REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 16th June, 2021

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

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

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk kindly confirm whether we have quorum,

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

Speaker: Serjeant At Arms to ring the bell for ten minutes.

Speaker: Clerk you can confirm whether we achieved quorum.

(Quorum confirmed)

PAPER LAID

ANNUAL ESTIMATES (RESUBMISSION) OF RECURRENT AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENDITURE.

Hon. Daniel Nyausi: Thank you Hon. Speaker, on behalf of Majority leader party, I wish to lay the following papers, the County Government of Laikipia Programs based annual estimates resubmission of recurrent and development expenditure for the year ending 30th June 2022.

(Hon. Daniel Nyausi laid the paper on the table)

Speaker: The paper is committed to budget appropriation Committee and I would wish to request the Members of the Committee who are here, let us work around the clock. Make sure that we can manage the budget by the 30th of June. It would be most appropriate, ofcourse you know there is some money we lose when we are not able to finish the budget timely on the 30th of June. Therefore, let us make sure that we are able to do that, and that also goes to the Sectoral Committees who are to add time on the other, also look at the same. Let us not delay the budget Committee.

MOTION

QUARTELY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MARCH 2019

Speaker: Hon. Catherine Kibue, Chairperson of Education and ICT Services Committee

Hon. Catherine Kibue: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following motion;

> THAT this Assembly adopts the report of the Education and ICT Services Committee on County Government of Laikipia (Executive) quarterly report and Financial Statement for the period ended 31st March.

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Committee Membership; The Committee as currently constituted, comprises of the following Members:

1. Hon. Catherine Kibue - Chairperson
2. Hon. Daniel Mugweru - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Jacob Endom - Member
4. Hon. Chalumbo Ole Kaparo - Member
5. Hon. Joseph Kiguru - Member

Committee Mandate

The Committee is established under the Standing Order No. 191 which provides that it shall consider, for approval of the House appointments under Article 179 (2) of the Constitution of Kenya. Committee; The Committee has held a number of meetings to scrutinize the document as required prior to tabling it in the House.

On behalf of the Education and ICT services Committee, I have the honour and pleasure to present the Committee's report. May I take this opportunity to thank all the Members of the Committee for their valuable contributions during the entire process. Committee Establishment; The Committee on Education and ICT Services was constituted by the House on 28th September 2017 during the First Session of the Second Assembly in Laikipia County.

It is one of the Sectoral Committees established under Standing Order No. 191(g) with the mandate to make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation. Statement of Management responsibilities.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the County Executive Member for Finance and County Planning is responsible for preparation and presentation of the County Governments Financial Statements, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the County Government for and as at the end of the this quarter ended 31st March 2019.These responsibilities includes:

1. Maintaining adequate financial management arrangements and ensuring that these continue to be effective throughout the reporting period.
2. Maintaining proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the County government.
3. Designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements, and ensuring that they are free from material misstatements, whether due to error or fraud.
4. Safeguarding the assets of the County government.
5. Selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies.
6. Making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the County Government's financial statements were approved and signed by the CEC Member for Finance on 15th April, 2019

Background Information

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Mr. Speaker, Sir pursuant to the public Finance Management Act 2012,Section 166 which stipulates that not later than one month after the end of each quarter, the County Treasury shall:

1. Consolidate the quarterly reports and submit them to the Assembly.
2. Deliver copies to the Controller of Budget, National Treasury and Commission on revenue allocation, and
3. Publish and publicise them.

In compliance to the above regulation, the County Government of Laikipia Submitted the Quarterly report and Financial Statements for the Quarter ended March 2019 to the County Assembly.

Cash Flow

Mr. Speaker Sir, despite the cash flow challenges caused by inadequate exchequer releases and delays in disbursement, the County Government ensured that there was strict adherence to approved budget and procurement plan.

Budget Execution By Programmes And Sub-Programmes

Mr. Speaker Sir, the County Government Reports and Financial Statement for the Department of Education and social service on budget execution by programmes and sub-programmes is as follows. Mr. Speaker, Sir allow me not to go through this table because each and every Member has his copy.

