



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Second County Assembly – Third Session

Thursday 21st March 2019

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Hon. Deputy Speaker (Mr John Nyumu) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Deputy Speaker: We have no quorum. Serjeant-at-Arms, ring the bell for 10 minutes.

(Quorum bell was rang)

We still do not have a quorum. Serjeant-at-Arms, ring the bell for further five minutes.

(Quorum bell was rang)

I ask those members who are there not to go out. Make sure no member goes out before we achieve the quorum. Where is the Whip? I understand there is a Public Accounts Committee meeting going on, I think it is important for you to communicate with them so that they can come and give us a quorum then they go back. They are 19 members and they will give us the quorum.

Hon. Members, I only want Hon. Waithera to go out. Chairman of Men Caucus, please sit down! Hon. Okello, sit down! Hon. Ng'ang'a, please go back and bow!

(Hon. Geoffrey Ng'ang'a bowed before the bar)

Thank you, you may sit. Ahsante sana PAC Chair for honoring the order. We now have the quorum. Clerk, proceed.

PAPERS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Chair of Selection Committee.

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Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. THAT pursuant to Standing Order 191 (6), I beg to lay the following paper on the table of the Assembly today, Thursday, 21st March 2019: The report of the select Committee on Selection on the workshop that was held from 14th to 18th December 2018. I beg to lay.

(The paper was laid on the table)

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

UNEXPLAINED DELAYS IN RESPONDING TO STATEMENTS BY COMMITTEES

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I have the following communication to make. Hon. Members, as you may be aware, statements are amongst the opportunities through which the Assembly exercises oversight over the Executive functions. The Chair wishes to note and appreciate the zeal with which members have leveraged statements to obtain information and answers from the County Executive on crucial issues in the County. This robust oversight work can only succeed if committees and chairpersons meet half of their bargain when members request statements. This process only succeeds if responses are given timely and the House approves on the same.

The Chair has noted with concern unexplained delays in responding to statements by committees, lack of responses from the Executive and poor management of responses on the floor.

Hon. Members, an audit of all statements from the second session to date, indicates that committees and by extension chairpersons have not given statements the commitment they deserve. It is unacceptable that the House waits for statement responses for upward of six months yet chairpersons while in plenary commit to disburse with such statements in two weeks.

Hon. Members, in the second session of 2018, we have a total of 27 pending statements while in the third session 2019, we have a total of 17 pending statements. In total, we have 44 pending statements. Details of the same are attached to this communication.

Hon. Members, as you continue with diligence, you have exhibited in executing your oversight mandate to the benefit of Nairobi residents. I hereby direct that chairpersons with pending statements from the second session to date to move with speed to dispense all the statements in the respective committees and give a status report to this Assembly on Wednesday 27th March 2019, where every chair will be called upon to give his/her respective report.

Hon. Members, chairpersons who fail to observe the foregoing direction must report to the Speaker the reason for such failure in time for the County Assembly leadership to take necessary action on the same.

Hon. Members, the Chair commits to follow up on the foregoing to ensure all pending statements are responded conclusively. Thank you and may God bless you.

STATEMENTS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mbithi? He is absent without apology. Hon. Ngengi.

REQUEST TO A STATEMENT REGARDING THE HARASSMENT OF PRIVATE BIKE RIDERS AND COURIERS WITHIN THE CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

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Hon. Daniel Muturi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (c), I wish to request for a statement from the Chairperson of the sectoral Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs regarding the harassment of private bike riders and couriers within the Central Business District (CBD) by the County askaris.

Hon. Speaker, the enforcement of ban by the County Executive on bodaboda riders within the CBD continues to cause untold suffering for private bike riders going about their businesses in the City. The plan to rid the CBD of bodabodas has unfortunately turned discriminatory, with County askaris making no distinction between bodaboda operators and private citizens who use bikes or courier services.

Hon. Speaker, the harassment of private riders has become worse over the recent few weeks, with askaris turning this unfortunate situation into a corruption haven, unleashing violence on bikers and extorting money from the innocent and even ticket-holding private riders. This is despite the fact that the ban was clearly targeted at bodaboda riders and not to courier services or private bikers.

