



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Second County Assembly – Third Session

Tuesday 3rd December 2019

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Hon. Deputy Speaker (Mr John Nyumu) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Serjeant-at-Arms, ring the bell for ten minutes, we don't have the quorum.

(Quorum bell rang for ten minutes)

Serjeant-at-Arms, make sure nobody walks out of the chamber. Hon. Apondi, please, don't disturb the Serjeant-at-Arms.

We have not attained the quorum, ring the bell for further five minutes.

(Quorum bell rang for further five minutes)

I said nobody should go out, but I am seeing a member going out yet we need a quorum.

We have attained quorum, Clerk proceed.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

VISIT BY THE DANISH YOUTH LEADERS

Hon Members, our sitting this afternoon is graced by the Danish Youth Leaders.

I wish to recognize the presence of:

1. Hon. Sarah Sand from Danish Social Democratic Party;
2. Hon. Asbjorn Lind from the Danish Liberal Party;
3. Mr. Isaac Kinyua - an officer of Centre for Multiparty Democracy, Kenya

(Applause)

The two Members are in the Country hosted by the Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD-Kenya). I warmly welcome you to the Nairobi City County Assembly and hope you enjoyed your stay in the Assembly during your auspicious visit.

Hon. Members, on behalf of Nairobi City County Assembly family, I wish to extend a warm welcome to the Danish Youth Leaders. Feel welcomed and enjoy your experience in County Assembly precincts. Thank you, and God bless you.

STATEMENTS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Redson Otieno?

REQUEST FOR A STATEMENT REGARDING INADEQUATE STREET AND PUBLIC LIGHTS IN THE COUNTY

Hon. Redson Otieno: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order no.45 (2) (c), I wish to request for a statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Transport and Public Works regarding the inadequate street and public lights in the county, particularly in Ngei Ward.

Hon. Speaker, as the county and the nation at large is transitioning towards 24-hour economy, street and public lights have become the most important facilitators to the initiative and cannot be overlooked. By availing lights, people, goods and services can move and be moved safely without worry of cases of insecurity. Ngei Ward, for instance, cases of insecurity have become prolific, therefore threatening movement and conduct of business in the area.

Hon. Speaker, it is therefore important to note that lack of public and street lights in the estate of Ngei Ward, portends threats to the security of the people and it is impediment to conduct of businesses in the area.

Hon. Speaker, in the statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

1. Measures that the County Executive has put in place to repair non-functioning street and public lights in the county, more so on Ngei Ward; and
2. Measures that the County Executive has taken to provide adequate street and public lights in Ngei Ward, and avail adequate repair materials for timely interventions whenever there are damages.

Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Chairman of Transport? Vice Chair? Any member of Transport? Yes, Hon Obuya.

Hon. Kennedy Obuya: Hon. Chair, I am a new member of Transport Committee. I request the hon member to kindly give us up to tomorrow so that we consult in our first meeting. Tomorrow afternoon, we will be able to respond.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Just give him the timeline.

Hon. Kennedy Obuya: Hon. Speaker, I have said I am a new member of Transport Committee and I am making a prayer that we sit tomorrow so that by afternoon, we will report back whether we need two weeks or one week.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Obuya, you have been in many committees and you know the rules. So, why are you taking us round? You are not new in committees but only new in this committee.

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Hon. Kennedy Obuya: Hon. Speaker, you don't need rocket science to understand me. I have said I am a new member of Transport Committee. In respect of the House and your Chair, I have just stood up to say that I will report to the committee----

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Obuya, you are a senior Member of this House. You know the procedure well. Why are you taking us round? Give him timeline. Hon. Kennedy Oyugi?

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Mr. Speaker. I am also a new member of the Transport Committee. Instead of Hon. Obuya taking us in circles, let us go by the tradition and give him two weeks.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Two weeks, it is. Hon. Redson, are you comfortable with two weeks?

Hon. Redson Onyango: Hon. Oyugi, you can do it within one week.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Oyugi, he requests for one week.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: I am not certain, but I will take 10 days.

Hon. Redson Onyango: It is okay. I will wait for the 10 days.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Clerk, proceed.

