Thirteenth Parliament (No. 072)



Fourth Session (902)

## **REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

## THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (FOURTH SESSION)

# THE SENATE

# VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

# THURSDAY, JULY 17, 2025 AT 2.30 PM

- 1. The Senate assembled at thirty Minutes past Two O'clock.
- 2. The proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.

#### 3. QUORUM OF THE SENATE

The Speaker, having counted the Honourable Senators present at the commencement of the sitting and confirming that there was no Quorum, directed that the Bell be rung for ten minutes, pursuant to Standing Order 40;

And there being a Quorum before the expiry of the ten minutes;

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

#### 4. <u>COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR – VISITING TEACHERS AND</u> <u>STUDENTS FROM IKUNDU PRIMARY AND JUNIOR SCHOOL IN MURANG'A</u> COUNTY

The Speaker conveyed the following Communication from the Chair:

"Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, visiting teachers and students from Ikundu primary and junior school in Murang'a County. The delegation comprises forty-six (46) students and five (5) teachers, who are in the Senate for a one-day academic exposition.

Honourable Senators,

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to them and, on behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you."

#### 5. <u>MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - PASSAGE BY THE</u> <u>NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, OF THE CONSTITUTION OF KENYA</u> (AMENDMENT) BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 4 OF 2025).

The Speaker conveyed the following Message from the National Assembly:

"Honourable Senators,

I wish to report to the Senate that, pursuant to Standing Order 46 (3), I received a Message from the Speaker of the National Assembly regarding the passage, by the National Assembly, of the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 4 of 2025).

The Message, dated Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2025, was received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate on the same date, while the Senate was on recess.

Pursuant to Standing Order 46 (5), I now report the Message -

"PURSUANT to the provisions of Standing Order 41 (1) and 142 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby convey the following Message from the National Assembly –

WHEREAS, the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 4 of 2025) was published vide Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 22 on 26th February, 2025 to amend the Constitution of Kenya to entrench the National Government Constituencies Fund, Senate Oversight Fund and the National Government Affirmative Action Fund;

AND WHEREAS, the National Assembly considered the said Bill and passed it with the support of more than two-thirds of all the Members of the National Assembly at the Second and Third Readings on Tuesday, 1st July, 2025 in the form attached hereto;

FURTHER WHEREAS, as at the time of the introduction of the Bill in the National Assembly, the co-sponsors of the Bill had indicated that Sen. Hillary Sigei, MP, and Sen. Danson Mungatana, MP, would co-sponsor and be in charge of the Bill in the Senate;

NOW THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of Article 256 of the Constitution and the Standing Orders 41 and 142 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby refer the Bill to the Senate for consideration."

Honourable Senators,

Standing Order 163 (1) requires that a Bill which originates in the National Assembly be proceeded with in the same manner as a Bill introduced in the Senate by way of First Reading, in accordance with Standing Order 144. Accordingly, I direct that the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill (National

Assembly Bills No. 4 of 2025) be listed in the Order Paper for First Reading at the appropriate time.

Further, since the Bill seeks to amend the Constitution of Kenya by parliamentary initiative, the provisions of Article 256 of the Constitution and Standing Order 140 shall apply in the processing of the Bill in the Senate.

The House is guided accordingly.

I thank you."

# 6. **PAPERS LAID**

The following Papers were laid on the Table of the Senate:

i) Report of the Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations on its consideration of the Office of the County Attorney (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 47 of 2024).

> (The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations)

 ii) Report of the Parliament of Kenya Delegation to the 2025 Hearing of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) held at the United Nations (UN) in New York, United States of America (USA) on 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2025.

(Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP)

iii) Statement on the business of the Senate for the week commencing Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2025.

(The Senate Majority Leader)

# 7. NOTICE OF MOTION- APPROVAL OF SENATE NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE POST-SERVICE MEDICAL SCHEME FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

(The Senate Majority Leader)

THAT, pursuant to the Resolution of the Parliamentary Service Commission of 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2025 with respect to the *Trust Deed and Rules for Post-Service Medical Scheme for Members of Parliament*, the Senate appoints Sen. Justice (Rtd.) Stewart Madzayo, EGH, MP, and Sen. Esther Okenyuri, MP to the Board of Trustees for the Post-Service Medical Scheme for Members of Parliament.

