



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY
THIRD ASSEMBLY
(THIRD SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR
(4)
27th February 2024

INVITATION TO BATTLE OF CHOIRS AND PROCESSING OF PENDING
STATEMENTS

Honorable Members,

I have the following Communication to convey:

Invitation to battle of Choirs Festival

My Office is in receipt of a letter Ref. NCC/CCAT/CCO/VOL 1/2024/028 dated 22nd February 2024 from the Office of the County Secretary drawing the attention of Members of the County Assembly to the Second Edition of Battle of the Choirs. The event will be hosted by the County Executive from 31st March to 1st April 2024 at Uhuru Park.

Honorable Members,

Just to explain a little bit, the said event celebrates the Easter Spirit through choral music and is expected to attract talented choirs from across Nairobi City County. It will provide the choirs with a platform to showcase their musical abilities, spread joy and cultural enrichment within the Community of Nairobi City.

Honorable Members,

In this regard, the County Executive calls upon you to raise awareness among your constituents about the said event and to encourage them to prepare to participate in it.

Honorable Members,

In the concept note for the said event, the programme has outlined the activities where interested applicants should submit their entries by 6th March 2024. Other activities include Sub-County Roadshows and knockouts which will be held at Charter hall.

Honorable Members,

The event will culminate into celebrating the winner on 1st April 2024 at an event to be held at KICC where the 1st three winners will receive cash amongst other consolidated prizes. In this regard, may I call upon you to heed the call of the County Executive and extend your support towards this important event that is beginning to be part of the things that define us as the people of Nairobi City County.

Processing of pending Statements in the Second Session

Honorable Members,

As you may recall, in my Communication issued on 13th February 2024 during resumption of the Assembly for the Third Session, I observed that there were numerous business that were pending before Committees and in this regard, I gave a timeline for dispensing with the said business. This includes Statements requested by Hon. Members on various subject matters. However, my attention has been drawn to the backlog of Statements that require special consideration with regards to their processing in Committees.

Honorable Members,

Whenever Members requests for a Statement, the Chairperson of the relevant Sectoral Committee gives a time undertaking in which to give to give a response. Hon. Members, may I bring to your attention the provisions of Standing Order 47(2) (e) and (f) regarding processing of Statements in Committees and transmission of response to the Assembly:

- “(e) The Member who requested for the Statement ... shall be invited to the Committee meeting whenever an officer of the County Executive is to appear to respond to the Statement.”
- “(f) The Chairperson of the Committee shall report to the Assembly the Committee’s consideration of a Statement request and whether the same was satisfactorily dispensed with or if there are any challenges that require the speaker to direct further or the Assembly to resolve”

Honorable Members,

In the course of the Second Session, the Assembly has experienced profound delays in provision of responses to Statements from Chairpersons of Committees for various reasons. According to my analysis, there are Eighty Seven (87) pending Statements before different Committees in the Second Session. This may be misconstrued by our constituents as lack of commitment to facilitate the role of a Members of County Assembly as envisioned in Section 9 (1) (b) and (d) of the County Governments act, 2012 on transitioning issues from them to the platform of the Assembly.

Honorable Members,

The issue of pending Statements was flagged and extensively deliberated upon at the just ended workshop of the Select Committee on Liaison during their interrogation of annual progress reports of all Assembly Committees. The Chairpersons not only presented their views on the matter, but also the challenges Committees face in the course of processing Statement requests. Accordingly, it was observed that majority of the Statements have been overtaken by events. In this regard, a request was placed to my office by the Committee to guide the Assembly on how to proceed with the said pending Statements of 2023.

Honorable Members,

Accordingly, I have interrogated the Statement tracker that is available to all of us and the public on the Assembly website and determined that indeed the issues that were raised by Members in the various Statements were pertinent to the events of

the moment in the course of the Session. Although I acknowledge the importance of Statements as a tool of representation function of the Assembly, I have also sought to examine if the challenges presented by the various Chairpersons were also being experienced at the National Assembly before the introduction of the question hour. Indeed, the experience of the National Assembly is not a departure from our experience and in this regard, they adopted a model that is working to date.

Honorable Members,

In view of the foregoing, I direct all the Chairpersons to proceed and Table all Statements that are pending before their respective Committees by Thursday 14th April 2024 notwithstanding the satisfaction status of the Members who requested for the Statements.

Honorable Members,

To address the challenges presented by the Chairpersons of Committees, the Assembly leadership in conjunction with the Select Committee on Liaison have reached a consensus to have the Standing Orders amended to adopt a model similar to Parliament where County Executive Committee Members will be allowed to attend the Plenary to respond to pressing issues that Members raise from time to time. It is therefore instructive of the Select Committee on Procedure and Rules to immediately commence the process of consolidating proposed amendments to the Standing Orders in view of addressing any gaps that may have been observed this far.

Withdrawal of Regulations

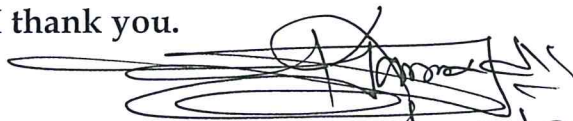
Honorable Members, you will recall that at the Assembly Siting held on 14th February 2024, the Public Finance Management Act (Nairobi City County Festival Fund) Regulations, 2023 were laid on the Table of the Assembly. Subsequently, I erroneously committed the same to the Select Committee on Delegated County Legislation. However, it has since come to my attention that the said Regulations

were in draft form and only needed the scrutiny of the relevant Sectoral Committee which is Culture and Community Services.

In this regard, **Hon. Members**, I direct that the said Regulations be withdrawn from the Select Committee on Delegated County Legislation and referred to the Sectoral Committee on Culture and Community Services for precursory scrutiny and concurrence with the relevant Sector at the County Executive.

You are so guided.

I thank you.


27/02/2024

The Hon. Kennedy O. Ng'ondi, MCA
SPEAKER, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 27th February, 2024