



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Third County Assembly – First Session

Tuesday 29th November 2022

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker (Mr. Antony Gathumbi) in the Chair]

PRAYER

QUORUM

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: it has been noted that the quorum is not there. Serjeant-at-Arms, ring the bell for twenty minutes.

(Quorum bell was rung)

(The Clerk-at-the-Table confirmed there was quorum)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Members, we now have the Quorum. Clerk, proceed.

STATEMENTS

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Geophrey Majiwa.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING INSURANCE OF ASSETS OWNED BY NAIROBI COUNTY

Hon. Geophrey Majiwa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of Select Committee on Finance, Budget and Appropriations regarding insurance of assets owned by Nairobi County.

Hon. Speaker, an asset register is generally recognized as being one of the most important tools for the efficient and effective management of assets. A government asset register aims at providing government with a central database of assets acquired and controlled by the County.

Hon. Speaker, in the financial year 2021/2022, the Nairobi City County Government had planned to fast-track the finalization of the County owned properties to have in place a comprehensive asset evaluation register. The County Executive has in the recent past grappled with the lack of accurate Asset Management

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Register yet the County Assembly has continuously passed budgets for the insurance of these assets. For example, in the current financial year 2022/2023, the County Executive allocated Kshs 120million for insurance of County properties, with an additional of Kshs 1.2 billion set aside for medical insurance.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. A status report on the County asset register and the company that was awarded the tender for insuring the county assets;
- ii. A report on how much each asset is valued at and how much insurance was charged for each asset;
- iii. Whether County schools and markets are categorized as assets, and if they are, are they also insured; and
- iv. Plans the County Executive has put in place to digitize their Asset Management Register by linking all the assets to the geographical information system.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Chairman, Budget? Vice Chair?

Hon. Emily Oduor: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am kindly requesting for 14 working days to respond.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Majiwa, are you okay with that?

Hon. Geophrey Majiwa: Hon. Speaker, we are soon going for recess and that will find us at home. This is a matter that is slightly urgent as insurance premiums are being paid and we do not know what is being paid.

Hon. Emily Oduor: Hon. Speaker, the fact that we are going for recess only means that plenary will close but as Committee, we will continue working. So, once we consult with the Executive, then we will call you to a meeting and update you. The Committee is not going anywhere because we have a lot of work until the 23rd of December.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Can we have the report by Thursday because the Budget Committee is known for working very fast?

Hon. Emily Oduor: Thursday is not possible because today is Tuesday and we have to write to the Executive for answers. You know how they work, the best we can do probably is next week.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Minority Leader.

Hon. Anthony Karanja: Chair, I want to second the Vice Chair of Budget Committee, we require seven days to summon the CEC to come and give answers. We cannot ask for documents without having a forum with them. Therefore, the minimum time to ask for answers from CEC is seven days. She is correct. We need to do something thorough. and the Statement brought by Hon. Majiwa is weighty that can even amount to theft of county money by insuring assets which are not there. It could also mean a risk by under insuring the assets that we already have. So, I beg that we be given time to work on this.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Majiwa, do you agree with that?

Hon. Geophrey Majiwa: Hon. Speaker, I am reluctant, but given that the leadership has weighed in, then I am forced to back off and accept the one week.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much, Mheshimiwa. Hon. Abel Atito.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING AIR POLLUTION FROM INDUSTRIES AND FACTORIES

Hon. Abel Atito: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am Hon. Abel Atito, MCA representing Utalii Ward. Before I read my Statement, I would like to take a few minutes to thank the Almighty God and the great people of Utalii for having given me the opportunity to serve in the Third Assembly. To win a seat in Utalii Ward is not a walk in the park.

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Environment and Natural Resources regarding air pollution from industries and factories, especially in Industrial Area and Baba Dogo Ward.

Hon. Speaker, it is very important for the County to immediately come up with a framework to ensure that air pollution is controlled in the County as it poses a health hazard to the residents of Nairobi. Section 43 (1) of the Nairobi City County Air Quality Act, 2021 guarantees that no person shall cause, discharge or emission of visible air pollutant to the air. Chapter two of the Nairobi City County Sessional Paper No 2 of 2020 on air pollution, emphasizes on the protection of the rights to a clean and healthy environment for residents of Nairobi and its environs through the promotion of measures for clean air by all stakeholders.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. Status report of implementation of Nairobi City County Air Quality Act, 2021 and policy;
- ii. Steps that the County is taking to ensure that factories comply with County Legal Framework on air pollution; and
- iii. Measures the County Executive is taking to control air pollution by factories in the County.

Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Chairman, Environment?

Hon. Silas Matara: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I commit to give a response in two weeks.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Atito or Hon. Atoti?

Hon. Abel Atito: Hon. Speaker, point of correction, it is Hon. Atito and not Atoti. Mr. Chairman says two weeks yet we are aware that we are going for recess. Can we have it in one weeks' time?

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Chairman?

Hon. Silas Matara: Mheshimiwa Atito, I am taking cognizance of the fact that this is a very important Statement. You need to be alive to the fact that we are almost going away on recess and if we push further, then it will be two weeks to the date of resumption of sittings in February. Just as my colleague, the Vice Chair for Budget has suggested that committees will continue with work, we will address the issue in two weeks and do a report.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Fair enough.

Hon. Abel Atito: I agree.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: I call upon Hon. Carrington Heho. Mheshimiwa Samson Ochieng?

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to take this opportunity to appreciate and thank you for agreeing to sit in the hot seat. We are happy for you and wish you all the best.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING ACQUISITION OF PUBLIC LAND

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BY A PRIVATE DEVELOPER IN LINDI WARD

Hon. Samson Ooko: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectorial Committee on Urban Planning and Housing regarding alleged acquisition of public land in the County and specifically by a private developer in Lindi Ward.

Hon. Speaker, Article 62 (2) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that public land shall be vested in and be held by a county government in trust for the people resident in the county, and shall be administered on their behalf by the National Lands Commission. In doing so, the County Government is required to take any steps to safeguard encroachment of public land. These spaces are important in establishment of important amenities such as schools, health facilities, etc.

