



BUNGE Review

**Legislators Engage
with Stakeholders on
GM Foods**

**National Assembly to
Establish Links with
the Office of the Prime
Cabinet Secretary**

**House Clerk
announces move
to strengthen
Legislators' Offices**

**Optimism In
The Air As
Debate On The
Two-Thirds
Gender
Principle
Resumes In
The House**



FOREWORD



Dear Reader,

Welcome to our 14th issue of the Bunge Review. This is the third issue in the 13th Parliament.

During the long recess, the National Assembly in conjunction with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) held a four-day Post Election Seminar (PES) for legislators. The seminar, officially opened by the President, H.E. Dr. William Ruto, provided a platform for insightful deliberations. Just before the seminar, Members serving in the Audit, Appropriations and Other Select Committees and Departmental Committees were inducted on committees' operations including the budget cycle and the sectoral laws touching on their mandates. This issue contains colourful pictorial of both events.

In this issue, we have featured a story on the debate of the House on the Presidential Memorandum to Parliament proposing three key constitutional amendments, the highlight being the proposal for enactment of a law on the two-thirds gender principle.

The 2023/2024 Budget Policy Statement was tabled in the National Assembly upon resumption of the House for the Second Session and subsequently committed to Departmental Committees, and the Budget and Appropriations Committee. This issue has carried a story on it.

Genetically Modified foods has been a trending issue in Kenya in the recent past. You will be interested

to read about the engagements the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock has held on the matter.

The National Assembly Speaker, Rt. Hon. Moses Wetang'ula, recently met the leadership of the African Organization for Public Accounts Committees (AFROPAC) who had paid him a courtesy call in his office. In this issue, we carry snippets of their conversation.

We have also carried stories on the visit by top K.C.P.E students from Murang'a County to the Assembly, the Public Service Internship Bill, 2022 sponsored by Hon. Naisula Lesuuda, and the release by the Public Accounts of a schedule for meetings for examination of audited accounts of Ministries, Departments and Commissions for the Financial Year 2020/2021.

You will also be interested in reading about the strengthening of relations between the Executive and the Legislature through the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary.

This issue also contains stories on the reforms that I have committed to implement in strengthening Members' constituency offices. In our Did You Know? and Jukwaa la Kiswahili columns, you will get to learn about the history of our Parliament and important Kiswahili terminologies.

Sit back and enjoy.

S. NJOROGI
CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

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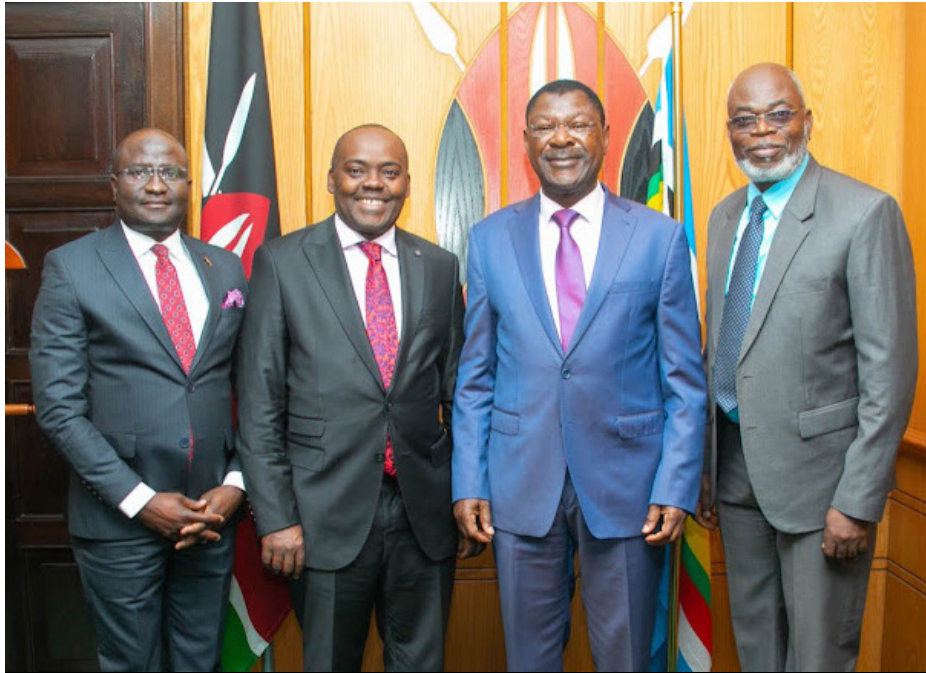
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Speaker Wetang'ula Hosts AFROPAC Leadership, Lauds Body for Input on House Committees' Effective Oversight



Speaker of the National Assembly Rt. Hon. Moses Wetang'ula (SECOND RIGHT) with officials from the African Organization of Public Accounts Committees (AFROPAC) on January 26, 2023.

National Assembly Speaker Rt. Hon. Moses Wetang'ula has commended the African Organization for Public Accounts Committees (AFROPAC) for their capacity building role for watchdog Committees across the continent.

