



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Third County Assembly – Fourth Session

Tuesday 29th April 2025

The House met at 2.30 p.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. Kennedy Ng'ondi) in the Chair]

PRAYER

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, you may be seated. Clerk, proceed.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

INTERIM REPRESENTATION OF RESIDENTS OF KARIOBANGI NORTH WARD

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I have the following Communication to convey:

Hon. Members, you may recall that at the Assembly Sitting held on Wednesday 23rd April 2025, I made a communication regarding interim representation of the residents of Kariobangi North Ward following the unfortunate passing away of Hon. Joel Munuve, MCA. In the Communication, I observed that in such circumstances, the Speaker is required to inform the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) for a possible conduct of a by-election. However, I noted that the IEBC is currently constitutively constrained to conduct such a by-election.

Hon. Members, in view of the foregoing, I borrowed from a practice established by the Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. Moses Wetangula who appointed a neighboring MP to act for the Constituency of Malava following the death of the constituency's MP. Consequently, I appointed Hon. Silas Ongwae Matara, MCA, to act for the residents of Kariobangi North Ward until such a time a by-election is held or upon further directions from the Speaker.

However, Hon. Members, my office is in receipt of a Petition from residents of the said Ward contesting my appointment of Hon. Silas Ongwae Matara, MCA. Instead, the residents have proposed the appointment of Hon. Dan Oria, MCA, Member for Dandora Area IV Ward.

Hon. Members, it is on the basis of the foregoing petition that I now appoint Hon. Dan Oria, MCA, to be the representative of the residents of Kariobangi North Ward in the Assembly affairs until such a time when a by election is conducted or upon further directions from the Speaker. The appointment of Hon. Silas Ongwae Matara, MCA, is hereby revoked. Similarly, the Clerk's letter communicating my earlier appointment to Hon. Matara is similarly rescinded.

Consequently, the Clerk is hereby directed to write a new letter communicating today's appointment to Hon. Dan Oria, MCA, to be the caretaker MCA in Kariobangi North Ward.

Hon. Dan Oria, are you in the Assembly? Kindly, Hon. Member, you may proceed.

Hon. Daniel Odhiambo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I accept the responsibility to act as the MCA for Kariobangi North until another MCA is elected. I will work with residents of Kariobangi North and other leaders at large.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you for bearing the responsibility, I hope you will balance your responsibilities well while serving the two wards.

STATEMENTS

Hon. Speaker: I don't expect elected Members to walk out of the plenary when we have such a critical business to transact. Hon Lawi, *karibu*. Hon. Members, go through your Order Paper on the Business before you, being the report of the Select Committee on County Finance, Budget and Appropriations on Strategic Paper, which is quite pertinent to elected Members. Is Hon. Karis in the Assembly? We have got request by Hon. Karis who would want to issue a general Statement. Hon. the Leader of Majority.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, I expected today to have about ten statements but unfortunately I think the Clerk's Office has processed four. I am seeking your guidance, will I just read them as they appear before my desk or in the you have a sequence?

Hon. Speaker: Kindly proceed.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING STATUS OF ONGOING CONSTRUCTION OF KIHUMBUINI STADIUM IN KANGEMI WARD

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairpersons of the Select Committee on Finance, Budget and Appropriations and the Sectoral Committee on Culture and Community Services regarding the status of the ongoing construction of Kihumbuini Stadium in Kangemi Ward.

Hon. Speaker, Paragraph 4 (h) of Part II of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, mandates county governments to provide and manage sporting facilities at the county level. In this regard, the County Assembly allocated funds for the construction of various stadiums within the County, one of which is Kihumbuini Stadium in Kangemi Ward. However, there are

ongoing uncertainties and a lack of clarity regarding certain aspects of the construction process, particularly concerning adherence to the stadium's design and payments made to the contractor.

