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REPUBLIC OF KENYA




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**THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - TWELFTH PARLIAMENT**

**(FOURTH SESSION)**

**EIGHTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS' SERVICES AND  
FACILITIES ON A STUDY VISIT TO THE PARLIAMENT OF TURKEY  
FROM 14<sup>TH</sup> TO 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2019**

	
<b>THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID</b>	
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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

GNAT - Grand National Assembly of Turkey

MP - Member of Parliament

NG-CDF - National Government Constituency Development Fund

PSC - Parliamentary Service Commission

UN - United Nations

USA - United States of America

## FOREWORD

Article 127 of the Constitution of Kenya mandates the Parliamentary Service Commission with among other things to provide services and facilities as are necessary for the efficient and effective functioning of Parliament whereas Article 124 mandates each House of Parliament to establish committees, and shall make Standing Orders for the orderly conduct of its proceedings, including the proceedings of its committees.

The National Assembly Standing Order 212B establishes the Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities. The Committee is charged with the mandate of receiving and considering views of Members of the National Assembly on the services and facilities provided to them by the Parliamentary Service Commission for their benefit and well-being. The Committee is charged with advising and reporting on all matters connected to these services and facilities. The Committee is therefore the forum through which Members of the National Assembly channel their views on their welfare to the Commission.

The Committee undertook a study visit to the Parliament of Turkey from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. The delegation comprised of the following Members of Parliament and staff of the National Assembly:-

- (1) Hon. Catherine Wanjiku Waruguru, MP - **Leader of Delegation**
- (2) Hon. Silas Tiren, MP
- (3) Hon. Rehema Hassan, MP
- (4) Hon. Walter Owino, MP
- (5) Mr. Paul Gachigua - Catering Services Manager
- (6) Mr. Douglas Katho - Clerk Assistant II/Delegation Secretary

This report contains the objectives, discussions and lessons learnt, observations and recommendations of the delegation during the study visit.

The Committee is grateful to the Offices of the Speaker and Clerk of the National Assembly for the support accorded to the delegation before and during the study visits. We are also grateful to the Parliament of Turkey for giving us the opportunity to visit and for the information that they gave us.

**Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, MP**

**Chairperson, Committee on Members' Services and Facilities**



## 1 PREFACE

### 1.1 ESTABLISHMENT AND MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities is established under the National Assembly Standing Orders No. 212B. The Committee is charged with the mandate of—
  - i. receiving and considering views of Members of the National Assembly on the services and facilities provided to them by the Parliamentary Service Commission for their benefit and well-being; and
  - ii. advising and reporting on all matters connected to these services and facilities.
2. It is therefore the forum through which the Members of the National Assembly channel views regarding their welfare to the Commission.

### 1.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

3. The Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities was constituted by the House on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 and further reconstituted on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2019 as well as on 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. The Committee comprises of the following Members:-

Name of the Member	Party	Constituency
The Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, MP, <b>Chair</b>	NAPK Party	Nyaribari Masaba
The Hon. (Dr.) Swarup Mishra, MP, <b>Vice-Chair</b>	Jubilee Party	Kessess
The Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, CBS, MP	Jubilee Party	Kikuyu
The Hon. Samwel Chumel Moroto, MP	KANU Party	Kapenguria
The Hon. Beatrice Nkatha Nyaga, MP	Jubilee	Tharaka Nithi County
The Hon. Christopher Wangaya Aseka, MP	ANC Party	Khwisero
The Hon. Elisha Ocheing Odhiambo, MP	Orange Democratic Movement Party	Gem
The Hon. Elsie Busihile Muhanda, MP	Orange Democratic Movement Party	Kakamega County
The Hon. Rehema Hassan, MP	Orange Democratic Movement Party	Tana River County
The Hon. Rigathi Gachagua, MP	Jubilee Party	Mathira
The Hon. (Eng.) Nzambia Thuddeus Kithua, MP	Wiper Democratic Movement-K Party	Kilome
The Hon. Walter Owino, MP	Orange Democratic Movement Party	Awendo
The Hon. Charity Kathambi Chepkwony, MP	Jubilee Party	Njoro
The Hon. Generali Nixon Kiprotich Korir, MP	Jubilee Party	Langata
The Hon. Bernard Otieno Okoth, MP	Orange Democratic Movement Party	Kibra

### 1.3 COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

Mr. John N. Mutega  
Principal Clerk Assistant I

**Mr. Douglas Katho**

Ms. Emma Essendi  
**Legal Counsel I**

Dr. Kefa Omoti  
Principal Research Officer

Ms. Zainabu Wario  
Serjeant-At-Arms

Ms. Zainabu Wario  
**Serjeant-At-Arms**

## **2.0 BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY VISIT**

### **2.1 Introduction**

4. Article 127 of the Constitution establishes the Parliamentary Service Commission. The Commission is mandated amongst other things to provide services and facilities as are necessary for the efficient and effective functioning of Parliament.
5. In furtherance of Article 127 of the Constitution, the National Assembly Standing Order 212B establishes the Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities. The Committee is charged with the mandate of receiving and considering views of Members of the National Assembly on the services and facilities provided to them by the Parliamentary Service Commission for their benefit and well-being. The Committee is also charged with advising and reporting on all matters connected to these services and facilities. The Committee is therefore the forum through which Members of the National Assembly channel their views on their welfare to the Commission.
6. Being a fairly new Committee, having been established in June 2017 and commenced its work in December 2017, the Committee embarked on building the capacity of Members both locally and internationally to enhance its effectiveness and efficiency in discharging her mandate. At its meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 the Committee resolved to undertake a study visit to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey in October, 2019 to share and exchange views with the Turkish Grand National Assembly and its relevant Committees charged with overseeing the services and facilities extended to Members of Turkish Grand National Assembly. The Committee initially proposed to undertake the visit from 6<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2019. Subsequently, the Clerk conveyed the proposal of the Committee with above dates to the Turkish Grand National Assembly. The host acceded to the request to host the Committee subject to re-scheduling the visit to between 14<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