Committee Observations

1. That the pending bills for the department are as follows:
    - 2017/2018 - Kshs 56,757,254.
    - 2018/2019 – Kshs. 44,434,280. All these were tenders awarded and work done but contractors were not paid as reported in the statement. The total balance was Kshs. 101,191,554.
2. That the department has managed to pay Kshs. 1,053,500 in the said quarter meant for supply of goods as recurrent expenditure.
3. That the Department managed to spend high amounts of money in the construction of ECDE centres which is in the development vote and an advantage to the County Government.
4. That the department had an under expenditure of Kshs.18, 301,655 against a budget of Kshs. 40,506,200. Thus represents 45.2% absorption rate.
5. Youth polytechnics, vocational training and library resource centres vote managed to spend their entire allocation recording over expenditure in the budget which represents 118% which is an over absorption of the budget. All other votes in the department recorded under expenditure.

Committee Recommendation

1. That the department should prioritise on payment of the pending bills amounting to Kshs.101,191,534 as at September 2019. Failure to which the pending bills will accumulate.

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2. That the department should liaise with the County Treasury on payment of development allocations as per the budget.

3. That the notable expenditure on development allocation is commendable. The County department should allocate funds on equipping the already constructed ECDE centres.

4. That the County Government should re-negotiate banking rates for the financial transaction being carried out.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this report is very well elaborate as Members can see, and it is my humble request to all Hon. Members in this House in the next budget to consider and give priority for already constructed ECD centres. With those few remarks, I call upon my Vice Chair Hon. Daniel Mugweru to second this report, Thank you.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to second this motion on adoption of the quarterly report from the Executive on financial statements for the period ended 31st, March, 2019 dated 8th May, 2021. The committee on Education has noticed the importance of bringing the quarterly report in this House so that it may help us understand how to move forward.

Everyone in this House knows that the Education Department has been having a lot of challenges. The same challenges are still pilling up because the committee was able to observe a very huge pending bill because as the House knows that the budget in Education and ICT goes to less than Kshs.100 million. Now we already have a pending bill of 101 million which even exceeds the budget that we have.

Mr. Speaker, it is very unfortunate that today the committee was able to observe that there is this pending bill of 2017/2018 and another one of 2018/2019 and yet we are in the year 2021. This tells us that there are some contractors who did their work and it is very clear that the tenders were awarded, work was done and approved but not paid. So this tells us that there are some people out there who are crying and suffering for having invested in this county and done the construction of ECD classes in the year 2017/2018 and until today they have not been paid.

It is very unfortunate because maybe somebody got a loan from the bank to do the classes five years ago and the banks have not been waiving their interest rates. The contractor is still paying the interests for those years yet he/ she has not been paid. So the committee went through that report and observed that there have been so many business people in Laikipia who are suffering for those years yet there was a budget set for the same, it shows laxity in the department or maybe frustrations from the treasury of the same department laxity.

That is why we are finding ourselves having a pending bill of Kshs.101 million which is above the budget that we allocate for the department. This also tells us that the contractors who are suffering, some of them might continue suffering because the budget is not even enough to cater for them. The committee recommended that the Education Department should prioritize in paying of pending bills which is amounting to 101million.

There would be no point of giving out new tenders or proposing new classes to be constructed by business people yet the ones who did three or four years ago have not been paid. We would rather concentrate on paying the pending bills and then start afresh. So the committee recommended that that the department should prioritize on paying the pending bills as we focus in doing new constructions.

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Mr. Speaker, the committee also observed that the department has managed to pay Kshs. 1,053,000 in the said quarter meant for supply of goods and recurrent expenditure. I hope that now you can reflect comparing Kshs.1 million with Kshs.101 million. This clearly tells the problems that are in that department and it also clearly reflects how the contractors who did the works might continue suffering if we as an Assembly don't stand and act to push the department to prioritize on the same.