Hon. Speaker, in statement the Chairperson should enquire into the report on:

- i. Clarification on whether the ban is for all motorbikes, whether private, couriers or otherwise
- ii. Why the County Government continues to allow the harassment of innocent private bike riders despite massive outcry from the affected residents
- iii. Measures put in place by the County Executive to safeguard the rights of private motorbike riders and couriers who find themselves at the mercy of the County askaris
- iv. Number of arrests made and prosecutions undertaken of private bike riders and action taken against officers perpetuating this illegality.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Malde.

Hon. Jayendra Malde: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I request for ten days.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ngengi, are you comfortable with that?

Hon. Daniel Muturi: Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that there has been a lot of violence and robbery when this is being done. It is also worth noting that some of these private bike owners are armed. This is very important because when the City askaris without uniforms--- someone might get shot or more serious injuries might happen--- *(off the record)*

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Are you comfortable with ten days?

Hon. Daniel Muturi: Yes.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Chair of Transport.

Hon. James Wamboi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think the Hon. Member who requested for the statement--

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Before you respond, let me allow the PAC Members to go and proceed with their meeting.

(Several members left the Assembly)

Hon. James Wamboi: Hon. Speaker, they should be stopped from leaving.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I think those leaving are PAC Members. Is Hon. Laura around?

Hon. James Wamboi: She is out of the House, but I called her and she was satisfied with the response.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I think it is important for the person who requested to be around. Can we defer it to Tuesday?

Hon. James Wamboi: I called her and she was satisfied with the response.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: But you see it is now official. Let us defer it to Tuesday. Don't worry.

Hon. James Wamboi: Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: If she doesn't appear on Tuesday, you will proceed. Hon. Kamau.

RESPONSE TO A STATEMENT REGARDING DELAY IN PAYMENT OF CONTRACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR
GARBAGE COLLECTION

Hon. John Muthiga: Hon. Speaker, on 12th March 2019, hon. Millicent Jagero, MCA, rose on the floor of the Assembly pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (c) and requested for a statement from the Chairperson of sectoral Committee Environment and Natural Resources regarding delay in payment of contractors charged with the responsibility of garbage collection within Nairobi City County.

In the statement, the Member requested that the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. Details of the companies, including the names of all the companies that have been paid for garbage collection for the last six months;
- ii. Evidence of the payments including all the payment vouchers;
- iii. Reasons as to why there are delays in payments of the contractors; and
- iv. Measures put in place by the County Government to curb the delay in payments of the contractors to avoid future occurrences

Hon. Speaker, the Committee wrote to the County Executive Committee Member responsible for Environment, Water, Energy and Natural Resources on 13th March, 2019 inviting him to a meeting of the committee that was held on 20th March, 2019 pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (d) to deliberate on the statement. Hon. Millicent Jarego MCA attended the said meeting pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (e).

In this regard, Hon. Speaker, I wish to report to the Assembly as follows;

Details of the companies, including the names of all the companies that have been paid for garbage collection for the last six months. Attached is a detailed list of Companies that have been paid over the last six months.

Evidence of the payments including all the payment vouchers. Regarding the evidence of the payments made as indicated in (a) above, kindly note that the custodian of the payments document once the payments have been effected is the Chief Finance Officer.

Reasons as to why there are delays in the payments of contractors. The Pending Bills Committee subjected some contractors to the verification exercise. The remaining part of the payments process can only be resumed and completed once clearance is issued by the Committee. The Committee has not yet recommended whether the contractors should be paid or not. This, in turn, has led to the delay in payments. Delays are also occasioned by the failure of some contractors to submit a fully supported request for payments to the sector. The Contractors are normally required to do so by the fifth day of the subsequent month, but instances are many where some fail to do so by several weeks, leading to a backlog.

Measures put in place by the County Government to curb the delay in payments of the contractors to avoid future occurrence. On its part, the sector dispenses with all properly supported payments very fast.

Whenever some support documents are lacking, the concerned contractors are informed immediately once the gaps are observed. Further, the sector always strives to secure adequate budget for all its operations either as initial budget or as supplementary budget. The final decision on payments, however, lies with the County Treasury.

Hon. Speaker, Hon. Millicent Jagero was satisfied with the response. A copy of the detailed response was given to Hon. Millicent Jagero, MCA and a further copy, is hereby attached to this report.

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

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I am going to accept it although Hon. Jagero is not here. I happen to be a Member of Committee of Environment but I will also ask her if she has accepted it on Tuesday. Thank you, Hon. Kamau. Chair of Water, proceed.

