Bomas Convention Centre to cost taxpayers Ksh42 b amid deadline pressure On PG 7

BUNGE Weekly

Issue No. 132

PLENARY • COMMITTEES • GENERAL • CLIQUE & CLICKS • BUNGE MASHINANI • WEEK IN HISTORY

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Monday, March 30th, 2026 to Monday, April 6th, 2026

Ol Kalou Lawmaker Hon. David Kiaraho passes away at 62



The National Assembly Speaker has announced the untimely demise of Ol Kalou Member of Parliament, David Njuguna Kiaraho, who passed away in the early hours of Sunday, March 29, 2026, while receiving treatment at The Nairobi Hospital.

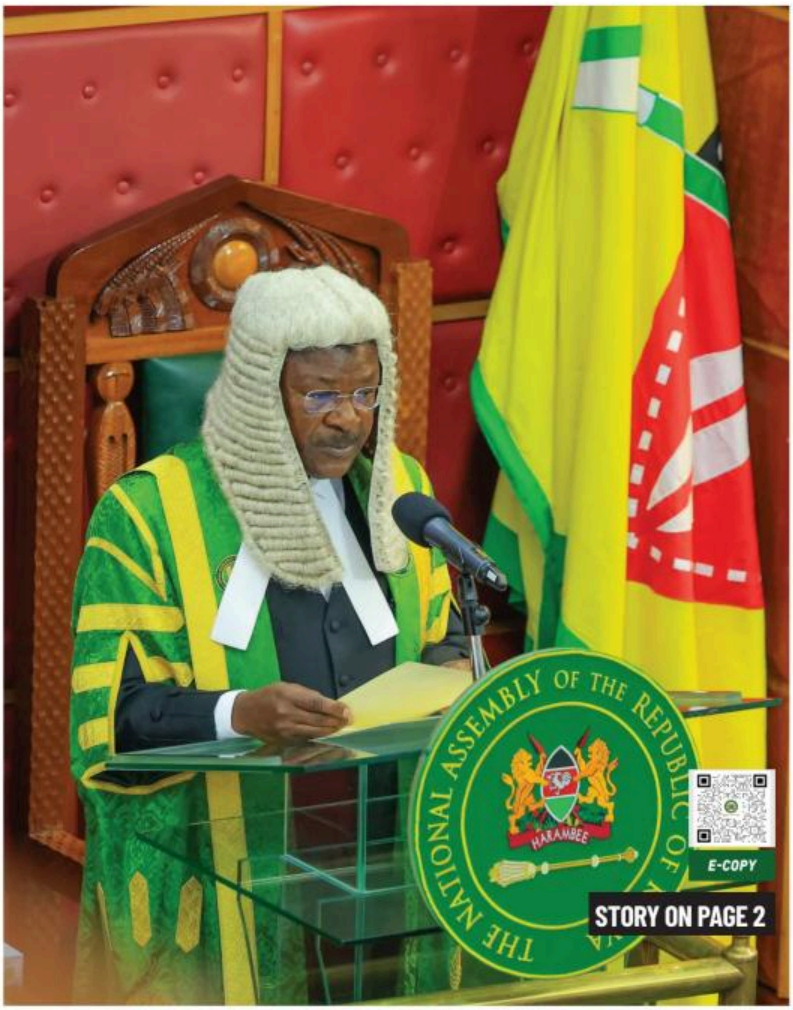
In an official communication to the House, Speaker Moses Wetang'ula conveyed the sad news, noting that the legislator died at approximately 1:20 a.m. He described the late Kiaraho as a dedicated and diligent Member who served both his constituents and the institution of Parliament withdistinction.

"It is with profound sorrow that I notify Members of the untimely demise of the Member for Ol Kalou... who served the National Assembly with diligence and commitment," said the Speaker.

The Late Hon. Kiaraho was serving his third term in Parliament, having first been elected during the 2013 General Election on a Jubilee Party ticket. He successfully defended his seat in the 2017 and 2022 elections. At the time of his death, he was a Member of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure as well as the Procedure and House Rules Committee,

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Speaker Wetang'ula: Ksh 5 trillion Infrastructure Fund key to Kenya's development drive



STORY ON PAGE 2

National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula

PLENARY

Speaker Wetang'ula: Ksh 5 trillion Infrastructure fund key to Kenya's development drive

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The National Infrastructure Fund will be a game changer in financing Kenya's critical development projects, National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. Moses Wetang'ula has said.

Speaking on the Fifth Sunday of Lent at Our Lady of Fatima Parish in Kiirua, Buuri Constituency, Meru County on Sunday, 22nd March 2026, the Speaker underscored the transformative potential of the proposed Ksh 5 trillion fund, noting that it will unlock the country's capacity to undertake large-scale infrastructure development.

"The National Infrastructure Fund will play a critical role in financing key projects such as housing, airports, roads, dams, and ports, which are essential for economic growth and national development," said Speaker Wetang'ula.

He emphasized that the success of such ambitious projects hinges on national unity, peace, and cooperation among Kenyans.

"These projects can only be realised where there is peace, harmony, and a spirit of camaraderie among our people," noted Hon. Wetang'ula.

Referencing President William Ruto's "journey to Singapore" analogy, the Speaker clarified that the vision is not a literal comparison, but a long-term development pathway.

"The journey to Singapore is not about going to a country called Singapore, but about steadily transforming Kenya from a developing nation into a middle-income and eventually a fully developed economy through deliberate investment in infrastructure," he explained.



File Photo: National Assembly

Drawing parallels with global development trajectories, Wetang'ula pointed to China's rapid rise over three decades as proof that such a transformation is achievable.

"It took China about 30 years to move from a backward economy to a global superpower. It is possible to make our country a first-class nation if we remain focused, prayerful and supportive of the leadership's efforts," he stated.

"I know even our fiercest critics understand that this journey is possible and achievable with the right leadership in place," he added.

The Speaker also weighed in on the broader national discourse, observing that Kenya is at a critical juncture that demands unity of purpose among leaders and citizens.

