



THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ON HOLDING OF A KAMUKUNJI ON TUESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2015

Honourable Members, you will recall that yesterday, the Chairperson of the Constitution Implementation Oversight Committee (CIOC) gave Notice of Motion, seeking approval of the House, to extend by twelve (12) months, the period in respect of legislation with Constitutional timeline of August 27, 2015 pursuant to Article 261 (2) of the Constitution. In the ensuing debate, which was adjourned pursuant to Standing Order 96, Members from both sides of the House expressed their frustration for the delay by relevant bodies to timeously initiate the process of developing the said Bills for consideration by Parliament, putting the House in a situation where an extension has to be sought.

Consequently, I urged the Leaders of the Majority and Minority Parties in the House to urgently hold a consultative meeting with a view of finding a solution to this matter. I wish to report that my office has received communication from the Leadership of the House indicating that their meeting resolved that a Speaker's *Kamukunji* be convened on Tuesday, August 25, 2015, at 12:00 noon, in the National Assembly Chamber to

deliberate on this matter. Also arising from those consultations, the business has been revised as indicated in the Supplementary Order Paper for today.

Honourable Members, you will also recall that on Tuesday, 19th August 2014, precisely a year later, this House, finding itself in a similar situation in respect to the enactment of Year Four Constitutional Bills, adopted a Motion that extended the period in respect to legislation that had a Constitutional timeline of 27th August 2014 by nine (9) months from August 27, 2014. The Chairperson of the CIOC is making a similar appeal to this House. Indeed even the previous House, namely the Tenth Parliament, had to pass a Motion to extend the period prescribed for enactment of legislation relating to land in 2012.

Honourable Members, it is obvious that the Bills earmarked for passage by the 27th of August 2015, cannot be enacted since Parliament has barely seven (7) calendar days left. In this regard, I wish to urge Members to take their time to apprise themselves with the provisions of Article 261 of the Constitution. In so doing, honourable Members, I request that you apply yourselves to how the provisions of that Article 261 weigh on Parliament; the implications contained therein and the window of opportunity provided to this House in the circumstances that the House finds itself in today.

This is therefore to urge all Members to attend the *Kamukunji* to deliberate on the matter as aforesaid and the matters touching on the CDF.

I thank you!

THE HON. JUSTIN B.N. MUTURI, EGH, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, August 20, 2015