

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Thursday, 15th March, 2018

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

The Deputy Speaker, County Assembly of Samburu, (hon. Jonathan Lemoosa) in the Chair

PRAYER

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Deputy Speaker, (**hon. Jonathan Lemoosa**): Hon. Members, I would like to acknowledge present in the Speaker's gallery this afternoon of visiting persons from CARITAS Maralal. Being beneficiaries from its various programmes in Samburu East and West. These visitors are here to attend to today's session to learn how the business of the House is conducted.

I request each visitor to stand when called out so that they may be acknowledged in the County Assembly tradition, they are:

1. Fred Lesuyan
2. John Ojimbi
3. Jackson Lolngoijine
4. Rebecca Lengoiboni
5. Raphael Lolokuru
6. Kimoroko Mike
7. Patrick Maina
8. Joan Talam Kirwa
9. Ruven Adasa
10. Hezron Otieno

I hope that they have a fruitful visit and exposure. On behalf of this House and the Honourable Speaker of this House, Hon. Solomon Lempere and myself I welcome them to the Assembly and wish them well for the remaining part of the session, thank you.

MOTION

Chair, Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): I stand to move the following Motion

THAT Pursuant to Standing Orders 47 (1) The County Assembly debates and adapts the report of the Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism on the status of the Samburu National Reserve.

Hon. Speaker, I call upon Hon. Rosaline (Lesaibile) to second

(Hon. Rosaline Lesaibile bowing in seconding the motion)

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Very well, hon. Benjamin Leitore

Chair, Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow me to read the content of the report. I want to appreciate the Members of the Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism who accompanied me to Samburu National Reserve on a fact finding mission.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to present and table the report of status of the Samburu National Reserve to the County Assembly of Samburu by the Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism with the respective recommendations.

Mr. Speaker, as indicated in our Standing Orders 190 (5), the mandate of the Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism Shall be to;

- (a) investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned Departments*
- (b) Study the programme and policy objectives of Departments and effectiveness of the implementation*
- (c) Study and review all County legislation referred to it*
- (d) Study, asses and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives*

- (e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the Assembly*
- (f) To vet and report on all appointments where the constitution or any law requires the Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 184 (Committee on Appointments)*
- (g) Make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible , including recommendation of proposed legislations*

Mr. Speaker the Membership of the Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism comprises of the following Members:

1. Hon. Benjamin Leitore – Chair
2. Hon. Rosaline Lesaibile – Vice Chair
3. Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa - Member
4. Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia – Member
5. Hon. Lucas Lekwaale – Member
6. Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa – Member
7. Hon. Paul Leshimpiro – Member

The Committee thanks the Office of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly of Samburu for the support extended to it in the conduct of its mandate. The Committee thanks in particular the Members of the Assembly who actively participated in the development of this report, despite the fact that they are not the Members of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker, in that aspect I wish to extend my appreciation for the Member for Waso because he was a part of the Committee. It's my pleasure and duty pursuant County Assembly of Samburu County Standing Orders 178 (6) to present the report of the Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism for consideration by the House.

Committee on Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism is mandated to consider all matters to trade, markets and trade licenses excluding regulations of professional fair trading practices, local tourism and cooperative societies. In the exercise of this mandate and in the fulfillment of the Constitutional role of the County Assembly as approved under Article 185 of the Committee in its first sitting have establishment committed to ensure that Samburu National Reserve returns to or surpasses its former status.

The tourist industry has been identified as one of the key pillars under the government of Kenya near term blueprint for economic development popularly known as vision 2030. Samburu National Reserve was the single revenue source for Samburu County Council before devolution, since then it has been under threat from neglect from the management and the community around it.

Samburu National Reserve measures approximately 104 km square, relatively small compared to the other Kenya National parks such as Tsavo and Maasai Mara. It is re-known for its rare species of Animals unique to the park, namely the long neck Gerenuk, Gravy Zebra, Articulated Giraffe, Baize Oryx and the big five. Samburu National Reserve is one of the premier parks in Kenya in that its entrance fee are rated as premier and is highly visited like Maasai Mara, Amboseli and Nakuru.

Mr. Speaker, during the visit to the Reserve, the Committee held meetings with the CEC and the top management of the Park, Committee and the Communities surrounding it. We encountered some challenges.

Page eleven (3.0) The CEC was accompanied by Mr. Mathew Leakono and Mr. Leirana the Director and Deputy Director of Tourism respectively, they informed the Committee that contrary to the allegations by the SNR staff, the department has been supplying uniforms to the Rangers and the last batch was in 2015/2016 budget and the quotations for this financial year has already been placed, the said Officers said that the allegations were untrue and the combat uniform has not been supplied but it is in the quoted uniforms.

The department had challenges in administrative issues since they were unable to secure imprest to run SNR, they requested for it but it takes two months to be acquired. The CEC Member said that the challenges had been funding for the department because the budget is little having in mind that the new established conservancies purely depend on County government for its operations.

The issue of procurement was of great concern for the department that delaying of the implementation of the projects results to a lot of inconveniences especially on service delivery, poor marketing is also contributing to low tourists in the Park.