RESPONSE TO A STATEMENT REGARDING SUBMISSION OF A BUDGET PROPOSAL FROM INSTITUTIONS
SUPERINTENDED BY COUNTY EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Hon. Paul Kados: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On Wednesday 5th December, 2018, Hon. Geophrey Majjiwa, MCA, rose on the floor of the Assembly pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (c) and requested for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Water and Sanitation regarding the submission of a budget proposal from institutions superintended by County Executive Department.

The member sought to know:

- i. Why Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company has not been forwarding budget estimates as required by law; and
- ii. Measures instituted to ensure that moving forward, the Company, which is overseen by the County Executive, forwards its annual budget estimates.

Hon. Speaker, the Committee wrote to the County Executive Committee Member for Environment, Energy, Water and Natural Resources on 24th January, 2019 requesting to be furnished with a written response to the statement sought by the Hon. Member. In this regard, Hon. Speaker, I wish to report to the Assembly as follows;

The Chief Officer responsible for Environment, Energy, Water and Natural Resources responded as follows;

That, the Company was incorporated under the Companies Act under the oversight of a Board of Directors appointed by the Nairobi City County Government, the sole shareholder, its annual budget estimates are therefore considered by the Board of Directors. The corporation budget is not submitted to finance as required for County entity as per clause 149 (2) (i) but submitted to the CEC Member in charge of Water who submit the same to CEC Member in charge of Finance as evidenced by the attached copies in accordance with the Public Finance Management Act, section 149 (2) (i) & (j) (copy extract of PFMA attached)

That, the Company also engages the Nairobi City County Assembly Committee on Water and Sanitation as a stakeholder in the budget-making process.

That, the Company has always complied with the requirements of PFMA as confirmed by the attached evidence submission.

Hon. Speaker, I wish to lay.

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

Hon. Geoffrey Majiwa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am fully informed of the question that I had asked. I was given an opportunity and I actually attended their meeting and confirmed that the budget estimates was actually tabled on that particular day by the Water Company. Therefore, I am comfortable, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Majiwa.

(Point of order)

Hon. Malde do you have a point of order?

Hon. Jayendra Malde: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I rise on a point of order under Standing Order 193 on Reports on County Assembly Resolutions. Standing Order 193 provides that, *“Within sixty days of a resolution of the County Assembly or adoption of a report of a select committee, the relevant Member of the Executive Committee under whose portfolio the implementation of the resolution falls, shall provide a report to the relevant committee of the County Assembly in accordance with Article 153(4) (b) of the Constitution.”*

Hon. Speaker, I moved a motion in the House last year on the creations of Multiagency Tax Force to review the City Inspectorate Department and its operations given the endless complains from Nairobians and even Hon. Members and make a recommendation for both reforms. The Motion was adopted on 13th June 2018. In keeping with practice, the office of the Clerk wrote to the Executive for the Implementation of the Motion. However, nothing has come out of the resolution up to date despite the sixty days window elapsing in August 2018. Effort to follow-up has yielded nothing as well. The Implementation Committee report on the status of the resolution adopted by the House last year stated nothing has been done and now it is over eight months.

Hon. Speaker, is the House working it and why are you passing critical resolutions such as this and wasting time here? If we cannot get these recommendations brought to life or a progress report by the Executive given to us on why they have not yet implemented. I need your guidance, This matter was critical for Nairobians. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I direct that matter to be referred to the Implementation Committee to respond. Hon. Samora.

REQUEST TO A STATEMENT REGARDING STALLED CONSTRUCTION OF PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES

Hon. Mwaura Samora: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (c), I wish to request a Statement from the Chairperson of sectoral Committee on Health Services regarding the stalled construction of Public Health facilities in Nairobi County, for instance, Maji Mazuri Health Center.

Hon. Speaker, the construction of the above mentioned facility began in 2016 and since then, the construction has stalled bypassed in the last two financial years. Hon. Speaker, access to comprehensive

quality health care and health services are vital and improving this depends in part of ensuring that people have primary care and preventive services and emergency medical services.

Hon. Speaker in the statement the chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. When the construction of Maji Mazuri Health Centre will be completed;
- ii. Plans put in place by the County Government to equip the hospital with drugs and Medical equipment and
- iii. Measures put in place by the County Government to ensure contractors are paid in time to avert such delays going forward.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The entire Committee is not there. Hon. Mathenge.

