

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 20th July, 2016

The Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 9:30 a.m.

The Speaker, County Assembly of Samburu (Mr. Steve Lelegwe) in the chair

PRAYER

STATEMENTS

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Thank you hon. Speaker, I rise to give response of the statement No. 009/2016. Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei requested for a statement on 8th of June, 2016 from the chairperson of the sectoral committee on Tourism, Trade and Cooperative Development concerning the posho mill at Nachola ward.

The committee conveyed the request for the statement to the County Executive Member in charge of Cooperative, Trade Investment, Tourism and Enterprise Development and on behalf of the committee; I wish to convey the communication received from the CEC. I request to read the response as it is.

Reference is made to the County Assembly of Samburu to the County Ministry of Cooperative Development, Trade Investment, Tourism and Enterprise Development to provide a statement with regard to the statement by hon. Lawrence Lorunyei, MCA Nachola ward concerning the state of posho mill in Nachola ward. The department wishes to respond as follows:

- I.** The state of Nachola posho mill; the department procured and installed the posho mill for Nachola ward at Marti under the management of Kapana Women's Group. It was commissioned by H E Moses Lenoolkulal on 28th January, 2016.
- II.** The number of posho mills; the department procured 17 posho mills and each ward was given one except for Loosuk and Wamba East ward which received two posho mills each.
- III.** How much was allocated for the posho mills and how much was spent? The total purchase and installation of the posho mills was Kshs. 5 million as for the 2013/2014 fiscal year's budget. The five million was inclusive of the procurement, transportation and installation of the 17 posho mills. The 17 posho mills were delivered to the sub-counties as follows:

Samburu North was given six posho mills:

- i. Baawa ward at a place called Leir under *Nainyoiye* self-help group.
- ii. Ang'ata Nanyokie ward, at Barsaloi under *Melita* self-help group.
- iii. Nyiro ward at Waso Rongai, under Waso Rongai women's group.
- iv. Elbarta ward at Masikita under *Masikita* women's group.
- v. Ndoto ward, at Lesirikan under *Namayiana* cooperative society.
- vi. Nachola ward, at a place called Marti under *Kapana* women's group.

Samburu East:

- i. Waso ward, Sere Olipi village under *Elkirammat* women's group.
- ii. Wamba East ward at Wamba town under Wamba women's group.
- iii. Wamba East ward again at Loolkuniyiani under *Loolkuniyiani* women's group.
- iv. Wamba North ward at Ngilai under *Lng'ope* youth group.
- v. Wamba West ward at Lodung'okwe under *Lkishami* group.

Samburu central:

- i. Lodokejek ward at Lodokejek centre under *Nabulu* self-help group.
- ii. Maralal ward at Shabaa under *Melauni* women's group.
- iii. Loosuk ward at Loosuk under *Naapu* women's group.
- iv. Loosuk ward at Seepei under *seepei* women's group.
- v. Suguta Marmar ward at Loongewan under Loongewan women's group.
- vi. Porro ward at Sawan under *Naining'o* self-help group.

Thank you Hon. Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Thank you hon. Members, from the schedule of responses to statements, statement No. 001/2016 from the Chair of Cooperative Investment, Tourism, Trade and Enterprise Development requested by hon. Lawrence Lorunyei Nachola ward.

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Thank you hon. Speaker, I also have response to the second statement asked by hon. Member for Nachola ward who requested the statement on 23rd June, 2016 from the Committee on Cooperative, Trade, Investment, Tourism and Enterprise Development regarding the specific projects and functions of the Samburu County's Baragoi Conservation Unit in Samburu North sub-county, especially in Nachola ward.

The committee conveyed and requested for a statement from the County Executive Committee member in charge of Cooperative, Trade, Investment, Tourism and Enterprise Development and on behalf of the committee, I wish to report the communication received from the County Executive Member in charge.

Hon. Speaker, we have a lengthy statement here which I believe all members are provided with similar copies and I am going to read part of it and elaborate on the questions raised and I request members to follow keenly because it is lengthy and with your permission, I can read.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Thank you hon. Lelenkeju, proceed and give summary of the statement.

