REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 18th August, 2026

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 10.15 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Lantano Nabaala) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of quorum)

Speaker: Thank you. Without much ado, we will proceed with the business of the House.

NOTICE OF MOTION

PROVISION OF INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS TO YOUTHS

Hon. Joseph Gitahi Thru' Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would like to give a notice of motion on promotion of professional and career growth for youths through internships in government decision making units and NGOs as part of CSR.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT AWARE THAT youth unemployment and underemployment remain a major challenge in the County, limiting economic growth and social development;

FURTHER AWARE THAT internships provide practical exposure, skills development, and employability for young people transitioning from education to the job market;

RECOGNIZING THAT government institutions and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) play a key role in policy formulation, service delivery, and community development;

CONCERNED THAT many youths lack access to structured internship opportunities within public institutions and partner organizations, limiting their career progression;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives can be leveraged to expand internship placements and mentorship opportunities for youths;

This House URGES the County Government to develop and implement structured internship and mentorship programs within government decision-making units and in collaboration with NGOs as part of CSR initiatives to promote professional development, skills acquisition, and career growth among the youth.

It is on behalf of Hon. Gitahi.

MOTION

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PROVISION OF INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS TO YOUTHS

Hon. Joseph Gitahi Thru' Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

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ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives can be leveraged to expand internship placements and mentorship opportunities for youths;

This House URGES the County Government to develop and implement structured internship and mentorship programs within government decision-making units and in collaboration with NGOs as part of CSR initiatives to promote professional development, skills acquisition, and career growth among the youth.

Hon. Speaker, this motion was drafted by Hon. Gitahi, Member representing the people of Githiga Ward. Hon. Speaker, you know, there is somewhere I was reading yesterday that if you are a leader today and you are joking with the youth, you are playing with the future. Our youths are the future of tomorrow. Hon. Speaker, you find that in many organizations when you apply for jobs, that they ask you to come with an experience of five years working in a certain organization.

You know very well Hon. Speaker, even having internships and mentorships in our government institutions and also NGOs is a problem. We would start even with our Assembly here. We ask ourselves, how many people do we give internship to? How many people do we mentor in this Assembly, in this institution and County Government at large? So, it is high time we change our policies. You know there is a requirement by the government the CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility)

It is a requirement by every institution to be doing some CSR as a way of giving back to the community. Hon. Gitahi wanted to argue that it is the time that the County Government and the NGOs to start giving CSR through internship or mentorship. Hon. Speaker, when I finished college, it was even very hard to not even just seeking a job but even seeking an internship program in an institution.

So, we might think things are very easy because now we are in this institution but you find that our young people who are in colleges and in the universities, even getting internship is a problem. You know very well internships are helping the institution, it is only that they are paid some stipend. So that is why we need, as Laikipia County government and also the NGOs that are part of the system or part of the government, to put CSR because it is given in terms of monetary value.

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For example, if you go to Safaricom, they give CSR in terms of some projects called Safaricom Ndoto Zetu Projects, whereby they come to our wards to create some maternity. Some of them create schools and build toilets but this is a very unique motion, whereby the Member is arguing that it is now time to change the CSR to internship to our young people. So that if we have, like Laikipia County Assembly, we have our CSR as every year, we give 10 internship slots to our young people.

So, I think this is a unique motion and I would wish the members to discuss it because we are the policymaker, we can make a policy whereby the County Government absorb the interns and mentorship as part of CSR. I would like Hon. Nicholas from Tigithi Ward to second the motion. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance to second this motion. This is the right time to discuss matters of internship and growth of our young people in matters of experiences and exposure as they complete their studies within the institutions that we are having this country. Mr. Speaker, this is the only way that we can have an input in their livelihood as institutions in this country so that we can instil some experiences within the education system and background.

Mr. Speaker, so that they can have skills, it is a matter of development and exposure. Mr. Speaker, these are young people and they're studying across our universities, our colleges and our TVETs. As a government, we have been able to award bursaries to these young people. We support them across all institutions within this country so that they can have an educational background so that they can earn a living in this country.

As a government, we support education across the various structures within this country. Mr. Speaker, that is why we award Bursaries. Having a Bursary whereas the young people don't get exposed to skills after they complete their studies in these institutions, we are not growing our job market. We need to have experienced young people within our country so that they can deliver and to have growth in this country.

