

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

---

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – SIXTH SESSION

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The National Assembly proceeds on *Sin Die* Recess

# The National Assembly

## proceeds on *Sin Die Recess*

1. The National Assembly on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 proceeded on *Sin Die Recess* in accordance with the Calendar of the House. The Recess comes ahead of the impending end of the term of the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament (2017-2022) on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 at midnight pursuant to the provisions of Article 102 of the Constitution.
2. The National Assembly commenced legislative business in September 2017. Since then, up to Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2022, the House fulfilled its Constitutional mandate and performed its functions as representatives of the people and special interests. The blend of business transacted ranged from the consideration and passage of Bills, Motions, Petitions, Questions, Statements among others. It is worth noting that some of the Legislation, Motions and Regulations, particularly those passed during the COVID-19 pandemic period, played a major role in assisting the country to manage and cope with the resultant effects of the pandemic on the economy, health and social sectors.

Below is the summary of the performance of the National Assembly during the period;

### (i) **BILLS**

A total of **157** Bills were passed by the National Assembly in the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament (2017 - 2022) as follows;

	<b>Year</b>	<b>No. of Bills</b>
a)	Bills Passed in 2017	3
b)	Bills Passed in 2018	20

c)	Bills Passed in 2019	29
d)	Bills Passed in 2020	24
e)	Bills Passed in 2021	29
f)	Bills Passed in 2022	18
g)	Bills Passed and awaiting consideration by the Senate as at 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	34
	<b>Total No. of Bills Passed by the National Assembly, 2017-2022</b>	<b>157</b>

3. Besides the annual Appropriation and Finance Bills, some of the major Bills passed by the House during the term of the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament included the following –

- (i) The Children Bill, 2021
- (ii) The Foreign Service Bill, 2021
- (iii) The Sustainable Waster Management Bill, 2021
- (iv) The Sacco Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2021
- (v) The Community Groups Registration Bill, 2021
- (vi) The County Governments Additional Allocations Bill 2021
- (vii) The Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2020
- (viii) The Statute Law (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill, 2020 which amended various statutes including the Interpretation and General Provisions Act (Cap. 2); the Records Disposal Act (Cap. 14); the Penal Code (Cap. 63); the Public Holidays Act (Cap.109); the Firearms Act (Cap. 114); the Official Secrets Act (Cap.187); the Kenya Roads Board Act, 1999; the Statistics Act, 2006 among others.
- (ix) The Statute Law (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill, 2019 which amended various statutes including the Microfinance Act, 2006; the Merchant Shipping Act, 2009; the Tourism Act, 2011; the Public Finance Management Act, 2012; the Prevention of Terrorism Act, 2012, the Kenya

Law Reform Commission Act, 2013, the Value Added Tax, 2013, the Wildlife Conservation and Management Act, 2013, the Companies Act, 2015; the Insolvency Act, 2015; the Court of Appeal (Organization and Administration) Act, 2015 among others.

- (x) The Data Protection Bill, 2019
- (xi) The Sectional Properties Bill, 2019
- (xii) The Refugees Bill, 2019
- (xiii) The Tea Bill, 2018
- (xiv) The Nuclear Regulatory Bill, 2018
- (xv) The Parliamentary Service Bill, 2018
- (xvi) The County Governments Retirement Benefits Scheme Bill, 2018
- (xvii) The National Youth Service Bill, 2018
- (xviii) The Early Childhood Education Bill, 2018
- (xix) The Waqf Bill, 2017
- (xx) The Computer Misuse and Cybercrime Bill, 2017
- (xxi) The Physical Planning and Land Use Bill, 2017
- (xxii) The Petroleum Bill, 2017
- (xxiii) The Irrigation Bill, 2017
- (xxiv) The Energy Bill, 2017
- (xxv) The Warehouse Receipt System Bill, 2017
- (xxvi) The Kenya Coast Guard Service Bill, 2017

4. In addition, a total of 102 Bills were undergoing debate in the National Assembly as at 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 when the House proceeded on *Sin Die* Recess, out of which a total of 64 were National Assembly while 35 were Senate Bills. Part of the delay in the processing of Senate Bills in the National Assembly was *Suo Moto* occasioned by the Senate's decision to republish many of its Bills in 2021 mid-way through the term of the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

