REPUBLIC OF KENYA

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 4th March, 2026

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 10.10 a.m.

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

PRAYERS

QUORUM CALL

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if there is quorum.

(Lack of quorum confirmed)

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

(Quorum bell rang for two minutes)

Speaker: Hon. Denis?

Hon. Denis Kaniaru: Mr. Speaker, we now have the quorum.

Speaker: Clerk, confirm if indeed we do have quorum.

(Clerk confirmed achievement of Quorum)

Speaker: Now that we have quorum, I direct that the bell stops ringing. And without much ado, proceed with the business of the day.

NOTICE OF MOTION

EARLY PREPAREDNESS FOR FLASH FLOODS AND OTHER RELATED DISASTERS

Hon. Salim Edung: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT the Kenya Meteorological Department weather forecast issued on 25th February 2026 indicates continued heavy and persistent rainfall in several parts of the country, with associated risks of flooding, flash floods, waterlogging, fog, and reduced visibility, particularly in low-lying and poorly drained areas;

CONCERNED THAT these weather conditions pose a serious threat to human life, livestock, road safety, learning institutions, and economic activities within Laikipia County;

NOTING THAT timely preparedness measures, effective early warning systems, and coordinated emergency response can significantly reduce loss of life and damage to property;

This House URGES the County Government to urgently activate early warning and public alert systems, clears and maintain drainage and road infrastructure, place emergency response teams on high alert with pre-positioned rescue and relief supplies and intensify public sensitization on safety measures.

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Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MOTION

EARLY PREPAREDNESS FOR FLASH FLOODS AND OTHER RELATED DISASTERS

Hon. Salim Edung: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

THAT, AWARE THAT the Kenya Meteorological Department weather forecast issued on 25th February 2026 indicates continued heavy and persistent rainfall in several parts of the country, with associated risks of flooding, flash floods, waterlogging, fog, and reduced visibility, particularly in low-lying and poorly drained areas;

CONCERNED THAT these weather conditions pose a serious threat to human life, livestock, road safety, learning institutions, and economic activities within Laikipia County;

NOTING THAT timely preparedness measures, effective early warning systems, and coordinated emergency response can significantly reduce loss of life and damage to property;

This House URGES the County Government to urgently activate early warning and public alert systems, clears and maintain drainage and road infrastructure, place emergency response teams on high alert with pre-positioned rescue and relief supplies and intensify public sensitization on safety measures.

Bwana Spika nimeleta mjadala kwenye Bunge hili kwa sababu huu ni wakati ambao mvua imeanza kunyesha bila hata watu kutarajia kutakuwa na mvua ya aina hii. Tukiangalia kwa makini, mipango ya Mungu na ya binadamu ni tofauti sana. Sisi tulikuwa tunatarajia msimu wa mvua katikati ya mwezi wa tatu, ikielekea mwezi wa nne. Kitu ambacho kimetupa kiwewe sana ni kwamba hii mvua imeanza katika mwezi wa pili na bado inaendelea.

Mheshimiwa Spika, watu mara nyingi wanatengeneza mashamba yao mwezi wa pili hadi mwezi wa tatu, ndiposa mvua ianze kunyesha, na kila mtu hataweza kuwa amejiandaa. Hata hivyo, kwa sababu ya Mungu ni mengi, mvua ikaanza kunyesha bila watu kutarajia, ndiposa ilileta mambo mengi katika maeneo mbali mbali. Mito imeanza kufurika, mito mingine inazuia wanafunzi kuenda shuleni, kwa sababu kama daraja halijajengwa pale ni lazima ingezuia wanafunzi kuenda shule.

Katika barabara zetu, hasa ile inatoka Nanyuki kuelekea Rumuruti, watu wengi wameteseka kwa sababu magari yanakwama pale na watu wanaanza kusukuma. Imekuwa hatari mno kwa wananchi wa eneo hilo kwa usafiri. Mimi katika Bunge hili, nimeleta mswada huu ili kueleza ya kwamba inafaa sisi katika serikali ya Kaunti tujipange. Mvua inaponyesha inahitaji barabara zetu ziwe safi, na wanafunzi ambao wanaelekea shuleni wasiwe na kizuizi chochote kwa mfano mafuriko.

