# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

## COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

### THE HANSARD

**Wednesday, 24thApril, 2024**

*The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.20 a.m.*

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

PRAYERS

**MOTION**

POLICY FOR HANDLING, PACKAGING AND TRANSPORTATION OF KALES AND SPINACH

**Hon. Paul Leshuel:** On behalf of Hon. Mwaniki, I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT County Trade development and regulation, including fair trading practices is the function of the County Government as stipulated in part 2 of the fourth schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010;

FURTHER AWARE THAT there exist large scale farmers planting kales and spinach in the County;

NOTING THAT capacity in transportation, storage, sorting, processing and packaging of farm produce is low;

FURTHER NOTING THAT in many agricultural supply chains the middlemen have exploited farmers through packaging of kales and spinach which offer low prices to farmers and then sell the produce at higher prices after packaging resulting in unfair returns for farmers;

CONCERNED THAT this highlights the need for better regulation and support systems to ensure fair compensation for farmers in the packaging and distribution process; this House

URGES the County Government to establish a policy for transporters and traders on the industry-specific codes of practice on handling, packaging and transportation of kales and spinach.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. According to the motion that was brought by Hon. Mwaniki, it talks about transport and middlemen. We have large scale and small farmers scale farmers in this County, not only farmers, but even in other areas of business in this County.

Mr. Speaker, we need to have regulations that gives the guideline on how transport will be taken care, and probably how will this middleman will be handling the people from the ground. It is therefore very important to have regulations or laws that guide so that we do not burden the farmers on the ground. We know the middlemen have become an issue. They are very good sometimes, but sometimes you realize they look for markets and somebody in the ground might not benefit very well.

Mr. Speaker, it is very important for the county to think about it and probably come up with a way that will handle the transportation, the packaging and probably the prices of our produce. This includes the product from the livestock. It is very important for the Government

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to think about it in a very broad way so that we can secure everybody including the business people, farmers and everybody so all of us to benefit.

Hon. Speaker, if you don't think about this, you may realize there is somebody who will suffer between the processes. I want to urge the County Government to move with speed on many things that we have brought to this House so that our community will benefit or our people will benefit in the ground. I want to give the mover to second the motion, Thank you.

**Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to second this motion on packaging of kales and spinach in our Wards. Having been the mover, I thank Hon. Leshuel for moving this Motion because I was a little bit late. This Motion is timely because having Members of our wards who are farmers being oppressed the brokers and the buyers of spinach and kales, that is not an honourable thing.

Mr. Speaker as this Motion was pushed, it was by a push by the residents of Tigithi Ward, the residents of Ngobit Ward, and Segera Ward still, because that is where we all depend. It is also a push from the residents of the Hon. Mugambi's Salama Ward, because this is where mostly the horticultural farming is based. Having farmers who do farming of kales and spinach in those localities, they have been oppressed mostly for years by the brokers and the buyers of kales and spinach.

When you do a visit, when these people are selling their vegetables, the brokers pack them in over 150 kg bags of spinach or kale. When the price is stable, they don't change it if at all the price is a thousand shillings per bag, it remains the same. Whereof if you compare the packaging and the kilograms, they are reaping more benefits from the farmers actually they are reaping the farmer.

Whereas, the cost of production has risen on production of kales and spinach, the prices of herbicides that we use in those farms have increased. Even some are importing from Tanzania so that they can have a quality herbicide to do farming of kale and spinach. Having the cost of the labour force and the wages that we pay for the labour rising due to the economic state of this Country, then it calls for measures to be put by the Government and the County Assembly of Laikipia.

Mr. Speaker, we do these laws so that we can be able to protect our farmers from the brokers and the buyers of this from exploiting them. Having this Motion being brought to the floor is the right thing to do. We were even discussing with the Honourable Members of the Finance Committee because this even needs to be in the Finance Bill. How do we package the kales and spinach? What are the quantities that are stipulated by the Finance Act? It should be well stipulated and well explained so that we can have a particular number of kilograms per bag that is set by the Government.

We do this because if at all we do these kinds of laws, we will be able to protect our farmers so that our farmers don't get exploited by the brokers. Again, if at all you can compare since there is also an outcry on tomato farming because of the packaging. We were discussing yesterday with some farmers that one acre of tomato farm; being able to farm tomatoes from the onset of the planting to the harvesting, it can cost around one million shillings.

Mr. Speaker, those are the herbicides, the fertilizers, and the labourers. If at all the cost of production has risen, what are we doing to protect our farmers? What are we doing as a County Assembly? Do we set laws that guide this? Do we set something in the Finance Act that still protects our farmers, because of their ways and measures of the packaging of the products, when the brokers are selling?

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Having this motion, Mr. Speaker, is a good thing such that we can be able to set the standards of how our young farmers do benefit from farming. If at all we were elected in the spirit of the bottom up, that is where most of our farmers and our people who are in the farming sector are. We need to set this record straight. We need to set the rules and the guidance of how our farmers benefit more from whatever they are farming. In doing this, they are able to put something more in their pockets to support themselves financially and have a better life in this Country. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do support and second.

*(Question proposed)*

**Speaker:** Honourable Members, I now open the floor, and I want to give the Hon. Kanyutu the floor.

**Hon. Simon Kanyutu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. May I first of all thank the Member who has brought the Motion on making of a policy of regulating these kales and Spinach. I am happy because kales is what we call in our mother tongue Matharu. Matharu is favourited for ugali consumption. I am sure having a policy on regulating the same can not only assist our county, but also the neighbouring counties.

Mr. Speaker, when I am commuting to Nairobi, if you get to see the way these kales are parked in bags by the roadside, you can be shocked of whatever the farmer gets as a benefit from the farming of the same. There are Lorries that transport these kales to Mombasa, and if you can see, maybe the upper part of the bag is even bigger than the bag itself. I am sure with good regulations; it can be very beneficial to us farmers if we do the same.

I remember in 1984, when we had a very, very long drought. I remember that is when I learned that even kales can be preserved in a manner whereby a single bag of kales can be consumed for even more than two months. You just need to boil and dry them and by the time you are using it, it can serve you more than two months. Having regulations, it can be very much of benefit to our farmers. Therefore, I support the motion.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Kanyutu. Members, the floor is still open. Hon. Salim.

**Hon. Salim Edung:** Nashukuru Sana, Bwana Spika kwa kunipatia nafasi hii. Kitu cha kwanza ni kuunga mjadala ambaye imeletwa na mwenzangu Mheshimiwa wa Nicholas. Ukiangalia katika hii karatasi, mara mingi sana tunaangalia mkulima huwa anaumia kwa njia moja au nyingine kwa kupitia hawa matapeli ambao wanaingia katika mashamba, kununua sukuma wiki, parachichi, machungwa, mpaka hata makaa.

Ukiangalia kwa makini sana, unakuta mtu ambaye anauza sukuma wiki. Ile kiwango inawekwa katika lile gunia inawekwa kwa njia ambayo haistahili. Bwana Spika, naona ni kama kuna jambo Naibu wa Spika anataka kusema.

**Hon. Anthony Theuri:** Asante sana Bwana Spika kwa ajili ya ufafanuzi na mimi si wanafunzi mzuri wa Kiswahili lakini ninazidi kujifunza. Ningeomba Mheshimiwa Salim kwa kinagaubaga afafanue parachichi ni nini ndio vitu vingine visije vikanipita. Nataka nipewe nafasi nitoe ushuhuda kwa kanisa niseme ninataka kushukuru Mungu sababu ya parachichi na pengine ni matusi. Kwa hivyo, ningeomba tu nifafanuliwe kwa upole na nitasikiza Bwana Spika.

**Speaker:** The Hon. Salim I think you will be able to assist The Hon. Anthony

**Hon. Salim Edung:** Ninajua ya kwamba, wakati mtu anajua kwamba kuna msamiati imetokea mahali, inabidi wakati labda la hii mjadala inapoisha, inabidi aturuhusu katika kamusi kwa sababu unajua sisi tunaendelea kusoma na ni vizuri kusoma. Nitaambia Mheshimiwa

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Naibu wa Spika Tony Theuri tukimaliza Bunge labda tutangalia katika kamusi ndio ajue sana parachichi ni nini.