### **2.2 Objectives of the Study Visit**

7. The study visit to Turkish Parliament was guided by the broad objective of sharing and exchanging views with the various committee/s of the Turkish Parliament charged with overseeing the services and facilities to Members of Parliament.
8. The Committee had the following specific objectives with respect to the visit:-



- i. to understand the workings of the Parliament of Turkey with regard to matters relating to members services and facilities;
- ii. to understand the facilities and services provided to Members of the Parliament of Turkey;
- iii. to benchmark on the best practices that would assist the Committee to discharge its mandate in a more effective and efficient manner.

### 2.3 Delegation Membership

9. The delegation comprised of the following Members and staffers of the National Assembly:

- i. Hon. Catherine Wanjiku Waruguru, MP - **Leader of Delegation**
- ii. Hon. Silas Tiren, MP
- iii. Hon. Rehema Hassan, MP
- iv. Hon. Walter Owino, MP
- v. Mr. Paul Gachigua - **Catering Services Manager**
- vi. Mr. Douglas Katho - **Clerk Assistant II/Delegation Secretary**



### **3 DISCUSSIONS AND LESSONS LEARNT**

#### **3.1 Meeting with the Kenyan Ambassador to Turkey**

10. The Committee commenced its activities by paying a courtesy call on the Kenyan Ambassador to Turkey in Ankara, Ambassador Lt Gen (Rtd) Johnson Mogoa K. Ondieki, CBS where they received a brief from the Ambassador on the study visit's programme as well as other bilateral matters between Turkey and Kenya.

11. The Ambassador informed the delegation that there is a lot for Kenya to learn from Turkey especially with respect to the Kenya-Turkey relations. He informed the delegation the following:-

##### **(a) Economy**

12. Turkey is the 17<sup>th</sup> largest economy in the world, (\$1.641 trillion GDP at PPP est. 2016), with a dynamic mix of modern industry and commerce. It has a strong and growing private sector, but the state still plays a major role in the basic industry, banking, transport and communication. Its agricultural sector accounts for more than 35% of total employment.

##### **(b) International Relations**

13. Turkey's Foreign Policy is currently geared towards attaining EU membership and establishing stronger relations with Africa. The Constitutional Court's decision of 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2008 opened the way for Turkey to pursue its international interests.

##### **(c) Turkey-Africa Relations**

14. African Union demonstrated its will to strengthen the relations with Turkey by declaring Turkey as the strategic partner of the continent in 2008. Following this decision, the first Turkey-Africa Cooperation Summit was held on 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2008, in Istanbul. The Istanbul Declaration on Turkey-Africa Partnership, with the theme "Solidarity and Partnership for a Common Future", was entered into force and is annexed to a "Framework of Cooperation for Turkey-Africa Partnership" adopted at the Summit.

15. The Second Turkey-Africa Partnership Summit took place from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November, 2014, under the theme "New Model of partnership for the strengthening of sustainable development and integration".

16. Intergovernmental cooperation; trade and investment; agriculture, agribusiness, rural development, water resources management, small and medium scale enterprises; health; peace and security; infrastructure, energy and transport; culture, tourism and education; media, information and communication technology and environment were identified as the priority cooperation fields.

17. Turkey takes keen interest in the political and socio-economic developments in the Horn of Africa particularly in Somalia. It has already established a resident diplomatic mission in Mogadishu. It hosted two conferences on Somalia in 2010 and 2012 whose outcomes intensified international momentum to resolve the Somalia conflict. The Government of the Republic of Turkey hosted, February, 2016, the High Level Partnership Forum on Somalia, chaired by H.E. Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President of the Republic of Turkey, and co-chaired by the President of Somalia and the UN Deputy Secretary-General.

#### **(d) Kenya/Turkey Relations**

18. Kenya and Turkey signed a Trade and Economic Cooperation Agreement in 2004. Kenya ratified the agreement in 2009 that provided the framework for the formation of a Joint Economic Commission (JEC). Consequently, the 1st Session of the Kenya-Turkey Joint Economic Commission (JEC) was held in October 2010 while the 2nd Session was held from 4-7 April 2014 in Istanbul. The third session was held in Nairobi in 1-2 August 2016, which was spear-headed by State Department of Trade, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives.

19. Turkey and Kenya have signed 13 cooperation instruments, including MoUs and Agreements on: Bilateral Air Services; Mutual Visa Abolition for Holders of Diplomatic, Special and Service Passports; Cooperation in the field of Health, Science and Technology and Tourism; Reciprocal Promotion and Protection of Investment (to be approved); Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Education, Science, Mass Media, Youth and Sports; Security Cooperation between Kenya Police and Turkish National Police; Regional, Technical and Financial Cooperation/Assistance with TIKa; MOU in the Field of Mining 2014; MOU in the Field of Energy and Hydrocarbon 2014; MOU on cooperation in Small and Medium Enterprises, 2014.



20. During the visit of Turkish President, in June 2016 two MOUs were signed including: MoU on water and irrigation- Greater Mt. Elgon Bungoma, Busia Multipurpose water Project support; MoU between the Turkish Standards Institution (TSE) and KEBS.

21. Pending Agreements include; Agreement on defense; MoU on Housing and Urban Management and the Agreement on Avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion between the Government.