Huu msimu wa mvua umeadhiri hata wanyama; kuna hata wanyama wengine wanabebwa na maji, hususan mbuzi. Unapata mafuriko kwenye mito na mbuzi wanabebwa na maji. Tunahitaji Serikali ya Kaunti, wale watu waliojipanga wakati kama huu mvua inaponyesha, wawe wameweka mikakati ambayo itawasaidia wananchi wasiathirike kwa njia moja au nyingine. Ningeomba serikali ya Kaunti kuweka mikakati na mipangilio. Ni lazima tuweke mikakati na mpangilio katika Bunge hili.

Wakati mvua inaponyesha sisi tutasaidika namna gani kwa upande wa barabara, shule, hospitali? kwa sababu kuna hospitali ambazo ziko mbali na inahitaji usafiri, hio barabara

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itakuwa namna gani? Kuwe na mpangilio ambao serikali ya kaunti imeweka. Ningemuomba Mbunge Benson Kamara kuuafiki huu mswada. Asante, Bwana Spika.

Hon. Benson Kuria: Asante, Bwana Spika, kwa fursa hii ambayo nimeweza kukabidhiwa. Nimesimama kuweza kuunga mswada huu mkono kwa sababu ya mafuriko ambayo yako na uharibifu unaoweza kutokea. Kwanza, nishukuru Wabunge kwa ile kazi wamefanya kwa wadi zao. Kuna kazi zimefanyika na zingine zinaonekana ni kama MCA hawajafanya. Ni vyema tuelewe kuna barabara za KENHA ambazo unapata majukumu ambapo raia wanadhani ni kazi ya MCA kutofanya.

Bwana Spika, ni vyema kuwe na mwelekeo. Katika Laikipia Kaskazini mahali nimetoka mafuriko ikija haitaki kufahamu kama barabara ni ya serikali kuu ama Kaunti. Ni vyema tujue kwamba Mbunge ametengeza. Mahali nimetoka, Survey hadi Olmoran hio barabara haipitiki. Watu hawasafiri. Ukiingia mahali kunaitwa Muugi, kusafiri kutoka Muugi hadi Churo huwezi. Lonyek hadi Magandi huwezi safiri.

Bwana Spika, ni vyema serikali kuu ijue Mbunge ametekeleza wajibu ulio wake. Nasimama kuunga mswada mkono nikijua kwamba kazi ya MCA iwe rahisi. Niongeze kwamba hii mambo ya *lease program* kama ni dereva na kondakta wake wawe wanapatiwa *mileage*. Wanaingia kazini 6.00 asubuhi na kutoka 6.00 jioni. Wakati huu, hakuna kitu wanapata na kwa hivyo yeye anaingia ile kazi akitaka. Ndiposa unapata kuna shida na pia *lease program* ikiwa katika wadi dereva, anafika saa 12.00 mchana kwa sababu hakuna mtu anamuuliza.

Bwana Spika, madereva wapate marupurupu na pesa za ziada ndiposa wafanye kazi zaidi mafuko yako, magari yako na hakuna kitu kingine anapata. MCA ni jukumu yenu kuona kwamba hawa dereva wamepata marupurupu yao kulingana na *mileage*. Akiingia 6.00 asubuhi anatokea 6.00 jioni, kwa mwezi mmoja wanakuwa wametengeza zaidi ya kilomita 30. Naunga mkono.

(Question proposed)

Speaker: Members, I want now to open the floor for members who may need to contribute to this motion. The first shot I give to Hon. Daniel Mugweru.

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Thank you Hon. Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to make my contribution in support of the motion brought today by Hon. Salim in regards to preparedness. We have already been given alert that there will be heavy rains. Hon. Speaker, before I do that, I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate Hon. Shuel for being a member of the County Assembly Service Board, whereby from the word go, he was supposed to be there. For those who know the story, he was supposed to be there from the word go. It's nothing new. He is where he was supposed to be and so, congratulations. Serve the Members properly. There is no other responsibility we have given you. It's serving the Members and the staff of this Assembly in the best way that God will direct you.