Hon. Speaker, in light of the foregoing, I request that the Chairpersons inquire into and report on the following:

- i. The details of all the bidders for this tender and the contractor who was awarded the tender for the construction of Kihumbuini Stadium. Provide a certified copy of the contract and relevant details regarding the contractor's CR 12, place of operation, experience and previous projects of similar scope and magnitude;
- ii. The total contract value awarded for the construction of the stadium. Provide a breakdown of the contract amount and any associated phases or milestones;
- iii. The amount of money that has been paid to the contractor to date, including the dates and amounts of the payments made, as well as the corresponding stages of work that these payments are linked to; and
- iv. An update on the current status of the construction works, including whether the project is on schedule. Provide the completion timeline and what work remains to be done.

Hon. Speaker: Kindly, the Budget Committee to give the undertaking on the period they would want to respond to the concerns raised by the Hon. Member.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: First sitting after recess.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader are you okay? That is one month.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: As the Leader of Majority, I said last time that all Chairs must sit in front. First week after recess is agreeable with me, but I believe the committees are still running. I expect a call-in by the Chair because it should be a joint committee between the Budget and Culture committees.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, that depends on whether the House will resolve to allow operations of committees while Members are on recess. That is prerogative of this House. I hope when they will be given such opportunity, they will consider that. Proceed with the other requests.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING BREAKDOWN OF TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT KEY ROAD JUNCTIONS AND ROUNDABOUTS IN THE CITY

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Transport and Public Works regarding the breakdown of traffic lights at key road junctions and roundabouts in the City, particularly within the Nairobi Central Business District (CBD).

Hon. Speaker, Paragraph 5 of Part II of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of Kenya grants county governments the power to manage county transport, including traffic and parking. In this regard, an efficient traffic management system, which include well-maintained traffic lights,

is essential for improving road safety, reducing travel time, and enhancing economic productivity in the city.

However, Hon. Speaker, the Nairobi City County being the capital and commercial hub of the country, experience persistent traffic congestion largely due to the absence of functional traffic lights. Notably, most traffic lights that previously existed have been vandalized or are non-functional, forcing the County to resort to manual traffic control through police officers and traffic marshals, which is neither sustainable nor efficient.

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

- i. The specific reasons for the breakdown of traffic lights across the City;
- ii. Provide a list of all non-functional traffic lights within the CBD, including their respective locations and the duration they have been out of service;
- iii. The budgetary allocation and expenditure for the maintenance, repair, and installation of traffic lights for the current and previous financial years;
- iv. The urgent measures the County Executive has put in place to ensure installation, prompt repair and maintenance of traffic lights to improve road safety and traffic flow; and
- v. The timeline for restoring all non-functional traffic lights within the CBD and other affected areas.

Hon. Speaker: The Chair of the Transport Committee to give undertaking. We have the Vice Chair.

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Hon. Speaker, because our Chairman is not around, as the Vice Chairman, I request for three weeks.

Hon. Speaker: The Assembly is supposed to go for recess for one month. Do you mean three weeks after or before?

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Three weeks after recess.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: I am not sure if the Chair is sure of what he is saying. Have you heard the Statement or I repeat?

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: You can repeat because I was engaged with...

Hon. Speaker: There is no room for repetition.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Chair, what we are talk about is an emergency. All the traffic management lights in the City are not working. We have resorted to traffic marshals and traffic police officers. We want to know what is happening with this lights. Why are they not working? Is it an inside job? Is there any budgetary allocation on maintenance of these traffic lights? When we grew up in the City, there were traffic lights everywhere, and you didn't need an askari to cross the road. We have 30 days' recess, and committees will be running, Can't you respond as quick as possible as an emergency?

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Hon. Speaker, since we will have committee sittings during the recess, we will discuss it in our committee meeting, then we will respond one week after recess, because this is an emergency. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, that is in order.

Point of Order

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Alai, you wanted to intervene on a Point of Order? Please press your mic.

Hon. Robert Alai: Hon. Speaker, I am rising on a Point of Order under Standing Order No. 41. We do not have the Order Paper available in this House. I find it hard to sit here and watch Members struggle to know what business is next. If we cannot be provided with the physical Order Paper, then I kindly ask that each Member be given an iPad so that they can be able to transact the business of the House. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: I think that is a valid concern, and as the Chair, I concur with the Hon. Member. This now goes to the Budget Committee to consider appropriating budget to procure the same, because it doesn't make sense to compel Hon. Members to use their phones while discharging the duty of the public.