Hon. Mudavadi to appear before the House as MPs resume from recess with full docket



Prime Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Musalia Mudavadi speaking in the National Assembly Chamber

The Prime Cabinet Secretary, Hon. Musalia Mudavadi is expected to respond to questions from Members of the National Assembly this week.

Prime CS Mudavadi, who also serves as Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, is scheduled to appear before the House on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, respond to the matter of the recruitment of Kenyans into the military service in the Russian Federation and the measures put in place to repatriate Kenyans recruited.

In addition, he will provide a report on the status of implementation of the Inter-Agency Technical Committee Report on the Review of Designated Hardship Areas and Payment of Hardship Allowance in the Public Service.

Majority Leader, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah confirmed that the House will resume on Tuesday, March 31, at 2:30 p.m. following a two-week recess, with a heavy legislative and oversight agenda lined up.

"As we take a well-deserved break, it is worth noting that the House still awaits reports from Committees on various Business referred to them for consideration," said Hon. Ichung'wah.

He added: "This short recess period gives Committees ample time to expedite consideration of pending

business and submit their reports once the House resumes."

During the recess, Departmental Committees expedited consideration of critical business. Key among them is the Supplementary Estimates for the Financial Year 2025/2026, currently under review by Committees.

The estimates are central to aligning government spending with emerging fiscal priorities and will inform budgetary adjustments for the remainder of the financial year.

The Public Petitions Committee will table Petition No. 19 of 2025 from the Cabinet Secretary for Environment, Forestry and Mining, concerning the proposed de-gazettement of portions of four public forests.

The petition touches on environmentally and socially sensitive areas, including South Nandi Forest, Turbo Forest, Mount Elgon Forest, and Kakamega Forest.

On the legislative front, several key Bills will be considered by the House. These include the Sovereign Wealth Fund Bill, 2026, which seeks to establish a framework for managing Kenya's strategic investments, and the Special Economic Zones (Amendment) Bill, 2026, aimed at enhancing the country's investment climate.

Additionally, the House awaits consideration of Senate amendments to the Cooperatives Bill, 2024 and the Technopolis Bill, 2024.

Legislators will prioritize several items that had not concluded prior to recess. These include the Sessional Paper No. 3 of 2025 on the Partial Divestiture in Safaricom PLC by the Government of Kenya, a policy document with far-reaching implications for public investment and capital markets. As well as, Sessional Paper No. 6 of 2024 on the National Aviation Policy, which seeks to reposition Kenya's aviation sector within a competitive global landscape.

National Assembly petition over KWS Park ticketing portal

The National Assembly has formally received a petition challenging the newly upgraded Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) park ticketing and payment portal, with stakeholders warning of mounting financial strain across the tourism sector.

Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula informed the House that the petition was submitted by Mr. Fredrick Odek, the chairman of the Kenya Tourism Federation, on behalf of private sector players including tour operators, hoteliers, travel agents, airlines, restaurants, ecotourism organisations and professional safari guides.



File Picture:-Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses Wetang'ula in a past event

The petitioners argue that recent changes to the KWS system have adversely affected operations within the industry, citing both financial and administrative concerns.

According to the petition, the upgrade was implemented despite a valid court order issued on October 1, 2025, which barred KWS from enforcing new park fee rates.

However, the new portal is said to have applied the contested rates, allegedly in disregard of the directive.

Stakeholders have also raised concerns over restricted payment options in the upgraded system. Initially limited to M-Pesa and Visa debit or credit cards, the platform excluded users who rely on international bank transfers, corporate accounts and alternative digital payment systems.

Although a bank transfer option has since been introduced, the petition claims it remains unreliable and largely non-functional.

Further, the petition highlights the introduction of what it terms a "hidden and discriminatory" five per cent gateway fee, which only becomes apparent at the final payment stage.

The fee, according to the petitioners, has led to unequal charges for similar services and imposed unplanned costs on businesses.

The tourism stakeholders also fault KWS and the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife for allegedly rolling out the changes without adequate consultation, arguing that this violates principles of fair administrative action and risks undermining Kenya's competitiveness as a global tourism destination.

Efforts by industry players to engage both KWS and the ministry over the concerns have reportedly not yielded a satisfactory resolution.

The petitioners are now urging National Assembly to intervene by recommending the reinstatement of the previous e-Citizen-based park fee payment system pending comprehensive consultations.

The Speaker confirmed that the matter falls within the mandate of the House and is not currently before any court or legal body. The petition has since been referred to the Select Committee on Public Petitions, which is expected to review the issues raised and table its findings before the House.

Ol Kalou MP, Hon. David Kiaraho dies while undergoing treatment

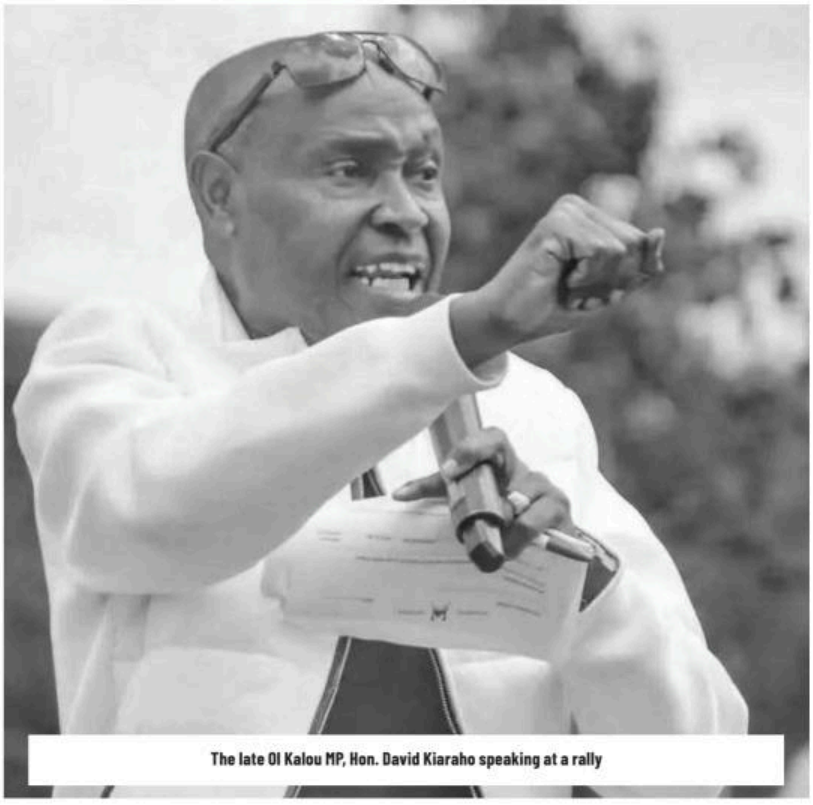
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where he contributed to key legislative and oversight functions.

