REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Thursday, 28th May, 2020

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Patrick Waigwa) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

MOTION

COUNTYWIDE DISTRIBUTION OF FACE MASKS

Hon. Peter Thomi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion.

THAT, Aware that the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared the COVID-19 virus as a global pandemic.

FURTHER AWARE THAT Corona Virus has claimed more than 300,000 lives worldwide with confirmed cases being over 5,000,000.

NOTING THAT the first case was declared on 12th March, 2020 in Kenya subsequent to which a raft of measures were put in place to combat the menace.

FURTHER NOTING THAT the president in his address on 6th April, 2020 urged each Kenyan to wear a mask most especially in crowded places as one of the ways to ease the spread of the disease.

BEARING IN MIND THAT the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected the economy with many households left without food, many Kenyan residents left jobless and the stringent measures put in place have in many ways affected the economic development both globally and locally.

DEEPLY DISTURBED THAT most Kenyans cannot afford the required type of masks due to effects the pandemic has had on the economy.

This Assembly STRONGLY URGES the County Government to conduct a countywide distribution of face masks most especially to vulnerable households as a means of combating the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Speaker, I have come up with this motion whereby I need the Assembly Members in this House to strongly support. This is so that we urge the County Government to help the needy

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families and people in this county. The first bit of this motion has clearly elaborated on we have been moving on with this pandemic of Corona.

It is self-explanatory that this is a pandemic not only in this country but in the whole world. We are here because we represent our people. We need to save their lives and make it easy. They have given us the opportunity to be in this House and represent them. I am just trying to bear it in mind that the County Government of Laikipia is giving food to those termed as neediest. If a family does not afford food how do you expect them to afford masks? Some people do not know the need of the masks or even aware of where to get the masks.

As at Last night, we can be able to tell the number of people who have gotten Covid-19 disease in Mathare, Kibera and Eastleigh. It comes in my mind and everyone's mind as to why in those particular areas. This is where we have many poor people and a lot of congestion. As a result, we find those residents being very much affected. This are areas whereby if people have no masks they are able to get the disease in a very fast way.

The reason of coming with this motion is because here in Laikipia we have many families, big and small towns. We need to urge the government to set aside money so that these residents may be visited and actually given masks. Honestly some of them cannot afford the masks. We need to have a protocol on how people should use the masks and dispose them after use. These are things that must be done. We need and love our people.

I have moved around and found security officers arresting old women and children because they have no mask. It is true that the law says you should have a mask but some of this people do not understand what a mask is for. I am urging this House that the County Government and the respective department can move to the ground and supply masks to those residents for free. It is very unfair for people who have representatives failing to know the use of masks and us not ensuring that the people we represent have masks.

I think they should set some points whereby masks are given free of charge. The County Government moves round and checks whether those masks are there. This is the way we can prevent the spread of this disease. As I have mentioned an area like Mathare, how many cases were reported last night. Over forty. This is because of congestion and poverty level that is in that place. We as leaders should push the government to move to the ground and ensure that people are given masks freely, told how to use and dispose them so that they do not become a health concern after use.

I am urging the Hon. Members to force and push the respective persons in position to ensure that we have this masks with our people. We will save lives of our people. When we opened this House we specifically said that COVID-19 is the issue. It is the pandemic we have in this country. We have to touch on every bit that can save the lives of the people.

I have come up with this motion to ensure that the County Government as the motion says, is strongly urged to ensure that there is countywide distribution of face masks within the areas of

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Laikipia County. The Government is in a position to see where we can get the face masks and to see how we can train our local tailors to provide masks; we have to use them. I want to urge my brother seated next to me here Hon. Peter Matunge, to second this motion.

Hon. Peter Matunge: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I wish to thank the Hon. Member who has moved the motion on issues of face mask. Mr. Speaker, when we went for a recess we said we want to be in this House. We are the representatives of the people. This is the only way we can give our voices when we see that things are not working. It is in this House that we make the government respond to our issues.