Hon. Chair, I know we are just about to consider the Strategic Paper, but again, that is something you need to resolve so that it is implemented. Normally, we get communication from the office of the Clerk, expecting all the Hon. Members to be having smartphones, which should not be the case. You might find yourself in a situation where you have lost your phone, and it takes you some time to replace the phone. So, I think it should be the responsibility of the Assembly to provide Members with the gadgets. That is something that needs to be noted and worked on. Thank you, Hon. Alai, for that observation.

Hon. Majority Leader, please proceed.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, thank you for that observation, I also want to add my sentiment on this. In the First Assembly, we were given Samsung iPads in this House. But when the Assembly came to an end, everybody left with the iPads.

If you go to the Senate or National Parliament, every desk has an active digital system. I think as the Chair of the Board, you need to instill in the Board to come up with this. All the required legislative books and acts are within our desks. Hon. Alai, I support you on that. You can bring your input to the Board on what can be done to digitize this House.

REQUEST FOR STATEMENT REGARDING STATUS OF A LOAN
ORIGINALLY ACQUIRED BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT
FROM EQUITY BANK BUT LATER REFINANCED BY KCB

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 47 (2) (c), I wish to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Select Committee on County Finance, Budget and Appropriations regarding the status of a loan originally acquired by the County Government from Equity Limited, but later refinanced by Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB).

Hon. Speaker, sections 58, 140, 141, and 142 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFM), 2012 provide authority and conditions for borrowing by county governments. These

provisions emphasize the need for a clear repayment plan for borrowed funds and impose limits on the amount of debt a county government can accumulate. Specifically, these sections ensure that borrowing is done with a sound repayment strategy and that counties do not exceed their debt ceiling, promoting fiscal discipline and sustainability in public finances.

Hon. Speaker, in April 2014, the County Executive entered into an agreement with KCB to assist in offsetting a Kshs 2.4 billion loan originally acquired from Equity Bank Limited... Hon. Speaker, protect me from Chihuahua. Sorry, from Mheshimwa Perpetua. Hon. Speaker, please protect me, I cannot speak when Chihuahua – when Hon Perpetua speaking.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, as a senior Member of this House, it is you who is engaging Members. Kindly concentrate on the business. As you are protected, you must also protect your colleagues.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, let me repeat. In April 2014, the County Executive entered into an agreement with KCB to assist in offsetting a Kshs 2.4 billion loan originally acquired from Equity Bank Limited. This loan had been defaulted on by the County Government, and by 2016, the outstanding balance had escalated to Kshs 4.2 billion, significantly straining the County's financial position. In 2018, the County Assembly approved the County Executive's engagement with the National Government and other potential lenders to secure more favourable refinancing terms for the loan in an effort to clear it. Despite these efforts, the loan remains outstanding to date.

Hon. Speaker, in light of the foregoing. I request that the Chairperson inquire into and report on the following:

- i. Provide the agreement entered between the County Executive and Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB) regarding the refinancing of the loan, including the terms and conditions of the refinancing arrangement;
- ii. The current status of the loan, including the outstanding balance as of today;
- iii. A detailed monthly repayment schedule of the loan, clearly indicating the principal amount and interest since 2014;
- iv. The last repayment made by the County Government toward the loan, including the date and amount. Provide a certified copy of the loan statement;
- v. Any progress made on the refinancing agreement on any development since 2018; and
- vi. The anticipated timeline, if available, for the settlement or repayment of the loan.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the Statement.

Hon. Speaker: The Chair, Budget, kindly give an undertaking.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Hon. Speaker, it will go with the initial one; immediately after the recess.

Hon. Speaker: Kindly inform the House what you mean by 'initial one.'

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Hon. Speaker, I am a bit lost.

Hon. Speaker: It is supposed to be itemized, each case by each case.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Hon. Speaker, the other one was about markets, and this one is about the loans.

Hon. Speaker: So, the responses will come same time?

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: What I would inform the Assembly, as the Committee considers the request by the Hon. Member, is that you need to watch the leader closely. That is my word. Can we proceed?

