



Lawmakers urge swift extension of AGOA to protect Kenyan jobs and exports



House Plenary debating a Motion on AGOA term extension moved by Hon. Jane Kagiri (Laikipia) on Wednesday, 24th September, 2025

The National Assembly has urged the urgent extension of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), warning that its expiry at the end of September will disrupt Kenya's economy, threaten thousands of jobs, and could reverse years of progress in poverty reduction.

The call came through a Motion by Hon. Jane Kagiri (Laikipia), which received rare bipartisan support. Members stressed that AGOA, first enacted in 2000, has been central in boosting Kenya's exports, sustaining livelihoods, and empowering women.

"Women account for about 75 per cent of AGOA's direct beneficiaries. Their incomes go into paying school fees, supporting healthcare, and lifting families out of poverty," Hon. Kagiri told the House. She called for a 16-year extension of the programme, with a proposed two-year transition period in case of non-renewal, to allow time for a new trade framework that protects both Kenyan and American businesses.

Hon. George Murugara (Tharaka), Chairperson of the Justice and Legal Affairs Committee, stated that

the expiry of AGOA would not only harm Kenya but the entire Sub-Saharan region.

"Bilateral agreements must be deepened to safeguard gains and address trade imbalances between our economies," he said.

Hon. Catherine Omanyoo (Busia Women MP) echoed this appeal: "Without AGOA, many African countries will struggle. This is a lifeline partnership we cannot afford to lose."

Hon. Owen Baya (Kilifi North) described AGOA as a progressive framework that enabled Kenya to expand production and gain access to the American market. He cited the Export Processing Zones (EPZs) as a prime example, noting that they have created thousands of jobs, particularly for the youth and women.

Hon. John Waluke (Sirisia) made a direct plea to U.S. President Donald Trump: "We plead with the U.S. leadership to extend AGOA so Kenya does not suffer."

Since 2000, AGOA has driven increased trade, investment, and improved governance across Sub-Saharan Africa. It has also benefited the U.S. by diversifying supply chains, strengthening bilateral ties, and

opening opportunities under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Members affirmed that renewing AGOA is a "win-win" arrangement protecting livelihoods in Kenya while reinforcing a mutually beneficial U.S.-Africa trade relationship.



Hon. Jane Kagiri (Laikipia), the mover of the Motion for AGOA term extension as debated in House Plenary on Wednesday, 24th September, 2025

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PLENARY ▶**House to consider petition seeking to amend Consumer Protection Law, protect borrowers from unscrupulous lenders**

The National Assembly has been petitioned to amend the Consumer Protection Act, Cap 501, to formally codify the in duplum rule, a safeguard intended to protect borrowers from paying interest that exceeds the original loan principal.

Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula informed the House that his office had received a petition from Mr. Allen Waiaki Kishore, a Senior Counsel with Mwai & Allen Advocates.

In the petition, Mr. Kishore argues that while Section 44A of the Banking Act already provides for

the in duplum rule stating that “interest on a loan ceases to accrue once it equals the outstanding principal amount when a loan becomes non-performing”—in practice, borrowers continue to suffer under exploitative charges.

“The petitioner avers that the purpose of the rule is to protect borrowers from exploitation, prevent endless accumulation of interest, and encourage fair lending practices,” the Speaker told MPs.

According to the petition; banks, financial institutions, and unscrupulous lenders routinely impose interest, penalties, and other charges beyond the loan

principal, exposing borrowers to violations of their rights under Article 46 of the Constitution. The petitioner further highlighted harassment by debt collectors, inconsistent judicial interpretations on when the rule applies—whether before or after restructuring a loan—and disputes over whether penalties count as interest.

“The lack of clarity and enforcement undermines public confidence in the financial sector and violates national values under Article 10, especially transparency, accountability, and social justice,” the petition reads.

Speaker Wetang'ula further stated, “The petitioner therefore prays that the National Assembly considers amending the Consumer Protection Act, Cap 501, to provide for when the in duplum rule takes effect, whether it applies to penalties, default charges, and other costs in addition to interest, uniform mechanisms for debt restructuring and recovery in compliance with the rule.”

The Petition also calls on the House to redress mechanisms for borrowers who have been subjected to unlawful interest charges, including refunds or settlements; and any other mechanisms that will secure borrowers from exploitation, enhance consumer protection, and uphold the Constitution.

The Speaker confirmed that the matter falls within the authority of the House and is not pending before any court or constitutional body. He committed the petition to the Public Petitions Committee for review in accordance with Standing Orders.

Speaker Wetang'ula urges Egypt to pursue inclusive dialogue in Nile Water dispute with Ethiopia

National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula has called on the Government of Egypt to embrace inclusive dialogue in resolving its long-standing dispute with Ethiopia over the use of the Nile waters and the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

Speaking on Wednesday last week after meeting His Excellency Ambassador Hatem Yousri Hosni, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, Wetang'ula emphasized that the conflict surrounding the dam project can only be sustainably resolved through consensus, mutual respect, and the involvement of all stakeholders.

He urged Cairo to “call everybody to the table” in order to reach an amicable settlement that safeguards regional peace and stability.

“We have no problem with you, Egypt or with our neighbors in Ethiopia. In fact, we are beneficiaries of the Renaissance Dam since we import electricity from

them. And as my President recently said, if you, Egypt, have any concerns about the Nile, do not focus solely on Ethiopia. Call everyone to the table, and together we can help resolve the issues,” said Wetang'ula.

He cautioned against unilateral actions that could escalate tensions in the region, warning that such moves risk destabilizing the Horn of Africa.

Egypt has long expressed fears that Ethiopia's dam project, situated on the Blue Nile, could reduce the water flow downstream, threatening its agricultural and domestic supply.

Ethiopia, however, maintains that the GERD is vital for its energy security and economic development.

The project has also left Sudan caught in the middle of the two regional powers.

However, Ambassador Hatem Yousri Hosni observed that the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) goes against international law and does not respect established legal frameworks.

He explained that Egypt has, for more than a decade, sought to sign a binding treaty that would safeguard its rights while ensuring equitable use of the Nile waters.



National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula receives a courtesy call from His Excellency Hatem Yousri Hosni, Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt, at his office in Parliament Buildings on Wednesday, September 24, 2025.

General ▶

Hon. Otiende Amollo rallies MPs to prepare for EALA Games in Uganda

Rarieda MP Dr. Otiende Amollo, who also captains Bunge FC, has urged Parliament to prepare adequately for the upcoming East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Games, warning against a repeat of Kenya's performance in Mombasa last year.