From the submission from the hon. Members the Committee made the following observations and findings:

1. The Committee was to do a follow up on the following administrative issues raised by the staffs;
 - (a) Staff uniforms
 - (b) Arms to the recruited Rangers
 - (c) Field allowances
2. The staffs are demoralized due to neglect by the department in terms of basic human resource management
3. Tourists' number has declined due to following factors;
 - (a) Encroachment of the park by the neighboring communities
 - (b) Poor infrastructure like Kalama airstrip and the roads within the park
 - (c) Poor management of the park by the officers in-charge
 - (d) Poor marketing and publicity of the Game Reserve

4. The conflicts between the Rangers and the Community has affected the operations of the park
5. The communities around the park are key in ensuring that it returns its former glory
6. The SNR management lacks innovative ideas to initiate programs that can lead to motivation of staffs
7. The Department of Cooperatives Developments, Trade and Tourism is not giving priorities to SNR in terms of funding and management which is the biggest source of revenue and conservation area in the County
8. The Officers are concerned of lack of field allowance and none consideration by the department of risks involved by the officers in the line of duty
9. The top management and all other sections except Rangers and revenue clerks of the department are in the County headquarter
10. There is a need of policy guideline to make SNR independent from the department in terms of operations
11. The Communities around the park have developed an attitude towards the park which makes them invade the park with livestock

The Committee's recommendations are as follows Mr. Speaker:

1. In order to address the issue of staff morale and make them feel important in achieving the government's objectives of reviving the park, the following items must be addressed:
 - (a) Rangers be provided with correct uniforms annually
 - (b) Sufficient arms are provided to the Rangers
 - (c) To ensure that field allowances are paid promptly and equitably
 - (d) To ensure that staff are decently housed

2. The department of Tourism should come up with legislative frame work that establishes SNR and make it semiautonomous which enables the park to be allocated funds separately from the department
3. In order to address the issues of encroachment by the neighboring communities the department should:
 - (a) Create a buffer zone and fence the conflict routes
 - (b) Ensure continuous engagement with the neighboring communities especially Loruko to relocate and create a buffer zone
4. To ensure that there is a cordial relationship between the management of the park and the community through;
 - (a) Capacity building and peace meetings
 - (b) Revenue sharing, the department should come up with clear formula that will enable smooth management of revenue collected and sharing in order to motivate the communities bordering the park, this strengthens the relationship
 - (c) The Department to introduce the corporate social responsibilities activities for the neighboring communities
5. The department to come up with a policy that establishes the Community park committees that guides the management of the park by community and the County government
6. In order to improve Tourists' visits to the park, the department should:
 - (a) Improve infrastructure within the park by ensuring that roads and airstrip are well maintained
 - (b) Ensure intensive marketing of the park is done both locally and international markets
 - (c) The County government should allocate enough funds for marketing programs

Thank you Mr. Speaker, those are the observations and recommendations by the Committee made on the visit to the Samburu National Reserve. I want to appreciate that you were also part of the team that visited the park and the Majority Members of the committee are present in the House and am sure they will give the necessary support to the report Mr. Speaker.

I want to acknowledge that most Members who are not the members of the committee understand the challenges that Samburu National Reserve faces. I want to indicate to the House that since our visit to the park, some of the issues mentioned in the report have not occurred again, there is a slight improvement in terms of encroachment but majorly from one side of the park that is from the northern side by the Isiolo community neighboring the park.

The communities living in Kalama, Kiltamany, West gate and Lorubae have taken our advice and most of them are now park protectors who protect the encroachment. This park has gone down in terms of revenue collection and management due to encroachment by the public. Once this report is passed it will become a remedy to the issues affecting the Samburu National Reserve which will lead to an increase in revenue collection to the previous level. I request the Hon. Members to give the necessary support to this report. Through this we will be able to know the objectives of the report in supporting the Samburu National Reserve, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon. Jarius Leshoomo): Thank you hon. Speaker. I support the report on the state of the Samburu National Reserve. I congratulate the Members of the Committee on the active development of this report. The report was well elaborate. The committee elaborated well the challenges of the Samburu National Reserve. The findings and recommendations of the committee on the report is very encouraging if they were implemented. The Implementation Committee of this House should take up the findings and recommendations and ensure implementation by the Executive where the National Reserve will get a facelift from this report, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Ang'ata Nanyokie Ward, (Hon. Paul Leshimpiro): Thank you Speaker, I am part of the Tourism Committee and one of the challenges that we indicated was that the Samburu National Reserve could not do their day to day activities without referring to the seniors in Maralal. One of the recommendations was to have it as a semiautonomous reserve which will enable

management of activities at the ground level. They are also in the process of constructing offices and infrastructure to enable management of basic things. There is also a tendency that all the MCAs in the area surrounding SNR need to cooperate and contribute positively for better management of the reserve.

The encroachment can be controlled if the MCAs participate all of them. During our visit we also noted that there was some kind of impunities where in some cases there were reports of superiors in the County Government who graze the animals in SNR, this gives others reasons to also graze their animals in the park. This form of impunity should be addressed since it encourages encroachment. We also noted poor revenue collection; we never really established whether it is the collection that is the problem or the remittance to the relevant authorities.

