COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF LAIKIPIA

THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 8th March 2023

The House met at the Assembly Chambers at 9.00 am.

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

PRAYERS

MOTION

REPORT ON THE 9TH EDITION OF THE KICOSCA GAMES.

Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. On behalf of the Chairperson the Labour, Social, Welfare and Community service committee Hon. Irene Wachuka and in pursuant to the standing Order Number 191(5); it's my pleasure and duty to present to the House the Labour Social Welfare and Community Service Committee report on the 9th edition of KICOSCA games that was held in Kisumu County on 15th to 21st of January 2023.

Mr. Speaker, the secretarial Committee on Labour, Social, Welfare and Community services would like this Assembly to adopt the report of the 9th edition of the KICOSCA games held in Kisumu County on 15th to 21st January 2023 by the secretariat dated 20th February 2023. I would like Hon. Stephen Nderitu to support this motion.

Hon. Stephen Ndiritu: Asante Bwana Spika, nasimama kuunga mkono ripoti ambayo imeletwa na kamati ya utendakazi. Mimi ni mwanakamati wa kamati ya utendakazi na najua kama yule anayewakilisha mwenyekiti amesema huo ni ukweli mtupu. Ningetaka hata wakati wa siku zinazokuja Bwana Spika, kamati iwe hai na kufuatilia michezo inayofanywa katika Kaunti ya Laikipia inafanyika kwa njia inayofaa. Wanafaa kuhakikisha wale ambao wanashiriki katika hiyo michezo wamepewa vifaa wanavyohitaji.

Wakati mwingine, unakuta wale ambao ni wachezaji wana shida mingi. Unapata hata mahali pa kulala Bwana Spika hawajaandaliwa. Mtu anatoka hapa na kuenda Kaunti nyingine, akifika huko hata pesa anayoweza kujisimamia hana.

Kwa hivyo, ningetaka Bunge hili na kamati hii ihakikishe wafanyikazi wa Kaunti wanashughulikiwa inavyostahili. Wakati hawa wachezaji wanaposafiri, mtu huenda kivyake na ni timu. Mimi nafikiria idara inayohusika na hayo mambo tutahakikisha tumewakalia vizuri na kuhakikisha kazi imefanywa inavyostahili.

Pia, ningewaeleza wanachama, wakati kuna michezo kama hiyo, hata kama wewe sio wa kamati unaweza kuenda huko na kuangalia vile hao wachezaji wanavyocheza. Nakumbuka tuko na timu ambayo ni ya kuvuta kamba ambayo imetuletea sifa sana kama Laikipia maana kila wakati tunapoenda michezo, hao huibuka kuwa nambari moja.

Kwa hivyo, itakuwa ni aibu kama hatutakuwa na mipangilio mwafaka ya kuhakikisha tumesimamia vizuri na kuwapatia marupurupu zao kulingana na vile ambavyo inastahili. Kila kitu chao kiwe kimepangwa. Pia, kuna hii michezo ambayo ni ya CASA ambayo tunaelekea kuifanya mwezi wa Aprili ama hivi karibuni. Sina tarehe halisi, ningetaka wakati kama huo unapofika, wachezaji wote ambao wanacheza hasa wale ambao wametoka Bunge la Kaunti, tuhakikishe ya kwamba wamepangwa mapema na kupewa pesa yao mapema, ili wawe na motisha wanapoenda kucheza.

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Bwana Spika, najua Bunge la Kaunti la Laikipia limekuwa kila wakati na timu inayoshinda ambayo ni timu ya Badminton. Nakumbuka mwaka uliopita hiyo timu iliweza kusafiri mpaka Uganda na ikacheza, kumaanisha ya kwamba ilikuwa imeshinda zile timu zote za Kenya, ikaonekana sasa itwange zile zingine ziko nje ya Kenya.