Speaking on the floor of the House on Tuesday, Dr. Amollo disclosed that the Republic of Uganda had agreed to host the regional parliamentary games earlier than scheduled, after Burundi and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) withdrew their hosting rights.

"It took the persuasion of our Speaker and his counterparts to convince Uganda to bring forward their turn to host by two years, and they graciously accepted. The games will now be held between December 5th and 17th, with the Central Planning Committee expected to announce the venues soon," he said.

The MP called on the Bunge Sports Executive Committee to move with speed in planning, noting that Kenya's contingent had previously been disadvantaged by poor logistics.

"I urge the Committee to plan in haste, secure hotels and transport early, provide Members with the right-sized uniforms, and arrange friendly matches as well as training camps ahead of the tournament," he appealed.

Dr. Amollo attributed Kenya's dismal showing in Mombasa to inadequate preparation, pointing

out that while other teams had camped for a week, the Kenyan side only arrived a day before the competitions began.

"This time, we must be allowed to camp, to travel with supporters even if they are staff Members and to prepare thoroughly. I am confident that across the eight or nine disciplines, we will do much better than we did in Mombasa," he stated.

On behalf of Bunge FC, he reassured the House that the football team was already in training and determined to restore Kenya's pride in Kampala.

"We are practicing in earnest and look forward to all the support we can get from the leadership," he affirmed.

The EALA Games bring together parliamentarians from across the East African Community to compete in football, netball, athletics, volleyball, and other disciplines, serving as both a sporting contest and a platform for regional integration.



Rarieda MP Dr. Otiende Amollo, who also doubles as the captain of Bunge FC, pictured alongside Deputy Clerk Sarah Kioko during a past event at Parliament Buildings.

Speaker Wetang'ula urges university unions to embrace dialogue, avoid disrupting learning

National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula has appealed to university staff unions to suspend their ongoing strike and instead engage in dialogue as a path to resolving their grievances.

Speaking on Tuesday at Parliament Buildings after meeting officials of the Universities Academic Staff Union (UASU) and the Kenya Universities Staff Union (KUSU), the Speaker acknowledged their concerns over the government's commitment to honouring existing Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs).

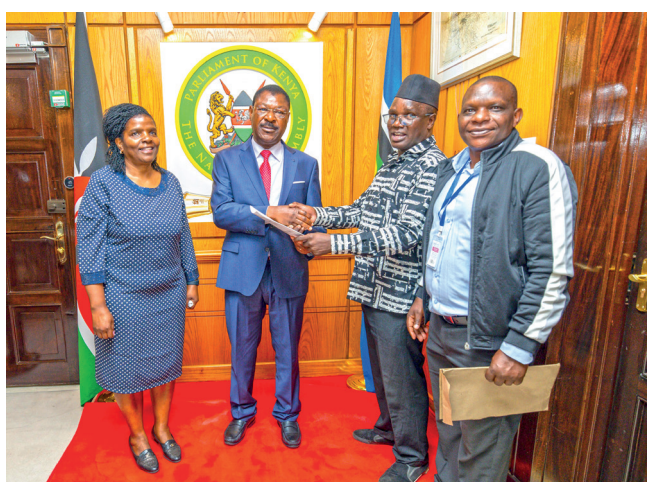
The two unions, which declared a nationwide strike on September 17, are demanding a cumulative settlement of Sh11.53 billion in salary arrears dating back to 2017.

At the core of the dispute is Sh2.73 billion owed under the second phase of the 2021–25 CBA and Sh8.8 billion arrears from the 2017–21 CBA.

The unions are also pressing for the negotiation, registration, and implementation of a new 2025–29 CBA.

The boycott has plunged public universities into crisis, disrupting lectures, examinations, and research across all 39 public universities and their campuses.

The unions have accused the government, through the Inter-Public Universities Councils Consultative Forum (IPUCCF), the Ministry of Education, and the National Treasury, of acting in bad faith.



National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula receives a petition from Universities Academic Staff Union (UASU) officials National Chairperson Grace Nyongesa, Secretary-General Constantine Wasonga, and Organising Secretary Onesmus Mutio at Parliament Buildings, Nairobi, on September 24, 2025

They further cite a January 2021 court order directing the government and the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) to fully fund the implementation of the 2017–21 CBA, which they say remains unfulfilled.

In response, Speaker Wetang'ula underscored Parliament's role as a neutral platform for resolving such disputes.

"I reminded the union leaders that Parliament remains a key institution for addressing such concerns

and advised them to make use of the House by formally presenting their petitions, provided the matter is not before any court of law," he said.

The Speaker assured UASU and KUSU that once their petitions are processed by the Office of the Clerk and tabled before the House early next week, he will request the Public Petitions Committee to prioritise and fast-track their consideration.

According to him, the Committee will invite the petitioners to present their submissions and will also invite top officials from the Ministry of Education, including the Cabinet Secretary and the Principal Secretary for Higher Education, to respond to the issues raised.

"This process will ensure that both sides are heard and a structured way forward is developed," Wetang'ula noted.

At the same time, the Speaker appealed to the unions not to hold students hostage to the dispute, stressing that learning should not be disrupted when dialogue is possible.

"I encouraged them to return to class, give negotiations a chance, and allow Parliament to play its rightful role in mediating and finding lasting solutions in the best interests of all stakeholders in higher education," he added.

The strike, now in its second week, continues to deepen anxiety among students and parents as uncertainty over the academic calendar grows.

COMMITTEES' ROUND-UP ▶

PIC-Governance and Education flags transitional challenges among new Technical Training Institutions



Hon. (Eng.) Thuddeus Nzambia chairing the Committee session with Gilgil Technical and Vocational Training College at Bunge Towers on Wednesday, September 25th 2025

It has emerged that a number of newly-established Technical Training Institutes and Colleges are grappling with transitional challenges. Key among these is chalk is the attainment of total independence from their mother-Colleges and Universities.

The Audit Committee on Public Investments on Governance and Education chaired by Bumula MP Hon. Wanami Wamboka has urged the young learning institutions to hasten their transition processes and attain total autonomy; if they are to successfully and smoothly undertake their mandates.

This revelation came up during the Committee's meeting with the Njoro Technical and Training Institute, and the Gilgil Technical and Vocational Training College, when the MPs sought to address a series of unresolved Audit Queries reported by the Office of the Auditor General flagging the failure to comply with basic requirements to run Institutions of Higher Learning.

"It is appalling that an Institution with over a thousand students has no Human Resource Policy, no approved Budget, no Procurement plan, neither do they have an approved Information Technical Security Policy," remarked Hon. Rebecca Tonkei, during a meeting

with Njoro TTI's Principal Dr. Sheila Kandie.

