

Approved for tabling

Bat
SWA
7/7/2021

REPUBLIC OF KENYA




THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – FIFTH SESSION- 2021

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY BROADCASTING AND LIBRARY

REPORT ON THE ADVANCES MADE BY PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE
COMMISSION (PSC) IN THE SETTING UP OF THE VIRTUAL MEETINGS
PLATFORM FOR COMMITTEES AND PLENARY

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 08 JUL 2021	
DAY: THURSDAY	
TABLED BY:	CLIC - CHAIRPERSON PARLIAMENTARY BROADCASTING LIBRARY - HON. JERUSHA MONGINA, MP
CLERK-AT THE TABLE:	Mairiah Wayuku

CLERK'S CHAMBERS
DIRECTORATE OF AUDIT, APPROPRIATION AND OTHER SELECT
COMMITTEES
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS
NAIROBI

JULY, 2021

Table of Contents

ANNEXURES	2
CHAIRPERSON’S FOREWORD.....	3
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	4
1.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE	5
1.1 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP	6
1.3 COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT	8
2.0 INTRODUCTION	9
4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS	11
5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS	11
5.0 COMITTEERECOMMENDATIONS.....	11

ANNEXURES

Annexure I
Annexure II

Committee Adoption Minutes
Adoption list

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

The Select Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library is established pursuant to the National Assembly Standing Order 212D and is mandated to, inter alia, "*advise the House on matters related to broadcasting of the House proceedings*".


During the Committee sittings held on 30th April, 1st and 2nd May, 2021 Members deliberated on the advances made by Parliamentary Service Commission in the setting up of virtual meetings platform including coverage by broadcast journalists in such sittings. Thereafter, on the 17th of June 2021 adopted this Report.

Last year, the Clerk of National Assembly appointed a taskforce to explore all options that may be available to the National Assembly on the possible ICT solutions that may be suitable for use by the National Assembly to conduct both its chamber sittings as well as its committees' business while adhering to measures laid down by the Ministry of Health to help curb the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. The Taskforce was also geared towards ensuring proper coordinated efforts towards finding a lasting ICT solution. The Taskforce submitted its first and second report to the Clerk on 17th April, 2020 and 15th May, 2020 respectively.

On 18th May, 2020, the Clerk wrote to the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs. In the letter, the Clerk formally requested for the Ministry's facilitation of an appropriate ICT platform to support virtual sitting of the National Assembly. The Departmental Committee of Communication, Information and Innovation had recommended in its report to the House Business Committee on April that a formal request be placed to the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs to facilitate the provision of an appropriate ICT platform to support virtual sitting of the National Assembly.

The Committee therefore wishes to thank the Offices of the Speaker and Clerk of the National Assembly for the support accorded to Members and staff to ensure success of this exercise.

On behalf of the Committee and on my own behalf, it is my pleasant duty to table this Report on the floor of the House pursuant to Standing Order 199 (6) and recommend its adoption.



HON. JUSTUS MUGALI KIZITO,

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Report covers deliberations of the Select Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library on presentations on the advances made by Parliamentary Service Commission in the setting up of virtual meetings platform including coverage by broadcast journalists in such sittings.

Its contents include the Committee's mandate and composition, and presentation made by Department of Information, Communication and Technology of the Parliamentary Service Commission.

The Committee recommends that National Assembly formally procures an appropriate, customized Information Communication Technology (ICT) solution to facilitate House virtual sittings as per the technical specifications drawn, and to allocate an appropriate budget for the implementation of the ICT solution to facilitate House virtual sittings during the Financial Year 2021/2022.

It also recommends that, the National Assembly facilitates training of Members and staff on virtual meetings procedures.

The report further recommends that Members be facilitated with laptops to enable them to participate with ease during virtual sittings and also up scaling of capacity of the Parliamentary Broadcasting Unit, and the improvement of Committee rooms to allow easy media access and live coverage of Committee virtual meetings is also recommended as a priority. The Committee also urges the Parliamentary Service to consider developing regulations for virtual media coverage by the media.

1.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

The Select Committee on Parliamentary Broadcasting and Library is established under the National Assembly Standing Order 212D. The Committee is mandated to:

- i. Consider and report on all matters relating to broadcasting of the proceedings of the House;
- ii. Advise the House on matters related to public participation;
- iii. Make reports and recommendations to the House, including proposed legislation on matters relating to broadcasting of House proceedings;
- iv. Recommend to and advise the House on matters related to the provision of library, publication and research services in Parliament, including improvement of the library and research services; and
- v. Assist Members in utilizing the facilities provided by the library and research services, including use of information and communication technology.

