

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY  
THIRD ASSEMBLY  
(THIRD SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR  
(1)

12<sup>th</sup> February 2024

RESUMPTION FROM LONG RECESS

Honorable Members,

Good afternoon and welcome to this afternoon sitting of the Assembly. I have the following Communication to convey

Resumption from long Recess

Honorable Members,

I stand before you today on the momentous occasion of our reconvening after a well-deserved Recess. Time apart allows for reflection, for reconnecting with constituents, and for gathering the energy required to tackle the challenges ahead. I trust you have used this break productively, and now return invigorated and ready to continue serving our nation. I therefore take this opportunity to warmly welcome you back to this esteemed August House.

Honorable Members,

As we embark on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of this Assembly, several key priorities lie before us:



- **[Priority No. 1]:** consideration and passage of the Nairobi City County Annual Development Plan FY 2024/2025 which is an important preliminary document in the budget cycle;
- **[Priority No. 2]:** Consideration and passage of the Nairobi City Count Fiscal Strategy Paper 2024/2025 which is due for submission by the County Executive on or before 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024;
- **[Priority No.3]:** Consideration and passage of several Bills that were committed to Sectoral Committees towards the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session for public participation;
- **[Priority No.4]:** Receipt and consideration of Quarterly Reports by Committees from the County Executive in line with the provisions of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and the oversight role bestowed onto the Assembly by Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya; and
- **[Priority No.5]:** consideration of the Supplementary Budget Estimates. This is an important instrument to re-align the County budget, both the Assembly and the Executive, to realities of the economy and to make it budget more realistic and responsive to the needs of the County.

**Remember, Honorable Members:**

As we look forward to consider and dispense with the foregoing issues among many others, we are entrusted with the hopes and aspirations of our people. It is our solemn duty to act with integrity, to engage in respectful discourse, and to prioritize the betterment of our County. Let us approach each issue with open minds, seeking common ground and solutions that benefit all.

In addition, this Assembly is not merely a forum for debate. It is a platform for collaboration, finding common ground, forging compromises that benefit all. Let us strive to leave the divisive rhetoric behind and focus on the shared values that bind us together. Let us engage in respectful dialogue, in constructive criticism, and in the pursuit of solutions that truly serve the needs of the people. I make this rallying call because we are not just Members of County Assembly, we are also representatives of the hopes and dreams of our fellow citizens in this great City County. Let us carry



their trust with pride, let us work with dedication, and let us strive to leave this County better than we found it.

### **Pending Business**

**Honorable Members,**

As you may recall in my communication at the adjournment of the Assembly's Second Session, I gave an average assessment of our performances as an Assembly. This was informed by the collective discharge of our mandate both in Committees and the Plenary. In the legislative agenda, I observed that we had unsatisfactory performance against the legislative goals set out in the retired Strategic Plan. However, there was light at the end of the tunnel when the challenges related to publishing of Bills were eventually overcome and a good number of Bills were committed to Sectoral Committees. This should, however not obscure us from the need to champion for and originate more legislative proposals. The office of the Clerk is always open to receive ideas, reason with Members and package these ideas into proposals that can grow through the processes and procedures to become Bills. Therefore, I encourage Members to take advantage of the human resource that is at our disposal to originate Bills.

**Honorable Members,**

On oversight, committee system is the engine responsible for setting and driving the agenda in Common Wealth Legislatures. This is for the good reason of flexible procedural environment for conducting business. It is noteworthy to observe that as the adjournment of the Assembly for the Long Recess, virtually all Committees had business pending before them. These are not limited to Petition reports, responses to Statements, reports on Bills, reports on site inspection visits, reports of on Reports of Auditor General, reports on inquiries and reports on statutory instruments. We owe the people of Nairobi this work. In this regard, I call upon all Chairpersons to prioritize pending business in your respective Committees, thus, in the next four (4) weeks, it is my desire that the Assembly will be kept busy considering business generated by Committees out of pending work. Progressively, in respective work plans, Committees must seek to address lingering problems in the County from unresponsive and unaffordable healthcare and poor facilities, dilapidated roads, poor



drainage that occasion flooding, challenges in access to education, inadequate community services, chaotic public transport to inaccessible water and sewerage services.

**Honorable Members,**

I am aware that the Select Committee on Liaison under the leadership of the Deputy Speaker is in the process of holding its Sessional inaugural meeting to plan for its workshop whose top of the agenda is to review performance of Committees, make new policies, allocate resources to Committees and set the ball rolling for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter workshops. I call upon the Committee to speak with high tone with respect to output from Assembly Committees and put in place mechanisms that will properly guide Chairpersons to focus on the rational agendas rather than leading Committees on adventurous paths of diversionary interests that can taint institutional integrity.

**Attendance to Chamber and general conduct**

**Honorable Members,**

During the last Session, the Plenary experienced undeserved incidents of consistent lack of quorum. Our Standing Orders are express on Members who miss eight (8) consecutive Plenary Sitzings. However, before we reach there, may I bring to the attention of the Assembly that the duty to service is a Constitutional calling and the right to be represented on the part of the people is also anchored in the Constitution. This Session and going forward should surely be different by ensuring that we attend both Plenary and Committee meetings where we discharge our Constitutional responsibilities. On our part as the leadership, as we have done before, we assure you as the Membership of our unwavering commitment to your welfare and wellbeing.

**Honorable Members,**


On the issue of general conduct, as the Chairperson of the Select Committee on Powers and Privileges, the Assembly was treated to several incidences of improper misconduct in the past Session occasioned by interpersonal misunderstandings between Members. **Hon. Members,** the electorate need nothing short of quality services. Article 260 of the Constitution of Kenya designates you as state officers and in its Chapter Six and enabling



Statutes, Members are required upon to conduct themselves appropriately both in public and private life in a manner that encourages public confidence in the office they hold. May I put all of us on notice that the Privileges Committee was reconstituted and reinvigorated, thus, any case of inappropriate conduct will be dealt with firmly in accordance with the provisions of the Standing Orders and the statutes. In addition, as the Speaker and custodian of the law, I will not hesitate to take action on any Member propagating discord through acts of savagery. Nonetheless, Hon. Members, I have confidence that we shall resolve our issues with civility and forge a harmonious Assembly going forward.

You are so guided.

I thank you Hon. Members

  
13/ Feb / 2024

**The Hon. Kennedy Okeyo Ng'ondi, MCA**

**SPEAKER, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

**Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2024**