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Jackson Lelenkeju): Thank you hon. Speaker. Reference is made by the County Assembly of Samburu to the Ministry of Cooperative, Trade, Investment, Tourism and Enterprise Development in regard to the statement by the hon. Lorunyei, MCA Nachola ward, concerning the specific functions and projects of the Baragoi conservation area, Samburu north sub-county. The department wishes to respond as follows:

1. Functions of the county government mandated to conservancies in the county: The ministry wishes to state that the county government through the department of Cooperatives, Trade, Tourism and Enterprise Development established five new conservation areas including three conservancies at Samburu North sub-county at Ndoto,

Baragoi and Nyiro. The main objective is to empower the local community to take charge and play an active role in the conservation of the natural resources of which their livelihood, by and large, depend on.

Other duties and responsibilities that are specific to the conservancy management umbrella board include:

- Build capacity and monitor performance of staff.
- Manage conservancy asset, equipment and infrastructure.
- Project monitor all conservancy programmes and activities.
- To monitor members participation in community based conservation programmes and build their capacity.
- To collaborate, network and liaise with the internal and the external institutions in support of the conservation and programmes in community development.
- File all minutes of the conservancy report of the conservancy.
- To ensure equipment and fair benefits distribution to the conservancy and the community development programmes.
- To keep community members informed regularly on the financial status of the conservancy and any other matter of importance to the members.
- To solicit or determine the technical assistance and training needs of the conservancy and solicit such assistance wherever appropriate.
- To appoint in consultation with the department and other relevant conservation partners and stakeholders responsible and suitable managers to ensure the success of the conservancy.
- To apply and monitor wildlife quarters through reports and scouts patrols
- To establish in collaboration with relevant stakeholders – KWS, County Government representative, a Problem Animal Management Programme for animal responsible for extensive damage to infrastructure, threats and loss of human life in the conservancy.

- To organize and conduct board management committee meetings and annual general meetings of the conservancy.
- To oversee management of the conservancy revenue and expenditure if any.
- To maintain an inventory of all property and assets.

The second question was asking about the administration relationship between Baragoi Conservancy and the Samburu County's Sub-county Administrator. It is indicated as follows:

The progress of the conservancy in terms of conservation, especially in Nachola ward, is well elaborated and the progress made in the achievement of the above objective especially in Baragoi conservation where Nachola ward is included is as follows:

1. Provision of job opportunities to the local population i.e. employment of 50 scouts at Baragoi conservation area and appointment of 36 units management committees.
2. Increase of areas under active and stable wildlife population which is attributed to the...
(Interrupted by a call for a point of information)

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Hon. Leakono, the member is still reading the statement.

MCA Elbarta Ward, (hon. Romano Leakono): On the same statement hon. Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Continue.

MCA Elbarta Ward, (hon. Romano Leakono): Thank you hon. Speaker. We appreciate the member for reading the statement half-way and leaving the other for us to read. I don't think it is in order for us to follow a statement which we are told to read and we cannot be able to give any contributions unless we break for some minutes then we come back after reading the statement. I think it is important that he reads everything. I think that is the order of the proceedings.

MCA Ndoto Ward, (hon. Raisy Letura): Thank you Mr. Speaker. This house will be taken back if hon. Members want to understand the statement as the Chair is replying. I think that whenever

a member has an interest in reading the statement they should come early so as not to take us back.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Thank you hon. Members. The Chair ruled that the member giving the statement to read it in summary as most copies have been provided to the members for information. Hon. Leakono, make sure you have a copy of the response from the Chair of the committee. Proceed hon. Lelenkeju.

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Lelenkeju): Thank you Speaker for the clear indulgence and wisdom.

3. Provision of alternative means of transport which is available and easily accessible to local community needs i.e. 3 conservancy vehicles were allocated to Baragoi conservation area, Nachola, Bendera and Morijo.
4. Protection of endangered wildlife species within the conservation area e.g. gray zebras and increase the population of other wildlife species.
5. Improvement of infrastructure and security upon which tourism sector depends on.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lelegwe): Hon. Lelenkeju, you can continue giving the statement in summary.

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Lelenkeju): Thank you Speaker Sir.

6. Incentive to community wildlife conservation enhanced i.e. creation of job opportunities, trainings, rangeland management and tourism opportunities.