Born in October 1963, the late MP was an alumnus of Alliance High School and later the University of Nairobi, where he obtained a Bachelor's degree in Architecture. Before joining politics, he built a distinguished career as a principal architect at Archgrid Systems, bringing technical expertise in inrastructure and the built environment to his legislative work.

On behalf of Members and staff of the National Assembly, Speaker Wetang'ula extended heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and constituents of the late MP. He also announced the appointment of a Funeral Preparation Committee, led by Kinangop MP Kwenya Thuku and Nyandarua Woman Representative Faith Gitau, to coordinate burial arrangements.

> **"It is with profound sorrow that I notify Members of the untimely demise of the Member for Ol Kalou... who served the National Assembly with diligence and commitment," said the Speaker.**



The late Ol Kalou MP, Hon. David Kiaraho speaking at a rally

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Sergeants-at-Arms conference ends with call for enhanced training to strengthen security and Parliamentary Order



Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen speaking during the 3rd National Conference of Serjeant-at-Arms

Interior Cabinet Secretary, Hon Kipchumba Murkomen has called for reforms to strengthen security, training and legal protections for Serjeants-at-Arms, warning that evolving threats require action to safeguard Kenya's legislative institutions.

Speaking during the 3rd National Conference of Serjeants-at-Arms in Machakos County, Hon Murkomen described the June 25, 2024 invasion of Parliament as a "low point" that exposed institutional vulnerabilities and informed subsequent reforms.

"The lowest point in our recent history is the invasion of the precincts of Parliament. It was a low point," said CS Murkomen.

He cautioned that while security at the national level has since been reinforced, County Assemblies remain exposed and must enhance preparedness.

"If such a thing happens to a county assembly, there is need for us in this forum to prepare and imagine such scenarios," he said, proposing that Serjeants-at-Arms be integrated into County Security Committees and maintain direct contact with security agencies.

The CS proposed paramilitary training to strengthen response capacity, noting that the role of Serjeants-at-Arms has expanded beyond ceremonial duties to include crisis response and enforcement of parliamentary order.

He warned that emerging threats now extend to cyberattacks, misinformation and misuse of technology, describing digital tools as a double-edged sword capable of both enhancing and undermining institutional security.

"New technology is both an asset and a risk," he said, cautioning that disinformation can incite unrest and target legislative bodies.

The CS further called for legislative safeguards to shield Serjeants-at-Arms from political interference and unlawful directives.

"We must introduce legislative measures that protect Serjeants-at-Arms and make it punitive for Members to use force to achieve their objectives," he stated, urging officers to resist irregular practices such as tampering with CCTV or microphones.

Clerk of the National Assembly Samuel Njoroge and Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye echoed the call for professionalism, discipline and coordination, noting that legislative institutions face increasingly complex political and technological challenges.

"We are united by one common purpose to uphold the dignity, order and effectiveness of our legislative bodies," said Mr.Njoroge.

Clerk Njoroge pointed out the timeliness of the conference, coming with about 500 days to the next General Election, and urged early institutional preparedness across Parliament and County Assemblies.

"The order and dignity we see in our institutions is because of your discipline and commitment," he told the officers.

The three-day conference, themed "Future-Proofing Legislative Support Functions in Times of Change," has brought together Serjeants-at-Arms from Parliament and all 47 County Assemblies to strengthen coordination, standardise operations and develop practical reforms to enhance resilience in legislative institutions.

New Sports Bill targets match fixing, aims to protect the integrity of Kenyan sports

The Sports (Amendment) Bill, 2026 has been introduced in the National Assembly. The Bill, sponsored by Hon. Irene Mayaka, aims to criminalise the manipulation of sporting competitions and strengthen organizations responsible for maintaining integrity in sports.

If passed, the proposed law will, for the first time, establish a clear legal framework to address match manipulation, an issue that has increasingly jeopardized the credibility of sporting competitions both locally and internationally.

The Bill defines manipulation of a sports competition to include actions like offering or accepting bribes to influence a game's result, intentionally underperforming to change outcomes, colluding with others to fix matches, or misusing insider information for betting. The proposed definition addresses previous gaps that made it hard to prosecute offenders, turning fair play into a legal requirement rather than just a sporting principle.



File photo of the Bunge Football Club posing during the 2025 EALA Games in Kampala, Uganda .(inset) Nominated MP Hon Irene Mayaka, the sponsor of the Bill

The legislation also seeks to strengthen the mandate of Sports Kenya, giving the agency authority to receive reports of suspected match manipulation and investigate them in collaboration with other law

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COMMITTEES' ROUND-UP

Address Boma Yangu platform bottlenecks, Housing Committee tells State Department



The Vice Chairperson of the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works chairing a Committee meeting with the State Department of Housing and Urban Development on 26th March, 2026



Officials from the State Department of Housing and Urban Development led by the Principal Secretary, Mr. Charles Hinga during a meeting with members of the Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works.

The Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works has called on the government to address the challenges hindering Kenyans from registering and owning homes under the Boma Yangu Affordable Housing Program.

In a meeting with the officials from the State Department for Housing and Urban Development, the Committee raised the practicability of the online platform, noting that there must be a seamless way of owning affordable houses by Kenyans.