Twenty (20) years ago the SNR was able to sustain the then County Local Government and at a certain time we were able to collect around Kshs.400 million in a financial year unlike of-late. We have been looking so much up to the allocations from the National Government to the Samburu County Government. We saw that it was not necessary to continue to give special attention to the SNR to continue giving milk to us. Now that there was even a reduction on the amount given to us by the Samburu County Government, this then necessitates that we give the necessary attention to the SNR so that it goes back to its glory and helps in improving and filling the gaps where the National Government allocations is not sufficient. We look forward as a Committee that this House adopts this report and gives the necessary support that it requires so that SNR goes back to its former glory.

MCA Maralal Ward, (Hon. Fred Kiragu): Thank you very much Mr. Speaker Sir. I support the adoption of the report and it is very sad to note that such a facility is on its knees. The collection of the revenue was not Kshs.400 million as hon. Leshimpiro said but Kshs.500 million on an calendar month. This is a very serious issue where there was an income of Kshs.500 million per month and now it is on its knees because of negligence. This House should not allow this to happen. There is a problem with remittance; but does the revenue get paid and get stuck somewhere between the bank accounts and the collectors?

I have said before that we need to look into the issue of revenue collection especially the collection in Maralal; you find that instead of paying Ksh. 1000 for sand harvesting you are asked to pay Ksh. 400 and then you go without a receipt; could this be the issue in the SNR. This is an era where the communities around the park should see the need to protect the park. If the communities around the park see the collection and then get no benefits to protect the cooperatives around the park, the communities will develop a negative attitude towards the park where they may even destroy it.

Maybe the Committee concerned should visit the park and see who is in charge of impunity of grazing in the park. We should get their names. It seems that we have sacred cows that are not to be touched. This House should get the names and take disciplinary action. It is time to change this situation. If we have a shortage of funds that come from the National Government and then we cannot even take care of the goose that lays the golden eggs in our County it becomes a shame on us. I urge the Committee chaired by hon. Leitore to go to Maralal Sanctuary since it so close to us and undergoing the same situation. This is a facility that creates employment of over 100 people yet the unemployment rate in this town is very high yet these facilities are on its knees. We should get these senior people who manage SNR should be living in SNR. As the Committee Chair on Implementation, I promise that we will follow the recommendations to the latter as requested by hon. Leshoomo, thank you Mr. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Stephanie Lanyasunya): Thank you hon. Speaker. I concur and congratulate the Committee for the work done especially on the initiative they took to go and look at what is happening. It is unfortunate that this facility which used to be so famous, in the early 80s and 90s, this place was a prestige to go for a holiday. Samburu was recognized because of this facility. This place is now being run like a village.

Poor management has taken away the facility's glory. The department is mandated to market our facility. Why should the departments go and stay in better hotels in Mombasa and Nakuru yet their own hotel is neglected? We should market and improve our facility. We should go to Samburu Lodge for meetings and not Mombasa. Why support other places yet ours is on its knees? It is very shameful. If the staff are not properly motivated and work without uniforms

then they will obviously not take care of the place. The staff may even see poaching and decide to keep quiet. The encroachment happens because the community was not involved from the start. As stakeholders they should be involved on their stake. Corporate Social Responsibility is very important.

If the community is told that if you protect the lodge then they will get dispensaries, school fees and monthly stipends they will be motivated to take care of the place. We welcome the idea of making it semiautonomous. When someone is responsible on the ground it brings efficiency rather than coming all the way to the headquarters, thank you hon. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Josephine Lesilampa): Asante Bwana Spika. Samburu National Reserve ni rasilimali ya Kaunti ya Samburu. Ikiwa serikali kuu lisimamishe msaada wake kwetu, tutaumia kwa kuwa hatukuzingatia rasilimali zetu. Tunaunga mkono kamati la Tourism kwa kazi nzuri na waendeleo kufanya kazi nzuri. Hapo awali walikua na shida za hapa na pale lakini kwa sasa wako sawa. Hapo awali tulipokuwa bila ugatuzi, hao waliokota pesa na kuwa wa kwanza. Ni sababu gani ugatuzi ulipoingia na pesa nazo zikaenda chini? naomba waheshimiwa wenzangu wafwatilie hayo, Asante Mheshimiwa Spika.

MCA Baawa Ward, (Hon. Nicholas Leparsaiya): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. It is very shameful to totally depend on the National Government while we have the Maralal Safari Lodge and this reserve. I support the report and urge the House to support the report, thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Wamba East Ward, (Hon. Lucas Lekwaale): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I support the report as it is and also urge the hon. Members to support it. I am impressed and happy that the Chair on Implementation has spoken and I am sure that he will follow up. I am interested with the issue since my ward borders SNR; I was amused that the park was named as a Premium National Park which means that it is ranked very highly like the Tsavo. There were only two including the Mara. There were seven in Africa. In the whole world they are only 15. In this regard we cannot let SNR fall.

While I was in college, we used to come here and ask for bursaries. The park was managed and we can testify that we benefited from the park. What will our children gain if we lose this park? I urge the Members and the Committee on implementation to take this matter very seriously since the Chair is very able. I thank my colleagues who went there to do a fact finding mission. We made pledges to the communities before we came that we will ensure that things are done differently, thank you hon. Speaker.

