REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 11th October, 2023

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

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

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we have quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Without quorum, I direct that the bell be rang for ten minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for five minutes)

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Mr. Speaker, if I am correct, I think we now have a quorum. So, we can continue.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if we have the quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: Now that we have quorum, the bell may stop ringing. Order of the day.

NOTICE OF MOTION

REHABILITATION OF STREET CHILDREN

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT Pre-primary education, village polytechnics, homecraft centres and childcare facilities is a function of the County Government as stipulated in Part 2 of the fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010;

NOTING THAT Article 53(1) provides that every child has the right to free and compulsory basic education, to basic nutrition, shelter and healthcare, to be protected from abuse, neglect, harmful practices, all forms of violence, inhuman treatment and punishment, and hazardous or exploitative labour;

CONCERNED THAT in spite of the commitments enshrined in the legal documents, the child's right to protection and care especially in the streets are abused, neglected, exposed to criminal and gang activities, suffer poor health due to their lifestyles and exposure to harsh environment, drug and substance abuse, and exposure to HIV/AIDS infection;

This House URGES the County Government to remove all street children from all major towns and urban areas within the County and place them in rehabilitation centres and later reconcile them with their families.

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Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, we do not have the order paper. Even the systems do not have, so we do not know what is going on.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am checking on my gadget and the gadget states that there is no House Business Committee today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Are you saying that you are checking the gadget and that there is no House Business Committee.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Right Mr. Speaker. The gadget itself is stating so.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana Spika, nashtuka kusikia hakuna Kamati ya Biashara za Bunge. Kitu ambacho kiko hapa ni karatasi ya kuagiza lakini Kamati ya Biashara za Bunge haziko katika hiki kifaa. Ningetaka kumfahamisha Mheshimiwa kutoka Tigithi kwamba hapa ni Nakala ya Utaratibu wa Bunge. I attended the House Business Committee's meeting and Hon. Speaker can confirm that the House Business Committee held a meeting. Thank you.

Speaker: Before we go to the next, Hon. Mwaniki, are you satisfied?

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Mr. Speaker, I am not satisfied because the system itself is stating so. It says No House Business today.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mwaniki. Hon. Kanyutu.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, maybe the Hon. Member did not get the issue correctly. It is the business of the House that is not appearing in the gadget. The issue pertaining to the House Business is the conflicting issue. We need to get the order paper in our gadgets. Now the order paper cannot appear. That is why I was asking for the repair of the gadgets so that we get to know what is happening. I have the hard copy and I am comfortable, so we can continue.

Speaker: Thank you. The matter of it appearing on the gadget is on process. Let us give it a minute as we deliberate. Hon. Anthony.

Hon. Anthony Theuri: On the same issue, I need a clarification that will guide my colleague that this is based on the technicalities. On the physical issue, I can assure the Hon. Member for Tigithi that whatever is being deliberated here was deliberated by the House Business Committee. That is why it is here, so this is purely a technical issue. Mr. Speaker, I signed some documents on your behalf, and also on behalf of Hon. Lempaira, Chairperson for the Health Committee.

So, what is here was deliberated and we cannot transact any business that was not discussed by House Business Committee today. So, it was done and I signed the Paper. If the Hon. Member for Tigithi wants to believe so by having the evidence, we have the hardcopy. We are here legally and we are doing business legally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

STATEMENT

SPORTSMAN'S ARMS HOTEL LAND ALLOCATION ISSUE IN RUMURUTI

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would like to thank Hon. Anthony for giving me this chance because I am senior and that is why he said that I should go first. This is an extension of time request to respond to a statement on Sportsman Arms Hotel land issued in Rumuruti. Hon. Speaker, a statement was raised on the floor of the House by Hon. Lekopien Parleto on 19th September, 2023 and committed to Finance and County Planning Committee on the same day.

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The Committee wrote a letter to the CECM for Infrastructure, Lands, Public Works and Urban Development requesting for a response on the same vide ref CGL/CA/CM/007/02/VOL3/011, to be submitted on or before 29th September, 2023. The committee has not received any response from the department as yet. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Committee hereby requests for an extension of fourteen days period so as to table a comprehensive response on the statement. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Speaker: So, you are requesting for an extension of another 14 days.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Yes, Hon. Speaker. I am requesting for 14 days which is two weeks from now.