1.1 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The Committee membership comprises: -

NO.	MEMBER'S NAME	POSITION	CONSTITUENCY	POLITICAL PARTY
1.	Hon. Justus Mugali Kizito, MP	Chairperson	Shinyalu	Orange Democratic Party
2.	Hon. Jerusha Momanyi, MP	Vice-Chairperson	Nyamira County	Orange Democratic Party
3.	Hon. Daniel Epuyo Nanok, MP	Member	Turkana West	Jubilee Party
4.	Hon. James Mwangi Gakuya, MP	Member	Embakasi North	Jubilee Party
5.	Hon. Faith Gitau, MP	Member	Nyandarua County	Jubilee Party
6.	Hon. Dr. Irene Kasalu Muthoni, MP	Member	Kitui County	Wiper Democratic Party-Kenya
7.	Hon. Dr. Ochieng, Pamela Awuor, MP	Member	Migori County	Orange Democratic Party
8.	Hon. Dr. Lilian Gogo, Achieng, MP	Member	Rangwe	Orange Democratic Party
9.	Hon. Anab Gure Mohamed, MP	Member	Garissa County	Jubilee Party
10.	Hon. Eric Njiru, Muchangi, MP	Member	Ruyenjes	Jubilee Party
11.	Hon. Gertrude Mbeyu Mwanyanje, MP	Member	Kilifi County	Orange Democratic Party
12.	Hon. Nimrod Mbai, MP	Member	Kitui East	Jubilee Party
13.	Hon. Ahmed Kolosh, MP	Member	Wajir West	Jubilee Party
14.	Hon. Kipkosgei, Tonui Joseph, MP	Member	Kuresoi South	Jubilee Party
15.	Hon. Lekumontare, Lentoijoni Jackson, MP	Member	Samburu East	Kenya African National Union
16.	Hon. Benjamin Njomo Washiali, MP	Member	Mumias East	Jubilee Party
17.	Hon. Mwangi, Jonah Mburu, MP	Member	Lari	Jubilee Party
18.	Hon. Mugambi Rindikiri, MP	Member	Buuri	Jubilee Party

21.	Hon. Richard Ken Chonga, MP	Member	Kilifi South	Orange Democratic Party
22.	Hon. Said Buya Hiribae, MP	Member	Galole	FORD-K
23.	Hon. Charles Kamuren, MP	Member	Baringo South	Jubilee Party

1.3 COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat facilitating the Committee comprises -

- 1) Mr. Johnston Kioko – Clerk Assistant I/ Lead Clerk
- 2) Mr. Hassan Abdullahi Arale – Clerk Assistant II
- 3) Ms. Doreen Karani – Legal Counsel I
- 4) Mr. James Macharia – Media Relations Officer II
- 5) Mr. Wilson Angatangoria - Serjeant at arms

2.0 INTRODUCTION

1. Following the introduction of protocols by the Ministry of Health on Covid-19 upon the declaration of the disease as a pandemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) in March 2020, the National Assembly instituted a number of measures in order to avoid the spread of the virus key among them- suspending physical meetings of its Committees except with the permission of the Speaker; reducing the numbers participating in plenary/ Chamber; and, encouraging virtual meetings.
2. Consequently, much as there was a lot happening in Committee meetings and other Parliamentary activities, very little information was disseminated to the public sphere leading to a misconception that Parliament had closed down.
3. It is against this backdrop that the Clerk of the National Assembly appointed a Taskforce to explore all options that may be available to the National Assembly on the possible ICT solutions that may be suitable for use by the National Assembly to conduct both its chamber sittings as well as its committees' business while adhering to measures laid down by the Ministry of Health to help curb the spread of COVID-19 pandemic. The Taskforce was also tasked with ensuring proper coordinated efforts towards finding a lasting ICT solution.
4. The Taskforce submitted its first and second report to the Clerk on 17th April, 2020 and 15th May, 2020 respectively.
5. On 18th May, 2020, the Clerk wrote to the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs. In the letter, the Clerk formally requested for the Ministry's facilitation of an appropriate ICT platform to support virtual sitting of the National Assembly. The Departmental Committee of Communication, Information and Innovation had recommended in its report to the House Business Committee on April that a formal request be placed to the Ministry of ICT, Innovation and Youth Affairs to facilitate the provision of an appropriate ICT platform to support virtual sitting of the National Assembly.
6. The Ministry had responded through a letter Ref. No. MICT/GEN/9/4 dated 2nd June 2020 and advised on the following: -
 - (i) The Ministry's letter indicated that there was no readily available ICT platform to facilitate virtual sittings of the House and specifically one that has the ability to record attendance of Members of Parliament, one with secure voting system; and one with ability to integrate with existing system of Parliament such as Bulk SMS, eParlKenya, Parliament's website, and the Hansard system; and,
 - (ii) The proposed use of Cisco Webex, Zoom and/or Microsoft Teams by the National Assembly as an interim measure would not meet the requirements of the critical features that an appropriate ICT solution should have to enable conduct of House virtual sittings.

