



# The SENATE

Safeguarding Devolution

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## Weekly

## Division of Revenue: Senate pushes for Sh454B County Allocation

**Senators express concern over the trend where ordinary revenue as a percentage of GDP has declined from 18.1 per cent in 2013 to a projected 14.4 per cent as of December 2025.**

Senators have proposed that county equitable shareable revenue be increased to Sh454.7 billion in the 2026/27 financial year, a significant rise from the Sh420 billion proposed by the National Assembly when it passed the Division of Revenue Bill, 2026.

Debate on the Bill finally commenced on Wednesday after it was initially withdrawn on April 2, following protests by lawmakers over the refusal by county governors to subject themselves to accountability.

The total shareable revenue for the 2026/27 financial year is estimated at Sh2.9 trillion. The Bill allocates the National Government Sh2.4 trillion, while county governments are set to receive Sh420 billion as their equitable share. An additional Sh10 billion has been allocated to the Equalisation Fund.

The Sh420 billion is lower than the Sh458 billion proposed by the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA).

However, in February, the House approved the report of the Committee on Finance and Budget, which proposed that the allocation be increased to Sh454.7 billion. In its report on the Division of Revenue Bill, 2026, the Committee has maintained this position.

In its report on the Bill, the Committee says the figure is not arbitrary but a calculated necessity for county governments to meet non-discretionary financial obligations, even as it declares that the Senate will no longer accept a residual approach to funding devolution.

The proposed Sh454 billion allocation is rooted in economic reality, accounting for a baseline of Sh415 billion adjusted by a 5 per cent inflation factor, alongside critical provisions for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) workers and salary reviews.

The primary focus of the Committee's

deliberations centred on the perennial problem of national revenue shortfalls and their disproportionate impact on counties. The Committee highlights a worrying trend where ordinary revenue as a percentage of GDP has declined from 18.1 per cent in 2013 to a projected 14.4 per cent, noting that as of December 2025, ordinary revenue had already recorded a shortfall of Sh110.6 billion against the target.

“The bullseye of the Bill is the proposal of Sh420 billion, which I will be quick to oppose, but I have made my point on where I think that figure ought to be. The Budget and Finance Committee has not just picked a figure out of the air. It is backed by sound and well-reasoned justification.”

When passing the Bill, the National Assembly approved Sh420 billion as the county equitable share—only a marginal Sh5 billion increase from the Sh415 billion allocated in the current financial year.

“The proposal by the National Assembly only adds about Sh5 billion—from Sh415 billion to Sh420 billion—which is not even adequate to cater for the Integrated Personnel and Payroll Database (IPPD) system's automatic wage drift.”

Senator Ali Roba, Chair of the Finance Committee, supported increasing the allocation to Sh454 billion, citing the Salaries and Remuneration Commission's implementation of the third and fourth cycles of salary increments for county governments, which constitute non-discretionary expenditure.

Senator Godfrey Osotsi warned that the annual increase in county equitable share averages about Sh10 billion, which he termed insufficient to sustain county functions.

He cautioned that the slow growth risks eroding the gains made under devolution.



Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot

“Minimal allocation translates to very little money for our counties,” Senator Osotsi said, dismissing the proposed Sh420 billion as inadequate compared to recommendations by key institutions, including the Commission on Revenue Allocation and the Senate's Finance and Budget Committee.

He further warned that mediation processes have historically weakened the Senate's position on county allocations, leaving counties underfunded.

The Senator also raised constitutional concerns, arguing that the Bill risks being invalid for relying on outdated audit reports, contrary to Article 229 of the Constitution.

“The figures used here are from the financial year 2022/23, which is about three years behind,” he said.

He linked the issue to accountability, faulting governors for previously failing to appear before Senate oversight committees, arguing that such actions undermine the legitimacy of revenue-sharing processes.

Senator Mohamed Faki described the Sh420 billion allocation as unreasonably low compared to county needs.

He noted that the projected revenue for 2026/27 is estimated at Sh2.9 trillion, with the National Government retaining Sh2.47 trillion, representing 85.7 per cent. He pointed out that the proposed county share of Sh420 billion constitutes only 14.4 per cent of projected national revenue.

“This falls short of the 15 per cent threshold provided for in the Constitution. However, since we are using audit-



Senator Beatrice Ogola



Senator Ali Roba and Senator Tabitha Mutinda during a meeting of the Finance Committee.

ed accounts from the 2020/21 financial year, the amount appears to be slightly above the constitutional minimum,” he

said.

He faulted the National Assembly for relying on outdated financial data, argu-

ing that it disadvantages counties in revenue sharing.

“We believe that the proposal by the Finance Committee to adjust the figure to Sh454 billion is reasonable.”

The proposal takes into account salary increments for county staff, including County Health Promoters (CHPs), who require approximately Sh8 billion for salary adjustments, alongside other expenditure pressures, bringing the total to Sh454 billion.

Senator Beatrice Ogola rejected the Sh420 billion proposal and urged the House to consider at least Sh458 billion, as initially recommended by the CRA.

“The leadership of both Houses committed to Sh450 billion. I urge them to

honour that commitment. If we cannot adopt the CRA figures, then we should not go below Sh450 billion, which we have all aspired to achieve,” she said.

Senator John Methu questioned why counties are allocated only Sh5 billion more despite significant growth in national revenue.

“I have seen that projected ordinary revenue will increase from Sh2.64 trillion to Sh2.9 trillion in the 2026/27 financial year—that is about Sh261 billion growth. It cannot be that we grow revenue by Sh261 billion but allocate only Sh5 billion of that to counties,” he argued.

## Senators demand action on shortage of special needs teachers



Senator Crystal Asige



Senator Agnes Muthama



Senator Catherine Mumma



Senator John Kinyua

Senators are expressing concern over the shortage of special needs education teachers in public schools, warning that the crisis is undermining inclusive learning and denying thousands of learners with disabilities their constitutional right to education.

Senator Catherine Mumma told the House that the country continues to grapple with an acute deficit of trained special needs teachers, particularly in critical areas such as science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and practical skills training.

She said the shortage has significantly hampered implementation of inclusive education across public institutions.

“Kenya continues to face a significant shortage of trained special needs education teachers, thereby affecting the implementation of inclusive education and the realisation of the right to education for learners with disabilities,” she stated.

The Senator Mumma the Committee on Education to explain to the House the government policy on teacher distribu-

tion, training capacity and measures being taken to recruit and retain specialised educators nationwide.

She is also demanding clarity on teacher-learner ratios, warning they may be inadequate to meet the growing needs of learners with disabilities.

The concerns come against a backdrop of a teacher shortage crisis with Senators who contributed to the Statement painting a grim picture of overcrowded classrooms and overstretched teachers.

Senator Kavindu Muthama said some institutions have a single teacher handling up to 80 learners with special needs. “You will find one teacher teaching 45, 70 or even 80 students on their own. We are not helping these students because they do not learn the way they should,” she said, urging the Committee to summon relevant authorities and demand urgent deployment of more teachers.

She further called for expanded infrastructure, including boarding facilities and caregiver support, noting that many

learners with disabilities are unable to attend school due to lack of assistance.

Senator Mariam Omar highlighted social stigma as a contributing factor and said some parents hide children with disabilities due to lack of support systems. “If there are enough teachers in Kenya the Government must also employ enough special needs teachers,” she said even as she called for public awareness to ensure children with disabilities are integrated into society.

