



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Second County Assembly – Third Session

Thursday 18th July 2019

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

(Hon. Deputy Speaker, Mr. John Kamangu, in the Chair)

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Sergeant-at-Arms, kindly ring the bell for ten minutes. We do not have quorum

(Quorum bell rung for ten minutes)

I understand that we still do not have quorum. I therefore order the Sergeant-at-Arms to ring the bell for another five minutes.

(Quorum bell rung for five minutes)

Let us be guided on whether we have quorum or not. Can the Minority and Majority Whips go and whip members who are outside. We are short of nine members and make sure that no member leaves the Chamber. We now have quorum. Clerk, proceed.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I have a communication to make on the extension of time for the Public accounts committee report. Hon. Members, as you may all recall, yesterday Wednesday 18th July 2019, the Hon. Moses Ogeto, Member of the County Assembly while holding brief for the Chairperson Select Committee on Public Accounts rose on a point of order pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order

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number 191 seeking the indulgence of the House for the extension of time provided for under article 191 of the Constitution for the conclusion of the consideration of the report of the Auditor General; specifically the report of the Auditor General on the financial statement for Nairobi City County for the year 30th June, 2018 and subsequent tabling of the said report.

Hon. Members, the right Hon. Member in his request sought for an extension of three months period in addition to the statutory period of three months provided for in article 229 subsection (7 and 8) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Also with respect to the provisions of Standing Order number 191 to let the committee conclude its consideration of the said report and table the same for the Assembly's consideration.

The Hon. Chairpersons have singled out the unprecedented delay in submission of the responses to queries raised by the various County chief officers by which the finalization of the said Auditor General's report has become impossible within the timelines provided as earlier enumerated. Accordingly, Hon. Members, you will recall that the Chair undertook to give directions on the matter before this House today Thursday 18th July, 2019.

Hon. Members, concerning the requests sought by the Chairperson Select Committee on Public Accounts, the House is hereby advised as follows;

- Going forward with respect to any matter before a committee which has defied timelines, all requests for extension of time shall be processed as follows;
 - a. The committee shall consider, deliberate and pass a resolution for the same at the committee level and thereafter confirm minutes on the same
 - b. The resolutions shall be conveyed to the Speaker through the office of the Clerk for approval and
 - c. The Chairperson thereafter may make the request as resolved by the committee on the floor of the Assembly for the Speaker to provide direction.

However, Hon. Members, it is imperative that committee's endeavor at all times to observe constitutional and other statutory timelines for consideration of various items of business committed to them. The committee is therefore advised to bring up the requests as directed for further directions on Tuesday 23rd July, 2019. It is so directed.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Clerk, proceed. For the purposes of the *HANSARD*, I wish to take this again as it was wrongly quoted. "That the House for the extension of time provided for under article 229 sub-section 7 and subsection 8". Thank you. Clerk, proceed.

PAPERS

REPORT OF THE SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Leader of Majority? Any Member sent? Chairperson Environment and Natural Resources proceed. Hon. Samora!

Hon. Samora Mwaura: Pursuant to Standing Order 191 (6), I beg to lay the following paper on the Table of the Assembly today Thursday 18th July, 2019. The report of the Sectoral Committee on Environment and Natural Resources on the site inspection visit to Dandora dumpsite.

(Paper laid)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Samora. Clerk, proceed.

NOTICES OF MOTION

ADOPTION OF A REPORT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Proceed Hon. Samora

Hon. Samora Mwaura: I want to give notice of the following Motion; that this Assembly adopts the report of the sectoral committee on Environment and Natural Resources on the site inspection visit to Dandora dumpsite laid on the table of the Assembly today 18th July 2019.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Clerk, proceed.