Hon. Naftali Mathenge: We shall reply in two weeks' time.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Samora, are you comfortable with two weeks.

Hon. Mwaura Samora: Mr. Speaker, I hope two weeks means two weeks because I treat this matter as very urgent and the facility in question is bound to serve more than 50,000 households so it is an urgent matter.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The same issue was raised yesterday but because you have brought it, again so I still refer it to the Health Committee to answer Hon. Somara within two weeks Thank you. Hon. Mbithi.

REQUEST TO A STATEMENT REGARDING PROVISION OF PARKING FACILITY FOR OIL TANKERS

Hon. David Mbithi: Hon. Speaker, Pursuant to Standing Order 45 (2) (c) I wish to request for a statement on Committee of Energy and ICT regarding the compliance with the legal provision requiring the County to provide a parking facility for oil tankers.

Hon. Speaker, public safety, the said provision of law requires the County Government shall designate a place or places exclusively reserved for parking petroleum tankers vehicles.

Hon. Speaker, the petroleum tankers parking yard is expected to feature space for well-equipped fire station amenities including washrooms, catering and accommodation in the current informal business in the location. Lack of proper marshaling yards have posed a challenge in the city with petroleum tankers parking in residential high risk areas. The provision of designated well-secured petroleum tankers parking by the Nairobi County is required by the energy act 2006 will eliminate authorized parking of tankers.

Hon. Speaker, in the statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on;

- i. What Nairobi County Government is doing to operationalize and implement the policy for provision of oil tankers parking facility and
- ii. Immediate measures put in place to prevent all tankers from parking in residential areas and high risk areas.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Adow, Chair of ICT?

Hon. Osman Adow: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Designating of parking is usually under the department of engineering, but we will inquire into and liaise with that department and give a report within two weeks.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Two weeks. Hon. Mbithi, are you comfortable with two weeks?

Hon. David Mbithi: I am comfortable, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Clerk, next order. Hon. Waithera, proceed.

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE AFFLUENT EMANATING FROM SOUTH B ESTATE

Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Just in the course of this week, there was a statement that was certified urgent by the Speaker of the day. And I wish to urge that you request the Chairperson of Environment to give a preliminary report which he was requested to do today.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Kamau, do you have anything to say?
regarding the affluent that was emanating from South B estate.

Hon. John Muthiga: Thank you Mr. Speaker. On Tuesday 19th, Hon. Waithera Chege rose on the floor of this Assembly and requested for a statement regarding the affluent that was emanating from South B estate. That was on Tuesday. We did call the Chief Officer on the same day and we sat down with him. On the same day, he sent his enforcement officers for a fact-finding mission. As we all know, NEMA is mandated to oversee all those toxic affluence that emanate from industrial factories. We also wrote to NEMA requesting them to furnish us with relevant documents for the said company.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, we are going to furnish Hon. Waithera Chege with the actual information with the actual factory which is discharging those toxic gases. So, that is what we gathered for two days. If the Hon. Member has something that can help the committee to move on or to know something that can help us, we are so much looking forward to that. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon Waithera?

Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to thank the Chair, but as I wait for the substantive report next week, the reason why this matter was certified urgent is because we have had some admissions in hospitals of children who have gone through these toxic gases and I dare challenge the committee to investigate Powerex Company which has been releasing this toxic gas and therefore by next week they will have no other reason as to why they are not arresting Powerex Company. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: So, I order the response to come on Tuesday. And if you have no report by then, a progress report must be there. It is so ordered. Thank you Kamau.

Hon. David Muthiga: Hon. Speaker that even makes our work easier because she has shed some light. When our enforcement officers went to South B, they were randomly looking for those companies, but right now, I have heard her mention a company. That is the point where we are going to start. Let me assure this House that on Tuesday, we are going to have a very comprehensive report and we are also going to arrest the company, if it is the one that is emanating those gases. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Liaise with Hon. Waithera and give a response on Tuesday. Clerk, proceed.

MOTION

NAIROBI COUNTY TREE PLANTING DAY

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Kabiro.