MCA Nachola ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I support the report, Mr. Speaker this is an old National Reserve that has been supporting this County in the local authority and also lending money to other parts of the Country. How can it be said it lacks new ideas and innovations while it has so many years of experience? Sometimes back the same Reserve through the County Council took people abroad to market it every year. The report says there is lack of new ideas, poor infrastructure and marketing, devolution has brought us machineries, what are they for if they lay idle in the office while we have poor roads? Just as the report said, there is something wrong.

Samburu National Reserve used to make the County Council independent but now that it is supplemented by the County government it depreciates. The CEC (County Executive Committee Member) contradicts with the staffs, staffs complaining that they lack some things while the CEC says contrary to that. I congratulate the Committee and support their recommendation. Before anything was started there were policies set in place and if old, they should be renewed, I think the problem is with the human resource management because the County has been facilitating and funding thinking that it will be relieved of the dependence, I support the report.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you hon. Lawrence, hon. Zamzam Ismail

Specially Elected Member, (Hon. Zamzam Ismail): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I stand to support the report. Samburu National Game Reserve is our natural God given heritage, we have heard the report and the challenges and I thank the Committee for doing great job.

Mr. Speaker, I think Samburu National Reserve is the only game reserve in the Google map in the whole world, as the law makers of this House we embrace the report. I want to give an

example about Maasai Mara they had challenges and they embrace digitalization of everything. You can put a CCTV camera at the entrance of the park, if five cars enter it is recorded and when you get revenue you will know like maybe there were twenty cars then you will ask where the five other cars went to. I urge the House that we digitalize and protect our natural heritage.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you hon. Zamzam, Mheshimiwa Benjamin Leitore

Chair Committee on Tourism, Marketing and Cooperatives (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): Thank you Mr. Speaker, allow me to appreciate the necessary support by the Members for the report. My assurance to the House as the Chair is that once this report is passed and gets implemented

The first recommendation was that Samburu National Reserve should be made a semiautonomous body because it will get funds to the park without depending on department, we will come up with a legislation that will establish the Park as semiautonomous, there were issues that sometimes when visitors come to the park they cannot get even a toilet paper at the main gate if it is needed, making it semiautonomous will solve such problems because it will have its own funds and run its own issues. Issues like encroachment will be addressed at the ground without involving the headquarters. I want to assure the Members that we will take a step that all the tourist protected areas like the Maralal sanctuary will be given the necessary attention and attended to. With the few remarks I appreciate the support by the Members, thank you.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you hon. Leitore, I think we will give hon. Adamson one last chance. Reading from the mood of the House and the ventilation, I think he has some inputs on the same.

MCA Loosuk ward, (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Thank you hon. Speaker, I just went through the challenges and the recommendations by the Committee, and I have two questions

One, when we came to this House in early 2013/2014, I remember that we talked about the challenges in revenue collections, as I read through I have not seen inputs from the Committee on how to enhance revenue collection. We should have seen it from the Committee's report, I remember us being asked to slash off some projects because the finance bill over estimated that

we were able to collect more money unfortunately we were not able to meet the target; I have not seen the aspect of digitalization. I think the Committee should have visited the Maasai Mara wish is also doing well I have friends there, they should coopt me so that I take them to Maasai Mara
(Laughter by the Deputy Speaker and the Members)

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you Mheshimiwa Adamson, I think the Chair needs to look at the enhancement of the revenue by inserting the automation of revenue collection, I think that is what Mheshimiwa Adamson was referring to, I see Mheshimiwa Leshimpiro has a word. Remember we still have other many motions to be debate on

MCA Ang'ata Nanyokie ward, (Hon. Paul Leshimpiro): Am sorry for coming back but may be that was a slip of the pen because that is one of the recommendation we wanted but there is one more thing we did not say but we needed clarification and some clarification about. Some few weeks ago I asked the Nominee for the position of Chief Officer Tourism what KATO is, it is like an animal in SNR, there is something fishy with it and its engagement should be reviewed because their collections and how they operate is not very clear to us and I do not know why we should engage them to collect revenue on our behalf, is it that we do not have the ability? Or is something more than that is behind the curtain? We need that those who understand it to give us more inputs about it. Thank you

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you hon. Leshimpiro, I think the Chair needs to give us... *(Interjection by Hon. Leitore on point of information)*

Chair Committee on Tourism, Marketing and Cooperatives, (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): I read a mandate as our Standing Orders provided that the Committee's mandate is only to major on Tourism activities but on issues such as revenue, who collects the revenue for the County government is the role of the Committee on Finance. It is not that we had no information on finance but it's because we majored on Tourism activities, management of staffs, Rangers, encroachment by the communities and issues affecting the Reserve. We call upon the Chair for finance to look at issues on finance and in extension the automation of revenue collection as raised by hon. Adamson

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you hon. Leitore

MCA Loosuk ward, (Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya): Thank you hon. Chair, I think that these roles are cross cutting and we cannot just say that Committee on Tourism is not concerned with revenue because that is actually the bottom line. It is like owning a cow and you only want to spray the cow and saying that you don't mind the sales from the milk. It's the same for me in Committee of Agriculture; the main goal is to empower the farmers. I think it is partly the role of the Committee, thank you