Senator Samson Cherarkey backed the concerns, revealing that only a small fraction of the country’s teaching workforce is trained in special needs education.

“It is sad that out of 439,000 teachers, only 9,340 are trained to handle children with special needs. This is an issue that should be given proper attention,” he said.

Senator Okenyuri echoed the concerns, noting that special needs teachers account for just a tiny percentage of the workforce and that some are leaving spe-

cialised roles for mainstream schools.

“It is sad to know that only 2.1 per cent of the teaching workforce is tailored towards special needs education,” she said.

Senator Crystal Asige criticised the state of inclusive education as “abysmal”, and faulted the education system for failing to provide equal opportunities, particularly in STEM subjects.

“It is really unfortunate that learners with disabilities are not accorded the same or equal chance at education and not just that but quality and diverse education,” she said.

Senator John Kinyua urged authorities to go beyond staffing issues and address societal attitudes, saying many children with disabilities remain hidden within communities.

“It is not only about teachers. Even in society they should be recognised that they have a place,” he said.

## Committee probes Meru fund freeze over Sh642M debt



Senator Kathuri Murungi

The Senate has launched an inquiry into the decision by the National Treasury to freeze funds for Meru County. The move comes against the backdrop of what lawmakers term a radical administrative action by the National Treasury to punish the county for a mistake that is not theirs.

The inquiry centers on a court-adopted arbitral award in favour of Leopard Rock Mico Limited, originally totaling Sh337 million, which has since surged to approximately Sh642.9 million due to accumulated interest—an amount that almost equals the county’s entire pending bills.

Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakang’o formally reported that Meru had failed to settle the debt over a six-year period, describing the failure as a breach of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act that exposes Kenya to international diplomatic risk, given the investor’s French nationality.

Ms. Nyakang’o made her formal presentation during a session involving her office, the Committee on Finance and Budget, and the Governor of Meru.

Governor Isaac Mutuma maintained that the county had consistently paid the debt in four batches but later ceased its own budgetary allocations because it believed the national government had assumed the liability following a presidential directive.

The claim was supported by Senator Kathuri Murungi, who affirmed that the Head of State had indeed committed to support Meru during a high-level meeting.

However, Senator Ali Roba, the chair of the Committee, scrutinised the county’s reliance on verbal promises from the Executive, warning that the committee could not rely on hearsay regarding the national government’s intention to absorb the debt.

“There is reference to the Head of State, which is a bit unprocedural, unless there is documentary evidence on file,” Senator Roba stated, dismissing the minutes provided by the county as inadmissible.

“If you talk about commitment of national governments, it must be in writing. The presidential directive you are mentioning remains only a claim.”

The Senator emphasised that without a formal letter of commitment from the Ministry of Trade or the Executive Office of the President, such claims amount to “a nice statement used to seek an excuse.”

While Ms. Nyakang’o recommended a 50 percent suspension of county funds due to a “serious and persistent material breach,” Senator Boni Khalwale launched a scathing critique of the state’s oversight mechanisms. He described the situation as “a classical case of incompetence on the part of the Office of the Controller of Budget and the National Treasury.”

Senator Khalwale pointed out that the National Treasury was so “incompetent” that it failed to properly review Meru’s submissions, acknowledging only a Sh20 million payment while ignoring the larger figures.



Senator Mohamed Faki



Governor Isaac Mutuma

He further defended the county’s payment history, noting that legal hurdles had previously blocked disbursements. “The moment the orders were vacated, they paid Sh200 million,” Senator Khalwale argued, insisting that the current stalemate is driven more by politics than by refusal to pay.

He reminded the committee that while the President’s word is respected, the Constitution requires that such commitments be written, signed, and formally executed, concluding that “it would be wrong for the Senate to punish the people of Meru for a failure that is not theirs.”

The procedural fairness of the National Treasury and Controller of Budget’s decision also came under fire from Senator Mohamed Faki, who argued that

the principles of natural justice had been ignored.

“The bottom line is that in making the decision, the National Treasury and the Controller of Budget did not give the Meru County government a hearing,” Senator Faki noted, adding that the CoB should have consulted the county on its settlement efforts before issuing recommendations.

“This land has been lying idle since 2018 when the lease was terminated,” he observed, suggesting that the county had denied itself revenue that could have been used to settle the debt due to failure to secure a new investor.

The committee’s Vice-Chairperson, Senator Tabitha Mutinda, echoed similar frustrations, questioning whether Meru was being unfairly targeted because the creditor is a foreign entity.

## Committee to grill Governors over municipal governance crisis



Mr Lordvick Otieno, Kisumu Municipal Board.



Senator Catherine Mumma speaks during the meeting as Senator Sheikh Abbas looks on.

The Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations will engage county governors to discuss mounting governance crisis threatening the operations of municipal boards across the 47 devolved units.

The decision follows damning testimony from chairpersons of Kisumu County municipal boards, who alerted the Senate to a total breakdown in their working relationship with the County Executive.

Led by Mr Lordvick Otieno, the officials reported that their legally established semi-autonomous status is being systematically undermined by centralised county control, leaving them unable to fulfil their statutory mandates under the Urban Areas and Cities Act.

Mr Otieno described a landscape of functional paralysis, where boards pass resolutions but lack the liquidity or personnel to implement them. He explained the challenges in developing essential long-term instruments such as Strategic Plans and Integrated Development Plans due to a lack of funding for expert consultancy.

“Even when funds are budgeted, the reality on the ground is often farcical. For instance, some municipalities receive a mere Sh20,000 for water services,” revealed Mr Otieno, noting that the amount is impractical for meaningful operations.

He added that while governors may express commitment to devolution, implementation at the executive level often falls short, with letters to the County Secretary going unanswered and munic-



Senator Peris Tobiko.

ipal bank accounts remaining dormant.

Ms Lilian Achieng, Deputy Chairperson of the Ahero-Awasi Municipality, echoed these frustrations, stating that boards are often reduced to passive observers.

“While boards are expected to be held accountable for municipal activities, they have no control over the actual execution or the funds required to drive progress,” she explained.

Senator Mohamed Abbas, the Committee Chairperson, acknowledged the concerns, noting that they appear to be systemic across counties. He observed that the County Executive’s tight control over municipal functions is the primary source of the operational hurdles and

signalled that legislative intervention may be necessary.

“We have heard your concerns, and I know it’s across the board,” Senator Abbas stated. “We will consider where the law can be amended to give municipalities more authority and functional independence. Everything is currently under the control of the Executive, and that is why you are facing these challenges. We will invite the governors on this issue.”

Senator Catherine Mumma pressed the officials on their compliance with Section 20 of the Urban Areas and Cities Act, which requires municipalities to develop and adopt policies and plans.

She challenged the chairpersons to provide specific data on their budgetary

shortfalls.

“Have you developed policies for your municipalities since you were appointed? Do you have plans?” Senator Mumma asked, adding that proper planning is essential to determine the actual cost of running a municipality.

Senator Peris Tobiko cautioned the officials that their presentation lacked sufficient supporting evidence to build a strong case and called for tangible proof of instances where county management acted contrary to board resolutions or bypassed the boards entirely.

The inquiry ultimately aims to ensure that funds allocated to municipalities are not used by county governments to undermine or obstruct the legal functions of municipal boards.