STATEMENTS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Implementation Committee has a response on the request by Hon. Anthony Karanja. Hon. Pius Mbono, proceed

Hon. Pius Mbono: Thank you Hon. Speaker. On Wednesday 19th June 2019, Hon. Anthony Karanja, MCA rose on the floor of the Assembly pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2c) and requested the Chairperson of the Select Committee on Implementation for a statement response regarding the implementation of the report on appointment of the County Executive Committee Member for Public Service Management and Devolution sector tabled before the Assembly on 19th March 2019.

According to the Hon. Member, the County Executive Committee Member for Public Service Management and Devolution has been serving as the acting County Secretary contrary to the provisions of section 2 and section 44 (3, a) of the County Governments Act 2012 which interprets County Public Service as meaning the connectivity of all individuals performing functions within any department of the County Government or its agency but does not include the Governor, Deputy Governor, Member of the Executive Committee and the Members of the County Assembly.

The Member further asked the Chairperson to inquire into and report on:

- a. Why the report of the Assembly tabled on March 19th 2019 has not been implemented by having Miss. Pauline Kahiga relinquish her role as the acting County Secretary and assuming her role as the County Executive Committee Member for Public Service Management and Devolution;
- b. Why after being appointed as the CECM on 18th March 2019, Miss Pauline Kahiga has continued to perform the role of County Secretary oblivious of the provisions of the County Government Act 2010 on who should serve in that office;
- c. All contracts she has signed or transacted on behalf of the County while acting as the County Secretary after her appointment as the CEC Member for public Service Management and Devolution; and
- d. Measures put in place to ensure that the office of the County Secretary is filled by a person qualified to hold the position.

Mr. Speaker sir, the committee wrote to the Nairobi City acting County Attorney and the acting County Secretary on 20th June, 2019 via a letter REF: NCCA/COR01/STM/01/2019 requesting the said officers to attend a meeting of the committee on Wednesday 26th June 2019 to respond to the issues raised by the Honorable Member. Hon. Speaker, the then acting County Secretary appeared before the committee on 26th June 2019 to respond to the statement with a written response via a letter REF: NCC/CS/PWK/899 dated 24th June, 2019. In this regard Mr. Speaker, sir, I wish to respond to the Assembly as follows;

On why the report of the Assembly tabled on March 19th 2019 has not been implemented by having Ms.. Pauline Kahiga relinquish her role as the acting County Secretary and assuming her role as the County Executive Committee Member for Public Service Management and Devolution. Mr. Speaker sir, the Committee was informed by the acting County Secretary and acting County Attorney that the report was fully implemented as Ms. Pauline Kahiga was sworn in on 1st April 2019 upon which she assumed her substantive role as the County Executive Committee Member in charge of Public Service Management, Devolution and Sub County Administration.

Committee resolutions are as follows;

- a) Whereas Section 35 of the County Government Act 2012 provides for the threshold of the appointment of a County Executive Committee Member, section 35 (4) dictates that a Member of the County Executive Committee shall not hold any other state or public office. Hence, in the committee's mind, a County Executive Committee Member holding another public office in the County contravenes Section 35 of the County Government Act 2012.
- b) *Why after being appointed as a CECM on 19th March 2019, Ms. Pauline Kahiga has continued to perform the role of the County Secretary:*

Hon. Speaker, the committee was informed by the acting County Attorney that Article 179 (2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, gave the Governor the rights to appoint Ms. Pauline Kahiga as the Acting County Secretary on 19th September 2018. His Excellency the Governor vide letter REF: NCC/GOV/412 dated 10th January 2019, nominated and forwarded Ms. Pauline Kahiga's name for approval for appointment to the position of CECM while fully aware of the acting appointment.

Further, according to the then Acting County Secretary, the Assembly's Appointments Committee vetted the said officer and tabled its report on 19th March 2019 without a cautionary recommendation for the implementation. The report according to the officer having not cautioned to bar Ms. Pauline Kahiga from performing duties of the office of the County Secretary was therefore implemented and subsequently sworn in to the office of the CECM on 1st April 2019. Hence, she could not abdicate the responsibility of the office of the County Secretary without directions from the appointing authority on whether to hand over to another serving officer. The then Acting County Secretary informed the committee that in implementing Ms. Pauline Kahiga's appointment to substantive role as CECM, His Excellency the Governor was not privy of any violation to the County Governments Act nor any role in regard to the said appointment.