Hon. Mbugua Kabiro: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following motion;

Aware that, every person has the right to a clean and healthy environment, which includes the right to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations as envisaged under Article 42 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010; and that Article 69 (1) (b) of the Constitution of Kenya obliges the state to work to achieve and maintain a tree cover of at least ten per cent of the land area of Kenya; further aware that Paragraph 10 of Part 2 of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya obliges the County government to implement government policies on natural resources and environmental conservation including soil and water conservation and forestry; deeply concerned that there has been a steady decline of Kenya's forest cover in recent years and; that there is emergence of and continued global debate on Climate change in the world; regretting that there are no programs from either the National or county governments to provide for a tree planting day by the citizenry; realizing that if nothing is done the future generation of Kenya stands to have harsh climatic conditions and that with introduction of the Nairobi City County Tree-Planting day the County stands to increase its forest cover, establish partnerships to increase the forest cover and maintain its' pride as the "Green City in the Sun"; this Assembly urges the County Executive to move with speed to establish a Nairobi City County Tree-Planting day in partnership with the Kenya Forest Service to have a day set aside for the citizens/residents to plant a tree annually as a way of instilling an environmental conservation culture in the County.

Mr. Speaker, the long and short of this motion is that as an Assembly, we are setting a day that shall be called the Nairobi City County Tree Planting Day. This is a day that has been sanctified purely for planting of trees to make sure that the future generations are not disadvantaged by our existence.

Mr. Speaker, the foundational security of this country, Kenya, lies in the blood that was shed by our fore fathers. That shed blood liberated us from the colonial rule. That shed blood protected our borders. That shed blood insured our existence. I am talking about the blood of the likes of Harry Thuku, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, Martin Shikuku and Ronald Ngala. That is what insured our existence today.

Mr. Speaker, for us to ensure that the generations to come, our children and grandchildren are well protected, we should plant trees. And that is why I am proposing that we set a day and call it the Nairobi City County Tree-Planting day.

Mr. Speaker, let me start by talking about the legal underpinnings that favor this motion. Mr. Speaker, article 42 of the Kenyan Constitution talks about every citizenry getting the right to a clean and healthy environment. Article 69 (1) (b) talks about the fact that the state is obliged to provide and ensure that 10 per cent of its area is covered by trees. Let us go further into the constitution. The fourth schedule, part 2, paragraph 10 obliges the county governments to implement National Government policies on environment and natural resources. This includes soil and water conservation and forestry. The principle document in the land is saying that we should conserve our environment for the benefit of the future generation. Who are we not to abide by that? That is why I am encouraging that we set a day that shall be called the Nairobi City County Tree Planting Day.

Mr. Speaker, you say I have gone too far. Let me come closer. Let us talk about the big four agenda. That is a current government implantation agenda to realize its objective. A tree next to an affordable house

is a sight to behold. A tree beside an affordable healthcare facility is hope for its clients. Trees secure us for the food security we are singing about and manufacturing. Manufacturing is very key, yet if we mismanage it, it is going to cause a lot of problems to the future generations. A tree planted throughout the implementation of the big four agenda will cause that the emissions that are emitted by these manufacturing plans are neutralized by these trees. Ask me how. I want to take you back to your school days. I am not going to tell you about mole concept that is taught in form 2. No. Not even form 1 to talk about Pythagorean theory. No. Let me take you back to class 7. The topic is primary science in class 7. Tree and crop planting as a way of combating air pollution through the absorption of carbon dioxide in a process referred to as photosynthesis. It is for the same reason that I say that tree planting is crucial for the future generation. Let us get to this global debate with a solution. Climate changes are real and so let us get to the debate with solutions as Nairobi County. Let us plant trees that will ensure that my two and one year old sons are safe from harsh climatic conditions. Mr. Speaker, I urge this House to set a date dubbed Nairobi City County tree planting day and with that I call upon my friend and colleague Hon. Silas Matara to second this motion. Thank you.

Hon. Silas Matara: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this motion which is clearly thought out and appreciate my colleague for bringing it to the House. Hon. Speaker, every member in this House knows that when you plant a tree then you have good forest cover and mitigate against the effects of climate change such as flooding and soil erosion. The benefits of planting trees are so many such as attracting rain, city beautification and getting Nairobi to be the way it was. It is also an income generating activity to the vendors who sell seedlings and trees and offer opportunities to the women and youth to sell the same to the County. In as much as we try to sell this motion, we also urge the Executive side to stop the careless cutting down of trees because as the Environment committee we realized that whatever the county makes from this to the benefits cannot be compared. Therefore we ask the Executive to stop the cutting unless it is a danger to the lives of the people of Nairobi or destructs property.