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, I have talked about stadiums, not markets. That is why I want my Chair to be active.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 47 (2) (c), I wish to request a Statement from the Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee on Transport and Public Works regarding the number of matatu stages that have been allocated in the Nairobi Central Business District (CBD) since the beginning of the term of the current government.

Hon. Speaker, Paragraph 5 (c) of Part II of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution gives the county government the mandate of controlling county transport, including traffic and parking.

Hon. Speaker, it is evident that matatus play a crucial role in the city's public transport system, providing an essential service to thousands of Nairobi residents. However, the large number of matatu stages within the CBD has contributed significantly to severe traffic congestion, making movement within the area increasingly difficult. This congestion not only affects traffic flow but also increases travel times, and creates an unsafe and uncomfortable environment for pedestrians.

Hon. Speaker, in light of the above, I request the Chairperson to inquire into and provide the following:

- i. A detailed list of all matatu stages allocated in the CBD since the start of this current administration, including their location, operators, and the period of allocation;
- ii. A detailed list of all matatu Saccos allocated stages within the CBD in line with the NTSA regulations, including those operating in petrol stations and in front of buildings;
- iii. An explanation of the criteria and process used to allocate these matatu stages, including any policy or guideline that was followed during the allocation processes;
- iv. Copies of the award letters or any official document issued to matatu operators, including regarding the allocation of these particular stages; and
- v. An outline of the steps the County Government is taking or plans to take to reduce the congestion caused by matatus in the CBD. This should include any strategies being considered to ease traffic flow and improve the experience of both commuters and pedestrians in the city.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay this Statement, in conjunction with the traffic lights Statement, before this particular Committee.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Chair, Transport? Yes, Whip.

Hon. Mark Mugambi: Hon. Speaker, allow me to come in on behalf of the Chair, as a Member of the Transport Committee. Also in support of my Vice Chair, having been the Vice Chair of the Roads and Transport Committee in the previous Assembly, I think the Majority Leader should give us at least three weeks after since we need to at least invite all the stakeholders involved to appear with the documentations so that we can ascertain the its legality and authenticity. We had one rogue Chief Officer by the name of Boniface who was fired by the Governor. Therefore, we need to critically go through these documentations. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Whip, and thank you for the insights on the concern and the request. But, Hon. Whip, our Standing Orders are very clear, in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair takes up the responsibility of the Chair. I hope the Vice Chair of the Transport Committee is in the Assembly. Kindly take up the responsibility to discharge the duties on behalf of the Committee. Kindly put on your mic.

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to support what our Whip had said. It is a weighty matter; we should be given at least three weeks so that we can do it. At the same time, this matter was previously raised by Hon. Reki, and I think it was...

Hon. Speaker: Is it still pending before the Committee?

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Yes, I think we have not gone through it.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Leader of the Majority.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon Speaker, thank you for correcting the precedence set before the Assembly, that in the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair takes charge. Also, I want to caution the Vice Chair not to mislead this House. The Clerk's office has thematic matrix that follows all Statements before the Assembly that have not been concluded. They cannot allow a Statement that has not been concluded to arrive at the Speaker's desk for signing. Therefore, this Statement is not in any way in existence. If it is in existence for more than six months, which the law requires, someone else can bring it in. So, I believe the Clerk's office is competent enough to only bring before the Speaker for signature a Statement that is not alive before any committee.

Secondly, Hon. Speaker, I want to give a silent warning to this particular Committee, and my Whips are listening. We need to correct what is happening in the 'shimo' industry. This industry is causing a lot of conflict between the Committee Members, the Executive, and the public on the ground. When the Whip was the Vice Chair, we did all the best by removing all the Saccos in petrol stations. It is a ticking time bomb.

(Applause)

We also removed all the Saccos in front of formidable businesses and houses. Hon. Speaker, an investor has put a house of one billion shillings, and in front of his building, there is a matatu terminus. It is a shame. And this Committee is on notice, not the Chair alone but all of them, if they do not execute this one brought by the leader of this House, I can assure them that the Whips have work to do.