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): I think some new issues are cropping up, I can see hands up. hon. Silapia

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Silapia Lenamatiyo): Thank you hon. Speaker, as said so, we will get an engagement with the revenue department for more information on revenue collection at the park, I support the report, thank you

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you, welcome. Mheshimiwa Lekwaale, you have input? Quickly

MCA Wamba East, (Hon. Lucas Lekwaale): I want to take the responsibility of what hon. Adamson said that the Committee on Tourism will factor that and probably report about it, thank you.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): I think we have had enough of the ventilation on the motion, only that the Chairperson Committee on Tourism, Marketing and Cooperatives is hesitant to either adopt the issue of automation of revenue and may be the Chair for Committee on Finance to pick it up, what is your decision on that Chair? Please before I put the question

Chair Committee on Cooperative Development, Trade and Tourism, (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, the issue on revenue is a very broad issue because it involves not only the collection of revenue at the Samburu National Reserve but also the senior management of finance, Treasury in Samburu. Involving the Chief Officer for Finance, the CFO and it's a big circle that I tend to believe it has to be uncovered from the finance issues. So I call

upon the Chair for finance and subsequently the PIC and PAC to look at it because it is a big issue. There has been a drop of revenue from Kshs.500 million to Kshs.100 million per year is an issue that critically needs deduced into

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Thank you Chair, I want to direct that the Chairs for Finance, PIC and PAC Committees should arrange a joint meeting to come up with a formula on how to work on that. I think the Members have had enough to ventilate on the issue

(The Question was put and the Motion passed)

MCA Wamba West Ward, (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): Thank Mr. Speaker; I rise again to move a motion.

THAT Pursuant to Standing Orders 47 (1) The County Assembly debates and adopts the report of the Committee on budget and appropriation of Samburu County fiscal strategy paper 2018

I call upon hon. Antonella to second

(Hon. Antonella Lobura bows in seconding the motion)

MCA Wamba West (Hon. Leitore) Mr. Speaker, allow me to read the report to the House. Mr. Speaker Public Finance Management Act 2012 section 117 spells the legal frame work of how a County fiscal strategy paper is prepared reinforced by the Standing Orders 205 and the Public Finance Management Regulation Act 2015.

Mr. Speaker, we highlighted the following stages of preparation of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper.

First, the county treasury shall submit the county fiscal strategy paper approved by the executive committee in accordance with section (1), (17) of the County Government Act of 2012 to the County Assembly by 28th February of each year, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, secondly, the second step, Mr. Speaker, the County fiscal strategy paper submitted under paragraph one shall:

- 1) Have been aligned with the national objectives in the budget policy statement.
- 2) Specify the broad strategic priorities and policy goals that will guide the county government in preparing its budget for the coming financial year and over the medium term.
- 3) Include the financial outlook with respect to county government revenue, expenditures and borrowing for the coming fiscal year and over the medium term.
- 4) Have taken into account the views of the commission on revenue allocation, the public, any interested person and groups, any other forum that is established by registration.

Mr. Speaker, number three, upon being laid before the county assembly the county fiscal strategy paper shall be deemed to have been committed to sectorial committee without question put for each such committee to deliberate upon according to their respective mandate and make recommendations to the budget and appropriation committee.

Mr. Speaker, number four, in considering the county fiscal paper, the budget and appropriation committee shall consult each sectorial committee and table a report containing its recommendations on the statement to the county assembly for consideration.

Number five, the report prepared by the budget appropriations committee pursuant to paragraph (4) shall include a schedule of sealing of resources recommended for county government and county assembly.

Six, the approval by the county assembly on the motion of the report of the budget and appropriations committee on the county fiscal strategy paper shall constitute the county assembly regulation setting forth the total overall projected revenue. The ceilings recommended for the county government, the county assembly and where necessary the total sums for each vote head and the allocations to individual programs for the fiscal year in question.

Seven, the county assembly shall consider and may adapt the county fiscal strategy paper with or without amendments not later than 14 days after its submission under paragraph one.

Eight, the county treasury shall consider any recommendations made by the county assembly when finalizing the budget proposal for the fiscal year concerned.

Nine, the county executive committee members with the approval of the county assembly shall set a limit of the county government expenditure on wages and benefits for these public officers, pursuant to section (107) (2) of the public finance management act.

Ten, the limits set under (7) above shall not exceed 35% of the county government's total revenue.

Eleven, the county's public debt shall never exceed 20% of the county total revenue at any time.

Twelve, the county actual expenditure on development shall be at least 30%.

Number thirteen, Mr. Speaker that the PFM regulation of 2015 further states that the fiscal framework in the county fiscal strategy paper shall contain upon forecasts expressed in Kenyan shillings for the current budget year and in three further years of actual results for the previous years for the consolidated county government budgets for:

1. Level of budgetary revenues by classifications of the main categories of revenue.
2. Level of budgetary expenditures by economic and functional classifications.
3. Capital expenditures.
4. The overall balances and primary balance position.
5. Levels of county public debt.
6. Sensitivity analysis taking account of position changes in macroeconomics and other conditions.