The Institute, which received its first batch of students in January 2023 having been mentored by Kaiboi National Polytechnic, has however initiated the process of putting in place all the necessary policies to guide its operations, evidenced by their successful resolution of a number of F/Y 2023/2024 Audit Queries so far.

The Principal of Gilgil Technical and Vocational Training College Dr. Ngugi Mbugua, while appearing before the Committee in a session chaired by Kilome MP Hon. (Eng.) Thaddeus Nzambia, also faced scrutiny of the college's failure to put in place structures for smooth transition.

"It seems the former Principal of Gilgil TVC ran the institution unlawfully, and flouted several guidelines including procurement laws," stated Hon. Nzambia. "As much as the college is new, the law must be followed in every operation."

In his submissions before the Committee, the Gilgil TVC Principal was taken to task to also explain the lack of among others: an approved strategic plan, internal audit function and Audit Committee, as well as the low number of registered students.



Hon Rebecca Tonkei makes her remarks during the Wednesday, September 25th 2025 meeting at Bunge Towers.

Trade Committee raises concern over secrecy in planned sale of Portland Cement shares

The Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives has raised concerns over the planned sale of a significant stake in East Africa Portland Cement (EAPC) to Kalahari Cement Limited.

Led by Committee Chairperson Hon. Benard Shinali (Ikolomani) and Vice Chairperson Hon. Marianne Kitany (Aldai), the MPs said the transaction has been shrouded in secrecy, with neither the management nor employees of the company consulted.

During a meeting with EAPC Managing Director Mohamed Adan, the lawmakers learned that the sale involves 29.2% of the company's authorised shares currently held by Cementia Holdings AG and Associated International Cement Ltd, both subsidiaries of Holcim Group, which has close ties with Bamburi Cement.

If concluded, the deal would give Kalahari Cement a combined 41.7% stake through its association with Bamburi.

The Committee expressed concern that the sale was proceeding without public participation, despite the government being the majority shareholder through the National Social Security Fund (27%) and the National Treasury (25.3%). In total, state-owned shares amount to 52.3%.

"This is not just any private company. Kenyans, through their pensions and taxes, own a majority of this firm. Due diligence must be done, and employees and local communities must be involved," said Hon. Kitany.

Adan confirmed that neither management nor staff had been engaged in the process, warning that uncertainty had sparked fears of job losses. "Employees are understandably jittery, because livelihoods are at stake. Human capital is key to our success, and any change of ownership will affect them," he told MPs.

Lawmakers further questioned why EAPC could not buy back the shares itself. Hon Wilberforce Oundo (Funyula) asked why the company was waiting for Kalahari to purchase the stake, only to consider buying it back later.

Adan said a share buyback was possible, citing improved cash flow under a turnaround strategy, but noted that no such proposal had been presented.

"Where there is no public participation, Parliament must exercise its oversight duty. This deal touches on taxpayers, employees, and local communities in quarrying areas, and we cannot allow it to proceed in secrecy," the MPs warned.



Trade Committee Chairperson Hon Benard Shinali, during the meeting with EAPC officials

Governance issues also came under focus, with Kitany questioning why the appointment of the board chair appeared to rely on government nomination rather than the company's governing documents.

Adan admitted that EAPC's Articles of Association, last updated in 1933, were outdated and inconsistent with modern laws, and pledged to align them with the Companies Act and the State Corporations Act.

The MPs sought clarity on Kalahari Cement's long-term strategy, given its links to Bamburi Cement, a direct competitor. Adan said management had received no official communication, describing most of the information as market speculation.

The Committee Members, however, expressed disbelief that such a major transaction could proceed without the board's knowledge, vowing to dig deeper into the matter for the sake of the public.

▶ **Concern:** A secretive sale of a 29.2% stake in East Africa Portland Cement (EAPC) to a competitor-linked firm, Kalahari Cement.

▶ **Key Issue:** The Kenyan government is the majority shareholder (52.3%), making this a public interest issue, but the sale is proceeding without public participation.

▶ **Major Problems:**

- No consultation with EAPC management, employees, or the public.
- Sparks fears of job losses and negatively impacts company morale.
- Outdated company laws (from 1933) create governance issues.
- Raises competition concerns due to Kalahari's links to rival Bamburi Cement.

▶ **Parliament's Stance:** MPs vow to investigate further, insisting on due diligence, transparency, and public involvement before the sale can proceed.

Decentralized Funds Accounts Committee audits five Constituencies' Audit Reports for F/Ys 2013 to 2023, commends improved pace of Queries' resolution



Webuye East MP, and Decentralized Funds Accounts Committee Member Hon. Martin Wanyonyi follows Committee meeting proceedings on Tuesday, September 23rd 2025 at Parliament Buildings

Last week the National Assembly's Audit Committee on Decentralized Funds Accounts convened five meetings to review the reports of the Auditor General for financial years 2013-2023, and noted positive progress in the speed with which Fund Account Managers respond to, and resolve Audit Queries.

On Tuesday, September 23rd 2025, the Committee chaired by Mwingi Central Legislator Hon. (Dr.) Gideon Mulyungi met with Machakos town and Mwala constituencies respectively.

The session with Machakos Town Constituency

Fund Account Managers led by the current office holder Nicholas Kimanzi saw the Committee express concerns over the failure to address and resolve older audit queries within stipulated timelines.

The second session with Mwala Constituency had the MPs question the team led by current Manager Erick Munyao on recurrent financial mismanagement of the NG-CDF resources. The Legislators questioned repeated inaccuracies in the Constituency's financial statements, unsupported expenditures, and delay in implementation of projects, among other issues.

On Thursday, September 25th 2025 the Committee held three consecutive meetings with Kangundo, Samburu West, and samburu North constituencies respectively.

In a session chaired by Vice-chairperson Hon. Gertrude Mwanjane Mbeyu, the Committee met with former and current Fund Account Managers for the three Constituencies for the period between 2013 and 2023.

The first session was with Kangundo Constituency Fund Account Managers led by the current office holder Wesley Kibet Ng'eno. The Committee raised concerns with the failure by the Account Managers to address and resolve audit queries on irregular payment of medical allowances to Programme Committee Members, as well as the failure to acquire ownership documents for the land where the Constituency offices are located.

The session with Samburu North Constituency

was steered by Committee Member Hon. Dorothy Muthoni, who questioned the team led by current Manager Simon Kipaika on irregular and unapproved expenditures by the PMC.

The third and last meeting of the week was with Samburu West Constituency where the current and former Fund Account Managers were questioned by the Committee on irregular compensation of employees, unsupported acquisition of assets, and recurrent unresolved audit queries.



