

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Thursday, 7th March, 2019

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

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa) in the chair

PRAYER

MOTION

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I stand to move a motion concerning planting of trees: Aware that Article 42 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 accords every person the right to clean and healthy environment. Article 69 (1) (d) mandates the State to encourage Public Participation in the management, protection and conservation of the environment.

FURTHER AWARE that 75% of the land masses in Samburu County is classified as low potential range lands and only 7% is medium to high potential land that is sustainable for agriculture. Concerned that deforestation is one of the main contributors to climate change. Noting that Kenya and by extension Samburu County has not been spared by effects of global warming and climate change as a result of deforestation among others.

DEEPLY CONCERNED that this has adversely affected agriculture sector, which is considered as the backbone of the County economy and has also led to unreliable, erratic and inadequate rainfall, reoccurring and more prolonged drought, high temperatures and decreasing water levels in boreholes, wells and springs in the County.

COGNISANT of the fact that continuous loss of forest cover is likely to affect the water shade, ecosystem services which represents one of the most important loss of the forest ecosystem because such areas act as hydrological power house due to their ability to intercept rainfall and supply of water to urban and rural community.

AWARE THAT deforestation is a critical water shed, ecosystem has been attributed to significant changes in the magnitude and reasonability of water discharge in springs, streams and rivers.

FURTHER AWARE that the rapid expansion of Maralal town and other urban towns within Samburu County is likely to affect forest cover especially Kirisia forest and Matthew Ranges among others.

This House therefore urges the County Government of Samburu to introduce a policy on tree planting programme in all urban areas and households within Maralal town as well as promote planting of trees in learning institutions and health centers within the County. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker, I call upon Hon. Silapia to second the Motion

(Hon. Silapia Lenamatiyo bows to second the Motion)

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Hon. Members, I now propose that this House urges the County Government of Samburu to introduce a policy on tree planting programmes in all urban areas and households within and around major towns as well as promote planting of trees in learning institutions and health centers within the County.

Hon. Members you are now free to air your views pertaining to the same.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorumyei): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I also want to add some few things in support of the Motion. Deforestation is taking place in our County and we urge the Government to initiate a policy on planting of trees. How can the remaining trees be protected from being cut down? A mechanism must be made before initiating that policy to stop deforestation of our forest.

At Nachola, my Ward, people are good at cutting trees. On your way to Baragoi, you see charcoal being sold. Insecurity also causes cutting of trees because people come together and make big *Lorora* and camps.

Since the Department is aware of that, I urge them to look on how they can protect the few remaining trees and how the trees can be planted, protected and sustained. After planting them, the trees need to be taken care of. To give an example, many trees have been planted in Nachola primary school but we see none now and a lot of resources have been used. Helping the plants until they grow into big and useful trees should be considered while making the policy. I support the Motion, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Specially Elected Member, (Hon. Josephine Lesilampa): Wahenga walinena kwamba mgaaga na upwa hali wali mkavu lakini mahali tunaelekea twakula mkavu. Nachangia kupanda mti kwa Kaunti yetu. Sisi ni wafugaji na huwa tunategemea mali na bila mvua hatuwezi kua na hiyo mali

na saa hizi msitu yetu tumeshaimaliza. Mvua kidogo ikinyesha maji inateremka ata inaweza kubeba town. Tunaunga mkono tunasema tupande mti tupate mvua ndio tegemeo la hii kaunti

MCA Loosuk Ward, (Hon Adamson Lanyasunya) I stand to support this motion and from the background of the yesterday's motion and also on the basis that we all know that we need legislation which can promote tree planting in our County because we are seeing the natural forest is continuously being depleted for various purposes and usage. There is no replacement and we are slowly experiencing issues of climate change, global warming, erosion and eventually this County will become a desert and I know we already have laws that originated from the County government that prohibit illegal cutting of trees. The only elimination is that it lacks enforcement but the law is there but when it comes to planting of trees, no policy within the County government at National level that compels the populace to plant trees.

I support this policy and as we know a policy is a guideline which eventually makes any institution and for our County or environmental department to formulate a law and from this policy at a later date, we should give more weight in terms of natural resources and even the mover of the Motion to be keen so that we can make a follow up when the policy is being developed and then inputs can be given so that that policy can be given on provisional budget to enhance a tree planting, adequate planting in terms of tree planting, tree nursery in public institutions and even budget strategies on how to protect this trees because in many instances and many years we have seen trees being planted even the forest, the Kirisia forest, in Schools, we have even launched tree planting day even in my ward International tree planting day but due to lack of protection of those trees in terms of fencing, establishing nurseries, constructing boreholes around water puns, around dams, if we target all those strategies in this policy that will be enhancing our County and in few years just like what I have seen in Meru, you will see everywhere being a forest even though there is human settlement. So I fully support this policy and I fully support this motion, so I urge the members to pass the motion.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Zamzam Ismail): I rise to support this Motion, we know tree planting protects essential goods and services that make our life possible, we get free air, we get very fertile soil and it also regulates the climate. We also get clean water. The environmental pollution is created by men, the green grasses; the pollution is coming from the people. It is the

high time, as community, as leaders to grab this menace. We are all residence of Maralal, arrears like Lporos, the soil is so much eroded that it is impossible to pass there when there is rains. Areas such Loresho we have seen, but once we take these measures, we start planting trees, we are saving our planet and we are building an environment for the coming generation, we would like to urge the Department to come up with mitigation measures to see that we are very serious with tree planting we all know that it is always said that trees are the lungs of this planet. They breathe in carbon monoxide and give us clean oxygen. We fully support the motion and we are behind you. I would like to say that let us all hug the trees because when you hug a tree, it is like we are planting.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Osman Dube): Tunaomba hii Motion ipite kwa sababu mti ni uhai wa binadamu na wanyama. Ata Kwa Quran imetajwa mti na kiharabu wanasema washegen ni mti na mti ata mti inamsujudu mwenyezi Mungu na tukipanda mti mingi na ukiomba Mungu, mvua itamwagika kwa sababu ata ukiangalia msitu ata kama mvua hainyeshi, mvua inaendelea tu. Tunaunga mkono hii motion na tunashukuru mweheshimiwa mwenye kulete hii motion.

Temporary Speaker, (Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa): Very well, reading from the mood of the House, I think you are done with your contributions and I will now proceed to put the question.

I put the question, THAT this House urges the County Government of Samburu to introduce the policy on tree planting programme in urban areas and households within and around major towns as well as promote planting of trees in learning institutions and health centers within the County.

(Question put and Motion passed)

Hon. Members, today I want to be careful, the time being 30 minutes past 3 o'clock and there being no other business, this Assembly now adjourns until Tuesday afternoon, March 12th, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.