Honorable Speaker, standing order number 205 (3) states that upon being laid before the county assembly the county fiscal strategy paper shall be deemed to have been committed to each sectorial committee without questions put for each such committee to deliberate upon according

to their respective mandate and take recommendations to the budgets and appropriations committee.

Mr. Speaker, while standing orders number 205 (4) and (5) require that the sectorial committees table a report containing recommendations of their reports and compiled and tabled by the budget and appropriations committee to the assembly for approval. Subsequently, Honorable Speaker, the Samburu County fiscal strategy paper of 2018 was laid before the house on 28th February 2018 and committed to sectoral committees according to the acts upon within seven days and gives its recommendations to the budget and appropriations committee.

Mr. Speaker, understanding order number 185 (1), there shall be a select committee to be known as the county budgets and appropriations committee and the functions of the committee standing order number 187,(3)(d) shall be as follows:

1. To investigate, inquire into and report all matters related to coordination, control and monitoring of the county budget.
2. Discuss and review the estimates and make recommendations to the county assembly.
3. Examine the county budget policy statement presented to the county assembly.
4. Examine the bills related to the national budget including appropriation bills and evaluate tax estimates, economic and budgetary policies and programs with direct budget outlays.

Mr. Speaker the committee consists of the following members:

1. Hon. Peter Lempei – Chair.
2. Hon. Benjamin Leitore – Vice Chair.
3. Hon. Jarius Leshoomo – Member.
4. Hon. Shadrack Lesoipa – Member.
5. Hon. Adamson Lanyasunya – Member.

6. Hon. Doris Lenkirasi – Member.

7. Hon. Antonella Lobura – Member.

The secretary of the committee, Mr. Speaker, was Mr. Saiwana Lekerpees.

Mr. Speaker, allow me now to read the committee observations and recommendations subsequently, Mr. Speaker.

Pursuant to standing orders this document was tabled in the house and committed to all sectoral committees to make recommendations to the committee of budgets and appropriations. However, this has not been compiled with the sectoral committees. The committee on budgets and appropriations went on to publicize the county fiscal strategy paper 2018 and received recommendations from the members of the public as provided for in the constitution of Kenya 2010.

After the exercise, that is the public participation Mr. Speaker, the committee reviewed the recommendations from the public and its members and made the following recommendations:

1. The county should consider full automation of the county revenue collection.
2. Database of all public vehicles plying within the county should be established
3. The county should exploit new revenue streams.
4. The people charged with revenue collection should be trained.
5. Revenue collectors should be subjected to lifestyle audit by the executive.
6. The inspectorate team or department to reinforce revenue collection.

Mr. Speaker, those are the recommendations of the budget and appropriations committee.

To this document, Mr. Speaker, the county fiscal strategy paper, Mr. Speaker. I also want to indicate to the house that the document was forwarded to the house on 28th February and we managed, as committee for budget and appropriations to do the publication and inform the public

or the members of the public to forward their views, Mr. Speaker. Subsequently we did the public participation in the three sub-counties, which are Samburu North, Samburu Central and Samburu East. After going through the public participation and getting views from the public those are the recommendations that the committee came up with and Mr. Speaker, subsequently it is our mandate now as the house to approve the document with such recommendations. Mr. Speaker you can get from the recommendations that I have just read, that it gives recommendations on revenue collection, it gives recommendations on how revenue collection can be improved by automating in Samburu National Reserve and any other sources should be automated because, Mr. Speaker it is simple to have a till number for payment that a client of the county government who wants to pay maybe even the land rates in Kisima, in Suguta, in Loosuk and even as far as Loonjorin. Mr. Speaker where you represent where I understand there is no Safaricom network you go a specific point or even climb a tree to get some connectivity you can send your money through Mpesa. You pay through a pay bill number. So we need to make sure that we improve on our revenue collection, Mr. Speaker. So those are the recommendations we made as a committee and I call upon the house to give the support to this document, Mr. Speaker. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon Leshoomo Jerias): Thank you, hon Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I also stand to support the honorable chair for giving us this brief statement on the report of the committee on budget and appropriations of the Samburu County fiscal strategy paper 2018.

Mr. Speaker, the Chair has just highlighted the recommendations of the committee and what the county fiscal strategy paper entails, in line with the budget 2018 – 2019. Mr. Speaker, the county fiscal strategy paper is a county government strategy document for the budget and also provides a link between the government overall policies as indicated in our CIDP which we are yet to pass and implement them through the annual budget of the coming year, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the strategy paper also re-emphasized the priorities and the immediate concern of the public as got through the public participation we underwent as a committee. Also, Mr. Speaker, this paper highlights how the county government will respond to the needs, taking into

account the challenges of both the fiscal and the microeconomic conditions in our county, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, the paper also highlights the outcomes of the previous financial year as stated in the report and also emphasized the mission, what the governor said in the previous budgets in our CIDP on how the county can attain the three goals on investing in agriculture, transformation to ensure food security, investing in quality healthcare and quality education to our citizens, investing in infrastructure such as water and roads, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker I also urge the members to adopt and support the report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Very well, hon Leshoomo. Hon. Members, reading from the mood of the house, honorable members are satisfied with the information tabled or brought about by the Chair budget and now I'll put the question.