Hon Speaker, if you go to River Road, there is a problem. You cannot put a stage after every 200 meters, and one Sacco has more than 10 stages. The number of Saccos registered at NTSA is not equivalent to the number of Saccos that have terminal stages in the CBD. The number is less than the number of stages in the CBD. I want to support the Whip and the Vice Chair that we will be there to make sure that we bring sanity. Vice Chair, take whatever time you want but we are on this one.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Whip, I hope you won't pre-empt the debate.

Hon. Mark Mugambi: No, I am not pre-empting, Hon. Speaker, I just want to echo the sentiments of our leader. I had a Motion in this House to send packing all the picking and dropping points for matatus operating within petrol stations. This Motion was sabotaged by the Executive. We cannot expose our people to the danger and start acting when an accident occurs. Prevention is better than cure. We should move with speed to make sure that we do not have any picking and dropping zones at petrol stations.

Finally, Hon. Speaker, each Sacco is mandated to have a picking and a dropping zone; those are two slots. In layman's language, this is to say, '*shimo mbili*.' We have matatus parking along...

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Member, that is the reason why I was reprimanding you to hold your cool until we get the report of the Committee so that you do not pre-empt the debate.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS

ATTACK OF HON. MEMBER BY INSPECTORATE OFFICERS

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Heho.


Hon. Carrington Heho: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for granting me this chance. I rise on Standing Order No. 59 (h) to seek your guidance on the following matter.

Hon. Speaker, an unfortunate incident occurred on 26th April 2025 around 9 a.m. Hon. Mwaniki Kwenya visited the General Stores and requested the release of hawkers whose goods have been illegally detained. The hawkers claimed that they were unable to pay bribes for the release of their goods, and in the cause of this, Hon. Member was attacked by a group of City County askaris under the supervision of their superiors. This conduct of the askaris under the supervision of their superiors directly undermines the ability of the Hon. Member to perform his mandate and duties. This incident also undermines the office of the Member, and by extension this Assembly. Such behavior is not only inappropriate but also damaging to the dignity and the integrity of the Assembly.

Hon. Speaker, I therefore wish to seek your direction on how this matter should be addressed to safeguard the honor of this Assembly and ensure that such actions are not repeated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Member. On the same, the Chair shall communicate through the official website and give directives and direction because your concern raises questions to do with integrity of officers. The aspect of bribery involved, and the allegations of forceful

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detention of the hawkers and the concerns of the area Member to release the hawkers need thorough investigations. I will communicate the direction in our official website now that we are proceeding for the short recess. Hon. Leader of Majority.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Allow me to inform the House that anything in regards to injustice committed to any Member, there are two committees that can bring a substantive response after both sides have been given a right of reply. These committees are Justice Committee and Legal Committee, and Powers and Privileges Committee. Unless the Member who has raised the issue wants to usurp powers of these Committees, I believe the Member would have raised a substantive Statement to the Committee of Justice and Legal Affairs so that the affected and the and the askaris are called to respond. Because one is a Member, we can bring the him before the Powers and Privileges Committee to seek whether there is any protection the Member is entitled to.

Hon. Speaker, if we do a communication, it will go under the carpet without us knowing the gist of the issue. I believe the Member could have raised a substantive Statement directed to a specific committee so that when the report comes to the House, we own it, under the guidance of the Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I am trying to protect my committees.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, the Member is seeking direction from the Chair on how deal with the concerns as raised. The official website of the Assembly is as good as the plenary. When the Speaker gives directive through the website, you never know whether it is going to be directed to a specific committee for action. For now, I have made a decision on that, kindly let us proceed. Hon. Kados, you had a Statement request?

Hon. Paul Kados: No. I had the same concerns that the Majority Leader has raised.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS

OBSTRUCTION OF THE SPEAKER BY A VEHICLE ALLEGEDLY ASSIGNED TO THE ACTING COUNTY ATTORNEY

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Jera, kindly proceed.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I wish to lay a Statement seeking your guidance and direction. I rise under Standing Order No. 59 (b) to seek your guidance on the following matter: Hon. Speaker, my attention has been drawn to an incident that occurred on Tuesday 8th April 2025 whereby the Hon. Member's vehicle was blocked by a County Executive officer's vehicle allegedly assigned to the Acting County Attorney for several hours while attempting to exit the underground parking at City Hall. This obstruction forced the Hon. Speaker to disembark from his vehicle thereby exposing him to unnecessary security risk and regrettably undermining the dignity of the office he holds.