Even as we go to the budget process, we should consider this department to have at least a budget which can clear this pending bill of Kshs.101 million because if we go by this, that we are only paying Kshs.1,053,000, it tells us that we require more than 50 quarters which is more than ten years to clear the pending bills. As the Assembly, as we go to the budget process, we should help the department, to get enough money to clear all these pending bills.

The committee also was able to observe that the department managed to spend high amounts of money in the construction of ECD Centres which are in the development vote and an advantage to the County Government. The County Government has benefited. We observed that we as the County Government have benefited and even the community because the ECD classes constructed are benefiting the community and the people of Laikipia.

So we are the great beneficiaries but on the other hand we are oppressing the people who did the same work. So we need to balance. As we please the community and make the County Government feel as if it is doing a lot of work, we should balance. As the community enjoys, the person who did the work should also enjoy by getting his dues. So we observed that and that is why we are still insisting that the same ECDE classes, after clearing the pending bills, we should also prioritize because constructing an ECDE class without the furniture and other equipment which are needed in that class, it will be so unfortunate.

Mr. Speaker, as we prioritize in paying the pending bills, the next priority should be equipping the same ECD classes that were constructed so that the project can be felt completely. If you do a classroom and fail to equip the same classroom, the community will be celebrating out there but the kids who are learning in that class will not be celebrating and the same way the person who did that class will not be celebrating. As a committee we are recommending that the Education Department coordinates properly so that everybody in the county benefits from the budget that we give them.

Mr. Speaker, in that quarter, the department had an under expenditure of Kshs.18, 301,655. That reflects an under xpenditure of around 5% because the absorption was 45.2 % at that quarter. The department needs to work together and the people who are in charge need to coordinate so that they may give the best services to the people of Laikipia. You cannot claim to have gone to primary or secondary schools or even university without having passed through this stage. It is one of the most important stages in life.

Therefore, in this department, we as an Assembly should prioritize and give it enough budget so that we may give proper and the best foundation for our children in this county. I second and continue calling upon the Hon. Members to support the adoption of this report. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Wilson Wakahiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to make my contribution towards this report of the Committee of Education and ICT services for the quarterly report in the F/Y that was ending in March 2019. Mr. Speaker, I just want to appreciate and congratulate this committee for coming up with this report because I believe

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that in this House there are so many reports since 2013 which have never been debated and reported in this House as it is supposed to be done according to the Standing Order and as per the law.

Mr. Speaker, I want to appreciate although it is very late as per when the report is supposed to come into this House, that at the end of the day the committee have done their best to ensure that we have the report that is featuring the picture of what happened during the quarter of the F/Y 2019. As much as I appreciate the report, I feel that it is the high chance that we as a House need reflect back and see how maybe our county have been managing the public resources since we came into power in 2017.

Mr. Speaker for this case, I believe the County Executive have been doing their work maybe positively or negatively as far as utilization of funds are concerned. It is our duty as a House to make sure that we report that having been mandated to oversight how public resources are being used.

Mr. Speaker, since 2017 we have been accumulating debts. I believe these debts are to our suppliers and contractors in this County. For this, I believe that we have behaving as if we are doing for the public but the people who have been doing for us are private entities. When contractors comes and construct a class and he is not paid and we go out and say we have done this for the people, I think it is shameful because we owe the people money who did this work yet we are telling the same people we are the government who did the work.

Since 2017 to 2019 the department had accumulated a debt of more than Kshs.101 billion. That tells me even 2019/2020 budget there was also a debt. In the year 2021 there was pending bills. To me I understand it is more than Kshs. 200 billion. That tells me that even that department they are also in the same line. As much as we pretend we are working in the same government, as a County Assembly let us know how much we owe our people. There are individuals who are using their money to stand on behalf of the government.

Mr. Speaker, as we speak now we half a pending bill of more than Kshs.2.2 billion. That shows we owe people money that we are supposed to pay. There is an economic and financial expert who was advising the National Government on matters of budget as it was being approved. He was saying instead of making expenditure on development and making budget that will develop our country yet we have debts, it is important we forego all those developments and first for we pay these debts.

