REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 18th May, 2021

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 2.30 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

COUNTY DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Hon. Speaker, I wish to lay the following Paper;

Report on the Revised Laikipia County Debt Management Strategy Paper, 2020 by the Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriations dated 14th May, 2021.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

COUNTY DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of the following motion;

THAT this Assembly adopts the Report on the Revised Laikipia County Debt Management Strategy Paper, 2020 by the Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriations dated 14th May, 2021.

ACTION PLAN FOR PREVENTION OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Hon. Chris Mark: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

AWARE THAT Article 55 of the Constitution of Kenya obligates the state to take measures including affirmative action programs to ensure that youth access relevant education and training, have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life, access employment and are protected from harmful cultural practises and exploitation;

FURTHER AWARE THAT youth in the country have in the past been exploited and introduced to violent extremism due to their vulnerability, and which has led to terrorist attacks on this country that has led to significant loss of life;

NOTING THAT in January 2016, H.E the President issued a directive that all counties in Kenya develop a county action plan on prevention and countering violent extremism;

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FURTHER NOTING THAT pursuant to that directive, Laikipia County developed the Laikipia Action Plan in June 2019 through a multi-stakeholder approach led by H.E the Governor and the County Commissioner;

CONCERNED THAT the said action plan has never been tabled in this House for discussion and adoption two years after it was developed;

REALIZING THAT the implementation of the action plan requires the County Assembly's budgetary support, legislative support and other strategic interventions for the youth and the community at large in Laikipia County;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT terrorism and violent extremism is a social problem and the County Assembly has a role in facilitating prevention, intervention and rehabilitation measures for the youth while promoting values such as patriotism, culture, community service, discipline, diligence and sense of national pride;

This Assembly URGES the County Government of Laikipia through the Department in charge of youth, sports and social services and the County Administration to;

1. Forward the Laikipia County action plan for prevention and countering violent extremism to the Assembly for discussion and adoption.
2. To report to this County Assembly on the progress of implementation of this action plan.

MOTION

ACTION PLAN FOR PREVENTION OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Hon. Chris Mark: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion;

AWARE THAT Article 55 of the Constitution of Kenya obligates the state to take measures including affirmative action programs to ensure that youth access relevant education and training, have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic and other spheres of life, access employment and are protected from harmful cultural practises and exploitation;

FURTHER AWARE THAT youth in the country have in the past been exploited and introduced to violent extremism due to their vulnerability, and which has led to terrorist attacks on this country that has led to significant loss of life;

NOTING THAT in January 2016, H.E the President issued a directive that all counties in Kenya develop a county action plan on prevention and countering violent extremism;

FURTHER NOTING THAT pursuant to that directive, Laikipia County developed the Laikipia Action Plan in June 2019 through a multi-stakeholder approach led by H.E the Governor and the County Commissioner;

CONCERNED THAT the said action plan has never been tabled in this House for discussion and adoption two years after it was developed;

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REALIZING THAT the implementation of the action plan requires the County Assembly's budgetary support, legislative support and other strategic interventions for the youth and the community at large in Laikipia County;

ACKNOLEDGING THAT terrorism and violent extremism is a social problem and the County Assembly has a role in facilitating prevention, intervention and rehabilitation measures for the youth while promoting values such as patriotism, culture, community service, discipline, diligence and sense of national pride;

This Assembly URGES the County Government of Laikipia through the Department in charge of youth, sports and social services and the County Administration to;

3. Forward the Laikipia County action plan for prevention and countering violent extremism to the Assembly for discussion and adoption.

4. To report to this County Assembly on the progress of implementation of this action plan.

Mr. Speaker, I have few points that terrorism is no longer a religious factor. It is more of an ideological issue and Laikipia is based on the terrorist corridor. When issues of illicit arms enter the country, they come all the way from Moyale, Lagdera and Elwak in Mandera. My sister Hon. Zamzam is laughing because Wajir is her home county but they use the same route. She is worried that we are not doing anything because these illicit arms come this way. I would like to challenge any Member who would want a road trip to the Northern Kenya. After the police road block in Isiolo before you reach Laisamis, the first border is the military.