The Decentralized Funds Accounts Committee Vice-Chairperson Hon. Mbeyu Mwanjane (left) and Hon. Dorothy Muthoni during the meeting on Thursday, September 25th 2025 at Continental House, Parliament Buildings

We want to be compensated for marine wildlife attacks, Lamu East Constituency residents tell House Committee

The Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife, led by Vice-Chairperson Hon. Rashid Bedzimba (Kisauni), held a public engagement forum with residents of Mkokoni, Lamu East Constituency, to hear grievances over escalating cases of human-wildlife conflict.

Area MP Hon. (Capt.) Ruweida Obo, who is also a Member of the Committee, urged residents to speak candidly about the unique challenges facing both farmers and fishermen in the region.

"This is your chance, as residents to air your grievances regarding human-wildlife conflict. You face a unique situation here because some of you are farmers and others fishermen—both on land and at sea you are affected by wildlife and marine animals," said Hon. Ruweida.

Residents painted a grim picture of lives lost, farms destroyed, and livelihoods disrupted due to attacks from both land and marine wildlife.

Mr. Obo Chanza, a resident, told the Committee: "We have been greatly affected by wildlife, especially during drought when they wander in search of water and food. We request an electric fence and water pans to keep animals from destroying our farms."

He added that the nearby Boni Forest is "heavily infested" with dangerous animals. "People have been mauled by lions and buffaloes, while others suffer from snake bites. Worse still, compensation claims take years to be processed," he lamented.

Beyond land conflicts, residents highlighted marine wildlife attacks that have long been overlooked by authorities. Fishermen narrated ordeals involving sharks, stingrays, starfish, and water snakes saying people have either lost their lives or been left permanently disabled.

"There is wildlife in the water too, why must they



Residents of Mkokoni, Kiunga ward in Lamu East Constituency during the public engagement on the Human-Wildlife conflict.

compensate someone bitten by a snake in the bush and refuse to compensate a fisherman bitten by a snake in the ocean?" said Bakari, a local fisherman.

The residents further accused the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, as well as the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), of neglecting their plight. They claimed KWS officers in the region are ill-equipped and "immobile," leaving communities vulnerable.

With some compensation cases dating as far back as 2014 still unresolved, residents pleaded with the Committee to intervene. Hon. Peter Shake the MP for Mwatate pledged to escalate the concerns raised during the Mkokoni forum as part of its ongoing inquiry into human-wildlife conflicts across the country.



Hon. Rashid Bedzimba the leader of the delegation and the Vice-Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife engaging the residents of Mkokoni, Kiunga ward in Lamu East Constituency.

Education Committee Questions TSC on Teachers' Medical Cover



Members of the Committee on Education during a meeting held on Thursday, 19th September 2025

The Teachers Service Commission has revealed that consultations are underway to transition teachers, alongside civil servants and the National Police Service, into the newly established Public Officers' Medical Scheme Fund under the Social Health Authority (SHA).

In a meeting of the Education Committee, TSC Acting CEO, Ms. Evaleen Mitei informed legislators that a Technical Working Group comprising the National Treasury, Office of the Attorney General, TSC, the Police Service, and SHA has been constituted to address the legal and financial framework.

She added, "It is proposed that teachers will be on-boarded to the new scheme under SHA from December 1, 2025, once all consultations and frameworks are finalized."

Led by Hon. Julius Melly, Members questioned the Teachers Service Commission on the status of teachers' medical scheme.

Ms. Evaleen Mitei outlined the scope and performance of the existing three-year medical scheme running from December 1, 2022, to November 30, 2025. She explained that the scheme covers all teachers and their dependents under a family size of M+6 where both spouses are teachers and M+5 where only one spouse is a teacher.

"The current medical cover provides a wide range of benefits including inpatient, outpatient, dental, optical, maternity, local and international evacuation, as well as funeral expenses. In addition, we have enhanced the cover to address emerging challenges such as premature births and delays in pre-authorization," Ms. Mitei said.

Hon. Julius Melly pressed for assurance that the services meet teachers' needs. "Have you done an assessment of the current medical cover and how it is working for teachers?"

Lawmakers raised concern regarding the involvement of teachers in the decision to move to SHA. Hon. Phyllis Bartoo and Hon. Rebecca Tonkei asked whether the teachers through their unions have been engaged in public participation and stakeholder engagement.

Speaking on the transition from Minet to SHA, Committee Vice Chair, Hon. Eve

Obara noted, "We have had this medical cover for years and the current medical cover is expiring in a month. Are you going to be able to onboard all these teachers into SHA in this short time?"

She added that, "We cannot afford a downgrade of benefits. Teachers have long complained of delays and denials; SHA must guarantee better, services."

Hon. Clive Gesiaro emphasized the need for accountability, "We want to see timelines, we want to see deliverables. Teachers cannot be left in limbo during the transition."

On the matter of allowances, the TSC informed the Committee that the designation of hardship areas is the mandate of the Ministry of Public Service, Human Capital Development and Special Programmes, through Legal Notice No. 534 of 1997.

Ms. Mitei explained that hardship allowance continues to be paid to teachers in designated regions, while house allowance is paid under categories of Nairobi, major municipalities, and other areas as guided by the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC).

Hon. Abdul Haro noted with concern that the TSC was referring to a gazette notice from 1997. "This is an outdated gazette notice. Hardship areas in the country have changed since 1997."

She clarified that following SRC's advisory and the 2023 addendum to the 2021–2025 Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA), Isiolo Municipality was upgraded from Cluster 4 to Cluster 3 for house allowance effective July 2024. "Teachers in Isiolo are now benefitting from enhanced rates under Cluster 3, in line with other municipalities," she said.

The Commission further indicated that the Ministry of Public Service is reviewing hardship designations to align with current socio-economic realities.

Committee Chair, Hon. Melly pledged to further engaged stakeholders on the medical scheme transition and the review of allowances. "Our teachers deserve dignity and fairness. This Committee will continue to work with the Commission and relevant agencies on this matter," he said.

PIC-SSAA engages Bomas of Kenya over asset revaluation, irregular spending



The Chairperson of the Public Investments Committee on Social Services Administration and Agriculture Hon. Emmanuel Wangwe during a meeting with the Bomas of Kenya management at Parliament Buildings

The Public Investment Committee on Social Services, Administration and Agriculture (PIC-SSA), chaired by Hon. Emmanuel Wangwe (Navakholo), has questioned the management of Bomas of Kenya (BOK) over disputed financial practices and weak governance structures flagged in Auditor-General's reports for the financial years 2019/2020 to 2023/2024.