5. Some of the National Assembly Bills that remained pending as at 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2022, and which may be republished for reintroduction in the next Parliament include the following –
  - (i) The Huduma Bill, 2021
  - (ii) The Coffee Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 17, 2021)
  - (iii) The National Rating Bill, 2022
  - (iv) The Petroleum Products (Taxes and Levies) (Amendment) Bill, 2021
  - (v) The Forest Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2021
  - (vi) The Public Debt Management Authority Bill, 2020
  - (vii) The Central Bank of Kenya (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 47 of 2020)
  - (viii) The Geriatric Bill, 2021
  
6. Some of the Senate Bills that were still undergoing consideration at various stages in the National Assembly at the end of the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament include –
  - (i) The Mung Beans Bill (Senate Bill No. 9 of 2020)
  - (ii) The Investment Promotion (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bill No. 2 of 2021)
  - (iii) The Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bill No. 11 of 2020)
  - (iv) The Startup Bill (Senate Bill No. 1 of 2021)
  - (v) The Care and Protection of Child Parents Bill, 2019
  
7. The 2 Bills that were undergoing Mediation process as at Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2022 were -
  - (i) The Wildlife Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bill No. 30 of 2020).
  - (ii) The Coffee Bill (Senate Bill No. 22 of 2020).

## (ii) MOTIONS

8. The Twelfth Parliament was able to debate and pass several important Motions touching on the governance, economic and social sectors of the country. Between 2017 and 2022, a total of **826 Motions** were introduced, with **700** of those being considered and concluded. The matters under consideration included the approval of the appointment of over **100** persons to hold several state and public offices in the government, including Cabinet Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, members of various Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices, among them the First Female Chief Justice to hold the position in the history of the country. Besides that, there was the approval for appointment of over **60** Ambassadors and High Commissioners to Kenya's foreign missions. There was also a Motion passed to enable the compilation of the History of Parliament. Additionally, there were debates on various Committee reports tabled on various matters including: -

- (i) Inquiries into Forest resource management and logging activities in Kenya, Alleged Importation of illegal and contaminated sugar into the country; complaints of environmental pollution by London Distillers Limited Kenya, Optimization of Revenue in Grain Handling Services at the Port of Mombasa, among others;
- (ii) The audited financial statements of the National Government agencies, state corporations and special funds. These included reports on the Kenya Roads Board Fund, Uwezo Fund, Youth Enterprise Fund, Kenya Medical Supplies Authority, Lake Turkana Wind Power Project, Kenya Ferry Services;
- (iii) Various Regulations and Orders, especially to effect Ministry of Health measures to manage and contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus through restriction of movement and curfew orders, sanitation measures, reduction of VAT and PAYE for Kenyans and on certain products/items for a short period, approval of an increase in the Public Debt Ceiling, National Drought Emergency Fund) Regulations; and,

(iv) Formulation of Parliamentary Broadcasting Channels; a Fact Finding Mission on the Welfare of Migrant Kenyan Workers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; and Deplorable Working Conditions of Workers at the Kwale International Sugar Company Limited, among others.

### **(iii) PETITIONS**

9. Article 119 of the Constitution accords every person a right to petition Parliament on any matter within its authority including petitioning the House to enact, amend or even repeal legislation. Consequently, citizens presented over **315 petitions** on various matters which were conveyed either through Members of Parliament or reported by the Speaker to the House. Some of the diverse issues raised in the said Petitions were on the following subjects –

- (i) The drastic increase in the price of petroleum and petroleum products.
- (ii) Proposed demolition of Seefar Apartments in Nairobi County purported to be have been on riparian land.
- (iii) Issuance of national identity cards to persons from Nubian community.
- (iv) Cases of human-wildlife conflict in several parts of the country.
- (v) Implementation of the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC).
- (vi) Implementation of the Teacher Professional Development Programme and delocalization policy by the Teachers Service Commission.
- (vii) Instances of insecurity in various parts of the country.
- (viii) Classification of hardship areas for public servants.
- (ix) Resettlement of citizens due to road works or projects by government agencies such as KETRACO and KENGEN.
- (x) Land issues relating to dispossession of ancestral land by the British colonialists, displacement due to mining activities, non-issuance of title deeds and allotment letters, evictions from land.
- (xi) Withdrawal of harmful pesticides from the Kenyan market.