Speaker Wetang'ula noted that AFROPAC had provided a professional platform for like-minded professionals to share knowledge and experience and strengthen individual Committee capacities so as to effectively discharge their mandate.

"AFROPAC has been instrumental in ensuring that Committees work together to serve as a continental voice to advocate the cause of public sector accountability, transparency and improved service delivery by governments and government bodies among other issues in their respective countries in

the region," said the Speaker.

Hon. Wetang'ula made the remarks when he hosted a delegation from AFROPAC Executive Committee who paid him a courtesy call in his office. The delegation was led by AFROPAC chairman Hon. Medard Sseggon Lubega who is also the chairman of PAC Parliament of Uganda who was accompanied by his vice Hon. James Klutse Avedzi, Secretary General Hon. Mark Botomani, and Projects Coordinator AFROPAC Secretariat Ms. Stephanie Moute Mutisya.

AFROPAC whose Secretariat is based at the Parliament of Kenya is an association of national Parliamentary Accounts Committees responsible for examining the audited accounts of governments and State Bodies in Africa.

Optimism in the Air as Debate on the Two-Thirds Gender Principle Resumes in the House



Members of Kenya Women Parliamentary Association pose for a photo at the Parliament Building grounds during a recent event

Debate on the two-thirds Gender principle has been reintroduced with the expectation that the 13th Parliament will finally unlock the impasse. Upon resumption for the Second Session on Tuesday 14th February, the House initiated debate on a Presidential Memorandum to Parliament proposing three key constitutional amendments. President (Dr) William Ruto in a memo dated December 9, 2022, urged Parliament to consider the amendments including a proposal on the law on two-third gender principle to pave way for the implementation of the two-thirds gender rule.

The low representation of various demographics such as women, youth, people with disability and marginalized communities in the political and governance structures across the world has necessitated the introduction of quotas to remedy this underrepresentation.

Kenya being signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Beijing Declaration and

Platform for Action, the African Union Protocol to the African Charter on Human Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) among others, has been at crossroads in her bid to navigate a formula that will help her attain equitable gender representation in Parliament.

To safeguard these international obligations, Kenya entrenched the principle of gender equity in Article 81(b) in the Constitution which provides that "Not more than two thirds of the Members of elective or appointive bodies shall be of the same gender". Towards this end, the National Assembly in the 11th and 12th Parliaments made remarkable attempts to enact this legislation to no avail. It is now the turn of the National Assembly in the 13th Parliament.

The other proposals in the memorandum are on amending Chapter 9 of the Constitution to create an office of the Official Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, and entrenching the National Government Constituency Development Fund, the

Senate Oversight, and the National Government Affirmative Action Funds in the Constitution.

However, it is the debate on the two-third gender principle that has taken centre stage. While supporting the debate on the memorandum, Deputy Speaker, Hon. Gladys Boss emphasized the need for a speedy enactment of a law to address the underrepresentation. Recounting the journey of the women's movement towards affirmative action, Hon. Boss noted that the time for the enactment of the all-important law is now when there's political goodwill.

"The UN Convention on Human Rights to which Kenya is a signatory says that Human Rights are achievable immediately and not progressively. It is only social and economic rights that are achievable progressively. The 13th Parliament will stand dissolved should we not implement the two-thirds gender rule. We now have the political will from the highest office in the land to ensure that Kenya finally is able to implement this rule," she told the House.

Other lawmakers who supported her from both sides of the House, noted that the enactment of the law would not just address the current underrepresentation of women in the House, but would also safeguard the rights of male lawmakers in the future should they face the same predicament. Currently, the National Assembly has 81 women lawmakers, 5 more than her predecessor 12th Parliament which had 76.

A number of lawmakers took a swipe at those who have been making snide remarks on the proposed top-up of more women lawmakers to meet the constitutional threshold. Mombasa County Woman Representative, Hon. Zamzam Mohamed asked the House to look at the matter objectively, noting that the recent attempt is aimed at ensuring that the 13th Parliament is in line with the Constitution.

"I wish that the National Assembly of the 13th Parliament makes history as the House that implemented the provisions of the Constitution on this matter. I wish to dismiss the thoughts that if we enact a law to ensure the principle is met, we will have paved a way for 'flower-girls' into this House. We have come here to ensure that the rights of our people are upheld", she told the House.

In 2020, the then Chief Justice David Maraga, presented an advisory to the then President Uhuru Kenyatta, calling for the dissolution of Parliament. This followed Parliament's failure to implement the two-third gender parity law in line with the provisions of the article 27 (8) of the Constitution.

In an earlier advisory issued by the Supreme Court, Parliament was required to provide for mechanisms to implement the two-third gender principle by 27th August, 2015. Unable to attain this requirement, the National Assembly extended the deadline by one year in line with its constitutional discretion to do so, but could only do it once.