I appreciate the Hon. Member for what he has done. COVID-19 disease is here to stay. We have seen all across the world and many countries opening their economies and going back to their normal lives. Knowing that COVID-19 is here to stay we must continue with our lives. The World Health Organization and the Ministry of Health in this country has always emphasized that we can only do three things for us to be safe. One of those things is the issue of wearing a face mask when you are in a congested area. The other one is the issue of washing our hands and not touching our faces when you have not washed or sanitized your hands. The other one is the issue of social distance.

Mr. Speaker, the motion is so clear that we the government must chip in at this time. Everybody has been affected by distant times of economy, financial constraints. We want to prevent and control this disease. We must come up and support our people to at least have a face mask. This is so that we are able to assist the Government to control the spread of this disease. On the onset of this disease we have seen Laikipia County going around. It is putting a public address in any public platform that Laikipia is producing masks in large quantity.

They said they have partnered with Dedan Kimathi University of Technology to produce masks so that they are able to give the people of Laikipia. We have also heard that they have partnered with local innovators to produce masks. They even went ahead and gave figures that some 7,000 masks must be produced and be distributed to local *bodabodas*, community health workers, enforcement officers and other risky areas.

The question raised at the Committee of Health is where the masks are? The answers we got is that these masks will be distributed at the hospital's entrance. This is because hospitals have been categorised as high risk areas. We should not have Laikipians going to hospitals without masks as they are exposing themselves to this disease. Up to date we have not seen any distribution at those facilities. We remain with a lot of questions that where are these masks.

I happened to go to one of the offices here in Laikipia and I have seen bags of masks lying down idle saying that they will be distributed. It is now about two weeks and I have not seen those masks being distributed. The issues of us chipping in and supporting our people is a patent issue. All of us must take responsibilities of the same.

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Apart from face masks, companies have come in and supported the government from the National and the County Government to produce and supply alcohol based sanitizers. We have seen Kenya Pipeline and Coca-Cola companies. Some litres of sanitizers have been sent to this county and we have not seen them being distributed to high risk areas. High risk areas can be areas where this disease can start to go into our community. They are the areas we should target so that if we are not able to distribute them to every Laikipian, we will at least provide to them.

Mr. Speaker, as a government we need to do something so that we are able to help our people fight this disease. If the World Health Organization is saying that this disease is going to stay here, then we can be able to live with it. We can be able to live our lives and control it. We can only do this if we are able to do the three things that the World Health Organization has told us to do.

Another important issue that the mover has raised is educating on where, when to and when not to put a face mask and how to dispose it. These things that we are wearing can again become a health hazard in future. Therefore, after solving one problem we can get the country into another problem. We need to start awareness to our people so that after wearing the mask we are able to dispose them in a safe way. This is so that it cannot become another health hazard issue in the future.

We cannot just put face masks all the time. I have come across medical officers saying that face masks can affect you when you wear them when it is not necessary. The basic principle is that this disease is not airborne. It is spread through droplets. If you know that it can only go to one metre, then when you are not in a congested area you do not need to put a face mask. It will affect your oxygen supply to your body. You can be affected.

Mr. Speaker, we need protogen bacteria in our bodies whereby we can build a strong immune system to fight this disease. When you are not in a congested area and have clean air then you cannot move around putting face masks. We have seen people in private cars having a face mask. You ask yourself, is it that this people do not know the purpose of wearing a face mask?

A lot of education is needed to our people. When we supply face masks we need to proceed and educate them on when to use and how to dispose them. With those few remarks, I beg to second the motion. Thank you.

Speaker: Before I propose, Hon. Matunge, we have also seen the policemen arresting people simply because they did not have masks. I do not know whether it is out of lack of knowledge or ignorance. They go by what it is said that when alone you must not necessarily have it but now is that the government says you must all have it. We need to really educate our people on when and where.

(Question proposed)

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Hon. Chris Mark Said: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say that this motion is very timely although a bit late. The free distribution of masks is key. Citizens always ask that during campaigns we were giving them free t-shirts and caps. They both roughly cost Kshs. 600 and you cannot just give them a mask. It is key that we should give our people free masks. As the seconder said that it is seeming that we are going to start living with corona.