Hon. Speaker, as you are all aware under the order of precedence, the Speaker leads the Legislative Arm of the County Government, and as such, his office must be accorded the respect and honor it rightfully deserves. Specifically, Article 124 of the Constitution of Kenya recognizes the Speaker of the County Assembly as the key leader in the County Government, and further emphasizes the need for the Speaker to be treated with dignity befitting their role.

Additionally, the Public Service Ethics Act, Cap 183, mandates in Section 7(1) that public officers including those in the County Government must uphold the highest standards of conduct showing respect for the authority to offices such as that of the Speaker. This incidence is not only unacceptable but also in clear violation of the Public Officers Ethics Act and the Leadership and Integrity Act, Cap 182, which prescribes that all public officers must exhibit integrity, respect, professionalism at all times in their duties.

Moreover, Section 110 (2) of the Leadership and Integrity Act further states that the public officers should at all times act in a manner that promotes the public confidence in the integrity of the office that they hold. The conduct of the Acting County Attorney in blocking the vehicle contradicts the provision undermining the respect that should be accorded to this office.

Hon. Speaker, I am seeking your direction on this matter with the view of restoring the respect and dignity of the office of the Speaker in ensuring that such an incident does not reoccur and reaffirm the need to uphold the law and ethics governing public offices in the Assembly.

Mine is short as such, I need your direction. Thank you, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jera for the concern. The Chair is adversely mentioned in the request, and it is the same Chair to whom the Member seeks for direction. For that reason, Hon. Members I request that...

(Hon. Peter Imwatok spoke off the record)

Hon. Majority Leader, just hold on a bit. For the reason of conflict of interest, Hon. Members, I will take leave of the Chair and the subsequent Chair shall give the way forward on this matter. Due to this reason, the issue will come up tomorrow during the Session. Thank you.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON NAIROBI CITY COUNTY FISCAL STRATEGY PAPER AND DEBT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY PAPER FOR FY 2025-2026 AND OVER MEDIUM TERM

Hon. Speaker: Chairman, Budget.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am sorry that today I was not that keen on the Statements because my neighbor was whispering something to me and the much I could hear was; *mundu niki?* I was wondering whether we are fighting, and so I had to give him more time. Thank you senior, I think we have resolved it.

Hon. Speaker, Mheshimiwa Alai mentioned the issue of iPads. I used to be the Chair of one of the most powerful committees in this House, now that the Estimates are around the corner, I will request we do a good background so that it may not raise an audit query. Once a Member is given an iPad, you will have to pay for it at a certain rate. Considering that time is not on our side, we should look at the issue so that we do not place it wrongly but in the right way and...

Hon. Speaker: As you proceed to respond, I am made to understand from the Clerk that very soon as we resume from the long recess, the House is going to be paperless. The concern as

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raised by Hon. Members is already addressed, the tablets have already been procured. Kindly proceed.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Thank you for that. Hon. Members, I am glad that the Assembly is full, and today we have the CFSP Paper. The other day the Member of the County Assembly of Njiru Ward had a concern that the CFSP Paper had not been laid. We had a side chat and I informed him of the same. Today, my first reading will be the background of the CFSP, then we will come to the recommendations. Ordinarily, CFSP is setting the ceiling of the Estimates that will be tabled tomorrow. These are the Estimates of the budget, as people usually prefer it.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to move:

THAT, this Assembly adopts the 25th Report of the Select Committee on County Finance, Budget and Appropriations on the Nairobi City County Fiscal Strategy Paper and the Debt Management Strategy Paper for the financial year 2025-2026 and over the medium term, laid on the Table of the Assembly on Wednesday 16th April 2025.

Hon. Speaker, this Committee has laid a good number of reports, which as at today stands at 25.