The Maputo Protocol

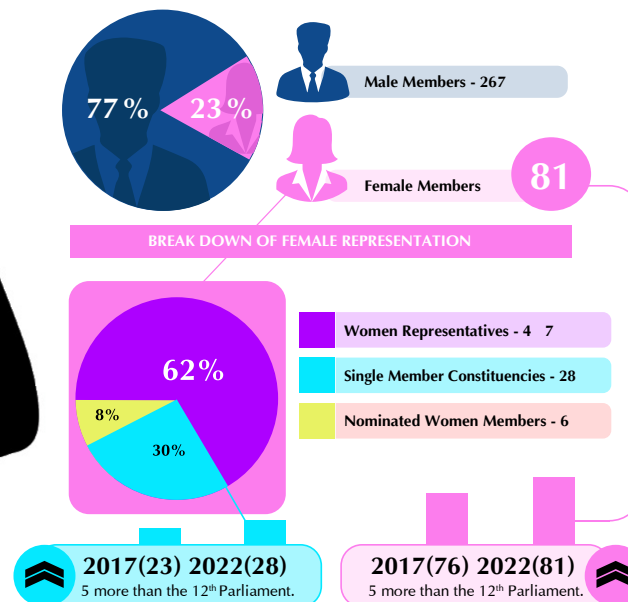
The Protocol to the African Charter on Human and People's Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol) remains one of the most progressive legal instruments providing a comprehensive set of human rights for African women.

Unlike any other women's human rights instrument, it details wide-ranging and substantive human rights for women covering the entire spectrum of civil and political, economic, social and cultural as well as environmental rights.

It would not be incorrect to name it the African Bill of Rights of Women's Human Rights.

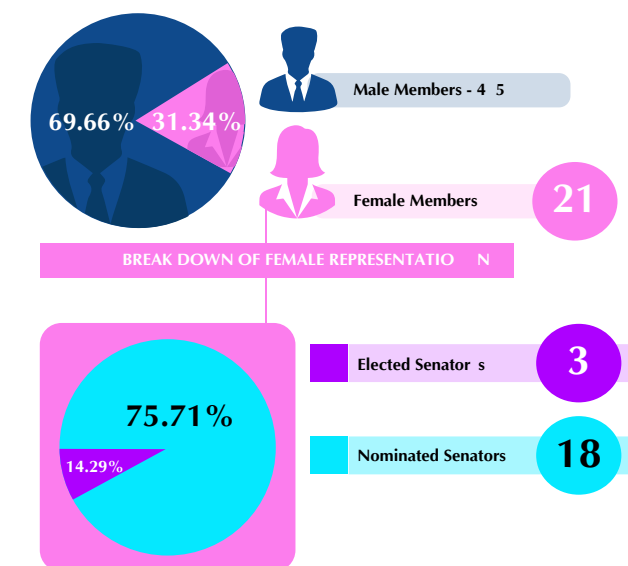
WOMEN IN THE 13TH PARLIAMENT IN NUMBERS

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY



i
This figure was initially 82, however Kandara MP The Hon Alice Wahome resigned to take up the role of Cabinet Secretary for Water, Sanitation and Irrigation following her successful appointment to the role

THE SENATE



National Assembly to establish links with the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary

As the House settles to a busy Second Session, the Legislature is set to navigate ways of developing working relations with the Office of the Prime Cabinet Secretary. This comes in the wake of the President's recent move geared towards improving the relations between the Executive and Parliament as well as enhancing parliamentary oversight of the Executive for increased accountability.

Hon. Musalia Mudavadi - Prime Cabinet Secretary

Towards this end, the President anchored a role in the coordination of the legislative agenda within the Office of The Prime Cabinet Secretary through Executive Order No.1 of 2023.

The President reiterated this call during the opening session of the Post-Election Seminar for the Members of the National Assembly last month in Mombasa, where he was the Key Note Speaker. He noted that Parliament and the Executive have a key role in implementing the development of the Republic and thus have no choice but to work together.

Premised on the fact that some Parliamentary resolutions need interventions by the Executive and that some Bills have an impact on priority National Government agenda, this development underscores President Ruto's commitment to enhance his government's relations with Parliament.

Addressing the legislators during the Seminar where he had been invited as a facilitator, the Prime Cabinet Secretary, H.E. Musalia Mudavadi took time to proffer the roles of his Office which is the first of its kind in the Kenyan governance spectrum. He explicated that his role involves assisting the President and the Deputy President in the co-ordination and supervision of Government Ministries and State Departments; liaising with the Ministry of Interior and National Administration and overseeing the implementation of National Government policies, programmes and projects. He noted that pursuant to Executive Order Number 1, he will also be expected to coordinate the National Government's legislative agenda across all ministries and state departments in consultation with National Assembly leadership.

While echoing the sentiments of the President on his commitment to enhance the relationship with Parliament, the Prime Cabinet Secretary assured Members of the National Assembly that his Office has committed to improve the relations between the Executive and Parliament as well as enhance parliamentary oversight on the Executive for increased accountability.