(The question is put and the motion passed)

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon Jerias Leshoomo): Thank you, honorable Speaker. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to standing order number 47(1), the county assembly debates and adopts the report of the liaison committee on the induction workshop held on 14th – 19th January 2018 at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi County. Mr. Speaker I call upon hon Lekwaale to support.

The Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Honorable members, I now propose that pursuant to standing order number 47, (1), the county assembly debates and adopts the report of the liaison committee on the induction workshop held on 14th – 19th January 2018 at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi County.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon Leshoomo Jerias): Mr. Speaker, allow me to give a brief on the report on the induction workshop of the liaison committee held on the 14th – 19th January 2018. Mr. Speaker, the constitution of Kenya in Article 176 establishes county governments comprising of county executive and county assembly, Mr. Speaker. The legislative and oversight authority of the county governments is further vested in the county assemblies. The county governments Act details the scope of the said authority and further mandates assemblies to establish committees for ease of executing their mandate.

Mr. Speaker, one of the assembly's select committees is the liaison committee which was established by the house business committee and upon approval by the house on Tuesday October 10th 2017. Mr. Speaker, to this end, the committee has successfully been inducted by the parliamentary experts. The liaison committee ensures submission of various reports as required by the standing orders and determine whatever necessary the committee or committees deliberate on any matter and give advice relating to the work and mandate of select committees as it may consider necessary. The liaison committee, Mr. Speaker, also anticipates to consider reports of the committee that have been deliberated on by the county assembly and report to the county assembly on the considerations of such report.

Mr. Speaker, the functions of the committee among others include guiding, coordinating the operations policy and mandates of house committees, deliberating on and apportioning of the annual budgets among the committees, considering the programs of all committees including their needs to travel and sit away from the precincts of the county assembly, ensuring that the committees submit reports as required by the standing orders. Mr. Speaker, the committees submit reports as required by these standing orders.

Mr. Speaker: The objectives of the induction course that the committee underwent are:

The overall goal of the induction was to provide a platform for capacity-building of the committee members in the area of budget making and financial audit and oversight. The objectives of the induction were:

1. To outline and promote an appreciation of budget making cycle of the county.
2. To provide an understanding of the role of the assembly chairpersons in the budget making
3. To outline and promote an appreciation of audit process as envisioned by the constitution and applicable laws.
4. To deliberate on limitation of mandates of the committee
5. To discuss on the centrality of reports in the committee work and the tenets thereof.

6. To extrapolate centrality of the clerks and the secretariat in the committee system of legislatures.

Mr. Speaker, after undergoing the induction course, the committee members, and the induction workshop a part from building the members' capacity, there is a solution of the members, capacity to provide for the members and fail to interrogate on operational matters consequently at the end of induction, the members in attendance made some recommendations as listed below:

1. That the County Assembly to continue to holding capacity building activities for committee members at a regular interval.
2. That the County Assembly to undertake capacity building activities for the Secretariat attached to the committees especially on the areas of report writing.
3. That the committee to explore the meaning of benchmarking with other legislators in matters concerning management.

Mr. Speaker, the committee underwent the induction training in January Mr. Speaker, and those are the few recommendations that the committee made and I think this house can adopt and support the report.

MCA Wamba West Ward, (Hon. Benjamin Leitore): Mr. Speaker, I stand to support the report, allow me first to thank the Assembly Management for finding it easy to take all the Sectorial Chairs and committee chairs for this important induction. I remember it was an induction that took us almost a week, by then there was an issue of financial constraints but the Assembly Management and Assembly Board through the Chair and the Secretary to made sure we have attended a very important training. For sure, I am even sure that most of the County Assemblies did not undergo the training because, as per the financial reports or the lists brought by the controller of budget. Most of the counties have had their last batch by October last year, so I want to appreciate the efforts by the house management to make that members underwent such important training that was even so much important not for the second timers but for the first timers like hon. Leshimpiro from Ang'ata Nanyokie. If the management could continue to partner with other partners and I would also like to appreciate the presence of Caritas because we value them as one of the partners we can partner with even in terms of capacity building, not

only the members of the Assembly but also the communities we represent, so I would like to request the management that partnerships are very important even in future locally or outside the County, even the UNDP and other bodies to make sure that we undergo trainings that actually highlights or gives members more understanding of their roles. So, in the recommendations what I would like to appreciate is the capacity building of the members of the committee. We would also wish other members of the house committee and other members of the sectorial committees who may not have got the chance to undergo such trainings, we wish to advice the management to find more funds to take our members to such kind of trainings, it is very vital Mr. Speaker.

