional balance, have been appointed to serve in the Government.

Dr. Muia is from Makueni while Nelson Marwa comes from Migori. Our encounter with Dr. Muia presented the image of a very distinguished scholar; a person with prowess in public administration and well experienced auditor and Certified Public Accountant of Kenya (CPAK) holder. Being a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), he is a person who has the capacity to serve the public. His distinguished career as Director, Finance, in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and at the Housing Finance Company, shows that he has the capacity to work very well in that Department, particularly for the agenda of housing, food security, manufacturing and universal national healthcare.

Dr. Muia has also been instrumental in the drafting of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, where he contributed to the Chapter on Integrity and National Values. He is also a member of the National Economic and Social Council (NESC), which advises the President and the Government on development.

In conclusion, I also wish to commend the appointment of Nelson Marwa, the astute non-nonsense officer who has experience in dealing with governors from the Coast region. He is best

suited to serve as the link between the national Government in the devolution docket and county governments to deal with governors and other stakeholders.

With those few words, I second.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): I will give this opportunity to Hon. Wachira Kabinga, Member for Mwea.

Hon. Josphat Wachira: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise to support the appointment of the two officers to the Ministry of Devolution and Planning. I do not know the two gentlemen, but listening to the Chairman of the Committee, I have no doubt that they will handle this Ministry in the right way. This is a very important Ministry. It is the Ministry that we all look forward to in execution of its mandate, especially now that we have drought and hunger in many parts of the country.

I have a piece of advice for the two gentlemen. We have a history where whenever we have drought and hunger, we only look at the traditional areas that are usually affected by hunger and drought. I want to advise that our environment is changing, our country is changing, our population is growing and we have many parts of the country that are affected by some of these disasters. I have in mind my own constituency of Mwea, where rivers have dried up. A place called Marurumo has been adversely affected by the fact that River Thiba, which we depend on, is completely dry. I hope the two gentlemen can widen their eyes and look at other areas that may not be traditionally in the list of areas that are affected by drought, but which have since been affected because of environmental changes. I also want to ask the two gentlemen to look at some of the rivers that dry up during the dry spell and become disastrous when it rains. I am particularly referring to River Thiba, which becomes disastrous when it rains. It overflows. As many of the Members in this House may know, Mwea is characterised by villages that are clustered around the rice farms. When Thiba River bursts its banks, we have disasters that need to be mitigated. Therefore, I ask these gentlemen, especially Mr. Nelson Marwa, whom we have heard of and respect, to look at these rivers with a view of finding a way of ensuring that when it rains, they do not affect the villagers and during drought, people downstream continue to have some water.

We know that during such periods, people living upstream have a tendency of ensuring that they have water. They draw the water from the main rivers, leaving people downstream without a drop of water. That is what is happening in some parts of my constituency. People in Gategi and Gatwiri all the way to Marurumo and Githoboto are now suffering. I hope the Chair is listening to me. We will send the same message to the two gentlemen as they take up their offices, so that even as we wait for the rains to come, the people can be serviced even if it means doing so using clean water bowsers.

Equally, when we come to distribution of relief food, I hope Mwea and Mbeere constituencies will be included in the list of the constituencies that should receive relief food because we are in that category.

I support the appointment of Dr. Julius Muia and Mr. Nelson Marwa to this very important Ministry of Devolution and Planning to serve our people equally, knowing that our

country is changing. The environment is changing. Many of our people have now been affected by drought and hunger.

Thank you.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Let us now listen to Hon. Pukose, Member for Endebess.

Hon. (Dr.) Pukose: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I stand to support the Motion on approval of the appointment of Dr. Julius Muia as PS, State Department for Planning, and Mr. Nelson Marwa as PS, State Department for Devolution.

From the outset, having listened to the Committee presentation in terms of the curriculum vitae of Dr. Julius Muia, who has a PhD in Finance, he is able to coordinate the planning function in that Ministry and deliver. It is a shame that we are talking of hunger and drought within our country yet in some parts of this country, people have plenty. When we talk of the North Rift today, many of the farmers have a lot of maize in their stores. The biggest problem is the market. There have been many challenges in delivering maize to the National Cereals and Produce Board (NCPB) when it was ordered to purchase this maize. Payment to the farmers for maize that has been delivered to the NCPB has been challenging. The millers are also not buying the maize. The middlemen are buying at a throwaway price. Before we even think of asking for or appealing to import maize and other things, we should think of the stock that we have.

That is where the Ministry of Devolution and Planning comes in to have better plans on how we can mop up and make sure our farmers are safe. The weatherman is saying that we are going to have heavy rains in this country beginning from 1st and 2nd March. This means that the farmers must be preparing their lands for planting. It means that fertilisers must be available. How do you plan for planting when you still have plenty of maize in the store yet other parts of the country are crying because of famine and drought? I am hoping we approve Dr. Muia and his team immediately.

We hope Mr. Marwa will move with speed. He has been showing a lot of zeal in dealing with security issues and Governor Joho at the Coast and other places. We also want to thank the President for appointing him especially because he comes from the Kuria community, which is a minority group. This is a very great blessing to the people of Kuria. It shows that they are also part of Kenya. We, the Sabaot Community, are also waiting to see how soon we will get an appointment of a PS or any other position, so that we can also feel we are also part and parcel of this Government.

With those few remarks, I support this appointment.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Very well. We shall have Hon. Kihara Wanjiru, Member for Naivasha.

Members, it is my understanding that people who are interested in speaking to this Motion were to press the intervention slot, so that we can move on. As you do that, I will give this opportunity to Hon. Angwenyi because of leadership.

Hon. Angwenyi: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker for giving me a chance to contribute to this important Motion.

I am a Member of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, which vet these two gentlemen. They exhibited great experience and knowledge on the services they are going to provide in the Ministries they are being proposed for appointment.

Dr. Muia has a PhD in Finance. He has been involved in the Vision 2030. This is the place he is going to use his knowledge and experience in coordinating the Ministries in the development of strategic planning which we need for this country to move on. Dr. Muia is a member of various organisations that deliver services to Kenyans and worldwide. I expect and very strongly believe, if we approve his appointment, and I hope he is appointed to this position, he will demonstrate to Kenyans that there are Kenyans who can deliver what we never expected to be delivered to our citizens.

Mr. Marwa is a well-known candidate. He is a no-nonsense person. I will differ with my Chairman that he should give away his no-nonsense nature or character. He should carry it to this Ministry. We do not want nonsense in devolution. We do not want nonsense in the resources that we budget for the counties. They should not misuse the resources. We do not want our counties to disregard the law and employ 100 per cent employees from their counties thereby discriminating the rest of Kenyans. We do not want governors to behave as if they are kings. We have never had a king in Kenya. They want to create the position of king in this country when we are a democratic society. So, Mr. Marwa should go with his character of no-nonsense. He has been able to deal with very obstinate “kings” in this country, one of them a *Sultan*. I am sure he will deliver in this Ministry if he carries on with that character, especially with regard to ASAL areas, which need a lot of support to change the lives of Kenyans living there. For example, he can coordinate with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, so that they can provide water for irrigation to the ASALs for these areas to produce food for themselves. They do not have to depend on food from elsewhere.

