



NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY

FIRST ASSEMBLY – SECOND SESSION

SEVENTH REPORT OF THE WATER AND SANITATION COMMITTEE
SITE INSPECTION VISIT TO LAINI SABA AND NYAYO HIGHRISE WARDS

Clerk's Chambers,
CITY HALL,
NAIROBI.

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PREFACE

The sectoral Committee on Water and Sanitation is one of the Sectoral Committees established under Standing Order 191. It is mandated under the Second Schedule to, among other functions oversee all matters related to Water and Sanitation Services; water distribution, regulation, marketing and sewerage services.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Committee on Water and Sanitation wishes to thank the offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the Nairobi City County Assembly for the support extended to it in the execution of its mandate. The committee also wishes to acknowledge and express its appreciation to the Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company for assigning officers who accompanied the Committee during the visit.

May I thank the Secretariat for their input and valuable contributions during and after the visit and compilation of this report.

Finally, much thanks to the Members of the Committee on Water and Sanitation. Your committed participation in the visit was invaluable for the exercise of the mandate of the Committee.

BACKGROUND

The Committee on Water and Sanitation conducted an inspection visit to the Laini Saba and Highrise Wards to assess the problem of Water distribution and sewerage services.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee on Water and Sanitation comprises the following members:

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|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Hon. Alex O. Otieno, MCA | - Chairman |
| 2. Hon. Kenneth Thugi, MCA | -Deputy Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Michael Ogada, MCA | |
| 4. Hon. Herman Azangu, MCA | |
| 5. Hon. Robert Mbatia, MCA | |
| 6. Hon. Beatrice Kwamboka, MCA | |
| 7. Hon. HashimKamau, MCA | |
| 8. Hon. Abdi Hassan, MCA | |
| 9. Hon. Pius Otieno, MCA | |
| 10. Hon. Celestyne Ongere, MCA | |
| 11. Hon. Hawa Dafala, MCA | |
| 12. Hon. Maurice Akuk, MCA | |
| 13. Hon. Oscar Lore, MCA | |
| 14. Hon. Victoria Alali, MCA | |
| 15. Hon. Monica Ndegwa, MCA | |
| 16. Hon. Nancy Mwaura, MCA | |
| 17. Hon. Peter Wanyoike, MCA | |

Hon. Members,

On behalf of the committee on Water and Sanitation, it is my pleasant duty and privilege, to present the Committee's Report on the inspection visit to Laini Saba and Highrise Wards.

DATE.....

SIGN.....

**Hon. Alex Ouda Otieno,
MCA, Chairman**

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the visit was to assess the problem of water distribution and sewerage services in Laini Saba and Nyayo Highrise Wards to facilitate recommendations for requisite action.

The Committee felt that it was critical for it to have firsthand experience of the situation in Laini Saba and Nyayo High Rise wards. This will form the basis on which the Committee will make recommendations that will inform the action to be taken.

METHODOLOGY

In Laini Saba, the Committee invited the area Member of County Assembly and an officer from Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company officer who led the Committee Members to the site where there was spillage of sewerage. In Nyayo Highrise Ward, the Committee was accompanied by the area Member of County Assembly, representatives from Kibera Slum Upgrading Programme, residents of Nyayo Highrise Estate, area opinion leaders and representatives of women groups. From these sources, the Committee was able to gather reliable information that will facilitate recommendations.

1.0 FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

1.1. LAINI SABA WARD

Laini Saba is one among the eighty five Wards that form Nairobi City County and one of the five wards in Kibra Constituency with an approximate population of 28,182 and an approximate area of 0.4 Km². Laini Saba Ward is represented by Hon. Bonface Kitavi, MCA, Nairobi City County Assembly. The following were the findings in Laini Saba Ward:

- i. The Committee's attention was mainly drawn to the blocked sewer line. The blockage of a man hole (annexed), cause a sewer vessel (annexed) to overflow allowing the sewer to spill into people's residence and on water pipes as pictured. Therefore the flow of raw sewerage through the residential area pre-exposes the residents to health risks.
- ii. The Committee was informed that effort by Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company to address the problem has been deterred by a house (annexed) constructed on the sewer line.
- iii. The Committee was informed that even though the residents of Laini Saba have relative access to drinking water, there are cartels that operate water services. Through this, the cartels sell water to the residents at own benefit.
- iv. The Committee also observed the effort put in by Non-Governmental Organizations to assist the people of Laini Saba have access to water services and sewerage through various initiatives.