Hon. Speaker, I believe that the planning sector should provide incentives to the people who are building houses while ensuring soft landscaping and trees then the County should provide incentives to encourage investors to make inclusions of the same. I also believe that the County should make it mandatory that once you cut down a tree even if it is in your property then you should be made to plant another. The County should also encourage people to use green energy to avoid using charcoal and firewood so as to avoid cases of cutting down of trees. Finally, I know that everyone in this House is aware of the dire consequences we will face if we don't take care of our environment and so with those few remarks, I wish to support this motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: You are not to support the motion but to second

Hon. Silas Matara: *(inaudible)*

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Be audible. I did not hear you

Hon. Silas Matara: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I said with those few remarks, I beg to second the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Leah

Hon. Leah Supuko: Thank you Mr. Speaker sir. I rise to support the motion which does not need a lot of emphasis because we live because of the oxygen that we get from trees. Trees support our wild animals which are one of the sectors generating revenue for our Country and so I beg to support the motion because it is to be supported and urge the Assembly to support it and extend the same to the Executive so that we get a date to plant trees every month. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Leah. Hon. Onyango Okeyo

Hon. Frederick Okeyo: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the motion and appreciate the mover of the motion who is also a friend and comedian. This is very essential and some of us who have been raised in Eastlands used to climb trees and play around them but nowadays, it is rare for you to come across a tree. We had a joint sitting with the committee on Water and Environment and highlighted the same after we came across a report on planting seedlings. This should have been done a long time ago, preferably every quarter or annually. Recently I came upon a report showing that the County owns a tree nursery and was surprised that they had only sold trees amounting to Ksh. 3,400. This is sad because the private sector is selling trees and the county should be providing this for free to the sub county and ward officers to distribute. Mr. Speaker, we have passed a lot of motions but we do not follow up on them. Cutting down on trees by private sectors and government institutions such as KPLC should be looked at seriously. We should issue permits when someone wants to cut down a tree. Hon. Leah mentioned that they provide oxygen and when you walk into a home with trees then you will feel the life in that home. Some of us believe by vision 2050 everything will be made of plastic including trees. Let us not be like Mombasa County who put tuff everywhere. This is sad. We want natural things here and Hon. Speaker you will agree with me on that. I know that you love *kuku ya kienyeji* and not the artificial ones. Thank you and I support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Naftali.

Hon. Naftali Mathenge: Hon. Speaker, I rise to support this motion because it is very important to us as Nairobians. Let us emulate our national leaders like the Nobel peace prize winner Wangari Mathai who was in the forefront of spearheading the program on tree planting. It is very important that we go on supporting this program. Let us set a day aside every year so that it can benefit our future children and generation. I support this and thank you Mr. Speaker

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Themendu.

Hon. Jeremiah Themendu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to support the motion. As the Hon. Members have said about oxygen, let me add something small. If we had enough trees we get water; water comes from trees. I remember my area in 1986 there were trees and sisal. But now there are no trees but a desert. Even if the Nairobi County can plant trees along the roads then our capital city can look beautiful as it called the 'city in the sun', the beautification can make it greater than it is today. Hon. Speaker, I beg to support the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ondiek.

Hon. Jared Ondieki: Mr. Speaker, thank you very much. Just a correction, I am Ondieki and not Ondiek. Those are two different names.

Mr. Speaker I appreciate this opportunity. Listening to the mover of the motion, it reminds me of the 4K Clubs we used to have during those times. We used to have programs and clubs which were promoting

planting of trees in the sense that we were training our children the importance of trees and basically conserving the environment not only for that particular moment, but for the future.

Mr. Speaker, any city anywhere in terms of planning, is not about cutting trees and coming up with buildings and all that, a well thought out city; a planned city has to incorporate this kind of programs we are talking about in terms of tree planting. I agree with the other speakers that trees are a part of our lives. We cannot live without trees. Therefore, with the seriousness it deserves, I am saying that I am supporting this motion.

However, in adding meat to the motion, I normally say that it is not about taking our children at school, it has to be quality education. At the same time it is not about planting trees, we must also incorporate the aspect of which trees are we planting? Because Mr. Speaker we are used to these exotic trees and they are doing more harm to our environment rather than adding value. Therefore my thought is even as we are thinking about tree planting day; let us also emphasize the aspect of indigenous trees.

