



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Third County Assembly – Fifth Session

SPECIAL SITTING

Tuesday 25th August 2026

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. As you struggle to come to the reality with the new development, that is the e-parliament, I hope at the same time you are smiling.

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Members, that is just for noting. I am not seeking your concurrence. Clerk-at-the-Table, kindly assist the Leader of Government Business.

(Hon. Peter Imwatok spoke off the record)

You need to be assisted first to understand the environment you are walking into. Just sit. Hon. Members, the House is properly convened. I direct the Clerk to call out the order of the Business.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

CONVENING OF SPECIAL SITTING

Hon. Speaker: Good afternoon once again, Hon. Members. May I take this opportunity to welcome you all to today's Special Sitting which has been convened at a time when the Assembly is on recess. I sincerely thank you for honoring the invitation despite the short notice.

(Loud consultations)

Order, Hon. Members! Sergeant-at-Arms, kindly escort Hon. Samora outside the sitting so that he can pick the call honorably. Kindly go and have the conversation on the phone, then you come back later after you are through.

(Hon. Samora Mwaura left the Chamber)

Honored Members, kindly proceed and take your positions.

(Several Members entered the Chamber)

Thank you. Hon. Members, I am sorry for that interruption.

Hon. Members, may I take this opportunity to welcome you all to today's Special Sitting which has been convened at a time when the Assembly is on recess. I sincerely thank you for honoring the invitation despite the short notice.

However, I recognize that leadership is best demonstrated when the circumstances are so inconvenient and that few are honored with capabilities and mandate to rise up to the occasion, and in this case, it is demonstrated that you have risen up to the occasion with dedication.

Hon. Members, pursuant to Standing Order No. 32 (1), I received a letter dated 24th August 2026 from the Leader of the Majority Party requesting that I convene a special sitting today, 25th August 2026 commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Accordingly, having reviewed the Business proposed in the request, pursuant to Standing Order 32 (2), I was satisfied that the Business was of urgent and exceptional nature. I therefore acceded to the said request and convened this Special Sitting.

Hon. Members, there are preceding pre-requisite steps that must be fulfilled for a Special Sitting to be properly convened, including the requirement in Standing Order 32 (3) provides that, and I quote:

"The Speaker shall, by notice in the Kenya Gazette or County Gazette, notify the Members of the place, date and time appointed for the special sitting of the County Assembly."

Accordingly, today's Special Sitting was published in the Kenya Gazette dated 24th August 2026 under the Gazette Notice No. 13766 to consider the following business as proposed by the Leader of Majority Party:

1. The Report of the Select Committee on Appointments on vetting of the nominee for appointment to the position of County Secretary; and
2. Second Reading of the Nairobi City County Alcoholic Drinks Control and Licensing Bill, 2026.

Further, Hon. Members, Standing Order No. 32 (4) provides that;

"Whenever the County Assembly meets for a special sitting..., the Speaker shall specify the business to be transacted on the day or days appointed and the business

so specified shall be the only business before the County Assembly during the special sitting, following which the County Assembly shall stand adjourned until the day appointed in the County Assembly calendar."

Consequently, the business specified in the aforementioned Gazette Notice shall be the only business to be transacted during today's Sitting. In view of the foregoing, this Special Sitting is properly convened, and we may therefore proceed to consider the Business before the Assembly. I thank you, Hon. Members.

PAPER

REPORT ON VETTING OF NOMINEE FOR POSITION OF COUNTY SECRETARY

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, allow me to say thank you for giving me an opportunity to present before your Office a requirement of a Special Sitting yesterday afternoon. I also appreciate the Clerk's Office; I am seeing progress before the Chamber. More importantly, I appreciate all the Members for appearing before the House on this important occasion.

Hon. Speaker, allow me to lay the following Paper before this Hon. House.

That, pursuant to provision of Section 44 (2) (b) of the County Governments Act, 2012 and Standing Orders 48 (4) and 196 (6), I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly, today, Tuesday, 25th August 2026:

The 2nd Report of the Select Committee on Appointments on vetting of the nominee for the position of the County Secretary and the Head of Public Service.

(The Paper was laid on the Table)

Hon. Speaker: The Papers stand laid before the Assembly.

NOTICE OF MOTION

APPROVAL OF NOMINEE TO THE POSITION OF COUNTY SECRETARY

Hon. Peter Imwatok: THAT, taking into consideration the findings of the Select Committee on Appointments on its report on the vetting of the nominee for approval as a County Secretary laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday, 25th August, 2026 and pursuant to the provisions of Section 44 (2D) (b), of the County Governments Act CAP 265, Sections 3 and 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 48 (4), this assembly approves the nomination of Dr. Machel Waikenda for appointment as County Secretary by His Excellency the Governor.

I beg to lay the Notice.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: The Notice of Motion stand given.

MOTION**APPROVAL OF NOMINEE TO THE POSITION OF COUNTY SECRETARY**

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, allow me to stand again to bring a Motion.