Hon. Speaker, secondly, I also wish to thank the Hon. Members today that we have woken up in a big way, that today we cannot be embarrassed for lack of quorum and all that. Whatever processes we are doing as a House of making sure that the House is clean, that is what we are supposed to do. We are supposed to clean every cockroach. Everything that is in this House that needs to be cleaned, we need a clean House.

Hon. Speaker, after cleaning everything, let us also be clean so that we may not have a clean House with dirty people. We want to be very clean. We clean everything and then our House will remain clean. When cleaning comes, if I'm mentioned as a cockroach, I know Hon.

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Kanyutu is talking about maybe that one. Let me give an example of myself. If I'm a cockroach, clean me because we want the House clean. So, there is nothing you Kanyutu will say.

Speaker: Hon. Kanyutu, what is it?

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Mr. Speaker, I think the Hon. Member should not use that term, Mr. Speaker. Using a cockroach in the Assembly, Mr Speaker, whereby each and every time when we are leaving, I get people cleaning this House. That terminology, I think you need to withdraw. Thank you. Hon. Mugweru?

Hon. Daniel Mugweru: Hon. Speaker, it is unfortunate I'm a Kikuyu, where we are used to use sayings, metaphors, all those things are there, proverbs, and so that probably could be a proverb. Those who know, in Kikuyu tradition, we even have a proverb that says, those who know, knows. There is nothing else, so there is no explanation beyond that.

The ones who know, know. So, it's also another proverb in Kikuyu, that whenever I say something, for those who understand, understands it and it is like that. As Hon. Speaker, it is upon us as a House to make sure that the House is clean and make sure that everything that can make this House better than before, we work for it.

Hon. Speaker, with that, after making the House very clean, we will stand high to be seen by everyone that this House is really serious with whatever it is doing. You can see that nowadays we are not complaining about quorum. It's a good thing. Let us stand for this. Let us be present. Let us be paid for work done. If you have not done anything, you should not be paid. So let us have, even our media people, I've seen the person of media, media doesn't call just for taking photos, Hon. Speaker. We want our page active.

Let us be seen that today Hon. Salim was present and today Hon. Mugweru is absent. Let it be seen by everyone so that we may start it in the best way. That is why we have that platform. Let it be there. Let us be able to face what exactly you are called for. Let us make this House the best. Make it real so that we may have the best for our people.

Hon. Speaker, even before I make my contribution on the same, I wish also thank you Hon. Kamara for everything that you have said and you have made your contributions with a lot of passion and that is what we are supposed to be doing, fighting for the people who cannot fight for themselves. But on this one, let me correct you that those people who work for us on those leasing programmes, they really do tremendous work.

At the moment, you see that it is only that maybe we have shortages of transport and all that and so at times you find this government is paying overtime for them. They are paid because when they come to my ward, I am a witness and other members will confirm here that those people work even overtime, they are paid and there is money for that. As an assembly and as this government, government of the day now, that we can only speak of is that we are doing the best for our people, for our operators, we are doing the best and we shall continue doing better than we've been doing and they are doing good work.

Thirdly, Hon. Speaker, I wish to support the motion brought by Hon. Salim and preparedness is different from countering what has already happened. Hon. Speaker, there is a good motion that we should now start preparing for the heavy rains that will come in the month of April. There is no preparedness we can do for the rains that are ongoing. Anyone who is using Nanyuki- Rumuruti road, there is nothing major we can do. Even our vehicles today in the morning, I was trying to pull people from my area and the road has been passable all through, Hon. Speaker.

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There were heavy rains last night. And so, as much as we talk, we need to work on preparation because we are going to have heavy rains in the month of April or May. Between now, this is just a warning we have been given, that the rains that will come in the month of April will be heavier than this.

So, immediately after the rains that we are having now are over, let us get prepared. If it is leasing programme, let it work day and night. Let drainages be done because there will be heavy rains in the month of April and there before because it is God who plans. But maybe he has given us these rains just to prepare. Today, if you have not done a proper dam for harvesting water, there is nothing we can do at this time until the rains are over so that we may be able to do it.