Hon. Speaker, the alleged piece of land was initially demarcated for the construction of a public utility. However, the said land was allegedly illegally acquired by a private developer who constructed a private school called Mashimoni Squatter School. The residents of Lindi Ward do not have any other public land or space on which amenities can be constructed, except the one encroached onto by the developer.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. A report on history of ownership of the said land;
- ii. Whether the said developer had any approved permits from the County Executive to construct the said school; and
- iii. Whether the developer has entered into any public private partnership with the County Executive.

Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much Mheshimiwa. Chair of Planning?

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, I am not only standing as the leadership but as a member of Planning Committee. I am aware that our Chair and the entire Committee is engaged in a very important meeting with the Executive. Therefore, on his behalf, I request that you give us two weeks to get back.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much, Majority Leader.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Hon. Speaker, I have heard other Members talk about two weeks' timeframe and I do not want to dwell on it. Therefore, I agree with it as the Majority Leader has said.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you for being alert. Hon. Maurice Ochieng.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING PAYMENTS OF PENDING BILLS
BY THE NMS AND THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Hon. Maurice Ochieng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Select Committee on Finance, Budget and Appropriations regarding payments of pending bills by the NMS and the County Executive in the last two financial years.

Hon. Speaker, the County has in the previous financial years engaged contractors and suppliers to undertake various works and some have completed while others have stopped due to delayed payments. This has drastically contributed to the huge pending bills in the County. Further, many contractors are being

subjected to lack of capacity to service their loans despite the President's directive on pending bills and National Treasury's release of monies to the counties. The County has not complied at the expected speed.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. A report of all pending bills incurred by the NMS and the County and the status of the payments to suppliers and all contractors for the last two financial years;
- ii. Reasons for the undue delays in settling of pending bills in the County;
- iii. Whether the NMS adhered to the procurement laws in procuring goods and services; and
- iv. A report on contractors entered by the NMS in undertaking development projects and a list of respective contractors and the contracts served.

Than you Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Vice Chair.

Hon. Emily Oduor: Thank you. Hon. Speaker. We are requesting for 10 days because this is a very weighty issue that we are already dealing with.

Hon. Maurice Ochieng: Mr. Speaker, I am okay with that.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: *Ahsante*. Mheshimiwa Heho? Hon. Kennedy Oyugi, you have a Statement? Hon. Magoba.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING DELAYS IN APPROVALS FOR PROPERTY
DEVELOPMENTS IN SOSIANI ESTATE IN LOWER SAVANNAH WARD

Hon. David Odhiambo: Hon. Speaker Sir, pursuant to Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Lands, Planning and Housing regarding delays in approvals for property developments in the County. More so---

(Hon. Majority Leader walked out of the Assembly)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Mheshimiwa Majority Leader, the Statement being read is for Planning and I expect you to respond.

Hon. David Odhiambo: More so, the Sosiani Estate in Lower Savannah Ward.

Hon. Speaker, it is a legal requirement upon developers to seek prior approval from the County before embarking on construction projects within the County. However, despite timely application for County approvals by developers, undue delays at the County led to irregular developments cropping up across the County. Further, Hon. Speaker, Nairobi City County Development Act, 2015 provides for an avenue for regularization of developments that were not compliant as at the time the said Act was not in place. The objective of the Act was to allow developers who had not obtained proper authorization from the County concerning the parameters set out in Section 7 of the Act.

Hon. Speaker, the case of Sosiani Estate is of great concern since the developers therein have raised concerns that they have legal ownership documents and pay rates to the County, but their approvals for construction take longer than expected, causing delays in the actual developments.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on---

(Several Members walked out of the Assembly)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Sergent-at-Arms, please, control the door. Members are leaving and we have a Motion ahead of us.

Hon. David Odhiambo: Thank you.

- i. Whether there are any particular issues with Sosiani Estate and whether these issues sufficiently justify the alleged delays in processing of construction approvals for developers with properties within Sosiani Estate;
- ii. Steps that the County is taking to facilitate some of the developers within Sosiani Estate to regularize their developments in light of Nairobi City County Development Regularization Act, 2015;
- iii. A report elaborating the approval process, outstanding application process up to 1st quarter FY 2022/2023; and
- iv. Measures that the County has put in place to enhance efficiency in the approval process.

Thank you, Mr. Speake Sir.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Member. I call upon the Chairman of Planning. Any Member? Mheshimiwa Fiunifiu

Hon. Kamau Fiunifiu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker and congratulations for conducting today's business. I give an undertaking on behalf of the Planning Committee that we are going to give a comprehensive and conclusive report come February 2nd 2023.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Mheshimiwa.

Hon. David Odhiambo: Mr. Speaker Sir, I believe that the Planning Committee are not serious about my concern. With that, I object.

Hon. Kamau Fiunifiu: Why would I stand here to make an impossible commitment? The House is going for recess until February. Hon. Member, I hope that you are comfortable with that.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Member, the question at hand is about approvals. Could you do him a favor and have the Executive sit with him on the matter. Minority Whip.

Hon. Mark Mugambi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. We have about two weeks to the recess

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Are you well informed?

Hon. Mark Mugambi: It is not a misinformation, Mr. Speaker. It is something that has been discussed in the House Business Committee. Members, you remember our swearing in was delayed, the issue came up in the House Business Committee. For purposes of the welfare of the Members, we thought it wise to extend it by two weeks. If it turns out that way, then they will have ample time to respond to the queries.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Are you communicating to us information that has not come to the Assembly? We are yet to know whether there is communication for extension of two weeks.

Hon. Mark Mugambi: Hon. Speaker, I thought the information had been brought to House. After this sitting, we will have a House Business Committee meeting. I will follow up with the Clerk on the same and then share it to your office.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you for that information. Hon. Fiunifiu, just give an undertaking that you are going to engage the Executive.