As much as I support this report, I think we need to sit down and know each and every department. Let us know how much we owe our contractors and suppliers and so that we may not be coming up with reports and recommending then tomorrow come up with another report having not paid our debts.

Last year, when we were approving this financial year budget there are some money we set aside for the pending bills. I believe some of these money were there. I don't know understand whether we under allocated that money or were not utilized. As much as I understand the budget making process, I believe we owe our people money and they are complaining yet we are not paying.

Mr. Speaker, let us forego talking and we act. Let us make sure our people are paid their money lest they say they are the people who are working for this County on behalf of the County Government that was elected by the people to improve their livelihoods. Let us also act. Thank you.

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Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Asante Bwana Spika. Nasimama kuunga mkono ripoti ya kamati ya Elimu na Teknolojia. Vile mwenyekiti ameelezea hii ripoti inaelezea kuhusu matumizi ya fedha katika wizara ya Elimu na Teknolojia. Kisheria, ripoti kama hii inafaa kuja kila wakati. Kamati wameweza kuketi na kuangalia zile ripoti za kifedha na kuangalia yale yaliyoko katika ile wizara ya kamati.

Naamini katika wizara zingine zote mambo ni kama haya. Ukiangalia upande wa madeni utapata iko karibu kila wizara. Hii ndio shida ambayo iko hii Kaunti. Nakubaliana na Mheshimiwa Wakahiu ambaye ametoa mfano mmoja wa mtaalamu wa kifedha. Pia mimi nawezapeana mfano kama ule kwa sababu tuko na madeni na mambo mengi ambayo hayajafanywa.

Tungeomba pia serikali ya Laikipia pamoja na Bunge hili, tunapotengeneza bajeti hakuna haja ya kuweka miradi mikubwa ndio tusifie serikali kwamba inafanya kazi. Tamati utapata Kaunti inaachwa na shida ya kulipia yale madeni. Ningeulizwa, tuweze kutengeneza bajeti ambayo itaondoa haya madeni yote na ndio wananchi ambao wanadai hii serikali wapate nafuu na pesa zao.

Mheshimiwa Wakahiu ameweza kusema tuna madeni ya watu. Sioni kama niko na deni ya mtu. Serikali tekelezi ndio wako na deni. Sisi tumefanya bajeti na tumewawekea kila kitu kisha wanakosa kuwalipa wale wananchi. Ninapotembea Nanyuki ama sehemu yeyote natembea nikiwa mweupe kama pamba kwa sababu sina deni ya mtu. Serikali Tekelezi ndio wako na deni. Sisi ni viongozi na tunasimamia haki ya mwananchi.

Speaker: Hon. Kanyutu?

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Hon. Speaker, I stand on a point of clarification whether the Member from Thingithu is an interim Member because if the County owes people and he represents the people, is he not a Member. I think he needs to clarify.

Hon. Stephen Nderitu: Mimi ni Memba. Unajua kuwa mwanachama kuna ile sehemu yuko. Kuna Mwenyekiti, katibu, mweka hazina na wengine ambao hayo ndio wanaendesha kile kikundi. Hapa tuko na Gavana, Mawaziri, Afisa wakuu na wale wengine ambao wanafaa kufanya ile kazi. Mimi ni mwanachama ambaye mahali niko nafaa kuangalia na kusema hili lifanyike. Tayari nimesema kwa bajeti iliyopita kwamba tuweke 700 milioni tuweze kulipa watu.

Speaker: Order, Hon. Nderitu!

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: I appreciate the Hon. Member because he has accepted that he is part and parcel because in last year's budget they set aside Kshs. 700 million. The way he had claimed he is part of government he is part of Laikipians and it is good because it is the only clarity I needed.

Speaker: Thank you Hon. Kanyutu. Hon. Nderitu cannot run away that the County Government is made of two independent arms. County Assembly and the County Executive. The County Executive are the Implementers and County Assembly does the approval role in budget, oversight as well representation. Therefore, we are part of this government.