Kwa hivyo, asinimalizie wakati kwa sababu ninaendelea kusimama katika kuunga hii mjadala mkono kwamba ni vizuri wale wakulima ambao wako katika mashinani, wale wanajiita wale watu ambao wanakuja kununua sukuma huko au *spinach.* Ni vizuri waweke hizo *spinach* kwa njia ambayo inastahili. Liwe na misani ya komba kama ni gunia ya kilo hamsini, iwe ya hasani kilo hamsini. Siyo kilo sitini kwa kuwa hiyo ni njia moja ya kuwanyanyasa wakulima.

Unakuta mtu anaeka sukuma mpaka inapita hata kiwango ya ile gunia. Hivyo, unakuta mkulima anaenda hasara kwa kupata ile hela ambayo hakutarajia. Hii mswada wa leo ninashukuru Mheshimiwa Mwaniki kwa kuileta kwa sababu tukiwa na mwelekeo pale mashinani, wale wananunua, wale wanabeba, wale wanaelekeza katika sokoni, wataelewa kwamba kuna mikakati ambayo imewekwa na Serikali ya kwamba kama ni kilo hamsini au ni kilo tisini, iwe ni kilo tisini.

Kwa machache, ninaunga mkono nikisema kwamba wenzangu pia ni vizuri tuunge mkono kwa sababu inatusaidia sisi katika eneo hii letu la Laikipia na Kaunti zingine jirani. Asante Bwana Spika.

**Hon. Anthony Theuri:** Asante Bwana Spika. Ninasimama kuunga huu mjadala mkono na kusema ni vizuri wakati Mungu anawapa wakulima wetu nafasi ya kuvuna. Sababu kama saa hizi, Mungu ametupa mvua ya kutosha, ametupa rotuba, rais wetu na serikali yetu tukufu ya UDA amepatia wakulima wetu mbolea ya kutosha na tuko na chakula nyingi.

Lakini katika masomo yangu kidogokidogo ni kutafuta ujuzi sababu kila mtu huwezi jua mambo yote. Nimekuja kugundua hakuna mtu Mungu anamchukia ndivyo Biblia inatuambia. Na vile vile katika utajiri, hakuna watu ambao utajiri unapenda kuliko wengine. Lakini katika hiyo hali, nikakuta kwamba utajiri si ile kitu uko nayo saa hizi na si mshahara tunapata katika hii kazi tunafanyia wananchi, si ile kitu tumevuna bali ni ile kitu tumebaki nayo.

Nimegundua kwamba kutokana na ufafanuzi umefanywa, utakuta kwamba sisi wakenya na pengine utaangalia boma yako na pengine Mheshimiwa Wachuka, Mheshimiwa Eunice na wanadada wote ambao pia ni kina mama katika nyumba zao. Utakuja kugundua sisi chakula mingi ni kile tunatupa. Utakuta ya kwamba familia iko na watu watatu lakini unapopika, ni kama umepika ugali. Kama unangoja malaika waje, utapika ugali ya unga ya kilo mbili.

Nimesikia mheshimiwa Kanyutu akisema *spinach* inaitwa *madharu* sijui *madharau*. Unapika sukuma wiki mingi sana sababu iko kwa wingi lakini la ajabu ama la kushangaza, baada ya muda kidogo tu kama wiki mbili jua ikitoka, tunaanza kulia Serikali saidia chakula imeenda juu. Hii ni kwa sababu hatukuweza kujibakishia kwa akiba. Jana, nilishangaa tukiwa hapa kazini, maji ya mvua ilikuwa mingi ikafanya daraja ifurike. Ilibidi watu wasipite hiyo njia ya kuenda kwa polisi, wawe ni kama wanaenda kwa jeshi; ilikua ni shida.

Bwana Spika, tujiulize, hayo maji yameenda wapi? Hayo maji ndio utajiri wetu na wakati ambapo tumepata mavuno, kama wakulima wetu hawakuwa tayari, huo utajiri wote unaenda. Unapata Mungu ametupa mavuno kubwa zaidi lakini sisi hata tumepitwa na wanyama kwa akili. Bibilia inasema hata tumepitwa na mchwa kwa kuwa huwa inajua wakati wa masika, inatafuta wakati wa jua inajificha. Saa hii wakati wa mvua, sasa hiyo serikali ya mchwa imekaa vizuri kuliko binadamu .

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Je sisi kama binadamu, tuko na akili tano vile Mungu ametuongoza? Sisi kama tuko na serikali yetu, tuko na pesa zaidi ya bilioni sita nukta tano, tunafaa kuongoza tukiwa pale mbele lakini Mheshimiwa akiwa pale sababu Mungu ametupa mvua mingi, yuko na ng'ombe mingi. Mheshimiwa Leshuel akiwa hapa, wasije wakatuambia Januari eti wako njaa. Saa hizo wameanza kutafutia mbuzi wao chakula eti zinakufa. Kwa wakati hii zimenona wachinjwe wakaushwe na hizo nyama iwekwe kwa mikebe.

Sisi na Mwaniki ambao tuko na kipande kidogo na Mheshimiwa Gatati na Mheshimiwa Kagondu pale na Mugweru pia, tunalima sukuma wiki hapo nje kwa magunia. Hata sisi wakati Mungu ametupea mavuno, tunakausha na sio lazima ziwekwe kwenye friji. Ndio isiwe baadaye tunasema eti iko na bei kali mara haina soko, tunaweza ziweka kwa jua ikaushwe na ikikaushwa, bado itakua na ladha.

Ningesema hii mjadala imeletwa na Mheshimiwa Mwaniki na Mheshimiwa Leshuel akaunga mkono, tulichukue kwa makini kama tunataka kusaidia maisha ya watu wetu. Tuwafunze kuwa maisha si ya leo na wakati unayo, sio pesa tu unaweka akiba. Inaweza kuwa hauna pesa lakini uweke hiyo mavuno akiba kesho uziuze.

Tuwafunze kuweka akiba na kuwatengenezea nyumba za akiba na kuwapelekea wakulima walimu walio na maarifa kwa ukulima ambao tunawalipa pale na pesa za maafisa wa kilimo. Tuwafunze njia ya maongezo la thamani na njia ya kutafuta mbegu mzuri. Mtu asije akasema alilelewa na sukuma wiki kwa Nyanya yake na utakuta hiyo miti ya sukuma ni mrefu hata kuniliko na iko na uchungu na asidi juu ni ya kitambo na imekomaa.

Ningependa kuwashauri muende *showgrounds*, juzi nilienda huko nikaona kuna sukuma hazina asidi. Kuna Mheshimiwa hapa anasema nisilete siasa za parachichi. Parachichi ni *Avocado* na nikamwambia hata mimi najua Kiswahili na *spinach* ni mchicha. Pia kuna mchicha mzuri na sukuma wiki ambazo hazina asidi. Kwa hivyo, tuwafunze watu wetu na kila siku unafunza mtu kitu mpya, unajenga maisha yake.

Mheshimiwa Spika, jua ikija tuwe tunaitumia kujitajirisha na mvua pia vilevile. Kwa hayo machache ama mengi, ninaunga huu mswada mkono na ninasema tuwe viongozi wa matendo. Tukitoka hapa nikitembelea Mheshimiwa Umija sababu anapenda sukuma wiki na *omena* kabisa, nikienda huku kwake nisipate tu amesimamisha gari pale kwa boma yake. Nataka niweze kuona kama amepanda mchicha na sukuma vizuri. Nikimtembelea, ananiwekea kwa toroli yangu naenda nayo nikisema nimetoka kumtembelea.