THAT, taking into consideration the findings of the Select Committee on Appointments on its report on the vetting of the nominee for approval as a County Secretary laid on the Table of the Assembly on Tuesday, 25th August, 2026 and pursuant to the provisions of Section 44 (2D) (b), of the County Governments Act CAP 265, Sections 3 and 9 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, 2017 and Standing Order No. 48 (4), this assembly approves the nomination of Dr. Machel Waikenda for appointment as County Secretary by His Excellency the Governor.

Hon. Speaker, as the Chair of this Committee, I am honored today to present this Motion before this Assembly. That the report of the Appointments Committee to be transmitted before this Assembly for adoption.

Hon. Speaker, allow me from the onset to appreciate the Members of this Committee before this House, led by you as the Chair. All the Members of the Appointments Committee be upstanding for the House to appreciate your work.

(The Members of Appointments Committee stood in their places)

Thank you, the Hon. Minority Leader. Thank you, the Minority Whip. Thank you, elder Hon. Chege Mwaura. Thank you, Hon. Chair, Budget, Hon Wilfred Odalo. Thank you, Majority Whip. Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Thank you, Hon Oscar Lore, the Member of the Committee. Thank you, the Hon. Emily Oduor, who has lost her sister. She is currently bereaving. Thank you, Hon Susan Makungu, who has traveled out of the country. Honorable speaker, I beg to bring these Members before this House with this report.

Hon. Speaker, this Committee, that you have led very well, had a sitting with the nominee last week on Wednesday. For those Members who were there and the members of the public, we presented a raft of questions to the nominee who answered all as required by the law.

Hon. Speaker, without much ado, let me just go direct to the observations of the Committee. I am just reading it as your Deputy by virtue of my position. Hon. Speaker, that Pursuant to provision Section 8 of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act, the Committee observes that the nominee met the integrity threshold, demonstrated knowledge of topical administrative technical issues touching on the position to which he had been nominated, and the requisite abilities, academic qualifications, and professional experience to be approved for the appointment.

Hon. Speaker, the nomination was competitively sourced from among us persons who are university graduates with at least 10 years' experience in administrative and management.



Hon. Speaker, before I go to the last recommendation of this Committee, for those who are there, you witnessed Dr. Waikenda has four degrees. A young man of 45 years is a pilot by profession who was flying KQ-737 Boeing to the U.S. and the U.K.

Hon. Speaker, this young man is a lawyer by profession with a law degree from the University of Nairobi. Per excellence, he is a competent lawyer to be. When Hon. Oscar Lore asked him whether he is a lawyer or an advocate, he admitted that he is a lawyer and has not been commissioned to be an advocate of the High Court. This man was the CEO of the Jubilee Party then. Thereafter, he contested to be Senator of Kiambu County, meaning this young man has really worked so hard to where he is today. I know him in person. He is a kind of a person who will return your call. Most officers will never return your call.

(Applause)

Dr. Waikenda is one officer who has no handouts, but he will tell you the truth that he doesn't have. Honorable speaker, I believe also in competency. The young man, being a doctorate degree holder from USIU, has competence of judgment. With time, you will know. When asked how he was going to handle the issue of acting in this County, he was very categorical that it should not be the case of the County.

For the last 10 plus years, those who are here in 2013 like Hon. Chege Mwaura, Hon. Fiunifui, Hon. Hashim Kamau, myself, and His Worship the Mayor, the last substantive County Secretary was called Her Majesty Lilian Ndegwa. Now, comes in Dr. Edward Machel Waikenda; not Michael. That explains really who Governor Arthur Johnson Sakaja is. If you look at the list of the nominees who presented themselves for the interview, indeed, I was forging for my person from the Western part of Kenya. Another one was forging for somebody from the Eastern part of Kenya. Another one was forging for somebody from Nyanza. But the Governor, His Excellency, went for competency, a doctor to be the County Secretary of the County Government of Nairobi. That means this Government must embolden less tribalism.

As the Appointments Committee, we asked Dr. Waikenda, "Are you a tribal chauvinist?" He responded in the affirmative with the word in capital letters, "NO." So, we believe the County will be in safe hands. The Public Service of this County will be in safe hands. Hon. Speaker, thank you so much for steering us. It is in history.

This County has fought so hard to have a County Secretary for more than 12 years. I am happy as I retire from this House, because surely I will retire by next year 10th of August. I will be the happiest man that I read the approval of Dr. Machel Waikenda as the County Secretary.

Allow me to bring my counterpart, the Bishop of Canterbury, or the Bishop of Dagoretti, or the Bishop of the crocodile. He has many names. The Speaker calls him 'a man with different skins.' To second this particular Motion. My brother, this is historical. We are approving the County Secretary of the largest County in Kenya. One-day history will judge as well. Welcome.

(Applause)

Hon. Anthony Karanja: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for this opportunity. Thank you, Majority Leader, for that powerful speech. Before I second, I would like to talk to Dr. Waikenda. Dr. Waikenda, this Assembly, I believe will pass your name unconditionally, you owe gratitude and acknowledgement to this Assembly because this is the first time that this is happening in the last eight years. The seat that Dr. Waikenda is going to sit on had, in acting capacity, been occupied by Justice Kathenge, Jairus Musumba, Akumali, Analo, and other several people. Thank you, the millionaire.