Mr. Speaker, the other day my daughter was asking me how a tree looks like and I was looking around and thought it was a big challenge because we have let down the coming generations because they will not have anything to learn from. They are taught about trees, about all those things but they are not able to see one on one the trees we are talking about.

Even as we talk about tree planting, my urge could be that, let us also diversify in terms of the trees we are going to plant, Mr. Speaker. If we do that, we will be saving generations not only generations but also our lives because our environment has to be purified. The air we breathe has become so toxic and these toxins are coming from out of the destructions we have done. There is somebody who reminded me that what if a man was given an opportunity to live in the moon? We will not be having the moon. Therefore, in that thought Mr. Speaker, we as human beings must be able to ensure that we leave the earth as we found it in terms of not destroying the environment because that is how God envisioned it to be.

Mr. Speaker, with those few remarks, I support the motion. Thank you.

Hon. Ruth Maingi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I stand to support this motion and I want to congratulate Hon. Mbugua. Today he has been serious and he has mentioned many things, he even mentioned his family and the boys he has. I stand to support this motion because without trees, we are nowhere. We will continue getting sick and nothing will happen. I urge if the 47 counties can have this motion, it can be good for our country. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support.

Hon. Herman Azangu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand to support the motion. Hon. Mbugua, you have done a very good job here because most of the people here are seeing the trees which were planted by the former Town Clerk Gakuo. Since that time we have never seen any tree planting exercise in our County. I think you have brought a good motion and I support it.

The trees must also be planted in an orderly manner because most of the trees are planted along the power lines and in the long run they are cut. We need to put a structure where you can plant where there is no damage done to the environment. Like in Industrial Area we have most of the companies emitting chemicals and smoke. If we have more trees in those areas, it will help in alleviating air pollution. I stand to support the motion.

Hon. James Wamboi: Ahsante sana Bwana Spika. Ningetaka pia kuchangia kwa hii hoja ambayo imekuwa changamoto kwa wananchi wa Nairobi haswa ukataji wa miti na Kenya Power. Pia kama Kaunti ya Nairobi, nikiuliza Kamati ya Agriculture ichunguze hii hali maanake imeleta utata sana. Hata wakisema kila wakati watakata hii miti, inasumbua sana wananchi wa kawaida na hasa miti mingi imekatwa na Kenya Power na sijaona jambo lolote Kamati ya Agriculture imefanya.

Jambo lingine ni kwamba, tunafaa kujua ile miti tutakayopanda na imesemwa na mwenzangu. Hii miti ingine inayopandwa haikubali rotuba ambayo iko kwenye barabara zetu. Miti mingi inapadwa kwa

barabara, ukiangalia kama uko kwenye barabara huwa ni changamoto kujua ni mti gani inafaa kupandwa mahali pale. Mimi nasimama kuchangia hii Hoja na asante sana kwa Mheshimiwa Kabiro kwa kuileta hii hoja. Asante.

Hon. Kennedy Obuya: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am rising to support the motion and I wanted to salute my brother Hon. Mbugua. When I was growing up Hon. Speaker I believe most of us, I heard him quoting big names which I even never saw like Jaramogi, the likes of Hon. Ngala. But I remember vividly as a young man growing up in the city and in the countryside one Hon. Toroitich Arap Moi the second President of Kenya had a policy that when you cut one tree, you plant three.

Hon. Speaker, looking at the interest of time, this is a motion that requires any person of sound mind and it is a matter of necessity because everybody knows that we survive as a nation, as a community on good assistance of trees. Without wasting time Hon. Speaker, I am requesting you due to interest of time and looking at the mood of the House to call the mover to reply.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: The mover, proceed.

Hon. Mbugua Kabiro: Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the Hon. Members as you can see this is a motion that is attracting support from all political divides. I want to thank the Hon. Members who have stood to support this motion and them who supported it at heart. I want to really remind them of our National flag and the colours therein.

I talked about the blood and that is envisioned in the red, the blood of the people who died to make sure that we have freedom that we boast about, the colour which is reflected in the black, and the white which denotes peace and honesty. But the thing that I am actually interested in is the green Mr. Speaker, green is for our landscape, the beautiful landscape and the natural wealth.

I would like to move and ask that this Hon. House support this motion. Last but not least, I would like to thank the Clerk who I have worked with in development of this is called Munase and I want to really thank him very much. I beg to reply. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, having transacted today's business, the House stands adjourned till next week Tuesday 26th March 2019 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 4.05 p.m.