#### **(e) Trade Relations**

22. Trade between Kenya and Turkey has continued to rise steadily. In 2013, Kenya's export to Turkey was estimated at KSh. 888 million and an import of KSh. 14.06 billion worth of goods and services. The balance of trade was KSh 13.24 billion in favour of Turkey.

23. Kenyan exports to Turkey include; tea, coffee, hides and skins, leather products, vegetables, cut flowers, oil seeds, jute, raw tobacco and art works. Imports from Turkey include: manufactured and capital goods such as petroleum products, iron and steel, industrial machinery, electrical and construction materials and clothing items.

#### **(f) Development Cooperation**

24. Turkey's development cooperation to Kenya is mainly in the fields of agriculture, health and education. At one point the assistance was a donation of USD 1.1 Mn worth of emergency food and medical aid for refugees in the Dadaab Camp channeled through the UNHCR.

25. The Turkish International Cooperation and Coordination Agency (TIKA) disbursed over USD 1.3 million in terms of equipment for various health facilities to the coastal town of Mombasa to support Innovation Empowerment Programme. It also trained 20 doctors in emergency medicine and donated three (3) fully equipped ambulances for use by the Ministry of Health.

26. Turkey donated three coast guard speedboats to the Kenya Navy in 2009 that assisted in the fight against piracy along the Somali coastline.



27. Turkey offered 21 scholarships to Kenya in 2014, in the fields of medicine and engineering, though not on a government-to-government basis. Applications are done online and the government is not involved in the selection process.



### 3.2 Background of the Turkish Parliament

28. The Grand National Assembly of Turkey (Turkish: Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi), usually referred to simply as the TBMM or Parliament (Turkish: Meclis or Parlamento), is the unicameral Turkish legislature. It is the sole body given the legislative prerogatives by the Turkish Constitution. It was founded in Ankara on 23 April 1920 in the midst of the National Campaign. This constitution had founded its pre-government known as 1<sup>st</sup> Executive Ministers of Turkey (Commitment Deputy Committee) in no time in May 1920. The parliament was fundamental in the efforts of Mareşal Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, 1st President of the Republic of Turkey, and his colleagues to found a new state out of the remnants of the Ottoman Empire.

29. Turkey has had a history of parliamentary government before the establishment of the current national parliament. These include attempts at curbing absolute monarchy during



the Ottoman Empire through constitutional monarchy, as well as establishments of caretaker national assemblies' immediately prior to the declaration of the Republic of Turkey in 1923 but after the de facto dissolution of the Ottoman Empire earlier in the decade.

30. After the 2017 constitutional referendums, the first general election of the Assembly would under a presidential system, with an executive president who will have the power to renew the elections for the Assembly. The new Assembly would increase the number of MPs from 550 to 600 members of parliament (deputies) who are elected for a five-year term.

31. The current Parliament Building is the third to house the nation's parliament. The building which first housed the Parliament was converted from the Ankara headquarters of the Committee of Union and Progress, the political party that overthrew Sultan Abdulhamid II in 1909 in an effort to bring democracy to the Ottoman Empire.

32. The first building is designed by architect Hasip Bey and it was used until 1924 and is now used as the locale of the Museum of the War of Independence, the second building which housed the Parliament was designed by architect Vedat (Tek) Bey (1873–1942) and used from 1924 to 1960. It is now been converted as the Museum of the Republic.

33. The Grand National Assembly is now housed in a modern and imposing building in the Bakanlıklar neighborhood of Ankara. The monumental building's project was designed by architect and Professor Clemens Holzmeister (1886–1993). The building was depicted on the reverse of the Turkish 50,000 lira banknotes of 1989–1999. The building was hit by airstrikes three times during the 2016 Turkish coup d'état attempt, suffering noticeable damage. Later, the Parliament went through a revision in the summer of 2016.

### **3.3 Meeting with the Honorable Celalettin Güvenç, President of the Africa-Turkey Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group.**

34. The delegation was hosted for a working Lunch at the Turkish Grand National Assembly by the Honorable Celalettin Güvenç, the President of the Africa-Turkey inter-parliamentary Friendship group. The Inter-parliamentary friendship groups are the mechanisms that contribute to develop inter-parliamentary relations and cooperation. The Honorable Celalettin Güvenç was accompanied by several members of the Turkish Grand National

Assembly who interacted with the Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities of the National Assembly of Kenya and informed them that the Inter-parliamentary friendship groups are mainly established in order to: develop close relations and cooperation between countries and parliaments; carry out official visits on the basis of reciprocity for the cooperation and promotion of countries; exchange views; and contribute to the development of friendship between countries.

35. The delegation learnt that the Inter-parliamentary friendship groups are formed based on a decision of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey (GNAT) after the government's opinion has been taken into account. All deputies have the right to take part in these groups. An inter-parliamentary friendship group is formed upon the application of at least ten deputies. The Inter-parliamentary friendship groups prepare their own regulations. These regulations should provide that: political parties take part in a fair manner, both in the executive board of the inter-parliamentary friendship group and in the delegations; a deputy does not serve on more than one executive board of inter-parliamentary friendship groups, and delegations include not only the members of the executive board, but also the other members of the friendship group.

36. The external relations of the inter-parliamentary friendship groups are regulated and executed according to the approval of the Office of the Speaker and the principles of reciprocity. The Speaker may invite the head of an inter-parliamentary friendship group or any member to the delegations headed by himself or herself by taking the opinion of the political party group to which the member belongs. The deputies of the inter-parliamentary friendship groups who are going abroad are not required to speak a foreign language.

37. The Delegation learnt that law-making process is a function of the Legislature. Parliament has the full mandate of making all laws and that the executive may not propose any law unless they pass the proposals to relevant Committee or individual members to initiate the enactments of a certain law.

