



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THE SENATE

PROGRAMME OF SENATE BUSINESS

WEEK COMMENCING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022

*** 13TH PARLIAMENT * 1ST SESSION**

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REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THE SENATE

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - FIRST SESSION

PROGRAMME OF SENATE BUSINESS FOR THE WEEK
COMMENCING TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022

TUESDAY Communication from the Chair, Messages, Petitions,
15/11/2022 Papers, Notices of Motion, Statements, Motions and Bills

A. MOTION - EFFECTS OF UPSTREAM ACTIVITIES ON THE RIVER
TANA TO THE RESIDENTS OF TANA DELTA
(Sen. Danson Mungatana, MP)

THAT, AWARE THAT water is a fundamental resource to life, livelihood, food security and sustainable development and an economic good, which is critical for the sustainable development of the country;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the River Tana plays an important role in the lives of the communities living along its banks including Garissa and Tana River Counties whose main economic activities are livestock keeping, farming and fishing;

RECOGNIZING THAT Article 43 (1) (d) of the Constitution of Kenya, provides that every Kenyan has the right to clean and safe water in adequate quantities;

NOTING THAT the residents of Tana River County have perennially suffered from acute effects of flooding and inadequate supply of water to its residents and their livestock;

COGNIZANT THAT the challenge of flooding has predominantly been caused by KenGen's release of huge amounts of water from the seven forks dams which combine with rain water from the highlands;

FURTHER COGNIZANT THAT the hoarding of water at the seven forks dams and other significant upstream activities such as irrigation and small scale dams limits the amount of water that flows downstream through River Tana significantly affecting agricultural activities in irrigation schemes such as Bura, Galole and other small scale irrigation schemes in the Tana Delta as a result of inadequate water supply to the canals that channel the water to the irrigation schemes;

CONCERNED THAT limited water supply to the hinterland and irrigation schemes cause severe hunger to the residents of Tana River, death of livestock and conflicts between farmers and herders, and that floods cause deaths, displacements and other challenges like waterborne diseases such as cholera downstream at Tana Delta;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate urges the Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation in conjunction with the Water Resources Authority (WRA) to;

- i) conduct stakeholder participation before undertaking any major upstream activity including construction of dams, before the release of water during rainy season and limiting flow of water to River Tana during the dry season;
- ii) develop a policy in line with the Nile Treaty of 1959 to guarantee average annual flow of the River Tana; and
- iii) come up with mitigation measures to the perennial floods and water scarcity to the residents of Tana Delta.

B. Any Other Business

WEDNESDAY

16/11/2022

Communication from the Chair, Messages, Petitions, Papers, Notices of Motion, Statements, Motions, Bills and any other Business not concluded on Tuesday, 15th November, 2022.

A. MOTION – STATE OF FOOD SECURITY IN KENYA

(Sen. Mwenda Gataya Mo Fire, MP)

THAT, AWARE THAT Article 43 of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, stipulates the rights of every person to be free from hunger, to have adequate food of acceptable quality, and to clean and safe water in adequate quantities;

FURTHER AWARE THAT there is a prevailing food shortage in Kenya which is as a result of among other factors, lack of and inadequate rainfall over the last two years, the consistent decline in the number of farmers and lands committed to farming, and the Russia-Ukraine war that has led to an increased cost of fertilizer and fuel products which are critical farm inputs, subjecting 4.1 million Kenyans in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) to an acute food insecure situation and about 942,500 children under five years and 134,270 pregnant and lactating mothers to acute malnutrition according to the Kenya Food Security Steering Group (KFSSG) report;

NOTING THAT about 1.5 million deaths of livestock have so far been reported in the Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASALs) and that the situation is expected to be dire in light of expert projections that we may miss the normal cycle of rain expected in October, November, and December, 2022 and that this could be the worst drought we have experienced in 40 years;

CONCERNED THAT the country is recording incidences of conflict between crop farmers and pastoralists over the scarce resource of water and pasture which results in the destruction of crops and deaths of livestock further exacerbating the food crisis and that the challenge of food shortage is now spreading to areas previously presumed to be rain-rich such as Mt. Kenya whose residents are now relying on government emergency food supplies;

NOW THEREFORE the Senate urges the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development to develop targeted policy programs aimed at addressing the food insecurity in the country including the following:-

1. Coordinate with county governments to establish strategic grain reserves across the country, with drought-stricken areas receiving priority;
2. Develop livestock feeding programs in ASAL regions, providing water and feeds to the livestock farmers;
3. Coordinate with the National Drought Management Authority to do quarterly reports to the Senate on the drought situation in the country;
4. Subsidize agricultural production;
5. Establish abattoirs in ASAL Counties; and further recommends that the National Treasury and Economic Planning increases funding to the National drought disaster fund.

B. Any Other Business

THURSDAY
17/11/2022

Communication from the Chair, Messages, Petitions, Papers, Notices of Motion, Statements, Motions, Bills and any other Business not concluded on Wednesday, 16th November, 2022.

A. Any Other Business

TUESDAY
22/11/2022

Communication from the Chair, Messages, Petitions, Papers, Notices of Motion, Statements, Motions, Bills and any other Business not concluded on Thursday, 17th November, 2022.

A. Any Other Business

KEY

****** - Denotes a Majority /Minority Party Bill**

***** - Denotes a National Assembly Bill**

**** - Denotes a Committee Bill**

*** - Denotes any other Bill**