

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

THE HANSARD

5th November 2026

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Thursday, 5th November 2026

(The House met at 2.30 p.m.)

[The Speaker (Hon. Moses Wetang'ula) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

QUORUM

Hon. Speaker: Serjeants-at-Arms, ring the Quorum Bell.

(The Quorum Bell was rung)

Order, Members. Clerks-at-the-Table, we can now transact business.

(Several Members entered the chamber)

Members on their feet, take your seats.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

RECOMMITTAL OF PUBLIC PETITION ON DELAYED RESETTLEMENT OF SQUATTERS UNDER CHEPKUMIA LAND EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

Hon. Members, I have a short Communication on the request for recommittal of the Public Petition No.69 of 2023 regarding the delay in the settlement of squatters in the Chepkumia Land Exchange Programme.

(Loud consultations)

House, order.

You will recall that on 23rd November 2023, I reported to this House a Public Petition No.69 of 2023 by Mr Joel Songol and five others, on behalf of the squatters of Koibem Village, Chepkumia Location, Nandi County. The Petition was referred to the Public Petitions Committee for consideration. Thereafter, on 11th November 2025, the Committee tabled its Report, recommending that the House consider the matter pursuant to Standing Order 208A(c) and Section 34(5)(b) of the Forest Conservation and Management Act, Cap.385.

In its Report, the Committee recommended that the House approve a variation to the boundaries of the South Nandi Forest at Chepkumia by excluding 910.62 hectares from the 1,170 hectares earmarked for excision from the Kaimosi Block along the Yala River. The land was to be allocated for settlement of documented squatters from the villages of Koibem and Ngerek in Nandi County, together with attendant public utilities, under the Chepkumia Land Exchange Programme. Specifically, the Committee proposed allocating 266.88 hectares to the documented squatters of

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Koibem Village, 455.45 hectares to the documented squatters of Ngerek Village, and 188.29 hectares for public utilities.

However, in its observations, the Committee noted that the National Lands Commission made the following recommendations vide Gazette Notices No. NLC/HLI/435/2018 and NLC/256/2018 dated 1st March 2019:

1. The Kenya Forest Service to facilitate the de-gazettement of the excised area from Nandi South Forest to enable the issuance of title deeds to Ngerek and Koibem communities on a land-for-land basis.
2. The Director of Survey, together with the Nandi County Government, to expedite the excision of the forest area that the Kenya Forest Service excised from Nandi South Forest and hand it over to Ngerek and Koibem communities.

The Committee also observed that the Court of Appeal in a recent court case (Lunyasi and three others - suing for and on behalf of 244 Ngerek Community families/members - versus Kenya Forest Service and Five others (Petition E001 of 2023)), held that the recommendations made by the National Land Commission vide Gazette Notices No.NLC/HLI/435/2018 and NLC/HLI/256/2018 dated 1st March 2019 had the force of law. Consequently, the Committee also recommended that the Ngerek Community be resettled within six months of the House adopting its report.

Hon. Members…

(Several Members entered the chamber)

Members at the Bar, take your seats. It is a little longer. Take the nearest seats.

Hon. Members, on 26th May 2026, my office received a letter from the Member for Emgwen Constituency, Hon. Josses Lelmengit, requesting recommittal of the report of the Committee.

In the letter, the Member stated that the 455.45 hectares earmarked for resettlement of the Ngerek Community is currently occupied by residents of Kiptuiya, who have lived on and developed the land for over two decades. He further noted that on 26th November 2025, the residents of the Kiptuiya Settlement had also submitted a Petition to the National Assembly concerning the Chepkumia Settlement Programme, including the parcel proposed for settlement of the Ngerek Community.

Further, the office of the Clerk has also received a Petition from Mr Abdi Keter, Chairperson of the Chepkumia Exchange Settlement Scheme Steering Committee, and three other persons petitioning on behalf of the residents of the Kapkangani/Kiptuiya Settlement Scheme. The Petitioners contend that the relevant agencies have failed to degazette and regularise the 1,170 hectares of Chepkumia Forest land, despite earlier Government directives to allocate the land and issue title deeds to bona fide beneficiaries. They further contend that the National Land Commission's 2019 decision to resettle the Koibem and Ngerek communities was made without adequate public participation, thereby leaving more than 5,000 residents in legal and tenure insecurity and limiting their ability to derive economic benefits from the land.

The Member for Emgwen avers that consideration of the Report on Public Petition No.69 of 2023 alongside the processing of the Petition presented by the residents of Kiptuiya Settlement Scheme may result in parallel or conflicting resolutions of the House concerning the same parcel of land proposed for settlement of the Ngerek Community. He, therefore, requests that the Report be recommitted to the Public Petitions Committee for further consideration, with a view to

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consolidating the issues raised in the Kiptuiya Petition and ensuring stakeholder engagement to facilitate a practical and implementable resolution between the Ngerek and Kiptuiya communities.

The request presents a novel procedural scenario requiring me to invoke Standing Order 1, which provides for matters not provided for in the Standing Orders. In this regard, and having considered the issues raised by the Member for Emgwen Constituency and the further petitions and counterpetitions, I hereby guide as follows:

1. THAT, the Report on Public Petition No.69 of 2023 stands recommitted to the Public Petitions Committee for further reconsideration, including the Petition submitted by the residents of Kiptuiya Settlement Scheme and any other new material information as may be raised before the Committee.
2. THAT, the Public Petitions Committee holds stakeholder engagement with the Ngerek and Kiptuiya communities and other affected communities and stakeholders to facilitate the development of a practical and implementable resolution framework on the matter.
3. THAT, the Committee submits its report to the House within 90 days.

Members on their feet, take your seats. I have another Communication. Take the nearest seats. Member for Bura Constituency, take your seat.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO MEDIATION COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AUDIT (AMENDMENT) BILL

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, you may recall that on Wednesday, 21st October 2026, the House rejected the Motion on consideration of the Senate amendments to the Public Audit (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.4 of 2024). This decision consequently remitted the Bill to a Mediation Committee in accordance with the provisions of Article 112(2)(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order 149(1)(a).

Article 113 of the Constitution requires that whenever a Bill is referred to a Mediation Committee, the Speakers of the Houses of Parliament shall each appoint an equal number of Members to attempt to develop a version of the Bill for consideration by the Houses of Parliament. In this regard, and having consulted with the Leaders of the Majority and the Minority parties, I have appointed the following Members of the National Assembly to the Mediation Committee to consider the said Bill.

1. Hon. (CPA) Kuria Kimani, CBS.
2. Hon. (CPA) Julius Rutto.
3. Hon. George Sunkuyia.
4. Hon. Gathoni Wamuchomba, HSC.
5. Hon. Chiforomodo Mangale.
6. Hon. Peter Kaluma, CBS.
7. Hon. Zamzam Mohammed.
8. Hon. Umul Kheir Kassim.
9. Hon. Kakuta Maimai.

The aforementioned Members will await the appointment of Senators to the Mediation Committee for it to be fully constituted for purposes of commencing the mediation process. Once I receive a Message from the Senate to that effect, I will report it to the House. Thereafter, the Mediation Committee will embark on an attempt to develop a version of the Bill for consideration by the Houses of Parliament, in accordance with the provisions of Article 113 of the Constitution.

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Before we call the Leader of the Majority Party, allow me to acknowledge in the Speaker's Gallery, Keekonyokie Clergy Association from Kajiado West, Kajiado County; and in the Public Gallery, Consolata Hospital Nkubu Chaplaincy Choir from South Imenti, Meru County.

On my behalf and that of the House, I welcome our visitors to the House of Parliament for this afternoon's sittings. Yes, Hon. Millie. What is it?

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First of all, I just want to thank you for the direction you gave earlier, where you used Standing Order 1 to resolve potential conflict and hopefully bring peace. Would I be in order to request that you use the same Standing Order to allow the choir to sing and bring further peace to the House and the country?

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: There is no provision in the Standing Orders, or in any precedent in any comparable jurisdiction for anybody to sing in the House of Parliament. Just welcome them, if you wish, and when we are finished, you can go to the garden and have them sing for you.

(Laughter)

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I take this opportunity to welcome our guests to the House. It is especially important for me to welcome them. They are not from my constituency, but you never know. They may vote for me in 2032 when I vie for the presidency. So, it is good for me to align myself with choirs all over the country. I welcome them to observe what goes on in this House.

PAPERS

Hon. Speaker: Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Ali Raso (Saku, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Papers on the Table:

Reports of the Auditor-General and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2026 and the certificates therein in respect of the following—

(a) Africa Centre of Excellence (ACEII) in phytochemicals, textiles and renewable energy (PTRE) project (IDA credit No.5798-KE) - Moi University.

(b) Centre For Entrepreneurship (C4E) Project (CREDTI NUMBER: BMZ-REF.:2018 65 245) - State Department for Micro, Small and Medium Entreprises Development.

(c) Eastern Africa Regional Transport, Trade and Development Facilitation Project (IDA CREDIT NO.5638-KE).

(d) Garissa Teachers Training College.

(e) Green Climate Fund Readiness Project (Grant No. KEN-RS-004) – National Treasury.

(f) Health Emergency Preparedness Response and Resilience Project Credit Number 7405-KE - Ministry of Health.

(g) Horn of Africa Gateway Development Project (IDA NO.6768-KE) - Kenya Revenue Authority.

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(h) Kenya Cooperation and Partnership Facility (KCPF) Project No.KE/FED2019/041-712, Credit No.FED/2021/423-175 - State Department for Devolution.
(i) Kenya Gold Mercury Free ASGM Project - GEF/UNDP/GOK-001108253 - State Department for Environment and Climate Change.
(j) Kenya Jobs and Economic Transformation Project (IDA Credit Number 7450-KE) - State Department for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development.
(k) Leveraging HCV Phylogenetic networks to prevent HIV and other blood-borne infections among people who inject drugs project grant number DP2DA053730- Ministry of Health (NASCOP);
(l) Promotion of youth employment and vocational training in Kenya project grant/credit number: BMZ No.2016 67 211, BMZ No.2016 65 298 and GRANT: No.1930 05 527 - State Department for Technical, Vocational Education and Training;
(m) Second Kenya Devolution Support Program (KDSP II)-IDA-7447-KE-County Government of Garissa;
(n) Second Kenya Devolution Support Program KDSP II IDA Credit No. 7447 KE- County Government of Tharaka Nithi;
(o) St. Mark's Teachers College - Kigari;
(p) Supporting Access to Finance and Enterprise Recovery Project - Kenya Development Corporation;
(q) The Global Development, Review and Update of National Implementation Plans (NIPS) under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) Project number GEF ID 10785 - State Department for Environment and Climate Change;
(r) Wajir South Technical and Vocational College; and
(s) Wings to Fly, promotions of young people through scholarships, Phase V Project grant/credit number BMZ No. 2020 67 320 - State Department for Technical, Vocational Education and Training.

Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Raso. Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security, Hon. Tongoyo.

Hon. Gabriel Tongoyo (Narok West, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table:

Report of the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security on its consideration of the Commission of Inquiry (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.23 of 2026).

Hon. Speaker: Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure.

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table:

Report of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure on its consideration of Bilateral Air Services Agreements between the Republic of Kenya and various countries.

Hon. Speaker: Chairperson, Special Funds Accounts Committee. Are you the Chairman?

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Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): I am the Vice–Chairman, and I am the one who is presenting.

Hon. Speaker: Go ahead.

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Indulge me in welcoming the Consolata Mission Hospital Choir from Meru County. It is a hospital of good repute and one of the best faith-based hospitals. I believe even their choir is the best.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Papers on the Table:

Reports of the Special Funds Accounts Committee on its Examination of the following Audited Financial Statements–

(a) Twentieth Report on the Examination of Audited Accounts of the Kenya Maritime Authority Staff Mortgage and Car Loan Scheme for the Financial Year 2013/2014 to 2024/2025 and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights Car and Mortgage Loan Scheme for the Financial Years 2018/2019 to 2024/2025;

(b) Twenty-First Report on the Examination of Audited Accounts of the National Drought Emergency Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023 to 2024/2025, Occupational Safety and Health Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023 to 2024/2025 and the Kenya Energy-Sector Environment and Social Responsibility Programme Fund for the Financial Years 2018/2019 To 2024/2025; and,

(c) Twenty-Second Report on the Examination of Audited Accounts of Prison Industries Revolving Fund for the Financial Years 2021/2022 To 2024/2025, Prison Farms Revolving Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023 to 2024/2025, Local Authorities Provident Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023 to 2024/2025 and Tourism Promotion Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023 to 2024/2025.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Dawood. The leader of delegation, Hon. Beatrice Adagala.

Hon. Adagala Beatrice (Vihiga County, ANC): Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table:

Report of the Parliament of Kenya Delegation to the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Africa Region Gender Sensitisation Workshop held in Cape Town, South Africa from 14th to 16th July 2026.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

Hon. Speaker: Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure, Hon. GK.

(Hon. George Kariuki consulted with the Clerks-at-the-Table)

Hon. GK, you are supposed to give notice of Motion.

(Hon. George Kariuki spoke off the record)

Are you not ready? Chairperson, Special Funds Accounts Committee, Hon. Dawood.

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ADOPTION OF 20TH REPORT ON AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF
KENYA MARITIME AUTHORITY STAFF MORTGAGE AND CAR LOAN SCHEME AND
KENYA NATIONAL COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS CAR AND MORTGAGE SCHEME

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am the Committee Vice-Chairman.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Twentieth Report of the Special Funds Accounts Committee on its consideration of the Report of the audited financial statements of the following car loan and mortgage schemes, laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 5th November 2026 –

(a) Kenya Maritime Authority Staff Mortgage and Car Loan Scheme for the Financial Years 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017, 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025; and,

(b) The Kenya National Commission on Human Rights Car and Mortgage Loan Scheme for the Financial Years 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Dawood, are you done?

ADOPTION OF21ST REPORT ON AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF NATIONAL
DROUGHT EMERGENCY FUND, OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH FUND
AND KENYA ENERGY-SECTOR ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAMME FUND

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): I am not done.

Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Twenty-First Report of the Special Funds Accounts Committee on its consideration of the Report of the audited financial statements of the following Funds, laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 5th November 2026 –

(a) National Drought Emergency Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025;

(b) Occupational Safety and Health Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025; and,

(c) Kenya Energy-Sector Environment and Social Responsibility Programme Fund for the Financial Years 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.

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ADOPTION OF 22ND REPORT ON AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF PRISON INDUSTRIES REVOLVING FUND, LOCAL AUTHORITIES PROVIDENT FUND AND TOURISM PROMOTION FUND

Hon. Rahim Dawood (North Imenti, Independent): Hon. Speaker, I beg to give notice of the following Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the 22nd Report of the Special Funds Accounts Committee on its consideration of the Report of the audited financial statements of the following Funds laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 5th November:

(a) The Prison Industry's Revolving Fund for the Financial Years 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025.
(b) The Prison Farm's Revolving Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025.
(c) The Local Authorities Providence Fund for the Financial Years 2022, 2023, 2023, 2024, and 2024, and 2025.
(d) Tourism Promotion Fund for the Financial Years 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Next.

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON BILATERAL AIR SERVICE AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA AND VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Hon. Speaker: The Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure, are you ready now?

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Yes, Hon. Speaker. I beg to give notice of the following Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure on its consideration of the bilateral air service agreements between the Republic of Kenya and various countries laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 5th November 2026 and pursuant to provisions of Section 84 of the Treaty-Making and Ratification Act (Cap.4D) approves the ratification of the following bilateral air service agreements:

(a) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and of the Government of Cape Verde.
(b) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Sultanate of Oman.
(c) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Algeria.
(d) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Federative Republic of Brazil.
(e) Agreement between the Government of Kenya and the Republic of Zimbabwe.

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(f) Agreements between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.
(g) Agreements between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Government of the Republic of Somalia.
(h) Agreements between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and Iceland.
(i) Agreements between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Dominican Republic.
(j) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Russian Federation.
(k) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Guinea.
(l) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the United Kingdom.
(m) The agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Korea.
(n) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Kingdom of Morocco.
(o) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Polland.
(p) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Republic of Haiti.
(q) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and the Kingdom of Eswatini.

Hon. Speaker: Next Order.

QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

RESPONSES TO STATEMENTS

Hon. Speaker: We have responses to Statements. Is Hon. Amina Mnyazi in the House? Hon. Tongoyo, are you ready with the response?