## Senators sound alarm over state of Mathari Hospital



Senator Mwenda Gataya Mo Fire (right) and Senator Lelegwe Ltumbesi.

Senator Mwenda Gataya Mo Fire has raised concerns over the deteriorating state of facilities at Mathari National Teaching and Referral Hospital, arguing that the country's main psychiatric facility is operating under severe

strain and neglect.

The Senator said the hospital is characterised by dilapidated infrastructure, overcrowding, and a shortage of specialised mental health professionals—conditions that are undermining the delivery

of mental healthcare services.

“Mentally ill patients at Mathari continue to face challenges in accessing their basic rights. The hospital is in a state of profound deterioration,” he told the House.

He cited bed shortages and overstretched staff as key challenges affecting care delivery.

He further questioned the budgetary allocation to the facility in the 2025/26 financial year, seeking clarity on funding for infrastructure, staffing, medication, and patient welfare, as well as government plans to renovate or expand existing facilities.

The legislator also raised concerns over the patient-to-specialist ratio and called for the urgent recruitment of psychiatrists and the establishment of counselling units in all public hospitals to reduce pressure on Mathari.

He wants the Committee on Health to clarify to the House the number of abandoned patients still admitted at the

facility and the mechanisms in place to reintegrate them into society, warning that prolonged institutionalisation without family or community support worsens mental health outcomes.

“Article 43 of the Constitution guarantees every citizen the right to the highest attainable standard of health. However, this is not being fully realised at Mathari,” he said.

Senator Edwin Sifuna supported the concerns, noting that mental health remains underfunded despite rising cases nationwide.

He called for increased budgetary allocation to psychiatric care and the decentralisation of services to county hospitals. The Senator urged the Ministry of Health to treat mental health with the same urgency as other critical health conditions.

Senator Sifuna warned that continued neglect risks overwhelming the country's only national referral psychiatric facility.

## Probe on TVETs accreditation and compliance gaps starts

Senator Okiya Omtatah is calling for investigation into the regulation and compliance of Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) institutions.

He said irregularities could undermine the integrity of the sector if not addressed.

The Senator wants the Committee on Education to investigate the matter, warning that the emergence of institutions offering unaccredited programmes and misrepresenting qualifications poses a serious risk to students and the wider education system.

“There are growing concerns over the emergence of institutions offering uncredited programmes, misrepresenting certifications and international partnerships and making questionable employment guarantees,” he said, noting that such practices were exposing students and parents to potential exploitation while eroding confidence in the TVET subsector.

The sector plays a critical role in equipping young people with practical skills for the job market.

The Senator wants the committee to provide a detailed list of all institutions registered and accredited by the Technical and Vocational Education and Training Authority (TVETA), including their accreditation status and approved



Senator Esther Okenyuri

programmes, an account of measures in place to identify and act against non-compliant institutions including TVETs operating without accreditation or offering unapproved courses as well as data on enforcement actions taken in the past three years.

Further, Senator Omtatah called for clarity on the regulatory framework governing programme accreditation, certification and assessments, particularly safeguards against misrepresentation of qualifications and questioned the legal and institutional framework guiding partnerships between local institutions

and international bodies, as well as oversight of employment facilitation claims made by some training centres.

Senator Esther Okenyuri said the concerns raised by Senator Omtatah were serious and required deeper scrutiny to safeguard learners and the credibility of training institutions.

She pointed to the case of the Kenya Institute of Management (KIM), saying questions remain over the status of certificates issued over the years after its operational status was put off by the regulatory body.

“Where was TVET when KIM was



Senator Okiya Omtatah

conducting training and awarding certificates to students? Where does the fate of the many staff members, graduates and learners lie at the moment?” she posed.

Senator Okenyuri added that similar issues could be affecting other institutions.

She warned that failure to address them could disadvantage thousands of students who have invested time and resources in their education.

She urged the committee to conduct a thorough investigation noting that the matter goes beyond accreditation.

## Call for action on human-wildlife conflict in Kitui County



Senator Enock Wambua

Senator Samson Cherarkey

Senators want the government to address escalating cases of human-wildlife conflict in Kitui County.

The lawmakers raised the alarm over repeated attacks by elephants that have left residents dead, injured and economically devastated.

Senator Enock Wambua started the debate when he sought a Statement from the Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources, describing the situation as a growing crisis affecting

livelihoods and safety across several parts of the county.

“Elephants have increasingly caused havoc and extensive destruction of crops, property and livelihoods in several areas in Kitui County,” Senator Wambua said, citing a recent fatal incident in Ngali Village, Ngalange Sub-location, where a woman, Ms Kaviti Maithya, was attacked by a stray elephant at a shopping centre and later succumbed to injuries while receiving treatment at Kitui County Referral Hospital.

The Senator is demanding a detailed explanation on why existing mechanisms to prevent wildlife from straying into residential areas have failed, thus exposing communities to constant danger.

He also called for clarity on the compensation process for victims and their families. He also wants to be furnished with a report on pending claims and timelines for settlement amid complaints of prolonged delays.

Senator Wambua pressed for an outline of strategies currently being implemented by the Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and other agencies to mitigate the persistent conflict, questioning why effective measures have not been taken despite recurring incidents.

Senators decried the continued loss of lives and slow government response to affected communities with Senator Tabitha Mutinda terming the situation “sad”.

She urged the Ministry of Interior and relevant agencies to act decisively to protect residents.

“It is sad that as a country, we are discussing such matters where our people are being killed,” said Senator Mutinda as she called for urgent intervention,

saying the government must ensure that it addresses the matters.

Senator Kavindu Muthama echoed the concerns and noted that human-wildlife conflict has persisted for years with little progress in compensating victims.

“Wildlife conflicts and human conflict are too much and the government is taking too long to compensate the people after they have been killed,” Senator Muthama said.

She revealed that many families across affected regions have waited for years for compensation with some cases dating back to 2014 remaining unresolved.

“We are asking the Ministry concerned and Kenya Wildlife Service to take action, compensate and protect the people,” she said.

Senator Beatrice Ogola stressed the need for preventive measures to reduce risk exposure, urging the authorities to address underlying causes and improve community safety.

“We do not need to lose any life,” she said even as she called for interventions that would reduce dependence on high-risk areas such as rivers where wildlife attacks are common.”

## Push for X monetisation triggers debate in House

The push to scrutinise monetisation practices on social media platform, X, has ignited debate in the Senate, with Senator Allan Chesang seeking a formal inquiry.

This is even as Senators called for caution, warning that the move could hurt young digital content creators.

Senator Chesang has asked the Committee on Information, Communication and Technology to investigate concerns raised by Kenyan content creators over revenue sharing mechanisms on X, particularly on fairness, transparency and equitable participation in the digital economy.

“The digital economy increasingly drives employment and income, especially among Kenyan youth engaged in content creation across global digital platforms,” Senator Chesang told the House in his request for a Statement on the matter.

He noted that despite the growing role of digital platforms in job creation, concerns had emerged from Kenyan users regarding earnings and the structure of monetisation systems on X, formerly twitter.

In his request, the senator wants the committee to interrogate the nature, structure and transparency of X’s monetisation model. The probe should in-

clude eligibility criteria, payout systems, factors influencing earnings and how revenue is calculated and distributed to Kenyan creators.