Mheshimiwa Spika, naye Mheshimiwa Umija akija kwangu sababu mimi ni mfugaji wa kuku, nampea mayai iko na *miruru* miwili mzuri anaenda kwake akiwa amefurahi naye. Mheshimiwa Kihika pale nyumbani kwake ana shamba kubwa, isiwe imetengwa tu, atengeneze bwawa. Asiseme samaki ni ya mjaluo, hata yeye ni mjaluo; sisi wote tulitoka pahali moja. Tukitoka huko, tunatoka na tilapia na mudfish ili nchi yetu tuwe tumetosheka. Hii vita yote unaona ikipiganwa, watu wakiwa wameshiba hawana maneno mingi; ni kusifu na kulala. Mungu awabariki awatendee mema na hii maneno tuunge mkono, asante sana.

**Speaker:** Shukrani, Mheshimiwa Theuri naona Mheshimiwa Wachuka anabonyeza kipasa sauti, naomba nikupe nafasi kwa jukwa.

**Hon. Irene Wachuka:** Asante sana Bwana Spika. Ninasimama asubuhi ya leo kumshukuru Mwenyezi Mungu ambaye ametuleta kwa hili Bunge sisi wote na kutupea uhai. Wengi walitaka wawe leo lakini walienda usiku.

Pili namshukuru Mheshimiwa Mwaniki kutoka wadi ya Tigithi kuhusu huu mswada. Wakati nimeisoma kidogo, nimeona kuna kitu sisi kama viongozi ni kana kwamba tunafunga

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macho tunaenda tu sokoni na kuchukua ile kitu tunataka lakini hatufikiri kuhusu kesho. Mimi kama kiongozi, nikiangalia katika soko na kuangalia mambo ya nyanya, zinawekwa kwa sanduku zikiwa na kiwango.

Mambo ya mahindi tunaweka gunia ya kilo tisini. Ukienda upande wa maharagwe, hata hii mchele vile inawekwa lakini ukiingia upande kwa kitu kama *sukuma wiki, spinach* na vitu kama hivyo ambavyo ni muhimu sana, havina viwango vinavyohitajika. Nikirudi nyuma kidogo, mwaka wa 2012 nilienda Finland nikiwa chini ya Manispaa ya Nyahururu. Nilikuwa niende miezi miwili, nilibeba *spinach* na karoti zilizokaushwa. Kama mboga zinaweza kukaushwa, ni kitu inayoweza kudumu. Naomba serikali nzima ya Kenya, vitu wanavyoona kuwa ni vidogovidogo ndivyo vyenye umuhimu sana. Sisi kama wakulima tukiona jinsi *spinach,* mboga zingine na karoti inauzwa ikiwa imekaushwa, ni kitu cha maana sana.

Namshukuru Mheshimiwa Mwaniki kwa kuketi chini na kuuleta huu mjadala katika hii Bunge. Naomba wenzangu tuchangie kwenye huu mjadala kwa sababu ni wenye umuhimu sana. Nikimalizia, turudi mashinani ambako tulitoka tujaribu kuwaonyesha watu wetu. Sasa kuna mvua lakini itaisha tu. Ukiwa na mboga, hata wewe zikaushe mwenyewe, usingoje serikali ije ikuonyeshe jinsi utakavyozikausha. Kausha *spinach, sukuma wiki* na karoti zako. Mimi nilienda Finland miezi miwili nikazila na iliyobaki niliwaachia. Kwa hivyo, mimi naunga mkono na kusema asante sana kwa Mheshimiwa Mwaniki. Najua Nyumba nzima tuko pamoja na tutachangia. Asante sana.

**Hon. Samuel Mugambi:** Hon. Speaker, pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No. 34(1), I seek leave to move a Motion of adjournment for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent county importance namely, rampant insecurity in Laikipia County. I wish to have the support of 10 Members so that you can give us allowance to discuss the matter of urgent importance to the county. As you can see, I have support of 10 Members who are standing now.

**Speaker:** You may take your seats. Hon. Mugambi Gatati stood on account of Standing Order No. 34(1). Allow me to read probably the entire one so that I may be able to give directions. (2) says, '*A Member who wishes to seek leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly shall, at least two hours before the commencement of the sitting, hand to the Speaker a written notification of the matter but the Speaker shall refuse to allow the claim, unless the Speaker is satisfied that the matter is definite, urgent and of county importance and may properly be raised on a Motion for adjournment of the Assembly.'*

Hon. Members, the Hon. Mugambi Gatati did submit a written notification to my office 12 hours before this hour, meaning quite sufficient time as stipulated in our Standing Orders. Members, I also agree with the Hon. Member that this is indeed a crucial matter for us to discuss, and we will give direction that we will move according to Standing Order 34(3) that says; *'if the Speaker is satisfied* (which I do) *in terms of paragraph two, and not less than 10 Other Members rise in their places in support, the Speaker shall nominate a time on the same day at which such Motion may be moved.'*

I direct that immediately after the Motion on the floor, we proceed on this other Motion. Knowing that then we will have this immediately, I want to give the floor to the Members to proceed with the Motion Order Number eight, packaging of kales and spinach. Members, the floor is still open before we embark on the county importance matter. Seeing the mood of the House, I will therefore proceed and invite the Mover of the Motion to reply.

**Hon. Paul Leshuel:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Members for supporting this Motion. It is very important but we want to emphasize on the

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policy regulation so that the Executive can move with speed so that we do not continue seeing our people suffering because of the brokers. So, I want to thank Members for their support. Thank you.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

## MOTION ON ADJOURNMENT UNDER STANDING ORDER NO.34

INSECURITY IN LAIKIPIA COUNTY

**Speaker:** Thank you. I now take the opportunity to invite the Hon. Mugambi Gatati to proceed with his motion.

**Hon. Samuel Mugambi:** Thank you Hon. Speaker, and I also want to thank the Hon. Members for standing in support of the matter of urgent county importance namely the rampant insecurity in Laikipia County. As I requested the last week, this is a matter that needs to be given the priority that it deserves and the urgency that pertains to it. We have suffered in our respective wards and I was even talking to Hon. Wachuka and she is also complaining of insecurity in areas such as Shamanei on your way to Laikipia University. You know there is a high population there because of the availability of students belonging to Laikipia University and those students belong in her ward.

Hon. Speaker, I wanted to lay some pertinent issues regarding how this county is handling the cohesion part of it that is allowed by the Constitution, in consultation with the National Government on matters of security. In my ward, we have suffered approximately five deaths over the past month resulting from bandits. There is no tribe in Laikipia called bandits, bandits are criminals. In my ward for example, they killed a man called Karuri, and they stole only 10 goats. They never even stole anything later; they just killed the man. The man was 34 years old, with a wife and two little children.

Then the following day, a battalion of 30 bandits armed with M16 guns; the cost of an M16 is about half a million and all those thirty bandits had M16s. So, that is a matter that needs to be raised with a lot of concern. I even want to urge the Hon. Members that use the Nanyuki – Rumuruti road at night, if you use that road past 6:30 p.m., you may lose your life there. Past Ol Pejeta there at Jambo Mutara, there is a stream at ADC Mutara. Past 6:30 you can just see bandits roaming with armed with guns, and the government is seeing this. We have an STU camp in Kiamariga. We have another battalion based in Matigari near Rumuruti and my question is; how are we protecting the lives of the people that elected us here?

So that is why I had the need to bring this matter. So that we can discuss at length and have some deliberations. Before I forget, it is also good to mention that some of our roads, out of the expansive nature of our wards such as Sosian, Salama, Mukogodo East and Mukogodo West; for instance, my ward is about one 1,100 Kilometres squared. So even if I am given the amount of money that I am given here to go and construct roads, I cannot make my ward connected because of its expansive nature. These bandits are also using the advantage of having a big area where there is no settlement.

Hon. Speaker, last week I was asking the Hon. Members; many times, we usually say that the government should do this. I asked the question, who is the government? Let us start with ourselves because we are a government by ourselves. In the County Government, we usually have emergency money or emergency funds. In every budget, we usually pass an emergency fund that should be used in matters where there is an alarm or an emergency, and this insecurity in our county can now can be treated as an emergency or a disaster.