The two Ministries can also harness the production of food in the areas that produce food. Like my colleague has just said, the North Rift produces the bulk of food that this country consumes yet it cannot have a market to sell this food. When they do not produce food, we have to import food from elsewhere. We use our meagre foreign exchange resources to import food from Brazil, Uganda and elsewhere. We should support these farmers, so that they can ensure that this country is food secure.

With those few remarks, I support the appointment of the two gentlemen to their positions.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Very well. We shall have Hon. Mizighi Mnene, Member for Taita Taveta.

Hon. (Ms.) Mizighi: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I also rise to support the Motion on the appointment of Dr. Julius Muia and Mr. Nelson Marwa as PSs, State Departments for Planning and Devolution, respectively.

I specifically want to talk about Mr. Nelson Marwa. I thank the President for honouring Mr. Nelson Marwa with this appointment. Having worked with him at the Coast, I know Mr. Nelson Marwa to be a very hardworking man. I know he is a tough talker. I am very sure he is up to the task. I got an opportunity to be at the vetting panel and know he is going to work hard and perform in this Ministry of Devolution and Planning. He is a very good public administrator. Therefore, I know he is up to the task.

I ask this House to approve his nomination.

Thank you.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Very well. The Hon. Shinali, a second term Member for Ikolomani.

Hon. Shinali: Thank you Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker for giving me this opportunity.

I will start by thanking the President for nominating the two gentlemen, who are civil servants. They are long time civil servants. That will give morale to other civil servants to work hard. We have Dr. Julius, Mr. Marwa and Mr. Irungu of the Ministry Water and Irrigation proposed for appointment as PSs in this Government. That is to say those civil servants should work hard and their work will promote them to the next level.

Having listened to a well-presented Motion by the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning, I have no doubt that we are picking people who have the requisite experience to deliver services in this Ministry. At the top of the same Ministry is Hon. Eugene Wamalwa, who has served in several Ministries before. We believe the Ministry of Devolution and Planning is going to deliver this time round. After listening carefully to the qualifications of Dr. Julius and given his experience, we want action. They should not believe that we have praised them so much so that work will continue without them putting in effort that matches what is displayed in their CVs.

The CS, Ministry of Devolution and Planning has started projects across the country. I have been a beneficiary of some of the projects. However, most of the projects were never completed. The Principal Secretaries should not come and start living on a zero balance. We want them to first audit the many projects across the country that the Government has spent money on. They must ensure that the projects are completed, so that money is not wasted. Looking at the Budget, you realise that we have a huge percentage of wastages. We want the Principal Secretaries and the CS to start work by capping wastages in their respective Ministries. I, therefore, request Dr. Julius and Mr. Marwa to deliver. We know Mr. Marwa is a strict and a hardworking and has been elevated to a PS. We can all attest to his work when he was working at the Coast. I believe he will deliver in this Ministry.

I do not want to repeat what my colleagues have said. I just want to wish the PSs well. If their names are approved by this House, I would request them to work hard and deliver because there is a lot ahead of them. We expect them to respect this House as per the sentiments by the Chair. We do not want quarrels with them. We expect to work smoothly because we are the people on the ground. We are the ones overseeing the projects they are running in our constituencies. We expect a smooth working relationship between them and us.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. With those few remarks, I beg to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Very well, we shall have Hon. Wanjira Wangari, Member for Gilgil.

Hon. (Ms.) Wanjira: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I join my colleagues in supporting this Special Motion on the appointment of the two gentlemen to the very critical State Department for Devolution and Planning. It is high time we got the Government rolling out services speedily to Kenyans. This Ministry holds a very special place. It is the one that holds and hosts the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS). The KNBS is the only credible social source of statistics in this country. I would hope that these gentlemen will get a good working relationship with other Ministries, so that we do not just churn out statistics. When we talk of 8,000 maternal deaths - women dying while giving birth - what are we supposed to do with those statistics? There is need for transmission and linkages with other Ministries. When we talk of HIV prevalence in youths, we want to see the same being passed to

the Ministry of Health, so that they can inform policy. When we talk about women who die from unsafe abortions, we want to see those statistics transmitted to the Ministry of Health to inform policy.

The other issue which is very critical and very interlinked is the issue of climate change. The Ministry of Devolution and Planning has other roles to play and not just to provide relief food. There has to be proper planning as we integrate Vision 2030 and the African Agenda 2063 for the 50 years of transformation that was adopted by African countries as we integrate and localise the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The role of this Ministry has to be felt and has to be on the forefront in advancing that agenda.

In our constituencies, and I will use mine, Gilgil Constituency, as an example, the devastating effects of drought are being felt every day. Children are missing school, there is no water and rivers have dried up. I think our planning as a country on environmental conservation and making sure that people understand exactly what climate change is has to be done better. This Ministry is also going to be involved. It hosts what we call the Presidential Delivery Unit. I hope that information will be transmitted to Kenyans in a palatable form so that people can understand what is happening in their constituencies. We hope that the tough-talking Nelson Marwa will bring in the professionalism that he has exhibited as a long serving administrator, coupled with diplomacy because he will be dealing with diplomacy.

We must reduce the friction that has been witnessed in the previous terms between county governments and the national Government. If you read the Constitution, Article 187 to Article 189 talks about co-operation. Even if they are distinct, the two levels of Government have no choice, but to be interdependent. They have to work together. I have not interacted with Mr. Marwa, but we have seen his work before. We hope he will bring some diplomacy and make the working relationship smooth. There is no person who belongs in the county or in the national Government. We are dealing with the same catchment areas. There has to be congruence in the convergence of the two levels of Government, so that we can deal and get service delivery.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion. Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Very well. We shall now have Hon. Marwa, Member for Kuria East. He is the Member of Parliament representing the proposed Principal Secretary.

Hon. Kitayama: Thank you very much, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise to support this Special Motion on the appointment of PSs, State Department for Planning and Devolution. From the outset, I want to say that I come from a minority community and I straight away support the appointment of Mr. Nelson Marwa, who needs no introduction in this country. He has served this country with distinction. There are many Kenyans who serve well, but are never recognised. So, I just want to give special thanks to the President and the Deputy President for seeing it fit to elevate excellence and good work. As a person from a minority community, Marwa represents the highest ranking civil servants among the Kuria people. For us, that is not a small thing. When we went around campaigning for the Jubilee Government, this was one of the promises that were made to the people of Kuria and I want to say that it is good that the President has seen it fit to honour his promise.

There are many problems that this country faces and most of them are expected to be solved at the devolution level. For that reason, I want to differ with my Chairman who said that

Mr. Marwa should be a bit soft and more diplomatic. I think, on the contrary, he should not. Mr. Marwa should remain as no nonsense as he has been. It is the only way that small communities like Kuria, Teso, Sabaot and others that have no voice would be heard and their issues addressed at the national level. Since we know his work and we know that he has delivered, he should extend the same as he plays the role of interfacing between the national Government and county governments. He will ensure that all the programmes in his Ministry meant for *mwananchi* get to them. The money meant for the same projects should be accounted for.