Hon. Mwaniki has been doing the roads. The roads that he has done will help those people together. They will not suffer this time, but the ones he has not done, there is nothing he will do tomorrow or the day after tomorrow. Maybe they should get satisfied by what he has done because he has prepared himself all through. So, Hon. Speaker, preparedness comes before the action comes. And so, Hon. Salim, you have done a good job bringing this motion to this House so that immediately the rain stops, we get prepared.

If there are dams, we are supposed to do for water harvesting. We do them between the month of March and the month of mid-April. If there are roads and drainages, we are supposed to do, we do them between them immediately the rains are over until the other rains come. That will really help us. The only preparedness I would call, and I really support this motion, is that now that the rains has come, there are people who will be drowned. We have to get prepared. There are people whose buildings will be brought down by waters. Let's get prepared. There are people who floods will go to their places. Let's get prepared.

There are markets in this town and other towns in this county. Maybe flooding will go there and we must get prepared for those. Even there might come even diseases, we must get prepared because of all that that is coming. So, Hon. Speaker, I really support this motion and call upon the government to really prepare itself for these rains.

There are schools that are in this county that already have water tanks, but maybe the gutters are down. We need to repair them to collect that water because in the next one month, we will start them crying here and there that where do we get water? Water Bosa is in Dodo and it is expected to go to Sosian and it is expected to come to Umande and we only have at least one or two. Hon. Speaker, this is the high time.

Those schools that have water tanks, they make their gutters for them to collect the little water to serve them in probably the month of March and mid-April. So, I support this motion and I believe that the Hon. Members will support it and we will work for the best of the people of Laikipia. And once again, congratulations Members, we have quorum and we remain having quorum now henceforth. Thank you.

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the motion, Mr. Speaker, and I also concur with the Hon. Kamara on what he has said. I'm also grateful because recently I was restricted to be the Chairman of Infrastructure and what the Hon. Member is moving the motion on is about roads issues, Mr. Speaker. Yesterday, we had a meeting as a transport committee and we agreed that all the roads that have been done through leasing, they be put in soft copy for each and every Member to see on how much we have done as a county, Mr. Speaker.

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Mr. Speaker, I am very grateful because the Hon. Member is stating on the rains, but you should also prepare for the hot season. Whenever we have got these rains, very soon we might be planning on how to assist our people due to very dry season. It is unfortunate, I don't know when you are reading the prayers I wasn't present, Mr. Speaker, but I can read in the gadget about the resignation of the Majority Leader.

I'm shocked because I'm not aware, but I've read in the in the social media, Mr. Speaker, and without your direction, I take it as fake news awaiting your direction. But I congratulate the Hon. Member. I'd refer you to it that this issue pertaining to their animals, he has stated that they are being carried, Mr. Speaker. I don't know whether they are being relocated to the green pasture, but we agree maybe they are being drawn by the floods.

He has stated that they are being carried. I thought maybe they are being relocated to the areas whereby there are green pasture and they are fed, with the right pasture. I thank the Hon. Member, and to see to it that as a county, to find ways on how we can be assisting our people. So, I support the motion. Thank you.

Hon. Nicholas Mwaniki: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this chance to contribute towards this motion, because it is a timely motion. The government is being prepared on matters of rains and floods and it is a commendable job from the Hon. Member who presented today, because these were the short rains. As of today, according to the announcements that were made by the Metrological Department, and still you forwarded the advert or the communication to all the Members in this House. It was supposed to be short rains, but still, according to the climate change, Mr. Speaker, these are almost the long rains.

As a County Government, we, as a Department of Infrastructure, Mr. Speaker, we had, in the budget allocated for 10 new trucks. There is an allocation for that so that we can be able to fast track the upgrading of our roads within all our wards. According to my enquiry, the first batch of the trucks will be availed by mid-March this month so that maybe we can be able to rejuvenate the leasing programme by having additional trucks, so we can be able to upgrade more roads across the wards.