However, lawmakers present during the session raised concerns over the slow implementation of House resolutions by Ministries, Departments and Agencies. In particular, they questioned the growing number of Ministries that develop and implement policies disregarding input from the National Assembly whose primary role is representation and law making.

The Prime Cabinet Secretary assured them that his office would enhance coordination with the Ministries and State Departments on Parliament's resolutions and any other matter requiring action of the Executive, facilitate sufficient research and preparation of Cabinet and Principal engagements with National Assembly.

"During the 12th Parliament, 247 resolutions were sent for action to different Ministries, Departments and Agencies out of which 135 have not been actioned, 34 are ongoing and only 78 have been completed marking a low implementation rate. My Office has a fully-fledged directorate head by a Principal Secretary on Parliamentary Affairs that will enhance with a well abled Principal Secretary. My office will incorporate a Resolutions Tracker into to ensure that visibility is maintained until completed. Further, when needed, The Office of Prime CS will, in liaison with Interior and National Administration, follow up on and fast track the implementation of identified priority House Resolutions," assured Hon. Mudavadi.

He proposed the establishment of close links between the National Assembly and the Parliamentary Liaison Office to be coordinated by Ms. Aurelia Rono, the Principal Secretary for the State Department for Parliamentary Affairs.

At the same time, Hon. Musalia Mudavadi called on the Members of the National Assembly to consider the principles of growth, equity and sustainability when making legislation.

House Clerk Announces Move to Strengthen Legislators' Offices to achieve Constitutional Mandate



The National Assembly Clerk Mr. Samuel Njoroge has announced a raft of reforms geared towards strengthening the MPs constituency offices. This is in a bid to ensure that the 337 constituency and county offices respond to the needs of the electorate, while helping Members execute their constitutional mandates.

Mr. Njoroge made the commitment during the opening session of the Post-Election Seminar for the Members of the National Assembly held at the Pride Inn Convention Center in Mombasa County last month.

Further, he noted that the reforms are meant to be in tandem with the young legislature-with a

median age of 45- and which requires quick service, solutions to problems and prefers innovate ideas.

He announced that for the first time, constituency and county office employees shall receive their salaries at the end of each month together as is the case with their colleagues on permanent and pensionable terms. This is a much welcome reprieve for the officers whose remuneration is normally settled quarterly since the establishment of the offices in 2005.

"We are indeed pleased to inform you that under the leadership of the Speaker, for the first time, the constituency and county staff of 337 Members shall receive their salaries at the end of January, 2023, alongside the permanent staff of Parliament", he undertook.

The Clerk also highlighted plans to equip the offices with adequate resources to enable the offices facilitate Public Participation. The law requires that public participation be conducted on every legislative proposal before it is passed by the House. Without a Public Participation law guiding the mechanism for citizenry engagement in law making, pundit argue that constituency and county offices would be ideals conduits for this exercise.

At the same time, the Clerk apprised the legislators that the National Assembly management had paid 99% of all car grant reimbursements/grant applications as at 9th December, 2023.

He further reiterated his commitment to streamline the processes relating to mortgage and other facilities for Members by ensuring that the application process is seem-less.

Additionally, the management of the National Assembly has made a pledge to expedite the ongoing renovations which include enhancing access to Parliament Buildings for people with physical disabilities.

This undertaking comes in the wake of on-going preparations for Members to finally occupy the 26-floor Bunge Towers. The building which has been under construction for the last 6-years comprises of MPs' offices and Committee rooms.

Members of Parliament are facilitated with a constituency office with a complement of staff including Personal Assistants, researchers, drivers and office assistants to support the MPs in executing their roles.



"We are indeed pleased to inform you that under the leadership of the Speaker, for the first time, the constituency and county staff of 337 Members shall receive their salaries at the end of January, 2023, alongside the permanent staff of Parliament"

The Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC) operates 290 Constituency Offices for Members of the National Assembly elected in single Constituencies, 47 for County Women Representatives and another 47 County Liaison Offices for Senators. Offices for Specially elected Members (popularly known as Nominated Members) are domiciled with the precincts of Parliament.

The PSC adopted the Constituency Offices model in 2005 to facilitate legislators to serve their people from within the Constituency. The Offices operate under the Constituency Office Management Regulations.

Legislators Engage Stakeholders on GM Foods



The Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock has scaled up engagements with stakeholders in the Agricultural sector to garner information on Genetically Modified foods and their regulatory regime.

This follows a decision by the government to lift a ten-year ban on the importation of Genetically Modified (GM) foods on 3rd October 2022, amid the worst drought the country has experienced in forty (40) years and soaring food prices.

Some scientists have welcomed the decision noting that it will encourage biotechnology research and development and boost food security in the country. However, there are institutions and persons opposed to it mainly due to fear that GMOs are contrary to religious beliefs, health concerns that GM foods can cause diseases like cancer and environmental concerns.