Dr. Waikenda, we expect collaboration and liaison with these Members. It is no mean feat for your name to be brought before this Committee and before this Assembly. Dr. Waikenda, accountability and integrity will be the least that we expect from you. Vision and administrative goals are what the Governor will expect from you. We have demonstrated as a committee that you have confidence. We have looked at your documents thoroughly, and we have asked you and asked ourselves very serious questions.

Dr. Waikenda has not lobbied very hard amongst our Members. We hope that he will deliver, not just for us, but most importantly for this country and for the people of Nairobi. With those few remarks, I want to second and ask this House to support this report. Thank you.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I am informed that the process of activating your system is not yet through. So, I am not able to log in here and get to know who wants to contribute to this Motion. After I propose the question, I will expect Members who wish to contribute to lift up their hands. Thank you.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Wilfred.

Hon. Wilfred Odalo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand to support the Motion. I congratulate the Governor for doing the best work that Nairobians need.

Hon. Speaker, you remember that some days back, we disapproved a nominee in this House. We exercised our powers under Article 179. We saw that the nominee was not fit. That was Musumba.

Hon. Speaker, we as the Appointments Committee looked at the nominee, and I can assure this House that for the first time, will have a lawyer as the County Secretary. Hon. Speaker, it is also good to note that the nominee was in the Fourth Government; the President Uhuru Kenyatta's administration. That tells you how the nominee has vast experience on matters of administration.

Hon. Speaker, there comes a time when we don't look at the tribal line. We look at the professionalism of an individual. Let me take the early hours of congratulating our nominee, Machel Waikenda. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Chege.

Hon. Chege Mwaura: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the nomination of Dr. Waikenda to be the County Secretary.

Mr. Speaker, just to enrich the debate on two issues where we were well guided by you. Number one, as we are looking at the vetting, there is one component of vetting that is very important, which is suitability. While we also look at the competence and the academic credentials, one thing that is important is suitability. Why Dr. Waikenda is suitable is that he has run the whole spectrum. My counterpart has just mentioned that he was President Uhuru Kenyatta's Executive Director for TNA. He was also a CEC Member in Kiambu County in the second dispensation of devolution. Again, he has come in as a Chief Officer, which is lower than a CEC in Nairobi.

Even having crisscrossed the various institutions within the Executive, his humility – I know everyone knows that this is not somebody who is arrogant and has no braggadocio when dealing with Members. That has earned him a lot of respect and trust from Members and also his boss, who has also given him a couple of dockets. Since he came in, I think he has handled about three dockets within the Executive.

Finally, because I also want other Members to contribute, Mr. Speaker, we also were very keen on the transitional clause. Because you are well aware that the office of the County Secretary is a tenured office. He is supposed to run a whole six years. And this being the final year before the elections, it is important that this House has somebody who will be there in the transition processes so that the Members who are coming back are also familiar with the person who is taking care of the transition on the other side, as we hope also for the Governor and his team the best. I beg to support, and I thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Minority Whip.

Hon. Mark Mugambi: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Allow me also to join my colleague leaders in congratulating the appointee, Dr. Machel Waikenda Karanja, on being appointed and also vetted by the Appointments Committee of this Third Assembly.

Hon. Speaker, owing to the fact that it has been eight years since we had a substantive holder to that office, it is a milestone and it is just for this County Government. For continuity of operations, we cannot be having every other County Secretary in acting positions, because I understand that limits operations within that office. Therefore, continuity is much needed.

I also want to commend the Governor for finally seeing it fit to appoint a County Secretary after having so many of them in acting positions. Dr. Waikenda brings a vast experience. Coming from being a pilot, he was also a political strategist or advisor at State House in the last government. Therefore, I believe all that he has acquired over time during his work experience is going to benefit Nairobians as the now-to-be County Secretary. With those few remarks, I beg to support. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Lawi.

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I support this Motion. I thank our Governor for appointing Dr. Waikenda. He has been working with us as CEC for Transport and Public Works.

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Speaker: Order, Hon. Members! Please give the Member the floor, please.

Hon. Lawrence Odhiambo: Dr. Waikenda has been working with us as CEC for Transport and Public Works, and the way he used to work with us, it shows he can hold this office very well. So, as Vice Chairman of Transport, I want to thank you, and we are going to support him in this new office that he is going to hold. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Chairman, Ward Fund. Former, or you are re-elected? Can you confirm whether you have been re-elected?

Hon. Dabar Mohamed: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to also thank Hon. Members of WDF Committee and the House at large for re-electing me unanimously as the Chair of WDF.

Hon. Speaker, I stand here to congratulate Dr. Karanja Waikenda. He is a humble professional lawyer. County Secretary is a sensitive position and it needs someone who can coordinate the County and National Government. So, I am here to support Dr. Karanja.

Hon. Speaker, it is more than 10 years since Nairobi had a substantive County Secretary. I want to thank also the Appointments Committee for doing a wonderful job, led by the Leader of Majority, for making sure that as a House it is our legacy that we left a county that has a substantive County Secretary. So, I am here to support. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and thank you, Hon. Members. I hope the Hon. Members will support.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Fiunifiu.