He also called for a comparative analysis of the platform’s payment systems against other global platforms such as YouTube and Facebook to determine whether Kenyan creators are receiving fair returns.

The Senator wants the committee to establish the extent of government engagement with X, including discussions involving the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy and the Communications Authority of Kenya (CA), as well as the presence of any local compliance structures and dispute resolution mechanisms.

He also sought clarity on whether the government has assessed the economic contribution of Kenyan digital content creators across platforms and how participation translates into income for users.

Additionally, the senator urged the Committee to outline policy, regulatory and collaborative measures under consideration both nationally and through regional and international bodies such as the East African Community (EAC) and the African Union (AU) to promote fair and sustainable monetisation opportuni-



Senator Allan Chesang



Senator Godfrey Osotsi

ties.

However, the proposed probe drew caution from Senator Godfrey Osotsi who argued that the line of inquiry could inadvertently expose digital creators to increased taxation and tighter state control.

“This is the kind of Statement that will add pain to the content creators who are already paying taxes,” said Senator Osotsi, pointing out that digital creators are already subject to a digital service tax of 1.5 per cent and a 16 per cent Value Added Tax (VAT) on digital services.

He warned that further scrutiny could lead to additional fiscal burdens.

“These content creators are young people who earn from online media because they cannot get jobs,” he said.

Senator Osotsi further cautioned that the information being sought could ig-

nite the interest by the National Treasury to tax content creators even more, a move he said would be counterproductive to youth empowerment efforts.

He maintained that much of the information on monetisation structures is already available from the platforms themselves, questioning the necessity of a parliamentary probe.

“The direction and the tone of this Statement is basically to ignite the interest to tax content creators even more. I think that direction will not support the youth of this country,” he said, warning against policies that could tighten government control over digital platforms and discourage innovation and self-employment among young people.

He emphasised that monetisation frameworks on platforms such as X are largely standardised globally and not unique to Kenya.

## Senate hails Sawe after shattering 2-hour Marathon barrier



*Sebastian Sawe displays the shoe bearing the new Marathon record*

Senator Samson Cherarkey has hailed the outstanding performance of Kenyan athletes at the 2026 London and Boston marathons, singling out the historic feat by Sebastian Sawe, who shattered the marathon world record at the London Marathon with a time of 1:59:30.

Mr Sawe becomes the first human being to run a competitive marathon in under two hours—an achievement that significantly redefines the physiological and competitive limits of long-distance running.

Senator Cherarkey described the athletes' performances as a powerful affirmation of Kenya's enduring global dominance in long-distance athletics.

"For a long time, this achievement was thought to be impossible," he said, noting that Mr Sawe's progression from

a pacemaker to a world-record holder reflects discipline, resilience, and structured athletic development.

The Senator also acknowledged other strong Kenyan performances in London, including Amos Kiprutto, who finished fourth, and Hellen Obiri, who secured second place in the women's race. Joyciline Jepkosgei finished third, while Catherine Reline Amanang'ole rounded off the top five—collectively reinforcing Kenya's depth of talent across both men's and women's fields.

Turning to the Boston Marathon, the Senator commended John Korir for successfully defending his title and setting a new course record, underscoring consistency at the elite level. Benson Kiprutto secured third place in the men's race.

Senator Cherarkey further highlighted Kenya's dominance in the women's

category, led by Sharon Lokedi, who clinched victory for the second consecutive year. Compatriots Loice Chemnung and Mary Ngugi Cooper completed a podium sweep, signalling not only individual excellence but also systemic strength in women's distance running.

"These achievements are a source of immense national pride and reflect the discipline, resilience, and excellence of our athletes, who continue to elevate Kenya's profile on the global stage," Senator Cherarkey told the House, even as he urged the government to formally recognise and support the athletes.

He argued that sustained dominance at this level requires deliberate investment in sports infrastructure, coaching systems, and grassroots talent development across counties to ensure continuity of success.

The Senator also called for the ratification of records by World Athletics to guarantee that Kenyan athletes secure their rightful place in global athletics history.

"Kenyan athletes are not only sports icons but also cultural ambassadors who inspire millions across the globe," he said, emphasising the need for structured support systems to safeguard their welfare during and after their careers.

The lawmaker further pressed for institutionalised recognition of athletes' achievements through tangible support mechanisms, noting that their success should be leveraged as a catalyst for youth empowerment, national cohesion, and the strengthening of Kenya's sporting legacy.

## Families seek Senate intervention on Kenyans in Russia-Ukraine war



*Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi before the Senate National Security Committee to discuss the case of Kenyans trapped in the Russia-Ukraine war.*



*Senator Edwin Sifuna*

Families of Kenyans enlisted to fight in the Russia-Ukraine war have asked the national Government to intervene, secure their release, and ensure they are repatriated home.

Through a Petition presented to the Senate, the families argue that the recruitment of Kenyans into the army of the Russian Federation resembles human trafficking and unlawful foreign military enlistment, and they want all Kenyans currently detained in Ukrainian prisons to be released.

Edwin Sifuna presented the Petition to the House on behalf of the families. The Petition, which seeks Senate intervention regarding the recruitment of Kenyan nationals into the Russian army and the detention of Kenyans in Ukrainian prisons, was submitted to the Senate by Mr. Peter Kamau Gitau on behalf of the families.

The families estimate that the total number of Kenyans enlisted in the war is upward of 3,000 individuals, but note that no proper follow-up has taken place to address all of them. “Our relatives were recruited within the Republic of Kenya by unscrupulous agents under false pretenses,” they say in the Petition, which was read in the House by Senator

Edwin Sifuna.

“Upon arrival in the Russian Federation, many were coerced, deceived, or compelled into military service. Some Kenyan nationals have been killed, injured, captured, detained, or gone missing.”

The families say they have not received any official communication on the status of their relatives from relevant state agencies, including the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, and the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, despite making numerous visits to these government agencies.

Whereas the families have pursued all possible means, including but not limited to petitioning and lobbying state agencies responsible for helping find and repatriate their relatives—dead or alive—back to Kenya, they have been unable to make any progress, leaving many families despondent and heartbroken, with no knowledge of the fate of their relatives who were sent to Russia.

Besides the release of the Kenyans, the families are demanding that the Government facilitate the return of the bodies of deceased Kenyans, provide the neces-

sary support to the affected families, and conduct investigations into recruitment agencies, agents, and trafficking networks involved in the illegal recruitment of Kenyan nationals.

The National Intelligence Service (NIS) has reported to Parliament that over 1,000 Kenyans are currently fighting for Russia in the war.

The rogue agencies reportedly promised monthly salaries of about Sh350,000, bonuses ranging between Sh900,000 and Sh1.2 million, and eventual Russian citizenship to desperate job seekers struggling with unemployment. Many victims were reportedly flown out on tourist visas through Istanbul and Abu Dhabi, while others were rerouted through Uganda, the DRC, and South Africa to evade tighter scrutiny at Jomo Kenyatta International Airport. Some recruits did not leave directly from Kenya but were already working in Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan, Dubai, Jordan, and parts of Asia before relocating to Russia.

Kenya and Russia reached an agreement aimed at stopping Kenyan nationals from joining Russian forces. This was agreed during the recent visit to Moscow by Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi.

However, Russia insists that those already in the war joined voluntarily because they signed contracts with the army. Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov indicated that Kenya and Russia were not formal parties to the contracts signed by the Kenyans who joined the Russian army.

