

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY



THIRD ASSEMBLY THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY (THIRD SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

21.5.2024

SPECIAL SITTING

Hon. Members, I have the following communication to convey-

Honorable Members,

May I take this opportunity to welcome you all to today's Special Sitting which has been convened at a time when the Assembly is on Long Recess. I sincerely thank you for honoring the invitation and I believe you are still having a remarkable engagement with your constituents. We are therefore convened today for the crucial purpose of prosecuting our Constitutional mandate.

Honorable Members,

You may recall that at the Assembly Sitting held on 16th April 2024; I conveyed a Message from H.E the Governor submitting nominees to various Chief Officer Positions for vetting by the Assembly pursuant to Section 6 of Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017. The message was subsequently committed to the relevant Sectoral Committees to conduct approval hearings and Table their Reports in this Assembly within 21 Sitting days in line with the Act.

Honorable Members,

Section 7 (4) and (5) requires upon the Clerk and the Committee to notify the candidates and the general public on the approval hearing process. In this regard, an advertisement was placed in local daily newspapers on 23rd April

2024 notifying the nominees and the general public of the approval hearings, specifically, the dates, time and venues.

Honorable Members,

As mentioned above, Section 9 (1) of the Act, provides as follows regarding procedure in the Committees and I quote:

"Unless otherwise provided in any law, a committee shall consider a nomination and table its report in the County Assembly for debate and decision within twenty-one sitting days from the date on which the committee first sits to consider the nomination."

Honorable Members,

The culmination of the foregoing process informs why we are assembled here today. Thus, my Office is reliably informed that the relevant Sectoral Committees conducted the approval hearings on 6th May 2024 and have since compiled and adopted the reports which are ready for Tabling and consideration here in the Plenary.

Consequently, **Honorable Members**, I received a memo dated 17th May, 2024 from the Leader of the Majority Party pursuant to Standing Order No. 32(1) requesting that I convene a special sitting today 21st May, 2024 commencing at 2.30 pm. Accordingly, having reviewed the business proposed in the request and determined that it is crucial, urgent and exceptional for effective service delivery to the County, I acceded to the said request and convened the sitting. Consequently, today's special sitting was published in the Kenya Gazette dated 20th May, 2024 under Gazette Notice No. 69 for the following purposes:-

- i) Consideration of Reports of Nairobi City County Assembly Sectoral Committees on vetting of seven (7) nominees for appointment to the positions of Chief Officers;*

Therefore, this Sitting is properly convened.

Honorable Members,

In the conduct of a Special Sitting, Standing Order No. 32 (4) provides that, and I quote; *"whenever the County Assembly meets for a special sitting, the Speaker shall specify the business to be transacted on the day or days appointed and the business so specified shall be the only business before the County Assembly during the special sitting, following which the County Assembly shall stand adjourned until the day appointed in the County Assembly calendar."* Consequently, the business specified in the afore-mentioned gazette notice shall be the only business to be transacted during today's sitting.

Honorable Members,

Without appearing to pre-empt today's business, may I observe that the Committee vetting process serves as a vital safeguard in our democratic system. It allows us, the elected representatives of the people, to ensure that those entrusted with leading our Sectors and sub-sector possess the necessary skills, knowledge, and commitment to serve the public good. It is therefore my belief that through approval hearings, interviews and the analysis of nominees' backgrounds, the Committees have, in their reports, provided us with invaluable insights into the capabilities of these individuals.

Accordingly, **Honorable Members**, I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Sectoral Committees that were involved in vetting for their dedication and diligence throughout the process. They have conducted themselves with professionalism, decorum and impartiality, ensuring that each nominee received a fair and thorough hearing.

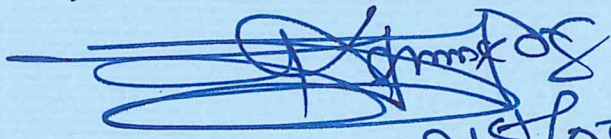
Honorable Members,

During this Special Sitting, we will have the opportunity to delve into the Committee reports and engage in constructive debate. We must critically examine the findings and recommendations presented. Each Member has a

vital role to play in this process. I therefore, encourage all Members to participate actively in the debate. Let us engage in a robust yet respectful exchange of views. We must ensure that this process remains transparent and accountable to the public. The people of Nairobi deserve to know that their elected representatives are holding the nominees to the highest standards.

Finally, **Honorable Members**, may I urge all of you to approach this Special Sitting with a sense of responsibility and commitment to the County's interest. Let us work together to ensure that the best possible individuals are appointed to take up these positions.

I thank you **Honorable Members**.


21st / 05 / 2024

The Hon. Kennedy O. Ng'ondi
SPEAKER, NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY
Tuesday 21st May, 2023