# 8. NOTICE OF MOTION - CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEDIATION COMMITTEE ON THE GAMBLING CONTROL BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 70 OF 2023)

(Co-Chairperson, Mediation Committee)

THAT, the Senate <u>adopts</u> the Report of the Mediation Committee on the Gambling Control Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 70 of 2025), laid on the table of the Senate on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2025; and that, pursuant to Article 113(2) of the Constitution and Standing Order 167(3) of the Senate, <u>approves</u> the mediated version of the Bill.

# 9. NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENT OF KENYA DELEGATION TO THE 2025 HEARING OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION (IPU) HELD AT THE UNITED NATIONS (UN) IN NEW YORK, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA) ON 13<sup>TH</sup> - 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025

(Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP)

THAT, the Senate notes the Report of the Parliament of Kenya Delegation to the 2025 Hearing of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) held at the United Nations (UN) in New York, United States of America (USA) on 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2025, laid on the Table of the Senate on Thursday, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2025.

#### 10. **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

#### a) Statements pursuant to Standing Order 52 (1)

i) Nominated Sen. Esther Okenyuri, MP, made a statement regarding Kenya's participation in the World Expo 2025.

Thereupon, the Senator informed the Senate that the World Expo 2025, currently underway in Osaka, Japan, under the theme "*Designing Future Society for Our Lives*," has attracted participation from 158 countries and millions of visitors. Further that Kenya's pavilion had received over 700,000 visitors by the end of June 2025, including Princess Aiko of Japan. The Senator stated that the pavilion effectively showcased Kenya's prowess in floriculture, tea, and cultural heritage, with particular appreciation expressed for the popularity of Kenyan flowers and tea, which sparked renewed international interest in these sectors and highlighted Kenya's premier tourist destinations.

The Senator commended Hon. Lee Kinyanjui (Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry), Ms. Regina Ombam (Principal Secretary, State Department of Trade), Mr. John Ololtuaa (Principal Secretary, State Department of Tourism), and Ms. Floice Mukabana (CEO, KEPROBA) for their exemplary efforts in representing Kenya. She further stated that several challenges had been identified, notably the need for timely and sufficient funding to secure independent pavilions in future expos and the absence of direct cargo flights between Kenya and Japan, which continues to hamper the competitiveness of Kenya's agricultural exports. She also pointed out that the recent increase in Maasai Mara gate fees had led to a reduction in tourist numbers from Japan, with Tanzania now outpacing Kenya in tourist arrivals. The Senator recommended that preparations for the World Expo 2030 in Saudi Arabia begin in earnest, emphasizing that early planning will be essential for building on the successes and addressing the challenges experienced in Osaka. She stated that Kenya should intensify the promotion of its exports, improve logistical arrangements, and work to restore its competitiveness in both trade and tourism.

The Senator concluded by affirming the unwavering support of the Standing Committee on Trade, Industrialization and Tourism to the Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry in securing effective and impactful Kenyan participation in future international expos.

ii) The Senator for Nairobi City County (Sen. Edwin Sifuna, MP), made a statement concerning the welfare and general working conditions of staff at the Chandarana-Food plus chain of supermarkets, especially at their Diani Branch.

Thereupon, the Senator informed the House that his office had received complaints from staff at a major supermarket chain, alleging mistreatment, discrimination, harassment, racism, and unlawful termination of contracts. He stated that these issues indicated illegality and poor staff welfare at the retailer, potentially reflecting wider problems throughout the retail sector and the broader low-income workforce in Kenya.

The Senator further stated that, although the Kenyan Constitution and Employment Act 2007 provide for non-discrimination, fair remuneration, and reasonable working conditions, there remains a significant gap between the law and its practical enforcement. He stated that there was need for the country to address this exploitation, particularly in sectors such as retail, by insisting that businesses treat their employees with dignity and respect.

The Senator called upon the Ministry of Labour, trade unions, and elected leaders to advocate for workers facing such challenges. He urged the management of Chandarana Foodplus and other businesses to address these concerns not only at the Diani branch but throughout all their operations. Additionally, he encouraged Parliament to strengthen legislation and its implementation to ensure better protection for Kenyan workers, concluding that safeguarding lowincome earners from exploitation is a shared national responsibility.