The Committee's Vice Chairperson and Acting Chairperson, Hon. Rindikiri Mugambi (Buuri), emphasized the need for clear communication to the public on house ownership under the program.

"You have to relay accurate information to the public. For instance, can a person living in Kisumu own a House in Meru? You must assure Kenyans of ownership and the safety of their funds," Hon. Rindikiri said.

Members of the Committee also questioned the visibility component of Boma Yangu platform, urging the Department to enlist content creators and media personalities who can enhance awareness including the payment model.

"You have to relay accurate information to the public. For instance, can a person living in Kisumu own a House in Meru? You must assure Kenyans of ownership and the safety of their funds," Hon. Rindikiri said.

Members of the Committee also questioned the visibility component of Boma Yangu platform, urging the Department to enlist content creators and media personalities who can enhance awareness including the payment model and delays in the issuance of sectional title deeds to the owners and numbering of housing units, which the Committee recommended should be conducted progressively and separately for each project to improve efficiency.

Responding to the Committee's concerns, the acting Chief Executive Officer for Affordable Housing Board, Mr. Joseph Kagicha shared the Board's ambitious plan to market the affordable housing.

"We will soon launch country wide activations starting with Nairobi so that we bring more beneficiaries on board. We haven't done sufficiently but there's a lot of work we are doing behind the scenes," said Mr. Kagicha.

The Principal Secretary for the State Department for Housing and Urban Development Mr. Charles Hinga reaffirmed that Kenyans are free to own houses in any part of the country.

"Under article 40 of the Constitution of Kenya, every person has a right to own and acquire property in any part of the country and it does not matter where you live or come from," PS Hinga said.

PS Hinga acknowledged existing challenges with the Boma Yangu platform, stating that currently there's no existing app in place for Boma Yangu but assured the Committee that plans are underway to fix all the platform's teething problems.

On savings made through the platform for house ownership, PS Hinga revealed that the State Department has partnered with Safaricom to develop a platform that will allow contributors to withdraw their money if they opt out of the program.

"What you are saving towards house ownership is your money. We are putting in place a platform with Safaricom to allow Kenyans withdraw their funds," he said.

However, Members of the Committee urged the State Department of Housing and Urban Development to benchmark with best practices with a country like Dubai where property owners are issued with the title deeds instantly.

Watchdog Committee queries delay in confirming top hospital bosses

The Public Accounts Committee has expressed concern over the high number of Chief Executive Officers serving in acting capacity in state agencies under the Ministry of Health.

The issue arose ahead of a session where the Committee, chaired by Hon. Tindi Mwale (Butere), reviewed the Auditor-General's report for the State Department for Medical Services for the 2023/2024 financial year.

Principal Secretary Dr. Ouma Oluga, who appeared before the Committee to respond to audit queries, faced questions from members over the continued reliance on acting CEOs in major public health institutions, including Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH).

At the start of the session, Hon. Nabii Nabwera (Lugari) noted that several officials accompanying the PS were serving in acting capacities. They included Dr. Richard Lesiyampe (KNH), Dr. Philip Kirwa (Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital), Dr. Lawrence Nderi (Mathari National Teaching and Referral Hospital).

"Most of the CEOs here have indicated that they are serving in acting capacity. The PS should explain why they have not been confirmed and how long they will continue in that position," said Hon. Nabwera.

Hon. Mwale supported the concerns, questioning why the officials had not been confirmed despite serving beyond the recommended six-month period.

"Parliament addressed a similar issue when Dr. Patrick Amoth was confirmed as the substantive Director General for Health in August 2024 after serving in an acting capacity for five years. Why does this challenge persist in the Ministry of Health?" posed Hon. Mwale.



Public Accounts Committee Chairperson Hon. Tindi Mwale during the meeting with Medical Services PS Dr Ouma Oluga. Looking is the Committee Vice Chairperson Hon. Amina Udgoon Siyad.

In response, Dr. Oluga acknowledged that many officials have served in acting roles for extended periods. He explained that the Ministry is awaiting approval from the Public Service Commission (PSC) to proceed with recruitment.

"We are awaiting approval of the required specifications from the PSC to enable advertisement of the positions," said Dr. Oluga.

However, members expressed dissatisfaction with the response, noting that the roles of hospital CEOs are already well defined and should not delay recruitment.

Hon. Mwale said the Committee will invite the Chief Executive Officer of the Public Service Commission to explain the delays in confirming or recruiting substantive heads for the institutions.

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Hon. Wamboka seeks probe into rising building collapses

Hon. Jack Wamboka (Bumula) has called for a comprehensive parliamentary inquiry into the increasing cases of building collapses across the country, citing growing concerns over public safety and regulatory failure.

Rising on a Statement request in the National Assembly, Hon.Wamboka urged the Departmental Committee on Housing, Urban Planning and Public Works to investigate the circumstances behind the recurring incidents, which he said have led to loss of lives, injuries, destruction of property and displacement of families.

"Several buildings across the country have collapsed in the recent past, with devastating consequences," he told the House, adding, "Reports following such incidents have often pointed to non-compliance with approved building standards, use of substandard materials, weak enforcement of regulations and negligence by relevant authorities."

The legislator noted that while construction approvals and enforcement of compliance largely fall under county governments, the national government bears responsibility for setting policies, regulations and standards in the sector.

He is now seeking detailed clarification from the Committee on key issues, including the factors contributing to the rising cases of building collapses and the role played by regulatory and oversight bodies in approving and monitoring construction works.

He also wants Parliament to be furnished with a report on the current building approval procedures, inspection regimes and enforcement mechanisms, as well as the level of compliance with national construction standards across the country.

Further, the MP has called for accountability measures, including investigations into past incidents, prosecution of culpable individuals and institutions, and the establishment of mechanisms to compensate victims and support affected families.

The request comes amid heightened public concern over safety in the construction sector, with stakeholders increasingly questioning the effectiveness of existing oversight systems and the enforcement of building regulations.