Hon Kamau Fiunifiu: Hon. Speaker, I did not think that we needed the intervention of the leadership. We passed a calendar in this House and that is what guides us and not hearsay. I want to give an undertaking that we are going to invite the honorable Member to our Committee, interrogate his Statement and give a way forward and the official report will be given next year. Thank you.

Hon. David Odhiambo: I am okay with that.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Statement from Hon. Hero

Hon. Sam Kago: Hon. Speaker, my name is Sam Kago and I am going to read the Statement on behalf of Hon. Heho, who is my immediate neighbor in Kasarani.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Proceed.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING AIR POLLUTION IN THE COUNTY AND IN PARTICULAR BY
AN INDUSTRY LOCATED IN NJIRU WARD

Hon. Samuel Kago: Hon. Speaker, Standing Order No. 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Environment and Natural resources regarding air pollution in the county and in particular by an industry located in Njiru Ward.

Hon. Speaker, Article 42 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 stipulates that every person has the right to a clean and healthy environment, which includes the right to have the environment protected to the benefit of present and future generations through legislative and other measures, particularly those contemplated in article 69.

Hon. Speaker, the residents of Nairobi are exposed to unhealthy concentrations of air pollutants that cause adverse health effects to humans leading to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, as some studies indicate. Nairobi being one of the fastest urbanizing cities in the region and hence increased economic activities, more so, industrial zones which proportionally increase air pollution. This compromises the quality of air.

Hon. Speaker, the industries located in Njiru ward have been polluting the environment by emitting toxic smoke particularly at night. These emissions not only affect the health of the residents but also contributes to global warming.

Hon. Speaker, in the Statement, the Chairperson should inquire into and report on:

- i. A status report on implementation of the Nairobi City County Air Quality Act, 2021 and policy;
- ii. Whether the industries located in Njiru Ward are compliant with both national and county regulatory frameworks on emissions; and
- iii. Measures the County Executive has taken to ensure that industries reduce their emissions across the County.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Mheshimiwa. Chairman, Environment.

Hon Kamau Fiunifiu: Thank you once again, Hon. Speaker. We request for two weeks to respond.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Mheshimiwa Waithera.

Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to request for your indulgence in this matter. Remember in the previous Assembly, we had a substantive matter being forwarded to an Act of the Assembly, therefore, I wish to request your office to use the powers bestowed upon you to allow a taskforce. Statements are being requested here right, left and center and most of them are on air pollution. Your office

has the power to implement Standing Order No One to allow either a committee of inquiry or a taskforce to deal with this matter once and for all. Apart from the two Members who have requested for similar statements, Nairobi South Ward was the first to experience this problem. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Chairman, Environment.

Hon Kamau Fiunifiu: Thank you. I want to congratulate Hon. Waithera for being the person behind the Air Quality Bill, which is now an Act and to also inform her that if she wants the County to form a taskforce, then she must bring a substantive Motion of the same, but before that happens, my Committee has able Members and capacity to do the job. Unless the Member has ulterior motives to take some of our mandate and donate it to other ad hoc committees, which is unacceptable.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: It is okay. I also want to congratulate Hon. Waithera for pushing this agenda. Members are interested with this particular issue but we cannot take the powers of the Committee. I ask the Committee to go through the Act and come up with recommendations to see whether we can develop a taskforce to follow up on this matter. Mheshimiwa Kago.

Hon. Samuel Kago: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to second what Hon. Waithera has suggested. Like I said, we are neighbors with Hon. Heho and I may be bringing a Motion on the same next week. The air pollution caused by these industries get to my ward. I think that a taskforce that is well constituted will do a better job for the people of Nairobi. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Mheshimiwa Vice Chair of Environment is in agreement with you. However, let this come from the Committee itself. That is in order. Thank you very much. Are you satisfied with the two weeks?

Hon. Samuel Kago: Yes.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Mheshimiwa Kennedy Oyugi.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to request for your indulgence here. There are corrections that I needed to make on the Statement. May I be given an opportunity to bring it back tomorrow?

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Obligated.

(Statement withdrawn)

MOTION

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IN THE COUNTY IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC EXPECTATIONS

Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to join the queue in congratulating you on your first sitting as the Chair.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much.

Hon. Waithera Chege: Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following motion:

AWARE THAT Article 21 (3) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that all state organs and public officers have a duty to address the needs of vulnerable groups within the society including women, older members of the society, person with disabilities, children, youths, members of minority or marginalized communities and members of particular ethnic, religious or cultural communities; further aware that Article

53 (1) of the same Constitution dictates that every child has a right *inter-alia* to free and compulsory basic education, basic nutrition, shelter and health care, protection from abuse, neglect, harmful cultural practices, all forms of violence, inhuman treatment, punishment and hazardous or exploitative labour; concerned that according to the 2019 Kenya Population and Housing Census Report for the exercise conducted in April, 2018 indicated that Kenya had a total of 46,639 street persons, out of whom the majority of the street persons being 21,550 were aged between 10 and 34 years, and those below 19 years being 15,752, further concerned that the highest concentration of street persons according to the said report was found in Nairobi (15,337 persons), Mombasa (7,529), Kisumu (2,746), Uasin Gishu (2,147) and Nakuru (2,005); disturbed that street children population in Nairobi City County has increased over the years which has seen them thrust into a bleak, harsh and depraved environment often fraught with constant and imminent danger in various forms such as; Harassment, Violence, Drug abuse, trafficking, sexual exploitation, loneliness, fear, physical and emotional abuse, neglect, starvation, early pregnancy, poor hygienic and sanitation conditions; further disturbed that most Street Children in the County and in particular, the Central Business District (CBD)have been subjected to socio-economic exploitation, resulting them into hawking and begging, depriving them the right to basic education; this Assembly resolves that the County Executive undertake the following measures:

1. a one-month public notice be issued to the general public on removal of all the street children dwelling and purporting to engage in socio-economic activities in the County;

(Several Members walked out of the Chamber)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, we have a very important Motion as it concerns our children, I urge Members to stay put. We need each other, when a member brings a motion, let us have decorum. Thank you.

Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

2. Fast track the construction and equipping the of Ruai Rehabilitation Centre;
3. Apprehend and direct to Ruai Rehabilitation Centre any street children upon the expiry of one-month notice; and
4. Develop a County Street Children exploitation prevention policy that will seek to deter street children exploitation and promote school enrollment forthwith.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you most sincerely for allowing this Motion to come to the floor of this House. We have some very daring statistics, as seen in this motion, Nairobi is leading with 15,337 persons living in the streets.

Mr. Speaker, street families are classified into three groups:

1. A child who is living in the streets, which means every day and night they are on the streets;
2. A child who is living on the streets, which means that this is a child who is in the streets during the day and at night they are based in different homes; and
3. A street child with family, this is a child whose both parents are living in the streets.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why I am saying that the statistics are daring, is because if you ask any Member of this Assembly, they will tell you in one or two occasion that they have come across street children whether in their wards, in the CBD or in any part of this County, the numbers are increasing day by day. The

most challenge times is how the numbers rose during the COVID 19 pandemic. If this situation is not addressed, we will find Nairobi in a worst situation in terms of these statistics.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to take you back down the memory lane during the NARC Administration in 2009, the former Vice President Moody Awori initiated a rehabilitation project for the National Government. I remember then that most street children were taken to NYS. During this time, the government statistics showed that 54% of females who were admitted to NYS, did very well in tailoring, hair dressing and other activities that were being undertaken by the NYS. For the males, 66% did very well in sporting activities, welding and carpentry. What does that tell you Mr. Speaker? That these children have the capacity. The only thing they require from this government is recognition and be taken back to Ruai Rehabilitation Centre.

Let me remind you, Mr. Speaker and the Hon. Members, every child has a right to basic education. The numbers are even worse when you look at how these street families left their homes. According to United Nations, 14% of the street children left secondary school to come to the streets, 51% who are of the females have today given birth to children, 50% of the children they have given birth to, are now forming their own comfort zones in the streets.

Mr. Speaker, a few months ago, there was an article in the Standard Newspaper talking about foreigners who have become street families in Kenya, to be specific in Nairobi. If you stroll around Nairobi West, the street behind the City Stadium, if you ask the names of the street families living there, you will find the names do not belong to Kenyans. They are from Tanzania to be specific and also Uganda. If you look at their numbers, you will realize that they have not come from these two countries but we have 9% coming from Rwanda.

Mr. Speaker, the highest percentage of these street families are drug peddlers. The government has carried a survey which is showing that a good number of these street families are being used by individuals and organizations to peddle drugs and alcohol. You will be shocked that most of these charitable organizations are using these street families as cash cows. In the morning as early as 4 a.m., you will find these street families being dropped in their strategic locations by vehicles. Who is behind the large populations of these street families, Mr. Speaker?

Mr. Speaker, I wish to take you back on the issue of corporal punishment, 71% of the street families, according to the United Nations statistics, left their homes aged between 10-34 years because of corporal punishment by their parents. There are other factors that have led to these street families coming to Nairobi, one of them is immorality in our homes. The other one is domestic violence. I am aware that the government came up with the Rehabilitation Trust Fund. The fund has been misused and there is a lot of corruption that is going on within that fund.

I therefore humbly request this House to agree that we issue a one month's notice to the Governor because there is a lot of money going to corruption. We can be able to help these children go back to their families and allow their families to enjoy especially during the coming year 2023, the one month's notice will have elapsed by the end of December. This will allow the Governor to take these children from the streets to Ruai Rehabilitation Centre. In addition, analysis should be done to the data in order to give this Assembly the statistics of how many children are supposed to go back to school, whether primary or secondary schools.

Mr. Speaker, 20% of the children said that they do not even know where their parents are, in the report done by the Government of Kenya. Because of these organizations that are misusing these children, allow me to request this plenary to push for fast tracking of the Ruai Rehabilitation Centre.

I request Hon. Maurice to second the motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Maurice Ochieng: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, I congratulate Hon. Waithera Chege, the MCA for South B, for bringing this Motion on street children. As being alluded in the Constitution, Article 53 talks about basic education, nutrition, shelter and healthcare. It is inhuman for the County not to adhere to Article 53 of the Constitution.

I therefore call upon Members of this House to support this Motion. I second.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: I want to propose the motion by saying; let the children come to me' those are the words of Jesus. Prophet Mohammed visited a...and underlined the need of children. I want to thank Hon. Waithera for coming up with this motion.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I call for debate.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I support the motion. My good neighbor has pressed the button on my behalf without notifying me. I do not know whether it is the terminology or what, Hon. Waithera is requesting for one month, if I were to be consulted I would have requested for one week to remove all the street families from our streets. Mr. Speaker, if you go along Nyayo Stadium that she was referring to and Ngong' Road around City Mortuary, I do not know whether I should call them street children or street beggars or business people. It is true these are business ventures for some people where disabled children are ferried as early as 4 a.m. About a month ago, I was following a documentary by one of Kenya's journalist, it was a very moving story. It is a business racket and people are buying children as far as Tanzania, who are brought to the country to make money for these unscrupulous business people. I want to strongly support the Motion.

In regards to Ruai Rehabilitation Centre, it has been like a song. I don't see the reason why as a House we cannot make a decision and compel the Governor to complete the center. I support the motion, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Kamau Fiunifiu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to register my support in totality. Having listened to Member for South B Ward, I congratulate her for doing her homework very well and presenting the Motion in a very good manner. I support and point out that the Social Services Department must be very lazy because after the 10 years of devolution, they have not come up with a policy to curb the menace, that is, street families. I hope that the Education Committee can take up the matter. They should stop budgeting for school going children in secondary and primary schools and think of the street families.

