

Rt. Hon. Speaker  
Recommended for approval for tabling.

DC  
Forwarded for tabling  
29/11/2024

02/12/2024

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT

THE SENATE

THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

REPORT ON THE COUNTY OVERSIGHT AND NETWORKING  
ENGAGEMENTS TO TAITA/TAVETA, MOMBASA AND KWALE  
COUNTIES

  
03/12/24

Clerks Chambers,  
Parliament Buildings,  
NAIROBI.

**APPROVED**  
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November, 2024

PAPERS LAID	
DATE	5/12/2024
TABLED BY	Sen. Okeyen
COMMITTEE	-Health-
CLERK AT THE TABLE	Angela

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A&E	Accident and Emergency
CECM	County Executive Committee Member
CGTRH	Coast General Teaching and Referral Hospital
CHS	Community Health Service
CHW	Community Health Worker
CHP	Community Health Promoter
CPSB	County Public Service Board
CoG	Council of Governors
CS	Cesarean Section
DG	Deputy Governor
EMR	Electronic Management Records
FIF	Facilities Improvement Financing
FY	Financial Year
HDU	High Dependency Unit
HMIS	Health Management Information System
HPTs	Health Products and Technologies
HRH	Human Resource for Health
ICT	Information Communication and Technology
ICU	Intensive Care Unit
KEMSA	Kenya Medical Supplies Agency
KMPDU	Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentist Union
MEDS	Mission for Essential Drugs Supplies
MES	Medical Equipment Service
MoH	Ministry of Health
NG	National Government
NHIF	National Health Insurance Fund
PSC	Public Service Commission
SHIF	Social Health Insurance Fund
TSC	Teachers Service Commission
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
WHO	World Health Organization

## PRELIMINARIES

### Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

The Standing Committee on Health is established pursuant to standing order 228 (3) and the Fourth Schedule of the Senate Standing Orders and is mandated to *consider all matters relating to medical services, public health and sanitation.*

Pursuant to Standing Order 228(4), the Committee is specifically mandated to-

- 1) *investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration and operations of the Ministry of Health and its departments;*
- 2) *study the programme and policy objectives of the Ministry of Health and its departments, and the effectiveness of the implementation thereof;*
- 3) *study and review all legislation referred to it;*
- 4) *study, assess and analyze the success of the Ministry of Health and departments assigned to it as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;*
- 5) *consider the Budget Policy Statement in line with the Committee's mandate;*
- 6) *report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Senate to approve;*
- 7) *make reports and recommendations to the Senate as often as possible, including recommendations for proposed legislation;*
- 8) *consider reports of Commissions and Independent Offices submitted to the Senate pursuant to the provisions of Article 254 of the Constitution;*
- 9) *examine any statements raised by Senators on a matter within its mandate; and*
- 10) *follow up and report on the status of implementation of resolution within its mandate; and*
- 11) *follow up and report on the status of commitments made by the Cabinet Secretaries in their response to questions under Standing Order 51C*

### Committee Membership

The Committee is comprised of the following members-

- |                                      |   |                         |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1. Sen. Jackson K. Mandago, EGH, MP  | - | <b>Chairperson</b>      |
| 2. Sen. Mariam Sheikh Omar, MP       | - | <b>Vice-Chairperson</b> |
| 3. Sen. Erick Okong'o Mogeni, SC, MP | - | Member                  |
| 4. Sen. Ledama Olekina, MP,          | - | Member                  |
| 5. Sen. Abdul Mohammed Haji, MP      | - | Member                  |
| 6. Sen. Joe Nyutu, MP                | - | Member                  |
| 7. Sen. Raphael Chimera Mwinzagu, MP | - | Member                  |
| 8. Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP,          | - | Member                  |
| 9. Sen. Esther Anyieni Okenyuri, MP  | - | Member                  |

## CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This report contains a record of the County Oversight and Networking Engagements conducted by the Standing Committee on Health in Taita/Taveta, Kwale and Mombasa counties between 16<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2024.

The County Oversight and Networking Engagements was adopted as a mode of operation by the Committee in order to gather evidence and augment information received within the precincts of Parliament and a key part of how it engages with the members of the public.

