



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (SECOND SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

MORNING SITTING

WEDNESDAY, MAY 31, 2023 AT 9.30 AM

1. The Senate assembled at thirty Minutes past Nine O'clock.
2. The proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.
3. **QUORUM IN THE HOUSE**

The Speaker, having counted the Honourable Senators present at the commencement of the Sitting and confirming that there was no Quorum, caused the Bell to be rung for ten minutes pursuant to Standing Order 40;

And there being no quorum at the expiry of the ten minutes, the speaker caused the Bell to be rung for a further ten minutes;

And there being a Quorum after the expiry of the ten minutes;

The Speaker invited the Clerk to call the Orders of the day.

4. **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

QUESTIONS

Question 022 by Senator for Kakamega County (Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale, CBS MP) on remedial action to facilitate resumption of learning in Mukumu Girls' High School was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Education.

Question 008 by Nominated Senator (Sen. Veronicah Maina, MP) on Suitability and capacity of Bandari College to train seafarers was asked on her behalf pursuant to Standing Order 51C(2) by Sen. Hillary Sigei, MP, and was answered by the Cabinet Secretary for Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs.

5. MOTION – STATE OF MENTAL HEALTH OF POLICE OFFICERS

Order Read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

AWARE THAT, police officers are usually first responders and are often exposed to traumatic scenes and chronic stressors such as, dangerous situations, injuries and violence coupled with the need to report and testify about psychologically stressful scenes;

COGNIZANT OF, a survey done by the National Police Service Commission in 2022 which indicated that at least 12 to 13 percent of the 110,000 police officers have mental health challenges stemming from work related issues;

CONCERNED THAT, there has been a recent spike of incidents involving police officers, including murder and suicide which have been linked to the state of mental wellbeing;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate urges the National Government and the National Police Service through the Ministry of Interior and National Administration to –

1. declare the current mental health situation within the police service a national emergency;
2. urgently establish a specialized facility to cater for police officers with mental illness;
3. develop and implement policies to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health issues within law enforcement agencies and encourage officers to seek help when needed; and
4. prioritize mental health as a priority health and socio-economic agenda within the Police Service and that in cases of deployment and transfers the service considers the health of the affected officers.

(Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP)

Debate arising;

And the time being one O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji Mohammed, MP) adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

6. SENATE ROSE – at One O'clock.

MEMORANDUM

*The Speaker will take the Chair on
Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.*