Thirteenth Parliament **Fifth Session**
(No. 066) **(1122)**

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22, 2026 (MORNING SITTING)

1. The Senate assembled at thirty minutes past Nine O'clock.

2. The proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.

3. **QUORUM OF THE SENATE**

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

   And there being no Quorum at the expiry of the ten minutes, the Speaker directed that the Bell be rung for a further ten minutes;

   And there being a Quorum at the expiry of the further ten minutes;

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

4. **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR – VISITING DELEGATION OF TEACHERS AND STUDENTS FROM LUKENYA ACADEMY SCHOOL IN ATHI RIVER, MACHAKOS COUNTY**

   The Deputy Speaker conveyed the following Communication from the Chair:

   "Honourable Senators,

   I would like to acknowledge the presence of a visiting delegation of five (5) teachers and eighty (80) students from Lukenya Academy School in Athi River, Machakos County, who are seated in the Public Gallery. The delegation is visiting the Senate for an academic exposition.

   On behalf of the Senate, and on our own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them a fruitful visit.

   I thank you."

5. **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

QUESTIONS

i) Question No. 019 by the Senator for Makueni County (Sen. Daniel Maanzo, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection on welfare and working conditions of workers involved in Government infrastructure projects was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.

ii) Question No. 038 by Nominated Senator (Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection on access to hearing rehabilitation services and affordable assistive devices for persons living with hearing loss was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.

iii) Question No. 054 by Nominated Senator (Sen. Joyce Korir, MP) to the Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection on the status of social protection programmes, register integrity, and targeted support for vulnerable groups was answered by the Cabinet Secretary.

6. **MOTION – PROVISION OF IFMIS REPORTS FOR COUNTY GOVERNMENTS TO THE SENATE**
(Sen. Andrew Omtatah Okoiti, MP)

THAT, AWARE that, Article 96 of the Constitution provides that the Senate represents the counties, and serves to protect their interests, determines the allocation of national revenue among counties, as provided in Article 217, and exercises oversight over national revenue allocated to the County Governments;

FURTHER AWARE THAT, in the case of *Senate v Council of Governors and 6 others* (Petition 24 and 27 of 2019 (consolidated) 2022) KESC 57(KLR), the Supreme Court affirmed that the Senate's oversight authority extents to both nationally allocated and locally generated revenue;

CONCERNED THAT, that Senators are constrained by lack of access to real time to data from the IFMIS system for the respective counties they represent, thus affecting effective oversight of County Governments;

FURTHER CONCERNED THAT, in some instances data and information presented to the Senate by the Auditor-General and the Controller of Budget are received and considered late as a result of the backlog resulting into too much information not getting properly reviewed by Senators;

NOTING THAT, as a result of unchecked financial information and systems, County Governments have continued to accumulate pending bills resulting from unplanned expenditures, unaccounted for and inflated cost of projects;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Senate resolves, that the Cabinet Secretary in charge of the National Treasury shall on a monthly basis forward to the Clerk of the Senate all IFMIS transactions and reports for each County Government for onward transmission to the respective Senator for information on accountability and transparency, in order to strengthen their constitutional oversight and promote good governance in the management of public finances.

(Resumption of debate interrupted on Thursday, 16th July, 2026 – Balance of time – 1 hour 44 minutes)
(Question on amendment to be put)

Order read;

Order deferred.

7. **MOTION – MAINSTREAMING A FRAMEWORK FOR CLEAN COOKING IN KENYA**
(Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP)

THAT, AWARE that Article 42 of the Constitution guarantees every person the right to a clean and healthy environment, which includes access to safe energy options;

FURTHER AWARE that over 900 million Africans, including more than 90% of households in Kenya's rural areas, still rely on traditional biomass (firewood, charcoal, animal waste) for cooking, resulting in high levels of indoor air pollution that cause premature deaths, particularly among women and children;

CONCERNED that in Kenya, indoor air pollution has been linked to over 23,000 annual deaths, with women and girls bearing the disproportionate burden of time spent collecting firewood and cooking, limiting their education and economic opportunities;

NOTING that traditional cooking methods contribute significantly to deforestation, greenhouse gas emissions, and climate vulnerability at the county level, undermining national commitments under the Energy Act, 2019, the Climate Change Act, 2016, and Kenya's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs);

