

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT (THIRD SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

ON THE DEMISE OF HON. GEORGE MUKURU MUCHAI, MP

Honourable Members, As you may be aware, the morning of Saturday, February 7th, 2015 was a sad day for the National Assembly, and indeed the nation as we lost one of our most vibrant colleagues, the Hon. George Mukuru Muchai, Member for Kabete Constituency. The Hon. Muchai, together with his two bodyguards and a driver, lost their lives when they were attacked along Kenyatta Avenue, Nairobi.

Hon. Members, our records indicate that the late Hon. George Muchai was born on July 22, 1949. He attended St. Michael Primary School between 1956 and 1963 and Highway Secondary School, Nairobi between 1964 and 1967. He obtained a Certificate in Electrical Installation Trade Test from the Railway Training School in 1974. Later, the late Hon. Muchai attended the Kenya Polytechnic where he was awarded a Certificate in Electrical Installation Technology. He thereafter undertook several courses including a Certificate in Conciliation and Mediation from the International Labour Organization (ILO); a Certificate in Organized Labour (US Department of State) and a Certificate in Strengthening Labour Administration Systems in Africa from the African Regional Labour Centre, Harare. He also attended many labour related forums regionally and internationally.

Honourable Members, As you are aware the late Hon. Muchai was an active and vibrant labour unionist having been elected as the General Secretary of the Bakery, Confectionery, Food Manufacturing and Allied Workers' Union in 1984. This was a position he still held until his death owing to his passion for and responsiveness to the needs of the people he represented. His empathy and humility largely endeared him to the workers of this nation and saw him overwhelmingly elected as the Deputy Secretary of the Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU) in 2001. Indeed, he never lost an opportunity to air the problems that befall the masses, especially workers, whom he has continued to represent for the last three decades.

Hon. Members, the late Hon. George Muchai made his debut in national politics in the run-up to the 2013 General Elections when successfully vied for the Kabete Constituency seat. His swift mastery and grasp of parliamentary business ensured that his contributions were keenly followed by all. Particularly, his contributions on legislations related to the labour and education sectors were insightful and tremendously enriching to the matters under debate. Of specific mention was his passionate participation in the debates during the Committee of the Whole House on the Kenya Qualifications Framework Bill, 2013 which was passed by the National Assembly at the tail-end of the last session. He was also an active Member of the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare as well as the Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Honourable Members, On behalf of all Members of the National Assembly and the Parliamentary Service Commission and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to take this opportunity to condole with the family of the late Brother Hon. Muchai, his family, the people of Kabete Constituency and all his friends for the loss of this great trade unionist and a peoples' defender at this trying time. As the National Assembly, we assure the family of our support during this period of great sorrow.

Finally, let me reiterate our earlier call to all the concerned security agencies to speedily and urgently investigate this heinous act with a view to bringing the perpetrators to book. It is only through this that the nation and indeed the family, some of whom witnessed the atrocious act, will rest knowing that justice, and indeed the inviolability of every life as enshrined in the Constitution will have prevailed.

In tribute to our departed colleague, I 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

February 10, 2015