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Hon. Speaker, I want to assure you that last or last week but one, we were coming from the President's event at Rumuruti. I can assure you that almost five Members from this House were escorted by police to pass that area. So, if that is a Member of County Assembly who is being threatened, what about now a normal woman in Segera Ward where we neighbour Hon. Salim? What about a normal a young man who travels from Tigithi to Salama via Ngobit? There is a crisis there, and we usually say in English an injustice anywhere is an injustice everywhere.

You might not be suffering right now because you come from a ward near Nyeri, but one day you use that road, one day you remember us raising the alarm here, yeah. Imagine that you have your own car, you have your own fuel, you have your own money, but you cannot go to somewhere else because of insecurity. These people are roaming even during the day. Even right now if you go to that area past ADC, and I know you know the area very well, Hon. Speaker. Where there is a valley, they are roaming with guns during daylight, with the government knowing and we are here not protecting our communities.

Hon. Speaker, through your guidance, and Hon. Members who are also the representatives of the people and who belong in Laikipia, if we cannot stay in Laikipia in peace, then we need to be told where we should live. Someone somewhere is crying; her husband was killed by bandits. Four guys were arrested but immediately they reached Rumuruti, they are all released due to lack of evidence. Myself I am suffering and also not secure. So, if I do not make it again to this House, please know that it is because bandits have taken away my life because now, I am also a target because I am putting a lot of pressure on the ground.

Yesterday, they moved to House belonging to an NPR and almost shot him but he escaped. Yesterday they went to Salama, near an area called Kieni near Kibuku Ranch. They were targeting a very strong NPR. They came to his House at 6:30 p.m. during daylight and told him straight to his face that they were coming for him. Yet we are still here sitting and claiming to represent the people of Laikipia. That is why I had the urge of bringing this as a matter of county importance, because it can even affect us here directly.

Last year, we were moving even a whole land cruiser of Members from here to Rumuruti and were using that way. Imagine a whole land cruiser being attacked at daytime, how many Members can we lose? You know that someone with a gun ambush only needs 30 seconds to finish everybody there. So, with all the effort and the knowledge that we have as a House, we need to sit down and raise alarm. We even need to have a press conference. We need to bring all elected leaders in Laikipia together to address this issue before it gets out of hand. Thank you, Hon. Speaker, and I urge the Members to support me.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mugambi. I open the floor for the other Members who may wish to contribute. Hon. Mwaniki?

**Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This being a matter of urgency I think, as a House and as a government we need to put our heads together. This is an issue that has been going on for years. As a government, we cannot keep on just saying in words without taking action concerning this issue. As Hon. Gatati has said, the bandits are roaming during the day. It is not in darkness; they are roaming during the day. So, as a government, I wonder. Just the other day I saw Kindiki launching special purpose vehicles…

**Speaker:** Hold on, Hon. Mwaniki. What is it, Hon. Mugweru?

**Hon. Daniel Mugweru:** Hon. Speaker, I am only seeking your indulgence because of how weighty this issue is. Hon. Gatati had given a notice of 12 hours and therefore, I feel that

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there are some things that Hon. Gatati has mentioned which are so serious and as a House we don't have live coverage on Facebook. Sometimes we ought to be serious with some issue because we are addressing the people of Laikipia. If we are addressing Kenya, then how are we prepared for this?

Mr. Speaker, whenever Hon. Wachuka is raising issues of Igwamiti or whatever Hon. Gatati is saying, it should be covered out there. The people of Salama should understand that the County Assembly of Laikipia is so interested in this matter. So, I feel that we are not taking this issue with seriousness and the weight that we are supposed to have. I am not saying that it should happen that way but we need to think about it. Whether we can do it after we have prepared, after one hour or in the afternoon, we need to set the best time, prepare our media people and do a proper coverage. Thank you.

**Speaker:** As I allow Hon. Mwaniki to proceed, I would wish that this issue was raised as a matter of concern. What we ought to do now in the House, what is our next step from here? Hon. Members, the information that we are discussing here is recorded in our HANSARD and I will have it produced so that we can be able to pursue it in another level. Would you like to give a way forward or you take a minute? Hon. Mwaniki, proceed as Hon. Daniel prepares.

**Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker, as I was stating, this being a matter of emergency, it needs to be handled urgently because we are addressing this as if it is an issue we can wish away in a minute. This is something that needs people to put heads together from the National Government, County Government and all security apparatus in this country so that we can be able to do away with it once and for all.

Since professor Kindiki launched the special purpose vehicles, where are they in Salama, Rumuruti and in Laikipia North? What are we doing about it? We should rise above this and know how we can handle it as a government because we have been discussing about having a tarmac done from Nanyuki to Rumuruti as a security road. We have been seeing funds allocated for special security roads and this is a special security road. When tarmacked, it would open the area for security people as quickly as possible to tackle the thugs but as at now, there is no way you can be able to travel from Nanyuki heading to Salama and Rumuruti because the roads are impassable.

If at all we are opening up that area for matters of security, it is time that even the government saw the seriousness of the matter and tarmac the road to standard. Even the army barracks are around here and that should be their response. Having a person with an M16 rifle, he cannot be handled by a regular police reservist who has been issued with a colonial era gun. They don't even have G3 or AK 47 rifles. If at all it is a matter of urgency, this should be handled urgently. As Hon. Mugweru has said, we need to put a press conference on this so that we can highlight this to Kindiki because he is the senior security personnel in this country; he can do his job and perfect on this. As I support this Mr. Speaker, I urge the Members to stand in solidarity with this and issue a press conference which is well articulated strongly so that even the National Government can know that it is not business as usual. Thank you.

**Hon. Paul Leshuel:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to appreciate the Member for thinking of how we can address this issue of security. I don't want to go around again discussing of how insecurity has been In Laikipia but the bottom line is from East to South. The whole of that area is in serious insecurity. It is not about just yesterday or the other day but almost ten years down the line. What is important here today is that this motion is giving us two things; one, we need to have a security road where the security trucks (Kifaru) can access. So, the government with the emergency funds should take consideration of that.

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When you go to my area Mr. Speaker, you can only access areas from Timau to Nadung'oro but you don't go beyond that. Those people have realized that and therefore whenever they steal animals, they go beyond that area so that nobody can access. So, until the government ensures that we can access to the border of Laikipia to connect access, the road that connects to Isiolo, that is the only way we can manage security. I know that it is possible if the government allocates the emergency money for that.

Mr. Speaker, we have got many people injured in the hospitals. I have got two people in Cottage Hospital which requires a lot of money. One needs almost Kshs. 800,000 and the other is still on treatment. Where will this community get such money to pay for hospital bills? So, it is putting us in a very bad situation because we are losing both animals and people. We need a lot of money to pay for their bills and therefore this is very serious.

Mr. Speaker, those people have become like an army. I do not know how the government will handle because we have even given the NPRs and it is not working well. When you go to Laikipia West, you will realize that the Kikuyu have given guns to NPRs, on the other side, the Pokot have given guns to the NPRs and on the other side, the Samburu have given guns to the NPRs. So, what are you telling these people? Go and fight because you are arming everybody in the name of security and you don't give salary to the NPRs or a good structure.

What do I mean by a structure? Where do they report? Where do you find them? Majority are living in their homes and therefore you cannot tell where they slept yesterday or today. This person has got a gun with enough bullets and without a salary, are very poor and does not even have animals but giving security to other people's animals. How would that work? So, the reason why we look for the NPRs is because of police failure. Those NPRs still report to the OCS. How do you expect that to succeed well?

Personally, as a County Government, I would like to address two things in this motion. One, how do you mitigate when a person gets injured or killed? Where is the government in the case of such emergency? We want the government to address the issue of security roads so that we can be able to access everywhere. It should also be the responsibility of all elected leaders to advise the Interior CS because when you go to a place like Pokot, the operation has been there for the last one year but every day when you watch the news, you will see people and schools being displaced up to date.

We have lost so many leaders because of the insecurity issue. You know that politicians at times are very dangerous. One time the ranches; Lewa and Borana have been giving us good security because they can use choppers and everything but the politicians went to the CS concerned and told him not to allow the ranchers to move out and pursue the livestock because they are killing the innocent. When they withdrew, now the problem is all over. The same politician can come again and say that they want the NPR because of insecurity. That is the problem with the politicians because they speak this and that with so many changes. I think that is why they have never written documents but like talking so that they could later come and say that I did not say that, I said this.