38. The delegation was further informed that the constituency offices of the Members of Parliament in Turkey are not well facilitated in terms of operations as compared to the narrations of their Kenyan counterparts.





### **3.4 Meeting with the Deputy Secretary General Mr. Hakan Suat Ölmez of the Turkish Grand National Assembly**

39. The delegation of the Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities of the National Assembly of Kenya met with the Deputy Secretary General of the Turkish Grand National Assembly. In Turkish Parliament, Mr. Hakan Suat Ölmez who highlighted that, Members of Parliament are facilitated with a fixed salary; allowances (e.g. house allowance; transport allowance); medical facilities; and residential facilities. The transport facilities are extended to the Members of Parliament for constituency visits and other official assignments.

40. The delegation was informed that, Members of Parliament are not facilitated with offices at the Constituency and that they are constituents are the ones facilitated to meet with their members of parliament in Ankara and that the Grand Turkish National Assembly receives about five thousand guests every day.



41. The delegation noted that, like in any other legislative organization, officers and staff working in these institutions require training and exposure to acquaint themselves with the latest legislative developments, so that they can assist elected representatives to perform their manifold roles efficaciously. Parliamentarians of today have varied functions to perform, apart from their conventional representational role, more so in the context of the Parliament itself evolving as a multi-functional institution. Parliamentarians have to be well-versed with issues like procedural mechanisms available to them to raise matters on the floor of the House, practices and procedures of the parliamentary committees, privileges of members and the House, parliamentary conventions, traditions and etiquette among other topics if they have to emerge as effective representatives. They also have to be thoroughly familiar with legislative and budgetary processes. All these call for continuous efforts to facilitate capacity building among Members of Parliament, besides parliamentary staff.
42. The delegation also observed that, in Turkey, there are various stakeholders who make a parliamentary democracy work successfully. Besides parliamentarians and parliamentary staff, these stakeholders include the media, the Civil Service, the academic community, including students, and the citizens at large. It is only the institution of Parliament, which can impart such knowledge to all stakeholders of democracy. Thus, the onerous task of conducting relevant studies and enabling the required orientation and training of the stakeholders primarily falls on the Parliament itself.
43. The delegation observed that, in as much as the subject matter of library is under the Select Committee on Broadcasting and Library Services, the Parliamentary Service Commission should explore on putting more budgetary allocations towards expanding, modernizing and equipping the current library. The PSC should also focus on consolidation of the history of Parliament and use the Library as an outreach arm of the institution of Parliament.
44. The delegation appreciated that the National Assembly has developed a number of Information booklets on a wide range of thematic areas/topics with respect to parliamentary procedure. However, the delegation observed that there is need of a Members of Parliament Handbook to provide at a glance and in brief information on all services and facilities available to the Members of the National Assembly.



45. The delegation learnt that Turkish Parliament has a highly professional Public Relations Unit to manage all forms of communication between people, organizations, institutions and the public both externally and within the Parliament itself which includes the parliamentarians, the staff, and all other stakeholders effective in shaping the public opinion and to build up and maintain trust, goodwill and credibility of the parliament in the public.
46. The delegation also observed that the Turkish Parliament has nearly 150 journalists who closely follow and report the parliamentary activities on a daily basis and having resident offices in the Parliament building but predominantly use Information and Communication Technologies to disseminate information in 8 different languages namely, English, French, Spanish, German, Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Kazakh language.
47. The Turkish Parliament considers “e-Parliament” or digital communication as an integral part of its service to its Members. The “e-Parliament” helps us to get use of digital communication for further promoting public participation whereby a mobile application that can be downloaded by smartphones and tablets was developed to provide timely and accurate information about legislative and scrutiny activities as well as the administrative ones including the Parliament’s Library and other useful information for the public. The application having two different versions for the MPs and the citizens is used by almost all the MPs. This application is available in App Store for IOS, Google Play Store for androids and in Windows Store for Windows 8.1 and Windows Phone. Further an “e-Petition” system was set up to make the Committee on Petitions easily and quickly accessible for the citizens. Via the system, citizens make their application to the Committee in an electronic environment.
48. The Turkish Parliament has two verified Twitter accounts, namely GNAT official and GNAT General Assembly and these two accounts are followed by nearly 230.000 and 285.000 citizens respectively. These figures places the Turkish Parliament as the third most followed parliament on Twitter among world’s parliaments. The Turkish Parliament has two different accounts on Facebook as well. An institutional communication system based on e-mail and SMS (short message service) was established in order to send the announcements, statements and other information messages to the MPs and staff.

49. Turkish Parliament is one of the most visited parliaments in the world. The majority of the visitors come to the Parliament to visit the MPs and there are days when the number of visitors reach nearly 8000 people. The high figures encourage new PR projects to better host the public visiting the Parliament. A new system was also set up for the visitors who want to pay a visit to the MPs. Visitors can request appointment from the MPs using Visitors' Appointment System. When their request is approved, visitors are informed by a SMS. This system increased the quality and speed of the service delivery to the visitors.
50. The Turkish Parliament is always open to the public. For three years, Saturdays have been declared as "Public Day" which is an opportunity for citizens to explore inside of Parliament and the Parliament buildings, the Plenary in a guided tour. The entry requires no appointment and during the guided tours, visitors receive information about the history of the Parliament, its functioning as well as the premises. At the end of the tours, visitors receive also certificates signed by the Speaker of the Parliament.
51. A special website for children is in place designed namely "the Turkish Parliament for Children." Cartoons, an e-library, games, information about social responsibility projects carried out by the Parliament are available on the website. For the creation of cartoons, a cartoon competition was organized to especially attract the university students studying visual arts. Children books were prepared on the history and premises of the Turkish Parliament as well as its functioning. These books are given to children visitors as gifts.
52. Turkish Parliament revised its services, equipment and facilities as defined in the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Mobility aids, devices and assistive technologies as well as other forms of assistance, support services and facilities were made available and suitable for persons with disabilities. Parliamentary staff are trained so as to better provide assistance and services to the persons with disabilities. All this work carried out by the Turkish administration has contributed to raise the awareness of the society and the Turkish Parliament has been seen as a role-model by other public institutions in Turkey. A special Reception Area for persons with disabilities, elderly, pregnant, illiterate and visitors needing special care was established. In this area there is an induction loop system for people with hearing loss and deafness and visitor badges, maps and leaflets about the Parliament are also available in Braille.