- (xii) Increase in food prices as well as animal feed prices.
- (xiii) Compensation to victims of disasters.
- (xiv) Waiver of VAT on textbooks, journals and periodicals.
- (xv) Requests for amendments to the Constitution and existing Acts such as the Advocates Act and the Elections Act.

**(iv) TREATIES/PROTOCOLS/AGREEMENTS/CONVENTIONS**

10. The House also played its role in approving the Ratification of various Treaties, Protocols, Agreements and Conventions as per the provisions of the Treaty Making and Ratification Act. The **29** instruments approved for ratification in the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament included –

- (i) The Nile Basin Cooperative Framework Agreement.
- (ii) Protocol to operationalize the Extended Jurisdiction of the East African Court of Justice.
- (iii) Protocol to operationalize the East African Community Protocol on Privileges and Immunities.
- (iv) The African Continental Free Trade Area (AFCFTA) Agreement; and the Ratification of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA)
- (v) The East African Community Protocol on Cooperation of Meteorological Services.
- (vi) The Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products.
- (vii) The East African Community Protocol on Information and Communication Technology Network.
- (viii) The Bilateral Air Services Agreement between the Republic of Kenya and the Kingdom of Jordan; the Republic of Kenya and Jamaica and the Republic of Kenya and the Commonwealth of The Bahamas; and the Protocol amending Air Services Agreement between the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Turkey.

- (ix) The Protocol on the Free Movement of Persons and its Implementation Roadmap.
- (x) The Revised Constitution of the African Civil Aviation Commission.
- (xi) The Protocol to amend the Convention on Offences and Certain Acts Committed on Board Aircraft (Montreal Protocol, 2014).
- (xii) The Bilateral Air Services Agreements between Kenya & the Hellenic Republic; Kenya & Burkina Faso; Kenya & Cambodia; Kenya & Seychelles; and Kenya & Finland.
- (xiii) The Agreement for the Setting Up of a Regional Maritime Information Exchange and Sharing Mechanism in the Western Indian Ocean Region and the Regional Agreement on the Co-ordination of operations at Sea in the Western Indian Ocean.
- (xiv) The Agreement for the Establishment of the International Anti-Corruption Academy as an International Organization.
- (xv) The Beijing Treaty on Audio-Visual Performances.
- (xvi) The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Republic of South Africa on Defence Co-operation.
- (xvii) The Multilateral Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance on Tax Matters.
- (xviii) The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Italian Republic on the Luigi-Broglio Malindi Space Centre.
- (xix) The Accession to the Convention on the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) by the Republic of Kenya.
- (xx) Kenya's Accession to the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance.
- (xxi) The Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Republic of Mauritius.

- (xxii) The Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between the Republic of Kenya, a member of the East African Community of the one part and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.
- (xxiii) The Agreement amending the Air Transport Agreement between Kenya and the United States of America.
- (xxiv) The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa.
- (xxv) The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa.
- (xxvi) Various maritime conventions including:
  - (a) The 2014 and 2018 Amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006;
  - (b) The International Labour Organization Convention C185 (Amended Convention on Seafarers Identity Documents, 2003)
  - (c) The International Labour Organization Convention C188 (Work in Fishing Convention, 2007);
  - (d) The International Convention on the Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel, 1995; and
  - (e) The Cape Town Agreement of 2012 on Safety of Fishing Vessels.
- (xxvii) The Bilateral Air Services Agreement between the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of South Africa; and between the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Botswana.
- (xxviii) The Bilateral Air Services Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Russian Federation.
- (xxix) The Agreement between the Kingdom of Denmark and the Republic of Kenya on Defence Cooperation.

## **(v) QUESTIONS**

11. A Parliamentary Question is an oversight tool formally put to Government Ministries or Independent offices and Constitutional Commissions by Members of Parliament to seek for information or press for action with a view to enhance accountability as provided for under Article 95(2) and 153(4) (b) of the Constitution.
12. During the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament, **2,166** Questions were processed. A total of **1,974** Questions, out of which 1933 were Ordinary Questions while 67 were Questions by Private Notice, were referred to the Departmental Committees for responses from the relevant Ministries. 67 Questions were dispatched for written reply by the relevant Government Departments, Agencies Independent Offices, and Constitutional Commissions. By end of the term, a total of 125 Questions had not been responded to.
13. The Questions mainly concerned areas that impact directly on the lives of the people including security, land, water, access to education, social welfare, provision of health services, infrastructure, among others.