Therefore, Members it is serious and we are not sleeping or secure. Every single day, there is a report somewhere that they are coming and their numbers. Mugweru knows because we are bordering. Actually, those guys can live for two days in a very small bush and they are only five. You give the report everywhere but nobody will remove them from there. The other day, they tried to move to Segera and killed an innocent person. Those guys are serious.

Personally, I don't want to address the issue of insecurity because it needs to be addressed in a different level but I would like us as a county to address the issue that we can

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be able to address so that we do not talk much and do less. Let us address a serious one. When a person gets a problem, as a government, let us put our hands there. If there is a road that has got no access, let us ensure that we have allocated money for that. If we do those two, at least the County Government will be seen as a government.

According to the Constitution 2010 on devolution, we are 47 County Governments and one National Government. So, every County Government is a government by itself. We have got our own budget here and it is not like the times of county council where we relied on money from the National Government. We have got our own budget and I fail to understand because the County Government are doing things differently. When you go to Narok, you will see a Governor allocating millions of monies to a specific area. When you come to Laikipia, someone tells you not to allocate money there for certain reasons until you fail to understand.

I believe that is why we say that any government can control itself with what it has. So, it is our responsibility to ensure that we have spent the emergency money to pay our people the little that is available. I am sorry to say that this government will never be serious. There is a day when someone from my ward in an area called Mia Moja, his house caught fire and everything was burnt. The CECM concerned mobilised a vehicle here with a ward administrator to that home. They brought one blanket worth Kshs.250 and other things which could cost Kshs.500 only. So, people were asking, what was the reason for coming and for your information, they could have come and said sorry instead of pretending that they were bringing something. Therefore, this government will never be serious.

That CECM has gone all around looking for votes and I fail to understand whether he could have gotten the votes. Anyway, I am saying that we should be serious and the government should know the root of problems and handle issues in a very serious way and also be able to prioritize matters. If people are crying here and you are doing your meetings in a hotel discussing different things, you know that is a very different scenario. I want to say that what Hon. Mugweru has said, we are discussing very serious things but who knows?

The other day Hon. Sarah and Kiunjuri had this issue in the National Assembly and everybody in the country has seen it but we here are discussing the young Hon. Member who has brought a very important motion. Who knows that he has an idea? Being in the HANSARD, it is a very big document. Who will read that document? In fact, if you give me that document, I will rush to the name Mugweru so that I can see how Mugweru debates but I cannot go through everything and that is a fact.

Mr. Speaker, it is very important for us to be proactive when we know that there is a serious motion coming so that we can engage the media in such specific days and after that, we can debate without them. I don't want to take a lot of time but I would like to urge the County Government to consider us on two things. People have suffered and therefore take the emergency funds and consider those people, secondly, take the emergency funds and consider the roads which are inaccessible.

The other day, the bandits killed an MCA from Samburu. The area was very bad and in fact, the speed you can use on the road is 20 kilometres per hour and a person can kill you as if you are walking. The moment the road is good, you can save yourself. Imagine, Hon. Gatati tried to access his people and got stuck while the bandits are just around, you are done my friend. They just communicate and in five minutes they come for you immediately. So those are the two things I would like us to take it seriously. The other thing is to see how we can mobilize and see the way forward.

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The 2010 constitution has also got a problem in one way or the other because everything to do with security land to the hands of politicians and not like before. When you see the County Commissioner and the chiefs, they are nothing in the constitution. They are under the Acts. So, in the constitution everything is in the hands of the politicians. The moment everything is under politicians, that is a big danger because a politician to make a decision and say please kill everybody here, it is very difficult. I want to rest there and urge the County Government to consider this and take it seriously. Our people are suffering and the bandits have burdened them in different ways. If the government cannot make a consideration of taking a small part of such burdens, we will suffer. Thank you.

**Hon. Salim Edung:** Nashukuru Bwana Spika kwa huu mjadala ambao umeletwa na Mheshimiwa Gatati kwa sababu inatufaa tuangalie kwa makini sana. Bwana Spika, kama ungekuwa wakati sisi tuliingia katika hili Bunge leo asubuhi, ilifika mahali na gari ikakwama na sisi tulibaki tukijiuliza, kama hii Barabara ilikuwa imetengenezwa, tungekua tumetoka pale. Hiyo ni njia moja ya kuonyesha ya kwamba tuko katika hatari.

Yale mambo ambayo Mheshimiwa Gatati ameongea mahali hapa, ilikuwa ni siku ya Jumamosi ambapo sisi tulizika ndugu yetu Daniel Karicho. Maisha yake ilichukuliwa na hao wakora ambao wanatembea usiku na mchana. Habari pia inapaswa katika kitengo cha polisi kwamba kuna watu ambao wametembea mahali au wameonekana mahali lakini unakuta hao watu wa NPR ndio huambiwa watangulie pale ndio polisi waje baadaye. Sisi tunaelewa ya kwamba katika sheria, inasema ya kwamba mwananchi hulindwa na mali yake. Hiyo ni kwa mdomo tu, watu huwa wanasema kwa sababu hakuna kitu ambacho huwa kinafanyika.

Mheshimiwa Spika, siku ya Jumapili, nilikuwa nimeelekea sehemu za Doldol na Kimanju. Ilinibidi nipige simu mahali ndiposa nikapatiwa NPR kwenda huko kwa sababu nilielewa ya kwamba katika hicho kichaka, kuna majangili. Tukienda mahali, ni lazima tuangalie mahali tunapitia na ni lazima tuangalie ni wapi tunaenda kwa sababu kama chifu, MCA au NPR anauawa, sisi wengine ni kina nani? Sisi tumewacha kabisa mambo ya usalama na pia tumewacha kuambia *County Commissioner* Pamoja na timu yake ya kwamba tunafaa tulindwe kulingana na vile sheria inasema.

Jana, kuna ujumbe ambao ulikuwa unatambaa katika mtandao na ulikuwa unasema ya kwamba kuna askari ambaye alishikwa akiuza risasi. Kama askari anauza risasi kwa majangili ili wenzetu wauawe, sasa ni serikali gani ambayo inatuchunga? Unakuta hao watu ndio wanafanya hiyo biashara ya kuuzia wakora risasi ili wapate hela lakini wajue ya kwamba wameua wananchi. Sisi kama Wajumbe, mahali hapa tunahitaji tuwe na timu ya usalama ili tuwaulize maswali na tuwaulize watachukua hatua gani kuhusu hao wakora ambao wako msituni na wale ambao wanatembea katika sehemu za Nanyuki na Nyahururu. Hii ni kwa sababu, kila mahali watu wanalia na kusema ya kwamba hakuna usalama. Leo unasikia ya kwamba hapa mtu ameshambuliwa na huko kwingine mtu ameuawa. Tutaendelea kunyamaza namna gani au tutaendelea kuongea na hakuna kitu ambacho kinaendelea katika eneo zetu?

Sisi tutahofia hapa tukitembea katika mabarabara. Hata sisi tunasema ya kwamba ni vizuri nitafute mahali pa kuishi katika huu mji kuliko kwenda Segera kila siku kwa sababu maisha yetu yako hatarini. Ningeomba ya kwamba yale ambao Mheshimiwa Gatati ameongea hapa, sio mzaha. Ni jambo ambalo linahitajika kuwekwa maanani ili tujue ya kwamba watu wa Laikipia watalindwa namna gani. Ninaunga huu mjadala ambao Mheshimiwa Gatati ameleta kwa sababu ni sisi sote ambao tumeadhirika Laikipia nzima kwa sababu kila mahali unasikia ya kwamba kuna majambazi ambao wamepitia mahali. Kwa haya machache, naunga mkono ya kwamba sisi tuamke tukiwa viongozi na tuongee kwa sauti moja ili tusikike. Asante.