The County Executive can liaise with the National Government because we have beggars who are foreigners. It is time this County audits the Department of Social Services and make sure that the Ruai Rehabilitation Centre is fully completed. I served in this Assembly in 2013-2017 and I remember very well that the first budget we did for 2013-2014, Ruai Rehabilitation Centre was factored in and kshs.200 million was set aside for the same. I am surprised that 10 years later, the center is only on paper and not on the

ground. I would also like to urge the various committees that are charged with oversight, that is, Education and Implementation committees, they need to do their job and be fair.

With those few remarks, I support this Motion by Hon. Waithera Chege, MCA South B Ward and encourage her to continue bringing such motions. Thank you.

Hon. Malyun Abdi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to congratulate you as it is not an easy task. I also want to congratulate Hon. Waithera Chege for the great job she is doing. This is a touching motion for those who are parents in one way or the other.

Hon. Speaker, I also requested for a Statement sometimes back from the Chairperson of the Children, Early Childhood, Education and Vocational Training concerning the same. We had a concern that these children may not have come from Nairobi County and probably they must have been transported to extort money from the public.

Hon. Speaker, it is sad that Ruai Rehabilitation Centre is factored every financial year but nothing has been done, it is long overdue. The Implementation Committee should do something on this because this has been budgeted for every financial year, so that the street children can be taken care of.

Chapter Four of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides for the rights and fundamental freedoms to live, affordable housing, education and freedom from hunger. It is very touching and traumatizing when a four-year-old child from the streets knocking my car window begging for food. I interacted with a street mother who gave birth to a baby with a congenital heart disease and the baby died. She had to leave the body in the hospital because she could not be able to give the child a decent send off. She went into depression and stress because she did not have anything to enable her give her baby a decent send off. There was also another incidence in Mbagathi whereby the street families had lost their loved ones and they came with a *mkokoteni* to carry the baby.

Mr. Speaker, I am supporting the Motion because it touches on the rights of an individual. Leadership is not a title; it comes with responsibilities. One of the responsibilities is representation. What are we doing for the voiceless? The street families cannot come here but Mheshimiwa Waithera has brought the motion on behalf of the voiceless. We are accountable to God and the people who we represent. With those few remarks, I support the motion. Thank you.

Hon. Chege Mwaura: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support this Motion by my namesake, Hon. Waithera Chege. I start by saying that a society which does not take care of its children shows how weak it is.

Mr. Speaker, having said that, it is also good to be pragmatic and say that I fully agree with the first request by Hon. Waithera, which is a one-month notice for the removal of street families. The second request is fast-tracking of the Ruai Rehabilitation Centre. There is a budget component base and the numbers we are talking about is 15,337 for Nairobi. Long time ago Kenyatta University, which was the biggest university, could hold the largest number of students, which was 10,000 students. We are saying that the space which is required is like that of Kenyatta University to hold these street children. This rehabilitation center must be able to capture the kind of numbers we are talking about.

Mr. Speaker, everyone came from somewhere. Half of these people are not even from Nairobi. The muggings that are happening in the city if we are being honest, most of them are by street families, which

has been a big issue with the National Government. First, we need to give a notice telling people to go back to their homes and a third of these people will go somewhere.

On point number three on Ruai Rehabilitation Centre, is it going to be ready in a month? While we support, may be Mheshimiwa Waithera can twist it a bit so that it captures something which is very pragmatic for the Executive to be able to implement. I agree with point number four on developing County Street Children Exploitation Policy.

Mr. Speaker, you are aware that the burden of doing legislation work is delegated legislation. The Chairperson of Delegated Legislation can take up this matter and come up with a proposed policy that we can work with. However, we needed to address this issue but also come up with a very pragmatic approach. We do not want to pass a motion where the Executive will say that it is not implementable because it is not factored in the budget. We need to find a middle ground where we push for the policy and at the same time have money for rehabilitation and some enforcement of some sort is also taking place, so that we can balance everything.

Mr. Speaker, allow me also to say that tomorrow we are going to have an issue on Ward Development Fund and I am seeking signatures for the petition that we are taking to the National Assembly. So, you can sign with a Clerk who will be moving around. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much, Mheshimiwa. Hon. Members, you have heard that there is a petition to be signed tomorrow, make sure that you append your signature. Hon. Themendu.

Hon. Jeremiah Themendu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for giving me this chance to support the Motion. First, I want to congratulate Hon. Waithera Chege, the Deputy Minority Leader, for the good motion.

Mr. Speaker, we need to protect all the children in this country, especially those who are on our streets. We need to support them by offering shelter and giving them education. I remember we have talked about Ruai Rehabilitation Centre many times in this Assembly. I think it has been seven years since we started talking about Ruai Rehabilitation Centre. This issue has been resolved and what is remaining is action to be taken.

I support what Hon. Oyugi said, one month is a long time, we need ten working days or fifteen days. We have been talking in this Assembly on the issue of security. If you try to provoke these children - they are our children and we love them - they can bring havoc to our estates. Remember we are entering the festive season and they will engage in crimes like stealing phones from motorists, etc.

This motion is timely. Although we had a similar motion in the previous Assembly, this should be taken seriously because these children can be harmful. We need to resolve this issue once and for all. The former Governor had taken street children to Kayole North Ward and some were taken to schools, where they performed very well. The Implementation Committee should make sure that the Motion is implemented. I support.

Hon. Grace Mungai: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank you for this first opportunity to stand in this House. I support the Motion because we have so many children in Nairobi who lack of healthcare and education. I also support the construction of Ruai Rehabilitation Centre because these children are the leaders of tomorrow.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I support.

(Applause)

Hon. Emily Oduor: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Congratulations once again Hon. Waithera Chege, you never disappoint. I remember in the last Assembly, Governor Sonko made a very funny statement which I believe we should follow. He said, "Every County should take their beggars". It happens that most of these street families in Nairobi do not come from Nairobi. I remember him saying that most of them are from Mombasa. He had then asked Governor Joho to come for his, first.