Appearing before the Committee, BOK's Acting CEO, Jimmy Okidiang, and his team were taken to task on accountability lapses in managing public resources allocated to the cultural institution, which is implementing major national projects.

A major point of contention was BOK's massive asset revaluation, with land previously valued at KES 76 million now estimated at KES 6.4 billion.

"How do you explain such a massive jump in asset valuation?" posed Hon. Wangwe. The management team attributed the increase to updated property assessments.

The MPs also scrutinised the flagship Bomas International Convention Complex (BIC) project, approved by Cabinet in August 2023, to enhance Kenya's competitiveness against regional rivals like Rwanda and Ethiopia. The project, which features convention facilities, hotels, a shopping mall, and a sports complex, is expected to deliver its first phase by June 2026 in time to host the French-Africa Summit.

Financial irregularities dominated the discussion. The Auditor-General flagged a KES 663 million Work-in-Progress balance unsupported by certificates, to which management

admitted that documentation from the State Department for Public Works was still pending.

Procurement violations also drew sharp criticism, including the renewal of a KES 20 million medical insurance contract without competitive bidding and the purchase of 15 iPads at prices higher than the lowest quotation. "Why wasn't competitive bidding followed for these procurements?" pressed Hon. Wangwe.

Governance gaps further alarmed the Committee. Mr. Okidiang confirmed that he had served as Acting CEO beyond the prescribed six-month limit, with the institution paying irregular acting allowances without Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) approval.

MPs also noted that until recently, BOK lacked essential governance documents such as a Board Charter and annual work plan, relying instead on the Mwongozo Code.

The Committee additionally flagged unresolved issues, including an unpaid KES 85 million compensation claim for land compulsorily acquired in 2013 and long-standing receivables dating back to 1995 totalling KES 112,000, which management hopes to write off with the National Treasury's approval.

PIC-SSA directed BOK management to furnish it with comprehensive documentation, including evidence of irregular expenditures, board approvals, and requisite authorizations from regulatory bodies. Hon. Wangwe underscored the Committee's stance, warning: "Public institutions must be held accountable. We cannot allow continued breaches of law and procedure."

Committee lauds Electoral Commission's roadmap to 2027 polls, urge focus on youth registration

The National Assembly Committee on Constitutional Implementation Oversight Committee (CIOC) has called on all eligible Kenyans who are yet to register as voters, to take full advantage of the continuous voter registration exercise by the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) which is set to begin today Monday, September 29, 2025.

Hon. Omondi particularly emphasized the importance of youth participation, calling on Generation Z to show up in large numbers and use their voice to shape the country's future.

"This is a defining moment for the youth of Kenya. If you want change, you must be part of the process. Register and be counted," Hon. Omondi urged.

Appearing before the Committee, IEBC Chairperson Mr. Erastus Edung Ethekeon assured lawmakers that the team is fully prepared to resume continuous voter registration in accordance with Article 88(4)(a) of the Constitution, which mandates the IEBC to continuously register citizens as voters.

Mr. Ethekeon informed the lawmakers that his team has undertaken comprehensive preparations to facilitate a smooth registration process including mapping and reviewing of registration centers across the country.

Other plans include the configuration and testing of Kenya Integrated Election Management System (KIEMS) kits, procurement and distribution of registration materials as well as training and deployment of personnel for standardization across all centers.

He also noted that the Commission would undertake targeted communication and voter education campaigns focusing on youth, women, marginalized communities, as well as Kenyans in the diaspora.



Members of the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) led by the Chairperson Mr. Erastus Edung Ethekeon appearing before the Committee. Others are from left Mr. Hassan Noor Hassan, Ms. Fahima Araphat Abdallah (Vice Chairperson) and IEBC CEO, Mr. Hussein Marjani

According to the Chairperson, IEBC has set a target to register 6.3 million new voters, adding to the current 22.1 million registered voters, in readiness for the 2027 General Election.

To achieve this ambitious target, the Commission will deploy a multi-pronged strategy, including: continuous voter registration at IEBC Constituency offices, collaborations with Huduma Centres and enhanced ward-based registration drives.

The Commission further apprised the Committee of plans to conduct outreach in institutions of higher learning and overseas registration for citizens living abroad.

While the Commission is making strides to reach the diaspora, it clarified that only passports will be accepted for voter registration and participation—except for East African-based Kenyans, who may use national IDs.

This position sparked concern among lawmakers, who questioned the rationale of excluding national IDs, given that passports expire while ID cards do not.

Legislators also observed that many Kenyans

abroad may be undocumented, but insisted that their citizenship rights remain intact.

"They are still Kenyans and must not be disenfranchised. We must find a way to include them in the democratic process," Hon Geoffrey Mulanya submitted.

Despite these concerns, the Committee lauded the IEBC's leadership under Mr. Ethekeon, for their comprehensive and well-articulated roadmap ahead of the 2027 polls.

"We congratulate the new team for their dedication. The credibility of the next elections depends on a fair and inclusive registration process," said Hon. Omondi.

The lawmakers also stressed that as the registration drive kicks off, all eyes will be on the Commission to deliver on its promise of transparency, inclusivity, and readiness — laying the foundation for a credible electoral process come 2027.



The Chairperson of the Select Committee on Constitutional Implementation and Oversight, Hon. Caroli Omondi during the meeting

Lawmaker seeks urgent intervention to address challenges facing blood transfusion services at Kenyatta National Hospital

Machakos County MP, Hon. Joyce Kamene has called for urgent interventions to strengthen the Blood Transfusion Services Centre at the Kenyatta National Hospital's (KNH), Blood transfusion unit.

Hon. Kamene raised the matter in the House on Thursday 25th September 2025, and sought a response from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Health.

The legislator avered that, "While blood and its components remain a lifesaving resource, patients in need of transfusions at KNH often face delays due to systemic challenges."

She raised concern that the Blood Transfusion Centre currently operates only on weekdays from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, limiting access to critical services such as platelet collection and transfusion.

"Extending these hours to weekends and beyond regular working hours," she asserts, "would significantly improve timely access to lifesaving services."

The Machakos legislator further highlighted

frequent breakdowns of the apheresis equipment used in platelet collection, saying repair delays have repeatedly disrupted services. She also pointed out persistent shortages of essential consumables such as test kits and reagents, which compound the crisis and expose patients to heightened risks.

Hon. Kamene called on the Health Committee to seek clarification from the Ministry of Health on measures being taken to guarantee uninterrupted transfusion services, including plans to extend operating hours, the status of the apheresis machines, and strategies to expand the hospital's blood transfusion capacity to meet the growing demand.

