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The Joseph Nounge, mich country government of Nairobi City

on the Decenter 2023 - Houring

Committee to planning

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NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY 29 HOV 2023

THIRD ASSEMBLY

[PUBLIC PETITION PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 214]

(SECOND SESSION)

BY RESIDENTS OF GHETTO VILLAGE IN KIAMAIKO WARD, MATHARE SUB-COUNTY ON ALLOCATION OF PUBLIC LAND TO AN INDIVIDUAL WITHIN NAIROBI CITY COUNTY.

WE THE UNDERSIGNED Citizens of Kenya who are residents of Ghetto village. Kiamaiko Ward in Mathare Sub-County within Nairobi County;

DRAW the attention of the County Assembly of Nairobi to the following: -

AWARE THAT, Article 185 of the constitution vests the legislative authority and oversight of the County governments in the county assembly;

THAT, Article 62 of the constitution mandates the County governments to hold in trust public land on behalf of county residents;

THAT, the Kenya National Land Use Policy 2017 recognizes the need for social development that takes cognizance for provision of basic infrastructure and services;

THAT, Ghetto Village was established in the late 1970s as a decanting site for the victims of a deadly fire that swept across Huruma village and comprises of 1050 households. The residents of the village are among the people who were allocated plots on what is currently known as Huruma Fire Victims 1 village. These residents were requested to settle in the said plots while the government sought for more land which, is yet to be done;

THAT, in 1995, the defunct Nairobi City Council, Huruma Community, Pamoja Trust, Intermediary Technology Development Group, COOPI and Shelter Forum entered into a partnership to undertake slum upgrading and survey services. The programme was to be done by COOPI and an MoU was signed between the then Mayor of Nairobi, His Worship Joe Aketch and the Huruma Network of villages I.e Ghetto, Mahira, Redeemed, Kambi Moto and Gitahuru which were accordingly declared as Special Planning Areas;

THAT WHEREAS, approvals for plans to develop Ghetto village for 550 decent houses was issued on 12th November 2009, the government secretly changed ownership of a huge chunk of the land to one Francis Mbau Murigi;

THAT WHEREAS, a letter which was written to the Commissioner of Lands by the then Director for City Planning to revoke the title deed that was irregularly awarded for plot No. 209/12290 the same was never acted upon;

THAT, although the upgrading works are ongoing albeit at a slow pace, the residents feel shortchanged and unfairly treated since the land was greatly reduced to only a quarter of its original land size the Ministry of Lands allocating land to an individual without consulting and notifying the residents;

THAT WHEREAS, through the Kenya Informal Settlement Slum Improvement Programme (KISIP) and World Bank, Ghetto Village and other informal settlements were to benefit through its infrastructure and obtaining of land ownership documents programme but the organizations pulled out on realizing that the land had been hived off and allocated to a private person;

THAT WHEREAS, we, confirm that efforts have been made to have the matter addressed by the relevant body, it falled to give a satisfactory response;

AND THAT, all the matters in respect of which the petition is raised is not pending before any court of law or constitutional body.

NOW HEREFORE, your humble Petitioner PRAYS that the County Assembly of Nairobi County intervenes and recommends that; -

- a) The land that was illegally allocated to one Francis Mbau Murigi be reverted to Ghetto Lands and Housing Cooperative Society and title deed issued in favor of Francis Mbau Murigi be revoked; and
- b) The Department of Lands to transfer and register the title of the said piece of land to the legitimate owners i.e Ghetto Lands and Housing Cooperative Society, the umbrella body under which all residents are registered members.

And we will forever pray.

Presented by;

Hon. Ndung'u Joseph, MCA

On behalf of;

Ghetto Village Residents.

And by extension;

All residents of Nairobi County.

THE CLERK,
NAIROBI CITY COUNTY ASSEMBLY,
CITY HALL,
NAIROBI.