RECALLING that the Africa Clean Cooking Summit (Paris, 2023) mobilized USD 2.2 billion in commitments for clean cooking, and the International Energy Agency has recommended urgent financing and policy action to achieve universal access by 2040;

ACKNOWLEDGING the efforts of some counties, development partners, and private sector actors in piloting clean cooking projects, but recognizing that these remain small-scale and fragmented;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Senate resolves that the—

i) Council of Governors develops county-level policies, frameworks, and budgets that mainstream clean cooking into devolved energy and health functions;

ii) National Treasury and Ministry of Energy prioritize clean cooking in financing frameworks, including results-based financing and blended finance models to de-risk private investment;

iii) County Governments incorporate clean cooking targets in their County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) and ensure public institutions such as schools, health facilities, and prisons adopt clean cooking solutions;

iv) National Treasury and County Governments to fast-track letters of authorization to unlock carbon finance markets (Article 6.2 and CORSIA) for clean cooking projects; and

v) County Governments engage the private sector actors, and community organizations to expand clean cooking access, create local jobs, and reduce pressure on forest resources.

Order read;

Order deferred.

8. **MOTION – PROMOTION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) AND INNOVATION POLICY IN KENYA**
(Sen. Karungo Thang'wa, MP)

THAT AWARE THAT, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is redefining economies globally through emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), blockchain, and financial technology (Fintech);

FURTHER AWARE THAT Kenya has made commendable strides in digital infrastructure and mobile innovation, positioning itself as a potential leader in Africa's tech-driven future;

NOTING THAT in a landmark decision, the African Union Executive Council endorsed the Continental AI Strategy during its 45th Ordinary Session in Accra, Ghana, on July 18-19, 2024 to underscore Africa's commitment to an Africa-centric, development-focused approach to AI, promoting ethical, responsible, and equitable practices;

COGNIZANT THAT the Continental AI Strategy calls for unified national approaches among AU Member States to navigate the opportunities of AI-driven change, aiming to strengthen regional and global cooperation and position Africa as a leader in inclusive and responsible AI development;

APPRECIATING THAT the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Digital Economy recently formulated and launched the Kenya National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy 2025-2030;

RECOGNIZING the need to align Kenya's development with global standards in AI adoption while also safeguarding national values, inclusivity, and employment;

CONCERNED THAT the absence of a comprehensive framework may hinder innovation among local start-ups and youth-led tech enterprises and slow down Kenya's ability to harness AI for inclusive growth;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate resolves that the Ministry of Information, Communication and Digital Economy develops a Policy to promote Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies with particular emphasis on:

i) promoting research and development of locally relevant AI solutions;

ii) facilitating ethical guidelines to ensure responsible and beneficial application of AI;

iii) creating innovation-friendly 'Sandboxes' for supervised testing of AI and emerging technologies;

iv) strengthening public-private partnerships to build digital skills and innovation ecosystems; and

v) integrating AI and coding into the education curriculum to prepare the next generation for the digital economy.

Order read;

Order deferred.

9. **MOTION – REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS OF SELECT COMMITTEES DURING THE THIRD SESSION (2024)**

(The Chairperson, Liaison Committee)

THAT, the Senate notes the Report of the Liaison Committee on the activities and operations of Select Committees during the Third Session (2024) pursuant to Standing Order 224 (2), laid on the Table of the Senate, on Wednesday, 28th May, 2025.

Order read;

Order deferred.

10. **MOTION – REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS OF SELECT COMMITTEES DURING THE FOURTH SESSION (2025)**

(The Chairperson, Liaison Committee)

THAT, the Senate notes the Report of the Liaison Committee on the activities and operations of Select Committees during the Fourth Session (2025) pursuant to Standing Order 224 (2), laid on the Table of the Senate, on Thursday, 18th June, 2026.

Order read;

Order deferred.

And there being no other business on the Order Paper, the Deputy Speaker interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate at thirty-five minutes past eleven O'clock without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

11. **SENATE ROSE** – at thirty-five minutes past eleven O'clock.

M E M O R A N D U M

The Speaker will take the Chair on
Wednesday, July 22, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.

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