MOTION

A POLICY THAT PROVIDES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF A KITTY TO SUPPORT NEEDY STUDENTS IN POLYTECHNICS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Oyugi.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

THAT, aware that Article 6(2) of the Constitution recognizes that both the National and County governments are distinct and inter-dependent and that devolution is an important principle in the new structure of governance; further aware that the function of village polytechnics is vested in the County Governments pursuant to provisions of Part Two of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution 2010; acknowledging that there has been increased enrolment in both primary and secondary schools in recent years; concerned that the low number of primary school leavers transiting to secondary school and from secondary school to universities and colleges has become a cause for alarm for both National and County Governments; further concerned that some students especially from informal settlements in the County are unable to proceed with their education due to lack of fees; acknowledging that Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) constitutes a form of education, training and learning activity leads to acquisition of practical knowledge, understanding and skills relevant for gainful economic engagement, both formal and informal, this Assembly urges the County Executive to develop a policy that provides for establishment of a kitty to support needy students in Technical and Vocational Education and Training institutions across all Wards in the County.

Mr. Speaker, just to highlight a few words. In line with the national government policy to put up village polytechnics in all the constituencies across the country, I want to urge the House to compel the Executive to put aside a kitty which will cater for at least 50 students from each and every ward in this county. I want to suggest a million shillings would cater for all the 50 students from each and every ward in this county. There is no need to put up village polytechnics whereas the students won't join for lack of fees. For that reason, I

urge the House to agree with me that there is need for us to set up a kitty which will cater for the interest of the said students.

With those few remarks, I urge Hon. Kennedy Obuya to second.

Hon. Kennedy Obuya: Hon. Speaker, I rise to second this good motion and pray that both elected and nominated Members support it. I congratulate my namesake, Hon. Kennedy Oyugi for this good motion. I pray that he will look into how it will become a proper bill. The Governor has a program for scholarship for high school. As an elected leader in the informal settlements, the challenges that we face is so serious and the allocation we are normally given for every ward, which is KShs. 3.5 million, is not enough to cater for the big number of both primary and high school droppers. In respect to vision 2030, we have to empower both primary and high school dropouts to get access to tertiary education. I encourage Hon. Members to support the motion. I beg to second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, contribute.

Hon. Jared Ondieki: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I rise to support the motion with the following understanding; first, I want to believe that the TVETs fall within the parameters or most of them are owned by the county governments. Therefore, there is no way we are going to fail to support our high school students in acquiring skills for the purpose of earning a livelihood after they complete. I want to urge the House that with this knowledge that it is within the parameters of the county government, it will not look like we are usurping the function of the National Government. I understand that education is within the National Government but I believe that TVETs fall under the mandate of the county government. We are within the law and the mandate of the county to support without audit queries.

Mr. Speaker, these TVETs are very important in our communities because our children get skills like carpentry and plumbing. If we are not in a position to encourage our children, our brothers and sisters to take up this opportunity by supporting them, we are going to lack carpenters, plumbers and such skills in future. This will make us rely on Chinese fake sofa sets. I strongly support this, that, let us ensure that we are supporting with bursaries in catering and promoting these young people in our estates. I support this motion, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Mbugua Kabiro: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to contribute to this very noble motion.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk about the transition rates in our various educational institutions. I am sure that you went through the education system that was present during the olden times, that is the 7-4—something, some of us have not crammed the different numbers. We went through the 8-4-4 system; eight years' primary school, four years' secondary school and four years' university. Mr. Speaker the problem lies there. For those people who went through TVETs and other forms of colleges that were not the complete four, they are not recognized in the system.

Mr. Speaker, our children will be going through the 2-6-3-3 system. It is called the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC). A curriculum that we hope that it will enrich and fill our next generation with hope in this republic and contribute to the economy. The President has a good plan for this nation in the Big Four Agenda. For the manufacturing industry to be where we wish it to be in the Vision 2030, we should encourage the

development of TVETs and encourage people to go to these TVETs to generate good potential for the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, the nurses and all other people serving in health institutions are also covered in TVETs. The KMTTC and other TVETs take care of that. Look at affordable housing, Mr. Speaker, the plumbers, the welders and the people who make sure that all the fittings in the house are done, they go through the TVETs. Agriculture is something that we can't even talk about, it is purely from TVETs. Most of the technical workers in the current Kenya come from certain forms of TVETs.

We used to think that university graduates will get proper nice jobs in the banks and left the technical work to those who did the TVETs. Right now, we have high institutions which are providing TVETs services. This is why this motion by Hon. Oyugi is very important. If we can support at least 50 residents who have attained high school to proceed to TVETs in every ward, we will educate this country. We will make sure that there are people who can develop their skills, follow their talents and learn according to what they believe is true.