As a House, Mr. Speaker, the 15 wards, allocation for the same to upgrade roads through this programme has been done. I know the Members have allocated the culverts, on matters of drainages so that our gullies and our trenches can be upgraded. This is so that we don't have floods wreaking havoc within our wards, because we have experienced it even within Nanyuki. There has been a challenge of the drainage system, and having an allocation in the budget, it is still a good thing.

Thanks to the Members of this Assembly because they are the people who pass the budget, Mr. Speaker, and they have allocated funds to cater for this. So, as we prepare for the short-rains, we urge the Members and the relevant on matters of emergencies because that's where the preparedness should come in. The emergencies that will arise within our county, on matters of flooding across our roads and having funds because it is allocated still. The funds are there to cater for that.

What we ask the relevant department is to be on top of things, so that we can rise to the occasion and try and manage the disasters that will arise within our localities. I thank the Hon. Member for forwarding this motion today because this is where we, as Members, we should be able to pin down the relevant people to do whatever they were appointed to do within this county. Thank you, I support.

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Hon. Parleto Lekopien. Thank you, Hon. Speaker, and I'm glad you confirmed the name Lekopien, because at some point Hon. Leshuel was just about to stand up. Before I start to support, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Hon. Karuiru for being the Chair of the Health Committee. Secondly, I congratulate the Hon. Leshuel my senior, from Mukogodo East for being the new member in the Service Board. I hope there will be sanity now that there's new energy in Service Board, and the leadership of the House. At least, we want to see some changes now that there's a new energy in the in the same Service Board.

Thirdly, I also want to congratulate Hon. Kanyutu for retaining his Chair for Infrastructure. Fourthl, I just want to say thank you, Hon. Salim Edung, for bringing this motion in the House. As we've been always having this issue of floods all around this country, and I think even two, three years ago, we had the same debate about what is happening in terms of floods. As Hon. Mwaniki from Tigithi said, these are supposed to be short rains but again, the short rains are causing more havoc than even the long rains.

So, I stand to support the motion and ask the National Government and the County Government to both collaborate and put more effort to make sure that all the roads and all the feeder roads and all the main roads are passable. Hon. Speaker, even yesterday when I was driving from Sosian, I couldn't access, I couldn't go through the Rumuruti Nanyuki Road because of the floods and because of the rains, and I know it's on a short notice that we are having this motion now.

This could have been done last year, because even from last year there was this warning that there would be long or more powerful floods this year than anticipated. The long rains are expected even to cause more havoc. So, I urge the National Government, and the County Government to put the effort together and make sure that we have proper roads and get access to places that we want.

On top of this, I want to urge the government to even help the farmers because this is the time that farmers will get a bumper harvest if we all get seedlings from the county government. I think this will help a big time in eradicating the poverty in terms of food supplies in this county. Hon. Speaker, I support. Thank you.

Hon. Paul Leshuel: Thank you. Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. First, I thought you could have taken the first high to the senior but anyway that's why I am standing before the Hon. Lekopien. That's a nice one. Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to hope that the message on the social media is not lying to us. I want to challenge the UDA Party as a leading party that we need to have the CECM's and the CO's in this House according to the way it is supposed.

We cannot have those people if we don't have a very serious and active Majority Leader. So, this lands in your hands. It is you who will make this House to be very active because in the in a disaster like this one today, we could have probably today the afternoon the concerned people from the Executive so that they can be able to give us answers concerning this one.

Mr. Speaker, let me hope this will happen. I want to thank all the Members for the position that they have given to me. I want to give them a surety that I will work the possible that I can to represent them and the entire Assembly because it is the role of the service board. Mr. Speaker, we will work hard to make sure according to the what we are supposed to do, we have done based on the ability. Without their support, we will not go far.

So, I continue to urge them to give us support so that we can be able to fulfil, to work and to achieve what we are supposed to achieve. On top of that, I stand to support this motion. Mr. Speaker, we have disaster management money and emergency fund in our budget. So,

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what we need is the county government to take serious measures on this. We have lost so many animals in a very short time in two days of raining. Mr. Speaker, those animals are the livelihood of other people.