Hon. Gabriel Tongoyo (Narok West, UDA): Yes, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Table it. She will read it from the Table Office. Is Hon. Brighton Yegon in the House? He is not in the House. Do you have the response? Table it. He will read it from the Table Office.

Is Hon. Muchangi Karemba in the House? Hon. Karemba is in the House. The Chairman of Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, are you ready?

Go ahead.

UNAUTHORISED PAYMENT BY KTDA TO ORIOLE HOMES LIMITED

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I rise to respond to the Statement regarding the unauthorised payment by the Kenya Tea

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Development Authority (KTDA) to Orio Homes Limited. Pursuant to Standing Order 44(2)(c), Hon. Muchangi Karemba, CBS, Member of Parliament for Runyenjes Constituency, requested for a Statement regarding the unauthorised payment by the Kenya Tea Development Authority (KTDA) to the Orio Homes Limited. The Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development has provided a written response to the issues, which I have already shared with the Member. I wish to highlight the key aspects of the response as follows:

The Statement concerns the payment of Ksh322.5 million, equivalent of $2.5 million, by the Kenyan Tea Development Authority to Orio Homes Limited on 18th May, 2026 following the completion of a contract for the supply of 99,875 metric tons of NPK fertiliser which is 2655 to the smallholder farmers.

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Speaker, I need your protection. There is a lot of noise where I am.

Hon. Speaker: Order, Hon. Members! There is a lobby out there for those of you who want to talk to one another.

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I proceed.

However, on 28th of January, 2026, Orio Homes Limited submitted a claim for compensation arising from alleged foreign exchange losses occasioned by fluctuations in the USD and the Chinese currency during the procurement and contract implementation period. So, following the negotiations, the KTDA board on a meeting held on 7th May, 2026 approved an ex-gratia payment of $2.5 million, equivalent of Ksh322.5 million.

The first request from the Hon. Member was the legal and contraction basis upon which KTDA paid Orio Homes Limited a sum of Ksh322.5 million on 18th May, 2026, after completion and payment of the initial amount of their contract. The background of the fertiliser supply may not be very necessary, but let me just mention the issues as they are in the response.

The execution and implementation of the contract was subsequently delayed by proceedings filed at the High Court. One of the companies that bid for this particular supply called SLDR, International Limited, an unsuccessful bidder, through Constitutional Petition No. E004 of 2025, dated 14th May, 2025 went to court. On 15th May 2025, the High Court issued conservatory orders restraining KTDA from awarding the tender and distributing the fertiliser pending the determination of the application. On 19th June 2025, the High Court dismissed the petition on the grounds that it lacked jurisdiction, stating that the complaint ought to have been lodged before the Public Procurement Administrative Review Board (PPARB). On 29th June 2025, SLDR International Limited filed a request for review before the PPARB, which suspended the procurement proceedings and directed that no contract be signed pending the determination of the appeal. The complainant subsequently withdrew the case on 1st July 2025, ending the proceedings. Following the conclusion of the legal proceedings, KTDA proceeded with the procurement. The formal contract was executed on 17th July 2025, while the letter of credit was executed on 7th August 2025.

The KTDA justified proceeding with the procurement on the grounds that failure to supply fertiliser would result in a decline in tea production of up to 25 per cent, translating into an estimated revenue loss for the country of US$16.8 billion. The fertiliser was, therefore, delivered in consignments between 28th October and 3rd December 2025 and distributed to farmers served by KTDA-managed factories. Oriole Homes Limited completed its contractual obligations and received the final contractual payment on 22nd January 2026.

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On the supplier's claim of Ksh322.5 million for foreign exchange losses and ex-gratia payment, on 28th January 2026, after completing the contract, Oriole Homes Limited submitted a claim for compensation arising from alleged foreign exchange losses. The company argued that the prolonged period between bid submission, contract execution and final settlement exposed it to significant exchange rate fluctuations between the United States dollar and the Chinese Yuan. The supplier explained that, although its contractual payments were denominated in United States dollars, a significant proportion of its upstream obligations were denominated in Yuan. It relied on publicly available exchange rate information, including XIG.com and Trading Economics, to support its alleged losses. The supplier quantified its foreign exchange loss at more than US$5 million and requested compensation on an ex-gratia basis, citing exceptional circumstances, commercial equity and the parties' long-standing business relationship.

Following negotiations between KTDA and the supplier, the KTDA board considered the request at a meeting held on 7th May 2026. The board approved an ex-gratia payment of US$2.5 million, equivalent to approximately Ksh322.5 million. The resolution was passed by the majority of the board, with one board member dissenting, and was recorded under board Minutes No.26 of 2026. On the second issue, the Member…

Hon. Speaker: How much more to go?

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): One page, in about three minutes.

Hon. Speaker: Okay.

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): The Member sought to know the source of the budgetary allocation from which the Ksh322.5 million was paid, including whether the requisite financial approvals had been obtained. The KTDA stated that the fertiliser suspension account managed by KTDA Holdings was the main source of funds for fertiliser procurement.

The account receives funds deducted from farmers' monthly tea payments as deductions towards fertiliser procurement. Under the Government Fertiliser Subsidy Programme, the Government is expected to meet the difference between the fertiliser procurement costs, on a Cost, Insurance and Freight (CIF) basis, and the subsidised price charged to farmers. However, delays in Government subsidy reimbursements create funding gaps, forcing KTDA to seek external borrowing to ensure timely fertiliser procurement.

The Ministry stated that as at the Financial Year 2024/2025, the Government owed KTDA Ksh6.8 billion in outstanding subsidy reimbursements. The KTDA explained that there was no specific budgetary allocation for fertiliser supply. Instead, the process was financed through farmers' deductions, Government subsidies and external borrowing, where necessary.

According to the Ministry, the Ksh322,500,000 payment underwent KTDA's corporate governance approval and financial processing procedures. The total fertiliser procurement costs, including the additional Ksh322,500,000, amounted to Ksh8,231,192,304, which was approved by the KTDA board. The resulting cost was approximately Ksh4,132 per 50-kilogramme bag, compared with the previous year's open market price of Ksh4,600 per 50-kilogramme bag. The KTDA maintains that the final cost was competitive and that farmers are refunded or charged depending on the actual cost of the fertiliser bag, including the supply chain costs.

The final part of the Question was that the Member wanted to know the status of investigations into the payment by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI), including whether KTDA and the relevant officers had submitted the documents and information sought, and whether any action had been taken by the relevant authorities arising from the inquiry to date.

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The Ministry confirmed that it was aware of investigations by the Directorate of Criminal Investigations into the payment. According to the Cabinet Secretary, the investigations were at the summative stage at the time of the Statement. The Ministry indicated that the DCI was not requesting any documents from KTDA. The Ministry emphasised that it respected the constitutional and statutory mandate of the investigative agencies and called upon KTDA to cooperate fully with the DCI and other competent authorities to establish the complete facts surrounding the matter.

Hon. Speaker, we have four annexes which have come with this Report as documents that can probably verify or confirm this Statement. These four annexes have also been shared with the Member.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Karemba, do you have any clarifications?

Hon. Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes, UDA): Mhe. Spika, sijaridhika na majibu nimepata kutoka kwa Mwenyekiti. Niliuliza haya maswali kwa sababu eneo Bunge langu linakuza majani chai kwa wingi. Kila wakati wakulima wangu wanataka kujua ni kwa nini mbolea ililipwa kwa mara ya pili. Kama jambo ambalo limekuwa likizungumziwa kwenye Bunge hili, ukulima wa majani chai sio kazi rahisi. Kupanda, kupalilia na pia kuvuna ni kazi ngumu sana. Hata ukifikiria kung'oa majani chai, ni kazi ngumu zaidi. Majibu ambayo tumepata kutoka kwa Waziri kupitia Mwenyekiti, ni yale ningependa Mwenyekiti aongee na Waziri ambaye ni *custodian* wa mambo ya ukulima wa majani chai. Bado sijapata majibu. Nilitaka kujua ni kwa nini pesa ya mkulima ilitumika kulipa mbolea ambayo ilikuwa tayari imeshalipwa. Huo uchunguzi unaofanyika wa hilo jambo, ningependa ufanyike kwa sababu inaonekana hiyo kazi bado haijafanyika na wakulima wanataka majibu kutoka kwa Wizara na KTDA.

Asante sana.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Mutunga. You have the liberty to respond in English or in the Kiswahili he has used.

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Naweza kumjibu kwa Kiswahili. Nimesikia malalamishi yake.

Hon. Speaker: *Ni pesa zimevujwa au zimeibiwa*? Hon. Muchangi, what is it you are alleging?

Hon. Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes, UDA): Mheshimiwa Spika, mbolea ya wakulima wa majani chai ililipwa mara ya kwanza. Baadaye, pesa zaidi zililipwa.

Hon. Speaker: For the same consignment?

Hon. Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes, UDA): Ndiyo. Jambo hili ndio nililolalamikia Wizara ya Ukulima na Mifugo.

Hon. Speaker: Mheshimiwa Mutunga, umesikia? Ni kweli au si kweli?

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Nimesikia. Lakini kulingana na Ripoti hii, ningependa kufafanua kidogo ili tuweze kuelewa jibu tulilopata kutoka kwa Wizara. Waziri amekubali kuwa pesa za mbolea, ambazo zilikuwa kwa *contract*, zililipwa. Lakini kulitokea hasara kwa mwanakandarasi kwa sababu alinunua mbolea kutumia Yuan ambayo ni pesa ya kigeni ya China. Ukilinganisha na Dollar za Marekani, alipata hasara ya US$5 *milioni.* Kwa hivyo, alienda kwa KTDA na wakawa na mazungumzo jinsi ya kusuluhisha hasara ile na waliafikiana alipwe nusu ya pesa hizo ambazo ni US$2.5 *milioni.*

Hon. Speaker: Je alifidiwa?

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Ndio. Alilipwa *ex-gratia.* Kwa mujibu wa Waziri, KTDA wana mkataba wa *ex=gratia payment* kwa kanuni na taratibu zao. Walitumia taratibu hizi kumlipa.

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Hon. Speaker: Sawa. Mheshimiwa Karemba, umeelewa?

Hon. Muchangi Karemba (Runyenjes, UDA): Nimeelewa alivyosema Mwenyekiti, isipokuwa hili ni jambo linalochunguzwa na Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI). Lakini haijabainika ni kwa nini wanachama wengine hawakukubali haya malipo yafanyike. Nilitaka kujua haswa kwa nini, na Mwenyekiti hajajibu.

Hon. Speaker: Mheshimiwa Mutunga, je, kuna wanaobisha yale malipo?

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Kulingana na Ripoti ya Wizara, Waziri amesema kuwa wanachama wote wa Bodi ya KTDA, isipokuwa mmoja, walikubali malipo haya. Mmoja aliyepinga alirekodi *dissent* na ikanukuliwa katika kumbukumbu zao.

Hon. Speaker: Huyo mmoja ni nani? Ni Karemba?

Hon. (Dr) John Mutunga Kanyuithia (Tigania West, UDA): Simjui; Mheshimiwa Karemba ndiye anayemjua. Ripoti haisemi ni nani.

Hon. Speaker: Mheshimiwa Karemba, wacha tuwaachie hapo. Kama unaona pesa zimevujwa, nenda kwa taasisi ya uchunguzi yaani DCI.

Next responses. Is Hon. Abdul Haro in the House? And is the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations present?

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): I am ready.

Hon. Speaker: Do you have the response?

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Yes, I do.

Hon. Speaker: Table it because the Questioner is not in the House.

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Do I have to read it?

Hon. Speaker: No. Table it. He will find it in the Table Office.

(Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona laid the document on the Table)

Hon. Speaker: Is Hon. Machua Waithaka in the House? If not, Hon. Millie, do you have the response as well?

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Yes, I have it.

Hon. Speaker: Then table it. He will find it at the Table Office.

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Thank you.

(Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona laid the document on the Table)

Hon. Speaker: Next is a response from the Departmental Committee on Energy. Is Hon. Fatuma Masito in the House? What about the Chairperson of the Committee? Hon. Aramat, you are the Vice-Chairperson; the Questioner is not in the House. Table the response; they will find it in the Table Office.

Hon. Lemanken Aramat (Narok East, UDA): Most obliged.

(Hon. Lemanken Aramat laid the document on the Table)

Hon. Speaker: Is Hon. Stephen Mule present?

Hon. Stephen Mule (Matungulu, WDM): Present.

Hon. Speaker: Let us have the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning respond to this. Hon. Mboni, are you the one responding? Go ahead.

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OPERATION OF QVSE UNDER THE
GLOBAL INVESTMENT GROUP IN KENYA

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. On Wednesday, 12th August 2026, the Member for Matungulu Constituency, Hon. Stephen Mule, requested for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning regarding the operations of an online trading platform in Kenya, namely, Quant Vest Stock Exchange (QVSE) Limited.

Hon. Stephen Mule, therefore, sought to establish the following:

1. The legal and regulatory status of the QVSE and the Global Investment Group in Kenya. Including whether the platform is licensed to offer investment or financial services and the laws governing its operations.
2. The ownership and operational structure of QVSE and the Global Investment Group, including their local entities or partners.
3. Steps being taken to investigate allegations that the platform operates an unlawful investment scheme.
4. The measures being put in place to protect Kenyans from unregulated investment schemes, including the action being taken to safeguard affected investors and facilitate the recovery of funds where losses have been incurred.

Hon. Speaker, the Committee received a response from the National Treasury on 21st August 2026, which I now wish to make.

Regarding the legal and regulatory status of QVSE and the Global Investment Group in Kenya, including whether the platform is licensed to offer investment or financial services and the laws governing its operations, I wish to respond that as at 21st August 2026, QVSE and the Global Investment Group were not licensed or approved to undertake regulatory capital markets activities in Kenya. Investigations are ongoing to establish the nature and scope of the activities attributed to the entities and the applicable regulatory requirements.

Second, regarding the ownership and operational structure of QVSE and the Global Investment Group, including their local representatives or partners, the ownership and operational structure of QVSE and the Global Investment Group, including the identity of any local representatives or persons associated with their operations in Kenya, has not been established at this stage. This forms part of the ongoing enquiries.

Third, regarding the steps being taken to investigate allegations that the platform operates an unlawful investment or pyramid scheme, the Capital Markets Investigation Unit and the Director of Criminal Investigations (DCI) are undertaking an investigation into the matter. Due to the ongoing nature of the investigation, a definite determination of the entity's operations cannot be made at this stage. Upon conclusion of the investigation or once sufficient information and evidence is obtained, the necessary regulatory action will be undertaken in accordance with the applicable law and regulatory framework.

Fourth, on what measures have been put in place to protect Kenyans from unregistered investment schemes, including actions being taken to safeguard affected investors and facilitate recovery of funds where losses have been incurred, the Government continues to put in place measures to protect members of the public from unlicensed and unapproved investment schemes. Such measures include regular issuance of investor alerts and public notices, cautioning members of the public against dealing with unlicensed entities, with a view to encouraging members of the

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public to deal only with entities licensed or approved by the Authority, and to exercise caution when presented with investment opportunities promising guaranteed or unusually high returns.

On investor education, the Authority undertakes county, national and public campaigns, leveraging technology with targeted messaging, depending on the constituency or target group. The CMA empowers retail investors to identify scams, verify licensed intermediaries and make sound investment choices. It also takes such other regulatory or enforcement actions as may be appropriate based on the findings of the investigations.

Hon. Speaker, in conclusion, members of the public are encouraged to verify whether an entity is licensed or approved before committing funds to any investment opportunity. Appropriate regulatory action will be undertaken in accordance with the applicable law and regulatory framework upon the conclusion of the ongoing enquiries.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mboni. Hon. Mule.

Hon. Stephen Mule (Matungulu, WDM): Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker. I have listened to our colleague, Hon. Mboni, responding to the issue of Quant Vest Stock Exchange (QVSE). However, I am not fully satisfied with the answer because, firstly, they are saying that investigations are ongoing. As we are aware, the matter is in the public domain; two ladies have already been arraigned in court in connection with this matter. The only unfortunate thing is that the two ladies were released on a bond of Ksh200,000, which is very little compared to the amount of money involved in this scam.

Hon. Speaker, I want to request your indulgence on this matter. It is a matter of public interest, not only in Matungulu, but across the country. If you look at that response, it leaves Kenyans without conclusive direction…

Hon. Speaker: Interrogate him.