## **(vi) PAPERS LAID**

14. A vast array of papers are usually laid on the Table of the House in any given Parliament. The practice of laying papers on the Table is the logical consequence of Parliaments' inherent right to information as well as enforcing executive accountability to it. In order to enforce the accountability of public undertakings, it has been made mandatory for government bodies to lay their annual reports, audited accounts among other reports and papers on the table of the Houses of Parliament.

15. In the course of enforcing accountability in the executive, the National Assembly received various papers submitted for laying on the Table of House. Such papers included -
- (a) Reports submitted by His Excellency, the President in fulfilment of the provisions of Articles 132(1) (c) and 240(7) of the Constitution;
  - (b) Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements of the public entities submitted pursuant to Article 229 (7) of the Constitution;
  - (c) Annual Reports and Financial Statements including performance reports from various National Government institutions pursuant to Article 153(4)(b) of the Constitution;
  - (d) Reports by National Government Constituencies Development Funds' Board pursuant to NGCD Act;
  - (e) Reports by the House Committees on various activities under their mandate including reports on consideration of Bills pursuant to the enabling statutes and Standing Orders as a case may be;
  - (f) Statutory Instruments submitted pursuant to section 11 of the Statutory Instruments Act and Sessional Papers. The Leader of the Majority Party or any other Member of the House Business Committee designated by him/her or a Chairperson of a House Committee in the case of a Committee Report lays these papers; and
  - (g) Sessional papers prepared by National Executive outlining some policy options and courses of action on particular thematic areas under their mandates for laying before the House.

## **(vii) STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS/REGULATIONS**

16. During the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament, the National Assembly received, over **269 Statutory Instruments/Regulations** out of which the House considered and either approved, or annulled.

Besides the various Public Health (Covid-19 Restriction of Movement of Persons and Related Measures) Orders approved in 2020 to manage and contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, some of the Statutory Instruments **approved** include the following –

- (a) Public Service Commission (County Appeal Procedures) Regulations, 2022.
- (b) The National Gender and Equality Commission (Complaint Handling Procedure) Regulations, 2021.
- (c) The Irrigation (General) Regulations, 2021.
- (d) The Partnerships (Limited Partnerships) Regulations, 2021.
- (e) The Public Finance Management (National Roads Toll Fund) Regulations, 2021.
- (f) The Tax Procedures (Unassembled Motorcycles) (Amendment)(No. 2) Regulations, 2021.
- (g) The Designation of Basin Areas.
- (h) The various Physical and Land Use Planning related Regulations.
- (i) The Political Parties (Membership) Regulations, 2021.
- (j) The various Data Protection related Regulations.
- (k) The Nairobi International Financial Centre (General) Regulations, 2021.
- (l) Traffic (Driving schools, Driving Instructors and Driving Licences) Rules, 2020.
- (m) The Companies (Beneficial Ownership Information) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022.
- (n) The Central Bank of Kenya (Digital Credit Providers) Regulations, 2022.
- (o) The various Retirement Benefits (Amendment) related Regulations

- (p) The Water Services Regulations, 2021.
- (q) The Water Harvesting and Storage, Regulations, 2021.
- (r) The Breakfast Milk Substitutes (Regulation and Control) (General) Regulations, 2021.
- (s) The Tax Procedures (Unassembled Motorcycles) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021.
- (t) The Petroleum Development Levy Order, 2020.
- (u) The Matrimonial Proceedings Rules, 2020.
- (v) Standards (Verification of Conformity to Standards and Other Applicable Regulations) Order, 2020.
- (w) Tax Procedures (Settlement of Tax Disputes out of Court or Tribunal) Regulations, 2020.
- (x) Public Health (Prevention, Control and Suppression of COVID-19) Rules, 2020.
- (y) Public Health Order (Declaration of Formidable Disease) Order, 2020.
- (z) Public Order (State Curfew) Order, 2020.
- (aa) Public Order (State Curfew) Variation Orders, 2020.
- (bb) Crops (Horticultural Crops) Regulations, 2020
- (cc) Judiciary Fund Regulations.
- (dd) The Public Finance (Tourism Promotion Fund) Regulations, 2019.
- (ee) The Air Passengers Service Charge (Apportionment) Order, 2019.