Further, His Excellency the Governor consulted the Assembly leadership and was not advised to the contrary.

Committee observations.

Acting appointments in county governments are generally guided by Section 64 of the County Governments Act No. 17 of 2012 which says:

64 (1) A person shall not be appointed to hold a public office in an acting capacity unless the person satisfies all the prescribed qualifications for holding that public office.

(2) Acting appointments shall be made only by the lawful appointing authority and for a specified period.

(3) Nothing in this section shall prevent a public officer from —

(a) Delegating a duty for which the law does not prohibit delegation; or

(b) Deploying another officer to perform duties vested in another office during a temporary absence.

(4) Any delegation or deployment under subsection (3) shall—

(a) Be made by an officer who is qualified and competent to perform the duty; and

(b) Not undermine the expeditious appointment or deployment of a competent person to the public office concerned.

(5) No appointment or assignment of duty in a county public service shall be valid unless it is evident in writing.

c) With regards to contracts transacted by the then acting County Secretary after her appointment as the CEC Member for Devolution and Public Service Management;

Mr. Speaker sir, the acting County Attorney informed the committee that Ms. Pauline Kahiga's appointment as the County Executive Member in charge of Devolution and Public Service Management was not conditional and neither did the approval contain any recommendation nor caution from the County Assembly. Hence, she continued to serve both as the CECM and as the acting County Secretary at the pleasure of the appointing authority.

Committee observations.

Section 59 (1) (h) of the County Governments Act, 2012 provides for the functions and powers of County Public Service Board on behalf of the County Government, which is to amongst others advise the County Government on Human Resource Management and Development.

The committee felt that the then County Public Service Board failed provide the required advisory to the County Executive in line with the provision of Section 44 of the County Governments Act, 2012 on the appointment of the county secretary in particular Section 44 (2) which provides that:

(2) The county secretary—

(a) Shall be competitively sourced from amongst persons who are university graduates with at least ten years' experience in administration and management;

d) Measures put in place to ensure that office of the County Secretary is filled by a person qualifying to hold that position;

Hon. Speaker, the acting County Attorney informed the committee that the Office of the Governor through the County Public Service Board (CPSB) put out an advertisement through the County Public Board portal on 10th June 2019 and Standard Newspaper dated 20th June 2019 for the position of the County Secretary along with other positions as it is expected that a new office holder will take office once the recruitment process is completed. Meanwhile, with effect from 25th June 2019, the acting Deputy County Secretary will be holding brief awaiting finalization of the recruitment.

Committee observations

According to the Public Service Commission, HR Policies and Procedures Manual, May 2016 edition Clause C.14 (1) on acting allowance provides as follows:

C.14 (1) When an officer is eligible for appointment to a higher post and is called upon to act in that post pending advertisement of the post, he is eligible for payment of acting allowance at the rate of twenty percent (20%) of his substantive basic salary. Acting allowance will not be payable to an officer for more than six (6) months.

The Committee noted that Ms. Pauline Kahiga acted as the County Secretary and was paid for a period of 8 months exceeding the recommended six months provided by the PSC HR Policies and Procedures Manual, 2016.

Further, Clause C. 14 (2) of the PSC HR Policies and Procedures Manual, 2016, provides that:

C.14 (2) Acting appointments shall not be approved to take effect from a date earlier than one (1) month prior to the date on which the recommendation is submitted to the Authorized Officer or the Public Service Commission as the case may be.

A CECM cannot be appointed to act as a County Secretary and Head of Public Service as per section 44 of the County Governments Act, 2012 since a CECM is senior than the County Secretary. The law contemplates that acting appointments is to a higher positions and not vice versa.

Hon. Speaker is not listening.