Hon. Stephen Mule (Matungulu, WDM): On what they need to do after this, I am privy to information that even Hon. Mboni, over the weekend, buried one of the teachers who died by suicide after investing in QVSE. On the ground, there are people who are recruiting teachers into this scam. They are busy walking around and telling teachers that nothing can be done about them. It is high time that anybody who was involved in recruiting teachers or members of the public into this scheme is arrested and arraigned in court. We must ensure that we stop these scams completely.

The Committee has just received a report from the National Treasury. When we say that the CMA, the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and the Directorate of Criminal Investigations (DCI) are working on this issue, there are families in Kenya today that have no source of income. Their loved ones have left them. Those who are alive took loans and invested in QVSE. The entire platform is now completely shut down. There is nothing of recourse.

I am not satisfied because what we need to do is to ask the Departmental Committee on Finance and National Planning to call all the agencies so that we can discuss the way forward and ensure that Kenyans recover their money. This happened through a platform, and money was sent through Safaricom. This happened in the full glare and watch of the security agencies. There was actual recruitment of members into the scheme. Therefore, as Members, we need to be extremely serious…

Hon. Speaker: You are now engaged in a debate. This is a response to a Statement that you requested. Ask him, apart from what he has said, what else you want him to do.

Hon. Stephen Mule (Matungulu, WDM): Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for your guidance. Firstly, my request to the entire Committee and the State is that a multi-agency team must be put in place because, right now, we know there are culprits. The team should go around the villages and areas and ensure that those who recruited Kenyans into this scheme are brought to book.

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Secondly, we must be told how Kenyans will recover their money from this scam. Thirdly, what measures is the Government taking to ensure that they protect Kenyans from other ongoing scams in the country?

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mboni, there have been largely discourses other than questions. Is this QVSE licensed?

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): This platform is not licensed.

Hon. Speaker: It is not licensed?

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): Yes, it is not licensed.

Hon. Speaker: Have they been operating in Kenya?

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): Yes, they have been operating in Kenya.

Hon. Speaker: Who allowed them to operate?

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): You know, this is an online platform whereby somebody can operate from anywhere. These are some of the issues we have been trying to address through legislation because, as you remember, there were issues surrounding virtual assets. A software platform can be operated from anywhere. I understand that most of the affected people are actually teachers.

Hon. Speaker: How much money has been lost?

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): I cannot authoritatively say how much, but there were about 8,000 participants who were recruited, each paying a minimum of Ksh65,000 entry point.

Hon. Speaker: Is it a gambling platform?

Hon. David Mwalika (Kitui Rural, WDM): It is like a pyramid scheme. Basically, what was happening is that when one joined, they were told that there was a trading window, perhaps of one hour, during which you could trade. They were telling people to trade in foreign exchange and also buy shares from American companies.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mule, tell teachers that when things look too good, they should think twice.

Is Kakai Bisau in the House? Is the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Sports and Culture in the House? Hon. Dan. Wanyama, do you have the response?

Hon. Daniel Wanyama (Webuye West, UDA): Yes, I have it.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Kakai is not here. Table the matter. He will find it in the Table Office.

Hon. Daniel Wanyama (Webuye West, UDA): Well guided.

(Hon. Daniel Wanyama laid the document on the Table)

Hon. Speaker: Is Hon. John Kaguchia in the House? Yes, he is. Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure, do you have a response?

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Yes, I do.

Hon. Speaker: Go ahead.

STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION OF ROADS IN MUKURWEINI CONSTITUENCY

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Hon. Speaker, the Member for Mukurweini Constituency, Hon. John Kaguchia, requested for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure regarding the delayed construction of

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two roads in Mukurweini Constituency, namely Gikondi–Thaara Road and Mwireri–Mutwewathi Road. In the Statement, Hon. Kaguchia sought to establish the following: Firstly, the reasons why the contractor had not resumed work despite the commitment to resume work by 16th March 2026, including whether the contract remained valid and whether there were any outstanding financial, contractual, administrative or technical matters preventing the contractor from returning to the site.

Secondly, the status of disbursement and utilisation of Ksh133 million allocated to the project in the Financial Year 2025/2026, and the approximate Ksh26 million that had remained in the project account, including whether these funds remained available for the project and, if not, how they had been utilised. Thirdly, the revised implementation and completion timelines for the project and the measures being undertaken by the Ministry to ensure that the contractor completes the outstanding works without further delay.

The Committee received a response from the Cabinet Secretary for Roads and Transport through the Clerk of the National Assembly, which I now wish to present. Firstly, regarding the reasons why the contractor had not resumed work despite the commitment to resume work by 16th March 2026, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that the project for upgrading to Bitumen Standards and Performance Based Maintenance (PBRM) of Thaara- Karaba - Muthuthini - Gikondi, and Gaikundo-Gakindu-Mukurweini roads was awarded to M/s Roben Aberdere (K) Ltd. in 2020. The approved contract provides for a 30-month construction period followed by a 36-month performance-based road maintenance period. The works commenced in August 2020 and have attained an overall physical progress of approximately 48 per cent. To date, 14 kilometres of the total 29-kilometre project road length has been completed to bitumen standard.

Following the allocation of Ksh133 million to the project during the Financial Year 2025/2026, the contractor committed to mobilise and resume the works by 16th March of 2026. However, despite this commitment and subsequent engagement, the contractor has not remobilised or resumed construction activities on site. All interim payment certificates submitted and certified under the contract have been paid. Further, there are currently no outstanding administrative, contractual or technical matters attributable to the employer that would prevent the contractor from resuming the works.

Regarding the Mwireri-Mutwewathi Road, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that the upgrading to bitumen standards of the 4-kilometre Mwireri-Mutwewathi Road was initially awarded to M/S Gragab Agencies Ltd in 2022. Following the commencement of the termination of the initial contract due to the contractor's non-performance, the works have since been retendered and the contract awarded to a new contractor. The new contractor commenced works on 2nd October 2026, marking the resumption of implementation of the project.

Regarding the status of disbursement and utilisation of the Ksh133 million allocated to the project in the Financial Year 2025/2026 and the approximately Ksh26 million that had remained in the project account, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that the funds for Thaara-Karaba-Muthuthini-Gikondi and Gaikundo-Gakindu-Mukurweini Road project are still in the project account unutilised despite the contractor's withdrawal from the site since November 2024 citing lack of budgetary allocations. The Cabinet Secretary further submitted that the Mwireri-Mutwewathi Road project stalled due to non-performance by the contractor despite not having any pending payments or funding gaps.

Regarding the revised implementation and completion timelines for the project and measures being undertaken by the Ministry to ensure that the contractor completes the outstanding works without further delay, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that the Thaara-Karaba-Muthuthini-Gikondi and Gaikundo-Gakindu-Mukurweini Road project is projected for completion in

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December 2027, subject to adequate funding. The Cabinet Secretary further submitted that the Ministry, through KeRRA, has contracted a new contractor, M/s Benmoore Civils Limited at a contract sum of Ksh655 million for the Mwireri-Mutwewathi Road project, who has already commenced work and the Ministry will continue to monitor progress to ensure implementation in accordance with the contract requirements and the approved work programme.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I submit.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Kaguchia, are you satisfied?

Hon. Kaguchia John (Mukurweini, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to confirm that indeed, with regard to Mwireri-Mutwewathi Road, there is a new contractor who is already on site and has been working on it from 2nd October this year. But, Hon. Speaker, I would like to draw your attention to this response because it has very serious gaps with regard to the Gikondi-Muthuthini-Thaara-Gakindu Road. Reason being the Cabinet Secretary has confirmed the commitment he had done earlier in the year that he has already paid Ksh133 million into the account of M/s Roben Aberdere Kenya Ltd. That money is still there. Page Two of the response shows that the funds of Thaara-Karaba-Muthuthini-Gikondi and Gaikundo-Gakindu-Mukurweini Road project are still in the project account, unutilised, despite contractors withdrawing from the site since November 2024. That is a commitment that the Cabinet Secretary had given.

But again, you will notice that the contractor is not on site. He had committed to be on site by 16th March 2026. That was a commitment that had been given through a statement that we had also raised in this House. This is the third statement on this particular road. And the contractor has continued to commit that he will return to the site. And the contractor has been paid. What I am wondering is, is the Cabinet Secretary helpless in the face of this contractor? Is it that he cannot enforce his own promises to the people of Mukurweini and indeed taxpayers that this contractor needs to come back to site and finish his work?

If you look at the last paragraph, the Cabinet Secretary is confirming and committing that Thaara-Karaba-Muthuthini-Gikondi and Gaikundo-Gakindu-Mukurweini Road project is scheduled for completion in December 2027. What the Cabinet Secretary is not indicating is when the contractor will be back on site. The road cannot be completed by December 2027 without the contractor coming back to site. If you look at my issue that I had raised as number three in the first page, I had asked the Cabinet Secretary to give us the implementation and completion timeline. He has given us a completion timeline, but he has not given or stated anything to do with the implementation timeline. I request that we do not leave this issue hanging in the manner in which the Cabinet Secretary has left it. I request that you order that this issue be framed as a Question to the Cabinet Secretary rather than a Request for Statement so that he can delve into this matter a little bit more.

I am also requesting that you order...

Hon. Speaker: You are now debating. The purpose of giving you an opportunity is to seek a clarification. You are now saying much more than what you asked originally.

Hon. Kaguchia John (Mukurweini, UDA): Hon. Speaker, just one point. As our Speaker, when I come to you with a request, I believe you should listen to me and hopefully also...

Hon. Speaker: Who says I am not listening? I am intervening because I am listening.

Hon. Kaguchia John (Mukurweini, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I request that you direct the Cabinet Secretary to order the contractor to go back to site. Also, that the Cabinet Secretary, on his first appearance in this House, to come prepared with an answer with regard to this road so that you can know that this is a serious issue. This particular contractor has been contracted to do many other roads in Kieni, Othaya and Tetu, but he has not resumed site despite

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having no budgetary pending bills at all. If you go to Kieni, for example, you will find that Giachuma-Burguret-Chakareri Road and Tagwa-Kimahuri Road are also stalled. There is also Endarasha-Baringo-Kiawara Road which he has now resumed, but has been pending for a very long time and is being constructed at a very slow pace. Hon. Wandeto here, has the Agothi-Fangaini-Gatike Road that is also stalled. We also have Karuthi-Othaya-Githagara Road in Nyeri County that is also pending. Nyeri County is extremely disadvantaged by M/s Roben Aberdere Kenya Ltd because of all these road projects that he cannot implement. He seems to have preferred to go and implement newer projects elsewhere rather than the original projects he was allocated in Nyeri County. We are suffering because of this contractor.

Hon. Speaker: Point made. Hon. G.K.

Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu, UDA): Can I joyride on the same?

Hon. Speaker: You will not. He has said so much.

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Let us have... You are next, anyway. Go on. You have heard of that rigmarole.

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): I was focused on my response. I would like to remind Hon. Kaguchia, who is on record as having objected to the securitisation of resources using the Road Maintenance Levy Fund (RMLF), that the Gaikundo-Gakindu-Mukurweini Road, leading to the Thara-Karaba-Muthuthini Road, which has been allocated Ksh655 million, is progressing. I am happy he has not objected to the fact that the contractor is back on site. However, I needed to remind him that he is on record having questioned the Government's strategy for mobilisation of resources.

On his Question, the Ksh133 million which is still in the account, I believe the Cabinet Secretary has done his part. Hon. Kaguchia is an advocate. He understands that every contract is legally binding, and that this contract has legally binding provisions and exit clauses. If the contractor fails to observe his part of the bargain, the Cabinet Secretary has recourse. You should be patient and allow the Cabinet Secretary to find out how and where to pressure the contractor to do his bit.

Hon. Speaker: Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I was keenly following that response and what Hon. Kaguchia said. I also heard him mention roads in Tetu, Kieni and Othaya constituencies. It is true that this particular contractor, who incidentally also hails from Nyeri County, had been given many of these contracts in Nyeri County during the last regime. These are many of the roads that stalled during the last regime. The excuse was that the Uhuru Kenyatta Government did not have adequate resources to finance the construction of these roads.

I agree with the honourable Chairman that since then, following the securitisation that we did, these contractors and all others have been paid. What the Hon. Chairman said is true. I have just confirmed from the Ministry that they have a problem with this particular contractor. They will be asking him to pay them a visit, so that they can agree on when he is going to resume work, and not just on this Gikondi Road. I am speaking about Gikondi Road because Hon. Kaguchia knows that even when he was the Speaker of Nyeri County, I came there together with Hon. Kabando wa Kabando for a function at Nyaatha Catholic Church. The President, who was then Deputy President, spoke about this road and started it. It stalled during the last regime, but now the contractor has been paid.

I am told that Roben Aberdare (K) Ltd is a contractor who hails from Nyeri County and at one point, he was even running for a political seat there. Therefore, the Ministry has committed

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that it will summon this contractor to explain why he is unable to resume work on many of these roads. If they are unable to get him to either reassign or terminate the contracts, they will award the same to someone else who will deliver. I am sure even Hon. Wandeto will bear me witness.

Last week but one, the Deputy President was in Tetu Constituency, Nyeri, where I have just come from. Many of the roads that had stalled in that constituency are now ongoing, except the Ihithe-Ndunyu Njeru Road. All the Mau Mau roads in Nyeri County are being completed. The Ihithe-Ndunyu Njeru Road is part of the Mau Mau roads. Hon. Kaguchia and Hon. Wandeto know what the challenges are, with all the issues that were there, including the fights with conservationists over the forest corridor. However, once that is resolved, the Ihithe-Ndunyu Njeru Road will also be done. Those who have a penchant for doing politics with that road, especially from across Nyandarua County, will then bear me witness that it will also be done together with the others. I want to assure Hon. Kaguchia and the people of Mukurweini and Tetu that those roads will be done.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mathenge, do you want to joyride on this as well?

Hon. Duncan Mathenge (Nyeri Town, UDA): Yes, Hon. Speaker. We need the Cabinet Secretary to appear before this House, because in Nyeri Town, I have the Nyeri Town Improvement Roads Project which has also been awarded to a contractor from Nyeri, who hails from Mukurweini, by the name of Laton Engineering Ltd. Again, this contractor has no pending bills, but he is not carrying out the works. When we go to the Ministry, they insist that they cannot remove this contractor from the project yet from 2020 to date, a seven-kilometre stretch has not been completed. We cede money to securitisation, and the contractors have been fully paid yet they are declining to resume work. We need an explanation.

Hon. Speaker: Where is Hon. Wandeto? Is it on the same?

Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu, UDA): It is on the same.

Hon. Speaker: Go ahead.

Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu, UDA): As Hon. Kaguchia has rightly said, this specific contractor seems to be untouchable. I will say this openly. He has so many roads. Many of us have tried to approach him to get him to commit to what he is going to do about them, but we do not get a satisfactory response. We have been to the Cabinet Secretary. Hon. Kaguchia and other Members of Parliament from Nyeri are aware, and we have discussed this matter for more than two years, but nothing seems to have been done. We are told that he has very good connections in high places. I do not know how you can assist us if we have reached that point. This is now beyond us. The contractor has no pending bills. Even the Deputy President the other day went there and said that the particular roads would be unlocked. I do not know whether he is even above the Deputy President. We do not know what to do now. We need your guidance.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Lilian.

Hon. (Dr) Lilian Gogo (Rangwe, ODM): Thank you so much, Hon. Speaker. It bewilders me that where there is a contractual agreement, somebody breaches that agreement and even Hon. Members are afraid to mention their names. They are just saying, "a contractor from Nyeri", and they are seriously afraid of him. This is the House where you should name and shame him. You should mention his name so that the whole country knows that this particular contractor is not doing the work he is supposed to do. The Government is trying to change the country and its face through infrastructure development yet there are people who, according to Members, are untouchable. I do not know who could be untouchable in this country.

Hon. Speaker: Tragically, the Hon. Members who cannot mention the name are also from Nyeri.

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Hon. (Dr) Lilian Gogo (Rangwe, ODM): This particular contractor should be held to account. We want to know his name and why he is not doing his work. We also want to know about contractors in other parts of the country who are unable to do their work. We want to know why they are dragging the Government back when it is trying to take development to wananchi.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Kaguchia.

Hon. Kaguchia John (Mukurweini, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. It is not that we cannot mention the name. One of the directors, and of course the main director, of Roben Aberdare (K) Ltd is Dan Wamahiu. When the Deputy President visited Mukurweini about 20 days ago, he made a commitment that Dan Wamahiu of Roben Aberdare (K) Ltd would be in Mukurweini to complete Gikondi Road within seven days.