Number 4: What were the budgetary allocations for the conservancy for the last three financial years? The new budget allocated and approved by the county assembly for the support of five newly established community conservancies and existing ones for the last three financial years is as follows:

- 2013/2014 was Kshs. 70 million.
- 2014/2015 was Kshs. 90 million.
- 2015/2016 was Kshs. 90 million

Out of these allocations, Baragoi conservation area was allocated Kshs, 16, 278, 000 per year to cater for general operations including vehicle maintenance, fuels, personnel salaries, allowances, equipment maintenance, committee allowance, and food ration for the scouts and administration fees.

Other items that require public procurement procedures that are budgeted under the conservancy support i.e. constructions; consultancy, awareness creation and capacity building and purchase of equipment are directly handled at the department level in consultation with the conservancy board. Thank you.

MCA Loosuk ward, (hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Thank you hon. Speaker. I thank hon. Lelenkeju for the detailed response to the statement. Since hon. Lorunyei asked for the statement touching on conservancies and such statements help the house in contributing to the general status of conservancies in our county. I brought a complaint from rangers through a statement in regard to lack of payment of their allowances.

Effective and efficient implementation of conservancy activities relies on activeness of unit conservancy committees. In my area, we have Ltungai-Malaso Conservancy and it is now about three years and I haven't seen the committee having meetings which has resulted to poor implementation of activities because we had work-plans. MCAs were also incorporated as ex-officio where we have hon. Lesoipa and me in the region.

For the last few months, I have even been contributing from my own pocket and even last Monday, I took food to the rangers who are living in a very insecure zone with no water. I call upon the Chair to convene the Tourism Committee and urge the department to address such

issues. We were also told by the rangers that they are not getting Shs. 2, 000 allowances for ration. So, please follow on that. Thank you.

MCA Suguta Marmar Ward, (hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Thank you Speaker Sir. I thank the Chair for the response. I stand guided because I don't see the document bearing any official stamp from the department but let me hope it is a genuine document.

What the member for Loosuk has said is true. The management of the scouts is difficult as seen through the management committees. The rangers are working hard but receiving little attention from the committees.

The agreement that the county government had with the conservancies is coming to elapse while the conservancies are not stable or in capacity to manage themselves. My worry is on what the department is doing to see that the work which we started does not end in vain. I wish the department will continue helping the conservancies to grow. I hope the Chair will highlight on the agreement so that we are not worried of starting projects that we cannot sustain.

MCA Elbarta ward, (hon. Romano Leakono): Thank you hon. Speaker. I commend the hon. Chair for the good response but there are some anomalies that we are witnessing in the conservancies. Apart from the Shs. 2, 000 allowances mentioned, there is this question that I think hon. Lorunyei was trying to find out on the relationship between the sub-county administrators and the rangers. Who is controlling the rangers? Are they for the community or the county government? The conservancies belong to the people of Samburu County and we believe that the rangers also belong to them.

There is a difference between the ownership of the rangers and the county government. That is not coming out clearly and needs clarification. We also hear that they are becoming other people's militia. It is a serious allegation and that is why they are not being supplied with firearms. No one understands in whose hands they are. The Chair has to dig out and table next time.

There is also the issue where the County Government was supposed to assist the conservancies for three years that is if I am not wrong, that was what was said. Capacity was to be build and exposed so that they could market to attract people like NRT and the rest who could meet with the people of Samburu County and make them self-sustaining.

We normally see a danger that the Government works by law and not by the wishes of people at the offices all the time. The three years are over and what are the arrangements? The more we fund the conservancies the more we do them illegally no matter how important they are. We are failing to realize our dreams. There is a lot to this that needs to be done by the Hon. Chair.

MCA Ndoto Ward, (Hon. Raisy Letura): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I would like to commend the Chair and also our Committee of Tourism for the response brought to this House. I also commend Samburu County for initiating the conservancies. It is in the formed Counties history that our County was the first in forming the community conservancies. Not only forming the conservancies but also supporting them with a lot of money passed in this Hon. House in the last three years.

As a Member of this hon. House and also the Committee that initiated these conservancies, I need to shed some light on the response brought from the Ministry of Tourism. The conservancies are not actually self-sustaining. Most newly formed conservancies were provided for with vehicles, they have been given budgets and the County Government also maintains the vehicles.