Hon. Kamau Fiunifiu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Some of us are not privileged to be tall, so I have to adjust this. Hon. Speaker, thank you for the opportunity. From the onset, Hon. Speaker, allow me to inform the Leader of Majority that it is Machel, not Masha. It is important that it goes on record.

(Hon. Peter Imwatok spoke off the record)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Leader of Majority.

Hon. Kamau Fiunifiu: Yes, thank you. Hon. Speaker, I rise to support the appointment and approval of Dr. Waikenda on the basis of a proven track record as far as management of County affairs is concerned. This is someone who has worked with Nairobi County and Kiambu County Government as a CEC for Sports. This is someone who has also worked with politicians. This is a House of politicians; the legislators, and most Members who started politics in 2013, especially those who are in TNA, this is someone they have dealt with. So, this is someone that you can be able to watch.

Dr. Waikenda is also an insider, having worked for the last four years in this County Government of Nairobi. He understands how this County works. Also, having worked with the National Government, he has knowledge of how intergovernmental relationships and coordination should be undertaken. Also, the nominee is someone who understands and appreciates devolution. For those who for the last five or so years have been reading the Star Newspaper, he has been a columnist on issues of devolution.

Hon. Speaker, this is someone who has also demonstrated leadership at different levels, from aviation, County administration, political strategy, and National Government. His career demonstrates the ability to operate in complex institutions.

Hon. Speaker, allow me to say something about communication. The office of the County Secretary is an important position or post for this County Government. And one thing that I would ask the nominee, if the members of this County Assembly approve him and he becomes the substantive County Secretary, is about communication. When the members of the public write letters to the County Government of Nairobi, it is upon the County Secretary to make sure that these letters have been responded to. Over the years, until the time of Lilian Ndegwa, I used to see the correspondence happening. But I cannot say the same about other office holders who have held that position.

Hon. Speaker, I am happy to be serving in this County Assembly and to be debating this name. We are able now to have a substantive County Secretary. Someone who is not going to give in to pressure. Because for some time being in an acting capacity and given that this is a political institution, there is a lot of pressure that comes from all quarters. Dr. Waikenda has no excuse not to act independently, because this Assembly is going to approve him.

In my closing remarks, Hon. Speaker, allow me to say that Dr. Waikenda should be judged not by where he has come from, but by what he is capable of delivering for Nairobi. He brings County experience, National Government exposure, knowledge on devolution, management experience, and a clear understanding of the need for stronger coordination and accountability. Nairobi does not need another ceremonial office holder, it needs a County Secretary who can make the machinery of government work. On that test, Waikenda deserves serious consideration and support from this Assembly. I support.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Jera.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for this opportunity. I also wish to thank the Governor for nominating Dr. Waikenda for the position of the County Secretary. Equally, I want to thank the Appointments Committee for sitting down and having time to engage with Dr. Waikenda during the vetting process, which I attended as a Member of this House.

Hon. Speaker, this is another chance that we are having a substantive County Secretary. During his vetting, he responded to questions eloquently, up to date and down to earth. Dr. Waikenda is equally tactical, he knows how and when to respond to *watu wa mashimo*. He was asked the same question by the Majority Leader if he knows the *mashimo* and he said yes/no. That is how I knew he was tactical. Working with him will bring us together.

He is now the bridge between the County Government and the National Government. He is also the bridge between the Executive and the County Assembly. He must work smart and ensure that we are unified, and that we work outside tribal lines. In that regard, I only want to wish him well. I also want to thank the Governor for appointing a Kenyan, not a person from his tribe. Thank you so much, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. I still have a lot of requests and this is a Special Sitting, members have up to 5:00 p.m.

(A Hon. Member spoke off the record)

The person who feels that the mover should reply, kindly give us time. Hon. Alai.

Hon. Robert Alai: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First, I want to thank the Governor for eventually making this appointment and forwarding the name to the Assembly, which was vetted by the Appointment Committee.

I am standing here to oppose this appointment simply because I don't know whether it is the Committee or the House which is not well versed with the responsibilities or the role and mandate of the County Secretary. Because what is being debated and represented here as making Machel Waikenda the qualified candidate for the County Secretary's position is not in the list of requirements of the person who is supposed to hold that office.

Hon. Speaker, it is also very confusing when the Majority Leader, who is moving the Motion, cannot pronounce the name of the appointee. Seriously? I find it very surprising when the Budget Chairman said that the guy is a lawyer. I think this House can do better. There is nowhere that Machel Waikenda studied law. I think I can also declare my interest that I have known him and his family including the mother, Jane, for a very long time. I think that the Committee and House leadership is not doing this young man justice by casually presenting the credentials and moving the Motion in such a manner that does not validate appointment.

Hon. Speaker, I request this House to realize that Nairobi County is the biggest county in Kenya and the Nairobi City County Assembly is the second biggest Assembly in Kenya out of the 49 parliaments in Kenya. In front of us here today, we have the best tools of trade. I ask that this House do better.

For those very few remarks, I ask to be noted among the people who did not feel convinced that this is the right candidate. Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I oppose.

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, this is a House of debate and persuasion. When you oppose as Hon. Alai has done, it is your right and obligation to request the support of the House. I don't expect the House to take it negatively. Hon. Mofire, kindly proceed.