Deputy Speaker: Proceed.

Hon. Pius Mbono: Precedence from the First Assembly. Hon. Speaker, you may recall that in the First Assembly, a similar statement was sought on Tuesday 20th September 2016 by Hon. Elknah Mauti,, a former MCA, on whether the then County Executive Member for Finance and Economic Planning was appointed to holding the position of the County Secretary following the suspension of the then substantive holder resulting in a major conflict of interest. The then CPSB distanced itself from the Executive's move.

Similarly, in October 2016, the then CECM in charge of Education, Youth Affairs, Sports, Culture and Social Services, Dr. Robert Ayisi was appointed to act as the County Secretary by the then appointing authority without relinquishing his position contrary to the provisions of the PSC HR manual and Section 44 of the County Governments Act, 2012.

Committees and assemblies being an oversight bodies, should ensure that such contraventions and violation of Acts and policies, should not be encouraged.

Committee observations and conclusion are;

Hon. Speaker, the committee has indeed observed a high number of acting position holders in the County Executive, with a high number going against the recommended acting period of six months as per the PSC HR Policies and Procedures Manual, 2016. A case in particular of the committee that was deliberating on the matter, the Executive was represented by acting County Attorney, joined by the then acting Secretary whose current position was held by the acting Deputy County Secretary. All in acting positions.

Hon. Speaker, now that the second CPSB has been established and currently in office, the committee expects formalizations of all the acting positions prioritized in line with the existing laws for effecting service delivery.

Mr. Speaker, I beg to lay this response. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Hon. Kiragu, are you comfortable with the response?

Hon. Anthony Karanja: Hon. Speaker, I would like to first of all commend the Implementation Committee for a job well done. The report is thorough and they have actually confirmed a lot of my suspicions which is that the Acting County Secretary, Pauline Kahiga was in office illegally. She had acted more than the stipulated time as recommended by the PSC. She was acting below her appointment which is against the law. She was a public officer and can no longer purport to act as a state officer.

With this in light, I think we will move it to the next level whereby this Assembly promoted Pauline Kahiga from a Chief Officer to a CECM. That was a promotion. However, she continued holding an accounting position, which is the County Secretary for reasons not known to myself or this Assembly. I will pursue this matter further and request that she has to return any benefits or monies that she earned in that position because it was illegal. That is corruption in my opinion.

I am very satisfied with that report and we will be asking the Assembly to take a step further and bring this to an end. However, I also heard in the same report, they went beyond the question. We have identified in this County we have so many people who are in acting capacities. We also learnt that it is illegal to act beyond six months. We understand why the Governor would have done that because he did not have a County Public Service Board in place. Now that it is in place, we hope that he will end this acting positions and either re-advertise or confirm the people who are acting in these positions. So, I am satisfied with the response. Thank you.

Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kiragu. Is Hon Kennedy Oyugi around? We defer the response to Tuesday next week. Chairman of Planning, Hon. Kiragu do you have the response.

Hon. Anthony Karanja: It has been very difficult to get the people who we are supposed to respond to. So, I want to ask that we be given a directive to respond in absentia. For example, you can see we have only one opposition member who is Kennedy Obuya. Others have all walked out. So, I would suggest that you give a directive that we respond in his absence.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Kairagu, you have another one for Mbono. Do you want to respond to all of them on Tuesday?

Hon. Anthony Kiragu: Yes.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: It is so directed. Hon. Kamau, you have a response to a statement requested by Hon. Okelo. Is Okello around? It is deferred to Tuesday next week. Do we have the Chairman of Health? A request by Hon. Musili. Is he around? We also deferred it to Tuesday next week. Clerk, proceed.

FIRST READING

The Nairobi City County Community Health Services Bill 2019 [Assembly bill no. 5 of 2019]

(The bill was read accordingly)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mbono, what do you have? Proceed.

MOTION

ESTABLISHMENT OF CANCER SCREENING AND PREVENTION CENTERS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wambugu.