Hon.(Dr.) John Mutunga led Members of Parliament on a fact finding mission to seek information on GM foods from various stakeholders that included, NGOs like Oxfam GB, ActionAid, Pelum Kenya; the Law Society of Kenya; Farmer Organisations like Kenya Institute of Organic Farming (KIOF), Association of Kenya Feed Manufacturers (AKEFEMA); Universities like Kenyatta, Nairobi, Egerton, University of Eldoret and JKUAT;

International Organisations including NEPAD, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) and Government agencies including KEBS, KEPHIS, National Biosafety Authority, NEMA.

The opponents of GMOs expressed concerns like cross-pollination of non-GM crops; insufficient laws to effectively regulate GMOs in the country; lack of public participation before lifting the ban on GMOs; loosing market for Kenyan horticulture in countries that have a ban on GM foods; GM seeds cannot be re-planted and this will make seeds expensive and will also make Kenya a slave to international companies that produce and sell GM seeds; will interfere with the nutritional composition of foods; may have risks to health and the environment amongst other reasons.

The proponents on the other hand stated that most of the fears raised on GM foods and crops are unfounded as they have not been scientifically proven. They averred that GM foods have been in existence for twenty-five (25) years and so far, there has been no known health condition attributed to them. GM crops reduce the use of insecticides and pesticides hence preserve the environment contrary to fears that they harm the environment. The scientists informed the Committee that they had done a lot of research on GM and they have the capacity to produce the seeds locally and that

importation of GM seeds should not be allowed as it will lock them out of the market. Further, the Government needs to increase funding for research in order to encourage innovation in the country.

All stakeholders agreed that Kenya's population is growing and technology is one of the ways that can be used to improve food production in the country. However, research on food needs to be funded by the Government and not international organisations because this is equal to leaving Kenyans' lives in the hands of foreigners.

The Committee observed that it is important for public awareness to be carried out on GMOs because there has been a lot of misinformation. Additionally, GMO foods alone cannot address the food security issues in the country, they need to be accompanied by good farming practices including, extension services to farmers, embracing irrigation fed agriculture as opposed to the current scenario where farmers rely on rain for agriculture, crop diversification i.e. encouraging farmers to plant other crops like sweet potatoes, cassava, sorghum, millet e.t.c. in addition to maize, commercialisation of agriculture in order to encourage young people to venture into agriculture among other ways.

The Committee will hold more meetings with stakeholders on the matter including health practitioners and table a report in the National Assembly.



The Chairman Hon.(Dr.) John Mutunga of the Departmental Committee and Agriculture and Livestock addresses members and stakeholders during the meeting

Consideration of 2023 Budget Policy Statement Tops House Agenda



Consideration of the 2023 Budget Policy Statement (BPS) will be among priority business in the National Assembly during the Second Session, which kicked off on 14th February 2023.

The 2023 Budget Policy Statement was tabled in the National Assembly upon resumption of the House for the Second Session and subsequently committed to Departmental Committees, and the Budget and Appropriations Committee. The BPS has a fourteen (14) day window for consideration from Tuesday, 14th February 2023 in line with Section 25 of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act of 2012.

BPS is a critical Government policy document that lists the broad strategic priorities and goals to guide the National and county governments in preparation of their budgets for the subsequent financial year.

The 2023 BPS is anchored on the broad strategy of “economic recovery agenda to promote inclusive growth” and will be critical in setting out the new administration’s priority programs, policies and reforms that will be implemented in the Medium Term.

“The BPS is framed against a backdrop of global economic slowdown underpinned by the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, elevated global inflation, and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic and climate change related supply chain disruptions,” noted Prof. Njuguna Ndung’u, (CS National Treasury and Economic Planning).

In the 2023 BPS, the National Treasury projects revenue of Ksh. 2,897.7 billion including Appropriation-in-Aid, representing 17.8 percent of

the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) up from the 2022 projection of Ksh. 2, 512.7 Billion.

The Government expenditure as a share of the GDP for 2023 Financial Year is projected to decline by 22.4 percent, putting the overall nominal expenditure and net lending at Ksh. 3,641 billion against the 2022/23 FY projection of Ksh. 3,390 billion.

The National Treasury estimates the fiscal deficit (including Grants) at Ksh. 695.2 billion (4.3 percent of GDP) in FY 2023 against the estimated overall fiscal balance of Ksh. 849.2 billion (5.8 percent of GDP) in FY 2022.

The Budget and Appropriations Committee is expected to consolidate and consider all amendments to the BPS proposed by departmental committees in consultation with the National Treasury and prepare a report that will be tabled in the House for debate and approval.

At the Senate, the BPS has been committed to the House Budget and Finance Committee to review allocations to counties. The Committee will then

table a report on the BPS in the House for debate and approval. The National Assembly and Senate timelines run concurrently.