Mr. Speaker, this is a motion that we are supporting because we know it is practical. If we are able to provide bursaries to high schools and primary schools, we can provide this to the TVETs. Many youths are hanging around the streets because of lack of opportunities. It is not because they can afford to pay for themselves, it is because they have no capacity to pay for themselves. They hope and cry that they can find someone to help pay their fees to attend college somewhere.

Mr. Speaker, transition rates in TVETs should be taken care of by the Ministry of Education both at the national and county level so that we know how many form four leavers transition to TVETs and universities.

Therefore, this is a motion that I strongly support and encourage that it be implemented at the earliest. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mbugua. Hon. Mary Mwami.

Hon. Mary Mwami: Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker Sir. I stand to support the great motion that has been presented before us. Village polytechnics no longer exist because youths refused to join the, hence the reason why they are now referred to as polytechnics. For example, the Eldoret, Kabete Technical Polytechnics and Mombasa Technical University. It is wrong for us to refer to them as village polytechnics because that is outdated but you can correct me, Mr. Speaker.

I want to support this motion because the rate at which students do not progress after their form four education is high. We need them to better their lives. In developed countries, people who schooled in TVETs commonly known as colleges are the best paid and they live luxurious lives than the people working in banks and so on. There is a research that was done and it showed that most of the people who do plumbing in Central Kenya Province do not come from that area.

It is important for us to allow and encourage our own to get involved in different crafts so that they can also be employed. I know that somebody may dispute this by saying that it is already incorporated in the bursaries that we give, but I wish to state that bursaries are for secondary education and not much money is left to be allocated to the TVETs. Hence, it is important for us to ensure that we get a kitty for this so that our children are able to go for these trainings.

It is also important to note that trainings for the police are done in these centers and therefore we will be boosting the chances of these children to join the prisons, police force and the armed forces. For that, I support. Thank you, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Clarence Munga.

Hon. Clarence Munga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for the opportunity. I support this motion because it is timely. Bearing in mind that through devolution, the constitution was passed to devolve resources and ensure that services are also devolved. Polytechnic is an aspect that was devolved to counties and being the 7th year, if you were to ask me the scorecard of ensuring that we have polytechnics across the sub counties, then you will find out that we have performed minimally. We need to ensure that all the wards have polytechnics because a good number of students do not manage to go to secondary schools and they are with us in the wards.

After this aspect of devolving polytechnics, there is this one of ensuring that these youths acquire these skills in these polytechnics. If we say that we charge some fee for them to get this training, we will also lose these people. I support *Mheshimiwa* Oyugi coming up with this aspect though we need to make a free training so that we absorb these students who are unable to go to secondary schools basically because of the school fees.

By equipping these youths with skills is a way of employing someone indirectly. We will have plumbers, electricians and all sorts of skills and we will be creating an environment where it is not necessary that you go to university for you to earn a living. We require them in building this nation.

I rise to support the issue of us setting aside a kitty to support but we need to ensure it is free so that majority of students can enjoy being equipped with skills. I support.

Hon. Silas Matara: Thank you, Hon Speaker for this opportunity. First of all, I congratulate Hon Obuya for this well thought out motion. It is going to be of benefit to the youth, women and people interested in vocational training.

In light of discussion in the House, everyone is aware that the Jubilee Government has the Big Four Agenda as an important document that is going to be a legacy it wants to leave in this nation. This motion has come in place in terms of the projects that are going to be incorporated in the Big Four agenda. Having youths or people who are going to be trained in the vocational training in this centers is going to come in handy to benefit the government in terms of delivery of the agenda.

In the housing project, we need plumbers, electricians, carpenters. If these youths are trained and the kitty set aside - because most of our population come from poor background - in terms of a bursary or some assistance, they are going to be trained and have the certificates to be able to be employed towards the delivery of the said Big Four Agenda.

Hon Speaker, you realize that our education system perennially has been inclined towards blue collar jobs. By the end of the day, the dynamics would have changed in the new Kenya we live today. It will be good if we have people who are trained in this soft skills to be able to deliver the need in the market. The youths can be able to be employed overseas. If you go to countries like Qatar and other developing countries doing well in the youth structure, the people who will undergo the program can be able to be absorbed in the said employment opportunities.

With that I beg to support, thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Mover, reply.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Thank you once more, Mr. Speaker. I must say I am elated by the members' endorsement of the motion. I only want to urge the Implementation committee to take it upon themselves and be serious to make it a reality. I beg to move.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon Members, having transacted the business, I wish to report that the House Business Committee will sit tomorrow 4th December 2019 in the morning. Time to be communicated. With those remarks, the house stands adjourned till tomorrow 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 3.40 p.m.