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**Hon. Irene Wachuka:** Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Nasimama hapa nikiwa nahuzunika sana kusikia vile Mheshimiwa Gatati ameongea kwa sababu hajaongea kuhusu kwake, lakini ameongea kuhusu Laikipia nzima. Hii ni kitu ambacho Serikali Kuu inafaa kujua ya kwamba kuna mambo ambayo yanatendeka. Naunga Mheshimiwa Mugweru pia vile amesema ya kwamba tukiongea hapa na serikali kuu haisikii, kwanza kabla sijaendelea kuchangia, ningependa watu wa habari wawe nje na kama kuna pesa, nitasimamia. Wacha serikali ijue ya kwamba kuna mambo ambayo inaendelea katika Laikipia.

Sisi hatukuja hapa kuangalia reli lakini tulikuja kuangalia wananchi wa Laikipia. Kama vile amesema, sasa wametoka upande wa Salama. Unajua wale Watoto wote ambao wako katika Chuo Kuu cha Laikipia wameanza kuingia huko wakitoka Baringo na Nakuru. Leo asubuhi, hata mimi nikimaliza Bunge lazima niende nyumbani kwa sababu sio kuzuri na unajua wengi wao ni wasichana na huwa wanakaa katika *hostel*.

Nataka kuuliza, ni kazi gani ambayo tunafanya kama sisi tulichaguliwa tuje tuangalie mwananchi na ndio Wanjiku na Wanjiku ndiye anauaua usiku na mchana? Leo msione kama ni kuzuri. Gatati, nataka kukuomba kwa hisani ya Mwenyezi Mungu, toka Salama na uje utafute nyumba Nyahururu ili ukae huko. Sio rahisi; wale watu kama wanaingia kwa mtu saa kumi na mbili asubuhi wanakuambia ni wewe tunataka, na yeye je? Wanajua ya kwamba Gatati ni MCA na kila wanajua ya kwamba Gatati sio mtu wa kulala. Kila mazishi Gatati huwa anahudhuria na kama MCA, kuna yale mambo ambayo huongea. Yeye sasa hana usalama, Gavana anafaa kuambia Serikali Kuu.

Tunataka kuambia Mheshimiwa Kindika ya kwamba sio kuongea na wale ambao wako katika Bunge na Seneti lakini kuna wananchi ambao wamechaguliwa mashinani. Kindiki akija na kuanguka na ndege, wale watu ambao humlaki pale ni wale ambao wako katika Bunge na Seneti lakini yule mtu ambaye yuko na shida sana ni Wanjiku na Wanjiku ni yule ambaye alileta MCA wa hilo eneo. Kindiki leo hii ukiona akianguka Ol Moran na ndege, wale watu ambao huwa anaongea na wao ni wale ambao wako katika Bunge na Seneti lakini sio yule Wanjiku ambaye yuko katika Bunge la Laikipia na yeye ndiye yuko na maneno.

Tunataka kujua kazi yetu kutoka leo ili Kindiki ajue na asikie ya kwamba tunataka kuongea naye ili tumuelezee zile shida ambazo ziko hapa. Haya mambo sio mazuri na mnachukua hivi hivi lakini ile siku ambayo walikuwa Rais na Naibu wake, walikuwa pale Rumuruti na hao watu watokee, ni hasara ipi ingeingia katika Kenya nzima na Laikipia nzima. Sasa tumemaanisha, ni heri tusimamishe hili Bunge wiki moja na tutembee hadi Nairobi. Kwani Kindiki huonekana namna gani? Tunaenda kupiga kambi pale kwa ofisi yake na kumwambia sasa tumemualika.

Kabla sijapata hiki kiti wakati nilikuwa natafuta kiti cha mwakilishi wa wanawake, nilitembea Ol Moran. Unapata mtu amepigwa risasi na kuanguka. Damu inatiririka na huyo mama yuko pale. Kama hujapata mtu ameuliwa, hakuna kitu tunafanya hapa. Ni heri tufunge Bunge hili. Hili Bunge si muhimu kuliko Wanjiku ambaye alituleta hapa. Kama si Dada yako, ni ndugu yako. Kama si ndugu yako basi ni mwananchi wa kawaida wa Laikipia. Tumeletwa na Wanjiku hapa.

Hili jambo sio la mzaha na ningetaka hawa watu wa vyombo vya habari waitwe kwa haraka ili tujadili hapa nje. Waheshimiwa, hatufai kunywa chai ila tunafaa kungoja. Bwana Spika, tumana ili tuongee kwa sauti moja ambayo Serikali Kuu itasikia. Rais anafaa kusikia pamoja na mdogo wake na Wabunge ambao wako huko na Seneti pia. Wasiende kukaa huko kuongea ilhali umetumwa na Wanjiku. Hata kama wewe ni Mbunge, Seneta ama Mwakilishi wa Wanawake umetumwa na mwananchi wa Laikipia.

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Wanafaa kurudi nyumbani ili tukae chini lakini sio kwenda kuona Kindiki peke yao ilhali sisi ndio tuko na habari. Mwakilishi wa Wadi anaonekana kama ni mtu hohehahe. Sisi sio hohehahe, ila tulichaguliwa na wananchi. Ikifika ni wakati wa kutetea Wanjiku, tutatoka nje na kutoa maneno yetu. Bwana Spika, hili ni jambo muhimu na kama vile Mheshimiwa Gatati amesema, mimi nimeanza kuliona kwa njia nyingine.

Usione wakora peke yao kwa sababu hujui wameshikana na akina nani. Tuko na maadui wengi sana tukijumuisha wale ambao tulishinda. Wangali mashinani wakitembea. Nasimama hapa kusema kwamba kazi yangu ni kutetea Wanjiku. Hapa sio Wanjiku wa Igwamiti bali ni wa Laikipia. Siwezi kusikia Nanyuki kuna shida kisha nilale. Siwezi kusikia Mheshimiwa Gatati na Mheshimiwa Karuiru yuko na shida kisha nilale.

Kifo cha kwanza kusikia ni kutoka kwa ndugu yangu Mheshimiwa Karuiru wakati ndugu yake aliuawa. Tumekaa chini hapa tukitetea Wanjiku. Unatetea Wanjiku yupi? Kama Wanjiku anaendelea kufa, mwaka wa 2027 unatarajia kukuta nani. Kindiki anafaa kuambiwa hatuna mzaha kwa hivyo, aje atuone. Asiwe anaongea na Wabunge kwa sababu hawakuji mashinani. Leo nikitaka kusema ukweli ni kuwa jana kwangu kuna kujiandikisha ya watu ambao wanaingia. Waliingia watu sitini na sita ambao wako na shida. Wengine hawana dawa na wengine chakula.

Hawa watu wanapata Mwakilishi wa Wadi na hakuna mtu anaona kazi yetu. Sisi kama Waakilishi wa wadi tunafaa kujitia nguvu. Hata kama watu hawatatuona, kuna Mungu Mbinguni ambaye anajua kazi ambayo tunafanya. Tunaweza kuchukulia haya maneno kwa mchezo lakini namshukuru Mheshimiwa Gatati. Mungu akulinde na kila siku ni lazima tusimame na wewe. Pia nakuomba mbele ya Bunge hili utoke Salama kwa sababu adui ni wengi, urudi mjini mahali unajiona.

Wananchi hawatatoka lakini adui mkubwa sana ni Mheshimiwa Gatati na majambazi wanamuangalia. Wanjiku hataulizwa lakini nguzo ni yule ambaye anatoka Salama. Kwa hayo machache ama mengi, naomba Bwana Spika unilinde kutoka kwa Naibu Spika. Naomba kusimamia hapo. Asante.

**Speaker:** He probably needs a clarification.

**Hon. Anthony Theuri:** Mr. Speaker, I need a clarification from Hon. Wachuka before I contribute on this good motion. She just quoted somewhere and I am trying to learn Kiswahili each day. There is somewhere in her contribution where she has said that *adui mkubwa ni Gatati.* The last time I checked, Hon. Gatati was a humble man and a good man who wants our help. All of a sudden, he is an enemy. Mr. Speaker, I just want to understand because I understand that bandits are billionaires.