I support this Motion because in a month's time, we will not have the Ruai Rehabilitation Centre complete. These people should be rounded up, we know where they came from, and be returned. If they came from Mombasa, let us return them there, let Mombasa deal with what we are dealing with. If they came from Tanzania, let us take them back there and let them deal with their street families. When we talk about street families, we think they are only in the CBD. When this work begins, I urge all Members to check within their wards so that we can identify all street families.

As it has already been said, most of the drug problems that we have in the country has been contributed by these street families, they are the biggest drug peddlers. Some of them do it knowingly and some unknowingly. Some are given a luggage to move from one place to the other and are promised money but they do not know what they are doing. Some of them do it knowingly and are introduced to taking of these drugs. Once they get hooked to these drugs, they end up stealing from us so that they can buy more drugs.

I think most of the points that I wanted to say have been mentioned by the other Members. I support and thank Hon. Waithera Chege for the Motion. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, I realize that most Members are interested in this Motion. I urge you to please shorten your contributions.

Hon. Robert Alai: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First, I want to congratulate you like everybody else is doing, I think the tradition of congratulating will never end in this House because new things happen every now and then. I also want to congratulate my sister from South B for bringing this Motion. In Kileleshwa Ward, we suffer the brunt of families ferried from elsewhere. As you know, we are a decent people in Kileleshwa, and decent people always look for order and sanity. But there is a group of people who always---

(A Hon Member raised a Point of Information)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Do you want to be informed?

Hon. Robert Alai: I don't want to be informed.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: It has been declined, he does not want to be informed.

(The Hon Member raised a Point of Information)

You are out of order.

Hon. Robert Alai: I have a right to my opinion.

Hon. Speaker, this is not only a problem of street families, but it is a problem of human trafficking in this city. As somebody who has lived in Tanzania for the last eight years, so I understand this mess. In March

this year, we managed to work with the DCI and repatriated a good number of the people who were ferried from the neighboring countries into the city. However, the mess is now back immediately after the election because the human traffickers are not sleeping. So, when we are dealing with a Motion like this, we need to be aware that we are not only dealing with a homegrown problem of the mess of street families, but we have active human traffickers operating in the region trafficking disabled people who do not have proper families to protect them and people who are looking for help from the society. They being exploited from this city of Nairobi.

I think as a country and as a city, we must ensure that our families are protected, whether they are from other countries or citizens of this Country. I appreciate this Motion as it will ensure that order is created by allocating spaces for street families in Ruai Rehabilitation Centre. It will also ensure that there is active enforcement and reduction of street families. This will bring order and sanity in our city. Hon. Speaker, I want to register my support for this Motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Joy Mwangi: Hon. Speaker, thank you for giving me this opportunity to debate the Motion by Hon Waithera. Street families are human beings like us. Just as we are going home to our shelters, them, they identify with the streets as their shelters. If we ignore such a Motion, we don't know how we are going to handle these same street families in Nairobi in 10 years.

I am going to give my experience, I used to go the streets to support these street children every December. I did shopping and went to eat with them in Mutindwa. One day, I came across boys only, I asked them where the girls were and they told me that an organization picked them and left the boys. When I did a thorough investigation about the organization, they were empowering those girls. The skills they were empowered with, today some of them are working in many areas and they are doing well. They have their own families. Someone identified and empowered them. These people just need support and solution from us. We are the Government and we should be there for these people because they did not choose to be there.

Today, as we speak, people are being jailed and dying every single day, that means the number of street children is increasing by the day because many will not get support after losing their parents. They will opt to run to Nairobi so that he or she may be able to survive. But some people are still taking advantage of those street children by using them to steal.

One day, I came across a woman who was blind and she told me she usually gets money from the street to be able to educate her entire family. She could get an average of Kshs 80,000 per month. When I told her to go to the ward MCA's office to be assisted with bursary and she heard it was a Kshs 5,000 cheque, she didn't come. She sent another person to come and pick the form to apply on her behalf because she could have lost a lot that day if she didn't go to the streets to beg. So, we need to come up with a good solution. Just as we are creating more spaces for people to go to jail, I think we should be getting more spaces for the street children because they are increasing by the day.

I stand here to support this Motion and I thank Hon. Waithera for coming up with such a Motion. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Mheshimiwa Joy. Hon. Sospeter.

Hon. Sospeter Mumbi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for this opportunity to speak. I also want to congratulate you for making it to that position. I also want to acknowledge the Motion brought forth by Hon. Waithera. Mine is short, I rise to support this Motion because it is a good Motion. I do not want to recapitulate whatever has been said by my fellow Members, but I only want to put insight on the task force. Looking at the magnitude of this issue, it requires an in-depth in look on how we are going to implement or rather actualize this Motion to work to our expectations.

Looking at the four items that are outlined in this Motion, I think a taskforce will come in handy in putting together all these ideas because there is an aspect of data collection. Yes, we have street families that have come from other counties. We need to develop some data just to establish that the street families we are going to accommodate in our proposed Ruai Rehabilitation Center are those that come from Nairobi County. We must be sincere to ourselves that we cannot carry the burden of other counties and other countries. Listening to my fellow Members, we have people who are coming from other countries. Maybe having that task force will help us to get a clear picture of how we are going to execute this whole plan. That is my insight as we move on. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Mheshimiwa Sospeter. Mheshimiwa Antony.

Hon. Antony Maragu: Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker. I will start by congratulating you for having the opportunity to moderate the debate in this House today as the Speaker. I rise to support the Motion from our sister, Hon. Waithera Chege. Although I have noticed that most have made their contribution bearing humane faces to the challenges that the school children are facing, however, even as we focus on humanity, I would wish to speak from a point of how practical this can be. As I listened to Members, I could hear some even identifying spaces where they have seen street children being ferried and dropped by vehicles by people who are using these children to enrich themselves economically.

Noting that it is our responsibility as a Government to take care of our needy people, we should also be careful not to overburden the people of Nairobi or the taxpayers with costs that can be avoided. It should not be encouraged that if a parent is unable to cater for their children, then they are at liberty to release them into the streets.