Mr. Speaker, still on matters of exposure, we have always stated that we are exporting jobs. We have experienced young people working in other countries. That is a exportation of skilled labourers. Having skilled labourers, they have to learn. We have to create space for them in this country so that they can have experience. That is why this motion has been brought to this Assembly, so that we can support and create structures that will enhance the development of skills within our young people. If at all it's the exportation of skilled labourers, we can have experienced people with skills being exported and they can earn a living.

If at all we don't have, we cannot be able to offer jobs in this country. We can still export the young skilled laborers so that we can earn foreign exchange in this country. Mr. Speaker, still they can have a livelihood. As a government Mr. Speaker, this is progress, because there will be community development. Mr. Speaker, we'll be able to develop our young people within our communities. They can be able to spur growth within our communities and in foreign countries. I support this and I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika. Ninasimama kuunga hoja ya kuweza kuunga mkono vijana wetu ili kuhakikisha ya kwamba wamepata ozoefu wa kazi ambayo inaendelea katika makampuni na serikali, ili waweze kuwa na ujuzi zaidi wa kufanya kazi katika Taifa letu la Kenya. Bwana Spika, vijana ni watu muhimu katika jamii. Taifa likikosa vijana, ni kumaanisha hilo taifa limekufa kwa sababu haina Kesho yake.

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Kwa hivyo, kesho ni bora kuliko leo. Ni vyema kuwa na mpango mwafaka kuhakikisha ya kwamba vizazi ambavyo viko nyuma viweze kupata nafasi ambazo zitawasaidia kuendeleza maisha yao na taifa letu la Kenya.

Ninashukuru Mheshimiwa Gitahi kwa sababu ya huu mswada ambao unazungumzia rika ambalo kwa kusema ukweli, halijapata nafasi kubwa ya kuweza kutengamaana na kampuni nyingi na serikali na kuweza kuelewa mikakati ambayo inaweza kuwasaidia kimaisha. Kwa hivyo, tunapoongelea jambo kama hili, ni lazima tuangalie kwa njia ya undani kabisa.

Tumekuwa na mafikira ya kwamba kijana akimaliza shule ni lazima awe mwalimu, karani au daktari na hapo ndipo huwa tunapotea. Tukianza kuonyesha vijana ambao walio nyuma huu mtindo, kesho taifa letu litakuwa na idadi kubwa sana ya watu kwa mfano, kama watoto tulio nao wote ni madaktari, hiyo ni hatari kwa sababu hao watoto watakuwa wakisema ya kwamba watataka kuwa daktari. Wakifika pale wapate madaktari wamejaa, huyo kijana anafika mwisho. Ataanza kufikiria kuiba na pia anaweza akapata shida na mawazo kwa sababu kutoka mwanzo, tulimwambia ni lazima awe daktari. Naye amesoma akiamini ya kwamba akihitimu tu ni lazima awe daktari.

Ni lazima tuanze kuambia vijana wetu ya kwamba hata kama unasomea kuwa *engineer*, *engineer* sio mwisho. Ni lazima upate mbinu zingine za kukusaidia kuinuka kimaisha. Uwe *engineer* ambaye atakuja na mbinu ya kuhakikisha ya kwamba umejiajiri bila kutegemea mtu yeyote. Hapo ndipo tutaweza kuokoa vijana na vizazi vilivyo nyuma yetu.

Bwana Spika, leo tukisema ya kwamba vijana wote wasome ili waweze kuwa MCA. Hiyo ni hatari kwa sababu wale vijana wote ambao wako katika Wadi ya Thingithu watasoma wakijua ya kwamba wakipata cheti cha chuo kikuu na pia kitambulisho, watapata kuwa MCA kwa sababu hiyo ndiyo tulimwonyesha kutoka mwanzo. Akifika pale akutane na Kagondu na akifika kwa debe Kagondu amuangushe, huyu kijana ataenda wapi? Huyo kijana atapata shida ya mawazo. Kwa hivyo, ni lazima tuwaonyeshe kufikiria zaidi ya hayo.