They are there because they are trying to check illicit arms that are coming here. Mr. Speaker, if you do not do anything for the youth in Laikipia, the last time there were issues of terrorism we found a Mutuku, a Njoroge, a Wafula and Onyango. This thing is no longer a religious issue or rather Islamic like it was perceived in the past but people are using Islam to advance other issues which the Koran does not tolerate.

This is because the youth are vulnerable. When a youth is idle and hopeless, this is the most dangerous thing because a youth can be given any ideology and ran with it so that they get money. Mr. Speaker, the County Action Plan that H.E the president issued I heard some judges calling the President "Mr" it can be noted it is disrespected. The president is H.E and he did pass that all counties come up with a County Extremism Program.

Laikipia was taken to Sunset Hotel in Nairobi to look at the Laikipia one. As long as that document has not come into this County Assembly how is it going to be budgeted? We are beyond a place where we get documents and they are shelved. Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge these departments. I know the Chairs are here. The Chair for Cohesion should make sure we are getting these things because they are the departments that are involved with issues of security county extremism.

The Chairperson for Labour Committee should make sure that these documents are coming into this Assembly because these documents were passed two years ago. Tax payers' money was used but they were shelved. We want these documents to come so that every MCA

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gets to understand the vulnerability points in their area and the security concern zones so that as Laikipia County, if necessary we can put programs and necessary budgets to make sure that our youth are engaged. They will stop being vulnerable and they will engage in these vices.

There has been an issue that youth in Majengo and Likii where the super MCA woman, Hon. Veronica represents. Those are vulnerable points because if youth from these areas are not engaged they become idle. Mr. Speaker, I am lucky I became an MCA. If I was an idle youth, I could have been with a gun. I could be in black but at least I was engaged and given opportunity. It is good we look at these documents that are brought in this House. I will not speak further on that because whatever have been said and written speaks to what I am talking about.

I will call the Member in charge of Committee on Education, Hon. Nyokabi and also our able Service Board Member and we are proud of her to at least second or add a point or two in this motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Catherine Kibue: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I rise to second this motion by Hon. Chris Mark. First is to congratulate the Mover of this motion for bringing this noble motion to this House. This is a timely motion which is also important for our youth. Secondly, I urge the Chairs of Cohesion and Legal Matters and the Labour Committees to follow up as per the recommendations of this motion, to be implemented by the Executive. Thank you. I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Catherine Nyawira: Hon. Speaker, I wish to first congratulate the Mover of this motion, and as I congratulate him, I also recognize that he has a heart for the youth because he is also behind the Youth Bill that will be tabled before this House.

Mr. Speaker, affirmative action is meant to address issues of inequality and discrimination, and I believe Kenya has a very progressive constitution that supports affirmative action especially for women. The gains that women have made through affirmative action, if taken with more seriousness for the youth, we will be able to afford the youth a better life, a better direction once they leave school; when they are not working, so that they do not get themselves into violent extremism.

Hon. Speaker, the affirmative action for youth, which I believe there are policies and regulations for the same, includes, among others, that youth be given 30% of any jobs that are available in the governments. I believe that, besides violent extremism, if that was followed to the letter, the youth would not find themselves in such cases.

Again, the very mover of this motion has brought before this House a Statement requesting the procurement department in the Executive to show whether the youth have actually benefitted, whether the youth, women and persons with disabilities have actually benefitted from this 30%.

I remember that statement took long in this House because it was evident that the same which is the 3rd rule 30% had not been adhered to. So I support this motion and say that while

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Cohesion is at the base of this, the training that we had a committee was selected with bringing about regulations for these violent extremisms and I believe that the same have been called.

I believe that Hon. Zamzam is in that committee and so should let us know what is happening because there are funds that have been put and that committee is looking deeply and singly into that issue of violent extremism. Mr. Speaker, I think that they should be able to report to the committee on the progress they have made. I believe that this a very progressive way of dealing with the youth. Thank you.

Hon. Zamzam Salma: Asante, Bwana Spika kwa kunipa nafasi ya kutilia mchango wangu kwenye mswada ulioletwa na ndugu yangu Chris Mark ya mpangilio wa kutekeleza na kuepusha vurugu na msimamo mkali katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia. Wacha nimpatie kongole kwa kuweza kuleta ripoti mbele ya Bunge lako. Ameweza kuelezea mambo mengi kwa wanalika katika Kaunti yetu.

