

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY



THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY (THIRD ASSEMBLY- SECOND SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

No. of 2023

APPROPRIATE DRESS CODE AND CONDUCT WITHIN ASSEMBLY PRECINCTS

Honorable Members

1. The Chair has on several occasions guided the House on the proper dress code to be donned by Hon. Members while in the County Assembly precincts, attending plenary sessions and committee meetings or attending such other activities as specified in the Speakers rules. For avoidance of doubt, the Speaker's rules provides the following as the appropriate dress code for both Hon. Members, Staff and visitors:-

(a) Male:

- Long trousers
- Long sleeved Shirt
- Tie
- Jacket
- Closed, polished leather shoes

(b) Female

- Skirts of reasonable length (knee length or below the knees)
- blouse
- Jacket
- Trouser suits
- Decent shoes
- Muslim Lady Members may wear a purdah(Bui Bui) or Hijab
- Traditional wear

2. Despite the several reminders, my attention has been drawn to the continued breach of these rules by a number of Hon. Members. It should be noted that the prescription of Hon. Members' dress code was deliberately intended to preserve the honour and the dignity of the House.

3. In addition, **Honorable Members**, the Chair is concerned with the uncontrolled access to the Assembly precincts which is compromising the Security of Hon. Members and Staff. The Speaker's Rules provide for the criteria for admittance of visitors to the Assembly precincts. In particular, the Speaker's rules on admittance of visitors provides as follows, and I quote:-

"Rule No. 8: - Hon. Members are responsible for the continued good conduct of any Public, whom they bring on the Precincts, till the departure from the Precincts, of such public"

Rule No. 11:- Hon. Members should collect a Card for Entry to Precincts from the Sergeant at arms, sign and issue one to each Public, whom they wish to bring on the Precincts which must bear the date of entry and be surrendered at the point of departure from the precincts.

Rule No. 12: Hon. Members should ensure that the Public whom they bring to the precincts, leave the precincts by 18.00Hrs (6.00pm).

Rule No. 13: Hon. Members should not seek to bring the Public into the following areas of Precincts; - Private Rooms for use of Hon. Members, Lounge, Speakers Gallery and Committee rooms".

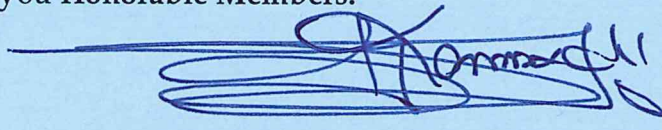
4. In this regard, **Honorable Members**, as the custodian of the Rules of decorum of the Assembly, I am going to firmly enforce these rules in order to guard the dignity of the Assembly as an August House and also to guarantee the security of Hon. Members while in the precincts. Accordingly, I direct as follows:-

- i) **THAT**, every Member, Staff and Visitors, **without exception**, to at all times adhere to the dress code as provided for in the Speaker's Rules while in plenary chamber, committee rooms, offices, lounges and during official functions;
- ii) **THAT**, Chairpersons of Committees to enforce the Speaker's Rules in their respective Committee meetings and activities, just as I would enforce them in the Chamber except in exceptional circumstances as shall be determined by the Committee Chair without compromising the dress code Rule;

- iii) THAT, each Hon. Member to adhere to the Rules on admittance of visitors and that each Hon. Member to at most admit two(2) visitors at a time. All visitors and officers to publicly display their visitor's cards or staff Identification Cards.
- iv) THAT, visitors and staff to use their designated entrances to the precincts for effective control.
- v) THAT, the Clerk through the office of the Director Security Services to ensure enforcement of these Speakers' Rules and the directions given herein.
5. In conclusion, Honorable Members, the Chair is afraid that this is the last time the House is being reminded the issue of dress code and admittance of visitors and the Chair will not hesitate to take firm action as provided for in the Rules and Standing Orders against any Member, Officer or Visitor who violates these Rules.

The House is so guided.

I thank you Honorable Members.



18/5/2023

HON. KENNEDY O. NG'ONDI, MCA
SPEAKER, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 18th May, 2023