Hon. Jeremiah Themendu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for this opportunity. Before I proceed, let me congratulate the Chair, the Majority Leader and the entire Committee on Appointments for the good job they have done for this County of Nairobi. As the Minority Leader has said, we have stayed for a long time without a substantive County Secretary. But now going forward, because we have had many challenges on the way, we have somebody who is not looking behind when making decisions on behalf of the County of Nairobi.

Let me congratulate the Governor because he has seen that it is important...

(Hon. Kennedy Oyugi raised Point of Order)



Hon. Speaker: Under which Standing Order, Hon. Oyugi? Can you cite the Standing Order No.?

(Hon. Kennedy Oyugi spoke off the record)

Order, Hon. Oyugi! That should be part of your business. It is for you before you raise the Point of Order to seek assistance from...

(Hon. Kennedy Oyugi spoke off the record)

Hon. Oyugi, kindly do not engage the Chair, please. If you cannot cite the Standing Order, kindly be seated. Thank you.

Hon. Jeremiah Themendu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for protecting me against the Hon. Member for Highrise Ward. Mr. Waikenda Machel has worked in the Mobility Sector and also in Planning Sector. He is not an officer who you go to see and he tells his secretary to say that he is not in. Dr. Waikenda is a good candidate for the position of the County Secretary. With those few remarks, I support the Motion.

Hon. Redson Onyango: Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker. I rise to support the appointment of Dr. Waikenda for three reasons. One, he is accessible; two, he works professionally; and three, he responds to issues very fast. I think this is the best way to let Members do their work. I was waiting for a phone call from the Majority Whip to tell me that there is the party position. I really waited for that call. They usually say that its party's position, but on this one, they should let Members decide for themselves. For example, last week, I was told of party's position, which was not fair, but I leave everything to the Almighty God. Dr. Waikenda is best suited for this position. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Oyugi, kindly proceed. Come forward, the mic is not working.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am standing here to seek your guidance because of two statements that have been pronounced here on the subject matter. One has alluded that he is a lawyer, and the other one from Hon. Alai is saying that he is not a lawyer. They are both on Hansard. I am seeking your guidance, is he a lawyer or not?

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, that is a good observation, Hon. Member. It carries a lot of wisdom. I direct the mover of the Motion to peruse the Committee's report and get the correct position in regards to that question as we proceed. I will give him time to highlight on the same. Thank you. Hon. Kidenda.

Hon. Lily Kidenda: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to speak to the Motion on the floor. I was really getting concerned that it was going to go on record that it was the male folk of this Assembly that had the privilege to respond. Thank you very much.

I would like to say that I support the appointment of Dr. Waikenda Machel. I want to say on the onset that I have interacted with him on very few occasions. So, I will speak from that premise. I have interacted with him in his capacity as the Chief Officer in the Transport and Mobility Sector. I want to say that my interactions with him have been very informative. This is a

young man, I look at him and see one of my own sons. He has a spirit to listen carefully to everything you are saying to him. He will reply with precision what he is aware of. He would also give room for further consultation when he feels that there is need. That kind of spirit exists in very few people that I have interacted with in the political space.

Understanding that he has worked in the National Government – he has also worked in Kiambu County – gave me a refreshing impression on him. I would also like to say that I have interacted with him when he was the Chief Officer for Lands when that office fell vacant. I want to say that the spirit of humility that Dr. Waikenda has demonstrated on these few times that I have interacted with him demonstrates he is open to understand. He has a teachable spirit and I can say without fear of contradiction that servant leadership, which is what I experienced with him, is so needed in this County and in this Assembly. I stand to support.

I want to thank the Appointments Committee and all those people who participated and patiently looked at his documents. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Musango Maithya: Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for giving me this opportunity to contribute towards this Motion. I want to thank the Committee on Appointments which vetted Dr. Waikenda. Mr. Speaker I am here to witness as the Chair Transport Committee that we have interacted with Dr. Waikenda as the Committee. He has what it takes and has the capacity to lead this County as the County Secretary. Recently, he was added another duty in the Lands Sector, and he has been handling it very well. Mr. Speaker, I support the Motion.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Martin.

Hon. Martin Mwangi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the nomination of Dr. Machel Waikenda for all the reasons that have been mentioned here. He is worthy and befitting the position of the County Secretary. I want it to go on record and for the information of the Majority Leader, that besides working at the State House and other positions, he was the National Elections Board Chair of Chama Cha Kazi. When he vied for the Senatorial seat, he did so on Chama Cha Kazi ticket. That tells you the caliber of the people that we produce in our party. Thank you, I support.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Swaka.

Hon. Kennedy Swaka: Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker. I support this Motion. Dr. Waikenda is the right person to assume this office of the County Secretary. I will base my argument not on the positions that he has held, either in the party or elsewhere, but on that we have worked with him especially in the Transport Sector as Mobility Chief Officer. When he assumed office as Chief Officer for Mobility Sector, there was a lot of chaos in the management of picking and dropping in the County that led to matatus blocking roads. After taking over, he has ensured that the transport system, especially PSVs, run smoothly. We also had a lot of issues with allocating picking and dropping on zebra crossing, preventing our people from crossing the road safely. But at this particular moment if you go to the CBD, you will never see anywhere that they have given a slot for picking and dropping on a zebra crossing.