Russia maintains that the individuals joined voluntarily through private arrangements. This makes rescue, repatriation, or special intervention much harder.

Mr Mudavadi has previously told a Committee of the Senate committees that about 252 Kenyans are confirmed to be involved in Russia’s military operations in Ukraine. Of these, around 160–165 are actively involved in combat operations, about 38 are hospitalised in Russia, 16 are reported missing in action and around 10 have been reported either killed or missing in action (presumed dead in some cases).

Additionally, about 47 Kenyans have already been repatriated back home while two Kenyans are confirmed as prisoners of war in Ukraine.

Speaker Amason Kingi committed the Petition to the Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations.

## Annotated Standing Orders: Tracing decade of procedural evolution

The Senate has made history after becoming the first legislative institution in Kenya to publish an annotated version of its Standing Orders, documenting the evolution and rationale of the Senate Standing Orders over the 10 years between 2013 and 2022.

Annotated Standing Orders are the official rules of the Senate of Kenya that have been explained, expanded, and clarified with additional notes.

They were published with the aim of providing a comprehensive reference in respect of all the reviews of the Standing Orders undertaken during the terms of the 11th and 12th Parliaments. The document embodies over a decade of parliamentary evolution and institutional precedent and will be useful to Senators, parliamentary officers, scholars, researchers, and other members of the general public with an interest in the procedures and practices of the Senate.

Speaker Amason Kingi said the first edition of the Annotated Standing Orders represents a major advancement from the previous editions of the Standing Orders.

“While the earlier edition provided the rules in their bare form, the annotated version now enriches those rules through interpretation, precedent, procedural guidance, comparative practice, and practical explanations drawn from lived parliamentary experience,” he said during the launch on Thursday last week.

He said the edition will greatly enhance the work of the Senate by promoting consistency in rulings, improving understanding of procedure among Senators and staff, reducing uncertainty during proceedings, and enabling quicker and more informed decision-making.

“It will also serve as an indispensable reference tool for new Senators, returning Members, committee secretariats, researchers, and all parliamentary practitioners. In effect, it transforms the Standing Orders from a rule book into a practical working manual for legislative business.”

Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye said the Annotated Standing Orders were published with the aim of providing a comprehensive reference in respect of all the reviews of the Standing Orders undertaken during the terms of the 11th and 12th Parliaments.

“Each amended standing order is followed by a brief commentary on when and why it was amended. An index,



Speaker Amason Kingi launches the Annotated Standing Orders accompanied by Deputy Speaker Kathuri Murungi, Deputy Majority Leader Tabitha Keroche and Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo.



Speaker Kingi and Senators display the four publications after the launch.



Clerk of Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye.

which tracks the historical development by highlighting changes in the titles and numbers of each standing order, is annexed to the Annotated Standing Orders,” said Mr Nyegenye.

The first edition of the Standing Orders of the Senate under the 2010 Constitution was adopted by the National Assembly on January 9, 2013, pursuant to Article 262 and Section 11 of the Sixth Schedule to the Constitution. By the end of the 12th Parliament (June 2022), the Senate had reviewed its Standing Orders on eight occasions to meet evolving needs and to reflect its unique constitutional role.

“The term of the 11th Parliament (2013–2017) was particularly a period of significant procedural development, as the Senate sought to find firmer footing in its legislative responsibilities and align its rules and procedures to these responsibilities,” explained Mr Nyegenye.

The first review was undertaken in February 2014. It comprised several key amendments, among them the establishment and assignment of functions to the offices of the Majority and Minority Party Whips and their deputies, and the institution of a mechanism for transmitting messages to and from the counties. The review further overhauled the framework for making and requesting Statements; provided for continuity in the consideration of Bills interrupted at the end of a Session; established the County Public Accounts and Investments Committee; and reorganised Committee mandates.

The rules were further reviewed during the term of the 11th Parliament in November 2014, June 2016, and June 2017 to reorganise Committee mandates; provide for joint sittings of corresponding Committees of the Senate and the National Assembly; distinguish between disorderly conduct and gross disorderly

conduct; and introduce the Third Schedule to the Standing Orders to set out the rules of procedure in impeachment proceedings for a County Governor.

In the 12th Parliament (2017–2022), the Standing Orders were reviewed in December 2017, August 2018, July 2020, and June 2022. Key amendments during this period included further reorganisation of Committee mandates; another overhaul of the framework for making and requesting Statements; the introduction of a framework formally recognising the use of video link technology for plenary and Committee sittings; and the introduction of the Second Schedule to the Standing Orders to set out the rules of procedure in impeachment proceedings for the President.

The review also codified the process for resignation or removal of a Speaker or Deputy Speaker, and reintroduced the requirement to ascertain quorum at the commencement of a sitting.

## Report flags gaps in County revenue allocation

Article 96 of the Constitution mandates the Senate to represent counties and protect their interests, particularly in determining the allocation of national revenue among county governments.

In the spirit of devolution, the equitable distribution of resources remains central to enabling counties to deliver on their constitutional mandates. While the Senate has undertaken this task diligently, challenges remain in ensuring fairness, efficiency, and transparency in revenue allocation.

According to a recently published report, delayed disbursements, disputes over national versus county government functions, and inconsistencies in the application of revenue-sharing formulas are some of the notable challenges that have undermined the allocation process.

The Process of Allocation of Revenue to County Governments between FY 2013/14 and FY 2021/22, which was launched alongside three other publications, examines the revenue allocation process and highlights the procedures followed in Parliament—specifically in the Senate—in applying the provisions set out in the Constitution and the Standing Orders.

“The publication is of interest to parliamentary practitioners in Kenya as well as scholars in public finance, as it seeks to serve as a focal point for Senate procedures on the subject. It may also inform further research and analysis with



Deputy Majority Leader Tabitha Keroche

a view to amending statutes and Standing Orders to further streamline the process,” noted Clerk of the Senate, Jeremiah Nyegenye, during the launch.

In undertaking this mandate over the last 10 years, the Senate has identified areas within the public finance legal framework that require reform to ensure effective allocation of resources to county governments, as envisaged under the Constitution.

Among the proposals is an amendment to the Public Finance Management Act—the primary legislation governing the management of public resources—to include detailed legal provisions relating to the funding of transferred functions. This would ensure certainty in the transfer of funds and strengthen accountability mechanisms.

In 2020, the County Executive of Nairobi City County transferred some of its



Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo

functions to the Nairobi Metropolitan Services through a Transfer of Functions Deed, in accordance with Article 187 of the Constitution. However, Article 187(2)(a) provides that constitutional responsibility for the discharge of a function remains with the body to which the Constitution assigns that function.

On this basis, the Senate, in considering the County Allocation of Revenue Bill for the 2020/21 financial year, introduced provisions relating to the transfer of functions. These included requirements for the costing of transferred functions, appropriation of adequate funds by the county assembly for their execution, and reporting procedures on the use of funds in discharging those functions.

“The County Allocation of Revenue Bill is an annual Bill whose provisions apply only to the financial year to which it relates. Therefore, the Public Finance

Management Act, as the primary legislation governing public resources, would be better suited to contain detailed legal provisions on the funding of transferred functions. This would ensure certainty in the transfer of funds and accountability mechanisms,” the report states.

The report also calls for amendments to the Public Finance Management Act to require the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury to submit a memorandum explaining how resolutions adopted by the Senate on the Budget Policy Statement (BPS) have been taken into account.