90 million is not little money. I want to give an example of Ndoto ward conservation area where we have problems. The hon. Deputy Speaker talked about the issue of food ration allowance which was about two thousand shillings and I also have the same problem in Ndoto. We are all Members of that board as ex-officials. I have attended several meetings of the board in Ndoto ward. We were in agreement that the two thousand be given to the rangers directly to manage their issues on food.

The issue of food allowance and lunch allowances is beyond the department because it is at the board level. I think that every other board or any other conservancy unit have their own way of managing their own money. The only money handled by the board is the field allowance. It is about two thousand shillings used as field allowance. Not all of them will go for the field trips. Sometimes a few go at the end of the month.

We need to improve the internal system of every unit. However, the Members of this House need to participate fully on the board meetings because that is the only way to know what is happening and even to strengthen the internal system of that particular unit. I accept that there are challenges as Samburu County Government.

Members of this Assembly are not aware that the Governor of Samburu County has been chosen as Chairman of the conservancies nationwide. We have been appreciated by the Government and that is why we need to strengthen the entire system of our conservancies like what hon. Leakono was saying about handing over conservancies in three years. We are part of this Government and as a House we will not leave these conservancies to die because they cannot stand on their own. They are not strong enough to support themselves.

The ministry should work hard to ensure that there is effort directed in ensuring that they employ there managers, accountants and even clerks who can initiate writing of proposals and to various organizations like the NRT which supports conservancies from far East and also the North. We need to push the agreement that the conservancy will be supported for three years. We need to be part and parcel of the agreement so that the County Government supports conservancies. I spoke with *wazee's* from my area in Nguronit and they said that forest destruction has been reduced because they have rangers in Nguronit area. The posts are not sold in Marsabit.

I was in Lesirikan and forest destruction has been reduced. All these is due to the work of the community rangers. I personally appreciate community conservancy and we need to support it. As a Committee and an Assembly, we need to engage with the Tourism so that the signed agreement is extended to three or more years, so that if the current Government changes, though

I am sure that it is the same Governor who will come, it should also extend and carry on the work that this Assembly had started. Thank you Mr. Speaker

MCA Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I propose this for the Chair of Tourism that when we have meetings with the board and the department, it is good that we make a policy or several agreements that will end at some particular points so that the Government supports such conservancies because it is helping our County in terms of natural resources conservations of Flora and Fauna.

On the issue of rangers' allowances, I am also a Member of Tourism, and we will also seek audience to activate such boards. I will re-seek the statement because my rangers are complaining that when they receive allowances there is a space written seven thousand as salaries and the space supposed to be two thousand is blank. They are told to sign and in the subsequent months they find out that a few more thousands is inserted, signed which they have not taken. We will make a follow up, Thank you.

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Lelenkeju): Thank you hon. Speaker, I begin with hon. Romano Leakono MCA Elbarta ward who has asked to know who is in charge of the scouts whether it is the administrator or the community. The rangers fall under the department of Tourism and they are being managed by the boards elected by the communities or committees. You know that these people or the conservancies are still the operations of the County Government. The Sub-County Administrator oversees projects of the County in the sub-county level. Protect me hon. Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Steve Lelegwe): Order hon. Leakono.

Chair, Committee on Trade, Tourism and Cooperative Development, (hon. Lelenkeju): Thanks for your protection hon. Speaker Sir. They entirely report to board management and the committees. On what hon. Letura said, we recognize with total support how much it has contributed to the security and how much it helps the locals. We need to maintain it not only in

the next Government without putting balancing it on who comes next or which governor comes in next. The department has gone ahead to prepare a bill to protect the conservancies now and in the future. The Tourism Committee will sit next week.

The Committee would have sat this week but the Member in charge was in Nairobi on an official function. We will see the bill and the Members with concerns will have the opportunity to protect the conservancies and see that we continue funding them. The Members have no need to worry. The bill is already underway and it is timely. We will put all the clauses that we require and we will also remember that the Samburu East people need to be reconsidered in several ways. We have no scouts but only 10 for Loosesia and other old conservancies.

TAKE D (LEMETEKI)