Hon. Joseph Wambugu: I beg to move the following Motion;
That, aware that Article 26 of the Constitution of Kenya provides that every person has the right to life; further aware that paragraph 2 of Part 2 of the Fourth schedule of the Constitution gives the mandate of health services including County health facilities to the county governments; concerned that, in Kenya, cancer is estimated to be the third leading cause of death after infectious and cardiovascular diseases; noting that, the annual incidence of cancer according to World Health Organization (WHO) is close to 37,000 new cases with an annual mortality of over 28,000 with the leading cancers in women being; cervix uteri cancer, breast cancer and esophagus cancer and in men being; prostate, Kaposi sarcoma cancer and esophagus cancer being the most common cancers as per Ferlay et al 2013; appreciating that cancer prevention according to World Health Organization (WHO) offers the most cost-effective long-term strategy for the control of cancer with evidence indicates that between 30% and 50% of cancer deaths could be prevented by modifying or avoiding a number of causal key risk factors, and through interventions which permit the early detection which includes screening and early diagnosis and effective treatment forms the most-effective long-term method of cancer control; disturbed that treatment and care of cancer patients still remains a great challenge due to the financial demands with inadequate treatment facilities, prevention and screening has proved to be the best long term strategy for cancer control, this Assembly urges the County Government to set up cancer screening and prevention centers across major county health facilities to help in early detection and mitigation of cancer for effective control.

Hon. Members, what we seek to do here with this Motion is to push the County Government to set up facilities with screening and testing where these services are easily accessible to the common *mwananchi*.

I think we are all being affected at the moment. We have one us who is undergoing treatment at the moment. However, the good news is that the doctors said that since it has been detected early enough, they might be able to save his life. What I am trying to say is that we need to set up facilities that are subsidized. We all know that being treated at a private hospital is too expensive. So, what we are seeking to do is to set up facilities where testing and screening is done at a subsidized prices so that we can save the lives of our people by being tested early enough before it is too late and hard to get treatment. I call upon Hon. Ngengi to second the Motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ngengi.

Hon. Daniel Ngengi; Thank you very much Hon. Speaker. I stand to second this very timely Motion by Hon. Wambugu. It came at a time when of us is going through a very rough time. He has been diagnosed with cancer, but by the grace of God, it is at a very early stage. We pray for him.

Hon. speaker, putting up testing facilities in our hospitals such as Mbagathi, Mama Lucy among others will help in screening and prevention of cancer. A lot of money, both from government and families, is spent. Families are going broke. Families are losing whatever little they have as they seek treatment for this disease. It is also worth noting that cancer has become worse than any other disease.

Hon. Speaker, I would also request that leaders and churches sensitize the public about the necessity of screening. As the Hon. Member has said, we can do a subsidized or free screening. Hon. Speaker, we have NHIF and we need to encourage our people to subscribe to that so that we are able to arrest this disease at a very early stage. With those few remarks, I second this Motion of establishment of cancer screening and prevention centers by the Nairobi County. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, the floor is now open for debates.

Hon. Kennedy Obuya: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I am rising on my feet to support this good Motion by my brother, Karura 001, Hon. Wambugu. Hon. Speaker, as someone who has lost three family members to cancer, my mothers and my two younger sisters, it is late for this beautiful Motion to be implemented. I want to tell Hon. Members that cancer is one of the killer diseases we have on earth. Hon. Speaker, we don't need to lose a loved one to know that cancer is really taking a toll on our nation. If you can see the Hon. Member of Parliament for Kibra Constituency, Hon. Ken Okoth, I believe most of us have seen his photos on social media, it is very saddening. So, in the interest of time, I just want to encourage members to pass this beautiful Motion. I beg to support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mellab.

