



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT - (FIFTH SESSION)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MESSAGES

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

_____ (No. 04 of 2021) _____

ON THE NOMINATION OF A PERSON FOR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Honourable Members,

Standing Order 42(1) relating to Messages from the President provides that *"the Speaker shall read to the House any message from the President delivered to the Speaker for communication to the House."*

In this regard therefore, I wish to inform the House that I have, today, 28th April 2021 received a Message from the His Excellency the President conveying the nomination of the **Hon. Lady Justice Martha Karambu Koome** for appointment as the **Chief Justice of the Republic of Kenya and President of the Supreme Court**. The Message also includes the Certificate of Presidential Nomination, the Judge's Curriculum Vitae, testimonial and recommendation of the Judicial Service Commission on the recruitment and selection process for the Chief Justice. This was submitted in line with the provisions of Article 166 (1) of the Constitution which provide, and I quote:

"The President shall appoint the Chief Justice and the Deputy Chief Justice, in accordance with the recommendation of the Judicial Service Commission, and subject to the approval of the National Assembly."

The President therefore seeks the approval of the National Assembly on the said nomination.

Honourable Members,

Section 5 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, 2011, provides that an appointing authority shall, upon nominating a person for an appointment to which this Act applies, notify the relevant House of Parliament accordingly. Consequently, a proper notification in line with the above provision has been received.

Honourable Members,

Section 8 of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, 2011 further provides that the relevant Committee should table its Report for debate and decision within twenty eight (28) days from when the notification of nomination is given.

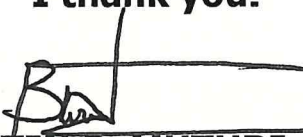
Honourable Members,

Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 42(3)(c), I now refer the Message, including the *curriculum vitae* of the nominee, to the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs to undertake the necessary approval hearings. I wish to guide the Committee and the House as follows:-

- (i) The Committee should notify the nominee and the general public of the time and place for holding the approval hearings expeditiously. The notification should therefore be made immediately; and,
- (ii) The Committee should thereafter commence the necessary approval hearings and table its Report on or before **Tuesday, 25th May, 2021** for debate and decision by the House.

Although the Committee and the House have twenty-eight days to consider and make a decision on the nomination, in view of the compelling public interest and the unique place of the office of the Chief Justice within our constitutional and legal order, the Committee is requested to consider the nomination on a priority basis.

I thank you!



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

Wednesday, April 28, 2021