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CountyAssembly of
Samburu
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COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU
SECOND ASSEMBLY
(FIFTH SESSION)
REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS

Honorable Speaker

Pursuant to Standing Order 42(2), I hereby request for a statement from the Chairperson Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and Marketing regarding county Government preparedness and response to the current severe drought for the entire County.

Honorable Speaker,

Samburu County Disaster Management Act, 2015 provide for a more effective organisation of the mitigation of, preparedness for, response to and recovery from emergencies and disasters

Honorable Speaker,

One of the objective of the Samburu County Disaster Management Act, 2015 is to enhance the capacity of the county government of Samburu to effectively manage the impacts of disasters and emergencies and to take all necessary action to prevent or minimize threats to life, health and the environment from natural disasters and other emergencies;

Honorable Speaker,

The drought in Samburu County is worsening by the day, with desperate families trekking long distances in search of food, water and pasture for their livestock. Women, children and the elderly are the most affected, as the dry spell persists in the northern and Esthern parts of the county.

Honorable Speaker,

Majority of Samburu people have been affected by the drought and are at risk of starvation.

Honorable Speaker,

The emergency had several causes and exacerbating factors. First Samburu County arid and semi-arid lands have experienced increasingly frequent droughts

in the last two decades. This means that households in these areas have not had sufficient time to recover from previous droughts before the next one hits, increasing their vulnerability to food insecurity and poverty. Second, conflict in these areas exacerbated the effect of the drought, disrupting lives and livelihoods and preventing external assistance from reaching affected populations at the right time.

Honorable Speaker,

Livestock forms the basis of the livelihoods of pastoralists. Drought has a direct effect on the performance of the livestock sector, and hence on the food and livelihood security of most pastoralists. The provision of adequate water, and ensuring that sufficient livestock assets remain, was thus crucial..

Inadequate pasture and water for livestock led men to migrate to other regions in search of better pastures. Women, children and the elderly remained behind, with little means of survival. Food availability and access sharply declined, and drinking water became scarce. Inadequate food undermined the nutritional and health status of most households, while water scarcity often led to unhygienic conditions, resulting in water-borne diseases such as diarrhoea and typhoid. The lack of food, combined with compromised health conditions, led to malnutrition and increased morbidity and mortality, especially among children under five years of age, the elderly, and the sick.

Honorable Speaker;

In view of this, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on;

- i. Does the County relevant department has plans for the food distribution to the people experiencing crisis/acute food insecurity?**
- ii. When will food and water be delivered to the affected Samburu residents to intervene the situation?**

SIGN.....

HON. Elizabet Kalapata

MCA-Specially Elected

DATE.....