Speaker: Okay. Be sure that in two weeks we expect to get an appropriate response.

RESPONSE TO STATEMENT ON NTRH ELECTRICITY BACK UP & SUPPLY OF MEDICINE TO HEALTH CENTRES

Hon. Anthony Theuri: Thank you, on the same issue I would like to respond to a statement that was raised by Hon. Daniel Muchemi Mugweru concerning the Nanyuki Teaching and Referral Hospital electricity back-up and Supply of medicine on our health centres and dispensaries on behalf of my Chair.

Hon. Speaker, The Health Services Committee is a Select Committee deriving its mandate under the County Assembly Standing Order No. 190 and is mandated to check on all matters related to County Health Services including in particular, county health facilities and pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary healthcare, licensing and control of undertakings that sell food to the public, veterinary services (excluding regulation of the profession), cemeteries, funeral parlours and crematoria and refuse disposal.

Following the attached statement raised on the floor of the House by Hon. Daniel Mugweru of Umande Ward, the Committee wrote to the County Executive Member for Health Services on the same day vide ref CGL/CA/CM/007/02/Vol.3/07, requesting for a response on or before 10th October, 2023. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee hereby requests for an extension of fourteen days period so as to table a comprehensive response on the statement.

So, Mr. Speaker, we are requesting for more time. We need to do a lot of work on the same. There are various issues that need to be addressed and not only for the power but for the medicine. We need to come up with a comprehensive report because we want to lead by example. If you are going to impeach or you are going to give notice to the Member of Health Services on the same, we have to do a thorough investigation because we believe health is paramount.

We cannot compromise this chance. If we give health services more than Kshs.2 billion, we shall not take any chance. We beg for more time as indicated. Give us an extension of two or three weeks if it is okay so that we can be able to respond on the same in due time. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you. This being a sensitive matter, I will allow you time to respond as requested for a comprehensive response. I give two weeks.

RESPONSE TO STATEMENT ON EL-NINO PREPAREDNESS BY THE COUNTY

Hon. Benson Kuria: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On behalf of my Chair, Hon. Mugambi Gatati I have a response to a statement raised by the Hon. Member for Umande Ward, Hon. Daniel Mugweru on 27th September, 2023 on El-Nino preparedness by the County. Mr.

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Speaker, I will only read one page because it is very big yet I want to respond to these objectives.

Speaker: Proceed.

Hon. Benson Kuria: To develop a comprehensive mitigation response and actual plan for addressing the impact of El-Nino in Laikipia County, with the aim of minimizing damage, protecting lives and ensuring resilience of communities and critical infrastructure.

Mitigation strategies

1. Earlier Warning System: the Kenya meteorological Department has an established and a robust early warning system to monitor weather conditions associated with El-Nino and provides timely alerts to local authorities and communities.
2. Community Education: Conduct sustained awareness campaigns to educate the citizens about the potential impacts of El-Nino, including flooding, drought and disease outbreaks and promote localized preparedness measures.
3. Infrastructure Resilience: Identify and prioritize critical infrastructure vulnerable to El-Nino impacts, such as roads bridges and drainage systems and implement upgrades and improvements to enhance resilience.
4. Land use Planning: Implement land use planning policies that discourage construction in flood-prone areas and promote sustainable agricultural practises to reduce soil erosion.

Response Measures

1. Emergency Response Teams: Train and equip emergency response teams to provide immediate assistance during El-Nino-related disasters, including search and rescue operations, medical care and shelter support.
2. Evacuation Plans: Develop evacuation plans for communities at high risk of flooding or landslides, ensuring that safe shelters are available and accessible.
3. Stockpile Relief Supplies: Maintain stock piles of relief supplies, including food, clean water and medical resources, in strategic locations for rapid deployment during emergencies.
4. Communication Channels: Establish and maintain effective communication channels for disseminating emergency information and instructions to the public.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Benson for the response on behalf of Cohesion Committee.

