Thirteenth Parliament
(No. J.S./05)

Fifth Session
(001)

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

JOINT SITTING OF PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2026 AT 2.30 P.M.

1. Parliament assembled at thirty minutes past Two O'clock.

2. **ARRIVAL OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT**

   The President and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces, His Excellency Hon. William Samoei Ruto, PhD, CGH, escorted by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the National Assembly and accompanied by Maces of both Houses, entered the Chamber at Thirty minutes past Two O'clock.

3. The Proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker of the Senate.

4. **CONVOCATION BY THE SPEAKER OF THE SENATE**

   The Speaker of the Senate conveyed the following communication from the Chair:

   "Your Excellency Hon. (Dr.) William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces;

   The Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula, EGH, MP, Speaker of the National Assembly;

   Honourable Members of Parliament;

   Article 132 (1)(b) of the Constitution provides that the President shall address a special sitting of Parliament once every year and may address Parliament at any other time.

Article 132 (1)(c) of the Constitution further provides that the President shall, among other things, once every year, report in an address to the Nation, all the measures taken and the progress achieved in the realization of the national values referred to in Article 10 of the Constitution.

In addition, Article 240 (7) of the Constitution requires the President, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the National Security Council (NSC), to report to Parliament annually on the state of the security of Kenya.

In this regard, the Chief of Staff and Head of Public Service, *vide* a letter referenced *EOP/CAB.26/4A VOL. VIII/(115)* dated 19th August, 2026, informed the Speakers of the Houses of Parliament of the intention of His Excellency the President to address Parliament.

Consequently, and upon consultation, the address to Parliament by His Excellency the President was scheduled for today, Wednesday, 18th November, 2026 *vide* a letter referenced *NA/DLPS/IHOD/SOTNA/2026/029* dated 12th November, 2026.

Pursuant to Standing Order 25 (2) of the Senate Standing Orders, I notified Honourable Senators of the place, date and time of today's special sitting *vide Gazette* Notice No. 17694, which was published in a Special Issue of the Kenya *Gazette* on Friday, 13th November, 2026.

Further, pursuant to Standing Order 22 (2) of the National Assembly and 25(2) of the Senate the Right Honourable Speakers of the Houses of Parliament, notified all Members of Parliament and the general public of today's special sitting *vide* notices placed in the daily newspapers on Saturday, 14th November, 2026 and Monday, 16th November, 2026.

Accordingly, Honourable Members, this special sitting is properly convened.

I thank you."

5. **CONVOCATION BY THE SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The Speaker of the National Assembly conveyed the following communication from the Chair:

"Your Excellency, Hon. (Dr.) William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces;

The Rt. Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, MP, Honourable Speaker of the Senate;

The Honourable Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court;

Honourable Members of Parliament;

Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen;

Article 132(1)(b) of the Constitution requires the President to address the nation once every year and at any other time. Further, Article 132(1) (c) (i) of the Constitution requires the President to, once every year, report, in an address to the nation, on measures taken and progress achieved in the realization of our national values.

Additionally, Article 132 (1) (c) (iii) of the Constitution provides that the President shall submit a report for debate to the National Assembly on the progress made in fulfilling the international obligations of the Republic.

Further, Article 240 (7) of the Constitution requires the President, in his capacity as the Chairperson of the National Security Council (NSC), to report to Parliament annually on the state of security of Kenya.

In this regard, Hon. Members, by way of a Message to the House, His Excellency the President conveyed his desire to address a Special Sitting of the Houses of Parliament today, Wednesday, 18th November 2026. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 22 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, by Gazette Notice No. 17693, which was published in a Special Issue of the Kenya Gazette on Friday, 13th November, 2026, and indeed as also notified to all Members and the general public in newspaper notifications published on 14th and 16th November, 2026, I gave Notice of this Special Sitting of Parliament.

Accordingly, Honourable Members, this Special Sitting is properly convened.