It is now 20 days since then, and the gentleman has not shown up or demonstrated any interest. I wanted to establish whether this is more of a contractor-specific issue. In Mukurweini, we had two contractors, Gragab Agencies Limited and Roben Aberdare (K) Limited. Gragab was unable to complete the work and honourably withdrew, allowing the Ministry to contract another contractor. Now, as you can hear, we have a contractor working on Mwireri-Mutwewathi Road and, of course, Kaheti Road. However, this contractor is treating us in an arrogant manner, yet he is being paid using taxpayers' money. I strongly believe that this House should take action against contractors who continue to frustrate the work that is supposed to be done.

We had already completed four kilometres in 2023, but he personally decided that he would not work on any other road in Nyeri County. For that reason, we are being economically sabotaged as a county because of Roben Aberdare (K) Limited.

Hon. Speaker: Write to my office, and I will direct the Committee to summon that contractor. Yes, Hon. Mathenge? Is it the same contractor?

Hon. Duncan Mathenge (Nyeri Town, UDA): Hon. Speaker, the contractor for the Nyeri Town Roads Improvement Project is Laton Limited. The director is Mambo Thieri.

Hon. Speaker: Who?

Hon. Duncan Mathenge (Nyeri Town, UDA): Mambo Thieri.

Hon. Speaker: You know, Hon. Members, you have a lot of authority under the Constitution, which you can exercise. Be that as it may, I do not want to cause the Leader of the Majority Party to bring the Cabinet Secretary for Roads here just because of Nyeri County alone. Write to me, and I will instruct Hon. GK, who is your neighbour, incidentally, to summon that contractor to appear before him, together with the lead agency that contracted this so-called untouchable contractor.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, we are well guided, and that is true. As I had indicated, I had just spoken to the Cabinet Secretary and the Principal Secretary, and they had indicated that they had already asked this particular contractor, together with a few other contractors, to appear. As I said, many contractors have since been paid. Those who are yet to resume work have been asked to appear, and they have all been given dates when they are expected to appear before the technical committee and the Ministry, together with the road agencies.

I wanted to seek your indulgence. Perhaps, before the Committee exercises its oversight role, we could allow the Ministry to do that. We will then have people to bite since we have teeth to bite, should they fail to act. I honestly sympathise with these brothers of mine from Nyeri because, as they are saying, except for the latter, the proprietor of the company is not from Nyeri. It can be very painful when someone from your own county is not delivering, yet the Government is intent on supporting local contractors.

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Let me take this opportunity to appeal to all our local contractors. I have gone to many places where Members of Parliament insist that if a contract is being awarded, it should be given to a Chinese contractor. Why? This is because they deliver, and they deliver on time. I have also seen many of our other brothers, especially those from northern Kenya, doing very well in road construction. Let me also appeal to our people that, when they get a road contract or any other Government contract, they should deliver.

This is frustrating. I have not see Hon. Kaguchia being this frustrated by his neighbour, who hails from the same county. His other neighbours are getting so frustrated by politics that they have now started planning their route back to Texas. I do not want Hon. Kaguchia to start planning how he will go to Texas out of frustration. I want him to be happy that the people of Mukurweini have received that Gikondi Road because they deserve it. The people of Gikondi deserve a good road, just as the people of Ihithe, where I come from, deserve good roads. This Government is giving them good roads.

I also pray that in due course, the Member for Mukurweini, the Member for Tetu, my brother and church mate, who is also my elder, Hon. Wandeto, will have the courage to speak about the work that the Government has done, and the work they have done in their particular constituencies without anybody instilling fear in them. They were elected by the people, not by anybody else.

Since I know that Hon. Kaguchia is a former Speaker of Nyeri County Assembly, he is there to get a home in Texas. Hon. Wandeto does not even have a home in Seattle. Therefore, they will be with us here. We want to support them to ensure that they deliver to their constituents. Your re-election is pegged on the delivery of those projects to the people of Mukurweini, the people of Tetu and the great people of Nyeri, who are very good.

The people of Nyeri are very good, and nobody should ever mistake them, including contractors. I know many contractors from Nyeri who are doing a good job. Even that particular contractor, Wamahio, whom I know, is a good man who does a good job. Perhaps we should just allow the Ministry to establish what the issues are. He may have bitten off more than he can chew, considering the number of contracts he has. I do not want to speak on his behalf. Let him go and speak to the Ministry.

All I can assure the Member for Mukurweini and the Member for Tetu is that there is no road in Nyeri County that will be left undone. All those roads will be done, including those in Othaya, Kieni and Nyeri Town, where my brother, Hon. DMM, comes from. The people of Nyeri deserve these roads. They voted for this Government. I am certain they will vote for it again next year on account of the work done for them. That is why people will have no choice, but to go to their ranches in Texas.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. GK, do you have a response to...

(Hon. Omar Mwinyi spoke off the record)

An interest in what? In Mukurweini? Mukurweini? Go on, Member for Changamwe.

Hon. Omar Mwinyi (Changamwe, ODM): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I happen to have been in Mukurweini during the 1970s as a teacher. This road is also painful to me. I support Hon. Kaguchia in demanding that the roads be done. However, I want to bring to the attention of this House the bad behaviour of the departments concerned. They normally award contracts to people who cannot manage them. The departments concerned give some contractors so many contracts and then they fail to deliver. I once complained about this matter during the 11th Parliament. My

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constituency still has projects which are incomplete because one contractor was given so many of them. I complained and asked why they were giving all those contracts to one person. If that person fails to deliver, he fails in all of them. That was actually the case.

I would request that the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure summons the relevant department of the Kenya Rural Roads Authority (KeRRA) or the Kenya Urban Roads Authority (KURA), as the case may be, so that they can establish how many projects this contractor has been awarded. They should stop this menace of giving contracts to one person, only for that person to fail to deliver on all the projects. This would help this House and Members to avoid the frustration they are undergoing.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. GK, *umesikia hiyo?* Do you have a response to Hon. Wandeto's request?

(Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona spoke off the record)

It is contractual. Do you have a response, Hon. GK?

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Yes, I do, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Just hold on. There is a point of order from Hon. Farah Maalim.

(Hon. Farah Maalim spoke off the record)

Go ahead, Hon. GK.

THE STATUS OF CONSTRUCTION OF MAU MAU ROAD LOT 4 PROJECT

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Hon. Speaker, the Member for Tetu Constituency, Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto, requested for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure regarding the status of construction of the Mau Mau Road Lot 4 Project. In the Statement, Hon. Wandeto sought to establish the following:

1. The measures in place to prioritise the upgrading and completion of non-disputed sections of Mau Mau Lot 4, particularly Ihithe, Kiamutiga, Mukarara, and Njeng'u Treetops.
2. The timelines for the completion of the uncontested sections of the road to enable residents and farmers derive immediate socioeconomic benefits from the project.

Hon. speaker, the Committee received a response from the Cabinet Secretary for Roads and Transport through the Clerk of the National Assembly, which I now wish to make.

Regarding the measures in place to prioritise the upgrading and completion of the non-disputed sections of Mau Mau roads particularly Ihithe, Kiamutiga, Mukarara and Njengu-Treetops, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that the Ihithe-Ndunyu Njeru Road is part of the broader Mau Mau Road programme, a flagship Government of Kenya initiative aimed at upgrading historically significant roads associated with Kenya's Independence struggle.

Lot 4 covers approximately 97.8 kilometres and is situated within Nyeri and Nyandarua counties. The Cabinet Secretary further submitted that the project commences at Ihithe and takes a southwestern alignment through the Nyayo T-zone before entering the Aberdare National Park. The road emerges from the Park at approximately 33 kilometres. That is Mutubiu Gate and from this gate, the road descends through a series of hairpin bends to Kahuruko. The stretch between Mutubiu Gate and Kahuruko, approximately 10 kilometres, has an existing asphalt surface. From

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Kahuruko, the road descends further and terminates at its junction with the Ndunyu Njeru 69 Road. The road is currently to the gravel standard with the carriageway width varying between four and seven metres. The overall condition ranges from fair to poor with several sections becoming impassable during the rainy seasons, severely constraining socioeconomic activities and connectivity for the communities served.

Regarding the current status of the project, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that the design consultant was engaged to undertake a review of the original design report prepared in the 2018. The design review has since been completed and the final document, including updated drawings, specifications and bill of quantities are ready for tendering.

The Cabinet Secretary further submitted that following the completion of the design review, the Kenya National Highways Authority (KENHA) conducted a stakeholder engagement forum on 23rd February 2023 at the White Rhino Hotel in Nyeri as part of the environmental and stakeholder consultation process. Subsequently, the environmental impact assessment report was submitted to the National Environmental Management Authority on 2nd March 2023 for a review and approval. Upon completion of its review, NEMA issued an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) licence on 5th January 2024 approving the implementation of the project, subject to specific conditions.

Notably, the licence required the road reserve width to be reduced from 40 metres to 25 metres within the sections traversing the Aberdare Forest Reserve and Aberdare National Park, with the objection of minimising the ecological footprint of the project. Following the issuance of EIA licence, the environmental approval was challenged in court by the East African Wildlife Society, Kenya Forest Working Group, Africa Centre for People, and Human Rights. The petitioners among other grounds contended that the project would contravene constitutional provisions to the right to a clean and healthy environment under Article 10, 11, 42 and 69 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

The Cabinet Secretary submitted that on 17th July 2026, the Environmental and Land Court dismissed the petition in its entirety. In arriving at its decision, the Court found inter alia, that:

1. The Kenya Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Study Report had comprehensively assessed the potential environmental risks associated with the project and proposed adequate mitigation measures to safeguard wildlife, forests, water catchment and other sensitive ecological features within the Aberdare ecosystem.
2. The conditions attached to the NEMA EIA licence provide adequate safeguard for minimising environmental impacts and provided that they are strictly adhered to during construction and subsequent operation of the road.
3. The project involves upgrading of an existing motorable road to bitumen standards rather than the construction of a new road through the forest, a position that was further confirmed by the Court during its site visit.
4. The constitutional requirement to protect the environment must be balanced with the need for national development and does not constitute an absolute bar to infrastructure development within environmentally sensitive areas.

Consequently, the Court declined to grant the permanent injunction sought by the petitioners, thereby removing the legal impediment to implementation of the project. Accordingly, with the EIA licence in place and the Court challenge having been dismissed, the project has secured the requisite environmental and legal clearances and is ready to proceed to the procurement stage.

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Thirdly, regarding the timelines for the completion of the uncontested sections of the road to enable residents and farmers to derive immediate socioeconomic benefits from the project, the Cabinet Secretary submitted that as explained in one, above, the project could not proceed due to legal injunctions until the matter could be settled. However, since the design review phase has been successfully completed and all tender documents are ready for advertisement, the timelines for completion will be provided once the procurement process is concluded and the contract awarded for commencement of works. The Cabinet Secretary further submitted that the estimated total project cost based on the engineer's estimate is Kshs11.85 billion.

Subject to availability of budgetary provision, KENHA is now in a position to proceed with the advertisement of the work contract through a competitive tendering process in accordance with the Public Procurement and Asset Disposal Act 2015 and applicable regulations. It is imperative to note that this project has a budget allocation of about $1.07 million in the Financial Year 2026-27 Printed Budget. The Cabinet Secretary noted that the project is of significant socioeconomic importance to the residents of the Nyandarua and Nyeri counties and the wider central Kenya and its timely implementation will enhance connectivity, trade and access to essential services.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I thank the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure for the comprehensive response. Indeed, we lost a lot of time on this project because of the cases before the Environment and Land Court (ELC). However, since I submitted this Statement, a positive judgment has been issued setting aside all the court cases that were delaying the road. Initially, I had requested that the Government proceeds with the uncontested part of the road, but we can now deal with the entire road.

My concern is that the Chairman did not provide any timelines in his response. The word “soon” can be open-ended. Given that money had already been set aside, the road had been advertised, the designs completed and the court issues cleared, I urge the Chairman to give us a definite timeline. This road is very important to the people of Nyeri and Nyandarua. The Leader of the Majority Party was at the point where the road starts earlier today, a place called Ihithe. It is a beautiful place and the late Prof. Wangari Maathai’s home village. We welcome the Statement, but I would prefer that the Chairman gives us a timeline.

Finally, although we cannot dictate to KeNHA whom to give the road to, we can offer some early advice on whom not to give it to.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Kwenya Thuku.

Hon. Kwenya Thuku (Kinangop, JP): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I have an interest in this road because it traverses my constituency. In fact, it commences at a place called Ndunyu Njeru, where the first Speaker lived. It has been a long journey of lobbying for this road to be tarmacked, and we have faced numerous hurdles, particularly from interested groups that were swearing by the soil of the Aberdare Ranges that the road cannot be constructed because the Aberdare Ranges are a water tower. I am, therefore, happy that the court has ruled in our favour, paving the way for the construction to commence.

I also wish to add my voice to the call for clear timelines and urge the Cabinet Secretary to expedite the process. The road was initially advertised in 2022 before the process was stopped by court proceedings. It is, therefore, in our interest that the road be advertised afresh. Further, with the Supplementary Budget about to be tabled, I urge the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure to consider allocating funds to facilitate the immediate advertisement of the project and give our people some reprieve.

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The people have been eagerly awaiting the construction of this road. Currently, residents of Kinangop have to travel all the way to Nyahururu to access Nyeri, yet the distance from Ndunyu Njeru to Ihithe is only about 25 kilometres. Instead, they have to cover approximately 150 kilometres using the alternative route. You know this has an implication on carbon emissions. I, therefore, urge you to guide this House, through the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure, to allocate seed money for the project so that the road can be advertised without further delay.

Hon. Speaker: Chairman, what are your timelines?

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Hon. Speaker, we will provide the timelines once the project is advertised and the contracting phase is dispensed with. I will work with Hon. Kwenya, who is my Member of Parliament on that side. I have a lot of interest in ensuring that this road is completed in good time.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Wandeto, I thought you sounded reasonably satisfied.

Hon. Geoffrey Wandeto (Tetu, UDA): I am satisfied, Hon. Speaker. However, the timelines we are looking for relate to the re-advertisement of the project, since it had already been done earlier.

Hon. Speaker: He has said that he will engage the agencies and bring back the timelines that you are looking for. Yes, Hon. Farah Maalim. Is it on the same thing?

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Yes.

Hon. Speaker: Go ahead.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): I wish them all the best and hope that all those roads will be completed. I would also like the Leader of the Majority Party, none other than Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, to listen to me.

Hon. Speaker: He can multitask.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): I was thoroughly impressed with the manner in which he understands roads in Nyeri, both big and small. I also understand that he went to my constituency.

(Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah spoke off the record)

It does not matter whether you are an in-law there; we can also make you an in-law in our area. Now, would you, for God's sake and for the sake of this country, also adopt a similar policy? In my entire constituency, no child has ever seen a tarmac road. In the 60 years since Independence, not a single road in my constituency has been tarmacked. The whole of Balambala Constituency has not seen a single tarmac road. Ijara Constituency has only seen one through the Lamu Port–South Sudan–Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor, which goes all the way through the area. The intention was that they had to pass through it. They could not fly over it. Do you know what I mean? So, they had to pass through it.

(Several Members spoke off the record)

It is true that you have done a lot better than me. That applies to almost all constituencies in the North-Eastern Province yet we are in the same country. I want you to adopt a similar approach. I know you may not have the list of roads, but I can name at least 30 in my constituency. Next time, I want you to list those roads and assure us that they will also be taken care of and tarmacked. We are not living in two different countries; we are living in the same country.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

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Hon. Speaker: Yes, Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, let me thank Hon. Farah. There is a Member from Murang'a who once called Hon. Farah "Hon. Fala".

(Laughter)

But it is Farah Maalim. One, *Usawa ni sawa* is true. That is why the road you have spoken about, the LAPSSET Corridor from Lamu, as well as the other road all the way to Mandera, Kutulo, the famous one, have been addressed.

(Laughter)

You know, the Member for Tetu is laughing because they mocked the President when he announced that the Modogashe-Kutulo-Kula Mawe-Samatar Road, all the way to Isiolo, would be tarmacked. It is now a reality. This week, I saw the World Bank country representative inspecting that road because the bank is one of the project's financiers.

As for Hon. Farah, I know the road does not pass through Lagdera, but you are certainly aware of the developments.

(Hon. Farah Maalim spoke off the record)

It does not pass through Dadaab. However, Hon. Farah is certainly aware that the county leadership of Garissa has engaged with none other than the President, who believes in *usawa*, equal opportunities and an equal country for everybody. Roads in Dadaab and Balambala constituencies will also be done, just like those in Nyeri County.