17. Some of the Statutory Instruments **annulled** include –

- (a) The Scrap Metal Rules, 2022.
- (b) The Crops (Coffee) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021.
- (c) Crops (Sugar) (General) Regulations, 2020.
- (d) Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Regulations, 2020.
- (e) Public Finance Management (Women Enterprise Fund) (Revocation) Regulations, 2019.

- (f) Public Finance Management (Youth Enterprise Development Fund) (Revocation), Regulations, 2019.
- (g) Public Finance Management (Uwezo Fund) (Revocation) Regulations, 2019.
- (h) Public Finance Management (Biashara Kenya Fund) Regulations, 2019.

**(viii) SESSIONAL PAPERS**

18. Sessional Papers are policy documents formulated by government ministries to guide implementation or realization of particular government development agenda by the relevant line ministry. They are precursors to substantive legislation, are prepared by Government Ministries and Departments outlining policy options and courses of action on particular thematic areas. Sessional Papers usually require the approval of the House before their implementation.

During the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament, the House received a total of **19** Sessional Papers. **13** were considered and approved while 6 were pending approval by 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The following Sessional Papers were approved –

- (a) Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2017 on the National Land Use Policy.
- (b) Sessional Paper No. 2 of 2017 on the Kenya Health Policy for the period 2014-2030.
- (c) Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2017 on the National Policy on Climate Finance.
- (d) Sessional Paper No. 5 of 2016 on the National Climate Change Framework Policy.
- (e) Sessional Paper No. 6 of 2016 on the National Urban Development Policy.
- (f) Sessional Paper No. 7 of 2016 on the Mining and Minerals Policy.
- (g) Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2016 on the National Housing Policy.
- (h) Sessional Paper No. 2 of 2018 on the National Ethics and Anti-Corruption Policy.
- (i) Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2019 on Reforming Education and Training for Sustainable Development.

- (j) Sessional Paper No. 2 of 2019 on the National Policy on Gender and Development.
- (k) Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2020 on the Wildlife Policy.
- (l) Sessional Paper No. 4 of 2020 on the National Cooperative Policy.
- (m) Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2021 on the National Water Policy.

**(ix) REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

19. Article 229(4) of the Constitution requires the Auditor-General to within 6 months after the end of a financial year to audit and report on the accounts of the national and county governments; all funds and authorities of the national and county governments; all courts; every commission and independent offices; the National Assembly, the Senate and county assemblies; political parties funded from public funds; public debt, any other entity that legislation requires. Further, articles 229(7) & (8) of the Constitution require that the audit reports shall be submitted to Parliament or the relevant county assembly, which shall within 3 months after receiving an audit report debate and consider the said report and take appropriate action.
20. Various of the Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements were submitted to the National Assembly, part of which were examined by the relevant Committees, and reports considered by the House. They include the following –
  - (a) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements on the National Treasury for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
  - (b) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements on the National Treasury for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
  - (c) Report of the Auditor-General for the National Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies for the year 2020-2021.

- (d) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on State Officers and Public Officers Motor Car Loan Scheme Fund for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- (e) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on Uwezo Fund for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- (f) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on Women Enterprise Fund for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- (g) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on Civil Servants Housing Scheme Fund for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- (h) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on National Cohesion and Integration Commission for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- (i) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on the National Treasury for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021.
- (j) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements on Sports Kenya for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
- (k) Report of the Auditor-General on Annual Report and Financial Statements on Kirinyaga University for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
- (l) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on Embakasi North Constituency for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
- (m) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on National Government Constituencies Development Fund Mathare Constituency for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020.
- (n) Report of the Auditor-General and the Financial Statements on Embakasi North Constituency for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019.
- (o) Report of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements on Ol'lessos Technical Training Institute for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018
- (p) Report of the Auditor General and the Financial Statements on Baringo Technical College for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

(q) Special Report of the Auditor General on Pending Bills of the 47 County Governments as at 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2018.

Even during *Sin Die* Recess, the National Assembly continues to receive various reports of the Auditor - General, which will be laid on the Table of the House at the earliest opportunity when the House next sits.

### **(x) AMENDMENTS TO THE STANDING ORDERS**

21. The National Assembly also marked a major milestone during its term by translating its Standing Orders into Kiswahili in 2019. Further, various progressive amendments were made to the Standing Orders in preparation for the 13<sup>th</sup> Parliament, arising out of the experiences garnered by Members.