Hapo ndipo vijana wetu wanapotelea. Tukiweza kueleza vijana wapate kusoma na kisha wakimaliza waje waajiri watu, huyo kijana atasoma akijua ya kwamba akimaliza atakuja kutafuta mbinu ya kutafuta kazi ili aweze kuajiri vijana. Tukimwambia atakuja kuajiriwa, atakuja kuajiriwa wapi? Enda katika idara zote za serikali. Katika hili Bunge, hata tumeajiri zaidi halafu muambie watoto wasome ili waje waajiriwe kama Kosgei. Kosgei bado hajastaafu.

Hapo mimi naona ya kwamba ni lazima tujaribu kubadilisha mwelekeo wetu wa masomo na *curriculum*. Ni lazima tuonyeshe watoto wetu ya kwamba ni kusoma na kuja kujitegemea na sio kusoma na kuja kuajiriwa. Mimi nilienda shule na nikasoma vizuri hadi pale mama yangu aliweza kwa sababu baba yangu alikufa nikiwa mdogo. Nilipomaliza shule, nilitafuta kazi kidogo na kupata pesa kidogo ambayo iliniwezesha kuanzia biashara kidogo na leo mimi ni MCA.

Kesho, nataka kuwa Rais wa jamhuri ya Kenya na ninataka kusonga mbele namna hiyo nikifikia ya kwamba sio tu MCA. Ni lazima niwe na mbinu nyingine. Nisipokuwa Rais, ni lazima niwe na mpango mwingine. Wacha tufundishe watoto kuwa na mipango mingine. Ndiyo, unasoma uwe daktari lakini sio lazima umalizie kuwa daktari.

Sasa hivi Bwana Spika, umesoma. Kuna ile kazi ambayo ilisomea? Sasa hivi wewe ni Spika wa hili Bunge na hilo ndilo nataka sisi tuambie vijana wetu. Lazima usome na ukifika mahali, usifikirie ya kwamba ni lazima uwe karani. Ni lazima utafute mbinu ya kujiinua. *Internship* ni mpango mzuri. Huyo mtoto aje hapa, aweze kujua jinsi ya kufanya kazi, afanye miezi mitatu halafu aende lakini akitoka hapo asifikirie ni lazima awe Spika au MCA. Ni lazima

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atafute mbinu ya kujiinua kimaisha. Hiyo ndiyo mimi nataka wazazi wafundishe watoto. Soma uwe rubani lakini ukishakuwa rubani, unaweza pia tibu maisha ya watu bado ukiwa rubani. Hiyo ndiyo tunataka kufundisha watoto ili tuweze kuwa na kizazi kisafi kesho na watu ambao watafikiria mambo ya kusonga mbele.

Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono nikisema ya kwamba haya ni mambo ambayo yanafaa kuangaliwa kwa undani na tuweze kufundisha vijana na jamii mambo ya kuenelea na maisha. Ndio unapata vijana wengi wanaweza kutumia dawa za kulevya na pombe kwa sababu vile aliambiwa alipata hakuna.

Kwa mfano, wakati tulikuwa tukifanya kampeni, zilikuwa tamu sana. Tulikuwa tunaambiwa *wheelbarrow,* mtu wa mboga au *bottom up*. Tulipofika *bottom up,* tulipata tuko *upside down* na tukaanza kupata mawazo nyingi. Sasa hivi tunaanza kusukuma Rais tukimkumbusha ya kwamba alituahidi *bottom up.* Sawa aliahidi lakini *bottom* sio kumaanisha ya kwamba uwekewe pesa kwa mfuko na ndipo unaona pia wananchi kwa sababu waliambiwa hivyo, wanangojea waweze kuwekewa pesa kwa mfuko na ndio maana wanapiga Rais.

Hadi mimi nampiga kwa sababu hata mimi napigwa. Kwa hivyo, hivyo ndivyo Kenya inaendelea na hivyo ndivyo watoto wetu wanavyoendelea. Ukiwaambia hivi, wanakwama pale. Ukiwaambia ya kwamba kesho kutanyesha, wanaenda na mwavuli wakingoja kunyeshe. Wacha kukose kunyesha, utaona cha mtema kuni. Kwa hivyo, ninauliza jamii pamoja na wazazi na walimu ya kwamba mfundishe watoto wasome wawe daktari lakini sio lazima wawe madaktari. Wanaweza wakatibu wananchi kwa kuwapatia viatu au ng'ombe. Hizo ndizo kazi ambazo tunafaa kuelezea vijana wetu kwa sababu ya maisha ya kesho ya jamii yetu.