When you talk about fleet management, we have seen a lot of garbage trucks that have been bought by the County. This indicates that this man is visionary and knows exactly what he is doing.

As *jamii*, we really wanted our person, but for the work Waikenda has done to this County, I support him a hundred percent. Thank you very much.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Member for Githurai Ward.

Hon. Deonysias Waithera: I rise in support of the nomination of Dr. Machel Waikenda. He is intelligent, professional, and as has been spoken by the Members who have contributed on this debate before me. I rather rubber-stamp and support the Motion.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members for the benefit of the doubt, I have instructed the Table Clerk to provide Hon. Oyugi, under Standing Order No. 99 on statements of facts, a copy of a degree awarded to Machel from University of Nairobi on 16th day of December 2022; Bachelor of Laws. Kindly, Table Clerk, you can share a copy of the certificate so it can be confirmed that indeed Machel did undertake that course.

Hon. Kennedy Oyugi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Since I was asking for assistance of facts, it is now clear that one of the statements was not factual. Therefore, I am asking for the retraction of that statement. Dr. Waikenda is indeed a lawyer.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Oyugi, it is part of the contribution of the Member. Hon. Helen.

Hon. Helen Okello: Asante Bwana Spika kwa kunipa nafasi ili nichangie Hoja hii. Naunga mkono uteuzi wa Daktari Waikenda kama Katibu wa Kaunti ya Nairobi. Bila wasiwasi naweza sema kuwa nimekutana naye mara kadhaa na kwa mazungumzo tuliyokuwa nayo ...

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Alai, please you are being provided with a copy of the academic credentials of the nominee. Just sit briefly as you peruse the document. Just take your time.

Hon. Helen Okello: Naweza sema bila kuficha kuwa Waikenda ni mtu anasema na kutenda. Ako na uzoefu wa kukuskiza na kukupa suluhisho ambayo ulikua unahitaji. Kwa hayo machache, naunga mkono Hoja hii.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I now give the Mover of the Motion the right to reply. Kindly proceed.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, the Standing Order allows Parliament to move forward. Now, I am here to thank the Hon. Members who have supported and who have opposed because the nature of debates in Parliament dictates not one-sided.

I want to emphasize on what the Speaker has directed the Sergeant-at-Arms to place a report before the Hon. Alai from Kileleshwa. I want also to place before the Hansard a dictionary explanation of a lawyer and an advocate. Dictionary defines a lawyer has a broad term of anyone who has finished a law degree. In the interview, I remember Hon. Oscar Lore asking Waikenda whether he is a lawyer or an advocate. The dictionary defines an advocate as a specific type of a lawyer who has a special license to speak and argue for clients in court. Therefore, Dr. Waikenda is not an advocate but a lawyer by attaining a degree. So far, he must proceed to KSL to attain advocacy to be able to speak before a court of law or represent cartels before the courts.

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Hon. Redson, thank you so much, in deed there is a mild party position. As you can see, this Parliament was to vote online and physical. The Hon. Whips decided to communicate to the Members to appear before this Assembly. The communication that comes from any party in parliamentary practices comes from the Whip's office, not the Leader of Minority neither the Leader of Majority. Therefore, my stand is that, we are here for the cause of the County, and parties play an integral role to make sure that proposition goes through.

Hon. Speaker, I want to thank all the Members who have spoken on the credentials of Machel Waikenda. This is a question that we addressed, Hon. Fiunifiu. Even in an interview, until a deed poll was produced under the direction of the Speaker to specify the clear names the nominee has. The name Machel Waikenda was certified by the Speaker as the real name to be placed before this Parliament.

Hon. Speaker, without much ado, I want to thank all the Hon. Members who are online and who are present in physical for this important occasion. More important, Hon. Speaker, I know sometimes you do a lot but people don't appreciate. Every Member seated before this House, look in front of you, what are you seeing? In the history of the Nairobi Parliament, I must say thank you and your Office. You will go in history as one of the first Speaker to take this Parliament to e-parliament fully. I believe when we come from recess, we will not have time to carry these papers. The Clerk will be furnishing us before our tablets every report and every preposition before this House. Hon. Speaker, you will go down in history as a Speaker who enabled this County Assembly to go e-Parliament and we thank you for that with your administration.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to reply.

(Question put and agreed to)

BILL

Second Reading

NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ALCOHOLIC DRINKS CONTROL AND LICENSING (REPEAL) BILL, 2026

Hon. Clarence Munga: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Allow me to read the progress report to the County Assembly.

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 135 (5) of the Nairobi City County Assembly Standing Orders, I rise to present a progress report of the Sectoral Committee of Culture and Community Services regarding the Nairobi City County Alcoholic Drinks Control and Licensing (Repeal) Bill, 2026, which was committed to the Committee on 21st April, 2026.