She stressed that Article 43 of the Constitution guarantees every Kenyan the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes access to timely blood transfusion services.

The Sessional Speaker, Hon George Kaluma directed that the request be referred to the Departmental Committee on Health for consideration within two weeks.



Machakos County MP, Hon. Joyce Kamene

Speaker Wetang'ula urges MPs to begin preparations for Inter-parliamentary games

Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula has issued a rallying call to Members of Parliament to raise their game ahead of the forthcoming East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Games scheduled for December 2025 in Kampala, Uganda.

In his address to the House, Speaker Wetang'ula cautioned against a repeat of Kenya's poor showing at the last edition of the regional parliamentary games held in Mombasa.

"More importantly, Members, I don't want to see a repeat of Mombasa. We performed very badly even when we were hosting. Let's start in earnest, and I have directed the Clerk to avail teams, facilities and capacity to train and prepare properly and thoroughly, so that we don't go to Uganda and be hopeless by standards as others harvest medals and medals and medals like we saw in Mombasa," the Speaker remarked.

The Speaker emphasized that beyond competition, the Games serve as a vital platform for fostering East African integration, strengthening parliamentary ties, and showcasing Kenya's sporting talent. He urged MPs to take preparation seriously to ensure Kenya reclaims its stature in the regional arena.

The EALA Games bring together Parliaments from across the East African Community in disciplines such as football, athletics, netball, and volleyball.



File Photo: Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula during a recent House session.

Speaker Wetang'ula hails Kenya's historic feat at World athletics championship in Tokyo

The National Assembly has formally recognized Kenya's stellar performance at the just-concluded 2025 World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, where Team Kenya cemented its dominance on the global stage with a record-breaking medal haul.

In a communication to the House Tuesday, Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula lauded the athletes for their exemplary display of resilience, talent, and patriotism, noting that their performance not only elevated Kenya's standing in global athletics but also renewed national pride.

Kenya clinched an impressive 11 medals; 7 gold, 2 silver, and 2 bronze; finishing second overall among participating nations and topping the African continent.

The gold medals came courtesy of Lilian Odira (800m), Emmanuel Wanyonyi (800m), Faith Kipyegon (1,500m), Faith Cherotich (3,000m steeplechase), Beatrice Chebet (5,000m and 10,000m), and Peres Jepchirchir (marathon).



Speaker Hon Moses Wetang'ula delivers his Communication to the House hailing the Kenyan athletics team for their sterling performance during the just concluded World Athletics Championship in Tokyo

The Speaker highlighted the historic triumphs of Odira and Wanyonyi, who both set new championship records in their respective 800m races.

He also singled out Kenya's female athletes, who delivered a clean sweep of all women's events, a first in world championship history.

"Kenya became the first country to win gold medals in all women's races at the Championships. This is a monumental achievement that cements our place as a global athletics powerhouse," Wetang'ula declared.

Silver medals were secured by Faith Kipyegon (5,000m) and Dorcas Ewoi (1,500m), while Edmund Serem (3,000m steeplechase) and Reynold Cheruiyot (1,500m) bagged bronze.

The Speaker announced that Parliament would set aside 45 minutes during Tuesday's proceedings to allow Members to convey their felicitations, beginning with the Chair of the Sports and Culture Committee, House leadership, and Nandi MP Hon. Cynthia Muge, who represents the constituency of several of the medalists.

Speaker Wetang'ula further urged legislators to celebrate not only the medal winners but also all athletes who flew the Kenyan flag high, describing their efforts as a source of unity and patriotism.

Kenya's Medal Tally at the 2025 World Athletics Championships

Medal	Athlete	Event	Notes
Gold	Lilian Odira	Women's 800m	New Championship Record
Gold	Emmanuel Wanyonyi	Men's 800m	New Championship Record
Gold	Faith Kipyegon	Women's 1,500m	
Gold	Faith Cherotich	Women's 3,000m Steeplechase	
Gold	Beatrice Chebet	Women's 5,000m	
Gold	Beatrice Chebet	Women's 10,000m	
Gold	Peres Jepchirchir	Women's Marathon	
Silver	Faith Kipyegon	Women's 5,000m	
Silver	Dorcas Ewoi	Women's 1,500m	
Bronze	Edmund Serem	Men's 3,000m Steeplechase	
Bronze	Reynold Cheruiyot	Men's 1,500m	

Summary:

- Total Medals: 11 (7 Gold, 2 Silver, 2 Bronze)**
- Overall Ranking: 2nd Place**
- Historic Achievement: Kenya became the first country to win gold in every women's event.**

Male MPS urged to support female counterparts in developing governance and accountability structures



Members of Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA), Kenya Young Parliamentary Association (KYPA), KEWOPA secretariat and IPF officials pose for a photo after an engagement that sought to increase and improve the support of male allies in the participation of women leaders in governance and accountability structures

Male Members of Parliament have been challenged to accelerate their support for Women MPs in advancing gender equity and strengthening governance structures.

In a meeting organized by the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) and the Institute of Public Finance (IPF), Male MPs were asked to embrace the allyship to Women MPs, build legitimacy for gender issues, and address gender gaps whilst promoting women's legislative priorities and voices.

Supporting women empowerment, Naivasha MP Hon. Jayne Kihara asked the conveners of the meeting to extend trainings to more women at the grass root level.

"An empowered woman empowers the whole world. Assuming you train 50 women in Naivasha, these women will empower more women as women are the ones who run the economy of this country," Hon. Kihara said.

Teso South MP Hon. Mary Emaase praised KEWOPA and IPF for the continuous trainings on capacity building.

"The trainings have had a positive impact on legislators. Train more male MPs for sustained impact to help demystify gender issues," Hon. Emaase said.

She added, "Having interacted with female MCAs in most counties, they feel KEWOPA should be expanded to accommodate them so that they may benefit from the trainings as well".

Lauding the initiative on Male MPs empowerment on gender issues, Mukurweini MP Hon. John Kaguchia dispelled the misconceptions about KEWOPA.

"These interactions are enlightening. We thought KEWOPA cripples men, but now we are enriched. Train more male MPs if possible," Hon. Kaguchia said.

Weighing support on male empowerment, Marakwet West MP Hon. Timothy Toroitich also urged KEWOPA and IPF to hold a robust engagement with the rest of Parliamentarians and the Independent Electoral and Boundaries

Commission (IEBC), noting that many leaders still misunderstand gender issues.

"A majority of male MPs don't understand what gender means. Even during the election period, women are told the Constituency and Senator seats are for men and that theirs is the Woman Representative seat," Hon. Toroitich said.