When we have a motion here and urge the County Government, in fact I recommend it should appear as the County Government of Laikipia (Executive) so that when we talk of urging the County Government, we do not look at the Executive as the government. It is just the Executive Arm of this government and then we are the County Assembly Arm. When you

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go to the Constitution, it starts with the County Assembly then County Executive. I believe you are advised.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika kwa kutoa mwongozo wa busara. Nafikiri Mheshimiwa Kanyutu ameelewa. Ameniambia yuko katika serikali lakini pia yeye hajalipwa. Namaanisha kuna mtu anafaa kuwa anafanya ile kazi. Nikijielekeza katika hii ripoti, ninaipongeza kamati kwa kutoa mapendekezo yao na maoni na hayo ndio ningeomba kamati zingine zote ambazo zinahusika na haya mambo ya kifedha waangalie miradi ambayo inafanyika.

Mheshimiwa Mugweru amesema kuna kazi zinafanyika kama serikali vyenye imetengeza madarasa ya shule za chekechea. Unakuta darasa limejengwa lakini ni nyumba peke yake. Watoto ambao wanafaa kusomea hilo darasa wanaachwa na shida. Ningeomba wakati mwingine tunapofanya bajeti tufuatilie kabisa wale ambao wanatekeleza hii bajeti tuwasukume hadi mwisho ndio wafanya kazi vile inastahili. Naamini hiyo ndio kazi yetu.

Mfano mwingine unapata wengine wametengeneza soko. Unapata haijawekwa yale mambo yote inastahili. Ningeomba kama serikali tekelezi wametoa pendekezo la kufanya mradi wafanye hadi mwisho. Ndio maana tuko hapa kuhakikisha maambo yote imetendeka. Kwa hayo machache napongeza kamati.

Bwana Spika, nauliza kamati zingine zitoe ripoti kama hii. Inakueleza vile mambo iko. Huwezi kataana na hii ripoti kwa sababu hawa watu wanakueleza vile tumefanya. Wakikuambia hatujalipa na wanakuwekea kile kiwango ambacho hawajalipa, huwezi kataa. Huo ni ukweli. Tungekuwa na nguvu kama vile Kanyutu alikuwa anadai tungesema leo waweze kulipa hilo deni. Kwa hayo machache nashukuru sana.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I was silent but he keeps on insisting. He has mentioned that I have not been paid. Mr. Speaker, I got my last month pay and I don't know what I have not been paid because as a government we need to. Once the treasury releases funds, the fund is allocated to the projects that are complete and have certificate of completion. They are paid and what we need to do is ensuring that the pending bills are in the budget.

Last year we allocated Kshs.700 million and I think he needs to clarify what I have not been paid because he may have information that I am not aware of.

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu, you can clarify whether Hon. Kanyutu has projects that have not been paid or there were some pending bills that have not been paid yet we know it is wrong for members to do government projects. Is it salary because it will take Members to the HANSARD records and no one will be there to explain what he has not been paid. Kindly clarify.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante, Bwana Spika. Nilikuwa nimemaliza lakini nitaweza kueleza. Mheshimiwa Kanyutu ni rafiki yangu na kuna yale mambo ambayo huwa tunaongea tukiwa hapa na nje. Bwana Spika, Mheshimiwa Kanyutu anaogopa kusema ukweli kwa sababu nikiwa kwa Idara ya Fedha najua wako na deni yangu na niliona hayo majina yote jina lake likiwa hapo kama hajalipwa. Kwa hivyo, siwezi jua nini hiyo hajalipwa lakini naelewa sijalipwa *per-diem.* Hata kama ni mia mbili hiyo pia ni deni. Sijasema amefanya biashara kwa sababu yeye si mkandarasi…

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member is putting himself in more trouble. Once he claims he saw my name on the screen, that shocks me because I don't think there is anything that is pending. We are discussing pending bills. In case there is any, I wonder because I have no projects. Anything to do with salaries cannot be claimed to be

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pending bills. If it is per-diem that have not been paid due to the issues with treasury, can that really be a pending bill? I need that clarity because if there is any project registered under my name, somebody may be misusing my name in the Finance Department.