Hon. Speaker, Standing Order No. 135 (5) strictly mandates that the sectoral committee to which a Bill is committed to facilitate robust public participation and take into account the views and recommendation of the public when compiling its final report. In adherence to this constitutional and procedural requirement, the Committee has actively reached out to citizens and

sector players. I am pleased to report that the Committee has successfully received several memoranda for consideration from various stakeholders who are eager to shape this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Committee is currently evaluating, analyzing, consolidating these diverse submissions. Due to the high volume of public interest and the technical nature of the memorandum submitted by various stakeholders, the scrutiny process requires careful attention to detail to ensure that the aspirations of Nairobi residents are properly captured in the law.

As we move towards the Second Reading stage of this Bill, the Committee realizes that rushing this critical stage will do a disservice to the public participation. Therefore, pursuant to the provision of Standing Order No. 135 (5), the Committee requests for more time to conclusively address, review and integrate those various stakeholders' memoranda before the Bill is committed to the Committee of the Whole County Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to give this House the firm assurance of the Committee that we are prioritizing this legislation assignment. We will exclusively complete the report and formally present it to this House before the Bill moves to this Committee of the whole House, ensuring that all Members have a well-informed framework to the proposed amendment.

I thank you, Hon. Speaker, and I request your indulgence for the additional time, as I move this Bill for the Second Reading. Mr. Speaker, possibly, I am request for three weeks for me to be able to come up with a report. But allow me to move this Motion for the Second Reading.

Hon. Speaker: The three weeks you are requesting is within the period when the Assembly is on recess or after?

Hon. Clarence Munga: Within.

Hon. Speaker: So, is it in order that the House Business Committee presents this business the first week at the resumption of the House?

Hon. Clarence Munga: Exactly, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Is that okay with you?

Hon. Clarence Munga: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Munga, your request is admitted.

Hon. Clarence Munga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Can I proceed?

Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion, that the Nairobi City County Alcoholic Drinks Control and Licensing (Repeal) Bill, 2026 (Assembly Bill No. 3 of 2026), be now read the Second Time.

Mr. Speaker, the Bill was read a First Time on 21st April 2026 and committed to the Sectoral Committee on Culture and Community Services, pursuant to the provision of Standing Order Nos. 134 and 135 respectively.

Mr. Speaker, Paragraph 4 (c) of Part II of the 4th Schedule of the Constitution, 2010 devolves the functions of County liquor licensing to the County Government. The Assembly has the authority to make laws of the County, according to the Article 185. It is imperative for this August House to legislate and control...

(Hon. Member raised a Point of Order)

Hon. Speaker: It has been noted. Hon. Clarence Munga, you have just requested the House for an extension for the Committee to table the report before it gets to the Second Reading. Not necessarily the Committee of the whole Assembly. So, you halt the whole thing.

Hon. Clarence Munga: Hon. Speaker, I am not moving.

Hon. Speaker: But that is what you are doing.

Hon. Clarence Munga: This is just an overview of the Bill.

Hon. Speaker: Why would you do the overview now? There is no need at this point to do that. It will be done at the resumption of the Committee of the Whole

Hon. Clarence Munga: As guided, Mr. Speaker. I request that the Bill be read a Second Time.

Hon. Speaker: Have you withdrawn the extension request? Hon. Clarence Munga, kindly approach the desk

Hon. Clarence Munga: Hon. Speaker, as guided. I had requested for an extension of three weeks from now. So, I ask that you give us three weeks as a Committee to come up with a comprehensive report, after looking at the memorandum that had been forwarded to us and submit the same to the House.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, the Chairman for Culture...

Hon. Speaker: Please approach the microphone.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, the Chair for Culture cannot make us do a Special Sitting on the tabling of the Second Reading of a Bill yet him and his clerk have no report. Given this is a Special Sitting, we must execute primarily what was gazetted by you before this House. There is no way the secretariat can gazette a Special Sitting of the Second Reading of the Liquor Act and the Chair comes here to tell us that he is seeking an extension to enrich the report. No extension should be given for a report to be written. Hon. Chege, kindly educate me on parliamentary practice, does it work that way? The Chair for Culture ought to stand here to expunge this agenda on asking for more time or proceed to the Second Reading and enrich his report on the Third Reading.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Clarence, kindly approach the Clerk

Hon. Clarence Munga: Mr. Speaker, I had requested...

Hon. Speaker: Kindly approach the Clerk. Yes, Hon. Ogeto

Hon. Moses Ogeto: Hon. Speaker, you had made a ruling over the same. Standing Order No. 1 says that when the Speaker makes a ruling and communication, then it supersedes any other thing. We need guidance since you had made an extension of time on the report of the Chair for Culture.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Whip. Chair, you stand guided. I had already made a pronouncement on this.

Hon. Clarence Munga: Mr. Speaker, I am sorry for the confusion. I did not expect it to be there. I was requesting the House to move to the next step which is the Second Reading of the



Bill and allow the Committee in the Third Reading stage to come up with a report that Members can debate on the amendments.

Hon. Speaker: That is now what you had requested for earlier.

Hon. Clarence Munga: I had requested for an extension for the report of the Committee but we proceed with the Second Reading.

Hon. Speaker: When we proceed to the Second Reading, then it will attract debate. Under what basis will Members make their arguments yet they do not have the report?

Hon. Clarence Munga: Mr. Speaker...