As we strive as a country to address food shortage, it is also disheartening that the people of Kuria have harvested a lot of maize. This is not a story that everybody gets to talk about from their regions because unfortunately, despite the farmers taking their maize to the NCPB in Ntitaru and Kehancha, there are no gunny bags to store this maize. So, the maize is just being rained on. There is a big problem. This is the only cash crop that the people of Kuria talk about. So, I want to urge that even as Nelson Marwa and others get into action solving the problems of Kenyans, they need to ensure that what we promise as a Government - that we want to improve agriculture - that improvement does not end at just speaking. It should translate all the way so that our people are encouraged to farm and ensured of a ready market. They should also not be exploited by middlemen.

I also want to take this opportunity to also address other matters that are pertinent and fall in this docket. We are soon coming to the census of 2019. The Kuria people are not sure exactly if the numbers that the national statistics captured are the correct numbers. This is because a lot of services that the people of Kuria expect to receive do not get because of lack of officers on the ground. So, I want to support and ask that all these things that are supposed to be done by the PSs are done, so that services can reach the people of Kenya.

Thank you very much. I support and thank the President for this appointment.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): We shall have Hon. Manje, Member for Kajiado North.

Hon. Manje: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, for giving me this chance to contribute to this important Motion. I want to support the adoption of the reports on the appointment of these great Kenyans, Dr Julius Muia and Mr. Nelson Marwa, for the respective departments.

Starting with the first one of planning, we normally say that we were left behind by Singapore and Malaysia from the 1970s to 1980s because we have failed to plan well in our country and we have not taken resources where they are required. There is no other justification. I want to say he is expected to implement Vision 2030 completely. The essence of planning is to make sure that we operate according to plans. If you plan and then act otherwise, you will not achieve the intended goal.

He is coming in when we are preparing for the census. My advice for him is that he should get the correct statistics of Kenyans in various areas as opposed to some census where some regions had exaggerated numbers and this has led to them getting exaggerated resources. He should get the concept correct next year. This is a census that will require a lot of money because there will be use of technology in terms of smartphones. We are expecting him to do a good job that is expected of him.

Commissioner Marwa has really performed well at the Coast. He is a great Kenyan and is seen by many as a performer. This time round, he will make sure that resources in devolution

trickle to the common man, especially in the northern part and in arid and semi-arid areas. He should make sure that the resources are felt. Otherwise, the essence of devolution might be lost at that point. We know him as a County Commissioner, also a Regional Coordinator for the Coast region. He has a passion to fight drug trafficking. He should go with the same zeal and make sure that he achieves his objectives.

I would like the Ministry of Devolution and Planning to urge the State to be devolving funds at a particular area. For example, in South Africa, resources trickle to the devolution units at a specific date in the year and sometimes they do it three times a year, such that governors can properly plan. In our country, resources trickle in a haphazard manner and they are not properly felt in the devolution unit.

With those remarks, I support the appointment and thank the President for reaching all corners of the country. People have been saying that other tribes should be considered, but I think he has done marvellous. Thank you very much. I want to support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): We shall have Hon. Katana Kahindi, Member for Kaloleni, who I am informed will be making his Maiden Address to this Parliament.

The Member for Kaloleni (Hon. Paul Katana Kahindi): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise to support this Motion, but before I do that, let me make my maiden speech.

First, I want to thank the people of Kaloleni for having elected me to represent them in this House. I assure them that I will give them services as I pledged during my campaigns. I have already done this because last week I distributed bursaries worth KShs19 million to over 3,000 students who are now going back to school.

Let me give you a brief history of Kaloleni Constituency. It is one of the marginalised constituencies. We are still faced with a lot of challenges like lack of clean water, lack of good infrastructure, and the poverty line is very high. But I am equal to the challenge and we are going to do a lot to make sure that people can get services through me.

After the general elections, this country was divided along tribal lines. As Members of Parliament, we need to unite this country. We need to work together to make sure that any Bills or Motions brought to this House are geared towards improving services to our people. This House is needed more than ever before. Kenyans have high hopes on us. When we are in this House, let us work as Members of the National Assembly. Let us forget our coalitions. We should not work as Jubilee or NASA. Let us work as Members of Parliament and make sure that our people get proper services.

As I rise to support this Motion, let me talk briefly about Mr. Nelson Marwa. He has done a lot as the Regional Coordinator at the Coast. But there has been a misconception. People think that Marwa is an enemy in the Coast. He is not. He was discharging his duties. And let me assure you that we are going to miss him. We are going to miss him because those who saw Marwa on television making statements think that he is not diplomatic, but interacting with him, you realise that Marwa is a different person. With those experiences, he should now bring harmony between the national Government and the counties, so that there is smooth working with the governors and any projects which the Government plans run smoothly at the county level.

For Dr. Julius Muia, we need to get our priorities right as a country. This department is very critical because if we miss in our planning, it is going to affect this country. We need to plan and execute our plans very well so that Kenyans get the services they require.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I want to support the appointment of Dr. Julius Muia and Nelson Marwa as PS, State Department for Devolution and Planning.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Very well. Members, pursuant to the resolution you made this morning on the Procedural Motion on the limitation of debate on these Motions, I would, therefore, now call upon the Mover to reply.

Hon. Limo: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. First, I want to thank the House for supporting the appointments of the two nominees. I have no doubt that they are going to deliver. When we were going through their CVs, we found that they have delivered in their current roles to the extent that most of the comments we were receiving from our Members were that it would be very difficult to fill the positions of Mr. Marwa at the Coast region. I am sure the person who will be given the position of the Coast Regional Coordinator will have to work extremely hard and smart to fit into the shoes of Mr. Marwa. He has a very impressive history of performance. I have no doubt that he is a trained individual and, therefore, he is going to apply situational style and deliver as CS, State Department for Devolution and Planning. I, therefore, urge this House to approve the nomination and appointment of Mr. Sospeter Marwa to be the PS, State Department for Devolution.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, on the same strength, Dr. Julius Muia has a very impressive CV and history in performance wherever he has been. We have no doubt that he is going to ensure that there is coordinated planning both in the national Government and even support capacity building to ensure that counties do proper planning. This will ensure that the funds which are sent to the counties do not go to waste, but are going to deliver services to the people. We have no doubt about them and I thank the House for affirming that. I have not heard anybody mentioning any of these nominees adversely.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the President and the Deputy President for well-thought-out ways of picking the right people. I also thank them for not mincing words when they were reappointing CSs and PSs by saying that it will not be business as usual. They have to deliver. I have no doubt that these two nominees are going to join the brand of those who are going to deliver. Our Committee will not like to be ashamed that we supported these two individuals. This House should go ahead and approve the appointment of the two nominees.

As I finish, I want to thank this House very much including the Speaker, the Clerk, all the stakeholders and Members of our Committee for supporting us during the vetting process. I urge this House to vote and approve the appointment of Dr. Julius Muia and Mr. Nelson Marwa to the position of PSs, State Departments for Planning and Devolution, respectively.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Members, for obvious reasons, I will defer the putting of the Question. I will direct that we move on to the next Motion.

(Putting of the Question deferred)

APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
FOR STATE DEPARTMENT FOR GENDER

Hon. Ali Wario: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the following Special Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on the Vetting of Nominee for Appointment as Principal Secretary, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 27th February 2018, and pursuant to the provisions of Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution, approves the appointment of Ms. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu as the Principal Secretary, State Department for Gender.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, as you are aware, the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare is established under Standing Order No.216(5) with a mandate among others to consider for approval by the House appointment of the PSs, pursuant to Article 155(3) of the Constitution. The said Article requires His Excellency the President to nominate and with approval of the National Assembly appoint Principal Secretaries.