This is because the Senate’s participation in the consideration of the BPS is crucial to the determination of vertical resource allocation.

Article 203(2) of the Constitution provides that, for every financial year, the equitable share of revenue raised nationally and allocated to county governments shall not be less than 15 per cent of all revenue collected by the national government.

However, the report observes that the 15 per cent threshold is not representative of the actual cost of service delivery at the county level, and recommends that the costing of functions assigned to both levels of government be finalised.

“This would provide a more accurate estimate of the resources required to run government services in each county and, in turn, ensure adequate vertical and horizontal resource allocation.”

## This Week in History - On May 10, 2018

### House debates Petition on rampant theft at Kapenguria Referral Hospital



Speaker Kenneth Lusaka:

Speaker Kenneth Lusaka presented to the House a Petition by 48 residents of West Pokot County, concerning alleged deteriorating healthcare services in the county. In the Petition, the 48 individuals said there had been rampant theft of key healthcare instruments and equipment at Kapenguria County Referral Hospital. The latest being that of an ultra-sound machine, without adequate measures being put in place to address the matter. The Deputy Governor also serves as the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Health, which the petitioners state has denied the healthcare department the attention it requires. “The recruitment of healthcare workers in the county has been carried out on the basis of political affiliations and not on merit or competency, thus compromising the quality of services offered,” they said in the Petition, adding that there has been undue harassment, as well as irregular transfers and demotions of healthcare staff deemed to be loyal to the former county governor. The petitioners pleaded with the Senate to investigate the matter and make appropriate recommendations. Among the proposals made by the petitioners are for the Senate to direct that a forensic audit be carried out on the medical equipment acquired by the county and its current status, as well as a human resource audit and job evaluation of all healthcare workers in the county.



Senator Mary Seneta said:

Those facilities should not only meet the standards, but also be used by trained personnel. We need to know if the personnel who are being employed in our counties are able to attend to the common mwananchi in our counties. We need to have experienced personnel in our counties. We also need to see people being employed on merit and not tribal lines or ethnic backgrounds for our people to get good services. We recently experienced a scenario at the Kenyatta National Hospital where a patient was operated on without proper identity or diagnosis. We need to look into this matter. This Petition is important because it will not only help that county, but all counties because health is a very important aspect in our people’s lives.”



Senator Fatuma Dullo said:

“Health is a pertinent issue and a matter that affects the whole country. All the issues raised regarding human resource, security of equipment and poor health care services, where people cannot even get panadol or paracetamol in those hospitals, affect most of the counties. Cases where staffs are hired based on political alignment are happening in most counties. We need to look at how staff are recruited in most of those counties. A lot of money is spent by the Government in making sure that people get proper service delivery, especially on matters health. This is because health is an important component and a fundamental right where all Kenyans are supposed to be safe. Unfortunately, what is happening in most counties is a challenging aspect. We have not moved from where we were five years ago despite the Government pumping in a lot of money.”



Senator Susan Kihika said:

“Since health has been devolved to the county governments, bringing this Petition is something admirable, and the Petitioners should be congratulated for the timely move. This is because they are pointing out the issues that have been befalling the health sector in the counties. From what the Petitioners have brought forward, these issues are not only being experienced in West Pokot, but across the country. We have seen a lot of health facilities being built across the counties but without the human resource. We could have the doctors, but no medication despite the billions that have been given to the counties towards health. This has to be looked into.”

## Call for timelines as Senate flags gaps in law mediation process

A report prepared by the Secretariat of the Senate has proposed that a law be put in place to provide for the timeframe within which a Mediation Committee holds its first meeting and when the countdown for the 30 days, as provided for in Article 131(4) of the Constitution, commences.

The Constitution anticipates that disputes could arise in the process of consideration of Bills between the two Houses and provides for a mediation process under Articles 112 and 113.

Article 112 provides that if one House passes an ordinary Bill concerning counties and the second House rejects the Bill, it shall be referred to a mediation committee appointed under Article 113.

Mediation Committees are appointed to attempt to develop a version of the Bill that both Houses will pass. They represent the necessary and formal continuation of discussions aimed at resolving conflicts between the two chambers on the same Bill.

Article 113 provides that if a Bill is referred to a mediation committee, the Speakers of both Houses shall appoint a mediation committee consisting of equal numbers of members from each House to attempt to develop a version of the Bill that both Houses will pass.

Whenever a Mediation Committee fails to agree on a version within the constitutional timeline of thirty (30) days, the Bill is deemed to have been defeated. As a matter of practice, the 30 days begin to count when a Mediation Committee holds its first meeting.

According to Mediation in the Legislative Process during the 11th and 12th Parliaments, which was launched by Speaker Amason Kingi on Thursday last week, the lack of clarity has resulted in situations where some mediation committees delay convening, with months passing before the first meeting is scheduled, leading to protracted mediation processes.

“There is need to provide for the timeframe within which a mediation committee holds its first meeting and when the countdown for the 30 days commences,” observes the report.

The quorum for Standing/Departmental Committees, including mediation committees, as provided in the Standing Orders of either House, is set at one-third of the membership of the committees.

“This creates disproportionate representation from either House when the Committee sits,” says the report, even



*Senator Fatuma Dullo speaks at the event.*



*Speaker Kingi addresses Senators and Parliamentary staff during the launch.*

as it calls for clarification to ensure that one-third of the members from each House of Parliament constitute the quorum.

It further suggests that there is need to provide clarity on the issue of the majority required to adopt the report, to avoid misrepresentation and to ensure ownership of the report by each House of Parliament.

“It should provide that a majority from each House of Parliament must adopt the mediation report.”

The report observes that in most mediation cases, Members from both Houses of Parliament enter the process with pre-determined and self-preservation views, thus causing a stand-off, as opposed to engaging on the key issues. The lack of political will in mediation processes leads to the failure of most medi-

ations and underscores the need for regular informal and formal consultations among the leadership of both Houses to build goodwill on contentious issues beforehand.

The secretariats from the respective Houses of Parliament tend to interfere with the mediation process, as more often than not they take sides.

“Poor handling of documentation during mediation processes has become the norm, causing chaos and confusion as each Secretariat presents its own documents. It is therefore recommended that a lead Clerk, jointly agreed upon by the Clerks of the two Houses, steer the facilitation processes of the mediation committee.”

There are instances where no reports were tabled in either House on the status of a mediation process, especially for

Private Members’ Bills.

For example, in the 11th Parliament, the Public Fundraising Appeals Bill, 2014 mediation committee did not table or file a report on the status of the mediation process.

Another example cited is from the 12th Parliament regarding the Wildlife Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2020, where the Committee had the requisite 30 days, but the process stalled, leading to a collapsed mediation process as both Houses adjourned sine die.

A status record of the process was not filed for future reference. It has been observed that the tracking mechanism of mediation processes is not properly maintained. There is a need to provide for reporting on collapsed mediations and to ensure up-to-date tracking through the requisite systems.

## Impeachment: Call for clarity on timelines

The timeline for impeachment proceedings of a county governor should be reexamined by the Senate as a matter of urgency, and where necessary, a report prepared for possible amendments to the law and corresponding Standing Orders of the Senate.

A number of Senators have argued that the 10-day period—from the reporting of charges, hearing, analysis of evidence, report writing, and presentation to the House for consideration either by a Special Committee or plenary—is not adequate.