Bumula MP Hon. Jack Wanami Wamboka

Privatization Committee, World Bank forge reform path to overhaul Kenya's PPP landscape



Hon. Abdi Shurie the Chairperson of the Public Debt and Privatization Committee during a meeting with officials from the World Bank at Parliament Buildings

The National Assembly's Public Debt and Privatization Committee has initiated a reform agenda following an engagement with the World Bank Group, aimed at reshaping how Kenya structures, supervises, and delivers Public-Private Partnership (PPP) projects.

The Committee, chaired Hon. Shurie Abdi Omar (Mbalambala), marked a significant step toward addressing long-standing weaknesses in debt oversight and PPP governance. Established under the 13th Parliament, the Committee is tasked with closing critical gaps that have historically limited Parliament's role in managing public debt and scrutinizing PPP arrangements.

"Parliament in its wisdom thought, let's get a Committee that purely looks into these affairs," said Hon. Shurie. "We're proactively working to catch up with the gaps that have been there and to deepen engagement with other stakeholders."

A key highlight of the World Bank Group's presentation was the urgent need for Kenya to shift from unsolicited PPP proposals to competitive procurement. Experts from the International Finance Corporation (IFC) emphasized that open bidding not only ensures value for money but also accelerates project delivery.

Tomas Adcock, a PPP transaction specialist with the IFC said competitive tendering enables "price discovery," helping governments avoid inflated costs often associated with closed-door negotiations.

Nathan Tuimising, a senior PPP specialist with the World Bank, noted that Kenya's average PPP transaction timeline stands at 36 months, largely due to governance inefficiencies.

Committee members voiced concern over the limited role Parliament currently plays in PPP approvals.

In response, the Committee pledged to translate the World Bank's technical recommendations into legislative reforms. Hon. Shurie confirmed that the materials presented would be tabled in Parliament to anchor future House resolutions and also announced plans for a follow-up session focusing on debt sustainability.

> **"Parliament in its wisdom thought, let's get a Committee that purely looks into these affairs," said Hon. Shurie**

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Bomas Convention Centre to cost taxpayers Ksh42 b amid deadline pressure

Taxpayers will part with an estimated Ksh42 billion for the construction of the Bomas International Convention Complex (BICC).

This is even as concerns mount over whether the flagship project will be ready in time to host a major global summit.

The National Assembly Committee on Tourism and Wildlife heard that the state-of-the-art facility that has been touted as one of the largest in Africa will be financed by the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, with the Ministry of Defence overseeing construction works.

Defence Principal Secretary Mr. Patrick Mariru told the Committee that is chaired by Hon. Kareke Mbiuki (Maara) that the project is on course and will be delivered within schedule ahead of the planned Africa-France Summit.

"The President has committed to hosting the summit at Bomas and I can assure the Committee that the facility will be ready for the event," said Mr Mariru.

The complex is sitting on a 12-acre piece of land and is estimated to host a total seating capacity of 11,000 with about 2,300 workers are currently on site operating round the clock to meet timelines.

However, lawmakers raised questions over both the project's readiness and planning.

Hon. Mbiuki sought clarity on whether Kenya has formally secured the rights to host the high-profile summit.

"Has the BICC bid to host the summit?" he posed and added: "The information we have is that a French team has been in Kenya inspecting the Kenyatta International Convention Centre as a possible venue."

The Committee also pushed for transparency in the procurement process with Ijara MP Abdi Ali Abdi demanding disclosure of subcontracted firms and assurances on timely payments.

"Submit the names of the companies and the payment schedule. We do not want a repeat of a situation where companies that were subcontracted to repair KICC are still owed KSh550 million," said Hon. Abdi.

Mr Mariru came under pressure after requesting more time to furnish the details.

Hon. Abdi Chome (Voi) reminded him that the information had been sought earlier in the invitation letter saying:"Requesting more time is unnecessary".

Meanwhile, Hon. Innocent Mugabe (Likuyani) cautioned against channeling excessive tourism promotion funds into a single project at the expense of other initiatives even as he acknowledged the BICC's potential value.

Lamu East MP Hon. Obo Ruweida defended the project as she praised the government's infrastructure push and the involvement of the Kenya Defence Forces.

"BICC will position Kenya as a leading destination for conferences, conventions and meetings. The KDF is doing a good job on the project," she said.

The PS told the Committee that BICC is expected to become the second-largest convention facility in Africa after a similar complex under construction in Accra, Ghana, potentially elevating Kenya's profile as a premier meetings and events hub.



Tourism and Wildlife Committee Chairperson Hon. Kareke Mbiuki engaging the Defense Ministry PS Mr Patrick Mariru on state of BICC.

"The President has committed to hosting the summit at Bomas and I can assure the Committee that the facility will be ready for the event," said Mr Mariru.

Cohesion Committee lauds KPA for adhering to inclusive procurement policy

The National Cohesion and Equal Opportunities Committee has lauded the management of the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) for its efforts to comply with the requirement to reserve part of its annual procurement budget for special interest groups.

Committee Chairperson Hon. Adan Haji (Mandera West) commended the authority for adhering to the requirement when the House team met KPA Managing Director Captain William Ruto.

The Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) programme requires all public procuring entities at both national and county levels to set aside at least 30 per cent of their annual procurement budget for enterprises owned by youth, women, and persons with disabilities.

"As a Committee, we are pleased to note that the management of KPA has complied with the AGPO requirement," said Hon. Haji.

Earlier, Captain Ruto, also briefed the Committee on employment diversity and the reservation of 30 per cent of tenders for special interest groups.

He noted that in the 2022/2023 financial year, KPA set aside Kshs2.2 billion for special interest groups, Kshs5.6 billion in 2023/2024, and Kshs3.98 billion in 2024/2025, representing 30 per cent of the procurement budget in each of the respective financial years.

On employment diversity, the KPA boss told lawmakers that the local Mijikenda community provides the largest share of employees.

According to the authority's submission on staff composition by ethnicity, the Mijikenda lead with 2,044 out of a total of 5,888 staff.

They are followed by the Luo (619), Taita (459), Luhya (411), and Kikuyu (401).