Hon. Mellab Lumalah: Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. This is a very wonderful Motion and I stand here to support it. We should equip the facilities we have with a section to handle the disease. Some people might not be knowing, but in 2018 there was a report from WHO that classified cancer and esophagus cancer came out to be number one because every year we lose 4 to 5 people every year and this makes people lose faith in getting well again. Funny enough, we have few institutions and 25 specialists in this country who have to come to Nairobi to help serve diagnosed patients. Moreover, when they are doing

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like radiotherapy and the other processes, you have to book and take long while the disease does not really wait because it is a malignant cell that grows every day. Therefore, it will be very good if we put many facilities in our City County clinics and you have skilled employees.

We also have to look into ways of partnering with other people who can help us. We can sponsor people to go and train or we collaborate with hospitals to subsidize some of the skill that the people have thought they are few they can work hand in hand.

However, much people have known that cervical cancer and prostate have been on the dominant types, it has also changed to esophagus cancer which is taking many lives. Thank you very much for the mover of this Motion but also as we do this let us push even without the facilities we can have the vaccines in those clinics.

The PHV vaccines that are given to people before you get this cancer since it is immune that helps people to stay stronger and not to contract the disease. We also have affordable care drugs because when you are diagnosed with cancer you cannot afford those drugs.

We need to push and we keep the clinics that are existing now to have those drugs and people should be educated about different types of cancer and they should be told about the lifestyle and the food that we are eating they should be given awareness about it. Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker and I support the Motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Jeremiah Themendu.

Hon. Jeremiah Themendu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for catching my eye. I stand here today to support the Motion and I would like to support the mover of the Motion. Cancer is a very dangerous disease, which has affected each family in this country. I would also like to propose, we have at least three cancer screening centers in our sub-counties.

If we get centers to do the screening and when the disease is detected early, this is because we have different stages like first, second, third and four which terminal. When it is detected at the first stage it is usually manageable.

Hon. Speaker, I would also like to urge that we should push the County Assembly of Nairobi to have a fund to cater for the same. I would like to inform you all that five years ago, I lost my sister and as my colleague has said as we have Hon. Paul Shilaho who is affected by the same disease.

Therefore, Hon. Speaker, I beg to support and congratulate the mover of this Motion because it is timely. Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I beg to support.

Mon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ngoyo.

Hon. Doris Kanario: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for this opportunity to support this Motion. Hon. Speaker, cancer is a disaster in this country and in this county is also rampant. Cancer is a number one killer compared to other diseases and more than HIV.

This Motion is very timely, I think it is also overdue, and it is high time it should be implemented so that the cancer cases are taken more seriously because many families are suffering. Cancer knows no family, age, race and status because it is affecting families and it is not discriminating children or grown-up.

Hon. Speaker, just to add to what my other colleagues have said I think it is high time this County should come with some vaccines in the clinics so that lives of the Nairobian can be prolonged and minimize

the suffering of our people Hon. Speaker. I, therefore, stand to support this Motion and to thank the Hon. Member of this Assembly for finding it worthy to bring such an issue in this Assembly and bearing in mind that one of our Member is suffering from this.

Therefore, we should stand with him and come up with ways as Members of this Assembly so that we can push the Executive to implement this as soon as possible. Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I beg to support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ongwae Matara.

Hon. Silas Matara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for this opportunity, first I would like to congratulate my colleague Hon. Member for Karura Ward, Hon. Wambugu for bringing such an important Motion in this House. I would have wished you had brought it earlier on but I also believe that the health docket from the Executive and the Committee in itself, if it is possible they can make an inclusion in terms of cost and budgeting to procure the equipment and the machinery that is required for the screening. This is because as we pass this motion when we come to the implementation of the same they will have funds to do it.

Secondly, Hon. Speaker, when we speak of cancer despite the way the family get to lose their members it has an effect on the country and communities at large. This is because we are aware when a family loses a member of the community who may be was a public figure, officer or businessperson there may be many people who depended on them. Therefore, at the end of the day, we are all aware in this House in every sector or aspect of human life prevention is better than cure. It is also cheaper to prevent than to cure any ill be it health, social or any economic ill.