A harmonized report detailing recommendations from both Houses will then be transmitted to the National Treasury. The Cabinet Secretary, the National Treasury and Economic Planning shall take into account resolutions passed by Parliament in preparing the Budget Estimates for the FY 2023 and the medium term

*The National Treasury
estimates the fiscal deficit at*

Ksh. 695.2 billion
(4.3 percent of GDP)

*in 2023/24 against the
estimated overall fiscal
balance of*

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(5.8 percent of GDP)

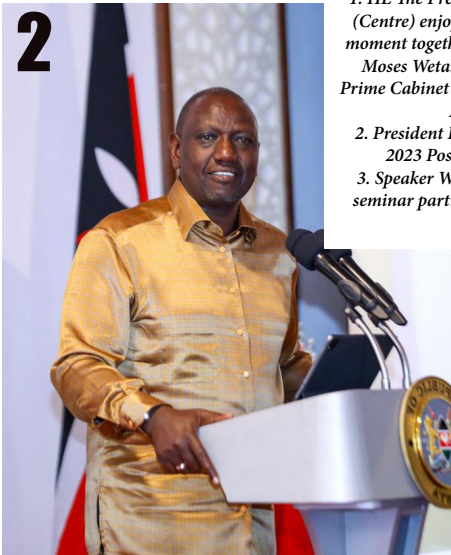
in 2022/23





Pictorial

The Post Election Seminar 2023 at Pride Inn Convention Centre, Mombasa County



1. HE The President Dr. William Ruto (Centre) enjoys a light at the seminar moment together with Speaker Rt. Hon Moses Wetang'ula (LEFT) and The Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Musalia Mudavadi.
2. President Ruto officially opens the 2023 Post-Election Seminar.
3. Speaker Wetang'ula addresses the seminar participants at the opening ceremony.



4. Deputy Speaker Gladys Boss addresses members.
5. Prime Cabinet Secretary Hon. Musalia Mudavadi.
6. The Leader of Majority Hon. Kimani Ichung'wah follows proceedings.
7. Majority Whip Hon. Silvanus Osoro addresses participants.
8. National Police Service Dr. Resalia Onyango addresses the seminar.
9. Resource Person Phyllis Makau, Former Director of Parliamentary Budget Office makes her presentation at the seminar
10. Hon. Udgoon Siyad, Garrissa County Women Rep follows proceedings.
11. The Clerk Mr. Samuel Njoroge (Right) and his Deputy Mrs Serah Kioko (Left) follow proceedings at the seminar.
12. Members follow proceedings





Secretary General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Hon. Stephen Twigg addresses participants during the opening ceremony of the Post-Election Seminar



The Hon. Sylvia Elizabeth Lucas, Deputy Chairperson, National Council of Provinces (NCOP) South Africa addresses delegates during the Post-Election Seminar



Natalie Foster, Clerk Assistant, House of Commons, Canada shares the Canadian Parliamentary experience with delegates during the Post-Election Seminar



The Hon. Kevin Andrews, Former Parliamentarian, Australia House of Representatives shares his legislative experience with participants during the Post-Election seminar



Hon. Farah Maalim (Daadab MP) and Hon. Donya Dorice give their reactions during a session at the Post-Election Seminar

National Assembly Committees Induction held at Pride Inn Resort and Convention Centre



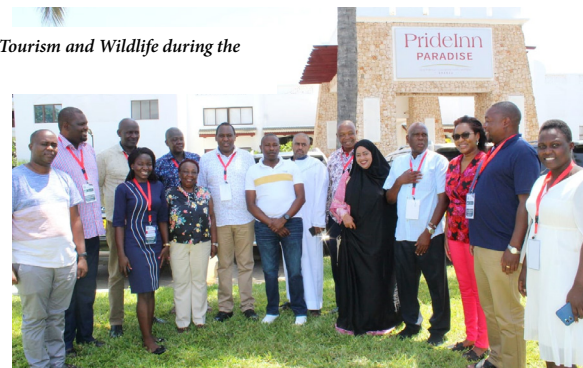
Members of the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs during the Induction of House Committees



Members of the Departmental Committee on Tourism and Wildlife during the Induction of House Committees



Members of the Departmental Committee on Regional Development during Induction in Mombasa County



Members of the Committee on Diaspora Affairs and Migrant Workers during the Induction of House Committees



Members of the Committee on Trade, Industry and Cooperatives during the Induction of House Committees



Newly Elected Members take Oath of Office



ABOVE: Hon. Farah Salah and Hon. Abdi Ali escorting Hon. Baru Mohammed to take his Oath of Office
BELOW: Hon. Baru Mohammed takes his Oath of Office



Hon. Njuguna Chege takes (ABOVE) and signs (BELOW) his Oath of Office witnessed by Hon. Mary Wamau and Hon. Peter Kihungi



PAC Releases Schedule for meetings to Examine Audit Accounts of Ministries and State Departments



File Photo- Members of the Public Accounts Committee

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has released a schedule for meetings for examination of audited accounts of Ministries, Departments and Commissions for the Financial Year 2020/2021.

Speaking during the adoption of the schedule, the Chairperson, Hon. John Mbadi pointed out that the Committee's agenda was to ensure that public funds are spent prudently.

"Members of the Committee are aware of the enormous job that awaits us. I have a competent team that will strictly scrutinize books of accounts of Government institutions to ensure that we do not lose public funds. We will do our work without fear or biasness," said the Chair.