It is only that I had a lot of information about those roads because. First, I was in Nyeri today and had a brief on what is going on. Second, many people have engaged in negative politics regarding the Ihithe-Ndunyu Njeru Road. At some point, Hon. Kwenya sent me a text message saying, "I hope you are not talking about me." I told him no. I was talking about another bearded boy from Nyandarua who once said that he did not fear the President, but respected him. He was speaking about the Ndunyu Njeru Road, imagining that he could incite the people of Nyandarua over that particular road, even though he knew there were challenges in the court. The Member for Kinangop knew that, and so did the Member for Tetu. I am happy that these two are very diligent Members of the National Assembly. We should encourage all leaders to begin their political careers in the National Assembly, where they deal directly with people's issues. When you hardly relate with people, you do not feel their pain. It becomes very easy for you to just politic on anything and imagine that a beard and useless juvenile bravado will help you in any way in politics, but all that ends up in premium tears.

However, I want to assure the Member for Dadaab, Hon. Farah Maalim, that I will ensure I engage the Ministry to fast-track the issues we agreed with the President on development projects in the northern part of Kenya. This is the next frontier of growth for our country. It may have been referred to as the Northern Frontier District and was seen to be unproductive, but today when we speak about gold and minerals, they are found there. Gypsum and oil are all in the north. The Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport Corridor will eventually transform the fortunes of our economy and the East African economy.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Millie.

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Hon. Speaker, I am happy that Hon. Farah has raised the issue of what is seen as marginalisation.

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Every time we have spoken about marginalisation, especially of our areas, people have always thought that we are just speaking. However, recently, with the Linda Mwananchi rally, it became a blessing in disguise because there was so much conflict that people saw bad roads. People did not know that we actually live in situations like that. Already, there are roads under construction. There is the Rusinga Ring Road which is already complete and tarmacked. Hon. Speaker, I welcome you to come and see it. It used to take us almost eight hours to travel there, but we now take much less time.

Hon. Speaker: Do not forget that I was a magistrate in that region.

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): Yes, you were a magistrate there and so you will see the changes when you visit. Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah is welcome to accompany the Hon. Speaker on that visit.

I also want to request that we fast-track the Lake Victoria Ring Road because there are wards in my constituency that I have not yet seen tarmacked.

Hon. Speaker: That is an East African Community Road, is it not?

Hon. Millie Odhiambo-Mabona (Suba North, ODM): There is actually a World Bank project that has been signed by the Government of Kenya. So, the only thing we are requesting is that it be fast-tracked because it passes through an area in my constituency called Loliondo. It is from Timboroa and passes through my constituency. This will enable us to say that marginalisation issues in our areas are now a thing of the past.

Hon. Speaker: Go and read a book called *The Journey of Mr and Mrs Mutabingwa with Jack the dog and Kokogonza.* It is about the lake.

Hon. Farah, you have made your point. I am a living example of what we are talking about. In 1983, when I went to defend a client in Mandera, I travelled on a goods truck. Every material was transported that way, and it took us two-and-a-half days to travel from Nairobi to Mandera. So, I know what you are talking about. You have the microphone.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): I do not have it.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Use the next one.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Hon. Speaker, I want the Leader of the Majority Party to hear this: In the north, there are three international roads. One goes through Isiolo, Garissa, Modogashe, Samatar, Habaswein all the way to Mandera. The other one is from Wajir through Bute to Moyale. The third one is the Madogo-Garissa-Dadaab-Liboi-Harhar. Just write those names down now. The World Bank is more than interested in funding construction of the road. Feasibility studies and road design are ready. Is there a chance we take this up now so that we have the tender floated in the next one or two months and have the road included in the projects? Hon. Speaker, I want you to, please, give that undertaking because you are number three in this country. Hon. Ichung'wah has something to say.

Hon. Speaker: Do not prod him to say anything. He has a Statement he will make.

Member for Bura. Very quickly, make your request for a Statement, then I will come to the Leader of the Majority Party.

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REQUEST FOR STATEMENT

STALLED CONSTRUCTION OF
WALESA BRIDGE IN BURA CONSTITUENCY

Hon. Yakub Adow (Bura, UPIA): Hon. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 44(2)(c), I rise to request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure regarding the stalled construction of Walesa Bridge in Bilbil, along Garissa-Mombasa Road in Bura Constituency.

Hon. Speaker, in 2021, a contract was awarded for the construction of Walesa Bridge near Bilbil, along the Garissa-Mombasa Road. However, the contractor reportedly abandoned the site before completing the works. The section of the bridge that had been completed has since been completely swept away due to the prolonged period of incomplete works. The hazardous condition of the said section has reportedly resulted in accidents that have so far claimed five lives, including that of a patient who was being ferried in an ambulance for an emergency treatment. These incidents underscore the urgent need to secure the affected section and complete the bridge to prevent further loss of life pending completion of the construction works.

Hon. Speaker, it is against this backdrop that I request for a Statement from the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Transport and Infrastructure on the following:

1. A report on the details of the contract for the construction of Walesa Bridge, including the name of the contractor, the project commencement date, the percentage of works completed to date, the expected completion date and the amounts paid to date, in comparison with the works undertaken.
2. The reasons for the contractor's abandonment of the site and the action being taken to hold the contractor accountable, considering that more than five lives have been lost.
3. The measures being taken to facilitate the resumption of construction and the timeline for the completion of the said bridge.

I thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. GK, when can you bring a response? The request is directed to you. Is next week okay with you?

Hon. George Kariuki (Ndia, UDA): Hon. Speaker, give me two weeks to bring a response.

Hon. Speaker: Two weeks. Leader of the Majority Party, give your Thursday Statement.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Perhaps before I proceed to the Thursday Statement, I would like to assure Hon. Millie Odhiambo that the Lake Victoria Ring Road is, as I had indicated, part of the roads being supported by the World Bank. The project will soon be contracted, a contractor identified, and work begins. I have also heard Hon. Farah speak about the three transnational highways in the north, particularly, the two that are yet to be undertaken. It is, indeed, true that if we are to make this country a nation of equals, we must construct roads across the country. That should tell the country and all of us…

Hon. Speaker: Do not forget the Rironi-Mau Summit-Malaba Road, closer home.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I know you are preparing to go for Christmas. You cannot miss Rironi-Mau Summit Road, all the way to Malaba. Also, for our brothers and sisters from the Mt. Kenya region, the extension from Makutano and its dualling all the way to Meru and back to Isiolo and Nanyuki, to link up with the road from Kenol to Marwa.

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All the roads are going to drive our economy towards a faster rate of growth than we have experienced before.

It is important to appreciate the work that has been done. That is what I was telling our brothers who subscribe to opposition politics that, at least, where work has been done and can be seen, they cannot run away from acknowledging it. Everybody can now see the challenges highlighted by the Member for Bura, who spoke about a contract that stalled way back in 2021. Many of the other roads that the Member for Mukurweini also spoke about stalled before this administration came into office.

However, it is this regime that has been pushing for the continuance of these contracts and even initiating new ones, such as the Lake Victoria Ring Road, the Samatar-Modogashe-Kutulo Road, the Rironi-Mau Summit Road and many others. Hon. Speaker, we must continue supporting this administration, moreso the President as he endeavours to move our country forward. Let us put politics aside. As I said earlier, many of us have nowhere else to go. We only have this country. We have no homes outside the country. We would like to ask those who want to spoil our country, because they have homes in Texas, to remember their immediate neighbours in the village who have no homes in Texas. Therefore, allow them to sing the 'Tutam' song that they are singing for development.

Hon. Speaker, allow me to proceed to the House Business Committee's Statement.

BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK OF 9TH TO 13TH NOVEMBER 2026

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 44(2)(a), I rise to present the following Statement on behalf of the House Business Committee which met on Tuesday, 3rd November 2026, to prioritise business for consideration during the week.

I wish to formally welcome Members back to the House after the short working recess. I appreciate that we have already settled down and embarked on the consideration of priority business, as it has been scheduled by the House Business Committee.

Hon. Speaker, with regard to business scheduled for Tuesday next week, the House is expected to consider the following Bills at the Second Reading stage, some of which are listed in today's Order Paper—

1. The Microfinance Bill, 2026.
2. The Trade Description (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

Additionally, the House will debate the following Motions on Committee Reports, should they not be concluded today:

1. Report on Inspection Visits to Constituency Offices in Nakuru County.
2. Nineteenth Report on the Audited Financial Statements of the NG-CDF for Constituencies in Nairobi City and Kajiado Counties for Financial Years 2013/2014 to 2024/2025.
3. Thirteenth Report on Examination of Audited Financial Statements for Various Technical and Vocational Colleges and Technical Training Institutes.
4. Report on the Peace and Security Engagement in Isiolo County.
5. Report on Budget Implementation Monitoring for the Financial Year 2025/2026.

Hon. Speaker, I wish to inform the House that following preliminary engagements with stakeholders and chairpersons of relevant committees and to demonstrate that this House has a

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listening leadership, we request that the consideration of some Bills relating to the mergers and dissolution of various State corporations be stood down for further consultations. These are:

1. The Regional Development Authorities Laws (Repeal) Bill, 2026, proposing the dissolution of the six regional development authorities, namely the Kerio Valley Development Authority, Lake Basin Development Authority, Tana and Athi Rivers Development Authority, Ewaso Ng'iro North Development Authority and Coast Development Authority.
2. The Crops Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026, proposing to consolidate all public agricultural financing.
3. The Water (Amendment) Bill, 2026, proposing to merge the National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority and the National Irrigation Authority.
4. The Irrigation Bill, 2026, similarly seeking to merge the National Water Harvesting and Storage Authority and the National Irrigation Authority.
5. The Kenya Intellectual Property Bill (National Assembly Bill No.40 of 2026).
6. The Film and Stage Plays (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.32 of 2026).

For avoidance of doubt, these six Bills did not originate from the House, but were conceived by the Executive. We have since received representation from the responsible cabinet secretaries and principal secretaries on the Bills seeking additional time to consider them. We, therefore, wish to allow more time for the Cabinet to consult within themselves before the Bills can be proceeded with. In the same breath, consideration of the following Bills, which also contain provisions proposing mergers, will be proceeded with:

1. The Trade Description (Amendment) Bill, 2026.
2. The Investment and Export Promotion Authority Bill, 2026.
3. The Kenya Economic Zones Bill, 2026.

To this end, I urge the Departmental Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives, to which the Bills were referred for consideration and public participation, to propose appropriate amendments to harmonise the suggested mergers. Additionally, any other Bills proposing mergers of other State corporations will proceed as planned.

Hon. Speaker, I would like to clarify that there are those six Bills that propose to dissolve and merge a number of State corporations. Following public and stakeholder engagements, including engagements with the Executive where these Bills came from, we have made a decision to stand them down to allow further consultations. However, three Bills that are largely under the Departmental Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives which are the Kenya Economic Zones Bill, 2026; the Investment and Export Promotion Authority Bill, 2026; and the Trade Description (Amendment) Bill are not dissolving, merging or proposing dissolution, but re-organisation of some of these parastatals. For instance, we have the Kenya Export Promotion and Branding Agency (KEPROBA) and the Kenya Investment Authority (KenInvest) that were proposed to be merged. The Committee engaged with stakeholders. The Ministry and the Committee agreed that KEPROBA would remain as it is. KenInvest will be merged with Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) and Special Economic Zones Authority (SEZA). Therefore, we will proceed with some of those Bills that we have agreed on. Once the House Business Committee resolves on the other Bills on Tuesday, we shall stand them down.

Finally, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 42A(5) and (6), I wish to convey that the Cabinet Secretary for Youth Affairs, Creative Economy and Sports will appear before the House on the afternoon of Wednesday, 11th November 2026, to provide a report to the

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House on the status of preparedness of Kenya in co-hosting the African Cup of Nations (AFCON), 2027.

Hon. Speaker, I hope you will also allow small interjections by Hon. Members, when the Cabinet Secretary appears before the House to update us on the match in Talanta Stadium on 5th January 2027 between AFC Ajax and FC Bayern Munich. I hope Members will be there to put the Cabinet Secretary to task on the preparedness of this match, as well as the World Athletics Championships in 2029, so that we start preparing early. I know there are a number of stadia being built around the country. We need to make sure that they all have adequate facilities, even for athletics.

In conclusion, the House Business Committee will…

Hon. Speaker: You should also ask him when he will bring Arsenal F.C.

(Laughter)

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I will ask that question for you. I will ask him when he will bring Arsenal F.C., Paris Saint-Germain F.C. (PSG) and maybe FC Barcelona to play at Talanta Stadium, Kasarani Stadium after refurbishment or Nyayo Stadium.

In conclusion, Hon. Speaker, the House Business Committee will reconvene on Tuesday, 10th November 2026, to schedule business for the rest of the week. I now wish to lay this Statement on the Table of the House.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Next Order.

BILL

First Reading

THE ALCOHOLIC DRINKS AND DRUGS CONTROL LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 63 of 2026)

(The Bill was read a First Time and referred to the relevant committee)

Hon. Speaker: Leader of Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I beg your indulgence on this important Bill that we have read a First Time. At times, we read Bills First Time here and many Kenyans out there do not understand what the Clerk-at-the Table does. A Bill is read a First Time and then it is referred to the committee for consideration and public participation. It is important to highlight this because we are dealing with alcohol.

I was in Tetu Constituency, where I attended a funeral, this morning. Hon. Wandeto sent me his apologies which I conveyed at that funeral. The Bishop who preached spoke about the abuse of alcohol not only in the Mt. Kenya region, but also across our country. This Alcoholic Drinks and Drugs Control Laws (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.63 of 2026) speaks to a number of issues that will help the country in dealing with the alcohol menace.

One, the Bill proposes to increase the age limit of people who can buy and partake of alcohol from 18 years to 21 years. It is important because I know there will be war out there from

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manufacturers and promoters of alcohol. If young people are overindulging in alcohol, it is because we are allowing them to start drinking too early. Many of our children, even at 18 years, are still very young and unable to make conscious decisions on what is good or bad in their lives. Therefore, we want to increase the age limit of drinkers from 18 years to 21 years. Second, we want to establish the National Alcoholic Drinks Control Committee that will oversee the implementation and licensing of manufacturers and importers of alcohol in this country.

This Bill also seeks to introduce a compensatory levy on manufacturers and importers of alcoholic drinks which shall be used to fully fund the operations of the National Alcohol Control Committee, what was called NACADA, and also fund civil society organisations or programmes relating to the prevention and management of alcohol and drug abuse. Because this is one thing that we cannot just leave to churches, Government or security agencies, we need all hands-on board and that is why we want part of this compensatory levy to go to civil society organisations that will be involved in programmes dealing with the prevention and management of alcohol and drug abuse in the country.

The Bill also seeks to prohibit the sale and consumption of alcohol in specified public places. We have seen alcoholic drinks being sold in educational institutions, including our universities, colleges and at times at the gates of high schools. At some medical facilities, including those that treat people suffering from alcohol addiction, there are bars right outside the gates. Alcohol is also sold at restaurants and recreational facilities where families patronise. At public transport stops like bus stations, railway stations, and airports, we want to prohibit the sale and consumption of alcohol. In every other bus stop you go to in this country, you will not miss young men who are drunk because alcohol is just in the vicinity.

The Bill also seeks to prohibit public officers involved in the enforcement of the Alcoholic Drinks and Drugs Control Laws Act from holding alcohol licences, either directly or through proxies. This is because when you allow police officers, Deputy County Commissioners and others who are supposed to be enforcing the law to also own bars, you will be left with people who cannot control the sale and consumption of alcohol.

The Bill also seeks to prohibit the sale of alcohol to persons carrying offensive weapons for purposes of public safety. You have seen people shoot each other in and outside bars. You remember the case in Kitengela.

Hon. Speaker: And discotheques.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): There was a case in Kilimani involving a Member of Parliament who shot a DJ. There was another incident in Karatina Town the other day, where a drunk police officer used his firearm against innocent people. Therefore, we want to ensure that people who are armed or carry weapons are not sold alcohol. Hon. Speaker, there are a few things in the Bill, some of which even I have taken note of, that may not augur well with some people. One such provision is the restriction on the transportation of alcoholic drinks between 6.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m.