On the second recommendation on taking our secretariat for induction training, it is very important as you know our committee clerks acts as our secretariat and also the custodians of all the records so it is very important that we take them as per the recommendation No. 2 that the house management to find resources to induct our secretariat because these are the critical persons in assisting the Honourable members, in assisting the committees come up with the reports, come up with recommendations, develop reports and lastly being the custodians of all records that we wish to refer even in the future Assembly, so I completely conquer with the report of the Liaison Committee that actually the three recommendations Mr. Speaker. On recommendation No. 3 on exploring the possibility of benchmarking, I think on the training we undertook on the Kenya school of monetary studies, it enabled the committees to come up with work plans that are formed by the activities of benchmarking, trainings and other very important activities of the committees so sure it is out of knowledge that we attained out of the Institution of KSMS that enabled us to come up with the Work plans for the sectorial committees and I am sure they were tabled before the house and subsequently under the County Assembly service board for necessary action, so Mr. speaker I support the report and call upon other Honourable members to support the report on the same reasons.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Zamzam Ismail): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, I stand to oppose the report, reason, I find this committee to be gender blind. There are women who fought for affirmative policy. When you look at the chairs of all these committees, they are all men.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): If I can tell the member about the election of the Chairs here, it was participatory, it was democratic and her vote went the way it went and we got the list, but complaining now, maybe something of the past, we are not opposing to the gender rules, but it progressive, but with time, slowly by slowly we are going to correct and get our ladies informed so I stand to support the report.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Silapia Lenamatiyo): We support the report the way it is, as we adopt now, it is too late for the ladies to vote since the members went for the training and they never even briefed us on anything about the induction they went since we are there to be delegated powers by the chairs then I wonder why they are telling us to approve this report but as it is, we are going to adopt this report as it is but, please Honourable members and Mr. speaker, Please, we want this thing never to be repeated ever again. We want also the ladies to be adopted as we go for those trainings on Liaison committees, it is good to adopt us because we are your members and we are there to be delegated powers as vice chair ladies.

MCA Maralal Ward, (Hon. Fred Kiragu): I wish to thank the committee; I also wish to thank the hon. Silapia for supporting the report. It is not good for us to oppose the report basically for the issue of gender because it is the honourable house, we are all equal and if the hon. Zamzam can remember, we gave them a chance but they declined and they gave it to someone else and actually that we did with a lot of faith and even as honourable members of this house, we would not go without the company of ladies but unfortunately, even our electorate decided not to elect any ladies in all the 15 wards that are in this county. Only male MCAs were elected so even us remaining as male in the liaison committee we are doing what our electorate would like to see, but maybe one thing we did not do, we did not give facilitation to our Honourable ladies who most of them are our deputy chairs, we shall undertake as Liaison committee. I am sure Mr. Speaker as the chairman organize, that we can have a day seminar or two and maybe disseminate what we learnt at the training but all in all I would like to appreciate the leadership of the Assembly especially the Clerk and the Speaker for having enabled this Liaison for the training and availing the funds knowing that the funds were not even there. Actually we were struggling with the little that we had because we cannot have the chair of the committee who do not know

how to chair who does not know what to do, let say what hon. Silapia has said that it has been overtaken by the events maybe in future activities, we will take care of the honourable ladies.

Hon. Josphine Lesilamba: Langu ni kupongeza Liaison committee lakini ata sisi tukiwa vice Chairs, sisi ndio tuko na kazi nyingi, kama hawa hawatakuwa, sisi ndio wanatudelegate kutupea kazi tungependa pia sisi tupeleke training ndio ata sisi tuelewe.

MCA Ang'ata Nanyokie ward, (Hon. Paul Leshimpiro): I am sorry for the honourable ladies in the house, because I remember one time, the select committee I was among the one who opposed in the list of select committee because of its composition. But you almost all ladies were in favour of the select committee and it is that select committee that went ahead and decided on the membership of all the committees almost selected I think around that time. So I think if you are feeling the pinch, I think it is too late. But in future, let us take motions that are brought to us on individual basis try to understand before you support or oppose we are sorry and we support the report.

MCA Lodokejek Ward, (Hon Leshoomo Jerias): Mine is just information that we were adopting the report but the members are diverting on other issues that were not in the report. So, hon. Members let us go to the report, interrogate and give deliberations as per the report. Going further to deliberate on other issues is not.

Deputy Speaker, (Hon. Jonathan Lemoosa): Actually members the report is about the adoption and not the composition. Let us stick to the report. If I was listening carefully to the report, the committee did put that such training or actually can we refer to the recommendations for actually clarity of the honourable members. The hon. Members, it is already clear that, from the recommendations of the committee that every member of each committee of the house, needs to be capacity built and we are lucky today we have our clerk who is actually our CEO of the Assembly and the Speaker will actually try to see how because I was part of the committee being the Chair and I think, hon. chairs will agree actually they have failed if actually they have not inducted the information down to the vice Chairs and committees and if not, we owe you that particular part and we will make sure that each member of the committee be effective and the

only time is to plan for capacity building workshops or training benchmarking, it is a promise from the house management.

Reading from the mode of the house, our honourable members, I know put the question. that pursuant to standing order Clause 1, I now put the question that, pursuant to standing order No. 26 (1), County Assembly deliberates and adopts the report of the Liaison Committee on the induction Workshop held on 14th -19th January, 2018 at the Kenya School of Monetary Studies, Nairobi County.

(The question was put and the motion passed)

Hon. Members the time being 25 minutes past 4 o'clock and there being no any other business, this Assembly adjourns until Tuesday, March 20th, 2018 at 2:30 pm, thank you.