



The SENATE

For the Welfare of Society and the Just government of the People Weekly

Issue No. 003

Oduol survives Assembly ouster bid

House Plenary votes to set aside impeachment bid against Siaya DG following candid debate on special committee report



Speaker of the Senate, Rt Hon Amason Jeffah Kingi, presides over the Senate Plenary on Monday, June 26, 2023, during debate on a report by the Special Committee that investigated impeachment charges against Siaya Deputy Governor William Oduol. The House later voted against the Committee Report, allowing Mr Oduol to continue holding office.

Calls to safeguard Devolution by ensuring harmony in leadership of devolved units characterized a robust debate in the Senate, ahead of a crucial vote that saw the House save Siaya Deputy Governor William Oduol from impeachment.

On a day the Senate remained the focus of national attention, given the import of the awaited decision on counties' affairs, Members rose to the occasion and engaged in

candid and reflective debate on the impeachment matter.

Senators opposed to Mr Oduol's removal as well as those backing the committee report that wanted him sent home both alluded to the need to ensure stability in the leadership of the counties as their main concern.

Members backing his removal, while using the committee report as a justification, additionally contended

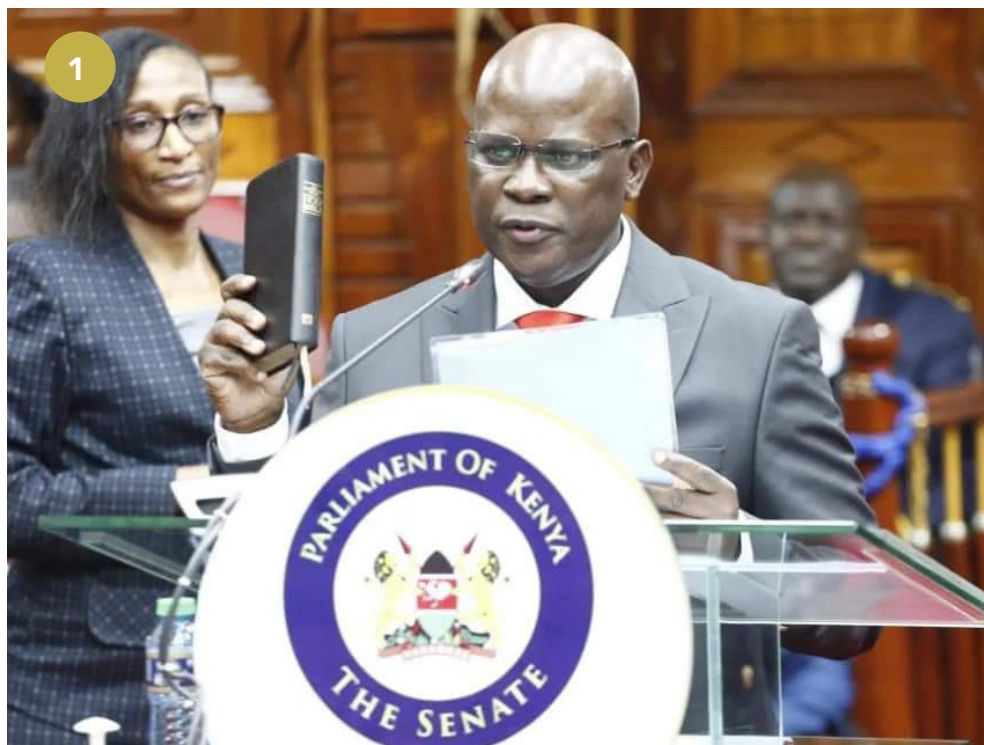
that having him back in office would not auger well for leadership in Siaya County Executive.

Chances were high that the Deputy Governor and his boss would constantly be at loggerheads, something that would derail sound leadership and service delivery and, ultimately, undermine the goals of devolution, they opined.

But their opponents were of the view

that the accusations brought against the Deputy Governor did not meet the set threshold and the committee ought to have been cautious in taking the impeachment path.