Hon. Speaker, one of the Members proposed that we can have a taskforce or a department that can be tasked with the responsibility of dealing with the menace of street children to a point of even seeing how they can return to their parents. We have appropriated a budget for Education, and as parents, we would rather deal with seeing from our social support view and see how we can support a parent to ensure that a child stays home. There should be repercussions for parents who release their children into the streets without any reasonable reason. If today life is hard for me, even if my son leaves my house I can be able to trace him. Education at the basic level is free, so there has to be some responsibility on the parent that can be enforced by a committee in this County. We saw a good partnership the other day between our County constables and Administration Police working to ensure that the clubs in the noisy neighbourhoods are closed. If we can have a list of where these children are being dropped off, we can also have security agencies dealing with those responsible for dropping these children. This will help us to stop them from coming to Nairobi.

I have heard Members who were here before allude to the fact that Motions and Bills are passed in this House but when they go to the Executive, there is no action seen. Someone in the forum today said that some officers seconded from the Administration Police to be commanders are telling our electorate that MCAs are toothless. Hon. Speaker, I think Implementation Committee should do an audit of all the Motions that we have passed in this House and no action has been done. We cannot be spending our time here coming up with a Motions that are for the betterment of our County, but those who are supposed to implement go and sleep on them and do nothing. We would be doing a de-service to the people who brought us to this Assembly. A time needs to come when we ask the hard questions. We need as this House to crack the whip so that as we move forward, when I contribute a Motion, I know it is going to be helpful to the people of Nairobi. Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: I call upon Hon. DNG.

Hon. Davidson Ngibuini: Thank you so much, Hon. Speaker for the opportunity. I rise in support of this Motion by Hon. Waithera. Indeed, we are striving to ensure that we have a city of order and dignity. The issue of street children needs to be addressed urgently and also fully-grown adults that are begging on these streets. These street families have become so bold that they even knock on your windows and doors entitled to the handouts. It has become an absolute nuisance to the city. It is outright harassment to motorists and passengers in matatus, and must be stopped. Our citizens should not become accustomed to begging as a way of life. In this country and right outside the County Assembly, we will see that they are street urchins and beggars seated waiting for handouts. Right outside the City Hall Way and outside the Governor's Office, you will find that on those benches there are street families that sleep there at night. That need to be checked because it is mushrooming at a very alarming rate. These street beggars are also sleeping on benches, under our footbridges, and water drains. I had a conversation with the Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company and they told me that they found mattresses inside the water drains because these street families sleep inside those water drainages. It is something that should not be allowed. You will find out that even they are sleeping in the stalled vehicles that have been dumped in our estates. Many of them are adults who are fully abled and have the capacity to work but have decided not to engage in any productive and positive social economic activities.

As we look into their plight, we also need to remain aware that some of these street children have been taken to rehabilitation centers. I will give an example of Joseph Kangethe Rehabilitation Center in my Ward, Woodley. Some of these kids have been given scholarships up to the university by the National Government, but you will find that they run away from these rehabilitation centers to go back to the streets to live a life of crime and other social vices. In my ward, the same children that we are trying to defend today even planned and participated in the robbery, robbing the same rehabilitation center where they being rehabilitated. Today they are on the run

Hon. Speaker, as I conclude, begging in this city is a fully fledged business which pays no licenses and has no permits from the Nairobi City County Government. We are very quick to take action against our bar owners, as Mheshimiwa from Karen has alluded. But why isn't any action against the street urchins? Who is their benefactor? who is the person behind these people? We have them in areas we had never seen street beggars before, for example in Woodley, Ngong Road, and Kilimani.

As a County Assembly, we must not give this room to bloom any further. I know some of these street beggars especially the PWDs are ferried in buses from neighbouring Tanzania. They are not even Kenyans. We are here talking about Ruai Rehabilitation Centre, which is brilliant, but we are about to house people who are not even Kenyans. Why can't they be repatriated back to their country? Do you think a Kenyan citizen will be given accommodation and lodging in a rehabilitation centre in Dar-le-salaam, Arusha or Kampala? That has never been heard of before? We need to look at their brokers and those who are capitalizing on the vulnerability of these beggars and we need to interrogate how they pass through our borders, which we all know are extremely porous. There should be controls.

This is a serious matter and this House needs to support this Motion. As much as I am concerned about other parameters, I support what Hon. Waithera is doing and urge my colleagues to do the same. *Ahsante sana, Bwana Spika.*

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much. I was afraid that you are not supporting. Hon. Kago.

Hon. Samuel Kago: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I rise to support the Motion by Hon. Waithera Chege. This Motion is not something new in this country, it is something that has been done before by our former Vice President Moody Awori. We can do it again and better.

My thinking as I was sitting here, as much as these children are from other countries, as it being said, why do we have so many children on our streets? First, I think it is due to poverty. As much as we want to construct this rehabilitation centre, we should come up with a system. The same way we are having 20 markets in Nairobi County, we should also create early childhood learning institutions from PP1 to Grade 3. I happened to be in one of my favourite joints and then some kids came and borrowed money. I asked them why they are not in school and they told me they were asked to go and borrow money so that they can be able to buy textbooks and other things needed in school.

I would like to suggest to this House – and I don't know if they will go hand in hand – to task the Executive to come up with more ECDE centres. There are so many wards here which do not have these centres, mine included. There should be at least two ECDE centres per ward so that these children can get in. Also, at rehabilitation Centers, we do not want a situation whereby these children are taken and just sit there. We need a system where early childhood education from four years to 10 or 11 years is affordable and accessible so that we can reduce the children going to the streets. Hon. Speaker, I support this Motion as it is a good one and will save our children. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much. Hon. Members, I have five requests here, from Martin Mbugua Mwangi, Jera Samson Ochieng, Paul Wachira Kariuki, Rosemary Masitsa and Gerald Irungu. These are the Members that I am going to give chance. Please, in that order, just take a few minutes. I know the debate is vibrant and everyone wants to be involved in it. Hon. Mwangi.