Pursuant to Standing Order No.42 (1), in the Communication from the Chair on 13th February 2018, you informed the House that you had received a notification of nomination of Ms. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu as PS, State Department for Gender, from His Excellency the President and referred the same to the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare for vetting and report to the House within 14 days.

Section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, No.33 of 2011 provides that any person prior to the approval hearing and by a written statement on oath, can provide the Clerk with evidence contesting the suitability of a candidate to hold office to which the candidate has been nominated. The Clerk of the National Assembly placed an advertisement in the print media inviting the public to submit memoranda by the way of written statements on oath or sworn affidavits on the suitability or otherwise of the nominee in conformity with Section 6(9) of the Public Amendment (Parliamentary Approval) Act of 2011. The submissions were to be received latest on Tuesday 20th February 2018

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Article 118 of the Constitution, Section 6(4) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, No. 23 of 2011 and Standing Order No.45 (3), the general public was also notified in the print media by the Clerk of the National Assembly of the intention of the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare to conduct a vetting and approval hearing of the nominee on Wednesday, 21st February 2018.

On 14th February 2018, the Clerk of National Assembly wrote to the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA), the Criminal Investigation Department (CID), Registrar of Political Parties and the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) requesting for reports with respect to the nominee on matters touching on integrity, tax compliance and loan repayment.

In response, the Higher Education Loans Board confirmed vide a letter dated 16th February 2018 that the nominee, having been a beneficiary of HELB, was cleared by the Board in August 2018 and issued with a certificate of clearance. The KRA also confirmed vide a letter dated 16th February, 2018 that the nominee was tax compliant. The EACC vide a letter

dated 15th February, 2018 confirmed having no outstanding issues or ongoing investigations against the nominee.

The Registrar of Political Parties vide a letter dated 15th February, 2018 confirmed that the nominee was not an official of any registered political party. The nominee had a clearance certificate from the Directorate of Criminal Investigation that was issued on 8th September 2017 and had applied for a replacement on 14th February 2018.

Pursuant to Section 6(9) of the said Act, the Committee invited submissions from members of the public on the suitability or otherwise of the nominee for appointment to the position of PS. No memoranda were received in respect of the nominee.

Ms. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu appeared before the Committee on Wednesday 21st February, 2018. The Committee noted that the nominee is qualified for the position of PS given her educational achievements, experience and exposure. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree from the University of Nairobi (UoN), and a Master's Degree in International Trade Policy and Trade Law from Lund University, in collaboration with the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI). She also holds a Postgraduate Diploma in International Trade Policy and Law. She has also undertaken some courses whilst serving at Action Aid International (Kenya) as well as training in women leadership from the African Women's Leadership Institute (AWLI).

She possesses a vast experience and exposure in international trade policies, legislative frameworks, regional integration, development programming, design and implementation of action plans whilst representing Kenya as a lawmaker at the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA). Her career spans over a period of 20 years, including eight years of hands-on experience with leading international development organisations in key areas such as women rights, good governance, secure livelihoods, inclusive economic growth and equal opportunities, amongst others.

She served as a Member of EALA based in Arusha, Tanzania from 5th June 2007 to 4th June, 2012, where her duties included formulation of legislation, giving advice on policy formulation and implementation, especially on matters relating to trade, agriculture, tourism and natural resources, and gender affairs, among other duties as highlighted in the Report.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, the Committee noted that the nominee exhibited impressive knowledge of topical, administrative and technical issues touching on the Department of Gender, and has the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience. Therefore, the Committee found the nominee suitable for appointment as the PS in the Department of Gender in the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender.

Pursuant to Article 155(3) of the Constitution and Standing Order 216(5)(f), the Committee recommends that this House approves the nomination of Ms. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu for appointment by His Excellency the President as PS in the Department of Gender within the Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender.

Before I formally move and call upon Hon. Sankok to second the Motion, I want to speak directly to my sister, Ms. Kwekwe Tsungu. Women and gender issues have been overlooked for a long time in this country. His Excellency the President has confidence in Ms. Kwekwe. That is why he has given her an opportunity to serve the nation. It is my hope that the PS nominee will fast-track processes towards achieving the two-thirds gender rule, and address the issue of

gender-based violence as she develops a policy on eradication of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in the country. That is my hope and prayer. I wish her well.

With those remarks, I beg to move and ask Hon. Sankok to second the Motion.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Hon. Sankok.

Hon. ole Sankok: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. From the outset, I would like to say that our Committee comprises of professionals who were so much dedicated to ensure that the process was above board. We sat together and drafted what we call ‘difficult questions’ of any particular vetting exercise and ensured that we did not have any preference. We ensured that we were very professional during the vetting exercise.

In accordance with the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, as our able Chair said, there was an advertisement that invited anybody who thought that the nominee, Madam Safina Kwekwe Tsungu, was not qualified, to sign a memorandum on oath and send it to us. We did not receive any memorandum, meaning that no Kenyan thought that she did not qualify. Therefore, what remained was for the Committee to vet her.

This very important State Department deals with the marginalised members of our society and gender issues, which mostly involve women. The State Department also deals with persons living with disabilities, orphans and vulnerable children. Therefore, it requires somebody who is well versed with issues of marginalisation. Apart from being a woman, the nominee is also from Kwale District – a marginalised county. Therefore, she is more than qualified. The State Department is also home to the preferential treatment policy on 30 per cent Government tender reservation for women, youth and persons living with disabilities.

The Statement Department is also responsible for gender mainstreaming. As you know, this House has not passed the two-thirds gender law. I am quite sure that the nominee will be in handy to ensure that she lobbies the Members of this House, so that we pass that law, in line with the spirit of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. The State Department is also responsible for anti-gender-based violence and anti-FGM campaign. I am quite sure that Madam Kwekwe Tsungu is qualified to ensure that atrocities meted on our female counterparts are addressed as quickly as possible.

Having said that, I want to commend the Members of the Committee and the MPs who are in this House for being attentive and making sure that this vetting exercise is above board. I also want to thank the Speaker for making sure yesterday the Petition that was against some members of the Judicial Service Commission (JSC) was thrown out. I am sure this was not an issue about revisiting even though, as a country, we were pained by some decisions of the Judiciary. I am quite sure in due time we will revisit the Judiciary but tactfully this time round. I want to advise those who want to bring petitions to this House to make sure they follow the law so that we are able to address their issues. Every Kenyan, even if...

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Hon. Sankok, you need to second. I will give you one minute to second.

Hon. ole Sankok: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I second the appointment of Madam Safina Kwekwe Tsungu as Principal Secretary for the State Department for Gender.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Omulele): Hon. Members, I know this is your debate but you will notice that today's agenda is approval of these names and we still have about eight or nine nominees to approve. I, therefore, wish to remind you that you need to move more swiftly in your contributions as you support so that we can finish what is on the Order Paper this morning before we rise at 1.00p.m. Those who are supporting, kindly, take as little time as possible so that we can make progress.