The other day we saw KQ advertising return flights from here to London and back. We also saw in the news the Kenya airports officials were at the airport marking spaces. This is where people will be standing when paying for their tickets or when they will be disposing off their masks. It means that we are getting into a place where we will have to adjust.

We saw a lot of advertisement and talk in the social media that Laikipia was distributing masks. My colleagues from other counties were telling us that we are doing well. The funny thing is that I have never seen these masks. It is good that one of the contributors mentioned about the free masks. We are yet to see them. They would have been timely and helped the local economies. We have the same tailors who are out of business.

Mr. Speaker, if you take a trouser to be trimmed at the tailors it will be put on a long line. The tailors are now preferring to make these masks. That initiative was good. It is starting to look like it was a propaganda as we are not seeing the masks anywhere. The tailors are now making mass masks. The County Government through the relevant department must ensure that they are good masks. There are some masks which if you wear after an hour you start feeling a headache as the oxygen is not enough. It is good that the government does this.

We find that the disposal of the masks is very necessary. When the issue of Corona came we saw someone by a river washing a big stock of used masks, just like the surgical ones. This is so that he can put them back to the market. We must make sure our people are told on how to dispose them. The ones that are used on a single time can be cut with scissors like they do nowadays. You may throw them in the dustbin and someone is seeing it as a way of making ends meet but in a wrong way.

As the Majority Leader has just contributed, if we do not give our people these free masks we will start facing an issue like one we saw in Nyeri. This is whereby when corona came in and there was that strict adherence that people must wear masks, we saw that the bras that women wear were disappearing. The police do not want to know whether you are wearing or not. So people are stealing the bras from the clothesline. They are innovating them. We even saw a boy wearing a bottle. People are afraid of the law.

If people are not given the free masks they will start innovating from odd sorts of things. It is not good and humane. We need people to also have dignity and also wear what is necessary where necessary as the Hon. colleague said. You may find someone wearing it inside a car. The car is using is AC which reduces the oxygen level in the car. You might even find you are fainting.

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I have even seen someone jogging this morning in the estate with a mask. You can imagine when you are jogging you still need oxygen. The person is alone and still has a mask as he feels that he will be arrested. He might be alone jogging and there is nobody 5 metres near him but he is still afraid that the law enforcers would arrest him if he does not wear a mask. There is need of a lot of awareness and on how to dispose as we give them. Mr. Speaker, I do support this motion. Thank you.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nimesimama kuunga mkono huu mswada ambao umeletwa na kiongozi wa wengi. Niseme ya kwamba hili ni jambo muhimu sana kukaa kama viongozi na kufikiria mahitaji ya wananchi. Ningependa pia kushukuru Waheshimiwa wa *Women Caucus*. Waliungana jana na kuenda kusaidia kijiji kimoja na barakoa. Ningetaka kuwashukuru kwa hiyo kazi nzuri. Tulipoenda tulikuta shida mingi sana. Wananchi wanahitaji mafunzo kuhusu matumizi ya barakoa. Tukifanya hivyo wananchi watakuwa hawana shida ya mwili wao.

Ninataka kuunga mkono hayo maneno ambayo amesema kwamba ukivaa barakoa garini ama wakati ambao unakimbia unasikia kama unapungukiwa na hewa. Sisi kama viongozi tunafaa kupeleka huo ujumbe mashinani ili waweze kuelewa. Nataka kushukuru kiongozi wa wengi. Majuma mawili yaliyopita nimekuwa na kikundi cha walemavu. Nilikuwa nimekuja kuwapatia chakula na barakoa kwa kujitolea. Nimehuzunika sana. Najua ya kwamba nilituma hiyo picha kwa ukurasa wetu ambapo kijana alikuwa ameshonewa barakoa na mama yake kwa kutumia tairi la baiskeli.

Niliweza kusikia machozi kama mama. Niliweza kuvumilia kwa sababu nilikuwa mbele ya watu. Nililia machozi ndani ya moyo wangu. Niliona ni vizuri hata kama ni shilingi moja ama kumi sisi kama viongozi tujitolee kwani siyo lazima serikali ije. Mahali unaweza kusaidia usaidie. Ningetaka kushukuru serikali yetu Kaunti ya Laikipia kwa kuwa imechukua vijana wetu na kuwapeleka chuo kikuu cha Kimathi. Wamefunzwa jinsi ya kutengeneza barakoa. Vijana hao kwa sasa wanaweza kutengeneza hizo barakoa ila hilo halitoshi.

