

REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT - FIFTH SESSION THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

(No. 48 of 2021)

ON SITTING ARRANGEMENTS DURING THE STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS BY H.E. THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KENYA

Honourable Members,

You will recall that on Tuesday, 23rd November 2021, I conveyed a Message from His Excellency the President regarding the 2021 State of the Nation Address to Parliament pursuant to Article 132(1). The Address is scheduled to take place on **Tuesday**, 30thNovember, 2021 at 2.30 pm in the National Assembly Chamber.

Honourable Members, you will agree with me that these are difficult times due to the ongoing global pandemic necessitating reconsideration of some of our processes. In this regard, I wish to guide the House as follows –

1. Akin to the situation during the State of the Nation Address last year, Members of Parliament will not be allowed to invite guests to this year's event.

This is in keeping with the Ministry of Health's advisory on the capacity of our Chamber and other holding areas within the precincts. Additionally, members of the public will also not be invited to the event.

- 2. The Speakers of the Houses of Parliament have agreed on a sharing formula for the 120 seats available in the National Assembly Chamber. Ninety Four (94) of the seats will be reserved for use by Members of the National Assembly while the rest will be reserved for use by the Senate.
- **3.** With respect to seats reserved for the National Assembly, a number of them will be reserved for the Leadership of the House while the balance of the seats available will be occupied on first-come basis. The Clerk will notify Members on the number of seats under this category by close of business tomorrow, Friday, 26th November, 2021.
- **4.** Members of Parliament who may have interacted with persons exposed to COVID-19 are advised to refrain from attending the function.
- 5. Having consulted with the relevant State departments, only a limited number of Members will be allowed to receive H.E. the President. Specifically, only the Speakers of the Houses of Parliament, the Deputy Speakers, and the Leaders of the Majority and Minority Parties of both Houses will form the receiving delegation.

6. To facilitate the arrangements ahead of the event, all vehicles parked at the Parliament Courtyard should be removed not later than **Friday**, **26**th **November**, **2021** at midday.

Honourable Members, as we look forward to the Special Sitting, may I reiterate my clarion call to all Members to be extra vigilant and adhere to the existing directives and protocols regarding the control and prevention of COVID-19. The House is accordingly guided.

I thank you!

THE HON. MOSES CHEBOI, CBS, MP

DEPUTY SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, November 25, 2021