The Committee recognizes evidence and public participation in its proceedings as some of the principle benefits during consideration of its legislative business. Submissions received during such engagements constitute one of the primary means by which the Committee obtain requisite information and data to undertake its oversight mandate.

The County Oversight and Networking Engagements in Taita/Taveta, Kwale and Mombasa Counties sought to acquaint the Committee with the provision of healthcare services in the three counties, which belong to the *Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani* Economic Bloc.

The Committee's specific objective was to visit select healthcare facilities in the three counties to assess the state and quality of the infrastructure, facilities and hospital equipment, the provision and decentralization of ambulance and emergency services, automation of healthcare provision systems for patient, drugs and commodity management. The adequacy of healthcare personnel in the counties, the gaps and challenges, if any, the counties face concerning healthcare workers.

The Committee further sought to equip itself with the information on the training and capacity building programs and avenues available to healthcare workers in these counties and especially in emergency handling, how specialized services and referral system operates in the identified counties and the availability of drug and medical supplies in healthcare facilities in these counties.

The Committee further required these counties to provide data and information on the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) reimbursements claimed and accreditation for county health facilities with NHIF as well as pending bills with Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (KEMSA).

With the foregoing, the Committee identified the following healthcare facilities-

- 1) Tausa Health Centre, Moi County Referral Hospital and Taveta Sub-county Hospital in Taita/Taveta County;
- 2) Utange Level 4 Hospital and Coast General Teaching and Referral Hospital in Mombasa County; and

- 3) Cancer Oncology Center, Msambweni County Referral Hospital and Mvindi Health Center in Kwale County.

The Committee findings, observations and recommendation based on the evidence gathered during the oversight visits have been compiled and are contained in this report.

**Acknowledgements**

On behalf of the Committee, I wish to thank Sen. Johnes Mwaruma, MP, Senator representing Taita/Taveta County, Sen. Issa Juma Boy, MP, Senator representing Kwale County and Sen. Mohammed Mwinyihaji Faki, MP, Senator representing Mombasa County for their warm welcome in their respective counties and the support extended to the Committee by their offices during the oversight visits. Their input and contributions enabled the Committee carryout its oversight mandate and functions effectively in the three counties.

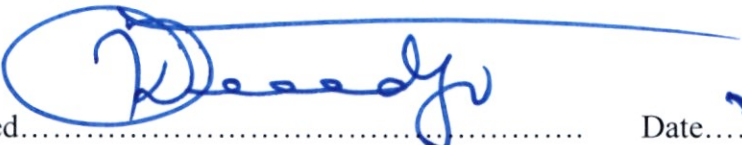
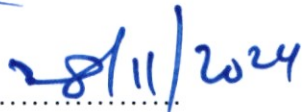
The Committee wishes to extend its appreciation to the Governors of Taita/Taveta, Kwale and Mombasa Counties and their respective Executive Committees Members for their input, submissions and evidence produced during the oversight tours. Further, the Committee extends the appreciation to the Speakers of the County Assemblies in the three counties and Members of the County Assembly counterpart committees on health for their facilitation and participation.

The Committee is also grateful to the members of staff and other stakeholders in the healthcare facilities visited during the tour for their submissions, which have greatly enhanced the evidence analyzed during processing of this report.

Finally, I acknowledge and appreciate the Members of the Committee for their dedication and commitment during gathering of evidence, drafting of this report and setting out conclusions and recommendations.

Further appreciation goes to the Office of the Speaker of the Senate and the Office of the Clerk of the Senate for their continuous support to the Committee during execution of its mandate.









It is now my pleasant duty and privilege to present this report of the Standing Committee on Health, for consideration and approval by the House pursuant to Standing Order No. 223 (6) of the Senate Standing Orders.

Signed.......... Date.....