Mr. Speaker, as part of the budget cycle, two crucial documents are before this House i.e. the County Fiscal Strategy Paper and the Debt Management Strategy Paper. The two documents are intertwined, given that the CFSP is supposed to set budget ceiling for the sector as well as determine the source of funds that may detail the status of our debt, repayment plans, and any borrowing prospects.

Hon. Speaker, in the paper, the overall stock of the County debts is indicated at Kshs.99.25 billion. You will realize that in the report, during the two years' term, the County Government has paid a total of Kshs.8 billion. Our initial debt was Kshs.107.33 billion; this is a good achievement for the Government of the day. This County Fiscal Strategy Paper has desired a strike balance between the competing needs of the current regime versus the scarce resources. As you are aware, money is never enough.

An interconnection between the sector priorities, expectations of the Nairobians, the Governor's manifesto, and the Members wish list must be considered. Subsequently, allocation of resources has been guided by some strict criteria which align to the expressed needs. Resources have been set aside for health and wellness sector to a tune of Kshs.12.11 billion meant to ensure health services through updating health infrastructure, strengthening community health services, availing enough medical services as addressing nutrition among children through the school feeding programme.

Hon. Speaker, the allocation of Ward Development Fund is capped at Kshs.203 billion, Emergency Fund has been allocated Kshs.200 million, whereas the Liquor Licensing Board has been granted Kshs.360million as Appropriation aid. However, to ensure solid waste management and ensure clean water, the Environment, Water and Natural Resources Sector will be allocated Kshs.3.96 billion, while the Finance and Economic Planning Sector expect to utilize Kshs.3.17 billion in ensuring prudent management of public resources. Burroughs and Public Administration,

that is key to service delivery, is expected to utilize Kshs.5.1 billion, and the Public Service Sector has been allocated a total budget of Kshs.2.21 billion.

Hon. Speaker, the County Assembly, which is set to endeavor to deliver its triple role, has an allocation of Kshs.3.6 billion. The submitted CFSP projects that the overall County budget for the financial year 2025/2026 shall equal to Kshs.45.4 billion. Out of which, Kshs.31.84 billion shall be directed towards recurrent while the Kshs.13.59 billion shall be for development programmes. The projected budget implies that the overall budget is projected to increase by Kshs.1.6 billion, compared to the overall Supplementary I Budget for the financial year 2024/2025. Out of this projected expenditure, personal emoluments are projected to consume Kshs.19.4 billion or about 42.7%.

On the revenue side, the CFSP internal revenue projection for financial year 2025/2026 is at Kshs.23.86 billion, an increase of about Kshs.3.4 billion from the amount contained in the annual budget estimates for the financial year 2024/2025. The County intends to receive Kshs.24.9 billion as equitable share, plus additional amount to the tune of Kshs.590 million as conditional grants.

Now we go to the recommendation of the best Committee around. Hon. Speaker, the Budget Committee has taken deliberate steps in the CFSP, which was submitted to us, to ensure that all Members in the County Government are facilitated to deliver their mandate. In line with the aspirations of the elected leaders in the House and the manifesto of the Governor, going through the recommendations contained in the report indicates that the Committee has adjusted to sector ceiling to make sure that they are all optimally impacting on the lives of Nairobians.

Hon. Speaker, all Members appreciate the special niche played by the Ward Development Programme in the lives of Nairobians, as well as the impact of disaster related funds. In this regard, the committee has increased the allocation for WDP to Kshs.200 million in the next financial year to reduce the pending bills related to WDP. On disaster, the Committee continues to urge the relevant sector to make sure that the County is always prepared to tackle disaster. As such, the Committee has given the sector additional of Kshs.50 million.

The Committee was taken aback by the admission of Security and Compliance Sector that the pass out of the new recruits could not be undertaken due to lack of uniforms. The Committee has noted that this is an embarrassing situation that cannot be condoned in the capital city. In this regard, the Committee has approved for upward review of the sector budget by Kshs.50 million to sort out this mess.

Mr. Speaker, in an attempt to reduce dead stock as already highlighted, the Committee has allocated an additional Kshs.350 million for development related pending bills under Finance and Economic Affairs Sector.

