

## REPUBLIC OF KENYA TWELFTH PARLIAMENT – (SIXTH SESSION) THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY RESUMES FOR THE SIXTH AND FINAL SESSION OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> PARLIAMENT

The National Assembly is scheduled to resume its Regular Sittings on Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 at 2.30 pm. This will mark the start of the Sixth and final Session of the 12<sup>th</sup> Parliament that commenced in August 2017. Notably and notwithstanding the provision of Standing Order 27 which provides that the regular Sessions of the House shall commence on the second Tuesday of February, the Sixth Session will commence 2 weeks prior, following the adoption of the Calendar of the House for 2022. This earlier commencement is necessitated by, *inter alia*, the need to conclude various priority business noting that this being an election year, the business of the House may be interrupted by election-related activities including the party primaries and the official campaign period in which Members of Parliament play a critical role.

At commencement of the Sitting on the first day of the Session, the House will be called upon to approve the membership to the House Business Committee (HBC) which is charged with the mandate of determining the business of the House for each Sitting day. Other Sessional Committees set to be reconstituted include the Select Committee on Members' Service and Facilities and the Parliamentary Powers and Privileges Committee.

After the approval of the HBC, the House will proceed to consider various Sessional resolutions on the limitation of debate and speaking time during debates in the House. Pursuant to Standing Order 171(4)(a), the HBC will prepare the Calendar of the House for the Sixth Session (2022) for consideration by the House. The calendar will include proposed sitting and recess days for the Session and the proposed timing of the *Sine die Recess* given the August 09, 2022 General Elections.

## **Priority Business for the Session**

The key priority business on resumption will include all **budget-related legislative business** including the consideration of the Budget Policy Statement (BPS), the annual Division of Revenue Bill, the annual County Allocation of Revenue Bill, the National Budget Estimates, as well as the 2022 Finance Bill. The House is also set to consider the allocation and appropriation of *Conditional Grants* for the 2022/2023 financial year. Additionally, it is expected that Parliament will conclude the bicameral consideration of *The County Governments Grants Bill*, 2021 currently ongoing mediation process.

During the Session, the House will also consider key elections-related legislative business. Instructively, the House is awaiting the decision of the Senate on the Political Parties (Amendment) Bill, 2021, which was passed by the National Assembly during Special Sittings of 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 and referred to the Senate. The House will also consider the Election (Amendment) Bill, 2022 which was received on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2022 for publication. After its passage, the Bill will be forwarded to the Senate, being a Bill concerning County Governments in terms of Article 109 of the Constitution. In addition, the House will also consider any regulations related to the elections as may be submitted for approval by the Independent Electoral & Boundaries Commission (IEBC), the Registrar of Political Parties or any other entity required to do so by law.

Other priority **business with timelines** scheduled for consideration during this Session include the nomination of persons to the Equalization Fund Board, and the approval of appointment of persons to the Salaries and Remuneration Commission representing the National Police Service currently being considered by the Departmental Committee on Finance & National Planning, and the approval of appointment of persons to Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) before the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs.

Other legislations set to be considered during this Session include The Huduma Bill, 2021, The Children Bill, 2021, The Public Procurement and Asset Disposal (Amendment) Bill, 2021, The Coffee Bill, 2021, The National Disaster Risk Management Bill, 2021, The National Electronic Single Window System Bill, 2021, The Petroleum Products (Taxes and Levies) (Amendment) Bill, 2021 and a number of Senate Bills in the National Assembly. The House will also review its Standing Orders before the end of the Session, for use by the next Parliament as is the practice.

During the Fifth Session, the National Assembly considered and passed various Bills that have since either been assented to, or are pending before the Senate. The following National Assembly Bills were passed during the Firth Session –

- 1. The Employment (Amendment) Bill, 2019,
- 2. The Refugees Bill, 2019,
- 3. The Narcotics, Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2020,
- 4. The Business Laws (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2020,
- 5. The Division of Revenue Bill, 2021,
- 6. The Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2021,
- 7. The Finance Bill, 2021,
- 8. The Appropriation Bill, 2021,
- 9. The Supplementary Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2021,
- 10. The Law of Succession (Amendment) Bill, 2019,
- 11. The Foreign Service Bill, 2021,
- 12. The Tax Appeals Tribunal (Amendment) Bill, 2021,

- 13. The Waqf Bill, 2019,
- 14. The National Hospital Insurance Fund (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 15. The Proceeds of Crime and Anti-Money Laundering (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 16. The Central Bank of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 17. The Public Private Partnerships Bill, 2021,
- 18. The Kenya Roads (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 19. The Trustees (Perpetual Succession) (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 20. The Asian Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Repeal) Bill, 2021,
- 21. The Provident Fund (Repeal) Bill, 2021,
- 22. The Perpetuities and Accumulations (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 23. The Kenya Industrial Research and Development Institute Bill, 2020, and
- 24. The Kenya Deposit Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

On the other hand, the following National Assembly Bills were concluded and forwarded to the Senate as part of the bicameral legislative process in Parliament –

- 1. The Crops (Amendment) Bill, 2019,
- 2. The Land (Amendment) Bill, 2019,
- 3. The Health (Amendment) Bill, 2019,
- 4. The Public Collections Bill, 2019 (previously named the Public Fundraising Appeals Bill, 2019),
- 5. The Kenya National Library Service Bill, 2020,
- 6. The Parliamentary Pensions (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill, 2019,
- 7. The Kenya National Blood Transfusion Service Bill, 2020,
- 8. The Irrigation (Amendment) Bill, 2021,
- 9. The Assisted Reproductive Technology Bill, 2019,
- 10. The Sugar Bill, 2019,
- 11. The Landlord and Tenant Bill, 2021,
- 12. The Community Groups Registration Bill, 2021, and
- 13. The Political Parties (Amendment) Bill, 2021.

It is expected that the Senate will consider and conclude the National Assembly Bills now pending in the Senate to allow for their operationalization.

## MICHAEL SIALAI, CBS CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Monday, January 24, 2022