Tungeomba serikali pia itoe pesa kiasi na kupatia mafundi hao watengeneze za kaunti ili tuweze kupatiana kama kaunti. Kuna wale ambao wanaweza kupata shilingi hamsini ya kununua. Kunao wanauliza kama hizi pesa ni maziwa, chakula ama unga nitanunua ama ni nini nitafanya. Tunashukuru kwa wale ambao wamefunzwa na waendelee kushona. Lakini pia tunaomba Serikali ya Kaunti itenge pesa kiasi na kushona hizo barakoa ili tupatie wale ambao hawawezi kununua hizo barakoa.

Nashukuru Serikali Kuu ya Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta. Yeye ni Raisi wetu. Tunampenda na tunajua kazi yake ni mzuri. Kazi aliyofanya kama Raisi ni kazi ambayo haijawahi fanywa na mwingine. Kuhusu huu ugonjwa wa Korona tunajua ya kwamba amejaribu kupigana nao. Hatuwezi kulinganisha na Raisi wa Tanzania ambaye aliwachilia watu wake waende watambaze huo ugonjwa. Tunashukuru sana kwa sababu tumeona Kamishina wa Kaunti ya Laikipia akizunguka na kupatiana barakoa zikiwa zimetoka serikali kuu. Hongera kwa Raisi wetu. Ndivyo

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ifikie Kamishina wa Kaunti imetoka kwa Raisi wetu. Hivyo basi Raisi wetu tunamdhamini na tunasema kazi iendelee.

Tungependa aongeze hizo barakoa na *sanitizer* zinazotoka Kenya Pipeline. Zifike humu mashinani kwa sababu Kenya Pipeline iliombwa na Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta kusambaza hizo *sanitizer*. Pia tunashukuru sana wafanyabiashara wa hii Kaunti ya Laikipia. Tumeona msaada wao wa chakula. Watu wetu wako na shida na wamepeana chakula katika hii kaunti yetu. Pia wamepeana barakoa. Nimepatana na wafanyabiashara wakizunguka na kupatiana barakoa. Kwa kuwa haitoshi, tungeomba pia waendelee, tuungane pamoja na kuwasaidia Wanalaikipia ili tukae sawa bila ugonjwa.

Barakoa ni nzuri sana. Ukiangalia ripoti yetu ya wiki iliyopita inasema kuwa magonjwa yamepungua. Nimekaa karibu na Mheshimiwa Jacob na yuko hohe basi sitaambukizwa kwa sababu nimejikinga. Hili ni jambo mzuri sana. Ukiangalia kwetu nyumbani magonjwa yameisha. Nimesikia Mheshimiwa mdogo wangu wa afya eti huu ugonjwa utaishi na sisi tuendelee kujifunga hii barakoa ili tuishi kwa miaka mingi. Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Naunga mkono.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Member. I request as you know that our Standing Orders do command us that any time you refer to an Hon. Member you do not say Peter Matunge, you say Hon. Peter Matunge. Let us take the same to the President or even to Hon. Women Representative or to Hon. Senator. Let us make that a habit of referring to them as Hon. Members or His Excellency. They are very important. Although it is the President, let it be his Excellency the President.

Hon. Salma Zamzam: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika, kwa kunipa nafasi hii ili niweze kuchangia mswada ulioletwa mbele yako na kiongozi wa wengi, Mheshimiwa Peter Thomi. Unahusu usambazaji wa barakoa katika Kaunti ya Laikipia. Huu ni mswada mzuri uliofikishwa Bungeni wakati upasao. Dunia mzima na taifa letu la Kenya limeweza kuadhirika na janga la COVID-19. Wenzangu wameweza kunena ya kwamba kuna watu ambao hawajui umuhimu wa barakoa ama hawawezi pata hizo barakoa. Nikiongea kuhusu Laikipia Kaskazini unapata watu wanatumia majani.