Bwana Spika, vile dadangu ameweza kusema Mwenyekiti wa *Cohesion*, Mheshimiwa Nyawira, ameweza kuguzia mambo ya *violent extremism* ambayo tuliweza kuchaguliwa. Ni vyema vile ameweza kusema tuweze kuripoti na hiyo ripoti inaweza kuletwa kwa Kamati ya *Cohesion* tukiwa na wale ambao waliochaguliwa kwa hiyo kamati.

Bwana Spika, tukiweza kutilia mchango wetu kama viongozi, ndugu yangu ameweza kutilia mkazo kuongea mambo ya magaidi katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia na ukweli ni kwamba hao magaidi wanapita kutoka Nairobi na kuelekea Isiolo na kwenda kwa majirani wetu Kaskazini Mashariki. Ni vizuri hao vijana wapewe maktaba mazuri katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia ili waweze kujiweka na mambo ambayo itawastawi katika jamii na pia katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia na sio mambo ya vurugu.

Tukiongea mambo ya *violent extremism*, hatuongei mambo ya magaidi pekee kwa sababu tuko na ndugu zetu kutoka Kaskazini ambao wana vurugu mara kwa mara mipaka ya Baringo, Laikipia, Isiolo na Samburu na tunajua ya kwamba pia hilo ni changamoto la kutopata ajira na mafunzo katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia. Ni vyema vile tuliweza kuelezewa kwa sababu tuliona ya kwamba 30% ya ajira kwa vijana kaunti nzima.

Kuna mswada uliweza kusomwa kwa mara ya pili katika hili Bunge juzi na hayo yote itaingiana hapa na vijana wa Laikipia watajisikia ya kwamba wamepewa haki yao kama wanalika katika kaunti ya Laikipia. Sina mengi, naungana na wenzangu na ninaomba Wajumbe wenzangu waweze kuunga mkono na hiyo kamati ambayo imeweza kutekelezwa ya Labour na *Cohesion* ambayo pia mimi ndiye Naibu Mwenyekiti tutaweza kuangalia hayo maneno na tuweze kufanya kazi. Asante.

Hon. Patricia Muthoni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, I want to congratulate the Chairman CPAIC and the youth leader in our county. Secondly, this motion is timely. As the Chair of Labour and Social Welfare, I will make sure that the report is tabled in this House for the benefit of our youth. I support this motion and I urge the Hon. Members to support it.

Speaker: I wish to call upon the mover to make a reply.

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Hon. Chris Mark: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and also thank you to those who supported verbally and also in silence. This is a very hot issue. If you look at where Hon. Mugweru is sitting, he has even removed the coat. That is how hot and extreme this issue is. When this issue of counter extremism was brought about, I know that there is a budget and we as an Assembly need to see what this report which is not being tabled until now.

It is good that both the Chairpersons of Labour and Cohesion have put their voice in this. That means before Thursday because these two ladies are energetic, fast and swift, I know that this report will be here in a matter of no time. When the issues of extremism came apart, the Ministry of Interior through the Office of the President, made sure every County Government has a budget for this.

You know it begs the question and it is not good to put expansions, maybe money came, money was utilised, money was spent and the reports are not coming because maybe that money was spent in a direction that is not there.

The issues of extremism are many Mr. Speaker, they are not only confined to issues of maybe of Al-Shabaab and ISIS. Hon. Zamzam you know, whose parents originate from a very hot section which is Wajir, has even put the issue of Baringo and you know the issue of cattle rustling. It is the youths who are cattle rustling you will never find someone, the age of our leader Majority Leader here chasing cattle or cattle rustling. It is the youths who are used for these vices.

This issue is very extreme and we can gauge our youths, in fact it is good the former Deputy Mayor of Nyahururu is here because even Nyahururu is becoming a hot zone. If we engage the youths even through her Karate and make them busy, they can use this Karate and black belt for proper things Mr. Speaker. I urge Members to support this and make sure that this is implemented, and as an Assembly we get the necessary document and put the necessary budget and support that is needed. I urge Members to support, thank you Mr. Speaker.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday 19th May 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

The House rose at 3:04 p.m.

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