1.2 NYAYO HIGHRISE WARD

Nyayo Highrise Ward is one of the eighty five Wards that form Nairobi City County and one of the five wards in Langata Constituency with an approximate population of 24,191 covering an area of 0.4 km². Nyayo High Rise Ward is represented by Hon. Maurice Akuk, MCA, Nairobi City County Assembly. The following were the findings in Nyayo High Rise Ward:

- The Committee was informed that there are cartels that operate water services and who from the illegal business sell the water to the residents and Ksh.20 per 20 liter container and the piped water is rationed and is supplied only once a week.
- ii. The participants from the Ward reported that the safety and hygiene of the water sold by the vendors to the residents is not guaranteed.
 - iii. The pump (picture annexed) in Nyayo Highrise estate whose construction was sponsored by a Non-Governmental Organization has broken down and no longer supply water to the residents.
 - iv. The piped water to the Ward comes with very low pressure and therefore cannot push water up storage tanks.
 - v. The Committee was informed that there was a project to tap water from Shadrack Primary school but the project stalled following prohibition to dig under the Railway to allow passage of water pipe.
 - vi. In Zone B and D the Members were informed that there was no sewer line and therefore the ablution blocks get full exposing the residents to health risks.
 - vii. Residents also complained that they either get wrong water bills or get bills that belong to other people.
 - viii. Representative from Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company reported there was a lot of non-revenue water through leakages and illegal connections leading to low pressure.
 - ix. It was reported that NWSC is to implement meter chambers to curb interference with water meters.
 - x. There are many players in sewerage services that implement projects that are vulnerable to damage and later may break exposing the people to health risks.
 - xi. The Committee was informed that Athi Water Services is soon implementing a project to increase water volume in Kabete from Kigiri to increase water supply.

2.0 CONCLUSION

The Committee on Water and Sanitation of Nairobi City County Assembly resolved to conduct an inspection visit to various wards within the County and therefore on 3rd March 2014, the Committee conducted an inspection visits to Laini Saba and Nyayo Highrise Wards in the company of Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company and the Ward Member of County Assembly.

The Committee met the Laini Saba Ward Representative who led the Committee to see the sewerage situation in the Ward. In Nyayo Highrise the Committee met the Ward Representative, opinion leaders, women group representatives and representatives of the Kibera Slum Upgrading Programme

From the foregoing, the Committee noted that whereas sewerage problem dominated discussions in Laini Saba Ward, in Nyayo Highrise Ward the residents highlighted water services as the main problem that affect the residents. Based on these, the Committee made its recommendations that action to address the problems will be based.

3.1 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LAINI SABA WARD

- i. The Ward Representative to work together with administrative leaders to facilitate the excavation into the wall of the house deterring access to the man hole to enable Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company to unblock the vessel and allow flow.
- ii. The Committee, on the issue of illegal connection to water lines and operation by cartels informed the participants that it is liaising with the executive to initiate an Anti-Vandalism Bill that will subject culprits to law if caught.
- iii. The Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company to safeguard water pipes running through the area from sewer spillage to avoid outbreak of diseases.

3.2 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NYAYO HIGH RISE WARD

- i. The Committee to follow up on the Anti- Vandalism Bill with the Executive and Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company that will help in eradicating illegal connections and damaging of water and sewerage infrastructure.
- ii. The Committee to pursue the issue of Anti-Anti- Vandalism Bill with Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company on the issue and also on the bill to control water vendors in the County.
- iii. The Committee recommends that the Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company carry out an investigation into the problem of the broken down pump in Nyayo High Rise and give a report to the Committee, stating how the problem will be solved.
- iv. The Committee recommended that a sensitization workshop be conducted to educate the residents to co-operate with Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company in its effort to seal leakages and deal with illegal connections that reduce water pressure in the pipes.
- v. In the long term, the Committee to follow up on that the Athi Water Services project to increase water volume at Kabete from Kigiri that will address the issue of low pressure.
- vi. The Committee to work closely with Nairobi Water and Sewerage Company to address the issue of Sewerage in Zones B and D.