Tunashukuru sana Zamzam na Watunge *Foundation* kwa kuweza kupatiana barakoa katika Laikipia Kaskazini. Hatukuweza kufika kila mahali kwa sababu hatuna hizo fedha za wadi. Tuliweza kufikia zaidi ya watu elfu moja na kuwapa barakoa. Tumeweza kusikia kuna watu wanatumia mitungi kuweka kwa pua ili wasaidike. Tuliletwa katika hili Bunge la kaunti ili kutetea wanyonge. Dadangu Mheshimiwa Veronica Ikunyua alivyo weza kusema hapa, jana viongozi wa kina mama ama *Women Caucus* katika hili Bunge waliweza kutembea vijijini katika kaunti letu na kupeana barakoa.

Haturudi nyuma na tutazidi kupeana katika wadi zingine kwa uwezo wetu. Tunaomba viongozi wetu wakigawa bajeti waweze kukumbuka *Women Caucus* na kutuwekea kitu kidogo. Tutaweza kufikia wale wamama wa vijiji ili waweze kusaidika. Ninaunga mswada huu mkono.

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Serikali yetu ya Nderitu Muriithi iweze kufika mashinani na kuelimisha wananchi kuhusu barakoa. Wakati wa kuvaa, jinsi ya kuvaa barakoa na wakati ufaao wa kutoa barakoa. Siyo vyema kuvaa barakoa kwa muda wa masaa sita kwa sababu afya yetu itaweza kuadhirika kidogo. Ni vizuri pia waweze kufika pale mashinani waweze kuelimisha watu.

Hivyo basi tunaomba serikali ya Nderitu Muriithi chini ya uongozi wa Wizara ya Afya iweze kupeana hizi barakoa. Huko mashinani hatujaona barakoa na tunaomba aweze kufikisha huko. Kuna pesa iliyotengwa kupambana na janga la COVID-19. Tuone kila mtu amesaidika na kupambana na hili janga kama vile tulielezwa na Raisi Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta. Hili janga tunaweza kuishi nalo na kulizoea. Ni vizuri watu wetu waweze kuzoea kuishi na hili janga na pia waweze kufunzwa. Mimi sina mengi. Naunga mswada wa kiongozi wa walio wengi mia kwa mia. Naomba tujitahidi na pia serikali iliyo uongozini iweze kupambana na janga la COVID-19. Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika.

Speaker: Naendelea kusisitiza ya kwamba tutilie maanani siyo serikali ya Nderitu Muriithi ni Serikali ya Gavana Nderitu Muriithi. Waheshimiwa wacheni tuweke tu kwa sababu inafaa.

Hon. Mutahi Muritu: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nimeshukuru Mungu kwa kuniwezesha kufika leo na kunipa uhai. Huu ugonjwa ulipofikia duniani, tunaona nchi zingine zinakuwa na mtazamo tofauti. Namshukuru kiongozi wa wengi kwa suala lililowasilishwa. Tuseme ukweli Kaunti ya Laikipia imejaribu. Inatumia shule zetu za anuwai kuweza kushona hizo barakoa. Barakoa mahali zilipofikia kuna zile zinazoidhinishwa kitaalamu na zile sasa hivi ambazo zinaonekana hoja kubwa ni kuzuia upepo. Ni kitambaa cha kujifunikia.

Dada zetu Waislamu walizoea hiyo tabia. Lakini kuna jambo nilikuwa naangalia lakini niko tayari kukosolewa nikaona juzi tulipitisha mamilioni ya pesa hapa mwaka huu na kuwapa wananchi wa Laikipia chakula. Kiongozi wa wengi pia ameomba serikali hii iweze kufanya zaidi. Wananchi wetu wanastahili kufunzwa kutumia vitu ambazo wako nazo wenyewe sana vitambaa. Laikipia ina watu laki tano na kuweza kusema kuwa serikali ndio itawajibika kutekeleza hayo basi uwepo wetu wa kibajeti si jambo. Kitaalamu hiki chombo chasemekana huwezi kitumia kwa muda mrefu. Unachotumia Mheshimiwa Spika, hakiwezi tumika kwa muda mrefu.