Further, they contended that retaining Mr Oduol would convey the right message to governors and their deputies to focus on their shared goals and visions that saw them forge a united front ahead of the elections and not allow personal differences to draw them apart.



Ultimately, the matter ended at the ballot, where the votes against Mr Oduol's removal carried the day.

27 Senators voted against both charges of gross violation of the Constitution and gross misconduct levelled against the Deputy Governor with 16 Senators voting to support the charges.

Announcing the verdict, the Speaker of the Senate Rt Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH said the result of the vote meant Mr Oduol remains in office and continues to serve as the Deputy Governor of Siaya County.

"The net effect of this vote is that pursuant to Article 181 of the Constitution, Section 33(8) of the County Government Act and Standing Orders 87 of the Senate Standing Orders, the Senate has failed to remove from office by impeachment, William Oduol, the Deputy Governor of Siaya County. The Deputy Governor accordingly, continues to hold office," ruled Speaker Kingi.

Earlier, the Senate Special Committee formed to investigate the proposal for impeachment had upheld the decision by the County Assembly of Siaya to remove the Deputy Governor from office.

In a report tabled to the House on Monday afternoon during the special sitting, the committee reported that several allegations levelled against the Deputy Governor were successfully substantiated.

On the gross violation of the Constitution and other laws, the committee found that the allegation was proved and therefore substantiated.

On the second charge where the Deputy Government was accused of abuse of office and gross misconduct, the committee found that the allegations of him bulldozing officers to renovate the office of the Deputy Governor outside approved budgetary provisions, misuse of public resources, bullying were not proved and therefore not substantiated.

In conclusion, the committee found that there were enough reasons to impeach the Deputy Governor.

"The Charge against the Deputy Governor on Gross Violation of the Constitution and other Laws, on the allegation of Interference with the Procurement Process through Acts of Bid-Rigging has been substantiated," submitted the Committee.



1. Siaya Deputy Governor William Oduol takes the oath ahead of his defence before the Special Committee of the Senate last week.
2. An advocate representing the Siaya County Assembly makes his submissions before the Senate Special Committee last week.
3. A session of the Special Committee that investigated impeachment charges against Siaya Deputy Governor William Oduol last week.

"The Charge against the Deputy Governor on Abuse of Office and Gross Misconduct on the allegation of Misleading the Public by Giving False Information has been substantiated," read the report by the committee.

After tabling of the report, Speaker Kingi gave the lawmakers 30 minutes to go through it before they commence debate on it.

Mr Oduol, who was in the House, was given the opportunity to give his final submission to the whole House before Senators proceeded to division.

The Deputy Governor through his legal team appealed to Senators not to approve the report by the Special

Committee arguing that there was no sufficient evidence to warrant his removal from office.

Members of the Special Committee were Sen. William Kisang of Elgeyo Marakwet County (Chairperson), Sen. Betty Batuli Montet (Vice Chairperson), Sen. Abass Mohamed of Wajir County, Sen. Mwenda Gataya Mo Fire of Tharaka Nithi County, Sen. Tabitha Mutinda, Sen. Raphael Chimera Mwinzagu, Sen. Miraj Abdullahi Abdulrahman, Nyamira County Senator Erick Okong'o Omogeni, SC, Sen. Catherine Mumma, Sen. Daniel Maanzo of Makueni County and Kisii County Senator Richard Onyonka.

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Speaker Kingi rallies scouts movement to take leading role in global climate action

Speaker of the Senate Rt Hon Amason Jeffah Kingi rallied the global scouts movement to deploy its formidable membership as agents of climate action, to spearhead mitigation measures and help build resilience in populations.

Speaker Kingi emphasised that response to challenges associated with the ever-ballooning effects of Climate Change could not be left to governments, leaders and a few others actors.