I see straight interest from Hon. Lomenen, Member for Turkana South.

Hon. Ekomwa: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I rise to support the Motion. I also want to support what my able Chairman, Hon. Wario has said. I trust him so much and that is the reason I support the nominee. I have a lot of confidence in the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare and especially when our able...

I have been looking keenly at this list and I want to thank the President for observing regional balance. Looking at the names from the first Motion, you realize that these are people from different counties and they are not the usual names which people always criticise. We have very good people from different counties, starting from Prof. Hamadi, Dr. Julius Muia and Nelson Marwa and on gender we have Mrs. Safina Kwekwe Tsungu. I am also preempting the others whose names will be here shortly, that is, Mr. Peter Kiplagat and Mr. Charles Hinga. I think the President made constitutional appointments because he observed regional and gender balance.

I support this Motion because it is constitutionally right and, secondly, this is a lady who is qualified. Ladies have confirmed to the world that they are very competent. Those who have been serving in different cadres have proven to Kenyans that they are up to the task. That is why the Executive has really tried to give ladies opportunities to serve other Kenyans. Unlike before when people thought ladies cannot serve, we can see they have papers and brains just like men. I commend Ms. Safina Kwekwe and think she will take this opportunity to use her name to ensure that she eliminates all the 'kwekwes' of gender disparity and ensure gender issues are taken into consideration.

I cannot also forget to state the fact that Parliament has approved many individuals who are now working in big offices. What we are asking is that when we approve individuals such as Cabinet Secretaries, Commissioners and Principal Secretaries in this Parliament, we expect them in their respective offices to serve Kenyans equally and respect them and this Parliament. I have always compared what we do as Parliament with what the *fundi* called *seremala* does. We find him making a very good bed or house for the person who has contracted him but he does not have a good house or bed himself. This is what Parliament is also doing: we are giving people jobs and big responsibilities but we find some of these individuals do not respect this House. When we go to their offices they look at us like beggars yet, we are their employers.

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Hon. Omulele) left the Chair]*

*[The Temporary Deputy Speaker
(Hon. Mariru) took the Chair]*

Those we have approved their appointments, we expect them to respect Kenyans and Parliament as an institution. They should not go there and fight Parliament yet we are their employer.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Member for Bomet.

Hon. (Ms.) Korir: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I am a Member of this Committee and I want to commend the wonderful job the Committee has done together with the Office of the Clerk. I am lucky to have been in the Committee that vetted the said nominee. The Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare is vested with a lot of activities ranging from children's welfare, issues of trade unions and employees.

The nominee for gender, Madam Kwekwe, is qualified having worked in the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and having worked as a County Executive Committee (CEC) member in Kwale County in charge of trade and tourism. Indeed, she confirmed to have changed the said sector in that county. Without much ado, I want to say that the Committee found her competent and fit to hold the position. I support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Let us go to the next Member who is Hon. Rindikiri Murwithania, Member for Buuri. I am sure I got the name correctly.

Hon. Rindikiri: Yes. Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I stand to support this Motion.

Indeed, the women of this country deserve recognition. The women of this nation deserve to be served by people who can relate with them, articulate their issues and interact with them. I have had the opportunity of meeting Madam Kwekwe and I have no doubt in my mind that she will handle her portfolio professionally. She has diverse experience both at the local level and international level. Equipped with the necessary education, I believe that she will bring a lot of new thinking in the direction of serving the women of this nation. I request her to be very sensitive. She needs to relate herself with that woman, lady and girl at the village. She needs to give audience to those disadvantaged women in the rural areas and desist from crowding herself with the so-called women activists. I believe given this chance, she is going to transform that ministry and the voice of the woman will be heard in this country.

There are so many issues affecting our women that need to be given a lot of support ranging from financing their activities, organising them in terms of groups and making sure that they participate in the community activities at the local and international levels. It is right that we all support this lady because there is something that she is going to do. The President did not make a mistake. He rarely makes. This was a good bit. As all of us are talking, there are so many issues that need to be given a lot of prominence. This ministry and this department, as my colleagues have said, is going to handle a lot of issues. I am very keen. I come from the famous wheat and flower growing constituency in this country. There are so many women who work as labourers in the flower farms. I will bring to the attention of the Chairman of this Committee that there is need to investigate what is happening in some of these flower farms. The treatment of women and the chemicals that are being used by the flower growers is affecting their reproductive health. At the appropriate time, we will expose the activities of some of these farms. I hope Madam Kwekwe will take up this issue very seriously because as a community and as a leader, we have seen a lot of cases of women working in those flower farms having miscarriages. Many of them are losing their sexual power and they are not given the sanitary facilities that they require.

With those few remarks, I beg to support the appointment.

Hon. Lentoimaga: On a point of order, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): What is it, Member for Samburu North? You have an intervention.

Hon. Lentoimaga: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, going by what is going on in the Chamber, I request you under Standing Order No. 95 that we close the debate. This is because I see most Members are just saying that they support, which is very good. So, in my view, I thought going by Standing Order No.95, you call the Mover to reply so that we speed this matter. Most of us actually support the Motion. Thank you.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Members, I take note of what the Member for Samburu North has said. There are two other Motions that will come now. As you know, we have outlined the business for this morning. Please remember that by law, these considerations must be done today. So, Hon. Members, you still have two other Motions before the House rises today. However, let me confirm from the House.

(Question, that the Mover be now called upon to reply, put and agreed to)

Mover, you may reply on this particular one.

Hon. Ali Wario: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. First, I take this opportunity to thank Hon. Members who have contributed to this Motion and supported it. Secondly, I have heard the concerns of Members which I will convey to the nominee. One of the concerns was that we approve the appointment of PSs and CSs but at the end of it all Hon. Members are being mistreated. I will talk to her and send the concerns of Members that she should respect and treat people's representatives with respect and dignity.

The second concern is about women who are working in flower farms. I assure the Member that we are going to take up that matter as a Committee. We are going to investigate it and report to this House.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I take this opportunity to thank your office, the Clerk's office, honourable Members of my Committee and all the stakeholders who were involved in the vetting process including the media fraternity. I appeal to this House to support and approve the Motion before the House.

With those few words, I beg to reply.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Members, I defer the putting of the Question.

(Putting of the Question deferred)

Next Order!

APPROVAL FOR APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
FOR STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH

Hon. Mishra: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the following Special Motion:

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THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Health on the Vetting of Nominee for appointment as Principal Secretary, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 27th February 2018, and pursuant to the provisions of Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution, approves the appointment of Mr. Peter Kiplagat Tum as the Principal Secretary, State Department for Health.

On 29th January 2018, Hon. Speaker notified the House the receipt of the Message from His Excellency the President and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) of the Republic of Kenya with respect to appointment of persons to the various positions of Cabinet Secretary, Principal Secretaries, High Commissioners and Ambassadors. In line with the established procedure, the Clerk of the National Assembly invited the interested members of the public through a public advert to submit their representation by reading statement and oath affidavit that they may have under suitability or otherwise of the said nominees to the respective State departments. On Wednesday, 14th February 2018, pursuant to Section 6(3) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, the Clerk in writing invited the nominee for the vetting approval hearing.