If Hon. Gatati was a billionaire, then I am the second billionaire because he is my brother. He drives a normal car like mine. I understand that billionaires who are bandits are using helicopters. I want clarification because this is in the HANSARD. It is going to be here in the many years to come. With all the humility, Hon. Wachuka needs to clarify who the enemy is here. Is it Hon. Gatati, the common citizen, Kindiki and then from there I will contribute.

Mr. Speaker, allow the Deputy Majority Leader, the finest Igwamiti representative to apologize or either tell us whether Hon. Gatati is the bandit so that we deal with him accordingly. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Hon. Anthony is requesting for a clarification on the status of Hon. Mugambi. Hon. Members, just to let you know and remind you, we have Hon. Members here. Let us use the language of decorum and the parliamentary language. Thank you.

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**Hon. Irene Wachuka:** Asante sana, Bwana Spika. Nafikiri Naibu wa Spika hakuelewa vizuri vile nimesema. Nimesema ya kwamba yule mtu anaangaliwa sana ni Mheshimiwa Mugambi Gatati kwa sababu yeye ndiye mtetezi wa Wanjiku wa Wadi ya Salama. Wengine wanaona kama yeye ndiye adui. Nina maanisha ya kwamba yeye ndiye mtetezi wa Wadi ya Salama. Asante.

**Speaker:** Thank you, very much. I would like Hon. Members to remember one thing and I will make reference to the Standing Order No. 34 Sub-Standing Order 4 which states;

> *(4) No Member speaking on a matter under this Standing Order shall speak for more than five minutes without the leave of the Assembly, except that the Mover may speak for ten minutes.*

I request the Members when you speak, kindly make your statements short. Hon. Anthony.

**Hon. Anthony Theuri:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Apologies accepted. I love the clarification that Hon. Gatati is a voice of the helpless and that he is representing the people of Salama Ward. Mr. Speaker, I need attention here because I am supposed to address through you and I will be very brief with my remarks. I am even ashamed that in this era and age of 60 years of independence that we are still struggling with bandits and cattle rustling.

Mr. Speaker, what are we even discussing here? I understand the last time I checked on you, you were a Christian. Also, we have Christians here and one Muslim; so we all agree on one thing. Our Bible is very clear in the book of Corinthians. The Apostle Paul advised us that if you want to go to Heaven and you are very sure that your eye will make you not to go to Heaven or see Heaven, you pluck it.

Mr. Speaker, bandits are not many. They are few who are living amongst us. In this era, Laikipia is called a Military Town. We have the British Army; we have the Police and the Air Force. This should be condemned highly. Mr. Speaker, in this era you are not supposed to tell me that we cannot catch one bandit who stole a few cattle and sheep from one village to another Endana or Salama.

You cannot tell me from where I stand and I stand to be corrected, that this is Government's business. They are the ones who are stealing from us. Mr. Speaker, let me tell you I am representing the Wanjiku and I come from a highly populated area. There is no time I do not visit the police station because of cases. I am told that we have the best trap in Africa.

Mr. Speaker, if today we have a murder and God Forbid in this Country, the police cannot take three days without getting the culprit arrested. Now you are telling me that you cannot get the bandits arrested in all areas. The Government is not serious and we need to get serious. You cannot tell me that you are not serious. Sometimes back, we had a deadly group than the bandits who were Mungiki. Today as we are speaking, we do not have the Mungiki.

This is because Hon. Michuki woke up one day and said that these are not the Kikuyu but they are bandits, thieves and criminals who need to be dealt with. We as a community agreed that we are going to wipe out the Mungiki and that is how it ended. In Mombasa, we have heard people like MRC who say *Pwani sio Kenya* and the Government said and the people of Mombasa who said *Mombasa ni Kenya* collaborated with the government. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago, we were in Mombasa and we had peace.

I urge the communities that come from these areas that we have the Kikuyu, Samburu, Maasai, Meru, Rendille and if we are serious, we must stop tribalism. If we say it is the Maasai

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or Samburu that are stealing from us, we want them to be dealt with completely just like we dealt with Al-Shabaab, MRC and Mungiki. This nonsense must stop. If they are afraid, I will not quote that we give this country five minutes for things to be okay but I am praying if it is possible, I be given that seat for five minutes and all this nonsense will stop.

We need to live in harmony even if it will be five or six years but we need to enjoy the peace rather than living in this country with fear. Mr. Speaker, you cannot even invest because of a few people who want to advance their agenda politically or business wise. Let us be serious once and for all and we must stop everything. Education, Health and Salaries can wait but we must stop this nonsense so that our country can proceed. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I pray that whatever we are going to speak here, we are going to put it in action.

**Hon. Daniel Mugweru:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. The purpose of this debate that was brought by Hon. Gatati is that this Honourable House should come up with solutions to the insecurity issues in this County. Hon. Speaker, this is for us to understand the powers that we have as a House. Secondly, we want the government to understand that there is a County Assembly in Laikipia which is responsible and which represents the people of Laikipia.

Mr. Speaker, many issues that are surrounding the people of Laikipia in terms of insecurity. Most of them can only get local solutions and the local solutions can only be gotten through the Members of this County Assembly. Hon. Speaker, when Hon. Wachuka was talking here, I heard her expressing the importance of respecting the Members of the County Assembly. We want them to understand the responsibilities that have been given to us so that we may be used to bring the issue of insecurity to normalcy.

Hon. Speaker, yesterday I offered a lift to a lady who is married in my village. I asked here where she was going. She told me that she was going to Huruma Hospital to look after the cousin who was shot at Chumvi in Mukogodo East. Hon. Speaker, that simple information tells me that there are people in my village who are related to the people in Mukogodo East and elsewhere. The person who was shot is a relative to that person.

Mr. Speaker, I just want to come up with the solutions that we as a House are supposed to bring to the table for the people of Laikipia to be safe. Hon. Speaker, I can confidently say that this issue of insecurity is not just insecurity. This is business and politics. Hon. Speaker, I cannot be shy saying that this is business and politics that is going around Laikipia County. When Hon. Leshuel was here, he said that the problem with politicians is that they do not give recorded information. They just like speaking so that they may not be questioned tomorrow.

Hon. Speaker, the truth is that is why the politicians do that. They just want to say things and they do not want them to be on record because whatever they are saying is not in their hearts. They are just speaking for the sake of it. Hon. Speaker, I am confidently saying that this is business and politics. The way to handle this issue of insecurity in Laikipia Hon. Speaker, let us not just see the bandits. We have collaborators of those bandits Hon. Speaker.

Most of the collaborators are the people we know. The ranchers are the ones who collaborate with them. Hon. Speaker, they are the people who own conservancies in this county. We have people with big lands in this area and those people are collaborators. Hon. Speaker, as a House, we need to stand firm and say we are the representatives of the people of Laikipia. We are the ones who understand this issue of insecurity better than the MPs, the Governor, the Senator and anyone else.

Having a meeting without Members of the County Assembly, there will be no fruits that they are going to get. When CS Kindiki comes, he should meet the Members of the County

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Assembly than meeting a Member of Parliament. I have given an example that yesterday I offered a lift. Did the Member of Parliament offer a lift? I am talking about the person who was shot at Chumvi. That person was not even a criminal. It was just a mistaken identity.

Does the Member of Parliament know that? Does the Governor know that? Probably, the Member for Mukogodo East knows this. So, the best people to come up with solutions for this are the Members of the County Assembly. Mr. Speaker, you being the leader of this House, organise we get a meeting of the whole House with the ranchers in this County. They are the collaborators. Let us have a meeting with those people who own the conservancies and the people who own big lands. They are the collaborators and let us have a meeting with them.

Tell them openly what they are doing. Hon. Speaker, the animals that are normally stolen in Umande, they go through Olenaisho. The pass through the gate and exit through a gate. Who is collaborating with them if not that rancher? Hon. Speaker that is one of the things that we are supposed to do. Number two, we have perpetrators in this county. It is a joint crime and they are people who are transporting meat, animals and exporting meat.