We are not able to access some areas. The farmers who are supposed to be probably planting the seeds to them are not able to do that because of the short-term unexpected rains. The government should come clearly. If they have something that they will give the farmers, they are supposed to give now. If they have something that they will help the pastoralists, it is now. Timing is very important. You may have something important that will help people but you give them in the wrong time.

If government can wake up and give people in the right time things that they need and the things that you have for them, it is better for Laikipians. Mr. Speaker, I want to say that the motion is very important. This will alert the Executive to wake up. I will urge the concerned people to send this motion to the relevant Executive committee or the relevant Departments after this so that we can be able to call them probably tomorrow as the Chair of the implementation to ask them how far they are working on this or when are you going to take action based on this?

We want to rescue some areas. You have seen in Narok the bridges are being swept. You realize the communication have become very hard. That will happen here, so let us not watch Narok and think that it will not happen here. We need to be prepared properly. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the mover of the motion Hon. Salim for seeing the importance of bringing this motion. necessary. I want to support this one and I also want to urge the Members. Let us unite this remaining time so that we can be able to perform.

Mr. Speaker, when you go for marathon, you must preserve a small energy for finishing. If you don't have that energy you may be number one for all that move but you will be defeated in the finishing line. So, we need to have that energy for finishing. This is the energy now. The small time remaining, let us come together. Everybody that is given this position please just commit yourself calculate your time and allocate your small time that will serve all of us.

Go to the ward and I know everybody have interest in going back to the people but just calculate the time and give a small time for the entire Laikipians because you represent everybody. My friend here, the representative of Marmanet Ward, the Department of Infrastructure is the backbone of this county. So, you need to push us, you need to work up and see the resources and the machines that we have are well so that when the time comes all of them will be working.

Speaker, I want to urge Members and I want to appreciate them because nowadays we are coming together. I am always saying it is good sometime to get experience. We are getting experience. We know each other now. You know Hon. Leshuel's strengths and weaknesses. I know the weaknesses and the strengths of the Deputy Speaker. I know when you touch the head of the Deputy Speaker, he will feel bad and when you touch his hands, he feels well.

So, I know everybody. Why should I touch him on the head and I know he will be angry? Touch his hands. Before, we may not be able to know what so-and-so want. Today, we know the strength and our interest here is just to serve people; nothing else. When the time to go home comes, probably I may not even be able to call the Deputy Speaker because I will be having a different business. Today, our business here is to serve the people of Laikipia.

Our business here is to do oversight to see the budget that we have given the Executive is implemented in a very sober and smooth way. So Mr. Speaker, we want Members to come

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in and let us work together. Let's move together, let's work and let's help each other because at the end of the day, we want all of us to come back. When all of us come back that will be our performance. That is our interest and I have said this during the budget approval in this floor.

None of these Members have intention or motive of making the Deputy Speaker not to come back but the ideas might be different. We might be divided in ideas. The budget is something that we have a deficit. We don't have enough money. The time I don't allocate enough money to the Deputy Speaker, I have no intention that this guy should not come back tomorrow. So, it is just a discussion and negotiation. So, let us come together and work, the budget is coming probably next year. So, let's work together. Whoever losses today, we will allocate tomorrow and make sure he gets something.

So, let's work together. That should not be something that make all of us to be enemies. Mr. Speaker, I support and so that I don't take time, I want to stop there. I thank the Hon. Member for this motion. I urge the concerned people we send this immediately so that we can be able to follow. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Leshuel. I want now to give the floor to the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. Salim Edung: Asante, Bwana Spika. Ninashukuru kwa hii nafasi ambayo umenipa. Ninashukuru Wabunge wote ambao wameongea. Kuna wakati wa kila jambo. Sina mengi ila ninashukuru wote kwa yale ambayo tumeongea. Ninatumai ya kwamba yale ambayo Mheshimiwa Leshuel ameongea yatafanyika upande ule mwingine wa serikali. Asante, Mheshimiwa Spika.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned Until later today Wednesday, 4th March, 2026 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 10.59 a.m.

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