

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 18th August, 2021

The Assembly met at the County Assembly chambers at 2:30 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa) in the Chair

PRAYER

STATEMENT

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Hon. Members, there is a statement request by the Leader of Majority, Christopher Lentukunye to the Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development. The Hon. Majority Leader.

The Leader of Majority, (Hon. Christopher Lentukunye): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 42(2), I hereby request for a statement from the Chair Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development Committee regarding the implementation status of the Budget for financial year 2020/2021 on initiation of New Group Ranches namely; Nairimirimo, Kukwar, Ngare-Narok and Silalei among others.

Mr. Speaker, the group ranch concept was implemented in various districts in Kenya in the mid-1960s and early 1970s and aimed at overcoming some of the problems related to sharing land resources. The sharing was based on a defined livestock quota system which was not implemented. Individual members' benefits depended on herd size, especially the size of the breeding herd which determined herd growth. The group ranch approach advocated a public policy of destocking through periodic livestock sales aimed at achieving proper carrying capacity but this was viewed negatively by most pastoralists.

Mr. Speaker, land is an important resource as it anchors most human development activities. Moreover, land is used not only as economic resource but also as a socio-cultural tool. Land in the County is either owned as registered community land that is group ranches, unregistered community land (held in trust by County Government), public and private land as leasehold or freehold.

The County is blessed with huge land mass of an approximate size of 21, 022 square kilometers and it host numerous natural resources and human activities. Of the total area, 3,103.41km² of the County land area is under gazette forests: 170km² (equivalent to 0.85%) is under game reserves and animal sanctuary; 1.8 km² is under surface water and 16,746.8 Km² or 83.64% is

the land remaining for occupation under urban center, Group ranches, land set aside for public uses, individual ownership and hosting other natural features.

The significant land cover within the County is rangeland and gazette forest that occupies 15.5% of the County. On the other hand, the dominant land uses include pastoralism, wildlife conservation such as West Gate, Namunyak, Kalama and Samburu National Reserve, urban development and crop farming.

Honourable Speaker, the registered community land constitutes what is referred to as group ranches. Presently, the County has forty-three (43) group ranches and an approximately 26,551 registered members with the majority being found in Samburu West and East and the least being in Samburu North. Out of the 43 registered community land, 21 of them are found in Samburu central, 10 in Samburu North and 11 in Samburu East. This shows that Samburu Samburu central advanced in regard to securing of tenure compared to North yet North is vast.

These 43 registered group ranches have an approximate total size of 829,371.88 Ha (8,293.72 Km²) if compared to the total size of registerable land with exception of gazette forest, gazette lake (16,746.8 Km²) then the registered community land occupies 49.52% and if subjected to the total land mass of the County the registered community land occupies 39.45% of the County.

Honourable Speaker, all the above registered community land (group ranches) have collected their title deeds. There are unregistered community land that are in the process of being registered; these include Kukwar, Nairimirimo while Ngare Narok remains undeclared.

Honourable Speaker, in view of this, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on;

- 1) How much money was allocated for initialization of forming new group ranches for FY 2020/2021?
- 2) The Level of implementation in terms of percentages progress and all activities carried out and amount involved.
- 3) The methodology of implementation.

Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Very well Majority Leader. I think Members have a room to ventilate on the matter before I give it to the Chairperson of the respective Committee and if the Majority Leader has some input into the matter you are at liberty, the Majority Leader.

The Majority Leader, (Hon. Christopher Lentukunye): Thank you once again Hon. Speaker. As I indicated in the statement, that land is an important resources and we as the County Assembly our role is oversight, representation and legislation.in legislation we pass Budgets and once we provide Budgetary allocations for certain activities we sometimes find that the Department concerned and mandated to implement these policies or Budgets. We see that Budget is implemented in a different way from what the funds were meant for.

Mr. Speaker in the last FY I was talking about this House passed a Budget that provided for registering of community lands but I and the people I represent did not see such activity undertaken. I believe that may be those funds were utilized for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker since the Chairperson was given enough time to respond to the statement sort so he should respond urgently and I urge the House to make sure that the Executive gives responses of statements we sort in this House.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lobura Antonella): Thank you Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to be heard. Mr. Speaker as per now we have seen the Department collecting inventories for those unregistered land and as we know most of those lands are in Nyiro Ward and Ndoto Ward and we expect the Department to achieve on this because we have been allocating enough funds to the Department. Therefore, the Department should ensure that the unregistered lands are registered for the benefit of our people, thank you Hon. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank Hon. Lobura. Hon. Members the mood of the House shows the matter is well ventilated into. Chairperson Committee Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development when will respond to the statement.

Chairperson Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development, (Hon. Lekwale Lucas): I would like to request the House to allow the Committee to give a comprehensive response on Wednesday 1st September, 2021 at 2:30 Pm, thank you.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Kalapata Elizabeth): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I think there was a Statement I sort last week and I think it was supposed to be responded to this afternoon.

(The Deputy Speaker consults with the Clerk)

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Actually the clerk informed me that there is no response to the statement sort, but I think we need to track. Hon. Kalapata has sought a Statement on the drought issue and the food security that we are supposed to mitigate and give to our people that we follow that Statement since people are suffering. Our people depend on cows and goats. We want to know what measures that the department has taken to mitigate the drought. I understand that there is food that has been distributed which we were not involved. We do not know who were the beneficiaries. I seek your guidance and fast track that Statement so that we can know the way forward, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Very well hon. Lucas Lekwaale. Hon. Members though not official; it so happened though not official that the CO concerned Lesaigor brought the Statement and handed over to the Chair of Finance hon. Leshoomo and maybe due to other commitments...I am sure that there is that Statement that has been received by the clerk but maybe the Chairperson of Finance could not table because of other commitments. The clerks should ensure that the response to Statements is table in the House as early as possible. Make sure you make a follow-up with hon. Leshoomo. Hon. Kalapata I witnessed that personally although not official but there is something tabled, thank you.

MCA Wamba East, (hon. Lucas Lekwaale): I am not trying to dispute your ruling but you need to be specific like tomorrow so that we can know when this Statement is going to be tabled. I respect you so much and I do not dispute your ruling.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): No problem. This is a House of rules and procedures. The Statement should be made available to this House next Tuesday please.

Specially Elected MCA, (hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to know what is the role of the Vice Chair in this House; I am the Vice Chair of Finance yet I am not aware. I do not think that we should delay Statements in this House just because the Chairperson is not in. This should be pursued, thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Yes, you are right procedurally hon. Stephanie on the rules and regulations of the House; it is only maybe that the Statement is not handed over to the Committee. I am sure on what is stated in the Standing Order and the regulations of the House, any answers or response to a Statement should be tabled to the Committee and actually received by the substantive clerk of the Assembly then referred to the Committee and that is why I want to believe that had the Chairman been here he would have guided us on the matter. It does not belong to the Chair, it is for the House and its Committees and for that you are right. Lesaigor brought the Statement and we directed him to take it to the clerk. I appeal with the Members of the House especially in the Sectoral Committees that it is not only for the Chair or for any Member, whatever the Clerk has received officially should be handed over to the Committee, this is why I say that it should be on Tuesday next week in the afternoon so that if the Statement is handed over they may have time to go through it. If it is found authentic to table then you are at liberty but if it is not authentic then you seek for more time, thank you. Is there any matter that Members feel that we should indulge in? very well. What we have discussed should be as we have put it on record, thank you.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Members the time being 17 minutes past four o'clock and there being no other business this Assembly now adjourns until Thursday 19th August, 2021 afternoon at 2:30 pm, Thank you.