#### b) Statement Pursuant to Standing Order 57 (1)

The Senate Majority Leader issued a statement on the business of the Senate for the week commencing Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2025.

#### 11. MOTION - APPROVAL OF SENATE NOMINEES FOR APPOINTMENT TO <u>THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE POST-SERVICE MEDICAL SCHEME</u> <u>FOR MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT</u>

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, pursuant to the Resolution of the Parliamentary Service Commission of 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2025 with respect to the *Trust Deed and Rules for Post-Service Medical Scheme for Members of Parliament*, the Senate appoints Sen. Justice (Rtd.) Stewart Madzayo, EGH, MP, and Sen. Esther Okenyuri, MP to the Board of Trustees for the Post-Service Medical Scheme for Members of Parliament.

(The Senate Majority Leader)

And there being no Senators wishing to contribute;

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

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

Question put and <u>agreed to</u>.

#### RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY

THAT, pursuant to the Resolution of the Parliamentary Service Commission of 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2025 with respect to the *Trust Deed and Rules for Post-Service Medical Scheme for Members of Parliament*, the Senate appoints Sen. Justice (Rtd.) Stewart Madzayo, EGH, MP, and Sen. Esther Okenyuri, MP to the Board of Trustees for the Post-Service Medical Scheme for Members of Parliament.

#### 12. <u>MOTION - CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORT OF THE MEDIATION</u> <u>COMMITTEE ON THE GAMBLING CONTROL BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY</u> BILLS NO. 70 OF 2023)

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the Senate <u>adopts</u> the Report of the Mediation Committee on the Gambling Control Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 70 of 2025), laid on the table of the Senate on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2025; and that, pursuant

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to Article 113(2) of the Constitution and Standing Order 167(3) of the Senate, <u>approves</u> the mediated version of the Bill.

# (Co-Chairperson, Mediation Committee)

Debate arising;

And there being no more Senators wishing to contribute;

Sen. Wakili Hillary Sigei, MP replied on behalf of the Mover;

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

And the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, CBS, MP) acceding to the request, deferred the putting of the Question to a later date.

#### 13. <u>THE COUNTY ALLOCATION OF REVENUE BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 9 OF</u> 2025)

The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget)

#### (Second Reading) (Resumption of debate interrupted on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2025) (Division)

Order deferred.

# 14. THE EQUALISATION FUND APPROPRIATION BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 7 OF 2025)

(The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget)

(Second Reading)

# (Resumption of debate interrupted on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2025 – Afternoon Sitting) (Division)

Order deferred.

# 15. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

# THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 12 OF 2023)

(The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights)

(Consideration of His Excellency the President's recommendations) (Resumption of debate interrupted on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> July, 2025) (Division) Order deferred.

#### 16. <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</u> <u>THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (AMENDMENT) BILL (SENATE</u> <u>BILLS NO. 54 OF 2023)</u> (Sen\_Eddy Oketeb\_MD)

(Sen. Eddy Oketch, MP)

Order deferred.

# 17. <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</u> <u>THE LOCAL CONTENT BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 50 OF 2023)</u>

(The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Energy)

Order deferred.

#### 18. <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</u> <u>THE STREET VENDORS (PROTECTION OF LIVELIHOOD) BILL (SENATE</u> <u>BILLS NO. 41 OF 2023)</u>

(Sen. Esther Anyieni Okenyuri, MP)

Order deferred.

#### 19. <u>COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE</u> <u>THE SOCIAL PROTECTION BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 12</u> OF 2025)

(The Senate Majority Leader)

Order deferred.

# 20. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

#### THE COUNTY LIBRARY SERVICES BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 40 OF 2024) (Sen. Joyce Korir, MP)

Order deferred.

#### 21. <u>THE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS ADDITIONAL ALLOCATIONS (NO. 2) BILL</u> (SENATE BILLS NO. 8 OF 2025)

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the County Governments Additional Allocations (No. 2) Bill (Senate Bills No. 8 of 2025) be now read a Second Time.

(Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale, MP on behalf of the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Finance and Budget) Debate arising;

And the time being thirty minutes past Six O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Hillary Sigei, MP) interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

22. **SENATE ROSE** – at thirty minutes past Six O'clock

#### MEMORANDUM

The Speaker will take the Chair on Tuesday, July 22, 2025 at 2:30 pm

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