3.0 COMMITTEE DELIBERATIONS AND FINDINGS

7. During the Committee Report-Wring Retreat at Windsor Country Club from 29th March to 3rd April 2021, the Head of ICT in Parliament, Mr. Harrison Owino appeared before the Committee and made a presentation on the advances made by Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) in the setting up of the virtual meetings platform for committees and plenary.
8. In his presentation Mr. Owino informed the Committee that-
 - a) The National Assembly had advertised for the provision of virtual sittings of both Chamber and Committee Sitting for a proposed system to support both plenary and Committee sittings that should be: -
 - Simple to use (User friendly)
 - Easy to administer
 - Able to create various groups
 - Ability to host over 500 users
 - Scalable
 - Secure, transparent, verifiable and accurate
 - Attendance registers and Online Voting
 - The system to be hosted in the cloud and internally
 - b) The technical specifications were drawn from other Countries that have developed virtual sittings such as Brazil, Spain, UK and Australian Parliament.
 - c) The Parliamentary Service Commission had procured and deployed tie level internet connection of 200 MBPS to support virtual meeting in Parliament and approved the subscription to online tools like zoom for Committee Clerks and ICT staff in order to host virtual sittings of Committees
 - d) The House Procedure and Rules Committee constituted a sub-Committee to come up with standardized process for conducting virtual and hybrid sittings of both Committee and Chamber sitting. The Committee recommended standard procedures on how to conduct virtual sittings.
 - e) The National Assembly had provided laptops to Committee Clerks to host virtual sittings of the Committees.
 - f) In the process of purchasing tablets for Members of Parliament to facilitate virtual meetings, technical evaluation concluded and professional opinion was done.
 - g) A Contract implementation Committee was in place to oversee implementation of the virtual Solution for Parliament. The solution will be able to provide video feed to PBU and streamline sessions /sittings to official social media channels.

4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

9. Following deliberations, the Committee observed, that: -
- (1) A period of six months is proposed for completion of the task of upgrading the ICT infrastructure to the required standard;
 - (2) There was need for Members of Parliament to be trained on the new system and the virtual meeting etiquette;
 - (3) Committees' meeting rooms fail to meet the standard of effectively supporting virtual meetings and, as such, require to be better equipped;
 - (4) There was lack of a regulatory framework including, among others, legislation, rules or procedures to guide the conduct of virtual media coverage; and,
 - (5) Members preferred laptops over Ipads for the conduct and participation in virtual meetings.

5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

10. The Committee recommends that the National Assembly:
1. The National Assembly should consider shortening the duration of completing the task of upgrading the ICT infrastructure, from the current six months to three months.
 2. The National Assembly should ensure training of Members and staff in the conduct of virtual meetings before commissioning of the virtual platform.
 3. The Parliamentary Service Commission should prioritize upgrade of Committee meeting rooms to allow easy media access and live coverage of Committee virtual meetings.
 4. The Parliamentary Service Commission should develop regulations for virtual media coverage by the media in the new normal.
 5. The National Assembly should consider facilitating Members of the National Assembly with laptops for the conduct of virtual meetings.

SIGNED.....

**HON. JUSTUS KIZITO MUNGALI, MP
CHAIRPERSON**

SELECT COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY BROADCASTING AND LIBRARY

DATE.....17/6/2021

REPORT ADOPTION MINUTES

**MINUTES OF THE 9TH SITTING OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON
PARLIAMENTARY BROADCASTING AND LIBRARY HELD ON THURSDAY JUNE,
17TH 2021 AT 11:00 AM IN PARLIAMENT BUILDING ROOM 7.**

PRESENT

1. Hon. Jerusha Mongina Momanyi, MP- **Vice-Chairperson**
2. Hon. Benjamin Washiali, MP
3. Hon. Dr. Pamela Awour Ochieng, MP
4. Hon. (Dr) Irene Muthoni Kasalu, MP
5. Hon. Faith Gitau Wairimu, MP - **Virtual**
6. Hon. Gertrude Mwanyanje Mbeyu, MP
7. Hon. Anab Mohamed Gure, MP
8. Hon. Richard Ken Chonga, M.P
9. Hon. Joseph Kipkosgei Tonui, MP
10. Hon. Charles Kamuren, MP
11. Hon. Jonah Mburu Mwangi, MP- **Virtual**
12. Hon. Eng. Paul Nzengu Musyimi, MP- **Virtual**
13. Hon. Eric Muchangi Njiru, MP