According to the schedule, National Treasury will be the first to appear before the Committee. This will

be followed by the Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC), then the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs.

The Ministry of East African Community (EAC), the ASALs and Regional Development will be answering audit queries on February 14th, Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritimes Affairs will appear on the Committee on February 16th while Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development on February 20th and 21st.

PAC is established pursuant to the provisions of S.O No. 205. The watchdog Committee is responsible for the examination of the accounts showing the appropriations of the sum voted by Parliament to meet the public expenditure and of such other accounts laid before the House as the Committee may think fit.

Others will appear before the Committee as per the following chart (Please Turn Over)

 Water February 23rd	 Information and Communication February 27th
 Ministry of Tourism February 28th and March 2nd	 Ministry of Agriculture March 6th
	 Ministry of Mining March 7th
 Ministry of Trade March 9 th & March 13 th	 Office of the Director of Public Prosecution March 9 th
	 Ministry of Energy March 16 th
 Public Service Commission March 23 rd	 Judiciary March 28 th
	 The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission March 30 th
 National Commission on Human Rights March 30 th	 National Assembly March 24 th
	 Parliamentary Service Commission March 24 th
 Parliamentary Joint Services March 24 th	 Commission on Revenue Allocation April 4th
	 National Police Service (Among others) April 4th

Good News for Interns as Bill to safeguard Their Welfare is introduced in the House

THE BILL IN A SNAPSHOT

Bill's Title: The Public Service Internship Bill, 2022 (National Assembly Bill No. 63 of 2022)

Publication Date: 16th December 2022

First Reading: 14th February 2022

Interns are set to enjoy better conditions if a Bill introduced to the House to safeguard their welfare sails through.

The Public Service Internship Bill, 2022 (National Assembly Bill No. 63 of 2022) sponsored by Hon. Naisula Lesuuda, (Member for Samburu West Constituency) seeks to ensure the provision of a monthly stipend, insurance and other entitlements to persons engaged in internships within the public service for the duration of the internship programme. The Bill seeks to establish a framework for the regulation of internship programmes within the public service. If passed, this law will offer a great reprieve to interns who have been receiving merger or no stipend in public service institutions.

“The provision of stipend to interns is necessary as the interns contribute to the manpower of the organization by offering their professional skills as apprentices,” Hon. Naisula observes.

If the Bill becomes law, a public service institution will be required to advertise internship opportunities on its website and in at least two newspapers of nationwide circulation.

In order to address the challenge of unpaid internship, the Bill provides that an intern engaged in the public service shall be eligible for payment of a monthly stipend to be prescribed by the Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection. They shall also be entitled to a personal accident insurance cover, sick leave, maternity or paternity leave and subsistence allowance to be determined by the Cabinet Secretary.

The Bill is available on the Parliament of Kenya website (www.parliament.go.ke).

It is accessible on the following [link](#).

Top KCPE Students from Murang'a County Visit the National Assembly



The National Assembly hosted 513 primary school pupils from Murang'a County in January 2023. Led by Murang'a County Governor, Hon. Irungu Kang'ata, the group visited Parliament Buildings over a period of four days between 16th and 19th January 2023.

According to the Governor, the purpose of the parliamentary visit was to congratulate and motivate the top three 2022 KCPE candidates in every public primary school in the County.

The children were accompanied by their teachers and guardians who appreciated their children's performance, with many confessing that visiting Parliament was a trip only made possible by the children's exemplary performance.

Also present to encourage the children were Members of Parliament from Murang'a County who were happy to see their constituents come to visit them at their place of work.

In addition to being given a tour of the National Assembly Chamber, the group was given information about the structure and the history of the Parliament of Kenya as well as how it works.

They expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to see and feel first hand, the facility where their representatives conduct their duty from. The Governor, who has previously served as a Member of Parliament, expressed gratitude for the opportunity to bring his constituents to the place he once called 'home'.

He encouraged the learners, some who expressed desire to come back as elected Members, to work hard in school to represent their people in Parliament in future. He also commended the parliamentary staff team for serving the group with dedication for the four days.

The successful outreach exercise was carried out by National Assembly Public Communications Department in conjunction with Serjeants-at-Arms and the Senate County Liaisons Office.

DID YOU KNOW?

A BRIEF HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT

1906

Legislative Council (LegCo) was constituted through the issuance of the East African Order-in-Council in 1906.

The main purpose of setting up the LegCo was to safeguard the interests of the white settlers and formulate laws of local application.

1907

The LegCo held its first sitting on 16th August, 1907 at a building along the White House Road (today's Haile Selassie Avenue)



The LegCo had seven members all of whom were Europeans. The composition of the members included: Governor who was the Chairperson and six other members, four of whom were civil servants (ex-officio) and two were nominated (un-officio) by the Governor.



The LegCo was anchored on the Westminster Parliamentary Model. The structure of the legislative building, the decorum and etiquette, dress code of the Speaker and that of the Members, the procedure of the House replicated those of the House of Commons.