53. The Turkish Parliament's website has specially been designed for the persons with visual impairment. A software programme suitable for screen readers is available and thanks to this programme, blind people may listen to the history of the Turkish Parliament, its duties and functions, information about the election system, legislation and scrutiny activities, inter-parliamentary relations and publications such as the Rules of Procedures, Guidelines of Deputies.
54. Staff's receiving the visitors are regularly trained for an accurate communication with people living with disabilities. Trainings include courses for basic sign language too. Sign Language courses are organized given by the sign language interpreters working in the Turkish Parliament. The parliamentary staff has the opportunity to participate in these courses voluntarily. Turkish parliament employs many staff with disabilities in different departments.
55. The delegation was informed that the Turkish Parliament is made eco-friendlier, with a project called "Paper-less Parliament" that has been started in an attempt to use less paper during the daily parliamentary activities. To start with, the number of the parliamentary sessions' documents has been reduced. Staff has been encouraged to use both sides of the sheets and to recycle paper. The administration of the Turkish Parliament considers the well-management of social and environmental effects of its activities.
56. With the increasing role of Parliaments and their enrollment in foreign affairs, parliamentary diplomacy has constituted one of the most important aspects of traditional diplomacy. In order to strengthen the inter-parliamentary cooperation delegations composed of foreign parliamentary staff have been invited to Turkey and trained in the Turkish Parliament in the fields of legislation, foreign relations, protocol, PR and media relations.
57. The delegation learnt that there is no doubt that the parliamentary staff is an integral part of the provision of Members' services. It is through the staff skills, attitudes and their ability of communication that Turkish Parliament has created a credible image before the public. Their stands are also very important in terms of the interaction with the MPs. Therefore, the parliamentary staff participation to the decision-making process is crucial.



58. The Deputy Secretary General of the Turkish Parliament, informed the delegation that Parliament has developed a survey instrument of the internal parliamentary relations to evaluate the constitutional mandate of Parliament from the public in order to define the needs and measure the satisfaction level of our stakeholders.



### 3.5 Turkish Mausoleum where the founder of Turkey was buried.

59. The delegation visited one of Turkey's most notable examples of modern architecture, the Atatürk Mausoleum that sits high on a hilltop in Ankara, the country's capital. Designed by Turkish architect Emil Onat, the complex was constructed between 1944 and 1953 to be the **final resting place of Mustafa Kemal Atatürk**, the founder and first president of the Turkish Republic.

60. Before the building was finished, Atatürk's remains were housed in Ankara's Ethnographic Museum. They were brought here, to lie in state, on November 10th 1953 to mark the 15th anniversary of his death.



