



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT - (SIXTH SESSION)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR

_____ (No. 03 of 2022) _____

**WITHDRAWAL OF THE MEDIATION BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BILL NO. 17 OF 2020)**

Honourable Members,

As you may recall, the Mediation Bill (National Assembly Bill No. 17 of 2020) was published *vide* Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 92 of 15th June, 2020. The Bill seeks to among other things, provide for the settlement of all civil disputes by mediation, set out the principles applicable to mediation, provide for the establishment of the Mediation Committee, provide for the accreditation or registration of mediators and recognition and enforcement of settlement agreements.

Honourable Members, the Bill was read a First time on 30th June, 2020 and committed to the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs for consideration. The Committee is yet to *table* its Report on the Bill to facilitate Second Reading of the Bill.

Honourable Members, I wish to inform the House that I have received a letter from the sponsor of the Bill, who is the Leader of the Majority Party, the Hon. (Dr.) Amos Kimunya, EGH, MP, requesting to **withdraw** the Bill so as to enable further consultations and also to incorporate additional input by the National Dispute Resolution Steering Committee. The Committee was constituted in January, 2020 to look into the current status of the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) system in Kenya, with a view to proposing appropriate changes in law and the attendant procedures. The Leader of the Majority Party further conveys that the Executive through the said Committee has since prepared a comprehensive policy, namely, the National Alternative Dispute Resolution Policy, 2021, which is likely to substantially alter the content of the Bill as well as other related legislation.

Honourable Members, Standing Order 140(1) provides as follows-

(1) Either before the commencement of business or on the Order of the Day for any stage of the Bill being read, the Member in charge of a Bill may, without notice, claim to withdraw a Bill.

In this regard, and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 140(2), I direct that the Bill be withdrawn. Nevertheless, the Sponsor is at liberty to re-introduce the Bill in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order 114.

I thank you!


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

Tuesday, 1st February, 2022