Hivyo basi elimu inastahili kutolewa kwa watu ili kuweza kuelewa. Sidhani Serikali ya Kitaifa ama Serikali ya Kaunti ina huo uwezo wa kuweza kutengeneza hizo vitakaza mkono kwa asilimia mia kwa mia. Nashukuru Mungu kwa sababu niliona katika nchi moja itaweza kudumu kama inavyosemekana. Itabidi idumu na ikae na sisi. Lazima tuikubali. Tunapolichukulia suala hili lazima tuangalie kama viongozi uwashauri waweze kukata vitambaa.

(The Speaker left the Chair)

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua) in the Chair)

Ulivyotoa mfano Mheshimiwa Spika, kama huyo kijana angekata kipande cha shati na kuosha na kuweza kujifunga na kujizuia. Tusiweze kutumia nguvu kazi zetu zote. Sasa hivi

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tunaelekea kwenye bajeti ili uwe ni mwanya wa kupora. Nashukuru Mungu kwa sababu tuko na shule zetu za anuwai. Hizi shule zinafaa kupewa uwezo na kutengeneza kadri ya uwezo wao.

Hivyo basi Mheshimiwa Spika, kama ni kutumia vitakaza mkono zamani tulikuwa na sabuni zetu za kawaida. Tuhamasishe watu kutosalimiana na kunawa mikono kwa maji ya mtiririko. Tukiendelea kusema ya kwamba tujue vile vitakaza mikono zitatoka haitawezekana. Tusidanganyane hapa.

Mimi husema Raisi wa Kenya, Mheshimiwa Uhuru Kenyatta ambaye ni mkuu wa wanajeshi siyo mtaalamu wa afya. Pia sisi tulio hapa wataalamu wa kiafya ndiyo wanatoa ushauri wa kuweza kufunga maeneo yote ya kibiashara. Hivyo hata juzi akasema hatuwezi kuendelea namna hii. Mimi kaka Mutahi Muritu ni maoni yangu binafsi ikibidi nchi yote ifunguliwe. Kama ni ugonjwa unakuja uje tupatane nao. Shule za kulala zifunguliwe. Watoto wote warudi wapimwe aliye na matatizo arudi nyumbani. Vile vile kwenye soko. Saa hii tukiingia hapa tunapimwa. Hivyo basi kama tunapimwa turudi shule na pia biashara zirudi. Wahenga walisema, *'vita vya panzi ni furaha ya kunguru'*. Tunaweza kuwa tumejielekeza kwa kitu ambacho hakina kinga nchi hii.

Jana tulikuwa na waziri mhusika katika Wizara ya Elimu. Tulikubaliana na alisema kuwa shule zake za anuwai zimesaidia kushona barakoa. Wameona ni fursa kwa vijana wote. Vijana huko mtaani wanauza barakoa. Anayeuza viwango vyake vimetimia. Tuwaombe wenzetu hata kama ni kitambaa usione aibu kwa sababu tena huwezi vaa suti na huna. Kama ni hicho kitambaa tuhamasishe watu wavae.

Ulivyosema Mheshimiwa Spika, ulikuwa huko Kanyoni ambia kina mama hata kama ni kanga kateni. Uweke vizuri na ukitembea mahali utembee nayo. Tusianze kusema eti uchumi na nguvu zetu tutatumia kwa sababu ya vitakaza mikono na barakoa. Kwa hayo machache, nashukuru. Lakini kwa sababu uko kwenye kiti, yale nilikuwa niseme sitayasema. Nashukuru na ninaunga mkono.

Hon. George Meshami: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nasimama kuunga hoja hii mkono ambayo imeletwa na kiongozi wa wengi. Huo wakati wote umepita sijawahi ona Serikali ya Kaunti ikipatiana barakoa kwa wadi yangu. Nimeona tu serikali yetu tukufu kupitia kwa ACC. na chifu wakiendelea kupatiana barakoa kwa wananchi. Naendelea kuunga mkono na kuomba Bunge letu pia lipate wakati wa kuichangia katika bajeti va barakoa ya Wanalaikipia.