Kwa hivyo, ningetaka hao wachezaji kwa maana huwa wanashiriki wote, wapate kuangaliwa vizuri kwa sababu pesa yao tulitenga na ikifika ni wakati wao wa kuondoka, wapangwe mapema. Mtu apewe pesa yake mapema ndio aende atafute mahali pa kulala mapema na hata chakula. Usiwe unatoka hapa na ahadi ya kwamba pesa zitakufuata. Pesa haiwezi kufuata. Tukitoka hapa watu watoke na pesa kwa sababu tuliweka kitambo.

Mimi ningetaka tukienda huko, tusipate aibu kwa sababu mimi ni mchezaji na hucheza ule mchezo wa kurusha mishale na huwa naibuka namba moja. Bwana Spika, najua ya kwamba utaniona hivi karibuni nikiangusha hao wengine. Kwa hivyo, itakuwa ni aibu wakati naenda kurusha mishale na kukutana na mfanyikazi wa hapa akiniambia ya kwamba hajalipwa na anataka nimkopeshe kwa sababu labda *title* yangu sasa ni *Majority Whip.* Kwa hivyo, naweza kuonekana kama niko na kitu na pengine hata mimi pia sijalipwa. Kwa hivyo, itakuwa ni aibu na tutakuwa tunarudisha motisha ya wachezaji wetu chini. Kwa hivyo, yangu ni hayo na ninaunga mkono.

Bwana Spika, hili Bunge pia lina wachezaji wengi sana. Tuko na mchezaji mwingine ambaye ni Mheshimiwa Karuiru na hucheza mchezo wa *pool table*. Ni mchezaji hodari na alicheza mchezo huko Thika mpaka mimi nikaogopa. Kwa hivyo, tuko na wachezaji wazuri. Mimi niliona hiyo meza yao ikiwa na mashimo mengi na alikuwa anaweka yote na nikajiuliza kama atabaki na ingine ya mashimo mawili. Kwa hivyo, nawaeleza wale ambao hawachezi ya kwamba wainuke na wacheze kama vile timu zingine zinavyofanya. Asante.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Simon Kanyutu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support this motion. Before I support I thank the mover who has done exemplarily well. I am happy because KIKOSCA games were held in Kisumu and I am sure that she was also born in Kisumu. Therefore, I believe that as she was moving the motion, she did it whole-heartedly knowing that the games were held at her place of birth. While moving, she was very jovial and I appreciate the way she has moved it.

Mr. Speaker, the games having been held at Kisumu, I am sure that Kisumu also defeated us in tug of war whereby we were number two and I am sure that it is because of the feeding programme. People around that area always feed on their local food. I believe that when our people went to that region, they were only relying on hotels and therefore would not feed well to become strong enough to defeat. In case the tug of war was held in Laikipia whether in Nyahururu or Nanyuki, we would have become number one.

We have also learned that the Nairobi County were the champions because even financially, that is the most stable county. I have gone through the report and as per the committees' observation, our teams lacked coaching. Therefore, from this moment, we need to think on our plans to ensure that in the future our teams will be properly coached so that whenever there will be those games, they will perform well.

Mr. Speaker, another observation was that in likelihood of a severe injury, a player requires an emergency medical attention whereby they had nobody to cater for them. So I think that in future we need to be very keen and see to it that those considerations are put. There was another concern from the committee. I have observed that there were other disciplines where

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some people had practised for a long period. However, only six of them were able to participate. So in future, it is not good for our county to engage people to participate if they are not going to sponsor them to go.

Most of the teams performed poorly due to lack of proper training kits and equipment. It can be very unfortunate when you get somebody going to the field to play football in a tracksuit. The team performed exemplary well but were not acknowledged. We even need the cheering squad because there are people who do not play well but are capable of shouting at their highest voices encouraging the players. Therefore, the concerns of the committee are very keen.