The Kamba stand at 389, Kalenjin at 359, Swahili at 301, Kisii at 206, and Pokomo close the top ten at 108 employees.

In terms of gender, men account for 4,506 (77.1 per cent) of staff out of 5,844, while women number 1,338 (22.9 per cent).

Out of the total 5,844 staff, 173 are persons living with disabilities, accounting for 2.96 per cent.



National Cohesion and Equal Opportunities Committee Chairperson Hon. Adan Haji (Mandera West) during the meeting with KPA management.



Lamu Woman Rep Hon. Muthoni Marubu(Lamu County) confers with Hon. Rahab Mukami (Nyeri County) during the meeting with KPA management.

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BUNGE MASHINANI ▸ SABATIA CONSTITUENCY

Plan to use Vokoli girls' school facilities for University Faculty

Sabatia MP Hon. Clement Sloya has begun the process of using part of the infrastructure at Vokoli Girls High School for the Faculty of Health Sciences of Kaimosi Friends University.

The MP held a public participation meeting with stakeholders and local residents to discuss the proposal. The MP aims to put into use the modern buildings, which were built using millions of NG-CDF funds by his predecessor but are currently lying idle.

"Community members strongly supported the proposal, noting that setting up a university faculty will greatly improve the social and economic well-being of people in Vokoli and nearby areas. It will create opportunities in education, jobs, and access to health services," Hon. Sloya said.

Kaimosi Friends University's Faculty of Health Sciences in Vokoli is expected to open in May 2026, with full student enrolment planned for September 2026.



A new structure at Moi girls' high school Vokoli that Hon. Clement Sloya (inset) has proposed be used as Kaimosi Friends University College of Health Sciences

IJARA CONSTITUENCY



Hon Abdi Ali Abdi laying a foundation stone for setting up of two modern classrooms at Bula Ahmed primary school in his Ijara constituency

Electrification to boost trade and development in Masalani ward

Traders in Masalani town, in Ijara Constituency, Garissa County, will soon be able to operate until late at night once the electrification programme launched by their MP, Hon. Abdi Ali Abdi, is completed and power is switched on.

Hon. Abdi noted that for decades the town has been in darkness due to a lack of electricity, which has negatively affected economic activities and slowed its growth.

"Apart from the town, the programme will be extended to over 18 villages in Masalani Ward, including Bula Gona, Bula Hawa, Bula Ahmed, Bula Sacudi, Bula Duale, Slaughter Area, Gumarey A, Gumarey B, Arishley B, Eid Ground, Madax Farow, Bula Sarman, Cadhey Weynow, Torabora A and B, Qalanqal Derow, Bula Duur, Muhumed Dahir, Bula Twinster, Bula Sogan and Idd Ground," he explained.

The MP also laid the foundation stone for the construction of two classrooms at Bula Ahmed Primary School as part of infrastructure development programmes aimed at improving education in the area

VOI CONSTITUENCY

Renovated dormitory handed over to Perpetual Succour Girls school

Voi MP Abdi Khamis Chome has handed over a renovated dormitory to Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Girls Secondary School after it was destroyed by fire in Sagalla Ward.

The facility has been fully refurbished and improved using funds from the local NG-CDF under Hon Chome's support. The upgrades include 50 double-decker beds, a modern 14-door bathroom and toilet block, as well as gutters and a tank for rainwater harvesting.

"These improvements will give our learners a safer, more comfortable and dignified place to live, allowing them to focus on their education and future with peace of mind," said Hon Chome



Voi MP Hon. Abdi Khamis Chome with the Catholic priest inspects the renovated dormitory at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour Girls Secondary School before he handed over to the institution.

MOMBASA COUNTY



Mombasa County MP Hon Zam Zam Mohamed with members of Majirani Welfare Group after holding a meeting with them.

Hon. Zam Zam supports Majirani Welfare group

Mombasa County MP, Hon. Zam Zam Mohamed, held a candid engagement with Majirani Welfare Group from Nyali Constituency, who are among the beneficiaries of the National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF).

The meeting discussed ways to further uplift the group after they made proper use of the funds they received under the patronage of Hon. Zam Zam.

The group has ventured into event management activities, owning tents and chairs, which has helped boost their business," said Hon. Zam Zam.

The MP noted that many groups innthe county have progressed well after receiving support from NGAAF pledging more help to uplift them.

CLIQUE and CLICKS



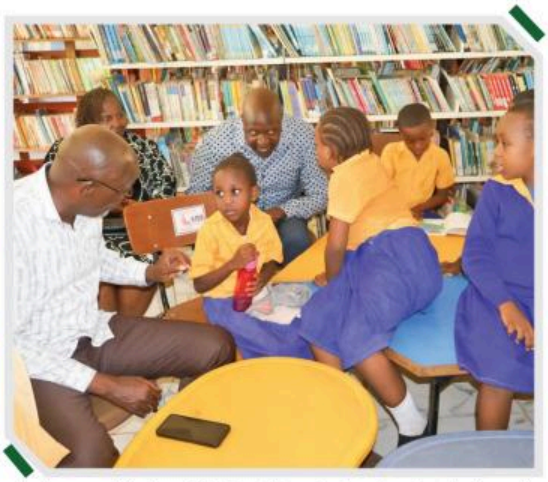
Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen(right) shaking hands with the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge, looking on is the Clerk of the Senate, Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenge at the 3rd National Conference of Serjeant-at-Arms.



Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration, Hon. Kipchumba Murkomen (second right), the former Speaker of the Senate Hon. Ekewe Ethuro and the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Samuel Njoroge at the 3rd National Conference of Serjeant-at-Arms



Members of the Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library, Hon. Rindikiri Mugmabi and Hon. Shakeel Shabbir engaging students during an inspection visit to Kilifi Branch Library in Kilifi County.