Therefore, this Motion has come at a time that we as Members because we are elected to this House to be able to bring such Motion to urge the Executive to implement projects and programs that are going to benefit the common *mwananchi*. By the end of the day if the Executive puts this Motion into action it will benefit the common *mwananchi* the people who come from the low-income areas who are not able to go to this expensive private Hospitals.

Therefore, as a County, if we take it as a priority to buy the equipment to do the screening it will be a better service and will be an important thing that we will have done for Nairobians.

Thirdly, Hon. Speaker, as Hon. Members for us possibly we enjoy the benefit of having an insurance cover so if we do this to Wanjiku who really depends on us it is going to be one of the best things that we ever did. Therefore, Hon. Speaker I arise and support this Motion thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Margret Wanjiru Mbote!

Hon. Margret Wanjiru: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me this chance to contribute to this very important Motion. I would like to first congratulate my brother who has done a great job to introduce such a very important Motion, which will help everyone in our country.

First, I would like to say that every home is affected directly or indirectly because in many home children are left homeless or without a parent and most of them are being taken to children centers because they have lost both parents and this touching each one of us.

When they are taken to the centers, it is a burden also to every person who is near these children. My proposal is that in every hospital and especially in our County Nairobi three hospitals should have cancer screening equipment. Which can be done has the way the weight is taken because it is a compulsory thing which is done in hospitals like temperature is taken this can be done in that way.

Our people mostly ignore when there is cancer screening saying that they are very busy and do not go for the screening. The disease exists because of ignorance, it is important when you go to the hospital for a checkup it is made compulsory that the screening which can be done to everyone.

The other thing is affordability as one of our Members has mentioned that insurance is helping some people but for others, they cannot afford it because they do not have them and money. Therefore, when this screening machine is introduced to hospitals which are in Nairobi most probably three of them, many people will be helped out because of lack of insurance covers. This will help the poor and they will have a chance to save their lives. As I support this Motion, I pray that this can be heard and implemented, I stand to support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mwaura Mbono.

Hon. Pius Mbono: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I will just support this Motion with only a few words because the word cancer itself it's very scaring than a bullet, you have heard people who have been shot ten bullets and they have survived, but with this cancer, it is above that which is very scaring.

Hon. Speaker, cancer is not a terminal disease if it is detected early and that is simply what we are saying. What we need are the screening machines and once we have them in our hospitals, then everybody can access them in hospitals and be screened. The stigma of a cancer disease is even more serious than the disease itself when it is detected late while in the 3rd and 4th stages.

Hon. Speaker if Nairobi County is able to buy these machines even before the end of this year, the Executive should move with speed and give us early Christmas. Thank you.

Hon. Mbugua Kabiro: Thank you very much Hon. Speaker for according me this opportunity to talk about this very important subject and to contribute on this very noble Motion from one of our able Members of this County Assembly. I will start by saying that, according to the National Cancer Institute; 'cancer is the abnormal and uncontrollable multiplication of cells that then spreads into the surrounding tissues which then forms a tumor or a swelling that cannot be detected'.

Mr. Speaker, cancer is a disease that came after HIV/AIDS. HIV/AIDS has been contained and we can say right now that the prevalence of HIV is manageable. But then for cancer, nobody cares to give statistics or talks about cancer in great depth. I want to laud this Assembly for being a voice for this cancer situation. We all went to school and we all remember the alphabet that is ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ. Mr. Speaker of all these 26 letters of the alphabet, the only letters that do not have a cancer related disease that starts with them is DJQWXZ; six out of 26. That is to say that, of the 26 babies who are born today probably if we name them A to Z, may be six of them may not survive cancer or may not be cancer infected in their life time. That is a very high percentage when you look at it because cancer is a matter of life and death.