ABSENT WITH APOLOGY

1. Hon. Justus Kizito Mugali, MP- **Chairman**
2. Hon. Aisha Jumwa Katana, MP
3. Hon. Daniel Nanok Epuyo, MP
4. Hon. James Mwangi Gakuya, MP
5. Hon. Ahmed Kolosh, MP
6. Hon. Mugambi Rindikiri, MP
7. Hon. (Dr.) Lilian Gogo Achieng MP
8. Hon. Jackson Lekumontare LentoiJoni, MP
9. Hon. Hiribae Said Buya, MP
10. Hon. Nimrod Mbai, MP

IN-ATTENDANCE

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

- | | | |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|
| 1. Mr. Johnston Kioko | - | Clerk Assistant I |
| 2. Mr. Hassan A. Arale | - | Clerk Assistant II |
| 3. Mr. Albert Atunga | - | Serjeant at Arms |

MIN.NO. NA/DCS/PB&L/2021/025: PRELIMINARIES

The meeting was called to order at eleven O'clock and prayers were said.

MIN.NO. NA/DCS/PB&L/2021/026: CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE ADVANCES MADE BY PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) IN THE SETTING UP OF THE VIRTUAL MEETINGS PLATFORM FOR COMMITTEES AND PLENARY

After deliberation, members adopted the report on: -The the advances made by parliamentary service commission (PSC) in the setting up of the virtual meetings platform for Committees and plenary as the true copy of the deliberation after it was proposed and seconded by Hon. Joseph Kipkosgei Tonui, M.P and Hon. Gertrude Mwanyanje Mbeyu, M.P respectively.

MIN.NO. NA/DCS/PB&L/2021/027: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Committee deliberate on the following and concluded as follows: - that,

1. Now that covid-19 restrictions on local travels have been lifted there is need to start the planned KBC installations visit Country wide starting with Coastal region earliest possible.
2. More capacity building training for the remaining Committee members needs to be undertaken in the next financial year.

MIN.NO. NA/DCS/PB&L/2021/028: ADJOURNMENT AND DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING

- i. There being no other business for deliberation, the meeting was adjourned at twenty minutes past noon.
- ii. The next meeting will be on notice.

Sign.....  Date..... 30/6/2021

Hon. Justus Kizito Mugali, MP (Chairperson)

ADOPTION LIST

KENYA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

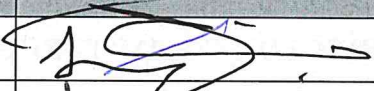




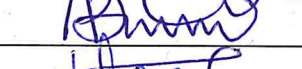
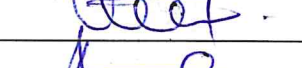







COMMITTEE ON PARLIAMENTARY BROADCASTING AND LIBRARY

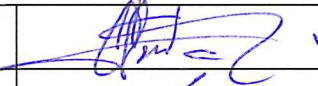
ADOPTION LIST

AGENDA: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT ON THE ADVANCES MADE BY PARLIAMENTARY SERVICE COMMISSION (PSC) IN THE SETTING UP OF THE VIRTUAL MEETINGS PLATFORM FOR COMMITTEES AND PLENARY

DATE: 17/6/2021 TIME: START 11:00 TIME END 12:20

VENUE: Room 7

	NAME	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Justus Kizito Mugali, MP, Chairperson	
2.	Hon. Jerusha Mongina Momanyi, MP-Vice Chairperson	
3.	Hon. Daniel Nanok Epuyo, MP	
4.	Hon. James Gakuya, Mwangi, MP	
5.	Hon. Dr. Lilian Gogo Achieng, MP	
6.	Hon. Dr. Pamela Ochieng, Awuor, MP	
7.	Hon. Dr. Irene Kasalu, Muthoni, MP	
8.	Hon. Anab Gure, Mohamed, MP	
9.	Hon. Eric Njiru Muchangi, MP	
10.	Hon. Gertrude Mwanyanje, Mbeu MP	
11.	Hon. Hiribae Said Buya, MP	
12.	Hon. Jackson.Lekumontare, LentoiJoni, MP	
13.	Hon. Joseph Kipkosgei, Tonui,MP	
14.	Hon. Jonah Mburu Mwangi MP	Verbally
15.	Hon. Paul Nzengu, Musyimi, MP	Verbally
16.	Hon. Richard Kiti, Ken Chonga, MP	

17.	Hon. Charles Kamuren, MP	
18.	Hon. Benjamin Washiali, MP	/
19.	Hon. Ahmed Kolosh, MP	/
20.	Hon. Mugambi Rindikiri, MP	/
21.	Hon. Aisha Jumwa Katana, MP	/
22.	Hon. Faith Gitau Wairimu, MP	virtually
23.	Hon. Nimrod Mbai, MP	/

COMMITTEE CLERK NAME Hassan A. Arale

SIGN: 

DIRECTOR COMMITTEE SERVICES _____

SIGN: _____