Chairperson and Members of the Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library, Hon. Daniel Nanok Hon. Suzanne Ndunge and Hon. Julius Rutto engaging students during an inspection visit to Kilifi Branch Library in Kilifi County



Public Accounts Committee Chairperson Hon. Tindi Mwale, shares a word with the Vice Chairperson of the House team. This was during a meeting with the State Department of Medical Services



Heads Together: Members of the Public Accounts Committee (L-R) Hon. Yakub Adow (Bura) , Hon. Edwin Mugo (Mathioya) and Hon. Victor Koech (Chepalungu) consult before the start of a meeting with the State Departments National Treasury, Immigration and ICT and Digital Economy at County Hall, Mini Chamber.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK



Kenyans face many challenges, and when they go to hospitals, they deserve proper care. Patients should not be forced to share beds, as this can expose them to other illnesses. Mothers, children, and other vulnerable patients need safe and good treatment. It is wrong for a mother to carry a baby for nine months, only for the child to be at risk or die because of sharing a bed with very sick patients. Hospitals must provide enough space and proper care so that every patient is treated safely."

-Hon. Amina Udgoon, (Garissa County)



The protection of our rivers and wetlands is a critical responsibility for any country. In Kenya, we have only a few major rivers and several permanent ones, which are vital to the livelihoods of our people and the health of our environment. By protecting these water resources, we safeguard agriculture, wildlife, and future generations. This responsibility should not be left to the Government alone. While the Government must take the lead, it also has a duty to inform and guide citizens. Every Kenyan should take part in protecting the environment, especially our water resources, to ensure they remain safe and sustainable for present and future generations."

-Hon. Jackson Kosgei (Nominated)



We need investors, but it is important that the right procedures are followed so that people truly benefit. If research shows that certain land can be used to grow cotton or sisal, there must be proper public participation that considers the views and interests of the local residents. Giving land to someone for political reasons or personal gain, without involving the public or ensuring it is in the public interest, is wrong. Development must be fair and transparent, and the community must be part of the process so that they share in the benefits and opportunities created."

-Hon. Peter Masara (Suna West)



We know that Article 223 of the Constitution allows the National Treasury to authorize expenditure from public funds outside the approved Budget Estimates to meet unforeseen and urgent needs. However, it is unfortunate that some Ministries, Departments, and State Agencies (MDAs) are misusing this provision. It should only be used for its intended purpose and not to avoid proper planning or bypass Parliamentary oversight. MDAs should seek funding for their constitutionally mandated functions through the normal budget process, rather than over-relying on this provision, to ensure transparency, accountability, and proper management of public resources."

-Hon. Ruth Odinga (Kisumu County)



The National Government Affirmative Action Fund (NGAAF) has improved lives at the community level. It has helped many children go to school and supported youth, women groups, and other vulnerable people. Although the funds may be little, but the difference they make is huge. In my area, we have provided water tanks, goats, bursaries, and support for small businesses, which has improved livelihoods. The positive response from beneficiaries shows the importance of the programme. I recommend increased funding so that all 47 Women Representatives can reach more people and extend these benefits to more communities across the country."

-Hon. Naomi Waqo (Marsabit County)



I am concerned over the limited role Parliament currently plays in the approval of public-private partnership (PPP) projects. The process is largely shrouded in mystery, and as leaders, we should come up with ways of addressing this matter. Projects under PPPs are happening across our country, yet it is unfortunate that it is only when the public hears about them and raises concerns that we intervene as a House. This should not be the case. Parliament must be involved earlier to ensure transparency, accountability, and proper oversight of all PPP projects for the benefit of the public."

Hon. Aden Daudi (Wajir East)



I am extremely shocked by the manner in which Kenyans can be taken all the way to Moscow to fight another sovereign country, Ukraine. This is a very serious matter. he DCI and NIS should move swiftly to investigate all agencies that claim to be sending our young people abroad. It is now up to our government to persuade Kenyans who went to fight in Ukraine to return and work in the country. I kindly urge the government to create more opportunities for them to work safely and productively in their home country."

-Hon. Hon. Joseph Makilap (Baringo North)



When we talk about gender-based violence, it is not a gender or women's issue; it cuts across all groups. We have seen cases involving men and women, including female university students, being victims of such violence. If there is any problem in a relationship, it should be settled in court, or by approaching church or community leaders, rather than resorting to killing someone. Do not kill your spouse, boyfriend or girlfriend if you differ. When you kill a person, that is a life lost forever and cannot be replaced. Peaceful and lawful solutions should always be chosen in resolving conflicts.."

-Hon. Linet Chepkorir (Bomet).



Many teachers in serve in acting positions for a long time without proper support. This affects their morale and performance. Acting roles such as senior teacher or head of institution are often assigned verbally, without formal appointment letters. As a result, when the positions are later advertised, those who served in acting capacity are overlooked and have no proof of their experience. There is need for clear policies to guide such appointments. All acting roles should be documented, have a defined timeframe, and include appropriate allowances. This will ensure fairness and enable teachers to serve with dignity and confidence."

-Hon. Nicholas Ngikor (Turkana East)



Many rogue agencies continue to exploit Kenyans seeking jobs abroad. The National Employment Authority appears overwhelmed, and this requires a coordinated Government response across relevant State Departments. Numerous Kenyans have suffered after being misled by these agencies. Some travel only to find there are no jobs, others become stranded, while some pay fees and never leave the country. Those who reach foreign countries often face mistreatment without support. It is encouraging that this matter is receiving attention. The Kazi Majuu programme has helped many through proper channels, but the focus must now be on protecting Kenyans from fraudulent recruiters and ensuring their safety and dignity."

-Hon. Haika Mizighi (Taita Taveta County)

MPs push for establishment of Parliamentary corners in Coast Libraries, pledge budget support to boost civic education

Members of Parliament have pledged to push for increased funding to revitalise public libraries and expand civic education through the establishment of Parliamentary Corners across the country.

The Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library made the commitment during oversight visits to Mombasa and Kilifi County libraries, where they assessed infrastructure, access to information, and service delivery.

Led by Chairperson, Hon. Daniel Nanok, the Committee said libraries remain critical public institutions that can bridge the gap between Parliament and citizens if properly resourced. "Libraries are trusted community hubs. By setting up Parliamentary Corners, citizens will have direct access to parliamentary documents and reports, which will foster accountability, civic education, and public awareness," Hon. Nanok said.