RESPONSE TO STATEMENT ON STATUS OF SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMME

Hon. Daniel Mugweru through Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I have just received a response to statement and as you know, I am a very hardworking person and therefore I have to work. I am giving a response on behalf of Hon. Daniel Mugweru for Chairperson Education, Vocational Training and ICT Committee.

Hon. Speaker, a statement was tabled in the Assembly by Hon. Catherine Nyokabi on 27th September, 2023, requesting for a response regarding a school feeding programme.

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Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Committee sent a letter to the County Executive Committee Member, Education, Social Service, Youth and Sport Vide a letter REF: CGL/CA/CM/017/Vol.1/009 dated 27th September, 2023 asking his office to respond thereof.

A response to the statement was received vide a letter REF/EDUC/FEEDING PROGRAMME/VOL 1/21 dated 03/10/2023 from the County Executive Committee Member, Education, Sports, Youth and Social Services. Mr. Speaker, the detailed response to the statement on School Feeding Programme is as attached.

Mr. Speaker, this was given by Stephen Kisorio CECM, Department of Education, Youth and Social Services and the copy was sent to the County Government of Laikipia. Mr. Speaker, since the Members have got this document, allow me not to read the background information. On the next page, there is target. This programme was to initiate feeding programmes in 443 public ECDE Centres enrolment population of 25,000 to ensure that ECDE learners get access to nutritive meal regulatory.

This was also to serve as a motivating factor for parents to send their children to school. The project was to enhance ECDE learners' healthy well-being through provision of a balanced diet. By providing this meal, we were not only to alleviate hunger but also promote growth and development of our kids who indeed are the future of Laikipia. Further, it will be a step towards fulfilment of a key component that appeared in 2023/2024.

Programme Implementation Strategy

This programme will adopt a school based (ECDE) approach in delivering outcomes. Programme implementers will engage recipients and collect their views and include them in the programme design. Secondly, the recipients will be required to contribute locally available resources such as firewood, cooking pots and cooks to the project as a way of enhancing project ownership. Existing structures within the public ECDE centres will enable the ECDE teachers to take lead in the implementation of the programmes. The role of the County Government is to provide water and pre-cooked fortified flour which will be easy to make the nutritious porridge.

This programme will mobilize the ECDE coordinator in the 15 wards, where upon rolling out the programme they will be trained on how to prepare the porridge at the county level and later cascade the same. The department of Education while implementing will work hand in hand with departments of Health Water and Sanitation. Other players in the sector will be considered in the interventions to avoid duplication.

Immediately after schools opened for term one in January, 2023, the Department of Education and Library Services embarked on regular routine school inspections/ assessments of ECDE Centres across the county with an aim of familiarizing, establishing and maintaining educational standards.

It is a result if these visits to ECDE Centres that the Department realized and raised concerns about the adverse effects of the prolonged drought and famine on ECDE learners across the county. An assessment of the general situation showed cases of low enrolment, high rate of absenteeism, high dropout rates, malnutrition and stunted growth among the ECDE learners. There were extreme cases of ECDE learners collapsing during lessons because of going for days without food. All these phenomena were attributed to acute and severe food shortage amongst the ECDE learners.

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On the next page, the Members can see H.E the Governor, the ECDE leaners and other officials. Hon. Joshua Irungu is signing the M.O.U. The next page the Governor, H.E Joshua Irungu is officiation a meeting with Soy Africa Directors.

This program creates an action plan to strengthen the implementation and management of ECDE schools feeding initiative in Laikipia County geared towards addressing the drought situation in accordance with the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA) Act of 2016. This program adopts an affirmative approach targeting 233 ECDE centres with a total enrolment of 14,980 learners located in ten wards and 26 urban slum/special schools which were badly hit by the prolonged drought, famine and food insecurity. This was occasioned by the budget line that were received from the Finance Department.