**SEN. JACKSON K. ARAP MANDAGO, EGH, MP**  
**CHAIRPERSON, STANDING COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

**ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON HEALTH ON THE INSPECTION TOUR OF HEALTH FACILITIES IN  
TAITA TAVETA, KWALE AND MOMBASA COUNTIES.**

**We, the undersigned Members of the Senate Standing Committee on Health, do hereby append our signatures to adopt the Report-**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Signature</b>
1.	Sen. Jackson Kiplagat Mandago, EGH, MP	Chairperson	
2.	Sen. Mariam Sheikh Omar, MP	Vice-Chairperson	
3.	Sen. Erick Okong'o Mogeni, SC, MP	Member	
4.	Sen. Ledama Ole kina, MP	Member	
5.	Sen. Abdul Mohammed Haji, CBS, MP	Member	
6.	Sen. Joe Nyutu Ngugi, MP	Member	
7.	Sen. Raphael Chimera Mwinzagu, MP	Member	
8.	Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP	Member	
9.	Sen. Esther Anyieni Okenyuri, MP	Member	

## CHAPTER ONE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

1. Article 96(1) of the Constitution mandates the Senate to represent the counties and serve to protect the interests of the counties and their governments. Article 124 (1) on the other hand provides that each House of Parliament may establish committees, and shall make Standing Orders for the orderly conduct of its proceedings including the proceedings of its committees.
2. The Standing Committee on Health is established pursuant to standing order 228 (3) and the Fourth Schedule of the Senate Standing Orders and is mandated to *consider all matters relating to medical services, public health and sanitation*. To execute its mandate the Committee has adopted different modes of operation, which include County Oversight and Networking Engagements. Through these engagements, the Committee is able to augment the evidence gathered within the precincts with site visits.
3. At its meeting held on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2024, the Committee resolved to undertake a County Oversight and Networking Engagements (CONE) in Taita/Taveta, Kwale and Mombasa counties to acquaint itself with the provision of healthcare services in the counties as part of its oversight function. The visits took place between 16<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2024.
4. The specific objective of these engagements was to visit select healthcare facilities in the three counties in order to-
  - a) assess the state and quality of the infrastructure, facilities, hospital equipment and provision of emergency services;
  - b) assess the automation of healthcare provision systems for patient, drugs and commodity management;
  - c) assess the availability of requisite healthcare personnel, the gaps and challenges, if any, these counties face in regard to healthcare workers;
  - d) assess the availability of training and capacity building programs and avenues for healthcare workers in emergency healthcare, specialized services and referrals;
  - e) assess the availability of drug and medical supplies in healthcare facilities in the counties; and
  - f) seek information on the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) reimbursements claimed and accreditation for county health facilities with NHIF as well as pending bills with Kenya Medical Supplies Agency (KEMSA).
5. Consequently, the Committee identified the following healthcare facilities-
  - 1) Tausa Health Centre, Moi County Referral Hospital and Taveta Sub-county Hospital in Taita/Taveta County;
  - 2) Utange Level 4 Hospital and Coast General Teaching and Referral Hospital in Mombasa County; and
  - 3) Cancer Oncology Centre, Msambweni County Referral Hospital and Mvinden Health Centre in Kwale County.

## 1.1. COUNTY PROFILES

### 1.1.1. Taita/Taveta County

6. Taita/Taveta is one of the six counties located in the coastal region, *Jumuiya ya Kaunti za Pwani* economic bloc, with a surface area of 17,084Km<sup>2</sup> with 10,649.9 km<sup>2</sup> being within Tsavo East and Tsavo West National Parks. The County has an estimated population of 340,671 persons according to the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS) 2019 census. The population distribution in the county is influenced by cultural heritage, rainfall and terrain. The County headquarters are situated in Mwatate sub-county and other major towns include Voi, Taveta and Wundanyi.
7. The County has a total of seventy-three (73) government managed public health facilities classified into; four (4) Level 4 hospitals, including the Moi Referral Hospital, Wesu Sub County Hospital, Mwatate Sub- County Hospital and Taveta Sub County Hospital, nine (9) health Centres including Tausa Health Centre, sixty-one (61) dispensaries and ninety-three (93) Community Units (CUs) located in all constituencies.
8. The health sector has been characterized by inadequate capacity in terms of staffing levels and currently the County has 1,542 health workers<sup>1</sup>. The doctor population ratio stands at 1:6,191, which falls short of the recommended 1:600 standard set by the World Health Organization (WHO). There are four main public level 4 hospitals in Taita/Taveta County. The total bed capacity in the public health facility amounts to 440, serving the population's health needs.
9. Moi County Referral Hospital is the largest hospital in the county. According to records from the health department, it collects between Kshs. 70m to 80m annually from patients. The Voi town-based hospital serves thousands of patients including accident victims from the busy Nairobi-Mombasa highway as well as neighboring regions.<sup>2</sup>;
10. The total estimated budget for FY 2023/24 amounts to Kshs. 7.30 billion comprising of Kshs. 5.04 billion share of the equitable share, Kshs. 1.47 billion as additional, Kshs. 730.68 million as own source revenue of which Kshs. 202 million will be collected from the public health facilities.
11. In the FY 2023/24, the county has allocated Ksh.427.66 million to the health sector of which Kshs. 352.27 million (82.4 per cent) is for the recurrent expenditure and Kshs. 75.39 million (17.6 per cent) allocated for the development expenditure. Up to the third quarter of FY 2023/24, the county had only spent Kshs. 142.78 million of its recurrent budget and spent zero on development as reported by the controller of budget.