Mr. Peter Kiplagat Tum, the nominee for the position of the Principal Secretary for the State Department for Health, appeared before the Committee on Wednesday, 21st February 2018 in Committee Room 7, Parliament Buildings. In conducting the vetting process, the Departmental Committee on Health examined the nominee against criteria that included the following as set out in the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act 2011:

Academic qualifications, employment records, professional affiliations, potential conflict of interest, knowledge of the subject matter, expectations and key priorities, overall suitability of the position, integrity, vision and leadership.

To fulfil this mandate and facilitate the vetting, Mr. Tum submitted the relevant documentations and testimonials supporting his case. The Committee noted that the nominee had complied and submitted all the clearance certificates and letters from all the relevant institutions.

The Committee received one written representation from the Third Way Alliance Party of Kenya raising various issues. The Committee noted that the representation did not meet the requirement under Section 6(9) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, 2011. This section requires that persons submitting memoranda shall make a written statement and take oath. Further, the said memorandum was not directed at the suitability or otherwise of the nominee. On Thursday, 22nd February 2018, the Committee held a meeting to consider and approve the report on vetting.

I will now move to the Committee observations. Having conducted approval hearings, the Committee observed as follows:

- (1) That the nominee had complied with and submitted all the clearance and letters from all the relevant institutions as required;
- (2) That no affidavit was received from the public against Mr. Peter Tum;
- (3) That the nominee had methodically progressed to achieve impressive academic and professional qualifications;
- (4) The nominee had worked in the Ministry of Health for the last 28 years, from 1990 to date, rising through the ranks to his current position as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Kenya Medical Training College;

(5) He has vast knowledge and experience in the operations and management of the affairs of the Ministry of Health acquired during his long service in the ministry;

(6) The nominee's knowledge and understanding of the subject matter of health was exemplary; his strength was seen to be in the academic and routine managerial process;

(7) In accordance with Article 78 (1)(2) of the Constitution, the nominee is a Kenyan citizen;

(8) Cumulatively the nominee's academic qualification, professional training and hands-on experience met the threshold required for the position of Principal Secretary;

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Order, Member. In light of the spirit, the mood of the House and the time, I want to remind that under Standing Order No.80 you are prohibited from reading word for word when you are doing a presentation but I get a sense that you are almost concluding.

Hon. Mishra: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, this is my first time. I will take care next time.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Proceed.

Hon. Mishra: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, the other observations are:

(9) The nominee satisfies the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution on leadership and integrity;

(10) The nominee had neither been charged in a court of law nor convicted, and had also not been adversely mentioned in an investigatory report of a parliamentary committee;

(11) In accordance with the provisions of Article 75 (1) of the Constitution, he has no potential conflict of interest and has made pledge to avoid any situation that will compromise his position as a Principal Secretary;

(12) The nominee satisfies the requirements of Article 77(1) of the Constitution, in that he does not intend to participate in any other gainful employment;

(13) The nominee is generally fit to hold the office of the Principal Secretary and complied with all the necessary legal, constitutional, statutory, academic, profession and ethical requirements to hold the position of Principal Secretary.

Having conducted approval hearings and pursuant to Article 155(3) of the Constitution and Section 8(1) and (2) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act No. 33 Of 2011, the Committee recommends that this House approves the nomination and subsequent appointment of Mr. Peter Kiplagat Tum as Principal Secretary, State Department for Health, Ministry of Health.

I now request my able colleague and Member of the Departmental Committee on Health, Hon. Koros Kipsengeret, to second the Special Motion. Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Koros.

Hon. Koros: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, for giving me this opportunity. I rise to second this Special Motion on approval of Mr. Tum as the Principal Secretary nominee for State Department for Health.

First, let me take this opportunity to thank His Excellency the President for considering Mr. Tum to be the Principal Secretary, State Department for Health. Mr. Tum has vast knowledge and he understands matters in the health sector since he has been there for the last 28 years. I have interacted with Mr. Tum and he is a person who is focused. He has a good agenda

for the Ministry of Health. The nominee satisfies the requirement of Chapter Six of the Constitution on leadership and integrity. I have no doubt that with Mr. Tum's capability and being a focused individual, I know he will deliver in the Ministry of Health.

Lastly, I urge the Members of this House to approve his appointment. Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I second.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Let us have Hon. Thuku Kwenya.

Hon. Thuku: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker for the opportunity to support this Motion on Approval of Appointment of the Principal Secretary for State Department for Health. I am a Member of the Departmental Committee on Health and I support the appointment of Peter Tum as the Principal Secretary in this ministry. Looking at his curriculum vitae (CV), I can confirm to the House that Peter Tum fits the bill. He is the best appointment that the President made for this ministry. He is bringing in a lot of experience having been the CEO of the Kenya Medical Training College (KMTC).

As a politician, I specifically liked his demeanour because I will be engaging him in day-to-day matters that affect our people. He is a man you can engage and leave that office assured that you got whatever you wanted. He has a lot of experience. He proved that by demonstrating how he will help the Government achieve one of its big four agenda, which is universal health coverage. He was very articulate and I believed in him such that I concurred with the President's appointment.

I rise to support and thank the President for looking into the experience that he will bring into the ministry. I support the Motion.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Let us have Hon. Mbai Mbithuka, Member for Kitui East.

Hon. Mbai: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise in support of the appointment of Mr. Tum to the State Department for Health as the Principal Secretary. I concur with the President that Mr. Tum qualifies to head the department. I have some concerns which I request the Committee and the Principal Secretary to take note of.

My concern is on matters mental health. Mental health is a serious problem in our country. Since Independence, we have had very little concern over this issue. Most young men in the villages, up-country and in towns like Nairobi and Mombasa have been affected by drugs and alcohol abuse. They end up suffering from this condition. I want to see Mr. Tum take action on this matter. First of all, we need to demystify this condition. It needs to look just like any other medical condition. Mental health problems are taken to mean that you are mad while technically you are just undergoing a health problem like malaria or typhoid.

The other concern is over our mental health institution in Mathari. We need to demystify it. The perception that Mathari Hospital is a place for mad people actually scares our people. In the villages and towns you will hear somebody being called or pointed out as a former patient of Mathari Hospital then people will run away from him or her because of that. Such people are taken lightly within the social circles. My request to Mr. Tum and the Committee is that first of all, we should invest heavily and take centre stage in caring for patients of mental health nationally. We should also demystify the perception that people have about mental facilities.

They should be viewed just like Kenyatta Hospital, Nairobi Hospital or any other hospital that addresses medical conditions but not as a place for mad people.

I support the Motion.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Let me give an opportunity to an honourable lady. We must also address that issue of gender. I will give an opportunity to the gracious lady, Hon. Cheruiyot Jesire.

Hon. (Ms.) Cheruiyot: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I am delighted to be noted today and given a chance. I am one of the people who have been very frustrated trying to speak in this House and not being able to. I also want to request that if it is possible, the Speaker's Panel should check and consider those people who do not get a chance to speak in the House rather than having the same people speaking every day, whereas you sit for many hours and leave the House without contributing.

I also wanted to talk about the issues the Members have raised on the people we are approving in this House. It looks like many of us are not happy with how these Principal Secretaries, Cabinet Secretaries or State officers who are appointed treat Members thereafter. It is also prudent for us to present complaints thereafter, if they are true, so that we discuss them in the House rather than complaining silently.