Mr. Speaker, I have even seen that the committee made a recommendation. As a county, we need to ensure that the recommendations from the committee are adhered to. There was need for the county to support sports so that the teams could have much needed experience, coaching that is needed for future spending events, an ambulance should be available because in some games we have injuries. If we have our ambulances on standby, it would also help

The management to ensure that more disciplines are sponsored in future. I have the Hon. Member for Thingithu claiming that the Hon. Member for Olmoran is an expert in pool. There are some of us who play part in other disciplines and therefore need to ensure that in the future, we are involved so that in the discipline which you are an expert in, you are able to progress. There is need for budgeting and procurement of sporting accessories. That is what I had mentioned, that it is not in order when you get somebody going to the field playing football dressed in tracksuit. Unless you are a goalkeeper but being a player, you need to be in good attire that will ensure that you will play well.

To motivate the participants, I am sure that whenever our people perform well like the tug of war who emerged number two in the whole country, I have never heard of any function where they are being appreciated. Even if they do not get a token, even dinner can do or something they share together. In future, they will be very powerful while going for any other game. So I support the motion from the Hon. Member and I am very happy because when she was moving the motion, her accent made me feel as if I was already in Kisumu. I am very happy with the accent. Thank you.

Hon. George Karuiru: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the report on KICOSCA games. I wish to thank the mover of the motion for the noble task. As the mandate of the County Assembly, the Committee on Labour have sat down and internalized what is very noble in this activity. I want to acknowledge in this House that when I was the Chairperson of Labour where these games lie in, it is very sweet especially on the side of CASA (County Assembly Sports Association). There is another called the KIMSCA Kenya Inter-Municipality Sports and Cultural Association, which has been neglected.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge the Members, as far as the CASB is going and KICOSCA has been done there is the KYSIA games that involves our communities. For the last 4 or 5 years, it has not been effective. The last time it was held, it was around 2016 or 2017. If we want our Members, Staff, or personnel to go out, benchmark, and interact through sporting activities we should also as well take care of our young men and women from our villages.

In 2016, I remember I was the coach of the volleyball team for the whole county. One thing I learnt from that is that we can have teams from all wards. I remember when we went to Mombasa some of our players were left there because companies came to poach them. Once we leave our people in Olmoran or Sosian, they are not exposed to go elsewhere.

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Mr. Speaker, all of us cannot be sustained in the County Government but through the budget that we receive because I know sometimes because of poor management we do not deliver to sports. I know if it is done well and procedurally, the Assembly has its own budget and we can leave some for the KYSIA games and I think our county will be doing well.

When we went for KICOSCA games in Kisumu, the mover hibernated or maybe she did not want to eat the good fish the lake. One of the best games from Executive is Tug of War. At one point the enabled us to go for EALASCA games. These are the East Africa games. We went to Uganda, we have been here.

Mr. Speaker, I am getting worried. In the Assembly, we have a good team that can create a Tug of War team as well. I believe with Caroline Kihika who is muscular, as well as Hon. Umija, Hon. Kanyutu, Members and staff, we can have a good team. When I came to this Assembly, Hon. Theuri was my great friend even before I came this way. I told him he has a good body that can play volleyball only to realize I can even jump better than he can. What we need is ample time for practice.

One thing that can demoralize players from my experience in Olmoran is that they used to use their own transport to Nyahururu. When it came to time travelling for games, the Executive started cutting down the budget. It is bad and demoralizing for a person to practice all that time only to be told a day before that he cannot go. I think the Committee should as well append to the Executive so that when we have these games because it is announced in advance. Three to six months they should have prior planning to the budget so that if they do not meet the budget, they can bring the supplementary budget to accommodate them.

Before Covid, we used to go for sports activities. I remember our members of staff and Hon. Members were very interactive out of the experience they gained from that one week of sports activities.

I beg the Executive and the Department to be keen and make a close follow up and check on this noble thing. Mr. Speaker, I beg those who do not participate in those games to pick some of them and have an overview of what happens which is a relaxer. That is when we have good performance in terms of revenue collection, fire brigade and other participations.

This is a revelation when we go to Kisumu, Makueni and Mombasa because we are going to meet people from Kisii, Kerio Valley and other places. Once we interact, it will not be a communication on games but we shall open up our minds and we shall be good to go. I beg the committee because I have seen what they have outlined as their recommendations.