Reflecting on the journey that KEWOPA and IPF has had, Ms. Mercy Wangi, KEWOPA Executive Director, challenged both the Male and Women MPs to articulate gender issues in their campaigns.

On her part, IPF's Programme Officer Ms. Victoria Wausi affirmed the critical role of a woman in leadership.

"From our research analysis, it has been demonstrated that women leadership is a driver for fiscal and policy reforms," Ms. Wausi said.

Other Members of Parliament present in the meeting were: Kesses MP. Hon. CPA Julius Ruto, Tharaka Nithi County MP Hon. Mary Ndunge, Mwea MP Hon. Mary Maingi, Baringo County MP Hon. Jemathia Serگون, Nandi Hills MP Hon. Bernard Kitur, Moiben MP Hon. Phylis Bartoo, Bungoma County MP Hon. Catherine Wambilianga, Mandera County MP Hon. Umul Ker Kassim, Ol Jororok MP Hon. Michael Machira, Kitui West MP Hon. Edith Nyenze and Yatta MP Hon. Basil Ngui.

Key Suggestions:

- ▶ **Purpose:** Male MPs urged to actively support Women MPs to advance gender equity in governance.
- ▶ **Request:** Male MPs should champion women's legislative priorities and help demystify gender issues.
 - Extend empowerment trainings to women at the grassroots level.
 - Include Male MPs and Female MCAs in more capacity-building programs.
 - Educate the IEBC and all Parliamentarians to combat misconceptions (e.g., that certain seats are "for men").
- ▶ **Finding:** Research shows women's leadership drives positive fiscal and policy reforms.

Quotes of The Week



Ikiwa tunataka kuipeleka mbele Kenya itakuwa ni sawa tuwapatie wale ambao ni wataalam katika sekta tofautitofauti waweze kuongoza ndipo waweze hata kumsaidia rais katika kupeleka nchi yetu mbele. Lakini kwa walimu nasisitiza, walimu waweze kupewa nafasi sawa ikiwa nafasi za kazi zina-tokea, wale waliyo fuzu mapema wapewe hizo nafasi wa kwanza na wale waliyofwatia waje kwa nyuma. Na ikitokea pia kupandishwa madaraka walimu waangaliwe, mtu amefanya kazi, ameimba na watoto darasani kwa miaka mingi, amehakikisha mtoto ameshika kalamu darasani mpaka amejua kuandika na hata kufuzu lakini yule mwalimu bado yuko katika kile kiwango mwanafunzi alimuacha. Hii si haki kwa walimu wetu humu nchini, na si hao tu, hata polisi pia wanalamika".

Mhe. Zamzam Mohamed, Mbunge wa Jimbo la Mombasa

akichangia swala la wajiri wa walimu Bungeni wiki jana, Jumatano tarehe 24 mwezi huu.



Schools in areas of harsh terrains like my Aldai Constituency where I represent, teachers are rarely posted there and you will find that a school may only have one TSC teacher against a population of about 300 students; this has therefore left parents to dig to their pockets to pay BOM teachers who give their children education. That is inequality and double payment for parents who pay also tax, we therefore need to relook at TSC employment in this country against the ratio of teachers distribution. I also wish to request the Committee on Education to table the full list of all employed teachers in public schools and student population to substantiate the policy that calls for one teacher for forty learners in class".

Hon. Marianne Kitany, MP Aldai Constituency

while contributing to debate on a statement on teachers' employment on 24th Sep, 2025



As a country we have not taken Agriculture as a very important sector to our economy and livelihood in terms of food security and employment, if we used our land properly in this area we will have food security and also increase our exports something that will help grow our economy. Let us use all possible methods to improve agriculture in this country. In the recent past you realize that trainings in this area has gone down, universities are not producing enough experts in agriculture like extension officers who used to help the ordinary farmers, that is why today you will see fertile land used for real estate or as settlement areas, this calls for guidance to Kenyans."

Hon. Andrew Adipo, MP, Karachuonyo

while contributing to a Motion on formulation of Land Use Policy on zoning of Land for Agriculture and Built development on 24th Sep, 2025.



Ufugaji ni kiinua uchumi muhimu katika nchi hii, sehemu kame kama Laikipia itakuwa ni vigumu kuwa na sheria inayoruhusu kugawanya mashamba katika sehemu dogoni manake hili litauweka ufugaji katika hatari kwa siku zijazo. Kama viongozi na taifa naomba tuangalie kwa makini sheria za arthi, kwa sasa ni majimbo machache sana yaliyobakia na arthi ya umma nyingi ikiwa katika hatari ya kunyakuliwa. Tunao mabwenyenye wanaojificha katika kile wanadai ni uwekezaji ilhali nia yao ni kunyakua arthi ya ukulima wa vyakula na mifugo. Naomba Bunge la kitaifa litathmini kwa undani sheria za arthi nchini ili hata kuzuia migogoro ya jamii mmoja hadi nyingine kutokana na unyakuzi."

Mhe. Sarah Korere, Mbunge wa Laikipia ya juu

akichangia hoja ya Sheria ya arthi ya Ukulima na Ujenzi Bungeni wiki jana, tarehe 24 mwezi huu.

BUNGE MASHINANI ▶

UASIN GISHU COUNTY

Uasin Gishu County MP, Hon. Gladys Boss empowers residents with scholarships, posho mills and incubators

Uasin Gishu County MP, and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Gladys Boss, recently held a wide-reaching empowerment programme that will benefit students, women, youth, and persons living with disabilities across all 30 wards of the county.

Speaking during the event held at Ziwa Technical Training Institute, Hon. Boss announced that funds from the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) will support over 1,000 students with scholarships, strengthen women's economic

empowerment initiatives, and boost 146 community groups through value addition projects.

As part of the programme, Hon. Boss also handed over 24 posho mills and 36 incubators to groups drawn from every sub-county, underscoring her commitment to promoting food security, agribusiness, and self-reliance at the grassroots level.

She encouraged residents to embrace collaboration and unity, assuring them of her unwavering dedication to finding lasting solutions that uplift families and communities across Uasin Gishu.



Uasin Gishu women representative, hon. Gladys boss engages residents during the event

URIRI CONSTITUENCY

Uriri MP commissions new classrooms at God Sibuoche Comprehensive School

Uriri Member of Parliament, Hon. Mark Nyamita Ogolla, joined teachers, students, and the West Kanyamkago community to celebrate the commissioning of five newly built classrooms and furniture at God Sibuoche Comprehensive School.