Hon. Speaker: That one is unreasonable.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): This is a matter that, in my view, looks unreasonable, and I hope that during public participation, the committee concerned will obtain stakeholders' views because you cannot restrict the transportation. Maybe it is how you transport, but not the timing. Some of these trucks that transport these alcoholic drinks are very big trucks, and it is safer even to have them transport at night. Maybe allow them, as the Bill says, to have conspicuous branding so that we know what they are transporting.

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Hon. Speaker, the Bill also touches on the prohibition of the purchase of any tobacco products by children, and it is a very progressive Bill. I ask Members and members of the public, now that this Bill will be committed to a committee to conduct public participation, to let us obtain the views of all stakeholders. I also ask our Members who sit on the committee to consider this Bill.

Hon. Speaker: Remember, it is not just tobacco products, there is something called vape. I did not see that in the Bill yet I have read through it.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Yes, it talks about the prohibition of the manufacturing, sale, use, advertisement, promotion and distribution of nicotine pouches and shisha. Vapes are nicotine pouches. Therefore, they will be covered. It also includes the establishment of a digital track-and-trace system for products such that, if a drink kills people or is harmful, you can track it digitally and know which batch it came from, where it was manufactured, the date of manufacture and all that. This will help us. Therefore, that is why I asked that all stakeholders give us their views. I also ask the Members who sit on the Committee, which I think is the Departmental Committee on Administration and Internal Security, to consider this Bill as quickly as they can, so that we properly deal with the menace of alcohol and drug abuse in our country.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for your indulgence. I take this opportunity to invite all stakeholders, including manufacturers of alcoholic drinks and tobacco products, to give their views, but not to seek to negatively influence the provisions of this very progressive Bill. I know that, like the age limit, many of these manufacturers do not agree with it. Hon. Speaker, you have visited countries outside this country, and in the U.S., if you are below 21, nobody will sell you a drink. In fact, in many U.S. states, you have to produce an identity card.

Hon. Speaker: Even at your age.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Yes, and I have just turned 50, Hon. Speaker. You can imagine, at my age, if I walked into a bar and ordered a drink for somebody here who partakes in alcoholic drinks, I would have to prove that I am of age. It may be obvious that I am of age, but I must still produce an ID. We must get to that level of civilisation where one must prove that they are 21 years and above to purchase and consume alcohol in this country.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, the Leader of the Majority Party. After reading that Bill, I had directed the Clerk to ask you to do what you have just done, and you have done it well. Yes, Hon. Mathenge. On the same issue?

Hon. Duncan Mathenge (Nyeri Town, UDA): Yes, Hon. Speaker. I noticed that this Bill touches on tobacco. These two products, alcohol and tobacco, have a huge burden on the health of Kenyans and on the cost of health services that are being provided to either treat illnesses or addiction. Therefore, I beg your indulgence, Hon. Speaker, that the Departmental Committee on Health be enjoined in the consideration of this Bill.

Hon. Speaker: By all means. I hear you speak many times very passionately about health issues. Yes, Hon. Farah Maalim.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Daadab, WDM): I am happy with the fact that the Leader of the Majority Party is trying to control the consumption of alcohol. It would have been better if it were completely banned, 100 per cent.

Hon. Speaker: No extremes.

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Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Nonetheless, why did you not include miraa and *muguka* in this Bill? *Muguka* has far more adverse and negative effects than the illicit alcohol you are trying to ban. It is another *kumi kumi*. It destroys people's lives.

Hon. Speaker: Farah Maalim, you will have an opportunity at Committee stage to insert whatever you want. It is not limited to the Leader of the Majority Party.

Yes, Leader of Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): In fact, you have said it on my behalf. I was going to inform Hon. Farah that the Bill is titled "The Alcoholic Drinks and Drugs Control Laws". Therefore, anything that anyone perceives to be a drug, you are at liberty to raise, and that is why I am asking stakeholders to submit their views. I also hear what Hon. DMM has said. Is that not true?

In fact, a Bill that I proposed way back in 2015, the Alcoholic Drinks Amendment Bill of 2015, sought first to recognise alcoholism as a disease because it is, indeed, a disease.

Hon. Speaker: It is.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Probably, Hon. DMM, what you could also seek to do is ensure that this compensatory levy is also addressed. We made it mandatory that the Government, whether at the county level or at the national Government level, should devote funds towards the rehabilitation of alcoholics. Part of the money collected through this compensatory levy should go towards drug and alcohol rehabilitation centres. I agree with you, Hon. Speaker, that the Departmental Committee on Health should also be part of this engagement.

Hon. Speaker: Certainly. Clerk, as you send it to the Committee for public participation and scrutiny, enjoin the Departmental Committee on Health on that.

Hon. Karitho, did I see your hand? I saw the moment miraa was mentioned, you started fidgeting.

Hon. Daniel Karitho (Igembe Central, JP): Yes, Hon. Speaker. I know my senior, Hon. Farah, dislikes miraa very much, but he sometimes forgets that the effects of coffee on human beings are more severe than those of miraa, particularly the cathinone and cathine in miraa when consumed in its raw form. We have all the research on the same, and it has proven beyond reasonable doubt that the caffeine in coffee is more lethal than the cathinone and cathine in miraa when consumed in its raw form.

Hon. Speaker: Where is the scientific data?

Hon. Daniel Karitho (Igembe Central, JP): Hon. Speaker, I have proof of a study that was done by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 1989, and I can bring it to this House.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): On a point of order, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Farah.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Hon. Speaker, is the Member in order to mislead the House by stating that the side effects of coffee are more lethal than those of *miraa*? The World Health Organisation has expressed itself on the issue of *miraa* and, consequently, it is banned in all the developed world. It is also banned in other countries that do not have a direct stake in marketing it, other than Ethiopia and Yemen.

(Hon. Daniel Karitho spoke off the record)

Hon. Speaker: He is on a point of order.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Other than Kenya, Ethiopia, Yemen, Djibouti and Somalia, where else is *miraa* legal in this world? It is illegal in Saudi Arabia, where you risk even

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being shot dead because you are destroying people's lives. *Miraa* is illegal in every part of the world, including Asia, Europe, the Middle East and Sudan. If you attempt to take *miraa* to Tanzania right now, you will spend the rest of your life in jail. Just because your people are making money from the poison that they sell to my people, you think my people do not matter. That is the problem. So, this has to stop, and it will.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Karitho.

Hon. Daniel Karitho (Igembe Central, JP): Hon. Speaker, *miraa* was banned in Europe due to littering, not because it is a drug. The Commission that advises the European Union (EU) stated that the effects of *miraa* are negligible. It was not banned because it is a drug. It is banned in Saudi Arabia on religious grounds, not because it is bad. It is banned in Tanzania due to sibling rivalry. They are always worried that we are taking away their money, so they ban anything that generates foreign exchange for Kenya.

It is scientifically proven that *miraa* is enjoyable. This House categorised *miraa* as a scheduled crop. Therefore, we cannot profile it yet we designated it as a scheduled crop. I have consumed it all my life and so has Hon. Farah. Hon. Farah and I have bought *miraa* in the same kiosk, not just once or twice. So, he cannot come here and preach water while drinking wine.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Hon. Speaker, this young man…

Hon. Speaker: He is an honourable Member.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): This honourable Member was most likely born after you and I came to Parliament. If he had already been born, he must have been in primary school. Hon. Speaker, I have never consumed miraa. I brought a Motion in this House to ban miraa in 1993 and you, the Hon. Speaker, were here in this Parliament.

Hon. Speaker: The Motion was brought by Prof. Rashid Mzee, and you seconded.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): I brought it and he seconded it. There was a Minister called Koloyo.

Hon. Speaker: Who? Hon. Kalweo Jackson. He died.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): Yes, Hon. Jackson Kalweo. There was also Hon. Kamwithi Munyi who was from the other side of the region. That is the time we took a whole delegation to the President Daniel Arap Moi. Elections were an important matter for this country and President Moi had to whip the Kenya African National Union (KANU) side to support the Merus in this case.

Hon. Speaker: Let us not anticipate debate. Wait for it. The only thing he said that you should be responding to is that he has shared the chewing of miraa with you.

Hon. Farah Maalim (Dadaab, WDM): No, no. The only thing I share with him is that his grandfather is a Somali. He was born a Muslim and he does not know whether he is a Muslim or a Christian. That is the bit we shared in this Parliament; nothing else. We have never shared anything else with this young man, who is the age of my firstborn son.

Hon. Speaker: We will re-organise the Order Paper. Hon. Marianne Kitany, how long is your Motion going to take? Is it moving of the Motion and secondment?

Hon. Marianne Kitany (Aldai, UDA): Yes, it is moving and secondment of the Motion. If there is interest, it might take longer, but I do not think there is because it is a mediated version.

Hon. Speaker: It is a mediated version and the mediation was unanimous. We will deal with your Motion. When we go to Committee of the whole House, I have been requested by the Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs to step down the Committee of the whole House on the Kenya Judiciary Academy Bill. Is Hon. Epuko Nanok in the

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House? Are you ready for the Committee of the whole House on the Books and Newspapers (Amendment) Bill?

Hon. Daniel Nanok (Turkana West, UDA): Yes, I am.

Hon. Speaker: In the Committee of the whole House, we will only consider the Books and Newspapers (Amendment) Bill. Before we consider that Bill, the Leader of the Majority Party has requested, and I have agreed, that he moves the Bill at Order No.11 before we come to your Committee business. So, call out the next Order, Order No.9. Hon. Marianne Kitany, take the shortest time possible, since this is a mediated version. Then we will go to Order No.11 before coming back to the Committee business on the Books and Newspapers (Amendment) Bill.

MOTIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MEDIATED VERSION OF THE COOPERATIVES BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 7 of 2024)

Hon. Marianne Kitany (Aldai, UDA): Hon. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion:

> THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Article 113(2) of the Constitution and Standing Order 150(3), this House adopts the Report of the Mediation Committee on the Cooperatives Bill (National Assembly Bill, No. 7 of 2024), laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, 4th November 2026 and approves the Mediated version of the Cooperatives Bill (National Assembly Bill, No. 7 of 2024).

Hon. Speaker, the Cooperatives Bill, 2024, seeks to strengthen the legal, institutional, and regulatory framework governing the cooperative sector in Kenya, enhance accountability and transparency in the management of cooperatives, safeguard members' investments, and promote the sustainable growth of the cooperative movement.

[The Speaker (Hon. Moses Wetang'ula) left the Chair]

[The Temporary Speaker
(Hon. Farah Maalim) in the Chair]

The cooperative sector plays a significant role in Kenya's socio-economic development by mobilising savings, facilitating access to credit, creating employment opportunities, promoting agricultural production, and marketing and supporting the economic empowerment of millions of Kenyans.

It is, therefore, imperative that the country establishes a robust framework that promotes good governance, protects members' interests, and ensures that cooperatives operate efficiently, transparently, and sustainably. The National Assembly considered and passed the Cooperative Bill, 2024, with amendments on 3rd December 2024 and subsequently referred it to the Senate for consideration.

The Senate considered and passed the Bill with amendments on 12th November 2025. The amendments were thereafter transmitted to the National Assembly for concurrence. On Tuesday, 14th April 2026, the National Assembly negated the Motion on the consideration of the Senate

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amendments, thereby referring the Bill to mediation pursuant to Article 112(2)(b) of the Constitution.

Consequently, the Speaker of the National Assembly and the Speaker of the Senate appointed Members to the Mediation Committee on 23rd April 2026 and 2nd June 2026, respectively, in accordance with the relevant Standing Orders. The Committee was mandated to consider the areas of disagreement between the Houses and develop a version of the Bill acceptable to both Houses of Parliament. The Mediation Committee held four Sittings, during which it extensively deliberated on the areas of disagreement between the National Assembly and the Senate.

The Committee successfully resolved the eight key issues of divergence and developed an agreed version of the Bill that balances the constitutional mandate of the national and county governments while strengthening the governance and regulation of cooperatives. Hon. Temporary Speaker, allow me highlight the key provisions agreed upon during the mediation.

The first issue was on the registration of cooperatives. One of the major areas of disagreement concerned the registration of cooperatives. While the Senate proposed a dual registration system at the national and county levels, the National Assembly supported a centralised registration framework to avoid fragmentation of cooperative records. The Mediation Committee agreed that registration of cooperatives should be undertaken at the county level through an integrated digital registration and management information system while maintaining a single national register under the Commissioner for Cooperatives Development. This arrangement will ensure that county governments effectively discharge their responsibilities while preserving a unified national database for cooperatives. The Committee further agreed that every cooperative should indicate, at the point of registration, whether it operates within one county or more counties. This will facilitate effective supervision and coordination between the two levels of government.

The second issue of contention was the establishment of the Office of the County Commissioner for Cooperatives. The Committee agreed to adopt the designation County Commissioner for Cooperatives in place of County Director for Cooperatives. The office will be subject to the prescribed professional qualifications to ensure that individuals appointed possess necessary competences and experiences to effectively discharge their responsibilities. This provision is intended to strengthen professionalism and accountability in the administration of cooperatives at the county level.

The third issue for consideration was strengthening audit oversight and financial accountability in cooperatives. The Committee recognised the urgent need to strengthen financial accountability and audit oversight in the cooperative sector. This was informed, among other considerations, by reported financial irregularities and major losses in cooperative institutions, including the Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (KUSCCO), which we all remember, where losses exceeding Ksh17 billion were reported. These losses involved the savings of co-operators.

To address weaknesses in financial oversight, the Committee agreed to establish the Office of the National Audit for Cooperatives and county-level cooperatives audit offices. These offices will independently review external audit reports from cooperatives and recommend appropriate action where financial irregularities are identified. Further, audited financial statements will be subjected to the prescribed review and approval process before being presented to members at general meetings. The Committee also agreed that external auditors should be appointed from a list of licenced auditors and that no auditor should conduct more than three consecutive audits in

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the same cooperative. These provisions will strengthen financial transparency, promote auditor independence and safeguard members' savings and investments.

The fourth issue was strengthening corporate governance in cooperatives. The Committee agreed on several measures aimed at improving governance, accountability and members participation in cooperative societies. First, the Committee agreed that the minimum educational qualification for cooperative board members should be a secondary school certificate, subject to exemptions in prescribed circumstances. This seeks to balance the need for competent leadership with inclusivity, particularly in rural cooperatives. Secondly, the Committee agreed that general meetings may be conducted physically, virtually or through a hybrid arrangement. However, decisions involving significant financial or structural implications, including dissolution, amalgamation, division, borrowing and changes to the core business of a cooperative, will require the physical attendance of the general membership. Thirdly, the Committee agreed to strengthen democratic participation by providing for individual voting based on the principle of one member, one vote and removing the delegate system of representation. Fourth, the board of the apex cooperative will comprise 11 members, with representation from the sectors recognised under the same Act. These measures are intended to promote democracy, good governance, accountability and meaningful participation by cooperative members.

The fifth issue for consideration was the protection of members' capital. One of the significant improvements introduced through the mediation concerns the protection of members' share capital. The Committee observed that members leaving cooperatives, particularly upon retirement, often experience difficulties recovering the value of their share capital. Unlike deposits and savings, share capital is generally non-withdrawable, leaving members with limited options for realising its value. To address this challenge, the Committee agreed to expressly provide for the sale and transfer of shares between existing and incoming members of the same cooperative on a willing-buyer, willing-seller basis. Every cooperative will also be required to provide a platform through which members wishing to sell their shares can notify the cooperative, and prospective eligible buyers can be informed of their availability. These arrangements will be subject to the prescribed shareholding limits and will not impose an obligation on the cooperative to purchase the shares. This provision will enhance the protection of members' investments and provide an orderly mechanism through which exiting members may realise the value of their share capital. We believe this is a major gain for the cooperative sector.

The sixth issue was the dissolution and liquidation of cooperatives. This is an area where many cooperatives have suffered because of a system in which one person could make decisions unilaterally, including ordering the dissolution of a cooperative, leaving members to lose their benefits. The Committee considered the procedure for the dissolution and liquidation of cooperatives. It observed that the premature dissolution of cooperative societies could expose members to substantial financial losses, particularly where remedial interventions had restored the institutions to financial stability.

The Committee, therefore, agreed to introduce a structured procedure requiring independent review and appropriate recommendations before a cooperative is dissolved. The procedure provides for remedial action, a feasibility review by the relevant cooperative authorities and the publication of dissolution orders in the Kenya Gazette. Further, members aggrieved by a dissolution order will have the right to appeal to the Cooperative Tribunal and, if dissatisfied, may proceed to the High Court. These safeguards will promote fairness, transparency and due process while protecting the interests and assets of cooperative members. An example given was Moi University Savings and Credit Cooperative Society (MUSCO), where dissolution had been

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proposed. However, because the required procedures had not been followed, MUSCO was saved and is now back on its feet.

