COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NAIROBI CITY



THE NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY THIRD ASSEMBLY

(FOURTH SESSION)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

3.6.2025

RESUMPTION FROM LONG RECESS

Welcoming from Recess

Honorable Members,

It is with great pleasure and a renewed sense of purpose that I welcome you all back to this august House after a long and well-deserved recess. I hope this period has afforded you the opportunity to rest, reflect, and reconnect with your constituents, whose interests we are all here to serve.

During the recess, I trust that each of you engaged meaningfully with the citizens you represent. The concerns raised in your constituencies must guide our deliberations. The issues of uncollected garbage, lack of medical supplies to hospitals, unauthorized constructions, access to education by the underprivileged, water rationing, quality of food supplies in the County, WDP legislation, disorderly public transport, poor infrastructure remain pressing and we must address them with urgency and precision.

I also commend the various Assembly committees that continued their oversight and investigative functions during the recess. Your commitment to ensuring accountability in governance is commendable and reinforces the integrity of this institution. However, with the enhanced public scrutiny and informed constituents, Committees will be required to re-double their efforts in oversight.

Revisiting previous directions

Honorable Members,

Indeed, you may recall that in my communication on 30th April 2025 I identified a number of critical sectoral issues that require urgent intervention by the County.

However, since the Assembly acts on the basis of factual information and recommendations from Committees, I directed Sectoral Committees to conduct site inspection visits and collect information on various areas within the scope of their mandate. Consequently, I was impressed to read media reports on some Committees doing this, for instance, the Sectoral Committees on Health; Urban Planning; and Water and Sanitation. In the said directions, Committees were required to present reports on resumption. Therefore, in the next two weeks, Committees are required to Table the reports with recommendations for consideration by the Assembly.

Procedure for conduct of site visits

Honorable Members,

May I remind Committees and Committee Chairpersons that the conduct of site inspection visits is a guided and critical legislative instrument and process. The procedures are clearly provided for in the Assembly Committees Manual and Standard Operating Procedures. These instruments are critical to assist the Committees from over-reaching their mandate. They were put in place to operationalize Section 9 (2) of the County Governments Act, 2012 that forbids Members of County Assembly from directly or indirectly being involved in the executive functions of the County Government and its administration. May I inform the Chairpersons that it is not out of order to have officers of the County Executive accompany Committees, however, the intention of the Committees must focus on establishing the facts which should inform reports to be tabled in this Assembly. Whereas the role of the officers of the Executive should be limited to technical support and advise to the Committee while in the field. Committees should therefore always adhere to the laid down procedure and operate within their mandate during site visits.

Legislative Priorities

Honorable Members,

As we resume from Recess, it is correct to observe that our performance has been comparatively below expectations. However, all is not lost because we still have some time to the end of the term. Therefore, our legislative agenda must be bold, progressive and responsive to the needs of our people. Key among our priorities should be publication and passage of numerous legislative proposals that are at

various stages. My office and that of the Clerk have been committed to this process despite challenges of budget shortage for drafting. However, I want to acknowledge the efforts of our Legal Department through the Office of the Clerk which has put in extra efforts to do internal drafting of Bills. These efforts have borne fruits and I am glad to report that some Bills have been published including Regularization of Unauthorized Developments Bill and Health Services Bill which are on the Order Paper today.

A Call for Unity & Decorum

Honorable Members,

This is a kind reminder that the proceedings of the Assembly are being broadcast live to the public and our constituents follow debates and our contributions. What we say on this privileged parliamentary platform carry significant implications and meaning to them. Therefore, as we tackle these critical issues, I urge you all to uphold the dignity and decorum of this Assembly. Robust debate is the hallmark of democracy, but it must be conducted with respect, civility, and a shared commitment to County's progress. Let us focus on the greater good.

Members' welfare

Honorable Members,

In my past communications, it has come out that the Assembly has been facing strained cash flow that has adversely affected a number of aspects including payment of workshops and suppliers. I also informed the Assembly that the County Assembly Service Board and the Assembly Leadership have been relentless in seeking ways to address the foregoing challenges. I am glad to report that we have made some progress and that all 4th Quarter workshops have been paid to Members. Nonetheless, Committees that are yet to conduct their workshops should do so as scheduled. May I reiterate the Board's commitments to the welfare of Members as part of its duty in facilitating Members to execute their Constitutional mandate.

Appreciation note

Honorable Members,

The weekend just ended marked a very important moment in the history where the entire Country converged in Homabay County to celebrate Madaraka Day on Sunday 1st June 2025. Being my rural home, it was especially important to my family to be honored by H.E president William Samoei Ruto, CGH and the former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya, Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga to take time out of their very busy schedule to visit my rural homestead. It is for this reason that 1st of June 2025 Madaraka Day, will forever be etched in our family's history as a truly unforgettable occasion. The decision by the two eminent personalities to grace our humble rural home was an honor beyond words, a gesture that speaks volumes of their dedication to connect with every citizen no matter how far-flung.

Honorable Members,

The visit was not merely a formal engagement, it was a moment of genuine warmth, a testament to the spirit of unity and progress that Madaraka Day embodies. We felt truly seen and valued and their gracious interaction with each member of our family brought smiles and memories we will cherish for a lifetime. The sight of them in our village, engaging with its people, has inspired us all. This visit has invigorated our community and reinforced our belief in a leadership that cares deeply for all corners of our nation. Thank you, Mr. President and your brother, Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga for this incredible privilege. We are deeply appreciative of your time, humility and unwavering commitment to our nation's development, especially in our rural areas. May God bless you.

In closing, **Honorable Members**, I remind us all that the privilege to serve in this Assembly comes with immense responsibility. Let us rise above partisan interests and work collectively for the prosperity of our County in line with the rallying call by the aforementioned leaders of this Country. The task ahead is great, but so is our capacity to achieve it. May God bless our deliberations and guide us in serving

our County with honor

I thank you Honorable Members

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