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, Order No. 9 stands deferred.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, before you make a ruling...

Hon. Speaker: I have already made a ruling.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: Hon. Speaker, as the Leader of Government Business, I am privy to a lot of information in regards to this Act that we want to pass. We are just from passing the appointment of Dr. Waikenda on the premise of challenges on legal litigation. The Liquor Board Act is on the premise of legal litigation before the Court of law, that we should not collect revenue from the liquor stores, bars and restaurants because the Act came to an end. Therefore, Hon. Speaker, I think my Chair travelled back this morning but the spirit of the Government and the Sector is that we do a Second Reading of this Bill. Thereafter, comes the Third Reading where we can debate. We plead with your Chair.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, if only you are convinced that while the Chair shall be moving the Motion, he is able to build his case and highlight on areas. Now that the provision of our Standing Orders on the Second Reading of a Bill does not attract any form of amendments, is it in order that we proceed in that format as requested by the Leader of Majority? Is that the feeling of the House?

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Speaker: I expect, by the Standing Orders, that those who are for 'Yes' to be up standing.

(Several Members stood in their places)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, be seated. Under our guidance, Standing Order No. 135, which reads;

“(5) If for any reason, at the commencement of the Second Reading the report of the Committee has not been presented, the Committee concerned shall report progress to the County Assembly and the failure to present the report shall be noted by the Liaison Committee for necessary action.

(6) Despite paragraph (1):

(a) The Speaker may direct that a particular Bill be committed to such committee as the Speaker may determine.”

I so determine that we proceed. Chairperson, kindly proceed.

Hon. Clarence Munga: Thank you for your guidance, Hon. Speaker. I move:
THAT, the Nairobi City County Alcoholic Drinks Control and Licensing (Repeal) Bill, 2026 (Assembly Bill No. 3 of 2026) be read a Second Time.

I call upon my Vice Chair to second.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. In seconding the Nairobi City County Alcoholic Drinks Control and Licensing (Repeal) Bill, 2026, I want to emphasize that we are not just legislating for business but to save a generation. The 2024 Act served its purpose but the gaps in it have allowed illicit trade and regulated advertisements...

Point of Order

(Hon. Eric Murigu spoke off the record)

Hon. Speaker: Are you sure?

Hon. Eric Murigu: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: What does the Standing Order No. 46 say?

Hon. Eric Murigu: Mr. Speaker, the Hon. Member is reading...

Hon. Speaker: Order! You have not been granted.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Which Standing Order?

Hon. Speaker: He has cited Standing Order No. 46 on the Members' general statements.

Hon. Samson Ooko: Can I proceed?

(Hon. Eric Murigu spoke off the record)

Hon. Speaker: You are out of Order!

Hon. Samson Ooko: Thank you, Mr. Speaker for protecting me. I am seconding this Motion because we are not here to give documents that do not serve the community. We are here to ensure that this document helps a generation who have suffered before. We want a Bill that will ensure the rule of law is followed. We want a Bill that will ensure our kids are safe because you find that in some areas, people are selling and advertising alcohol within the residential areas. This is what the Bill is trying to cure. We cannot cure it if we do not have a substantive Bill to help us cure it. We are also hoping to get revenue from all bars and those that are not licensed because the County needs revenue. We are not able to collect revenue without a law to guide us, hence the reason for this Bill. Thank you Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to second the Bill.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Majority Leader.

Hon. Peter Imwatok: The spirit of the Bill needs to be worked on because it has been an emotive one. When we first passed the Liquor Board Act, it was to serve a certain period of time. The government wants this Bill done quickly to align ourselves with the current business realm within the city. As you are aware, we passed the Finance Bill, and part of the revenue was to

emanate from the Liquor Board Act. Therefore, I believe by the passing of this Act, we will get the best for the people of Nairobi.

Hon. Speaker, it is also surprising that for a very long time, we have not achieved our goals on collections for liquor. The spirit of this Act ought to be that liquor is not meant to make profit or development for the County but to correct, rehabilitate and create awareness in terms of consumption of liquor and other hard drugs. I believe that this Act will cure this, and for that reason, I beg to support.

Hon. Speaker: The mover.

Hon. Clarence Munga: Thank you Hon. Speaker. Allow me to thank the House for ventilating and allowing this kind of conversation. The importance of this Bill is repealing the other Bill that we had, that had a lot of loopholes. The Bill we have come up with has a lot of stakeholder engagement and interest, and the issues of minors and residents especially those with bars in residential areas. At the same time, we are incorporating how we are going to manage the running of the Liquor Board at the sub counties. While vetting, we ensure that a bar is given a license based on the location.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, we are giving authority to Liquor Board to manage and collect resources accordingly. A lot of people are setting up bars that are operating without licenses. We have given them leeway to comply so that they run their businesses in an open manner. Having said that Mr. Speaker, I beg to reply. Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

*(The Bill was read a Second Time and committed
to a Committee of the Whole House)*

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Speaker, that brings us to the close of business of the day. The Assembly stands adjourned in line with the Assembly calendar. I wish you a wonderful evening and stay. Thank you. I hope the Whips are around.

The House rose at 4: 26 p.m.