Fortified Nutritious Flour

Hon. Speaker, on the fortified nutrition flour, Members can read the composition of the flour. There is maize, soya, millet and sugar in that porridge. This offers a balanced meal for the children which includes but is not limited to Vitamin A, D, E, K, B1, B2, B6, B12 and C. There are also minerals such as Zinc, Magnesium, Folic acid, Copper, Calcium, Iodine and Iron. Vitamins and minerals are considered essential for strong bones, enhancing muscle function, reducing fatigue and improving the concentration span of learners.

Delivery of Soy Afric Ujimix

On that page there is delivery of the Soy Afrique Uji Mix, that is on 24/07/2023 and the 25th. The County Government of Laikipia received the fortified porridge flour as follows: on 24th July, 2023 1,207 bags × 2kgs × 12 packs per bag, that is 28,968 kgs. On 25th July, 2023 291 bags × 2kgs × 12 packs per bag, which is 6,984 bags. This translates to a total of 35,952 kgs of flour received.

Distribution of the fortified porridge flour

The porridge flour was transported to the following four distribution points for ease of distribution to the ECDE centres. On that page there is a column of distribution points, location and constituency.

S/N	DISTRIBUTION POINT	LOCATION	CONSTITUENCY
1.	Nanyuki Cereals Board	Nanyuki	Laikipia East
2.	Olmoran Catholic Parish	Olmoran	Laikipia West
3.	Rumuruti Catholic Parish	Rumuruti	Laikipia West
4.	Doldol	Doldol	Laikipia North

This distribution of porridge flour was taken immediately when schools opened for third term, 2023. The distribution of the porridge flour was flagged off by H.E. Governor Joshua Irungu Wakahora. Due to inadequate safe and secure storage facilities in ECDE centres, the porridge flour was distributed to the mother ECDE centre. The feeder (standalone) ECDE centre will receive their allocation share from the mother ECDE centre. The ECDE coordinators will ensure that the porridge flour reaches the standalone ECDE centre.

Distribution budget

It requires a budget allocation of Kshs. 2 million.

Stakeholders' involvement and contribution towards the program

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1. Parents will be required to contribute locally available resources such as firewood, utensils and cooks to the project as a way of enhancing project ownership.
2. Primary school headteachers and ECDE teachers – Existing structures within the public ECDE centre will enable the ECDE teachers to take lead in the implementation of the program. The primary school headteachers will provide safe and secure food storage facilities to avoid intoxication (aflatoxin), pests and theft of the flour.
3. The role of the Laikipia County Government is to provide the pre-cooked fortified flour. The County Government will also provide water to ECDE centres that do not have water.

Consumption

Mr. Speaker, one ECDE learner consumes forty grams per day. In one term which has sixty days, one ECDE learner consumes 40 × 60/1000 grams which is 2.4 kgs. So, a child consumes 2.4 kgs per term.

Summary distribution of the porridge flour

Hon. Speaker, the programme adopts an affirmative approach targeting 223 ECDE centres located in 10 wards and 26 urban slums. On the next page there is a table and Members can see and confirm that the department distributed the flour.

S/N	WARD	NUMBER OF ECDEE CENTRES	TOTAL ENROLMENT	AMOUNT OF FLOUR (No. OF 24 KG BAGS)	CURRENT DISTRIBUTION STATUS (%)
1	RUMURUTI	31	1873	187	100%
2	OL MORAN	21	705	71	100%
3	UPPER SOSIAN	23	1609	161	100%
4	LOWER SOSIAN	25	1630	163	100%
5	SALAMA	32	1280	128	100%
6	SEGERA	22	799	80	100%
7	UMANDE	17	621	62	100%
8	TIGITHI	36	1158	116	100%
9	MUKOGODO WEST	35	1564	157	100%
10	MUKOGODO EAST	40	1628	163	100%
11	NGOBIT	41	1113	111	100%
12	SPECIAL SCHOOLS/URBAN SLUM AREAS	26	987	99	100%
	TOTAL	**349**	**14,987**	**1498 BAGS**	**100%**

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Hon. Speaker, that is the end of the statement that I have just received, and I have read it on behalf of the Chairperson for Education and Vocational Training Committee. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen for your long and elaborate statement.

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 12th October, 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.11 p.m.

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