SUBJECT: PUBLIC PETITION BY RESIDENTS OF GHETTO
VILLAGE, KIAMAIKO WARD IN MATHARE SUB-COUNTY

**WE THE UNDERSIGNED** Citizens of Kenya who are residents of Ghetto village, Kiamaiko Ward in Mathare Sub-County;

DRAW the attention of the County Assembly of Nairobi to the following: -

**AWARE THAT**, Article 185 of the constitution vests the legislative authority and oversight of the County governments in the county assembly;

**THAT**, Article 62 of the constitution mandates the County government to hold in trust public land on behalf of county residents;

**THAT**, the Kenya National Land Use Policy 2017 recognizes the need for social development that takes cognizance for provision of basic infrastructure and services;

**THAT WHEREAS**, Ghetto Village was established in the late 1970s as a decanting site for the victims of deadly fire that swept across Huruma village. It comprises of 1050 households. The residents of the village are among the people who were allocated plots on what is currently now as Huruma Fire Victims 1 village. These residents were requested to reside in the said plots while the government sought for more land. This has not been undertaken.

**THAT WHEREAS,** in 1995, the defunct Nairobi City Council, Huruma Community, Pamoja Trust, Intermediary Technology Development Group, COOPI and Shelter Forum entered into a partnership to undertake slum upgrading and survey services. The programme was to be done by COOPI. In this regard, an MoU was signed between the then Mayor of Nairobi, His Worship Joe Aketch and the Huruma Network of villages i.e Ghetto, Mahira, Redeemed, Kambi Moto and Gitahuru which were accordingly declared as Special Planning Areas.

THAT WHEREAS, approvals for plans to develop Ghetto village for 550 decent houses was issued om 12<sup>th</sup> November 2009 and the residents began activities of making the area more aesthetic. In a sad turn of events, it came to the notice of the residents that without knowledge of and disclosure from anyone or government, a huge chunk of the land had secretly changed ownership and given to Francis Mbau Murigi;

THAT WHEREAS, a letter dated 12th February 2005 had been written to Commissioner of Lands by the then Director for City Planning, Mr. Tom Odongo seeking revocation of the title deed that was irregularly awarded for plot No. 209/12290. The letter was not acted upon. This turn of events came as a shock to the residents.

**THAT WHEREAS**, although the upgrading works are ongoing albeit at a slow pace, the residents feel shortchanged and unfairly treated since the land was greatly reduced to only a quarter of its original piece. In addition, the residents feel ill neglected for the Ministry of Lands to allocate County land without consulting and notifying it;

**THAT WHEREAS**, the import of the MoU that was signed was to achieve the following:

- i) To protect the residents against arbitrary eviction and demolitions;
- ii) To encourage investment and housing development;
- iii) To allow owners to leverage equity for credit;
- iv) To allow for provision of infrastructure and public services;
- v) To guard against gentrification and loss of land by the poor;
- vi) To guard against use of land for speculative purposes; and
- vii)To ensure that subsidies to the urban poor remain with the urban poor.

**THAT WHEREAS,** through Kenya Informal Settlement Slum Improvement Programme (KISIP) and World Bank, Ghetto Village and other informal settlements ware to benefit through its infrastructure and obtaining of land ownership documents programme. But the organizations pulled out on realizing that the land had been hived off and allocated to a private person.

**THAT WHEREAS**, we, confirm that efforts have been made to have the matter addressed by the relevant body, it failed to give a satisfactory response;

AND THAT, all the matters in respect of which the petition is raised is not pending before any court of law or constitutional body;

THEREFORE, our humble PRAYER; is that the Nairobi City County Assembly:

- a) intervenes and orders for the for the reversal of the allocation of the land to private person, Francis Mbau Murigi and directs that the title deed be revoked; and
- b) direct the Department of Lands to register the title to the legitimate owners i.e Ghetto Lands and Housing Cooperative Society, the umbrella body under which all residents are registered members.

And we will forever pray.

Signed by:

Name ID No. Signature

**Mobile** 

1) Samuel Mbutis 12762470

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On behalf of the Petitioners

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