We need to have a serious meeting with the CS for Security, Kindiki. He should come and sit down with Members of the County Assembly we table facts before him. Hon. Speaker, you cannot tell us that a government is not able to track the people who collaborate with those people. Hon. Speaker, as I said this is market and there are people who are marketing. They are people who are marketing like yesterday on the nation. There are people who are in the daily nation and they sold bullets worth billions of monies to the people of Laikipia. It was in the Nation.

Where does the bullet come from? It was clearly said Government's bullets. Hon. Speaker, that is why I am saying that the CS should meet the Members of the County Assembly and we tell him to his face that the bullets that are used in Laikipia, are bullets from the government's factory. Hon. Speaker, we need him and we need to go ahead because of transport. Those animals are transported by lorries. Where are our policemen? Who is in charge if not he CS for Security?

Hon. Speaker, we have people exporting the same meat. Where is our Minister for immigration? How do we export meat without their consent? Where did you get this meat? They are exporting millions of kilograms and you need to give out where you got those millions of kilograms. We need that Minister Hon. Speaker, because of the local markets, we need the CS for Trade because they know the people who purchased that meat.

Tomorrow, Hon. Leshuel cannot claim that he is selling to me one million kilograms of meat. Where did he get the meat? Where is his farm? How many animals does he own for him to bring us a million kilograms of meat? We need the CS for Trade to come here at the County Assembly. Hon. Speaker, we even have sympathisers of these people. When one is shot, you will start hearing politicians crying that a certain person was killed. Those sympathisers also need to be brought to book we have a meeting with them.

Hon. Speaker, when we are talking about sympathisers, Hon. Leshuel has said that five gangsters can live in a small bush or in one family in our areas. The chiefs know where those people hide. You cannot tell me that you came all the way from Samburu and you know all the roots in Umande then steal. There must be somebody from Umande or around Umande who has given you accommodation. You are in their farm and you are cooking and eating there so that at night, you terrorize our people.

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We need to have a meeting with the chiefs in these areas because they know where those bandits live. They know the families who hide those bandits. Hon. Speaker, we have the issue of the policemen and as a House, we also need to have a meeting with the County commander. Hon. Speaker, when Karicho was killed in Segera, that same day the people went with his gun. They fired seven-gun shots at Matuiku Police Post which is in Umande.

When we tried to look for rescue, Muramati Police Post which is in Segera, no police man could stand. They were all drunk. In fact, we ignored them and went ahead to call policemen from Nanyuki. Hon. Speaker, the OCS went there and no one could notice the OCS was there. They were drunk and they could not wake up. The police post in Matuiku which is in Umande Ward, one of them was totally drunk. The guns were all over and he is sleeping there. He did not know there is danger.

The other one is out there in Mwireri which is seven kilometres from his area of jurisdiction. Guns are there and he doesn't know. The County Commander is still here and we need to have a meeting with him. We need to have a meeting with the OCS who are here because some of the stations that are around those places with insecurity, if a policeman needs disciplinary action, they take them there.

If you are in Nanyuki Police Station and you are termed as a drunkard, you are taken to Chumvi, Umande and others where there can be disciplinary action. Most policemen around those areas cannot deal with bandits. Those policemen are on disciplinary action. So, we need to question. Hon. Speaker, as I had said previously, Umande station that was commanding sixty-nine police, currently, it is only commanding eighteen. Hon. Speaker, all the way from Ethi, Mia-Moja, Ngenia, Umande, Segera and Naibor. They were sixty-nine.

The person who had brought sixty-nine was not mad. He knew the importance of those. Today if you call Umande Police Station to come for rescue, the OCS will be the driver because they do not have policemen. The County Commander transferred them without replacements. They are only getting people but I do not want to say that but it is said so. If you go with twenty thousand, you will be moved from Chumvi and brought to town and live there well without replacement.

That is what has been happening and that is why I am saying it is a business. There are people benefiting from insecurity in Laikipia. There are people who eat well because of insecurity. So, we need to have the County Commander, OCS, CS Trade, CS Security and CS Immigration on board. We need to have them all to come here to answer questions. We also need all the politicians to come to a closed-door meeting where we get records of what they are saying. Let them not just say and go.

Lastly, Hon. Speaker, we also need to have another way of handling these issues. We have the elderly people who are respected in our communities. Let us also bring them on board. Let the Governor himself facilitate the elderly people and anybody who is felt that he can talk to our young men so that they may not join that group of bandits. We have people who were bandits many years ago who reformed. If I get saved today, I am better positioned to preach to the others to get saved.

If we have people who reformed and probably, they were bandits who are openly declaring, they are the best people. The government should facilitate them. Let the Laikipia County Governor facilitate them. Let them have meetings with the young people, villagers. Let them have meetings with the chiefs and others so that we may have peace in Laikipia. Hon. Speaker, I support hoping I am not just talking. Very soon, I will hear letters written to the CS

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Kindiki, County Commander, Ranchers, conservancy owners, Immigration Department and Trade Department so that all these people come on board.

The Government of Laikipia led by this Assembly should set money for NPRs. Let us not use our own elders for no reason. Let us pay them and they should get their dues so that we may motivate them to work better for us. I support trusting that all these actions will be taken. Thank you.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mugweru. Since time is going, allow me to give Hon. Mugambi to do a summary of his motion.

**Hon. Samuel Mugambi:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker and Hon. Members for the robust conversation and the support. I would like to say without doubt that we need an urgent meeting with the Cabinet Secretary of Interior and Coordination; Hon. Kindiki. The Members have quoted very well that other times where Kindiki comes in Laikipia, MCA's have never met the CS. We therefore declare we need the meeting urgently. The ranchers also…

**Speaker:** Hon. Karuiru kindly switch off your microphone.

**Hon. Samuel Mugambi:** Therefore, I want to thank the Hon. Members for the good conversation and the good points you have raised. I want to say without avoidance of doubt, that we need an urgent meeting with the Cabinet Secretary Hon. Kindiki. We need the meeting as the Member of County Assembly representing the people of Laikipia. We also need a meeting with all ranchers.

Hon. Speaker, in my ward and the ADC Mutara Farm that touches Salama, Segera, Sosian and parts of Laikipia North, there is a breeding site for bandits in ADC Mutara. This is because the Manager of ADC Mutara is allowing every Tom, Dick and Harry in his farm. Those are the people who are doing a lot for bandits in the area. We received some news some months ago and you can remember Hon. Speaker. Lucy Jennings was killed at 8.00 a.m. on Sunday when she was going to church on her way from the farm to Rumuruti. Lucy Jennings comes from my ward in areas of Kisiriri.

She was killed by a person well known to her. Even the people who met her before she passed away, she was calling someone by the name. She said and I quote, *"why have you shot me?"* The quote is there, the policemen have the record and no action have been taken. Two weeks ago, two young men, a girl and a boy in Rumuruti lost their lives while they were coming from a *Kesha* at a Full Gospel Church near Rumuruti. Last week in Segera Ward, they buried an NPR.

While we were doing our campaigns in Githiga Ward, an NPR lost his life near Matuiku. In Salama Ward along Mutara Area, we lost a man called Karuri last week but one. In Kiriko in Salama Ward, we lost a woman through bandit attack. I want to quote the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin who said it well that, *"the work to forgive the terrorists, he leaves it to God but the work to send the terrorist from this world to God, remains his job".*

I want to ask the Government that these bandits need to be handled without mercy. If we persist and allow these things to happen, I want to promise and be put on record that our lives here will be in danger. Hon. Speaker, I want to say that we need to address the media even if it is not today. Please organise a very good media forum so that we can speak our hearts and speak to our people that we represent.

The issue that Hon. Leshuel mentioned about emergency funds, as a county, when our people are in danger, we need to use those emergency funds to help them cope with misfortune.

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Without much ado, I want to thank the House and your leadership Hon. Speaker for that time you have given us. I know this is one of the things that have to be prioritised in this House. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Members for this robust discussion on matters of county importance in Laikipia. Pursuant to our Standing Order Number 34, the question we have gone through does not require me to put. I now ask the Clerk to move us to the next order.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Speaker:** The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until later today Wednesday, 24th April, 2024 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 11.00 a.m.

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