

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT (FOURTH SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

(No. 28)

ON THE DEMISE OF HON. SOITA SHITANDA, EGH, MP, FORMER MEMBER FOR MALAVA CONSTITUENCY

Honourable Members, it is with deep sorrow that I have learnt of the demise of the **Hon. Peter Soita Shitanda, EGH, MP.** The late Hon. Shitanda, a former Member for Malava Constituency, passed on, on Tuesday, 24th May 2016 while undergoing treatment.

Honourable Members, the late Hon. Shitanda was born on 9th November 1958 in Malava, Kakamega County. He attended Malava Boys High School before joining Kenya Polytechnic where he trained as an accountant. In 1979, he joined the Civil Service as an Accounts Trainee in the Ministry of Finance, where he rose through the ranks to become an Accountant I. The late Hon. Shitanda joined politics in 1997 and was elected as Member for Malava Constituency, which he represented in the 8th, 9th and 10th Parliaments successively. Before his appointment to the Cabinet, he was a good debater, an astute Member of various House Committees, among them being the Committee on Legal Affairs and a charismatic chair of the Public Accounts Committee and the Finance Committee.

Honourable Members, in 2004, the late Hon. Shitanda was appointed to the Cabinet as an Assistant Minister for Public Service in the Office of the President. He was later elevated to the position of Minister for Housing in 2005, a portfolio he held till March 2013. The late Hon. Shitanda will be remembered for instituting various strategic

reforms regarding housing for Civil Servants while at the helm of the Ministry of Housing. He introduced a housing scheme for civil servants and also streamlined and re-organizing the National Housing Corporation to enable it undertake more housing projects with a view to bridging the housing deficit for civil servants. He also foresaw implementation of the National Housing Policy and the Kenya Slum Upgrading Programme in various parts of the country. Until the time of his demise, the late Hon. Shitanda was the Chairman of the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC).

Honourable Members, on behalf of all Members of the National Assembly, that of the Parliamentary Service Commission and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to convey our condolences to his family, family friends and the people of Malava Constituency for the great loss. As the National Assembly, we assure the family of our support during this period of grief. In honour of the exemplary and illustrious service rendered to the nation and society by the late Hon. Shitanda, I now request that we all stand to observe a minute of silence.

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Thank you!

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

Thursday, May 26, 2016