In his remarks, Hon. Nyamita underscored the value of education, urging students to set goals, remain disciplined, and nurture dreams beyond their immediate surroundings. He also commended parents and

guardians for their sacrifices, noting that their support is the foundation of the learners' success.

Addressing the teachers, the MP encouraged them to embrace best practices in their work, reminding them that today's pupils are tomorrow's community builders and global leaders.

The new classrooms will provide students with a modern, dignified learning environment; a step forward in shaping brighter futures for both the learners and the nation.



Hon. Mark Nyamita joins students in experiencing their newly installed furniture in the newly-constructed classrooms

TURKANA COUNTY

Turkana County MP hosts women to discuss economic empowerment strategies

Turkana County MP Hon. Cecilia Ng'itit hosted a section of women from the Nanam area in the county at her residence in Lodwar, where they discussed ways of engaging in economic ventures that can earn them an income to avoid depending on their husbands for survival.

Hon Ng'itit also gave the women utensils and other household goods for use at home as she thanked them for their support.

"We shared stories, laughter, and

honest conversations about economic ventures, the challenges they face and the opportunities ahead. I was truly moved by their resilience and the hope they carry for their families and community," said Hon. Ng'itit.

She added: "I remain committed to creating more spaces of empowerment and support through the NGAAF to cushion the women from poverty as guided by my motto "uongozi bila ubaguzi" because they are the pillars of families."



Hon Cecilia Ng'itit is giving out utensils to women she hosted at her rural residence in Lodwar to discuss empowerment strategies.

KIMILILI CONSTITUENCY

Hon. Barasa commissions classrooms in Kimilili, dons school uniform to inspire learners

Kimilili MP, Hon. Didmus Barasa, commissioned eight modern classrooms at Daraja Mungu Primary School in a ceremony that struck an emotional chord as he appeared dressed in the school's uniform, symbolizing solidarity with the learners.

Hon. Barasa said wearing the uniform was more than symbolic, describing it as a reminder of the humble beginnings and struggles many children face in pursuit of education.

"In this uniform, I feel the silent struggles, the burning dreams and the unbreakable resilience of our learners. This is why investing in modern classrooms is not just about bricks and

mortar, but about hope, dignity, and the future of our children," he said.

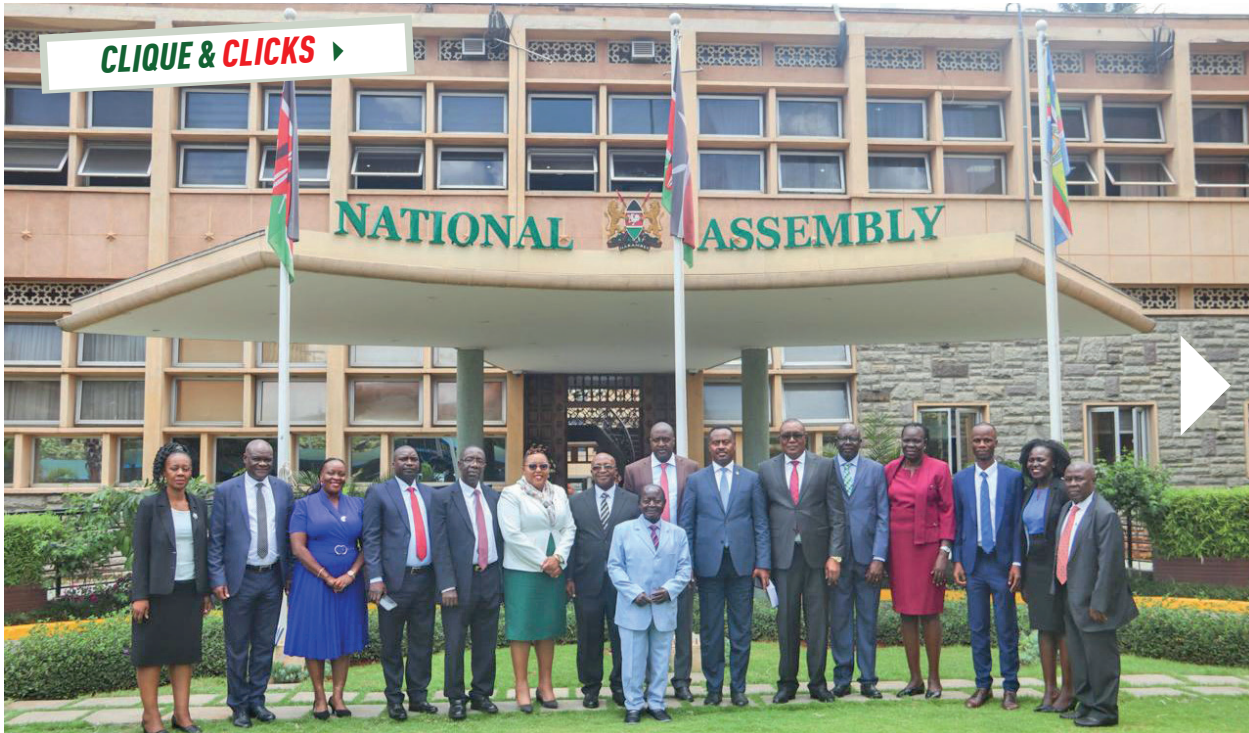
The MP acknowledged the challenges faced by pupils in rural schools, including hunger and poverty and stressed the importance of leaders who bring positive change to their society.

"The fact that some children go to school barefoot and on empty stomachs should never kill their dream of becoming who they aspire to be," he noted.

He assured parents and teachers of his continued support to improve learning facilities across Kimilili constituency, saying quality education remained the best equalizer for all children regardless of background.



Hon. Didmus Barasa, dressed in Daraja Mungu Primary School uniform, commissions new classrooms in solidarity with learners



Members of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning pose for a photo with their counterparts from the Committee on Finance and Economic Development from the Parliament of Uganda, who were in the the National Assembly on a benchmarking tour.



Turkana County MP Hon. Cecilia Ng'itit (centre) pose for a photograph with a section of women she hosted at her rural residence in Lodwar to discuss empowerment strategies.



National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula receives a petition from Kenya Universities Staff Union (KUSU) Secretary-General Dr. Charles Mukhwaya and his deputy at Parliament Buildings.

Members of the Departmental Committee on Communication, Information & Innovation by Hon. John Kiarie (second left) pose for a photo with officials from the State Department of Broadcasting & Telecommunications led by the Principal Secretary, Mr. Stephen Isaboke (second right) after a meeting to deliberate on public sector advertising reforms, Government Advertising Agency's efficiency & ensuring value for taxpayer money.





A PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
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