Some have proposed that the timeframe be extended to a 14 to 21-day window to allow sufficient time for hearings.

Others, however, maintain that when the future of the chief executive officer of a county government is in question, and given the weight of the matter, it is better to retain a shorter process.

These are questions discussed in detail in a newly launched report on emerging issues in impeachment proceedings considered by the Senate in the 11th and 12th Parliaments.

The Impeachment Processes in the Senate from 2013 to 2022, launched by Speaker Amason Kingi on Thursday, April 30, presents a comprehensive analysis of the Senate's role in the impeachment of Governors and Deputy Governors during the 11th and 12th Parliaments.

It captures the legal and procedural handling of each case, highlights emerging issues, and offers practical recommendations to enhance future proceedings.

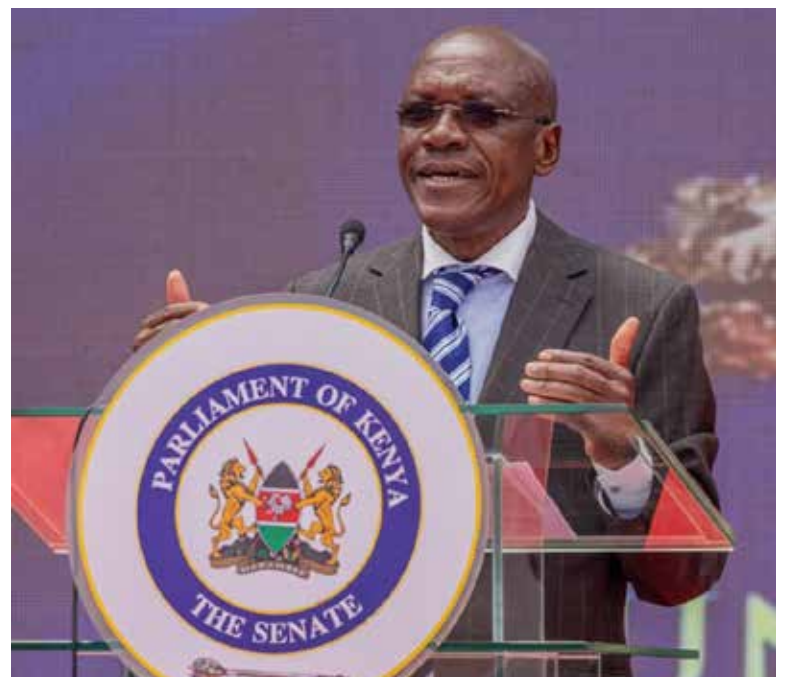
“As we all appreciate, impeachment proceedings are among the most weighty and sensitive matters that come before the Senate. This publication will therefore help streamline future processes by drawing lessons from past experience, clarifying best practice, reducing procedural disputes, and strengthening fairness, efficiency, and institutional credibility. It will serve both as a historical record and a practical reference for legislators, legal practitioners, and researchers,” said the Speaker during the launch at Parliament Buildings.

Besides timeliness, the publication notes that other areas requiring review include the establishment of the Special Committee, the threshold for impeachment, and the process at the County Assembly level.

The report states that the impeachment process provided for under Article 181 of the Constitution, as further enumerated in Section 33 of the County



Speaker Amason Kingi



Senator Boni Khalwale

Governments Act and Standing Order 80 of the Senate Standing Orders, is one requiring utmost judiciousness and circumspection.

Section 33(3) and (4) of the County Governments Act, read together with Standing Orders 80(1) and (2), provide for the Speaker to convene a sitting of the Senate within seven days of receipt of a notice from the Speaker of a County Assembly for the removal of a Governor.

Regarding processes in County Assemblies, the report recommends that the Impeachment Procedure Bill, 2018, initiated by the Chairperson of the Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights, be republished and prioritised for consideration in the 13th Parliament.

The Bill would provide uniform procedures for the impeachment of governors across all 47 County Assemblies.

The Senate has taken the view that County Assemblies are independent arms of government in their own right, as provided for in the Constitution, and may not be directed by another body or authority.

The same applies when a matter is referred to the Senate for impeachment proceedings. The processes that take place in a County Assembly before referral cannot be dictated by the Senate, nor can the Senate undertake a thorough inquiry into those processes.

This is because the Senate cannot act as a court of first instance in the impeachment of a governor or substitute its findings of fact for those of the relevant County Assembly.

“A delicate balance needs to be struck between the need for the Senate to avoid a minute interrogation of County Assembly processes, vis-à-vis its constitutional

obligation to investigate and report on the matter within set timelines, as required under the County Governments Act,” the report states.

It adds that for this reason, in all impeachment cases, processes undertaken in County Assemblies before charges are referred to the Senate have often been examined by courts of law rather than the Senate itself.

The report further notes that the issue of the threshold for impeachment is complex and does not have a simple mathematical formula.

In impeachment hearings, particularly those handled through Special Committees, the Senate has taken the position that the threshold must consider the following: the allegations must be serious, substantial, and weighty; the violation must be flagrant and glaring; there must be a nexus between the violation and the Governor; the violation must have led to harm, loss, or damage to society; and it must have resulted in loss of dignity of office and loss of public confidence in the officeholder's integrity and accountability.

The Senate Standing Orders provide two options for impeachment hearings: an 11-member Special Committee or the Plenary.

Where the Senate resolves to establish a Select Committee, Standing Order 202(a) requires the Committee to elect its Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

The procedure for election is set out under Standing Order 203(1), where the Clerk is required to appoint the place, date, and time for the first meeting of a Select Committee, or such other time as the Speaker may direct.

While nomination procedures for Senators to committees have been ob-

served in both the 11th and 12th Parliaments, there was a departure during the nomination of Senators in the cases of Governors Ferdinand Waititu and Mohamed Mohamud.

In submitting names of Senators for the proposed removal from office of the former Governor of Kiambu County, the Senate leadership then proposed the names of Senators to serve as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Special Committee, and had them stated as such in the Motion.

This action split opinion among Senators regarding the reasons for such a departure from established practice. All previous Special Committees had hitherto elected their Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons. Even in ad hoc committees, the election of leadership has been left to members, pursuant to Standing Order 202(a).

The report observes that it is necessary for the Senate to re-examine this question and for the Speaker to issue a determination or ruling that will be binding on all future impeachment proceedings. This would help guard the process against political manipulation or undue discretion.

“The requirement for the Senate to make a resolution on the leadership of a Select Committee, let alone a Special Committee, needs to be examined carefully by leadership. While Standing Order 202(a) gives latitude for the Senate to make a resolution on committee leadership, a matter as weighty as membership to a Special Committee on the proposed removal from office of a Governor requires careful consideration of precedence and practice to avoid unnecessary antagonism.

## Seneta Wambua ataka maelezo kuhusu mauaji Kitui

Seneta Enoch Wambua kupitia ombi la Kauli kwenye Kamati ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Mahusiano ya Kigeni, ametaka maelezo kuhusu mauaji ya watu saba yaliyotokea katika eneo la Kwa Kamari, Wadi ya Tseikuru, Kaunti ya Kitui tarehe 25 Aprili 2026. Aidha, ametaka ufafanuzi kuhusu kifo cha mvulana wa shule aliyeuawa na majambazi katika eneo la Ukasi, Wadi ya Nguni tarehe 28 Aprili 2026.