The four thematic areas that informed the proposals for amendments were the need for sufficient timelines for public participation on various legislative business; the need to improve efficiency in the workings of Committees and the Chairperson's Panel; the need for Recognition of Constitutional offices and Members' service to the House; and the need to clarify the place of Parties other than Parliamentary Parties and Independent Members in the House.

22. In summary, the following notable amendments were made by the House to the Standing Orders –

- (a) Increase of the Chairperson's Panel from four (4) to six (6);
- (b) Increase of the period for Committees to consider Bills from the current twenty-one days to thirty days;
- (c) Co-sponsorship of Bills within the House and between the two Houses;

- (d) Exemption of the following legislative proposals pre-publication scrutiny—
- (i) Proposals originating from Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices which relate to their mandate and are accompanied by a policy underpinning and evidence of stakeholder consultations;
  - (ii) proposals arising from a resolution of the House;
  - (iii) proposals that were passed by the House but lapsed at the expiry of the preceding term of Parliament; and
  - (iv) proposals that were read a Second time but lapsed at the expiry of the preceding term of Parliament.
- (e) Reduction of general Membership of Committees to fifteen Members;
- (f) Splitting of the Public Investment Committee to create two (2) additional Committees with a sunset provision. This will aid in reducing the current backlog that is hampering the work of the Committee;
- Split of the Public Investments Committee to 3 Committees:
- i. Public Investments Committee on Governance and Education,**
  - ii. Public Investments Committee on Commercial Affairs & Energy, and**
  - iii. Public Investments Committee on Social Services, Administration and Agriculture.**
- (g) Establishment of five (5) additional Departmental Committees to increase specialization and efficiency and rationalize the subjects under the mandate of the existing committees;
- 1. Housing, Urban Planning & Public Works**
- From the Departmental Committee on Transport, Public Works and Housing to deal with: *Housing, public works, urban planning, metropolitan affairs, housing development and built environment.*

## **2. Regional Development**

From the Departmental Committee on Administration & National Security to deal with matters relating to: *Regional development, including regional development authorities; refugee affairs; devolution; inclusive growth; arid and semi-arid areas; disaster risk management; drought, famine and disaster response; and post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation.*

## **3. Social Protection**

From the Departmental Committee on Labour & Social Welfare to deal with matters relating to: *Social welfare and security, pension matters, gender affairs, equality and affirmative action, affairs of children, youth, persons with disability and senior citizens.*

## **4. Tourism & Wildlife**

From the Departmental Committees on Sports, Culture & Tourism and Environment & Natural Resources to deal with matters relating to: *Tourism & tourism promotion and management, tourism research and wildlife management.*

## **5. Water, Fisheries & Irrigation**

From the Departmental Committee on Environment & Natural Resources and Agriculture & Livestock to deal with matters relating to: *Use and regulation of water resources, irrigation, fisheries development including promotion of aquaculture, fish farming, marine fisheries and blue economy.*

- (h) Establishment of a **Committee on Diaspora and Migration Matters** to be responsible for, *inter alia*, the protection of the rights of Kenyans and their families in the diaspora;
- (i) Establishment of a **Public Debt and Privatization Committee** to closely examine issues relating to the national debt and any proposed privatization of public assets towards the repayment of debt;
- (j) Establishment of a **Decentralized Funds Account Committee** as a split from the current extensive mandate of the Special Funds Accounts Committee;

- (k) Establishment of a **Public Petitions Committee** to consider all petitions tabled in the House;
- (l) Provision for the manner of making reservations to treaties submitted for the House to approve ratification;
- (m) Anchoring in the Standing Orders of the form for the nomination paper for election as Speaker and the form for the collection of Members' Biodata; and
- (n) A requirement for publishing of a Roll of Members who served in Parliament before the conclusion of their term as a public record.

## **CONCLUSION**

23. The National Assembly is in the process of compiling its **legacy report** for the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament (2017-2022), to outline its achievements, hand over the baton to the 13<sup>th</sup> Parliament, and reflect on the road ahead. The National Assembly remains at the forefront in discharging its constitutional mandate and transforming the country into a more democratic nation.

**MICHAEL R. SIALAI, CBS**  
**CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**(as at 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2022)**