Mr. Speaker, I carried my laptop today and the only demonstration that I wanted to do is to goggle because we are a digital generation. The only thing that I goggled is; 'hospitals with cancer facilities in Kenya'. I found only 13. These facilities are: Nairobi Hospital, Texas Cancer Centre, Cancer Care Center, the Kenya Network of Cancer Organizations(KENCO), Texas Cancer Centre, Karen Hospital, Nairobi Hospital, Avenue Hospital, Pathology Lancet, MP Shah, Nairobi Radiotherapy and Agha Khan Hospital. Of the 13 that I would quickly goggle as a youth or as somebody who knows what technology can do in a matter of life and death if a patient is suffering from cancer and I really need to take them to a facility near me, I would goggle. If I goggle and get these 13 facilities, none of them is a public hospital. Therefore, upon the admission of a patient I would probably part with close to a Ksh. 100,000/= just for admission even before any treatment or chemo or radiotherapy is done.

Mr. Speaker this is alarming. We really need to come up with a facility that we can call a Cancer Care Centre for the County. We have good measures and we are budgeting billions in repair and in fact one of our biggest consumers of our budget in Nairobi is healthcare. Let us dedicate even if it is 5 billion and set up a facility that will help the 7 million Nairobians not to go to India for treatment for a disease that can be treated in Kenya. I appreciate that in this House we have Hon. Members who have family members and some are also suffering from this disease, we want to shine a ray of hope and say that this is a menace that we can manage. We can manage this menace because we are dedicating resources and with this Motion a facility or even better, many facilities will be established in Nairobi that will deal with this cancer, and we will be victorious at the end. Mr. Speaker I support this Motion. Thank you.

Hon. Joseph Wambugu: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I first want to take this opportunity to thank all the Members who have contributed or rather all the Members who are present here today. You have all realized that this is not a personal issue, it is an issue that affects us either directly or indirectly. To be very honest I did not come with all the statistics but the lives that are being lost due to cancer are very many. Myself I lost an uncle through cancer which started as a wound on the leg and it was not healing. We used to wonder what was wrong because it looked like a normal wound. It kept growing and by the time the doctors diagnosed him that it was discovered that it was cancer. The doctor said that they had to cut his leg as it was the only way we could rescue him. But he refused. *Alisema yeye hawezi katwa mguu*. Six months later, he passed away.

As we have all said this is very timely and very important and I want to ask the support of everyone so that we fight to make sure that the Executive implements this. As my colleague Hon. Kabiro has said, there are 13 hospitals in Kenya if you want to access cancer screening or treatment. None of these facilities are government owned. *Wanjiku, yule mwananchi wa kawaida ambaye hata hajui hiyo cancer ni nini na hana hata hiyo elfu ishirini*, I think that is why us as members both elected and nominated all of us our number one priority is the common *mwananchi*, true.

I would like to thank all of you very much and I am very humbled today let me be very honest. God bless you all for supporting this Motion and we shall fight this together. We shall push this and make sure the Executive implements this even if they will start with one facility. Since you are all here I would like to also request you to join me in this fight, I have a health facility called Karura Health Centre *wale ambao wanaendanga Kiambu Road hapo---*

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Wambugu let me warn you, if you want to speak in English, be on that line.

Hon. Joseph Wambugu: Sorry Hon. Speaker. For those of you who normally pass through Kiambu Road, next to the gold course we have a facility just at the start of Kiambu Road known as Karura Health Centre. If you walk in that facility at any given time, you will find one or two patients. I think the Executive can turn it into a Cancer Screening Centre for citizens of Nairobi County and one can go there if you want to be screened or matters cancer, you can go there.

I think that would be a good start because it is not a thing that can be achieved in a day. It is something that we shall keep on pushing on and moving forward, we can start with one facility in a certain area and then open another facility in another area for example one in the north, the south, the east and the west that is accessible to each and every citizen in this County. With that Hon. Speaker, I beg to reply.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Wambugu.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: There being no other business, the House stands adjourned until Tuesday next week 23rd of July 2019 at 2.30 p.m. God bless you, and have a nice weekend.

(The House rose at 4 p.m).