

# COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY



## SECOND ASSEMBLY THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY (SIXTH SESSION)

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### COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

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#### ADJOURNMENT OF THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

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**Hon. Members,**

Without appearing to pre-empt debate, a perusal of today's Order Paper indicates that today's sitting marks the last regular sitting for the Second Assembly in accordance with the Assembly Calendar that we approved on **Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2022**. Indeed, as you are aware, under the new Constitutional dispensation, Parliament and County Assemblies have been empowered to prepare their own Calendars and determine when to sit and when to adjourn. This is a complete departure from the previous Constitutional dispensation where the Head of the Executive Arm would prorogue/adjourn Parliament at will. This new order re-affirms the independence of legislatures.

However, **Hon. Members**, the legislative calendars so adopted by the Assemblies must be consistent with the provisions of the Constitution and other National Legislations. Specifically, Article 177(4) of the Constitution provides that a County Assembly is elected for a term of five years. This implies that the term of a County Assembly expires on the date of the next general elections. In the current circumstances, the general elections are scheduled for **9<sup>th</sup> August, 2022**. As such, as we adjourn *Sine Die* today, the term of the Second Assembly shall continue until, **9<sup>th</sup> August, 2022** meaning the **Sixth Session** shall lapse on that date.

**Hon. Members,** in arriving at today's *Sine Die* adjournment date, the Assembly was informed by the provisions of Section 19 (1) of the Elections Act, 2012 which provides:-

*"19 (1) Whenever a county assembly election is to be held, the Commission shall publish a notice of the holding of the election in the Gazette and in the electronic and print media of national circulation –*

*(a) in the case of a general election, at least sixty days before the date of general election."*

**Hon. Members,** the implications of the above provisions of the Elections Act is that beginning today 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 until 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2022, Hon. Members seeking fresh mandate and other Kenyans aspiring to be Members of the County Assembly would be engaged in campaigns making it almost difficult to transact meaningful business in the Chamber. However, I am aware that we have critical pending business before the County Assembly specifically, the **County Government Budget Estimates** for the FY 2022/23 that were tabled on **Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2022**. I am aware that the Select Committee on Finance, Budget and Appropriations is currently considering the Estimates and have retreated with the County Executive to finalize the same. Accordingly, **Hon. Members,** since the County Assembly is still in Session, once the Committee returns with their report, we shall invoke the provisions of Standing Order 30 and convene a special sitting to consider and approve the estimates. Indeed, this will apply to any other urgent business that may arise while we shall be on the *Sine Die* recess. Indeed this is a similar approach that has been taken by the National Assembly which is also adjourning today.

**Hon. Members,**

As I conclude, when you were elected and sworn-in in the year 2017, you had your own targets and the promises you made to Nairobians. It is my hope that you have achieved most of your targets and fulfilled your promises. I know that we have faced several challenges that affected our legislative out-put. However, I am proud of what we have achieved so far.

Hon. Members, *Thank President - Li Hon Laila*

I shall forever be indebted to you for electing me as the Third Speaker of this great County. When I assumed office in August, 2020, I found a divided House. I am glad that I managed to bring together all factions and we leave a united Assembly. I am proud of what we have achieved as a House under my leadership. Indeed, it is during this time that we made some of the most significant decisions, some of which will be studied by future generations.

Hon. Members,

As we adjourn today, I know some of you will be seeking fresh mandate during the forth-coming general elections while others will be competing for higher positions. I want to wish you well. Your experience will be of great importance in the next Assembly. For those who will be venturing in other endeavors, may I wish you success and break-through. To the Officers of the County Assembly led by the Clerk, **Mr. Edward Gichana**, I wish to thank you for the support and services extended to Members.

I thank you!



**HON. BENSON MUTURA, MP**

**SPEAKER, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

**9<sup>th</sup> June, 2022**