Speaker: Hon. Ndiritu clarify and do not be generous with the information. When you say that you saw pending bills, it indicates how careless somebody is by revealing confidential information. I don't think there is anyone in this County Assembly who should access what people have not been paid and what is not in the public domain. I believe when the Human Resource and the Finance Department are paying our salaries, it is a confidential thing.

Therefore, it is important for Hon. Ndiritu to clarify whether it is a salary or pending bills where he has done a project with the government or what is it.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Bwana Spika, kwa maoni yangu nafikiri nitaomba msamaha kwa kutaja jina lake na pia naelewa *pending bill* ni deni yeyote ambayo haijalipwa *per-diem* zikiwemo. Nimesema yangu iko na wakati niliona jina Kamau nilifikiri ni Kanyutu. Labda hapo ndipo shida inakujia na ndio maana naomba msamaha. Labda ni jina langu niliona nikafikiri ni lake. Kwa hayo machache naomba msamaha…

Speaker: Most importantly withdraw.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Nimeondoa na kutoa msamaha kwa sababu pengine jina Kanyutu, Kamau na Kagondu zinakaribiana. Asante, Bwana Spika.

Hon. Mary Samken: Asante sana, Mheshimiwa Spika kwa kunipa hii fursa ili niweze kuchangia ripoti ya Kamati ya Elimu. Nashukuru kamati kwa kutia bidii katika kazi zao. Mheshimiwa Spika, ningetaka kuongelea mambo matatu. Kwanza ni kuhusu Shule za Chekechea. Sisi kama Serikali ya Kaunti, mamlaka yetu katika Elimu ni shule za chekechea na vyuo vya ufundi.

Mheshimiwa Spika, nataka kuwa katika kumbukumbu za Bunge hili nikipigana na serikali ya Kaunti kuingilia shule za msingi na vyuo vikuu ilhali wamesahau kazi ambayo wanafaa kutekeleza katika Katiba. Hii ripoti inaonyesha ya kwamba Serikali ya Kaunti ya Laikipia iko nyuma sana katika maendeleo ya shule za chekechea. Ni vibaya kwa sababu kuna sehemu nyingi katika Kaunti ya Laikipia ambazo bado watoto wa shule za chekechea wanasomea chini ya miti.

Mheshimiwa Spika, ni uchungu kwa sababu wale ambao wamepata kandarasi za kujenga shule za chekechea hawajaweza kulipwa. Juzi tukifanya Bajeti ya Ziada, nililalamika kwa sababu ya shule moja ya chekechea ya Seek. Kila wakati tunapofanya Bajeti tunawekea hiyo shule bajeti lakini ikifika ni kufanya Bajeti ya Ziada hizo pesa zinatolewa. Mheshimiwa Spika, watoto wanaumia kwa sababu ya njaa na Kaunti ya Laikipia inafaa kuangalia watoto wa shule za chekechea ili waendeleze masomo yao vizuri na wapate chakula wanapokuwa shuleni lakini tunasahau haya yote.

Mheshimiwa Spika, nitaenda kwenye kumbukumbu za Bunge hili na niseme kwamba matokeo nduni katika masomo ya Laikipia yameanzishwa mwanzo wa masomo ya mtoto. Ukijenga nyumba na ukose kutekeleza wajibu wako na mkandarasi, hiyo nyumba itaanguka siku moja. Kwa sababu ya kuona matokeo mbaya katika Kaunti hii, ni kwa sababu shule zetu za chekechea hazipatii watoto wetu masomo ambayo wanastahili kupata ili wasaidike wanapoendelea katika masomo yao.

Bi. Spika, hii ripoti imekuja kwa wakati ambao unafaa ingawa imechelewa lakini tuiangalie kwa kindani vile kamati imependekeza kwamba shule ambazo zimemaliziwa, kuliko

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tujenge zingine, tuziwekee vifaa. Hilo ni jambo la busara kwa sababu darasa bila viti halisaidii. Ni heri tuwe na darasa ambalo liko na viti ili watoto wasomee hapo wakiwa na starehe kuliko kuendelea kujenga madarasa na hazitumiki.