Naona Serikali ya Kaunti ndiyo inakimbia hapa na pale wakiendelea kutangaza. Sisi kama Wabunge ambao tunaketi na kupitisha bajeti hatuhusishwi na Serikali ya Kaunti ya Laikipia. Vyakula ambavyo vinapeanwa. Katika wadi yangu nimeona pahali pamoja tu. Waliopatiwa chakula ni karibu watu hamsini. Hayo majina sijui yalitoka wapi. Nasikia ya kwamba yamepatianwa na afisi ya ACC pamoja na chifu wa eneo. Hayo majina ni ya watu walio na nguvu. Sio wale watu wanyonge katika jamii kwa sababu tuko na wanyonge katika jamii.

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Hoja hili ni muhimu sana katika Kaunti ya Laikipia. Ikitiliwe mkazo sana na Serikali ya Kaunti ili ikifika wakati ambao itagawa chakula iangalie watu kwa usawa na isiweke siasa. Mimi nasimama nikiunga hoja hili mkono.

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is a noble motion. It is bringing us to speed that Kenyans and especially Laikipians have no food as they are jobless. It is not news that this lockdown has proved to be very costly and especially to the residents in this country. When somebody does not have a job and not producing or people are just staying at home then they continue to spend without making more money through a means. Bearing the fact that they have lost their jobs. I support this motion on people wearing masks and also on educating the people on importance of masks.

Last week the President pointed that he will be easing the lockdown. This would mean that people are free to move. It makes the issue of wearing masks more important now more than ever. The country has put in place locking down of areas that have shown huge populations of people having been infected by COVID-19 was a noble task. The same has not now moved to the counties and it is contained within a few counties.

In the case of Iran where it opened its borders and said people can move. The curve continued going up yet it had started going down. We must also be very careful as the Kenyan curve is not going down. It is going up from 80 to 123 and now we are speaking of opening up the counties. If we take measures and put on our masks everyday then we will survive, and fight this pandemic.

The issue of testing should also be escalated at a higher scale. This is so that we may know what we are dealing with every time. The rate of testing right now still may be 5 %. When we open up our county borders and refuse to empower counties to test and wear masks then we will be looking at a pandemic not only in Kenya but also Laikipia. If containing COVID-19 has been so expensive then I do not imagine how fighting it would be expensive when it becomes a pandemic.

We have already seen counties trying to see their health care systems working with the necessary machinery to support this pandemic. It is not yet where it should be. I support this motion. Thank you.

Hon. Robert Maina: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Nimesimama kuunga mswada huu mkono na pia kumpongeza Mheshimiwa Peter Thomi kwa kuona umuhimu wa kupea watu wetu hizi barakoa. Taifa letu la Kenya na pia ulimwengu huu umekumbwa na janga la Corona ambalo hatukutarajia. Nimechangia ili tuweze kuhimiza Serikali ya Laikipia isaidie watu wetu ambao wako katika Kaunti ya Laikipia. Ningetaka kusema ya kwamba wakati kiongozi wa wengi ataketi na serikali hii ya Laikipia, ni vyema waje na mpango mwafaka wa kupea watu wanaoshikamana na watu wengi wakiwemo vijana wetu wa *bodaboda*, taxi na *tuk-tuk* barakoa.

Baadhi ya hawa wanaweza kushikamana na watu wengi kila siku na kila saa. Tukitaka kuenda na njia hiyo tutaweza kusaidia watu wetu wa Laikipia na pia tunapopanga mipango hiyo,

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ni vizuri tuangazie zile boma ambazo ziko hatarini na kina mama wetu wazee. Pia wale walio huko kijijini na hawana uwezo wa kununua hizi barakoa.

Mheshimiwa Spika, nakumbuka wakati wewe mwenyewe uliweka yule kijana mtandaoni ambaye alikuwa amevaa barakoa ya ile tairi ya baiskeli pia nilihuzunika. Wakati huo niliweza kuchukua jukumu hilo na kupeana kazi niweze kutengenezewa hizo barakoa elfu moja na mia tano. Niliweza kufikia vijana wengi katika wadi yangu wa *bodaboda* na kina mama wazee walio kule kijijini wasio na uwezo wa kununua barakoa.