On today's Motion on the appointment of the PS for the State Department for Health, I am a Member of that Committee and that is why I was really pressed to talk. Tum has risen from a very low cadre in education. He has risen from being a certificate holder to a master's degree holder. He has grown in this ministry. He has worked for the Ministry of Health for around 28 years. He is conversant with the terms and terminologies of health. I believe that having worked there, it would be very easy for us to talk to him and get to know what exactly health is all about.

As somebody said, Kenyatta Hospital has been a problem and has appeared in newspapers every day on issues of security and others. I believe that he will improve it because he knows what is expected of him. For sure, if in this country we will get people who are conversant with the departments they head, it would be very important because delivery will be obvious.

With those few remarks, I support the Motion that Mr. Tum be approved as the PS for State Department for Health.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Members, there will still be chances to speak during the next Motion. I see many people want to contribute. The Member for Samburu North clearly looks angry. Earlier on, you did not contribute. What is it, Hon. Lentoimaga?

Hon. Lentoimaga: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, let us not be misused here. I had moved a Motion for closure of debate. You then told me I would speak during the next Motion. It is not fair for us to be gagged like this.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Order Hon. Member! No one is gagging you. In fact, you have the chance to speak now. You have the Floor, Hon. Member.

Hon. Lentoimaga: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I support this Special Motion on this particular candidate. I thank the President and Deputy President for giving Tum an opportunity to serve as a PS in the Ministry of Health.

In the last Parliament, we worked with this nominee very well when he was at KMTC. One thing I normally believe having been a civil servant before is that a PS is the operational arm

of the Government in the ministry. In this country, some PSs sometimes do not know what they are doing. They do not know the country well. Tum, in my view, through my experience, knows the breadth and length of this country very well, especially on the issue of admission of students to KMTC. I am sure he is going to do very well if he is confirmed as PS in the Ministry. He will be able to make and articulate decisions better in the Ministry of Health. If we approve somebody who cannot make decisions and does not have the experience of the whole country, no good work will be done.

Humility and integrity of a candidate is also important. We have experienced some PSs who are very arrogant. They can even leave you in the board room as you wait to see them or fail to pick your phone call even when you have an urgent matter that as a Member of Parliament or leader you want solved. When you go to a Ministry, some PSs may choose to ignore you. They may walk away to do other things or they would tell the secretary to tell you to book an appointment for another day.

I hope the candidates we are confirming today will be honest and humble. They should allow Kenyans to access their offices because that is what is important. When we go to their offices, we go to assist Kenyans because we represent them. Not all people from constituencies can be Members of Parliament. So, we are trustees of our constituents and Kenyans in general.

I support this candidate and I know he is going to do well just like Mr. Marwa whom I have worked with before. I worked with him in Garissa. He has been patriotic in his work. Mr Tum can also do the same. I support his approval.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Gachagua, what is your point of order?

Hon. Gachagua: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I want to speak in the next Order.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): You had pressed your intervention button. Okay, let us have Hon. Mutai.

Hon. Mutai: Thank you Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise to support the Motion before the House. First, I commend the Departmental Committee on Health for a job well done.

Mr Tum is a man of great repute and honour. I stand here proud of him. He is a gentleman who did commendable work in KMTC and he has a very wonderful track record. As Kenyans, we must commend such people of great repute.

The State Department of Health is one of the departments which have been an Achilles' heel for the Government. The problems bedevilling the Department run all the way to the counties. They include nurses' strikes, lack of drugs and lack of equipment. These challenges are not insurmountable. I believe that this is the right man to solve all those problems in the county governments once and for all.

Health, being part of the big four agenda of the Jubilee Government, should be given priority. With brains of the likes of Mr Tum, I believe the problems facing the State Department for Health will be solved. Matters of health are a question of life and death. We get it wrong, we send many people to the graves; we get it right, we save many lives. In their wisdom, the President and the Deputy President thought it fit to give health priority in the Jubilee Government.

Universal health is very critical. In the Third World, only few countries like Cuba have streamlined health. In Africa, it was Libya at the time of Muammar Gadaffi. Kenya is not there

yet. We have made strides, but we are not there yet. I believe Mr. Tum is the right person to steer the Department to greater heights.

I support this Motion and commend the Departmental Committee on Health for a job well done.

Hon. Washiali: On a point of order, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Washiali, what is your point of order?

Hon. Washiali: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise under Standing Order No.95. I have been sitting here listening to the Members all the way from the Mover and all Members who have had an opportunity to speak and they have all supported this Report. So that we save time, because all these Motions are time bound, I request you to ask the Mover to reply.

(Question, that the Mover be now called upon to reply, put and agreed to)

Mover, you may reply.

Hon. Mishra: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I thank Hon. Members for supporting the Special Motion. Health is part of the big four agenda. It is one of our pillars. We support the leadership of the country in giving health priority. As a Committee, we are very serious. I thank the Committee for vetting the PS.

The concern of Members is that arrogance is manifest in some of the PSs. We will ensure that the PS is co-operative, humble and renders his services as Members wish and direct.

There is a Member who talked about the youth and health. We will make sure that, that is taken care of. All other challenges regarding the health sector like lack of drugs, strikes, personnel and infrastructure will be taken care of accordingly.

I request the House to approve this Special Motion. Thank you.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): We defer putting the Question. That will be done in the subsequent sitting.

(Putting of the Question deferred)

Next Order.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPLE SECRETARY
FOR STATE DEPARTMENT FOR HOUSING
AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport, Public Works and Housing.

Hon. Losiakou: Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, I beg to move the following Special Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Transport, Public Works and Housing on the Vetting of Nominee for Appointment as Principal Secretary, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 27th February 2018, and pursuant to the provisions of

Article 155(3)(b) of the Constitution, approves the appointment of Mr. Charles Hinga Mwaura as Principal Secretary, State Department for Housing and Urban Development.

It is my honour to take this opportunity to thank my Committee and to tell this House and Kenyans who Mr Charles Hinga is. Mr Charles Hinga is a Kenyan. He holds a Kenyan Identity Card as we confirmed as a Committee. He holds a Bachelors Degree in Accounting from the University of South Africa and a Bachelors of Commerce, Accounting Option from Kenyatta University.

Further, he has a lot of experience in leadership. Our Committee also found out that in terms of track record, he has a range of experience, particularly in the housing sector. We went through as per the requirements of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act and these are our observations on the candidate, whose nomination my Committee unanimously approves.

Firstly, the nominee exhibits the knowledge and experience required for this office. Secondly, the nominee has a lot of knowledge on topical issues on housing and urban development, which is key in the four big agenda of the President. We also realised that the candidate is a Kenyan citizen. He holds only one passport. Remember the Constitution requires that if you are a holder of two passports, you cannot be a State officer. We have confirmed to the House that he holds one passport.

Charles Hinga Mwaura satisfies all the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution in terms of leadership and integrity. In fact, there was no Kenyan who mentioned the candidate adversely in terms of the requirement of presentation of sworn affidavit by members of the public to raise complaints against a candidate thought to be unfit for appointment. So, this candidate has been found to be fit under Chapter Six.

