

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY – (FOURTH SESSION)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR (No. 026)

REGARDING THE SPECIAL SITTING OF THE HOUSE ON THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2016

Honourable Members,

I wish to welcome you back from your briefly-interrupted Recess. This Special Sitting has been necessitated by urgent emerging issues regarding which this Honourable House needs to address itself.

Honourable Members,

You may recall that on 19th April 2016, this House passed the Anti-Doping Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 6 of 2016) aimed at giving effect to the UNESCO Convention Against Doping in Sport, to protect athletes' health by regulating sporting activities free from use of prohibited substances, and to establish the Anti-Doping Agency. The Bill was subsequently assented to by H.E. the President on 22nd April 2016.

However, new developments have since emerged necessitating the need to review the Anti-Doping law. As a result, this House needs to deliberate on amendments to the Anti-Doping Act so as to align it to international best practice as agreed upon with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), particularly in view of the upcoming Olympic Games in Rio, Brazil.

To this end, I did notify Members of the National Assembly concerning this Special Sitting vide Kenya Gazette Notice No. 3570 on 19th May 2016. This Special Sitting is therefore properly convened. I wish Members fruitful deliberations in the two sittings today as the House considers the crucial Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill given the time constraints pertaining to its enactment, and Nominees to various Constituency Development Fund Committees.

Further to this, **Honourable Members**, I have received a request from the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare seeking leave to convene and consider proposed amendments to the Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill by the Leader of the Majority Party. I am aware that the Chairperson of the Committee was recently part of a high-powered Delegation that met senior WADA officials in Montreal, Canada. He is therefore well apprised with the issues that have occasioned the review of the Anti-Doping Act. For these reasons, I will allow the Committee to meet from **10.30am today** with a view to confirming that the final version of the Bill fully accommodates WADA's concerns. This will give the House an opportunity to consider any recommendations of the Committee during Committee of the Whole House Stage this afternoon.

I thank you!

THE HON. JUSTIN B.N. MUTURI, E.G.H., MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Thursday, May 26, 2016