The seventh issue for consideration was the strengthening of the Cooperative Tribunal. The Committee agreed to retain two deputy chairpersons of the Tribunal to facilitate the establishment of three benches for the expeditious determination of disputes. Further, members of the Tribunal will serve a single, non-renewable term of five years, with appointments staggered to ensure continuity. These reforms are expected to strengthen institutional capacity, improve the administration of justice and facilitate the timely resolution of disputes within the cooperative sector.

The eighth issue was the Cooperative Development Fund. Another important area of agreement concerned the Cooperative Development Fund. The Committee agreed to retain the Fund and provide for its equitable share between the national and county governments. Under the mediated version, 50 per cent of the Fund will be allocated to the national Government and the remaining 50 per cent, to the county governments. It was agreed that the Fund will support cooperative education, training, research, management of cooperative development at both levels of governments and support capacity building and sustainable growth of the cooperative movement across the country. The last issue of contention that was agreed on, was enhanced reporting and parliamentary oversight which is not in the current Bill.

The Committee further agreed to strengthen accountability through enhanced reporting obligations. The Commissioner for Cooperative Development will be required to submit an annual report to the Cabinet Secretary within six months after the end of each Financial Year. The Cabinet Secretary will thereafter submit the report to Parliament within 30 days of receipt. The report will contain information on cooperatives registered, those that were deregistered, inspections and inquiries conducted, boards found liable and cooperatives facing financial distress or liquidation. The provision will strengthen parliamentary oversight and enable Parliament to monitor performance, governance and financial stability of the cooperative sector. You will note that today's cooperatives end up being dissolved or members lose funds without direct oversight by Parliament.

In conclusion, the mediated version of the Cooperative Bill, 2024 represents a significant step towards modernising the cooperative sector and strengthening the legal framework governing cooperative societies in Kenya. The agreed provisions seek to address long-standing challenges relating to governance, financial mismanagement, inadequate audit oversight, protection of members' investments, dispute resolution and coordination between national and county governments. Importantly, the mediated version provides a balanced framework that recognises the constitutional responsibilities of both levels of governments while ensuring that cooperative societies remain accountable to their members.

I wish to take this opportunity to sincerely appreciate the Members of the Mediation Committee drawn from both Houses of Parliament for their commitment, instructive engagement and dedication through the mediation process**.** I also extend my sincere appreciation to the Offices of the Speakers and the Clerks of both Houses, as well as the Joint Secretariat, for the exceptional technical and administrative support accorded to the Committee throughout this process. The successful completion of the mediation process demonstrates the importance of cooperation, consultation and consensus building between the two Houses of Parliament in the legislative process. Therefore, I urge the Members to support the adoption of the Report of the Mediation Committee and approve the mediated version of the Cooperatives Bill (National Assembly Bill No.7 of 2024).

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I beg to move and request the Leader of the Majority Party, Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, to second the Motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): The Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I rise to second this Motion on the Report of the Mediation Committee on the Cooperatives Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 7 of 2024).

Hon. Marianne Kitany said that this Bill has gone through the rigours of the Bicameral Parliament starting from this House then to the Senate. We amended it and the Senate did not agree with many of our amendments. It amended the Bill again and we set up a Mediation Committee. Allow me to take this opportunity to thank the Members who sat through the Mediation Committee. They did a splendid job. In a record time, they gave us an agreed version of the Bill.

This Bill is very important in the management of our cooperative sector. We have said numerous times that our country Kenya has its place in the world of the cooperative movement. There is no other country in Africa that has a stronger cooperative movement than our own nation. We have set a benchmark for many African nations and other countries across the world that come to learn from our cooperative movement.

However, the cooperative movement has also been bedevilled by cases of mismanagement, poor governance structures within the cooperative movement and corruption right from the officials who manage these cooperatives all the way up to the secondary cooperatives. A notable example is the Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (KUSCCO)**,** which faced a major setback following the multi-billion-shilling loss exposed by a PwC forensic audit. This crisis ultimately forced the umbrella body into liquidation to protect remaining member assets.

This crisis only occurred because we lacked a robust legislative framework to tightly regulate our SACCOs and cooperatives. This Bill and also the SACCO Societies (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.32 of 2026), which was passed at Second Reading yesterday, will go a long way towards ensuring that we have proper governance structures within the management of our cooperative societies to safeguard members' interests, deposits and funds within the cooperative movement and our SACCOs. Therefore, I do not want to belabour the many issues that the Mover of this mediated version has raised. Given that we are no longer at the Second Reading stage, having debated the matter extensively during that phase, as well as during yesterday's session on the Sacco Societies (Amendment) Bill, I will keep my remarks brief.

This is a good Bill. I urge Members that we support this mediated version that we have agreed upon. Once this becomes law, it will help us in the management of our cooperative sector and also ensure that there is proper governance.

Much like certain trade unions where officials become permanent fixtures, the cooperative movement has historically suffered from leadership inertia, with many cooperative societies in this country permitting individuals to serve endless, unrestricted terms**.** It is therefore imperative that we regulate board tenure limits**,** alongside establishing strict academic qualifications and governance experience as mandatory prerequisites for anyone seeking to serve on the boards and committees of our cooperatives and SACCOs.

With those remarks, I beg to second.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): 62 years after? How many years?

Hon. Kimana Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): 63.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): We cannot use the old… Education has come far and wide.

(Question proposed)

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Hon. Adagala Beatrice (Vihiga County, ANC): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker for giving me the opportunity to speak on this Mediation Committee Report on the Bill.
In reality, this is an excellent Bill, especially following the amendments we made during my tenure on the Committee. To safeguard members' funds and directly address the KUSCCO crisis, the Committee has introduced profound changes and provided definitive guidance. These measures will ensure that the hard-earned money contributed to our cooperatives is robustly protected, preventing any recurrence of the mismanagement seen at KUSCCO.

The Committee did an exceptional job. Following thorough deliberations, we have presented the Bill in its current form. I am entirely confident that this legislation will function effectively to safeguard public funds from unscrupulous individuals who seek to mismanage or collapse our cooperatives using members' hard-earned money. This is timely, and the Members did commendable work. We sat for quite a long time deliberating on it and have come up with this, which I hope Members of this Parliament will accept and pass so that it becomes law. This Bill should become law so that members' money and the running of cooperatives are managed in a proper way.

Thank you.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Hon. Members, I will rearrange the Order Paper as follows. Order No.10 will be dealt with at a letter date.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HOUSE

THE KENYA JUDICIARY ACADEMY BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 42 of 2025)

THE BOOKS AND NEWSPAPERS (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 47 of 2025)

(Committee of the whole House deferred)

Next Order.

BILL

Second Reading

THE TOURISM (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No. 41 of 2026)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I beg to move that the Tourism (Amendment) Bill, (National Assembly Bill No.41 of 2026) be now read a Second Time.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, allow me to begin by thanking the Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife, which considered this Bill during public participation. This is one of the

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three Bills that we agreed to proceed with when I was delivering my usual Thursday Statement on behalf of the House Business Committee. We have decided to step down the Kenya Intellectual Property Bill, which was listed as Order No.14 in today's Order Paper. Therefore, we will not be considering the Bills which have been stepped down.

This Bill seeks to reorganise institutions within the tourism sector and aims to achieve a number of objectives. Firstly, it will grant the Kenya Tourism Board some functions previously performed by the Tourism Research Institute, such as research conducted by the Tourism Research Institute. We have now transferred these functions to the Kenya Tourism Board. The Bill has five specific objectives:

1. To move the research function to the Tourism Board away from the Kenya Tourism Research Institute which will be wound up.
2. To update the objects and funding of the Tourism Fund.
3. To transfer the rights, obligations, assets, and liabilities of both bodies to the Kenya Tourism Board. For those who have reviewed the Bill, the two bodies are the Tourism Finance Corporation and the Tourism Research Institute. Their functions, particularly concerning research, will be transferred to the Kenya Tourism Board.

Clause 2 amends Section 31 of the Tourism Act and grants the Kenya Tourism Board a new mandate. It will now undertake research, marketing, and the collection and analysis of information related to tourism products, market needs, and trends in sustainable tourism. This will ensure that products and marketing strategies are based on factual information. Furthermore, it will publish research findings and tourism statistics every year and share this information with stakeholders, enabling those interested in investing in the tourism industry to access accurate data about which products can sell where within our borders. The Kenya Tourism Board will also host forums to exchange views on tourism research and marketing and carry out any other related functions.

Clauses 3 to 17 repeal Sections 51 to 65 of the Act, thereby winding up the Tourism Research Institute. These sections established the Tourism Research Institute, its Board and Directors, its research permits in tourism databases, and its monitoring reports. Therefore, the research work will not form part of the functions that a moribund institution, such as the Tourism Research Institute, having been wound up, will have to carry on. Those functions will now be transferred to the Kenya Tourism Board, under Clause 2.

Clause 19 adds a new source of money for the Tourism Fund through proceeds under Section 3 of the Air Passenger Service Charge Act. The Passenger Service Charge will now be paid into the Fund. Previously, the Tourism Fund was not a beneficiary of these proceeds. However, it will now get part of these monies.

Lastly, Clause 20 replaces Section 68 with new objects of the Fund. The Tourism Fund will now finance the development of tourism products, services, events and facilities. It will also finance the marketing and branding of Kenya in local, regional and international markets. Further, it will fund tourism safety and security programmes and the Crisis Management Centre run by the Ministry.

The Fund will also finance tourism data, research and the National Tourism Information System (NTIS). It will support training in tourism and hospitality institutions, such as the Utalii Institute colleges. It will further finance projects with county governments and other partners through matching grants, as well as innovations and standards in the tourism sector.

Clauses 21 to 33 repeal Sections 75 to 86 of the Act, which had created the Tourism Finance Corporation, its Board, its Chief Executive Officer (CEO), its funds and its lending powers. Clause 34 deals with the Tourism Research Institute (TRI), while Clause 35 deals with the Tourism

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Finance Corporation (TFC). In both cases, all properties, assets, rights and liabilities of the two organisations, which are being wound up, will be transferred to the Kenya Tourism Board. That will include liabilities such as pending court cases, which will now be continued by or against the Board. Those who had sued the TFC or the TRI will now have to transition and prosecute their cases against the Kenya Tourism Board.

Again, on existing licences, approvals and permissions will remain valid until they expire or are revoked. Pending applications will be treated as applications made to the Kenya Tourism Board. The decision on whether to grant the licences will now be made by the Board and not the Institute or the Corporation.

The employees of the two organisations will be redeployed to the Public Service Commission (PSC). It is important to state that nobody will lose their job. The TFC and TRI had very few employees. Therefore, all of them will be redeployed to the PSC. I know that many times, when we talk about mergers or the dissolution of organisations, people become fearful or apprehensive that employees may lose their jobs. However, in this particular case, nobody will lose their job; all the employees will be redeployed by the PSC. Some to the Kenya Tourism Board, the Tourism Fund and tourism-related organisations within the Ministry, or even back to the parent Ministry. That is why they are being returned to the PSC for redeployment and not termination. I wish to assure them that nobody will lose their job.

As I said, when the Committee undertook public participation, it received memoranda from various stakeholders and held public participation meetings with various institutions, including the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife; the Kenya Law Reform Commission; the Attorney-General; the Council of Governors; the Kenya Development Corporation; Kilifi County Government; Women in Tourism and Hotel Association; the Progress Welfare Association of Malindi; the Marketing Society of Kenya; the Kenya Tourism Federation; Lake Victoria Tourism Association and the Kenya Coast Tourism Association. Many of the issues that were captured in the Committee's Report is feedback from the many stakeholders in the tourism sector who they engaged with. I must thank this Committee because they went out of their way to step out of Nairobi, go to Malindi and Lake Victoria region and engage with the tourism associations at the coast and along Lake Victoria Basin. This was to ensure that they get the views of the people who have largely been benefiting from the activities of Tourism Research Institute and the Tourism Finance Corporation.

As I said, this is a short Bill, therefore there is nothing much to say. Tourism, being one of the biggest foreign exchange earners and creators of jobs in our country, is a sector that we must manage in a very delicate manner. We must have very clear lines of responsibility and do away with duplicating bodies in the tourism sector. The work that the Tourism Fund is doing and what the Tourism Board was doing, is largely the same functions that are being duplicated by the Tourism Research Institute and the Tourism Finance Corporation. At times, these corporations including, the Tourism Research Institute and the Tourism Finance Corporation, have been starved of cash. They then end up having employees who have nothing much to do in their offices because they are starved of cash. Therefore, we would like to consolidate and ensure that our resources are deployed in a very efficient manner to ensure that we continue to shepherd the tourism sector in the right direction. In this way, we will continue bringing direct foreign investments and foreign exchange into the country.

The proposed reforms are intended to reduce institutional duplication, strengthen coordination, improve accountability and ensure that the tourism, research, marketing and development functions are delivered more efficiently. The Bill is careful with what already exists, including assets and court cases. Licences that have already been issued by these organisations and

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pending applications will all be carried over to the Kenya Tourism Board. Additionally, as I said earlier, employees will be redeployed by the Public Service Commission without anybody losing their job.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, the Chairperson of the Committee, who is the Member for Maara, has been in the Chamber all afternoon awaiting the Second Reading of this Bill**.** He was similarly present yesterday, but unfortunately, I was unable to move the Bill at that time. He is a very diligent Member of this House, who also plans to run for Governor in Tharaka-Nithi County. I know Tharaka-Nithi County also has tourism destinations along the Tana River and probably we would have certain attractions around the beautiful waterfalls of River Thuci. I now request Hon. Kareke to second this Bill.

Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

Hon. Kareke Mbiuki (Maara, UDA): Thank you so much, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

Allow me first of all acknowledge the compliments by the Leader of the Majority Party. I beg to second the Bill as moved by the Leader of the Majority Party. The Committee had been seized of this amendment Bill which was read the First Time on 2nd July 2026 and thereafter, committed to the Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife pursuant to Standing Order 127 for consideration and reporting to the House.

The principal objective of the Bill is to amend the Tourism Act (Cap. 381) in order to streamline the management of the tourism sector, enhance efficiency, strengthen accountability and improve service delivery. The Bill seems to rationalise institutions within the sector by transferring the functions of Tourism Research Institute and the Tourism Finance Corporation into the Tourism Board.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, the Bill contains several key proposals. First, the Bill proposes dissolving the Tourism Research Institute and transferring its research, market intelligence, and statistics functions to the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB). Second, the Bill proposes dissolving the Tourism Finance Corporation and transferring its remaining functions under the new framework established by the Bill. Third, the Bill seeks to expand the KTB mandate to undertake tourism research, gather and analyse market intelligence, disseminate research findings, and support evidence-based tourism development.

Fourth, the Bill broadens the objects and purpose of the Tourism Fund to support tourism product development, safety programmes, innovation, crisis management, destination competitiveness and county co-financing arrangements. Finally, the Bill provides for transitional arrangements to ensure continuity of operations, transfer of assets and liabilities, and preservation of legal proceedings, accrued rights and obligations.

The Committee undertook public participation on this Bill in compliance with Article 118 of the Constitution and Standing Order 127. The Committee facilitated public participation by engaging relevant stakeholders. It received submissions from the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, the Kenya Law Reform Commission, the Office of the Attorney-General, the Council of Governors, the Kenya Development Corporation, the Kenya Association of Manufacturers and other stakeholders.

Finally, the views received enriched the Committee's consideration of the Bill and informed its recommendations to the House. The Committee made the following observations:

1. The tourism sector requires a more streamlined institutional framework to reduce duplication and enhance operational efficiency;
2. The Kenya Tourism Board can effectively undertake tourism research and market intelligence functions within an integrated framework;

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3. The expanded scope of the Tourism Fund is necessary to support emerging priorities such as destination and market product development, innovation, Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions (MICE) tourism, crisis preparedness and human capacity development; and
4. Parliamentary oversight over the tourism sector should be preserved notwithstanding the restructuring proposed under the Bill.

The Committee made the following recommendations: After considering all the views received, the Committee recommends that the House approves the Bill with an amendment. Specifically, the Committee recommends amending clause 17 to retain Parliament's oversight role. The amendment provides that the Cabinet Secretary shall continue to submit an annual monitoring report to the National Assembly and make the report available to the public.