1944

In 1944, the first African, Mr. Eliud Mathu, was nominated by the Governor to represent the majority Africans.



1957



The first election of African representatives to the LegCo increased the number of Africans from six to eight elected Africans representing eight electoral areas. They included Hon. Bernard Mate, Central Province; Hon. Ronald Ngala, Coast Province; Hon. Tom Mboya, Nairobi; Hon. Oginga Odinga, Nyanza Central; Hon. Masinde Muliro, Nyanza North; Hon. Lawrence Oguda, Nyanza South; Hon. Daniel arap Moi, Rift Valley; and James Muimi, Southern/Ukambani.

1962

LegCo was succeeded by a Bicameral Legislature under the Lancaster Constitution of 1962 called The National Assembly- consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives. It comprised of 41 Senators representing 40 Administrative Districts and Nairobi, 117 House of Representatives Constituency members; 12 specially elected Members and the Attorney General as an ex officio member.

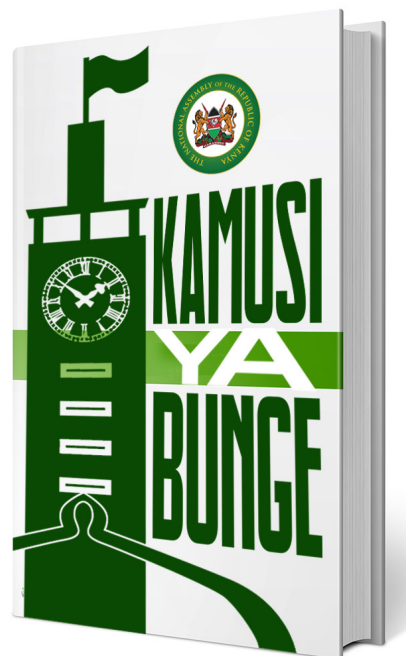
1963

The National Assembly held its first sitting on 11th June 1963.



JUKWAA LA KISWAHILI

Baadhi za Istilahi zinazotumika bungeni



1. Budget estimates

Makadirio ya bajeti

2. Equalisation Fund

Hazina ya Usawazishaji

3. Committee of supply

Kamati ya Ugavi wa Fedha

4. Budget Policy Statement

Taarifa ya Sera ya Bajeti

5. Financial year

Mwaka wa fedha

6. Appropriation Bill

Mswada wa Kuidhinisha
Matumizi ya Fedha

7. Estimates of Expenditure

Makadirio ya Matumizi

8. Vote on Account

Idhini ya kutoa Fedha

9. Supplementary budget

Bajeti ya ziada

10. Supplementary Appropriation Bill

Mswada wa Kuidhinisha
Matumizi ya Ziada ya Fedha



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT- (SECOND SESSION)

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
CALENDAR OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (2023)

IT IS NOTIFIED for general information that, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 28 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, by a resolution made on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, the National Assembly approved the Calendar of the Assembly (Regular Sessions) for 2023 as set out below –

Tuesday, 14th February to Thursday, 7th December, 2023	
PERIOD	PERIOD
A. Sitting Days Tuesday, 14th February – Thursday, 23rd March 2023	Tuesdays (afternoon), Wednesdays (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
B. Short Recess: Friday, 24th March – Monday, 3rd April 2023	
C. Sitting Days Tuesday, 4th April – Thursday, 4th May 2023	Tuesdays (afternoon), Wednesdays (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
D. Long Recess: Friday, 5th May – Monday, 5th June 2023	
SECOND PART	
E. Sitting Days Tuesday, 6th June – Thursday, 13th July 2023	Tuesdays (afternoon), Wednesdays (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
F. Short Recess: Friday, 14th July – Monday, 24th July 2023	
G. Sitting Days Tuesday, 25th July – Thursday, 24th August 2023	Tuesdays (afternoon), Wednesdays (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
H. Long Recess: Friday, 25th August – Monday, 18th September 2023	
THIRD PART	
I. Sitting Days Tuesday, 19th September – Thursday, 26th October 2023	Tuesdays (afternoon), Wednesdays (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
J. Short Recess: Friday, 27th October – Monday, 6th November, 2023	
K. Sitting Days Tuesday, 7th November – Thursday, 7th December 2023	Tuesdays (afternoon), Wednesdays (morning and afternoon) and Thursdays (afternoon)
L. Long Recess: Friday, 8th December 2023 – Monday, 12th February, 2024	
Annual Suspension of Committee Sittings from 18th December, 2023 – 28th January, 2024	

NOTE: In accordance with the Standing Orders: -

- (a) Morning Sittings commence at 9.30 am; and Afternoon Sittings commence at 2.30 pm.
- (b) The House may resolve to hold sittings on other days and times outside the published Calendar.

SAMUEL NJOROGE
CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
Wednesday, 15th February, 2023



Got Views?

Enjoying **Bunge Review**? Got questions regarding some of the articles? Have ideas on what you would like to see in the next issue? Got ideas on how we can improve?

We would like to hear from you. Give us your feedback on;
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