Your Excellency, Honourable Members, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is in the custom of Parliament to recognize invited guests seated in our galleries. I therefore wish to recognize the following guests who are seated in the Speaker's Row –

(i) Her Excellency Rachel Ruto, First Lady of the Republic of Kenya;
(ii) His Excellency Hon. (Prof.) Kithure Kindiki, EGH, the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya;

(iii) Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH, Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs;

Your Excellency, Hon. Members, also present this afternoon is our Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court, Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EGH. She is accompanied by Hon. Lady Justice Njoki Ndungu, CBS, Judge of the Supreme Court, Hon. Justice Gatembu Kairu, CBS, President of the Court of Appeal, Hon. Justice Eric Ogola, CBS, Principal Judge of the High Court, Hon. Justice Oscar Angote, EBS, Principal Judge of the Environment and Land Court, and Hon. Justice Monica Mbaru, MBS, Principal Judge of the Employment and Labour Relations Court.

We are also honoured to have in our midst former Speakers of the Senate, who are, the Governor for Bungoma County, the Hon. Kenneth Lusaka, EGH and the Hon. Ekwee Ethuro, EGH. Also in the gallery, we have the Chairperson of the Council of Governors, who is also the Governor of Tharaka Nithi County, the Hon. Muthomi Njuki, and the Governor of Nairobi City County, Hon. Johnson Sakaja.

May I also accord special recognition to all Cabinet Secretaries present and particularly acknowledge five of them, who are former ranking members of the Houses of Parliament. They are, Hon. Aden Duale, EGH, former leader of the Majority Party in the National Assembly, Hon. John Mbadi, EGH, and Hon. Opiyo Wandayi, EGH, both former Leaders of the Minority Party in the National Assembly, and Hon. Alice Wahome, EGH, former Member of Parliament for Kandara.

I also acknowledge Principal Secretaries and members of the diplomatic corps, Heads of Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices, and State Corporations present. You are all welcome to Parliament.

Your Excellency, I wish to make a special welcome to Parliament and mention the leadership of our discipline forces, among them, the Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces, General Charles Kahariri, and the respective Service Commanders, the Inspector General of Police, and other leaders of our disciplined forces who are seated at the Speaker's Row. As Parliament, we continue to commend them for their selfless service to this nation.

Your Excellency, Hon. Members, I am also privileged to acknowledge the presence of the Government Chief Whip of the Republic of Uganda, the Hon. Dr. Jane Ruth Aceng Ocero, MP, who is seated in the Speaker's Row.

To all invited guests, Karibuni Bunge.

Your Excellency, Hon. Members, this 14th State of the Nation Address comes immediately after the just concluded 3rd Global Parliamentary Summit, convened by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations in collaboration with Parliament of Kenya. The Summit provided an important platform for dialogue and strengthened partnerships for addressing food insecurity and malnutrition.

Participants conveyed their profound appreciation for your participation; the warm hospitality and the exceptional courtesies extended to them throughout their stay by the People and the Government of Kenya.

We are expected to spur the implementation of the commitments and further strengthen international cooperation while inspiring sustained collective action towards the realization of a world free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

From all international participants and indeed Parliament, we truly appreciate you for honouring us by gracing and participating in the Summit.

Your Excellency, Honourable Members, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is now my singular honour and privilege to invite His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Defence Forces to address this Special Sitting of Parliament.

Welcome, Your Excellency."

Thereupon, the Speaker invited H.E. the President to address the Joint Sitting of the two Houses.

6. PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 132 OF THE CONSTITUTION

Pursuant to Article 132(1) (b) and 132(1) (c) of the Constitution, His Excellency the President delivered an address to the Joint Sitting of Parliament.

7. ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE

The Speaker of the Senate conveyed the following:

"Your Excellency the President, the Right Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly, Honourable Members and distinguished guests, please be up standing.

We have come to the conclusion of the business of the day and it is now time to adjourn.

The Senate stands adjourned until Thursday, 19th November, 2026 at 2:30 pm in the Senate Chamber."

8. **ADJOURNMENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The Speaker of the National Assembly conveyed the following communication from the Chair:

"Honourable Members of the National Assembly, the National Assembly now stands adjourned until Thursday, 19th November, 2026 at 2:30 pm.
May I take this opportunity to invite all Honourable Members and our guests to a Reception at the Parliament Courtyard.

May I also request all Honourable Members and our guests to remain standing in your places until the procession of His Excellency the President and the Speakers leaves the Chamber."

9. **DEPARTURE OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT**

Thereupon, His Excellency the President departed from the Chamber in State procession.

10. **PARLIAMENT ROSE** - at thirty-seven minutes past Four O'clock.

M E M O R A N D U M

The Speakers will take respective Chairs on
Thursday, 19th November, 2026 at 2:30 p.m.

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