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker and congratulations. Thank you, Hon. Waithera for bringing this Motion. I am passionate about children's issues and I feel I can speak with a little authority on this matter because since 2015, I have been involved in an organization that I started for the rescue, rehabilitation and education of vulnerable children in Mutuini. So far, we have managed to rescue and take about 150 children back to school and to their families.

Mr. Speaker, as we are looking forward to city of dignity and order, we must take care of the vulnerable children in the streets. This way, we will contribute in making the city great. I think it will cure the problems that have been mentioned by Hon. Mwaura and others.

From our efforts in Mutuini, we have greatly been supported by an organization that is run by the Government, which I proposed to Hon. Waithera Chege that the County can partner. Not every child who is on the streets requires to be housed in a rehabilitation centre. Some are lost children and some have disappeared from, their homes maybe because of lack of basics like food. So, we have this organization that has been helping us, which is the Child Welfare Society of Kenya. It helped us to feed these children and take them to school. The older ones have been taken to National Youth Service. These children do not only come from the streets. They need qualified people who can assist them. They need psychosocial support and counselling. The Child Welfare Society of Kenya has for many years been doing this business of taking care of children. So, as we wait for Ruai Rehabilitation Centre to be completed, I suggest that Hon. Waithera includes the Child Welfare Society of Kenya in her Motion so that the County partners with them. They may not take them to all of their 15 centres of safety where they keep these children, but those who can be taken home, they are very good at this.

I Support this Motion and I ask the Hon. Members to consider this. Thank you.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I will rise to support the Motion. I have gone through this Motion by Hon. Waithera Chege and I have realized that we have several categories of people living on the streets. If we do not have a background check, we might not be able to know who we are trying to take away from the streets.

First, I understand that we have street fathers, who are above 18 years and they have children. They walk along the streets because they have nowhere to go. They feel that they should be in the streets to get some support. Some are from other countries, they have no homes in Nairobi, and therefore they choose to be on the streets.

Hon. Speaker, we also have a team of youths who are the bad boys that are being sought after by the police. They are in the streets of Nairobi the whole day and during the night, they go out to steal from the members of the public. They only use the name street children as a reason to be seen as street children but they are serious thieves out there.

When we talk about street children, we refer to the real ones. When I was trying to give classifications, there are those in the streets but are not real street children. If the police today say they are going to arrest and take all the street boys to Nyayo Stadium, I assure you that 50% to 70% will disappear and you will never see them again. You will only remain with genuine street children.

We need to come up with a task force to identify this lineage so that we may be able to know who are these street children. They should be in school now. Exams are ongoing today but the street children are roaming around Nairobi. When will they ever be in class? There are things which we need to do urgently. It is a shame that today children in classes six and eight are sitting for exams, but these street children are down here walking around.

Lastly, I would like to say that the other challenge that we are facing is our wives. Some men have kids out of wedlock, when they try to take them home, their wives will not allow. So. The kids will end up in the streets.

Hon. Speaker, these are the categories that we must try to dig deeper into, identify and come up with solutions to this problem. Thank you.

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Hon. Member let us finish with that tone. Hon, Matisa I know you wanted to debate, but we are only remaining with a few minutes for the mover to reply. Hon. Waithera.

Hon. Waithera Chege: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to thank every Member, whether they have contributed or they have been present during this debate I thank them most sincerely.

Secondly, if you go to the website of the Nairobi City County Assembly, it defines a Motion as a proposal by a Member of a party, who will be ordering something to be done. I want to dictate on the word 'order'. Two weeks ago, the first lady of the second highest office visited Nairobi South Ward together with our Governor. The first lady only needed to pick up a microphone to request or demand the Governor to build a bridge that is connecting Landi Mawe and Nairobi South. That bridge is already under construction and it will take not less than a Kshs 100 million to be constructed. It only needed a microphone from the first lady to order that bridge to be done. If a bridge can be done through a microphone, what about a Motion that is been supported by all the 124 Members of this Assembly? That is the reason why I refuse to agree on the question of the budget. That bridge – and I thank the Governor for building it – did not require a Motion to be on the floor of this House. Therefore, we must prioritize the issue of Children and especially the street families, not because of the question of the Budget but because this County cares that there are other members of the community who are out there either being rained on.

Hon. Speaker, I don't know whether this Assembly knows that Kenya as a Republic has only one children's court under the Judiciary. That court is serving per day a minimum of 150 families cases, which tells you that a family who has a problem with a child in Turkana or Mandera has to drive to Nairobi for their issues to be dealt with by that children's court.

Hon. Speaker, allow me, as most of the Members have said here, to request this Assembly to prioritize this issue, not because of anything else but because the NARC Government that was led by His Excellency Hon. Mwai Kibaki, did not require or need a budget to carry out or construct a rehabilitation center in Ruai. That Government woke up one morning and saw the need of removing street kids from the streets in the CBD.

Thirdly, Hon. Speaker, this excuse of telling us to wait for budget, I am not supporting it because the other day every Nairobi resident saw the Governor mobilizing the police officers and County Government officers to go and deal with the issue of bars that are within the estates. If he can do that overnight, why can't they carry out an analysis and take the statistics of whose child is whose and who comes from which county, over a one week to allow us to establish the one-month period.

Hon. Speaker, therefore, allow me to say that this is a matter of priority and the governor must move with speed and make sure that this Motion is implemented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I beg to reply.

(Applause)

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much, Hon. Waithera Chege. I want to thank the Members of the Assembly for having congratulated me and also being vibrant on this particular Motion that involves a component of our society, which is our children. I heard yesterday the Chief Justice speaking about magistrates ensuring that the children before being taken through the process of the court, get to know their problems. So, we are speaking in the same breath as the Chief Justice. Thank you very much, Hon. Chege.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Temporary Deputy Speaker: The House Business Committee to sit after the rise of the House. I adjourn the House until Wednesday 30th November 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 4.58 p.m.