Speaker: Thank you. I now want to take this opportunity to invite the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would like to thank those who have contributed towards this important motion today. As per what Hon. Ndiritu has said, it is very important for all parents and stakeholders to ensure that our children get the education we need. As a government, we put policies as the one we have today to ensure that we have internships and mentorships as part of CSR.

Nelson Mandela said that education is the most important tool to change the world and if you want to destroy the world, you don't need a nuclear bomb but just need to destroy the education system. I want to concur with Hon. Ndiritu and also inform him that once you are over 35 years, you don't mention your parents because now you are the background itself. You don't say that you are an orphan and should now speak about your children. He is a good man and also comes from my village. I can see that he is going to be elected via DCP Party and I also want to warn him that in this House, we are divided. So, don't fight the members of UDA because we have members of UDA in the House. Let us have a fair ground for all of us.

(Question put and agreed to)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ALTERATION OF THE ASSEMBLY CALENDAR

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki through Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, on behalf of the Majority Leader, Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 29(4), this Assembly resolves to alter its calendar as adopted on 24th February, 2026, so as to proceed for a long recess

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break from Tuesday 18th August, 2026 from 2.30 p.m. to Monday, 21st September, 2026 and to resume on Tuesday 22nd September, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

Hon. Speaker, I am standing on this motion of altering of the calendar. Just some weeks ago, we were here altering the calendar to allow this House to proceed for recess so that the Members could interact with their electorates. It is important to regularly visit your bossies whom in this case, happens to be the people who voted for the Members of this County Assembly. Therefore, it was very important for the Members to visit them and interact with them and finally come up with resolutions.

In this House we represent the members of the public and therefore for the time we altered the calendar, it was very important. Today, we are also altering the calendar to allow this House to go back to the citizens and listen to them in regards to development. It is important therefore for this motion to be deliberated on this floor and after the deliberation, we request the House to approve the alteration of this calendar. In this case, I want to call the chief whip, Hon. Umija from the other side of the governmentt.

Hon. Umija was nominated to this Assembly through the ODM party which later entered into a Broad-Based Government. Therefore, she is equal to the task and she knows the procedure of the House. She is a very good lady who we are looking at the future to be a leader in this country because I can see how she debates, how she relates with other Members of the public and also how she leads the political party that nominated her. Therefore, I am requesting her to second the alteration of this calendar. Thank you.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to support the motion that has been put as per our discussion and as per the calendar that was put initially at the beginning of this year that we are supposed to proceed in recess. We had initially done a small break but we are back and still on recess. Remember, Mr. Speaker that we are now heading towards the election.

It will be now less than a year and people are preparing for those people who want to come back and those people who want to vie for even bigger positions. I support this motion. For the many accolades that Hon. Stephen has just put on me, I would say that that is too much of accolades, but I'd say thank you for all that and just believing on some of the issues. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: I open the floor for Members who may need to contribute. Hon. Members, reading the mood of the House, I will invite the mover of the motion to reply. Mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I want to thank the Hon. Members for honouring Hon. Umija for supporting the motion and therefore, I have nothing to say on that. I agree with the motion and request the House to approve the Procedural Motion. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

PROCEDURAL MOTION

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki through Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion;

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THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 29(3), this Assembly do adjourn until Tuesday, 22nd September, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

Hon. Speaker, this is adjournment motion which after the alteration of calendar, we are now adjourning because the House has already approved the alteration of the calendar.

Now we are asking the House to adjourn until the day that I have read on this paper, on 22nd September, 2026 at 10.00 a.m. Every Member should be in this House to continue with their business. From today to September 2026, it will be a very hard time for the Members of this County Assembly to interact with their families and the electorates.

On this one, as we have agreed in the House Business Committee, we had a plan for this whole year from today up to February. The House business agreed that we follow what was agreed on that time and therefore the Members who are not in the House business, we have our programme. Let us adhere to the programme and that programme will be very much beneficial to you Honourable Members. When we follow that programme, it will be also good for you to interact with the members of the public.