The Committee considered this provision necessary to safeguard accountability and ensure compliance with Article 153(4)(b) of the Constitution, which requires Cabinet Secretaries to provide Parliament with regular reports on matters under their control. In conclusion, the Committee is satisfied that the Bill will contribute significantly to creating a more efficient, accountable and responsive tourism governance framework.

The proposed reforms will strengthen institutional coordination, support sustainable tourism growth and enhance the sector's contribution to the national economy. Therefore, I urge Hon. Members of this House to support the Report and approve the Tourism (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.41 of 2026), with the amendment as proposed by the Committee.

I beg to second and thank you.

(Question proposed)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Do I get the feeling that…

(A Member spoke off the record)

He is not called Ayub; he is called Yakub. Hon. Chairman, you had better get used to pronouncing our names. Do not call me father. Begin teaching your tongue to pronounce the names of our areas correctly, including the names of our roads and other places. Do not call Hon. Yakub ‘Ayub’. Also, pronounce our roads the way they should be pronounced. Remember the way the President did it last time? Hon. Yakub, proceed. If you do not have much to say, you can say that you support.

Hon. Yakub Adow (Bura, UPIA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Fair enough, thank you. There does not seem to be any more interest. Hon. Member from Imenti Central? Proceed. The man who claims to have had a Somali paternal grandfather, but speaks only a few Somali words, proceed.

Hon. (Dr) Shadrack Mwiti (South Imenti, JP): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. Tourism is one of the main sectors that earn foreign income for this country. It needs to be properly structured and run in the right direction. As I read this Bill, I have realised it places this sector in a very important position in running our country's affairs and generating foreign income.

I support.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Fair enough. Under the circumstances, with no further interest, I will call upon the Mover to reply. Hon. Kimani Ichung’wah, you may reply.

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Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I beg to reply and thank the Members who have supported the Bill. As we have said, it aims to improve efficiency in managing our tourism sector. I need to go a long way to ensure that we also do what is required of us under the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, to ensure the prudent management of public resources, avoid duplication and deploy resources in a manner that ensures efficiency in the delivery of services to the people in the tourism sector and helps our tourism sector grow.

With that, I beg to reply.

(Question put and agreed to)

(The Bill was read a Second Time and
Committed to Committee of the whole House)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Next Order. Hon. Members, as I communicated earlier, and will again, Order No.10 has been deferred to a more appropriate future date. That is why we are now on Order No.12. Leader of the Majority Party, proceed.

Second Reading

THE TRADE DESCRIPTION (AMENDMENT) BILL
(National Assembly Bill No.42 of 2026)

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I beg your indulgence on the Trade Description (Amendment) Bill (National Assembly Bill No.42 of 2026), which I request to be deferred to Tuesday next week to allow the Committee on Trade to finalise the adoption of its report, which it will table next week.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): I direct that this matter also be placed on the Order Paper on Tuesday next week.

(Bill deferred)

Next Order.

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON INSPECTION VISITS TO
CONSTITUENCY OFFICES IN NAKURU COUNTY

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Committee on Members' Services and Facilities on inspection visits to Constituency Offices in Nakuru County, laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 11th June 2026.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Is the Chairperson of the Committee on Members' Services and Facilities in the House? The Chairperson does not seem to be present. I therefore, direct that this matter also be placed on the Order Paper at an appropriate future date when the Chairperson is in a position to prosecute it.

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(Motion deferred)

Next Order.

BILL

Second Reading

THE KENYA INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY BILL
(National Assembly Bill No.40 of 2026)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Leader of the Majority Party.

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): Hon. Temporary Speaker, again, I beg your indulgence. This is one of the Bills which we sought to drop from consideration pending further consultations. It is part of what I had read during the Statement time. Once the House Business Committee allows us to drop it, it is among the six Bills we intend to drop.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Do you intend to defer to another date?

Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah (Kikuyu, UDA): No, this one is dropped.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): You want it dropped? Hon. Members, Order No. 14, the Kenya Intellectual Property Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 40 of 2026), is dropped.

(Bill dropped)

Next Order.

MOTIONS

ADOPTION OF 19TH REPORT ON AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF NG-CDF FOR CONSTITUENCIES IN NAIROBI CITY AND KAJIADO COUNTIES FOR FYS 2013/2014 TO 2024/2025

THAT, this House adopts the Nineteenth Report of the Decentralized Funds Accounts Committee on its consideration of the audited financial statements of the National Government Constituencies Development Fund (NG-CDF) for Constituencies in Nairobi and Kajiado Counties for the Financial Years 2013/2014, 2014/2015, 2015/2016, 2016/2017, 2017/2018, 2018/2019, 2019/2020, 2020/2021, 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 6th October 2026.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Is the Chairman of the Decentralised Funds Accounts Committee in the House? He is not. Under the circumstances, I direct that this matter be put on the Order Paper at a future time or day when the Hon. Chairperson is in a position to prosecute the matter.

(Motion deferred)

Next Order.

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ADOPTION OF 13TH REPORT ON AUDITED ACCOUNTS OF VARIOUS TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL COLLEGES AND TECHNICAL TRAINING INSTITUTES FOR FYS 2021/2022 TO 2024/2025

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Is the Chairperson of the Public Investments Committee on Governance and Education in the House? Hon. Mwenje, are you ready to prosecute this Motion?

Hon. Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West, JP): I am ready. Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion:

THAT, this House adopts the Thirteenth Report of the Public Investments Committee on Governance and Education on its examination of the audited financial statements of the following technical and vocational colleges and technical training institutes for the Financial Years 2021/2022, 2022/2023, 2023/2024 and 2024/2025, laid on the Table of the House on Thursday, 9th April 2026:

(a) Likoni Technical and Vocational College;
(b) Riragia Technical and Vocational College;
(c) Taita Taveta Technical and Vocational College;
(d) Kakrao Technical and Vocational College;
(e) Kericho Township Technical and Vocational College;
(f) PC Kinyanjui Technical and Training College;
(g) Mathenge Technical Training Institute;
(h) Nkabune Technical Training Institute;
(i) Laisamis Technical and Training Institute; and,
(j) Kisiwa Technical and Training Institute.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, the Committee is established under Standing Order 206 of the National Assembly. It is responsible for examining the work of investments based on their audited reports and accounts. It is mandated to examine reports and accounts of public investments; examine reports, if any, of the Auditor-General on public investments; and examine the context of the autonomy and efficiency of public investments, including whether they are managed in accordance with sound financial or business principles and prudent commercial practices.

In this Report, the Committee examined 36 Auditor-General reports for the following technical and vocational colleges and technical institutes.

1. Likoni Technical and Vocational College
2. Mathenge Technical Training Institute
3. Nkabune Technical Training Institute
4. Riragia Technical and Vocational College
5. Taita Taveta Technical and Vocational College
6. Kakrao Technical and Vocational College
7. Laisamis Technical and Training Institute
8. Kisiwa Technical and Training Institute
9. Kericho Township Technical and Vocational College
10. PC Kinyanjui Technical and Training College

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In considering the audited accounts of State corporations, the Committee is guided by Chapter 12 of the Constitution on Public Finance, Article 201. The Committee held 12 sittings in which it examined the audited financial statements of the 10 institutions and accompanying reports of the Auditor-General in its enquiry into whether the affairs of public investments are managed in accordance with sound business principles and prudent commercial practices.

The Committee heard and received both oral and written evidence from principals as the accounting officers of the respective institutions and other relevant witnesses. Upon its inception, the Committee noted a significant backlog of audit reports and proposed to systematically examine all outstanding Auditor-General reports on State corporations to bring oversight current to the 2024/2025 Financial Year.

This Report contains observations, findings, and recommendations arising from the examination of the Auditor-General's reports for the 10 institutions for various financial years. It is structured as follows, for the benefit of Members perusing it: General observations, recommendations, audit queries, management responses, Committee observations, and recommendations.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, to give a brief overview, the Committee did not provide additional recommendations on matters already resolved. For recurring issues, the Committee reiterates the observations and recommendations made in various financial years. For unresolved queries, the Committee sets out detailed observations and recommendations in the relevant sections of the Report, relating to cross-cutting and persistent audit concerns identified.

The Committee highlights five issues on which it makes general observations and recommendations. Firstly, we have receivables management. The Committee observed that receivables, including student debtors and imprests, remain unresolved across multiple financial years. This persistent issue points to weaknesses in debt recovery processes and ineffective cash flow management. The Committee, therefore, recommends that accounting officers implement stringent credit control policies and use technology for automated billing and collection. Moreover, the respective governing organs, under Section 28 of the TVET Act, 2013 (Cap.210A), should approve the write-off of irrecoverable student debts.

Secondly, supporting documents were submitted late. This is contrary to Section 68 of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act. The Committee recommends that accounting officers comply with Section 68(2) of the PFM Act (Cap.412A) by providing supporting documentation on time.

Thirdly, there is a lack of ethnic diversity. The Committee noted that the Auditor-General reported that more than one-third of staff in most institutions were drawn from the dominant ethnic community, contrary to Section 7(2) of the National Cohesion and Integration Act. It states that no public establishment shall have more than one-third of its staff members from one ethnic community. The Committee recommends that, within two years from the date of adoption of this Report, which is expected to be today, institutions comply with Section 7(2) of the National Cohesion and Integration Act.

Fourthly, institutions lack land ownership documents. The Committee observed that most institutions lack legal land ownership documents for the land parcels they occupy. Moreover, squatters have encroached on these institutions' land, exposing them to the risk of losing it. The Committee, therefore, recommends that, within three months of adoption of this Report, accounting officers expedite the process of acquiring title deeds for the parcels of land by liaising with the relevant Government agencies, including the National Lands Commission (NLC) and the

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Ministry of Lands, Housing and Urban Development. Thereafter, they should submit documentary evidence of ownership for all parcels of land to the Auditor-General.

Fifthly, the Committee noted a lack of a risk management policy. The Committee observed that most institutions either do not have risk management policies or are developing risk management policies, strategies, and risk registers to mitigate risks. This is contrary to Regulation 165(1)(a) and (b) of the Public Finance Management (National Government) Regulations, 2015. The Committee recommends that the institutions without a risk management policy ensure they have an approved policy in place within three months after the adoption of this Report. For institutions with draft risk management policies, the Committee recommends that the draft policies be approved and implemented within one month after the adoption of this Report. The Auditor-General should report the effectiveness of the policies in the next audit cycle.

I beg to move that the House adopt this Report. I request Hon. Daniel Karitho to second this Motion.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Proceed, Hon. Member.

Hon. Daniel Karitho (Igembe Central, JP): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I am a Member of this Committee. We examined the Auditor-General's financial statements and reports of various technical and vocational colleges and technical training institutes. In most cases, we found that these institutions occupy land that does not legally belong to them. They do not own any documents to prove that the land is theirs.

As per our Report, we advised them to obtain the necessary documents to prove the land is theirs. The TVETs are the main institutions that train people in technical courses which equip them with the skills required to grow the economy. They must, therefore, be taken care of, and an auditor should be assigned to ensure that the resources they are given are utilised to the maximum for the betterment of this country.

Hon. Temporary Speaker, I second.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West, JP): On a point of order, Hon. Temporary Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Yes, what is your point of order?

Hon. Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West, JP): Thank you. I want to clarify, Hon. Temporary Speaker, because I have just been made aware by the Clerks-at-the-Table that, as I was reading the institutions, it might have seemed that they were different institutions…

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): It is fair enough; they are the same institutions.

Hon. Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West, JP): It is just that the order in which I have them in my notes is different.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): No problem. Do not worry about that.

Hon. Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West, JP): Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): The Speaker has taken note of that, and it has been clarified. You have mentioned all the institutes. You have not added or removed anything. You probably ordered them differently, but that is okay. That is good enough. The Speaker has allowed that to continue. Is anybody else interested in contributing to this? Hon. Mulyungi.

Hon. Gideon Mulyungi (Mwingi Central, WDM): Thank you, Hon. Temporary Speaker. I want to apologise first for coming in late for my Motion. Hon. Temporary Speaker, I rise to

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support this Report. I want to start by saying that TVET institutions are very important in Kenya. They are middle-level training colleges that impart technical skills to our youth, which are very useful in society. When your toilet fails to work, or your water is running, you call a plumber, who comes and fixes it. When your lights go out in the house, you call an electrician, who comes and fixes them. When you want to fix a window, particularly a metal window, you go to a welder, who will do the job. When your car breaks down on the road, you call a mechanic trained in these TVET institutions, and they will come and fix it. So, I want to commend this Committee for the useful work it has been doing in auditing these colleges because they must be protected by all means to ensure their survival. These institutions must use Government resources prudently because some learners cannot pay school fees, and their parents work very hard to ensure the fees are paid.

I want to pick just one item that I heard the Chairperson of this Committee refer to,namely, the matter of land. Some of these colleges' land was donated by the communities or even bought by the communities and donated to the colleges to build the institutions. Therefore, anybody encroaching on these institutions' land in an attempt to grab it should be treated as a criminal and dealt with as such. Therefore, Hon. Temporary Speaker, I want to support this Report and urge the House to approve it.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Fair enough. It seems there is no other interest. Hon. Joshua Kimilu.

Hon. Joshua Kimilu (Kaiti, WDM): Thank you, for the opportunity to support this Report. Vocational training is very important in our society because some graduates from these institutions give back to society.

I was in the Departmental Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation during the last Parliament, and I remember there was a shortage of plumbers when Konza Techno City was starting. We spoke with the CEO of Konza Techno City, and he had to source plumbers from far away to meet the demand in that area. Some very good students sit for the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE), but they do not qualify to go to universities. They gain skills through vocational training. The skills help them to put bread on the table. That is why I say it is very important.

I thank the Committee for the good Report. As my colleague has said, we are concerned about land, as we support vocational training institutions. We are facing this issue in many areas. Some people grab land allocated to institutions and use it for personal gain, which is very bad. We need to put things in order in this country and make sure that public lands are fully protected and put to use. Sometimes people take advantage of the land we leave idle. You cannot fail to get thirsty people for grabbing land in every area of this country.

I support the Report.

(Hon. Mark Mwenje crossed the Floor without bowing)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Hon. Mwenje, I served in this House with your late father, who was a very good friend of mine. Nonetheless, I cannot fail to see how you have flagrantly failed to observe the basic rules of the House. This is a House of rules. Go to the Bar, then come back and consult with your friend.

Proceed.

(Hon. Mark Mwenje bowed at the Bar)

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Hon. Joshua Kimilu (Kaiti, WDM): I remember Hon. Mwenje's father made the same mistake. I used to watch those years. So, like father, like son.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Order, Hon. Kimilu. You did not serve with the late Hon. Mwenje. I served with him. So, proceed.

Hon. Joshua Kimilu (Kaiti, WDM): Thank you, I apologise. I conclude by saying that we, as Members, need to support this very important Report. I ask my colleagues to support the Report because it is well done.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): I do not see more interest. Under the circumstances, I call upon the Mover to reply.

Hon. Mark Mwenje (Embakasi West, JP): Thank you. I beg to reply.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Next Order.

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON PEACE AND SECURITY ENGAGEMENT IN ISIOLO COUNTY

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Committee on National Cohesion and Equal Opportunity on the peace and security engagement in Isiolo County, laid on the Table of the House on Wednesday, 1st July 2026.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Is the Chairman of the National Cohesion and Equal Opportunity Committee in the House? I direct that this matter be placed on the Order Paper at an appropriate future date and time, when the Chairman, Hon. Yussuf, is in a position to prosecute it.

(Motion deferred)

Next Order.

ADOPTION OF REPORT ON BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION MONITORING OF STATE DEPARTMENTS FOR FY 2025/2026

THAT, this House adopts the Report of the Departmental Committee on Regional Development on Budget Implementation Monitoring for the Financial Year 2025/2026 for the following State Departments, laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 13th October 2026–

1. Vote 1032 – State Department for Devolution.
2. Vote 1033 – State Department for Special Programmes.
3. Vote 1036 – State Department for ASALs & Regional Development.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Is the Chairman of the Departmental Committee on Regional Development in the House? The Leader of the Majority Party is also not in the House. Under the circumstances, I direct that this matter also be placed on the Order Paper at an appropriate future date, when the Chairman can prosecute it.

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(Motion deferred)

That is enough. We have concluded the business on the Order Paper.

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Farah Maalim): Hon. Members, remain standing. The time being 6.21 p.m., the House stands adjourned until Tuesday, 10th November 2026 at 2.30 p.m.

(The House rose at 6.21 p.m.)

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