We also went ahead to assess the candidate on a number of other issues. For example, the candidate has not been charged in a court of law anywhere in the world. We also realised that the candidate I am presenting to the House for approval meets all the requirements of the Constitution. He satisfied the requirement of Article 77(1) of the Constitution. He does not intend to participate in any other gainful employment, as required by law. He also does not hold office in any political party. He does not hold any political party position. The nominee has never been dismissed from any other office because of corruption or anything else. As result, our Committee decided unanimously to present this candidate before you.

Because of time and the mood of the House, I thank the President for nominating this candidate. We looked at his CV, his experience and his passion. In fact, we were very motivated by his passion to come and work in the country. The reason is that he used to earn more money in South Africa. He used to work in South Africa before he was nominated for this position. We looked at his network. He is a man of means. We even asked him whether he was willing to leave that means and come to serve in this Ministry. He said he was ready to come and contribute to the development of the country.

If you look at his experience as I presented earlier, this is a man of particular knowledge in financing which is required in this Department because we are building the houses but we are also asking ourselves where we are going to get the money to build 500,000 houses for the people of Kenya. We realised the President got the right person. He is going to help us to mobilise resources to build the houses. That is why we were very happy. We thank the President for that. I also thank my very respectful Committee for having a lot of time to discuss with him.

Finally, pursuant to Article 155(3) of the Constitution, and Standing Order 216(5)(f), the Committee recommends that the National Assembly approves the nomination of Mr. Charles Hinga Mwaura for appointment by His Excellency the President as Principal Secretary, State Department for Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Transport, Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Development.

With those remarks, I beg to move and ask Hon. Mugambi to second.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Yes, Hon. Rindikiri.

Hon. Rindikiri: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker.

Thank you, our very able Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Transport, Public Works and Housing for putting our team together; we have worked together. Looking forward, our commitment is to get the best for this nation. We had the privilege to interview Mr. Charles Hinga. One of the things that struck us most is his experience in dealing with State organs relating to financing of housing in the Republic of South Africa (RSA). He fits very well in what we are looking for because housing is a big pillar in the Four-Point Agenda of the Jubilee Government. We have no doubt that with his experience in sourcing for finance and making arrangements on public partnerships arrangements, we have the right person.

A successful employee is the one who shows leadership abilities. We saw a down to earth man, a qualified and confident man. We saw a man willing and ready to take interactive sessions outside his office; to the counties and the various other stakeholders for the benefit of our country. We all agreed that this is the right candidate. He qualified and met the threshold.

I beg to second the approval of Charles Hinga as the Principal Secretary for the State Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Very well.

(Question proposed)

Yes, Hon. Gachagua.

Hon. Gachagua: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise to support the approval and subsequent appointment of Charles Hinga Mwaura as the PS for State Department for Housing and Urban Development.

We vetted this nominee. He has over 20 years of experience in development of housing and urban infrastructure in the RSA. Housing is one of the four key pillars of His Excellency the President. Those of us who believe in President Kenyatta and his legacy are asking for the approval of this nominee to spearhead that agenda. You will realise that His Excellency the President will retire at a fairly young age of 61. He will be all over in this town and rural areas. We want the President to walk with his head high for having an enduring legacy in provision of affordable housing.

This nominee has a lot of experience in sourcing for funding for various development projects as he has done in the RSA. You are aware that we have issues of getting enough money for our development. Definitely, 500 housing units cannot be funded from the Exchequer. It is, therefore, incumbent upon this nominee, as he proved to us that he has the capacity, to mobilise funds from development partners and strategic investors to bring to this country. Money that he will bring from strategic investors will inject capital supply into the economy, creating employment and providing affordable housing. We are looking forward as he convinced us, to a

mortgage scheme where ordinary Kenyans can be able to save as little as Kshs4,000 and own their houses in 20 years.

Finally, he convinced us that as he brings strategic partners, there will be the 30 per cent local content where local people will be able to get involved in the development of these 500 units. He told us that the dream of 500,000 units is doable within the five years and from the way we discussed with him, we were quite happy. Therefore, I urge this House to approve his appointment and subsequent appointment as PS, State Department for Housing and Urban Development.

Thank you.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Members, the House should rise now but I am going to use my discretion to extend the sitting by a few minutes so that we conclude this business. I am extending the sitting by only a few minutes so that the discretion is not extrapolated too much.

Hon. Muchangi.

Hon. Eric Njiru: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, for giving me the opportunity to add my voice in support of this Special Motion on approval of appointment of PS, Mr. Charles Hinga Mwaura nominee to the State Department for Housing and Urban Development. Amongst the pillars that guide the Jubilee Government is housing. So, we have an opportunity to support this Motion so that we can have a PS in charge so that he can fast-track this agenda. What we note is that Mr. Charles has a wealth of experience and knowledge. He is well educated. There is no doubt that he will execute his mandate well while serving this nation.

Again, I am reminded that around 26 years ago, many Kenyans in this country were able to afford houses through the Government. They would pay some little money at the end of every month. I believe that Mr. Charles will enable more Kenyans to have houses so that we can achieve the vision and the agenda that the President has for this country.

Finally, I am very impressed by these appointments because they reflect the diversity of this country. I have been seated here analysing where our appointees are coming from. I am impressed by His Excellency the President.

Thank you. I support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Gichimu.

Hon. Githinji: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker, for this opportunity. I rise to support the adoption and subsequent appointment of Mr. Charles Hinga Mwaura to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. I echo my colleagues' sentiments. The Committee has done a good job. My request to Mr. Hinga is that he should make sure that he does not concentrate on housing and urban development in the cities only. We also have very many urban centres within our areas which require tarmacking and other developments which are very necessary for our people. Of specific concern is my headquarters at the constituency level, Kianyaga, which does not have even a single inch of tarmac yet it is the headquarters of my constituency. These are some of the areas I know most of the Members will bear me witness. These are the challenges that we are facing on the ground.

To echo my colleagues' sentiments, I support his nomination. We need this man on the ground like yesterday so that he can commence his work. I also support his appointment so that he can take over the job and move this country towards realisation of the four main agendas of the Jubilee Government.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I support.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): What is your point of order, Hon. Wachira Kabinga?

Hon. Josphat Wachira: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker. I rise under Standing Order No. 95. Even as I do so, I support my colleague Hon. Gichimu that small towns like Ngurubani should not be forgotten. I now want to call upon the Mover to reply.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Wachira, you cannot call the Mover to reply. That is reserved for me.

Anyway, I hear your request that I confirm the mood of the House. I want to confirm the mood of the House whether we should really call the Mover to reply.

(Question, that the Mover be called upon to reply, put and agreed to)

Mover, you may reply.

Hon. Losiakou: Thank you, Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker for giving me this opportunity to reply, move and thank Hon. Members for having done this.

In conclusion, I want to assure Members that the Principal Secretary is up to the task to implement and give Kenyans half a million houses. I assure the people of Kenya and the House on that. We will give you the half a million houses when you pass this candidate for me and our Departmental Committee on Transport, Public Works and Housing.

I thank you and move.

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): I shall defer putting the Question on that Motion. That will be done in subsequent time.

(Putting of the Question deferred)

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Deputy Speaker (Hon. Mariru): Hon. Members, the time being six minutes after 1.00 p.m., this House stands adjourned until this afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 1.06 p.m.