Ningeambia Waheshimiwa Wajumbe waweze kujitolea. Waweze kuchanga kitu kidogo na kusaidia watu ambao hawana uwezo wa kununua barakoa. Tunaambiwa ya kwamba huu ugonjwa ambao ni homa siyo ugonjwa unaoisha haraka. Kama vile Mheshimiwa Catherine amesema hapa kuwa Raisi mwenyewe alisema ya kwamba yeye mwenyewe atamaliza hii *lockdown na* kafyu. Wakati huo ukifika watu wataweza kuingia kaunti baada ya nyingine. Tusipochunga tunaweza kuwa pabaya.

Nasimama kuunga mkono na kupeana mchango wangu. Niseme ya kwamba hata Bunge hili kupitia kiongozi wa wengi liko na uwezo wa kuongea na wale wanaoshikilia Bunge hili waweze kutoa mchango. Tunapotengeneza bajeti kunao ule mfuko wa dharura unapewa Bunge hili. Wanafaa kutoa mchango wapatie Wajumbe ili waweze kuifikisha kule mashinani kwa wale watu ambao hawana uwezo. Hili ni jukumu la kila mtu, siyo Serikali ya Kitaifa. Kila mtu awe na hilo jukumu la kujua ya kwamba huu ugonjwa haubagui. Wewe ni kiongozi eti hauwezi shika babako ama mama yako ama mtu yeyote katika taifa letu la Kenya.

Ningeomba Waheshimiwa wachukue jukumu hili likiwa la dharura. Waweze kupatiana maoni. Siyo tu eti vile tunaleta mswada hapa unaenda kupata vumbi kabatini. Hili ni jambo ambalo linafaa kufuatiliwa kwa haraka. Muda umeenda sana. Kiongozi wa wengi umefanya vizuri kuleta lakini umechelewa kidogo. Tunakushukuru kwa sababu uliona umuhimu wa kuleta huu mswada ili tuweze kuhimiza serikali yetu ya Laikipia ipeane barakoa.

Nakumbuka tulipitisha Bajeti ya Ziada pia kukawa na mfuko wa dharura. Tuna uhakika kuna zile fedha zinaweza kutengwa kupeana barakoa, chakula na kufanya mambo mengine. Nitamalizia hapo nikisema nashukuru Mheshimiwa Spika na kiongozi wa wengi. Asante.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): May I call, the mover to reply.

Hon. Peter Thomi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First and foremost I want to thank the Hon. Members for supporting the motion. They prove to everybody that we are truly concerned with this COVID-19 pandemic. I want to thank you Members. You know that we love our people. They have to feel our weight when we are in this House. That is why you contributed in a big way, given advice and requested the County Government to take charge. This is a duty that is in them.

Ever concerned and I want it investigated, when we say something in this House it goes to the HANSARD. We talk of children and old women being arrested and taken to police cells

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because of not having the masks. I want to be told when those people are arrested and released, do they move out of the police stations wearing masks. They are arrested for not wearing masks but when they are released they are still not wearing masks. Something bad transacts in that. It is now a business.

We have a County Commissioner, County Commander, the Speaker and the Government. This is something that should be prevented and the police be given masks. When they arrest people instead of asking for something small they should give them masks. These are my worries.

The other thing is this House. We are fighting this COVID -19 disease, we have our Members seated right at the other far end because of social distance. Where Hon. Zamzam and Hon. Robert Maina is seated and they want to make contribution, their microphones cannot go on. They are not able to contribute. We miss some points that this Members want to give. By the time we come here next week let it be a concern and known. We want these microphones to start working. We have seen a few Members trying to say something in vain. They could be having more information on this motion but they are not able to reach your eyes.

I want to say thank you very much Hon. Members. This is a good thinking for our people. It shows that we really care for our people. Thank you, Madam Speaker and our Members.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Veronica Ikunyua): This House stands adjourned until Tuesday, 2nd June, 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.05 a.m.

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