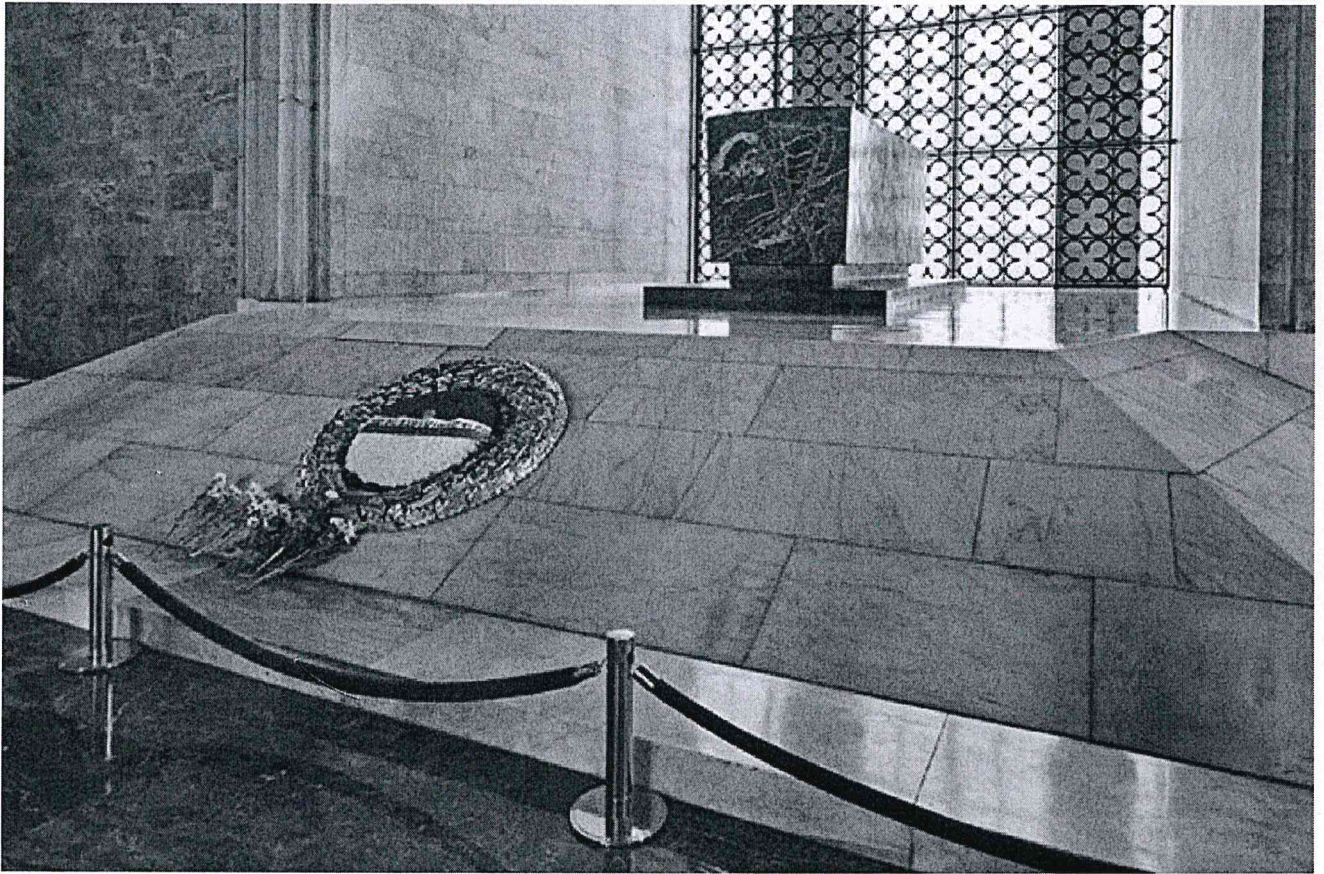
61. The mausoleum complex is mammoth, with a grand staircase known as the **Path of Honor, flanked by reclining Hittite lions**, leading up to the **Court of Honor** where the mausoleum itself and a museum dedicated to Atatürk's life both sit.
62. For visitors to Ankara, the building is both one of Turkey's most prominent examples of mid-20th century architecture and an important symbol honoring Atatürk and the birth of the republic.
63. A flight of 33 steps made from the volcanic tufa rock of Cappadocia leads up between the twin Towers of Liberation and Independence to the 260-meter-long Path of Honor. On either side of this 30-meter-wide avenue are sculpted groups of three female and three male figures, representing Turkey's transition from Ottoman traditionalism to the modernity of Atatürk's Republic.
64. At the far end of the boulevard, the entrance to the Courtyard is guarded by two more towers symbolizing the Turkish army and defense of national rights. The Courtyard, hemmed by colonnaded buildings, also has towers on each corner signifying peace, victory, revolution, and the republic.
65. The colonnaded hall on the east side of the Courtyard houses the Atatürk Museum, where you can see an interesting collection of mementos and memorabilia, including many of Atatürk's personal effects. Displays include his clothing and furniture and his mammoth library collection. The edifice on the south side is the mausoleum of Turkey's second president, İsmet İnönü.



### The Mausoleum

66. The mausoleum itself, on the northern side of the courtyard, is a starkly simple piece of architecture befitting Atatürk's rejection of the ornate pomp and splendor of the Ottoman era. The austere, Brutalist feel of the building is in direct contrast to most other sites travelers will encounter while sightseeing around Turkey. Reached by a monumental staircase of 33 steps, the 55-meter-wide and 21-meter-high building bears down on the courtyard; its sheer size makes ornamentation unnecessary.
67. On either side of the platform terrace, bas reliefs depict scenes of the War of Independence, while above them burn eternal flames. Inscriptions flank the mausoleum entrance. To the right is an excerpt from Atatürk's great speech, delivered on the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Republic. To the left, is his exhortation to Turkish youth.





**sarcophagus**

68. The delegation had a tour of the Mausoleum of Ataturk. At the rear, inside the hall, in a niche with a gilded top and elaborate front railing stands the 40-ton marble sarcophagus of the Republic's founder.







#### 4 OBSERVATIONS

The delegation observed that:-

1. The Kenya Parliament requires a Museum for the storage and preservation of precious records, historical documents and articles connected with the origin, history, evolution and heritage of the institution of Parliament.
2. the level of foreign interaction between Turkey and Kenya has considerably increased and the volume of Turkey's foreign activities and the number of inter-parliamentary friendship groups in Africa has increased in recent years;
3. there is need for Parliament to regularly review and report on its oversight role to members of the public for accountability to the public;
4. oversight committees should have communication and publicity strategies in order to highlight the effectiveness of parliamentary oversight and help build the trust of members of the public in Parliament;
5. Innovative methods should be trialed including the use of media including social media in order to improve dialogue with citizens in oversight activities and to get government to pay attention and respond to oversight activities. Media and the civil society can be effective levers in increasing public pressure on the government and make it more responsive;
6. Parliamentary records should be availed to members of the public in order to enhance transparency and accountability to the public. All committee sessions should be open to the public except in limited and well defined circumstances and a full account of their sessions recorded and made freely available in a timely fashion; and,

## 5 RECOMMENDATIONS

Having made the above observations, the delegation recommended that:-

7. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs initiates strategies that will enhance the relationship of the Kenya-Turkey Parliamentary Friendship group and that the National Assembly considers making the necessary budgetary allocations within the Financial Year 2020/2021 to the Kenya Mission in Ankara to fund the activities geared towards strengthening the Kenya-Turkey Parliamentary Friendship group;
8. the Parliamentary Service Commission should enhance the capacity of the Library of the Parliament of Kenya in order to increase its storage and preservation of records, historical documents and articles connected with the origin, history, evolution and heritage of the institution of Parliament;
9. the National Assembly through its Public Communication Unit, should establish communication strategies to publicize parliament's oversight work by enabling and enhancing media coverage of all the oversight activities including the possibility of setting up its own television and radio stations in various languages;
10. The Parliamentary Service Commission should embrace an e-parliament and integrate ICT in the management of parliamentary records and make sure that all documentation, recordings and any other information is freely available to members of the public;
11. the National Assembly, through its liaison office should propose more budgetary allocations to expand, modernize and equip constituency offices with the aim of ensuring that the electorate are able to reach their Members of Parliament in a timely manner.