They have captured what we observed and I know most Hon. Members spent their own money and this is not the first time when you get players from your county seated there without having glucose and first aid kits. You have to go for the deep heat to assist the players who injured. On top of that, some of them cannot accommodate the 47 counties and some of our players had in advance paid accommodation of one week then all of a sudden, someone is told not to attend.

That money was not refunded and it has now lost. I urge the Committee to sermon the Executive so that they can know the procedures being followed to compensate those who were paid money and they did not attend. Mr. Speaker, I am hoping that through this report and through what they are going to benchmark, they are going to recommend that players require coaches. Mr. Speaker, we have had coaches and it costs little.

For example, we have a senior official from the Kenya Army, Mr. Shadah who can train our volleyball team at a small fee and that is an extra job creation. As long as the Bottom-Up

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and the government manifesto programme talks about creating employment, if this is taken seriously, the 10 to 15 coaches we can get who can be receiving some cash in the evening will be a job creation.

Once this person comes to coach the team from the Laikipia County, he will leave his cows to another person which will be another job creation and gradually we shall make them put bread on the table. I support the Committee and I urge them to keenly follow the Committee on Sports from the Executive so that they can stay in touch with them and during the preparation as we are headed to games, it will be well done and managed. Thank you.

Speaker: Thank you, Hon. George Karuiru for the good contribution. The floor is still open for Members to contribute on KICOSCA Games. I still invite more for debate. Seeing there is no much contribution, I will invite Hon. Catherine Umija to reply to this motion.

Hon. Catherine Umija: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank all the Hon. Members and Hon. Karuiru. Hon. Karuiru, you declined my request to come and eat fish at our place. Next time when you go to Dallas kindly, inform me in advance so that I can prepare fish and ugali for you. I thank the Hon. Members for the opportunity to read the report and the recommendations from the committee.

I just want to add that work without play make jack a dull boy. Having sports and having the opportunity to participate in sports, helps us to nurture relationships. It is important we as the members of the County Assembly and Executive get an opportunity to interact with one another in a very informal space thus creating relationships here and there.

Apart from that, it helps us to build our health. Some of us, just as Hon. Karuiru at some point said that we have muscles to do sports that will be an opportunity for us to build our health and build our hearts to live longer.

It also brings joy because that is the place where we get to laugh with each other. That will be an opportunity to interact better. It is also an opportunity to nurture talents. When we say that we are nurturing talents, what are doing to the people who are participating in these sports? We have to ensure that we support them either financially by ensuring that they have coaches who are going to prepare them early enough.

It is unfortunate that Nairobi County had to take position one, Kisumu County, my motherland took the third position. It is not about them taking this position because they did not practise which makes perfect. It is because we need to support our teams to practise early enough and when they practise early enough, that means we might scoop one or two areas we will be participating.

Having participated in six sports activities, I expected we will participate in volleyball but it was unfortunate we did not participate. Every day in the evening when I walk down the town near KANU Grounds, I always see a group of people cheering for volleyball players and I expected volleyball will be part of games representing us in Kisumu.

Therefore, it was unfortunate, and I know that some of the sports people participate in it and we never represented it well in Kisumu. Apart from that, during the sports some of our injured players; we had to, for example, borrow ambulances from Nairobi County. It was so unfortunate because they had ambulances, we had to go and beg them to support. Therefore, it is high time that when we move as a committee or move people to go and play somewhere, we need to give them all the support.

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Even the Nairobi people had people who were injured, so we had to wait in line for them to first take care of their people then come and take care of us. Therefore, it is high time for the County Government to support sports. I know that this is something that is at the heart of the Governor's agenda, which he is going to support sports in this county. I am hopeful that the recommendations of this committee will be taken seriously, and I know that the Implementation Committee will also help us to follow up these issues with the County Government. I want to thank you, Mr. Speaker, and the Members of the Assembly.

Speaker: Thank you, Members.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Speaker: The sittings of this House now stand adjourned until later today, Wednesday, 8th March 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 9.39 a.m.

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