Hon. Speaker, what I will request from your Chair and the management, is to assure the Members that the programme as it was at that time, it will be followed to the letter because nowadays, you know the situation of Members financially. It is not good and so we need also to get information today on when we are expecting our dues.

Hon. Speaker, it is not good from when we were left on June and so, we are suffering. Not only the Members but even the staff are suffering. If you look at some of the staff, some of them cannot even attend to their duties because of the situation, and we don't have any other thing to do.

For example, a Member coming from Ol moran, and you know we have also staff from that ward. That staff has no money and the Member has no money. So, it will be very difficult for them even to attend this sitting. We are requesting the Finance Department to work hand in hand with the Treasury and also the Controller of Budget to make sure that whatever is supposed to be paid to the Members and staff is paid immediately.

We cannot work without finances Hon. Speaker and yet we have children, schools are being opened by next week and some of our children will be in school. We don't have anything and we cannot sell our houses. If we sold our houses, where are we going to live? So, we are requesting the management to consider the Members and also the staff of this county because they are suffering.

Therefore, after the adjournment of this House, let us have a sitting where we will discuss all those pending issues and we see the way forward. We want to give clear information to the Members and also the staff on when they are expecting their dues. You know, we are elected Members and we cannot do demonstration that we don't have money. What about the ordinary citizens? We cannot lead by that example.

We are leaders and we must behave as such. We are Honourable and we are seated here honourably without nothing knowing that maybe tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, we will receive our dues. Thank you. I am requesting Hon. Gatati, who was asking me what is this and I told him this is an adjournment. He asked me where we are going, I told him we have a plan, and I will adhere to what we have agreed.

So, I am requesting him to support the motion. Even if it is half-heartedly, to support so that we can proceed. I will also let him know that adjournment is healthy to the Members

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and after adjournment, we are doing a procedural motion for adjournment. Next time or next year, we will not have this adjournment motion but what we will have is a procedural motion for *Sine Die*. That one Hon Speaker, it is not reversible, so for us to have that continuation and to know that we will have *Sine Die*, let us support this adjournment to prepare ourselves also for that motion which will not be good for us but we will accept as it will be. Thank you. I am requesting Hon. Gatati to support and second this adjournment motion.

Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Mugambi, the floor is yours.

Hon. Samuel Mugambi: Hon. Speaker, the mover of the motion has said that I was asking him what the motion is about. So, I do not support. I decline, because we cannot be coming here every week and now and be sent home. Every week we come then we go back. I decline and I don't support.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Hon. Speaker, I want to withdraw him from seconding this motion and by your leave, allow me to withdraw him from seconding this motion and ask Hon. Umija to second this motion. I have a right to withdraw the seconder. Thank you.

Hon. Parleto Lekopien: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I support Honourable Gatati for the declining from supporting this adjournment motion. I think it's not in order that we get to the House for one day and then on the same day we adjourn the House. Today I was a bit shocked to see the quorum of this House doing the motions while we don't even have enough quorum in the House. I think it's a shame and it's not in order for us to continue in this manner.

We would rather sit together as Members and agree on issues that matter in this House because if this is what is happening, and if this is the way that we need to prepare ourselves for *Sine Die*, then I think we are wrong and we are losing it. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you. I think it is good for me to give a direction on this matter. We have already approved a motion unanimously, procedural motion number nine. We decided that we break and return to this Assembly on 22nd September, 2026 at 10.00 a.m., and I put a question which you have all unanimously agreed to.

Unless there are other things behind it, the procedural motion for adjournment stands, because it was approved by this House. In this regard, I will call upon the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for your wisdom, because what you have said is correct. We, as the House we have approved the alteration of the calendar. So, as we started today, we have altered our calendar, and we have no option. As of now, we proceed for the recess then we come back, we alter the calendar once again. Hon. Speaker, I appreciate your decision because you have made the right decision and you are equal to the task. You are there to lead us now and forever onwards. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Members. In regards to this, I want to refer ourselves to our Standing Orders, number 29 (3), stating as follows.

"On a day when the Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next normal sitting day in accordance with the Assembly calendar, the leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party or another Member of the House Business Committee shall move a motion of adjournment which shall be debated for not more than three hours after which the Assembly shall be adjourned without question put".

Thank you. Next order.

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ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until Tuesday, 22nd, September, 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 11.01 a.m.

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