Tunashukuru kamati kwa kazi nzuri wanaendelea kufanya. Tunapea kongole Mwenyekiti kwa sababu ya kazi nzuri na tuko na matumaini hii kamati itatuelekeza ili tuendelee kutumikia watu wetu wa Laikipia na hasa watoto wa shule za chekechea ambao kaunti walipewa kipao mbele na Katiba ya Kenya. Asante sana na nashukuru.

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

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Catherine Nyawira) took the Chair]

Hon. Salma Zamzam: Asante sana, Bi. Spika kwa kunipea nafasi ili niweze kuchangia ripoti kutoka kwa Kamati ya Elimu. Hii ni ripoti ya mwisho wa Muhula wa mwezi wa tatu, mwaka wa 2019. Bi. Spika, nawapa kongole Kamati ya Elimu ambayo inaongozwa na Mheshimiwa Catherine Kibue kwa kufanya kazi ya busara kwa sababu ya ubadilishaji wa kamati ambayo iliweza kufanywa juzi. Tuliona Kamati ya Cohesion iliweza kuleta ripoti yao mwezi uliopita. Tumeona Kamati ya Elimu na kamati zingine zitafuata. Inaonekana mnafanya kazi nzuri.

Waswahili walisema, ‘Mgalla muue na haki mpe’. Tumeelezewa kuhusu hii ripoti na ni jambo la busara kamati ya elimu iliweza kuketi chini na kuona umuhimu wa kutuletea ripoti kama hii kwenye Bunge ili viongozi waweze kujadili katika Bunge hili. Tumeweza kuona mapendekezo ya Kamati ya Elimu katika Kaunti ya Laikipia. Tumeona wenye kandarasi wanagandamizwa. Mheshimiwa Mugweru ameweza kusema usipige debe sana ilhali katika ukurasa wa sita nambari tatu tunasema imeweza kufanyiwa kazi nzuri.

Wanalaikipia wanafurahia vile shule za chekechea zimetengenezwa. Kuna uchungu kwa wanaume na akina mama katika hii Kaunti waliweza kuweka pesa zao mingi na hadi wa leo wameshindwa. Kama viongozi wa Bunge la Laikipia tuliweza kutenga pesa wanakandarasi waweze kulipwa katika Kaunti na hadi wa leo hawajatimiza ahadi ili walipe kandarasi. Ombi langu ni Kamati ya Elimu ifuatilie ili tuweze kupata haki ya kandarasi kulipwa haki yao na pia waweze kuridhika. Hilo ni jukumu letu kusimamisha ujenzi wa darasa zingine na wenye kandarasi waweze kulipwa pesa ambazo tunaona ni za miaka mingi ambazo hawajalipwa hadi wa leo.

Tunajua pia wao ni deni wamechukua na hizo deni zinaendelea kuzaana na wanaumia. Wao ni wanalaikipia na wako na haki kama kila mtu katika Kaunti hii. Tukirejelea mambo ya shule ya chekechea, dadangu ameweza kunukuu na kuongea kuhusu kumbukumbu na ninampa kongole kwa kuweza kuleta mswada unaohusu shule za chekechea katika Kaunti yetu ya Laikipia.

Bi spika, tunajua chekechea ndiyo msingi na mwanzo wa kila kitu. Ukijenga nyumba lazima iwe na msingi stadi ili isiporomoke. Ukweli ni kwamba serikali yetu ya Gavana Ndiritu Muriithi imeweza kuegemea masomo ya sekondari hasa ninakotoka, ambako ni Laikipia Kaskazini. Tunaona ameingilia hiyo sekta sana na sio vibaya kwa sababu anaangalia mambo ya elimu, lakini tungemwomba aangazie mambo ya shule za chekechea. Naona kazi nadra imefanywa, watu wamefurahia sana, mambo ya chekechea imepewa kipaumbele na imetimizwa katika hii ripoti ya Kamati ya Elimu.