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<sup>1</sup> Taita/Taveta County Government, 2022

<sup>2</sup> Gicheru, E. N., Mwangeka, R., M'Imanyara, K., & Maiyo, S. K. (2017). Analysis of Causes of High Rate of Co-Operative Business Failure and Possible Interventions in Taita/Taveta County in Kenya.

12. In the FY 2023/24, the county had the following forming major component of the recurrent expenditure in health in table 1 below-

<b>Table 1: Recurrent expenditure on major health components</b>	
Medical drugs	60,000,000.00
Non-Pharmaceuticals	40,000,000.00
Anti-snake venom, anti-rabies etc- Rural facilities	1,000,000.00
Laboratory reagents- Rural facilities	10,722,000.00
Purchase of medical and dental equipment	3,000,000.00
<b>Facility Improvement Fund</b>	
Moi County Referral Hospital	95,223,373
<b>Of which medical drugs</b>	<b>13,876,111</b>
Taveta Sub County Hospital	28,014,769
<b>Of which medical drugs</b>	<b>3,222,540</b>
Mwatate Sub County Hospital	13,689,992
Public Health- Wundanyi	1,015,200
Wesu Sub County Hospital	12,547,261
<b>Of which medical drugs</b>	<b>2,311,141</b>
Public Health- Voi	3,261,600
Public Health- Taveta	2,748,337
Public Health- Mwatate	1,292,998
<b>Total</b>	<b>272,515,530</b>

13. The major development projects scheduled to be implemented in FY 2023/24, are represented in table 2 below-

<b>Table 2: Development Projects to Be Implemented in FY 2023/24</b>		
<b>s/no</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Allocation in Kshs.</b>
1	Construction of Cancer Centre	10,000,000
2	Completion of Bughuta maternity	2,000,000
3	Supply of foods for person living with HIV/AIDS	1,300,000
4	Laundry machine and power generator for Nyache Health	

<b>Table 2: Development Projects to Be Implemented in FY 2023/24</b>		
<b>s/no</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Allocation in Kshs.</b>
	Centre	1,100,000
5	Refurbishment of Mwambirwa health Centre	2,000,000
6	Supply of foods for person living with HIV/AIDS	500,000
7	Completion of staff quarters Bura health Centre	2,000,000
8	Bura ward CHV's	2,000,000
9	Fencing of Malukiloriti Dispensary	500,000
10	Supply of beds and mattresses for Kitobo dispensary-	500,000
11	Construction of a 4 doors dispensary toilet in Mahandakini	900,000
12	Tanzania dispensary phase 2	3,300,000
13	Completion, fencing and equipping of Staff quarters of Njoro dispensary	4,000,000
14	Purchase of Ambulance for Taveta Sub County Hospital	10,000,000
15	Construction of Mwanda dispensary	2,500,000
16	Upgrading of Moi County referral hospital	74,000,000
17	Upgrading of Wesu Hospital	42,000,000
18	<b>Replacement of asbestos roof in Taveta Hospital</b>	-
19	Construction of microwave waste incinerator house at Mwatate SCH	16,000,000
20	Upgrading of Mwatate sub county hospital	28,000,000
21	Renovation of DVBB block to eye Centre in Taveta Hospital- Phase 1	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>202,600,000</b>