



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – (THIRD SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

_____ (No. 1 of 2020) _____

REGARDING THE SPECIAL SITTING

Honourable Members,

I wish to welcome you back from the long recess. It is my hope that you were able to spend valuable time with your families and constituents, and are now rejuvenated and ready for the year ahead.

Honourable Members, Standing Order 29 provides the procedure of convening of a Special Sitting of the House during recess, upon a request from the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party. I therefore wish to report to the assembled House that, on 6th February 2020, I acceded to a request from the Leader of the Majority Party seeking to convene a special sitting today afternoon for purposes of considering the two Motions listed in today's Order Paper, that is-

- (i) A Motion regarding the Presidential Proclamation made upon the passing on of the retired Second President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E Daniel Totoitich arap Moi, CGH; and,
- (ii) A Motion to alter the Calendar of the House in view of the said Presidential Proclamation and other developments attendant to the Proclamation.

In addition, Hon. Members, today's Special Sitting, which is now duly convened having been *gazetted* vide *Kenya Gazette Notice No. 788* of 7th February, 2020, will also accord me an opportunity to convey a message from His Excellency the President, which I received during the recess period regarding appointments that require the approval of the House.

Honourable Members, having declared that this Special Sitting is properly convened, allow me to turn to the single most important business that necessitated the convening of this Sitting.

Honourable Members, we have gathered here today under sad circumstances. As you are already aware, the National Assembly and indeed the Nation as a whole is mourning the loss of the Second President of the Republic of Kenya, His Excellency Daniel Toroitich arap Moi, CGH who passed away on Tuesday, 4th February, 2020 while undergoing treatment at the Nairobi Hospital.

His Excellency the late Retired Second President was born on 2nd September, 1924 in what is now Sacho Division of Baringo County. He attended the Africa Inland Mission School at Kabartonjo for his primary education, Kapsabet High School (then known as the Government African School, Kapsabet) and later joined Kapsabet Teachers Training College. He also attended Kagumo Teachers College and taught at the Government African School, Kapsabet and Tambach Teachers Training College. He had also served as the headmaster at the Government African School, Tambach which later became Tambach Teachers Training College. He worked as a teacher from 1946 to 1955. As a matter of fact, education remained dear to his heart during his entire life, as evidenced by, among other things, the many schools he established and supported.

Honourable Members, The late retired President joined elective politics on October 16, 1955 when he was elected as a Member of the Legislative Council, (popularly referred to as the LegCo), succeeding Hon. John ole Tameno. This was following the first election under the then Constitution, commonly referred to as "*The Lyttleton Constitution*", which introduced elected representation for Africans in the LegCo.

The late retired President Moi, was elected to the LegCo, joining the late Bernard Mate, Ronald Ngala, Tom Mboya, Oginga Odinga, Masinde Muliro, Lawrence Oguda and James Muimi. He was sworn-in on 18th October, 1955 and made his first maiden speech a week later on 25th October, 1955. During his tenure in the LegCo, he also served as the Parliamentary Secretary for Education, the equivalent of an Assistant Minister at the time. The late retired President Moi was part of the Kenya delegation to the *Lancaster House* Conference in London, which drew up the country's first post-independent Constitution, and was also a founding member of the Kenya African Democratic Union (KADU) party.

After Kenya's independence in 1963, the late Retired President Moi was elected to Parliament the same year as a Member for Baringo North constituency which later became Baringo Central Constituency. He also served as the Minister for Home Affairs from 1964, and as the third Vice President of Kenya and Leader of Government Business from 1967, before ascending to the Presidency upon the demise of the first President of the Republic, the late Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, in August 1978. As Leader of Government Business, he helped midwife and steer the legislative agenda of the administration he so faithfully and loyally served.

Honourable Members, It is indeed a remarkable achievement that the late Mzee Moi served an uninterrupted term as Member of this House for 47 years, first as Member of the Legislative Council (Legco) from October 18, 1955 to 1962, and later as Member of Parliament from 1963 until his retirement in 2002. He will remain in the history of our Parliament as being the second longest serving Member of this House, after retired Third President of the Republic, H.E Mwai Kibaki, CGH.

During his time in the legislature, he made history as he occasionally attended Parliamentary sittings to vote on bills, among them, the Corruption Control Bill of 2002. Indeed, this Bill was passed and assented to by the late Mzee Moi, marking the first time the Legislature and Executive had come together in such a manner to put in place a legislative measure to address and eliminate corruption. He gave his last speech as President in Parliament during the State Opening of Parliament on 12th March, 2002. He also performed one of his last official duties as President relating to the legislature by dissolving Parliament in October, 2002 to pave way for the general elections of that year. Thereafter, he retired from active politics.

The late retired President Moi will be remembered for making the Republic of Kenya an island of peace during periods which a number of the neighbouring countries suffered instability. He will also be remembered for peacefully passing on the presidential mantle at a time when a number of serving African leaders were said to be reluctant to do so. We will also always remember his strong love for education, children and gender empowerment which culminated in his appointment of Kenya's first female cabinet minister in 1990 and later on a female head of public service. All these will evermore remain part of our nation, as indeed exemplified in his motto of *Peace, Love and Unity*.

The late retired President Moi will also be remembered, alongside fellow Heads of States of Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, for steering regional integration and ensuring that the East African Community was revived. He will also be remembered for working hard to restore peace in neighbouring countries following prolonged instability that lasted for decades in some of the affected Nations.

Honourable Members, The late retired President Moi was a charismatic leader, mentor and friend to many, and will be sorely missed. His legacy lives on. He touched the lives of Kenyans, some of whom he personally attended to their unique needs, for which they are ever grateful. He mentored many upcoming leaders who ended up holding key leadership positions here at home and beyond. He is survived by his children, two of whom are currently serving in this Parliament, that is, the Hon. Raymond Kipruto Moi, MP, representing Rongai Constituency, and Senator Gideon Moi, MP, representing Baringo County.

On behalf of Members of the National Assembly, the Parliamentary Service Commission and indeed on my own behalf, I wish to convey sincere condolences to his family, friends and the Nation at large for this great loss.

In honour of the dedicated service rendered to the community and the Nation by the late Second President of the Republic of Kenya, Daniel arap Moi, CGH in his various capacities, I request that we all stand and observe a minute of silence.

(After the Minute of Silence)

May his soul rest in eternal peace.

I thank you.


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

Monday, February 10, 2020