Seneta Wambua alieleza kuwa watu saba waliuawa kikatili na majambazi katika eneo la Tseikuru, huku akiongeza kuwa wiki chache kabla ya tukio hilo, kijana mmoja pia aliuawa na watu wanaodaiwa kujifanya wafugaji wa ngamia katika eneo hilo. Vilevile Wambua aliangazia mauaji ya mvulana wa shule, James Mutemi wa Kijiji cha Kiio, aliyeuawa kwa kukatwa na majambazi alipokuwa akichunga mifugo ya familia.

Seneta huyo aliitaka Kamati hiyo kubainisha hatua zilizochukuliwa na Wizara ya Usalama wa Ndani pamoja na Huduma ya Kitaifa ya Polisi ili kuwakamata wahusika wa mauaji hayo, kuzuia mashambulizi zaidi na kuhakikisha uwepo wa maafisa wa kutosha wa usalama katika maeneo yaliyoathirika yakiwemo Tseikuru, Ngomeni, Endau/Malalani, Mutha na Kanziko.

“Matukio haya yamesababisha tahruki kubwa, huku wakazi wakizuia barabara ya Garissa–Mwingi wakidai haki. Kuna taswira hatari inayojengeka



Seneta Enoch Wambua

kwamba jamii ya Wakamba na Wasomali ziko vitani,” alisema Seneta Wambua.

Wakati uo huo, Seneta Wambua aliitaka Kamati hiyo kueleza mikakati ya muda mfupi na mrefu inayotekelezwa kukabiliana na uhalifu wa ujambazi na uvamizi wa mipakani unaohusishwa na wafugaji wa ngamia, pamoja na namna uratibu wa kiusalama kati ya kaunti na kanda unavyoimarishwa ili kuhakikisha wahalifu wanakamatwa wanapokimbilia maeneo jirani.

Pia aliitaka Kamati kufafanua mamlika ya kiutendaji ya maafisa wa usalama wa kaunti pindi wahalifu wanapovuka mipaka ya kaunti na hatua zinazochukuliwa kuimarisha ushirikiano baina ya vy-

ombo vya usalama.

Seneta Wambua aidha, alitaka kubainishwa iwapo kuna mifumo ya fidia na msaada kwa familia za waathiriwa, ikiwemo urejeshaji wa maisha yao na huduma za usaidizi wa kisaikolojia kwa jamii zilizoathirika.

Katika ombi tofauti, Seneta huyo kupitia Kamati ya Ardhi, Mazingira na Maliasili, aliibua wasiwasi kuhusu ongezeko la migogoro kati ya binadamu na wanyamapori katika Kaunti ya Kitui.

Alieleza kuwa tembo wamekuwa wakivamia makazi ya watu na kusababisha uharibifu mkubwa wa mazao, mali na maisha. Alitaja tukio la hivi karibuni ambapo Bi. Kaviti Maithya alijeruhiwa

vibaya na tembo katika Kijiji cha Ngali tarehe 25 Aprili 2026 na kufariki dunia siku iliyofuata alipokuwa akipatiwa matibabu katika Hospitali ya Kaunti ya Kitui.

Seneta Wambua aliitaka Kamati hiyo kueleza sababu za kukosekana kwa mikakati madhubuti ya kuzuia wanyamapori kuvamia makazi ya watu na hatua zinazochukuliwa kulinda maisha ya wananchi.

Aidha, alitaka kupatiwa taarifa kuhusu mchakato wa fidia kwa familia ya marehemu pamoja na hali ya madai yote ya fidia yanayohusiana na migogoro kati ya binadamu na wanyamapori katika Kaunti ya Kitui, sababu za kucheleweshwa kwa malipo na muda unaotarajiwa wa kuyakamilisha.

Pia aliitaka Kamati kubainisha mikakati iliyopo kupitia Huduma ya Wanyamapori Kenya (KWS) na taasisi nyingine husika katika kukabiliana na changamoto hiyo, pamoja na sababu za kuchelewa kuchukuliwa hatua madhubuti licha ya matukio hayo kujirudia mara kwa mara.

“Hatua za haraka zinahitajika ili kulinda maisha ya wananchi na kurejeshi imani ya jamii katika vyombo vya usalama na taasisi husika,” alisisitiza.

Kadhalika, Seneta huyo alitaka kufafanuliwa kwa mipango ya muda mrefu ya kukomesha kabisa matukio ya ujambazi na migogoro kati ya binadamu na wanyamapori katika Kaunti ya Kitui.

## Seneta Omtatah ataka hatua kali dhidi TVET hewa

Seneta Okiya Omtatah, ameomba maelezo ya kina kuhusu hali ya udhibiti na uzingatiaji wa sheria katika taasisi za Elimu na Mafunzo ya Kiufundi (TVET) nchini, akitaka hatua za haraka kuchukuliwa kudhibiti taasisi zisizo na ithibati na kulinda wanafunzi dhidi ya udanganyifu.

Akiwasilisha ombi la Kauli kwa Kamati ya Elimu, Seneta Omtatah alisema kuwa kuna ongezeko la taasisi zinazotoa programu zisizoidhinishwa, kuwasilisha vibaya vyeti na ushirikiano wa kimataifa pamoja na kutoa ahadi zisizo na msingi za ajira, hali inayowaweka wanafunzi na wazazi katika hatari ya kudhulumuwa na kudhoofisha uadilifu wa sekta ya TVET.

Katika ombi lake, Seneta huyo aliitaka Kamati hiyo kueleza idadi ya taasisi zilizosajiliwa na kuidhinishwa na Mamlaka ya Elimu na Mafunzo ya Kiufundi (TVETA), hali yao ya sasa ya ithibati na programu zilizoidhinishwa.

Aidha, aliitaka Kamati hiyo kubainisha hatua zilizowekwa za kubaini, kud-



Seneta Okiya Omtatah

hibiti na kuchukua hatua dhidi ya taasisi zisizozingatia sheria, zikiwemo zinazofanya kazi bila ithibati au zinazotoa programu zisizoidhinishwa.

uidhinishaji wa programu, utoaji wa vyeti na uendeshaji wa tathmini, ikiwemo hatua za kuzuia upotoshaji wa sifa za kitaaluma.

“Ni muhimu kulinda uadilifu wa sekta ya TVET na kuhakikisha wanafunzi wanapata elimu halali na yenye ubora,” alisema Seneta Omtatah.

Wakati uo huo, Kamati hiyo inayongozwa na Seneta mteule Betty Montet, inatarajiwa kubainisha mfumo wa kisheheria na kitaasisi unaosimamia ushirikiano kati ya taasisi za TVET na mashirika ya kimataifa pamoja na mipango ya kuwezesha ajira kwa wanafunzi, ikiwemo masharti ya leseni na mifumo ya usimamizi.

Kadhalika, Seneta Omtatah alisisitiza umuhimu wa kuweka mikakati madhubuti ya kuhakikisha taasisi zote za TVET zinafuata sheria, kulinda wanafunzi dhidi ya ulaghai na kuimarisha ubora wa mafunzo ya kiufundi nchini.

Pia alitaka kupatiwa takwimu za hatua za utekelezaji zilizochukuliwa katika kipindi cha miaka mitatu iliyopita na mfumo wa kisheheria unaosimamia



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