Signature: .....  ..... Date: 24/11/2020

**Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, MP**

**Chairperson, Committee on Members' Services and Facilities**



## **APPENDIX I**

### **MINUTES**





**MINUTES OF THE 19<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES HELD AT THE ROYAL SWISS HOTEL IN KISMUMU ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020 AT 2.30 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

1. The Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, M.P. - **Chairperson**
2. The Hon. (Dr.) Swarup Ranjan Mishra, M.P. - **Vice Chairperson**
3. The Hon. Samwel Moroto Chumel, M.P.
4. The Hon. Charity Kathambi Chepkwony, M.P.
5. The Hon. Christopher Wangaya Aseka, MP
6. The Hon. Elsie Muhanda, MP
7. The Hon. Eng. Nzambia Thuddeus Kithua, MP
8. The Hon. Elisha Odhiambo, MP
9. The Hon. Walter Owino, MP
10. The Hon. Benard Otieno Okoth, MP

**MEMBERS ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES**

1. The Hon. Generali Nixon Kiprotich Korir, M.P.
2. The Hon. Beatrice Nkatha Nyagah, MP, MP
3. The Hon. Rehema Hassan, M.P.
4. The Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, M.P.
5. The Hon. Rigathi Gachagua, M.P.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

- |                                |   |                             |
|--------------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Florence Atenyo-Abonyo | - | Director Committee Services |
| 2. Mr. John Mutega             | - | Principal Clerk Assistant I |
| 3. Mr. Paul Gachigua           | - | Catering Services Manager   |
| 4. Mr. Douglas Katho           | - | Clerk Assistant II          |
| 5. Ms. Zainabu Wario           | - | Serjeant-At-Arms            |

**MIN. NO. 062/2020: PRELIMINARIES**

The sitting's proceedings commenced with a word of prayer.

**MIN. NO. 063/2020: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE EIGHT REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON A STUDY VISIT TO THE TURKISH GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FROM OCTOBER 14 - 18, 2019 IN ANKARA, TURKEY**

The Committee considered the report on the study visit to the Turkish Grand National Assembly and made the following observations-





1. the Commission should explore on how a Museum for the Kenya Parliament can be set up in order to store and preserve records, historical documents and articles connected with the origin, history, evolution and heritage of the institution of Parliament;
2. the level of foreign interaction between Turkey and Kenya has considerably increased and the volume of Turkey's foreign activities and the number of inter-parliamentary friendship groups in Africa has increased in recent years;
3. there is need for Parliament to regularly review and report on its oversight role to members of the public for accountability to the public;
4. oversight committees should have communication and publicity strategies in order to highlight the effectiveness of parliamentary oversight and help build the trust of members of the public in Parliament;
5. innovative methods should be trialed including the use of media including social media in order to improve dialogue with citizens in oversight activities and to get government to pay attention and respond to oversight activities. Media and the civil society can be effective levers in increasing public pressure on the government and make it more responsive;
6. parliamentary records should be availed to members of the public in order to enhance transparency and accountability to the public. All committee sessions should be open to the public except in limited and well defined circumstances and a full account of their sessions recorded and made freely available in a timely fashion; and,
7. The Kenya Parliament requires a Museum for the for storage and preservation of precious records, historical documents and articles connected with the origin, history, evolution and heritage of the institution of Parliament.

The committee thereafter adopted its Report on the Study visit to the Turkish Grand National Assembly in Ankara Turkey from 14th – 19th October, 2020 and pursuant to its mandate under standing orders 212B. The Committee made the following recommendations to the National assembly that:-





1. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs initiates strategies that will enhance the formation of the Kenya-Turkey Parliamentary Friendship group and that the National Assembly considers making the necessary budgetary allocations within the Financial Year 2020/2021 to the Kenya Mission in Ankara to fund the activities geared towards strengthening the Kenya-Turkey Parliamentary Friendship group;
2. the Parliamentary Service Commission should enhance the capacity of the Library of the Parliament of Kenya in order to increase its storage and preservation of records, historical documents and articles connected with the origin, history, evolution and heritage of the institution of Parliament;
3. the National Assembly through its Public Communication Unit, should establish communication strategies to publicize parliament's oversight work by enabling and enhancing media coverage of all the oversight activities including the possibility of setting up its own television and radio stations in various languages;
4. The Parliamentary Service Commission should embrace an e-parliament and integrate ICT in the management of parliamentary records and make sure that all documentation, recordings and any other information is freely available to members of the public;
5. the National Assembly, through its liaison office should propose more budgetary allocations to expand, modernize and equip constituency offices with the aim of ensuring that the electorate are able to reach their Members of Parliament in a timely manner.

**MIN. NO. 064/2020:**

**PENDING COMMITTEE BUSINESS AND WAY-FORWARD**

### **Constituency and county visits**

The Committee proposed to undertake a site-visits to the Constituencies and Counties offices of the Members of the National Assembly during the Month of October with a view to understand the services as well as assess the facilities offered to the Members of the National Assembly at these offices. The Committee will also seek to come up with recommendations on improving the services and facilities therein.