Mr. Speaker, youth empowerment and creation of job opportunities is at the center of the Business and Hustler Opportunity. In this regard, the Committee has proposed the sector allocation to be increased by Kshs.300 million to undertake various development in our markets. Further, Mr. Speaker, the County intends to collect additional revenue for regularization of an authorized development, an initiative that if implemented with the necessary zeal, shall seal the County net

additional of Kshs.7 billion. To support this, the Committee has increased allocation for Urban Planning Sector by Kshs.50 million.

On the Environmental Sector, the Committee has increased recurrent allocation for Environment Subsector by Kshs.330 million and that the development of Kshs.100 million, thereby underscoring the need of green city. This allocation, the Committee believes shall support the initiative undertaken across the County by the ‘Green Army.’

The Committee has also increased the recurrent allocation for Water Sector by Kshs.50 million geared towards the improvement of sanitation in the City. Mr. Speaker, promotion of urban agriculture is at the heart of the current administration and members at large, and it is for this reason that the Committee has agreed with the submission of the Committee of Agriculture and has therefore increased the sector recurrent allocation of Kshs.50 million.

Mr. Speaker, on bursaries, the Committee retained the allocation Kshs.857 million to ensure that our kids are not kept out of school due to lack of necessary school fees. The Committee is hopeful that the courts shall side with the children and promote the fundamental right of education.

Lastly, Hon. Speaker, our late brother, Hon. Munuve, was very passionate about ensuring that the great people of Kariobangi North have a social facility where the youth can engage and develop their talent. To ensure this vision, the Committee has allocated Kshs.50 million for the construction and equipment of Kariobangi North Social Hall. It is the view of the Committee that the facility shall serve as a beacon of hope and an act of remembrance for our fallen hero. Further, the committee invites this Assembly to resolve that the social hall be renamed after Hon. Joel Munuve, as a reminder of his dedication and commitment.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, the Committee’s recommendations are as follows:

1. That policy measures contained be approved and implemented; and
2. That they take into account the amendment to the individual sector priorities and allocation, the revenue, and expenditure ceiling in the Schedule 1 and 2, the Committee report be approved

Hon. Speaker, in conclusion and pursuant to provision of Section 123 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and Standing Order 227, the County Finance, Budget and Appropriations Committee recommends that this Assembly adopts the report of the Select Committee on County Finance, Budget and Appropriations on the Nairobi City County Fiscal Strategy Paper and the Debt Management Strategy Paper for the financial year 2025/2026.

Hon. Speaker, I call upon the Minority Whip to second the Motion.

Hon. Mark Mugambi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand here to second the Motion raised by our super Chairman, the very few doctors we have, and the Committee of Budget, assisted by the Vice Chair, Hon. Emily Oduor, all the Members, and chairpersons who took time in preparation of this document. With these few remarks, Hon. Speaker, I beg to second.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. I have verified with the Clerk and he confirmed that the report as read by the chair has already been uploaded in the website. So, you can go through the report at your own time.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, my screen is clear, an indication that I should call upon the mover to proceed to reply

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. This work has been eased because of the secretariat, Manyi, Eric and the team. We are very proud as the Budget team because they are easing our work day by day. Hon. Speaker, if you may allow the members of the budget who are here to stand because they are dedicated.

Hon. Speaker: Request granted.

(Budget Committee Members stood in their places)

(Applause)

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Hon. Speaker, all the Members of Budget are present. This is how committees should behave if they have reports. They give the chairperson the maximum respect expected. I am happy. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Chairman, the Whips of the political parties will consider your compliment when they will be reconstituting and reorganizing committees. So, I do not expect you to blow your own drum. Thank you.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: The Chair is always right, I hope the Whips see that this is the only Committee that does not need new Members for continuity. Hon. Speaker, I beg to reply.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Chair for protecting your Members. I hope that the Whips are keen to it. I now put the Question.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, the Assembly stands adjourned to tomorrow, Wednesday 30th April 2025 at 2:30 p.m. Hon. Members, I expect you to be upstanding. Hon. Members, at the directive of the Speaker, the House Business Committee will sit and allocate business of tomorrow and subsequently on the date of resumption of the Assembly. Have a blessed evening. Thank you.

The House rose at 4:14 p.m.