In Mombasa, lawmakers held talks with Governor Abdulswamad Shariff Nassir, who endorsed the initiative, terming it a transformative step in deepening public understanding of governance. He noted that enhanced access to parliamentary information would empower wananchi to engage more meaningfully in legislative processes.

However, the Committee flagged persistent challenges affecting library operations, including unreliable internet connectivity, limited physical space especially during school holidays, underfunding, and staff welfare concerns. Legislators warned that without sustained investment, libraries risk falling short of their mandate in the digital age.

In Kilifi, MPs met Deputy Governor Flora Mbetsa Chibule, who underscored the role of libraries as equalisers in society. She said they provide safe spaces and free access to knowledge, particularly for learners and underserved communities.

The Committee also engaged the Kenya National Library Service representatives on plans for closer collaboration with both national and county governments to improve infrastructure and expand digital services.

Hon. Nanok emphasised that Parliament would advocate for increased budgetary allocations to sustain and grow library services. "We must invest in these institutions if we are serious about an informed citizenry and a transparent democracy," he said.

The Committee expressed confidence that leveraging existing library networks to host Parliamentary Corners would significantly enhance public participation in governance, while strengthening oversight through improved access to legislative information.



Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library Chairperson, Hon. Daniel Nanok engaging students at the Kilifi branch library in Kilifi County

Treasury assures Budget and Appropriations Committee that no new taxes will be introduced in the 2026 Finance Bill



The Committee Chairperson Hon. Atandi (Left) and his vice Hon. Robert Pukose (Endebess) during the meeting

The National Treasury has assured Members of National Assembly Committee on Budget and Appropriation that the no new taxes will be introduced in the upcoming 2026 Finance Bill.

John Mbadi the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry said this when he appeared before the Committee that is Chaired by Hon. Sam Atandi (Alego Usonga) to discuss the FY 2025/26 Supplementary budget estimates 1.

Following his presentation on the Estimates, Hon. Mwengi Mutuse (Kibwezi West) asked the CS to highlight to the Committee the tax environment as the period for introduction of the 2026 Finance Bill approaches.

"In 2024 the country almost erupted because of the perception that we were increasing taxes but you have confirmed in your presentation that you have not introduced new taxes and you are exploring alternative ways to funding our public expenditure. What is your assurance in terms of the tax environment that we are likely to get post June 2026," Hon. Mutuse asked.

However, the CS in his response told the Committee that despite the fact that the base is yet to expand, they were not going to increase takes rather they will push KRA to adapt to the first moving automation of revenue collection.

"I want to state that we are not looking at a possibility of increasing tax rates because there is no difference of this year and last year Kenyans are the same and the rates are still the same. We are looking at the possibility of expanding the base," the CS said.

According to the CS, one of the biggest challenges that they face is that the tax payers have gone digital yet they are still stuck at manual tax collection methods.

"We are putting pressure on KRA and some changes must be seen in terms of revenue collection. Failure to which we must make reforms to adapt to the first moving automation of revenue collection Mbadi said.

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Hon. Lenguris seeks government action after fatal elephant attacks in Samburu

A Member of Parliament has called for urgent government intervention following a series of fatal human-wildlife conflict incidents in Samburu County that left three women dead and families devastated.

Hon. Pauline Lenguris (Samburu County) raised the matter in the National Assembly, seeking a statement from the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security over the attacks in Kisima Location.

The legislator said the victims were killed in separate incidents on February 25 and 28 in Naiborkeju Village, Mbarigon Sub-location, after being attacked by an elephant while collecting firewood near Miyai Dam.

"The incident has left the entire community in deep shock and distress, with children of the deceased now left as orphans and exposed to severe social and economic vulnerability," Lenguris told the House.



Samburu County MP Hon. Pauline Lenguris

She noted that the attacks occurred a short distance from their homes in an area where residents and wildlife frequently interact.

Lenguris warned that communities in Kisima Location and surrounding areas continue to face persistent threats from elephants straying from the nearby Kirisia Forest, with limited measures in place to protect lives and livelihoods.

"Despite the increasing cases of human–wildlife conflict in the area, there appears to be inadequate mitigation, response and protection mechanisms," she said.

The MP called on the government to provide details on the status of investigations into the killings and the immediate actions taken by security agencies and other relevant authorities following the incidents.

This week in history

27 March 2014 – Kenya's National Assembly Holds Landmark Joint Sitting for the First State of the Nation Address Under the 2010 Constitution

In the heart of the National Assembly chamber at Parliament Buildings, a special joint sitting of both the National Assembly and Senate was held on Thursday, 27 March 2014. Convened through a Gazette Notice issued days earlier, the House filled with lawmakers from both chambers rose as President Uhuru Kenyatta entered to deliver his first Exposition of Public Policy, setting the stage for the first State of the Nation Address under the new constitutional dispensation.



President Kenyatta's State of the Nation address speech

Speaking pursuant to Article 132 of the Constitution, the President reaffirmed the Jubilee party administration's founding ideal: healing the divisions of the 2007–2008 post-election violence and building national unity. He celebrated Kenyans' peaceful adoption of the 2010 Constitution, which had reorganized public life, and solemnly renewed his oath to uphold, protect and defend it as the first President elected under the new framework.

The President outlined progress on national values and principles of governance under Article 10, which aludes to the fulfilment of international obligations, and the state of national security. Core themes addressed included: National Unity and Reconciliation; Constitutional Implementation; Economic and Development Priorities; Security and Stability; and Anti-Corruption and Good Governance.

The address served as a report card on the young administration's efforts to translate constitutional promises into tangible national progress, while setting the tone for legislative priorities in the Second Session of the 11th Parliament.

More than a decade later, the joint sitting remains a defining milestone, marking the moment Parliament formally received its first presidential report under the 2010 Constitution and reinforcing the Chamber's central role in linking executive policy direction with parliamentary oversight.

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