The meeting resolved to split the Committee Members into two teams. Each team was required to undertake three visits each as indicated –

- i. In the first round of visits, team A to visit Embu (Mbeere North), Meru (Imenti South) and Tharaka Nithi (Women Rep Office) Counties while team B to visit Laikipia (Laikipia West), Isiolo (Isiolo North) and Nyeri (Kieni) Counties.
- ii. In the second round of visits team A was proposed to visit Uasin Gishu (Kesses) and Nandi (Moiben & Mosop) Counties while team B was proposed to visit Makueni and Machakos Counties.
- iii. In the third and the final round of visits for the fourth session, the Committee proposed that the entire Committee visit the Coastal Constituencies of Kilifi and Kwale.

The proposed members of team A was as follows-

1. Hon. Mishra Swarup, MP Vice-Chair Leader of delegation
2. Hon. Charity Kathambi, MP
3. Hon. Walter Owino, MP
4. Hon. Beatrice Nkatha, MP
5. Hon. Bernard Okoth, MP
6. Hon. Samwel Moroto Chumel, M.P.
7. Hon. Rehema Hassan, M.P.
8. Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah, M.P.

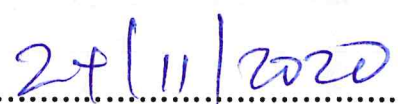
The proposed members of team B was as follows-

1. Hon. Ezekiel Machogu, MP Chairperson, Leader of the delegation
2. Hon. Rigathi Gachagua, MP
3. Hon. Aseka Christopher, MP
4. Hon. Elsie Muhanda, MP
5. Hon. Generali Nixon Korir, MP
6. Hon. Thaddeus Nzambia, MP
7. Hon. Elisha Odhiambo, MP

**MIN. NO. 065/2020:**      **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no Other Business, the Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 4.10p.m.

SIGNED.....  
(CHAIRPERSON)

DATE.....





## APPENDIX II

### DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION

Date/Time		MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES
Day	Time	Activity / Venue
<b>MONDAY</b> 14/10/2019	06:05	Arrival & Acclimatization. Ankara (Esenboga) Airport Transfers to Swiss Hotel
<b>TUESDAY</b> 15/10/2019	12:30 P.M.	Depart Hotel
	01:00 P.M.	Delegates to arrive at the Reception, Parliament Buildings
	01.30 PM	Welcome and Briefing
	02.00 PM	Meeting with the Deputy Secretary General of the Turkish Grand National Assembly.
	04.00 P.M	High Tea Hosted by the President of the Africa-Turkey Inter-Parliamentary Friendship Group.
	05.30 PM	Tour of Parliament Buildings and the Facilities & Services for the Members of Parliament
	06.30 P.M.	Depart back to the Hotel
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> 16/08/2019	10:30 A.M.	Pick-up from the Hotel  Briefing by High Commission Chancery
	01.00PM	Luncheon
	2.15 PM	Witnessing the Proceedings of the Rajya Sabha
	06.30 PM	Dinner hosted by High Commissioner:
<b>THURSDAY</b> 17/10/2019		Visit to Parliament Mausoleum where the founder of Turkey was buried Ataturk.
<b>FRIDAY</b> 18/10/2019		<b>Free day</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b> 19/10/2019	10:30A.M.	Departures from Ankara (Esenboga) Airport
<b>SUNDAY</b> 20/10/2019		Arrival in Nairobi with an overlay in Dubai.






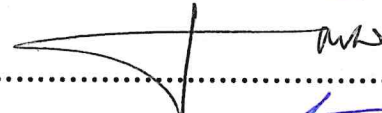





### APPENDIX III

#### ADOPTION LIST OF THE OF THE SEVENTH REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON A LEADERSHIP SEMINAR HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA FROM AUGUST 26 – 30, 2019.

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020, the Honorable Members of the Select Committee on Members' Services and Facilities do hereby affix their signatures to this Report on a study visit to the Grand National Assembly of Turkey from October 14 to 20 to affirm their adoption for consideration by the House-

1. The Hon. Ezekiel Machogu Ombaki, M.P. **Chairperson**.....
2. The Hon. (Dr. Swarup Mishra, MP -**Vice Chairperson** .....
3. The Hon. Kimani Ichungw'ah, CBS, MP .....
4. The Hon. Beatrice Nkatha Nyaga, HSC, MP.....
5. The Hon. Samwel Moroto Chumel, MP.....
6. The Hon. Walter Owino, MP.....
7. The Hon. Rigathi Gachagua, MP .....
8. The Hon. (Eng.) Nzambia Thuddeus Kithua, MP .....
9. The Hon. Charity Kathambi Chepkwony, MP.....
10. The Hon. Christopher Wangaya Aseka, MP.....
11. The Hon. Elisha Odhiambo, MP .....
12. The Hon. Elsie Muhanda, MP .....
13. The Hon. Generalli Nixon Korir, MP.....
14. The Hon. Rehema Hassan, MP .....
15. The Hon. Bernard Okoth, MP.....

ADDITIONAL LIST OF THE SEVEN REPORT OF THE SELECT  
COMMITTEE ON MEMBERS' SERVICES AND FACILITIES ON A LEADERSHIP  
SEMINAR HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA FROM AUGUST 28-30, 1971

On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September, 2020, the Honorable Members of the Select Committee on  
Members' Services and Facilities do hereby offer their signatures to this Report on a study visit to  
the Grand National Assembly of Turkey from October 14 to 19 to obtain first-hand  
information of the House.

1. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
2. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
3. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
4. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
5. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
6. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
7. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
8. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
9. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
10. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
11. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
12. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
13. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
14. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]
15. The Hon. (Mr.) [Name] [Signature]