REPUBLIC OF KENYA



ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - (THIRD SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR : ON SUSPENSION OF COMMITTEE SITTINGS

Honourable Members,

Today's sitting marks the conclusion of what has been a notably busy Session for the National Assembly. All Committees, and especially those involved in the vetting process during the last two weeks, have worked tirelessly, and under strict deadlines to ensure the conclusion of business before them. I wish to commend the House for the diligence and commitment to the business of the House both in plenary and in its Committees throughout the year. Just to highlight part of the tremendous work done by this House this year, the House has transacted business as follows-

- (i) Regarding Bills, a total of 36 Bills have been passed by this House; 10 Bills were also passed and forwarded to the Senate for consideration; a further 16 Bills have undergone Second Reading and are now awaiting Committee of the Whole House. In addition, 4 Bills are undergoing the Mediation Process, while 2 were passed but lost, while 2 others were rejected by the House;
- (ii)On Motions, a total of 195 Motions were introduced. Of these, 142 were Ordinary Motions, 24 were Procedural Motions, while 29 were

Special Motions. 138 Motions were adopted, 2 deferred, 3 withdrawn while 4 were lost or defeated. Another 48 Motions are awaiting debate.

Honourable Members, the House also considered and approved 14 *Sessional* Papers. In addition, a total of 228 Legislative proposals have been submitted for processing and publication into Bills. Out of these, 75 have been published the remaining 153 legislative proposals are pending before the Budget Committee and respective Departmental Committees. These legislative proposals are mainly by individual members and will result into what is commonly referred to as "private member" Bills upon publication.

Honourable Members, As the Session winds up and the House proceeds on recess, as is the tradition, it is prudent that Committees take a well-deserved break from the busy schedules of their own sittings and those of the plenary. This will allow you to spend valuable time with your families during the holiday season and also attend to your constituents. In addition, this will avail the officers and staff of Parliament an opportunity to take their annual leave and also begin preparations for the next Session.

Honourable Members, Even as we break, I wish to remind the Constituencies Development Fund (CDF) Committee together with the Committee on Delegated Legislation to continue engaging with the CDF Board and the relevant State Departments so as to ensure preparation of draft regulations that will fully operationalize all sections of the recently passed National Government Constituencies Development Fund Bill, 2015 within the prescribed timelines. Additionally, I also direct the Committee on Delegated Legislation to consider and conclude all statutory instruments before it expeditiously. This is in view of the amendments recently made to the Statutory Instruments Act through the Statute Law (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill, 2015 which gives the Parliamentary Committee 28 days

to consider all statutory instruments before it otherwise they stand approved in the form published and submitted to the House. The Committee should then inform the House on the actions taken upon resumption from recess.

Honourable Members, In view of the foregoing, I now direct that Committees conclude any business pending before them by Friday, December 18, 2015. Thereafter, no Committee Sittings shall be convened until Monday, February 1, 2016, unless special consideration is granted by my office. However, the Budget and Appropriations Committee, Public Accounts Committee and the Public Investments Committee are exempted from this decision so as to allow them time to conclude report writing on any pending matters as their term will come to an end upon commencement of the Fourth Session in accordance with our Standing Orders. The three Committees are therefore at liberty to commence their sittings from Monday, January 18, 2016. In this regard, I take this early opportunity to remind the political party leaderships of the House to present names of their nominees to the three Committees, together with nominees of any other sessional committee to the Committee on Selection in good time.

Finally Honourable Members, I wish you a happy, safe and restful festive season, and a prosperous New Year. The House now stands adjourned until Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 2.30 pm.

I thank you.

THE HON. JUSTIN B. N. MUTURI, EGH, MP <u>SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY</u> December 17, 2015