Ukweli ni kwamba ukienda Laikipia Kaskazini watoto wanaketi chini ya mti hadi wa leo ilhali ni haki yao kuwa na shule za chekechea. Hapo siwezi kutoa kongole, bali ni kazi ya Kamati ya Elimu, na kuna mahali ambapo wamegandamizwa. Nikisoma kwenye ukurasa wa

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tano, nambari tano, mambo ya vyuo vya ufundi na mafunzo ya ziada. Hapo siwezi kuchangia sana lakini naonelea watumie pesa vile ambavyo inapaswa na wawe na kongamano ili wasiende chini na mpangilio wa bajeti ambayo tuliwapa. Mimi sina mengi bali naomba wenzangu waunge mkono ili tupitishe, na tuendelee na huo moyo katika muda huo uliobaki, kutetea Wanalaikipia bila uoga. Asante.

Hon. Joseph Kiguru: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First, I want to congratulate the work of the committee of which I am one of the members. I just want to say one or two things. One, in our observations, the pending bills. I think if you look at 2017/2018, it is over Kshs.56 million. 2018/2019, over Kshs. 40 million. This is the truth of the matter of what every department is going through. It is high time we as an Assembly find a way because as we contribute here, people are dying and crying because of not being paid.

They have constructed roads and classrooms which are being used by Laikipians, and people who contributed heavily with their money through bank loans are crying today and their children are out of school. As an Assembly, let us come up with a way because I think and believe that we can have a way forward. In different departments you can be my witness that in the Infrastructure Department, people who constructed roads in the year 2017/2018 are crying up to date and entering every office demanding their payment. As an Assembly, let us come with a way to help our people. Thank you.

Hon. Veronica Ikunyua: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also rise in support of this report. I would first of all like to thank the Committee of Education led by the Chair, Hon. Nyokabi who is doing very well in this Committee. We thank the Committee for giving our people bursaries. We have been waiting since 2019, so thank you very much. This quarterly report is about pending bills and, for real, our people are suffering.

In 2018/2019, there are some people who constructed ECD toilets and as we are talking now, they have not been paid. Two weeks ago some of them called me and said that they were going to destroy those toilets because they are already in a mess. Banks are asking them to pay their money back because most of them took loans, and they are in trouble, they are stressed up.

They are like, I would rather lose everything instead of struggling asking the County Government to pay back my money and they are not paying, so I had better remove those toilets so that I cannot see them. I was trying to plead with them, asking them not to do that and that we would follow their case. It is very embarrassing, 2018/2019; those are many years. Seriously speaking, when you take a loan from the bank, they want you to pay back monthly. They cannot excuse you whether there is Corona or not. You must pay their money back.

So we are asking the Committee, let the fire continue burning. Please follow up these cases because we really need to pay those people. It is not that department alone which is having pending bills. All departments have pending bills, but there are others which are long overdue. Therefore, we need to give priority and if we do that I am sure people will stop crying.

With the leadership of Hon. Catherine Nyokabi, we are requesting that this department… I know we are getting very little money, below a hundred million, and fifty million mostly goes to bursaries, and the rest do the construction of classes and what have you. But there is sports. We need to buy buses for our youth to be going for games. Tell the person who will bring a proposal to add those requests, so that we can help our people and our youth to be going for games instead of hiring matatus out there which is quite expensive.

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When they are hiring them they keep bothering us to give them something. We feel that they are bothering us, but we want to keep those youth busy because when we do so they will stop using those drugs. I am thus requesting the Committee to consider all those requests. I support this report and urge Hon. Members of the Committee of Education to keep fighting for our people. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Catherine Nyawira): I now wish to call upon the Hon. Mover to reply.

Hon. Catherine Kibue: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I take this opportunity to thank all Hon. Members for their valuable contribution towards this report by the Education Committee, and call upon all Hon. Members to support it. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Catherine Nyawira): This House now stands adjourned until later today Wednesday 16th June, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.10 a.m.

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