The youth, represented by the Scouts movement and other related associations and lobbies formed a critical mass of actors that if properly inducted and capacitated, would take climate response to a higher level, with tremendous gains, he said.

"Young and energetic, this might just be the army the world needs to spearhead its quest to replenish forest covers through reforestation programmes, drive clean-up campaigns and generally promote environmentally-friendly activities.

"Forests, as a natural carbon sink, are critical in the absorption of carbons from the atmosphere and reducing global warming. Their conservation and replenishing is, therefore, critical in countering Climate Change impacts," said the Speaker.

He spoke on Friday evening, as he officially closed the three-day World Scouts Parliamentary Union Africa Assembly (WAA2023) at Kagumo Teachers Training College in Nyeri County.

WAA2023 was the first such conference to be hosted in Africa by the World Scouts Parliamentary Union (WSPU) - a caucus for parliamentarians across the world committed to supporting scouting activities and youth development programmes through legislation and resource mobilisation.

Kenya features in the top leadership of WSPU, with Dagorreti South MP John Kiarie, who is the WSPU-Kenya President doubling up as the WSPU 1st Vice President.

Speaker accompanied by Hon Kiarie, Nyeri Governor Mutahi Kahiga, Devolution Principal Secretary Teresia Mbaika and Senator Tabitha Mutinda, Senator Karen Nyamu, who are both members of WSPU. The themes: "African Parliamentarians and Youth in



Senate Speaker Amason Jeffah Kingi unveils a statue of Lord Baden Powell, the founder of the Scouts Movement during the WSPU Assembly at Kagumo Teachers Training College on Friday, June 23, 2023. 2. Speaker Kingi addresses delegates, when he officially closed the Assembly on Friday June 23, 2023. 3. Speaker Kingi lights the symbolic bonfire.

Climate Change Mitigation Through Scouting" for the main assembly. The WSPU Africa Youth Assembly, that ran concurrently with the main assembly had the theme: Refocusing Towards Youth Empowerment and Action for Climate Change,

The focus on Climate Change as the thread running through these two engagements, was an acknowledgement of devastation

that Climate Change has continued to wreak indeed across the globe.

This is manifested in rising temperatures triggered by unprecedented levels of greenhouse gas accumulation; severe storms; increased drought and food insecurity, a warming rising ocean, loss of unique plant and animal species, mounting health risks blamed on fast oscillating temperatures; reduced

water sources and, lastly poverty and displacement of populations, among other impacts.

During the elaborate event steeped in traditions of the scouts movement, Speaker and the delegation visited and laid a wreath on the grave of Lord Baden Powell and his wife at the at St. Peter's Cemetery in the Wajee Nature Park, in Nyeri town.

Ad Hoc Committee visits Kisumu as investigation into proliferation of religious groups continues

The Senate Ad Hoc Committee tasked with investigating the proliferation of Religious Organizations and the circumstances surrounding the tragic deaths in Shakahola, made a significant move by visiting Kisumu County, as part of its stakeholder engagements.

The committee's objective was to engage with various stakeholders, including the County Security and Intelligence Committee, families of the victims, local religious leaders, and non-governmental organizations, in order to gather vital information and insights related to the ongoing investigation.

During the visit, the committee tackled a wide range of issues, including missing person reports, the operations of specific religious organizations, victim reintegration, regulatory frameworks, and the roles of religious leaders and non-governmental organizations.

The team met Kisumu County Security Committee Team, who provided crucial information regarding two specific religious groups in Kisumu County, their activities, and individuals who have gone missing or been rescued.

The learnt that the Good News



A section of the membership of the Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Proliferation of Religious Organisations, led by Sen. Shakilla Abdalla (second left) during an engagement with stakeholders in Kisumu County.

International Church (GNI), led by Paul Mackenzie, blamed for the Shakahola deaths, had a significant number of faithful in the Usoma area. The teachings of GNI focused on spiritual preparation for the second coming of Jesus Christ and the renunciation of material possessions. Some members were enticed to travel to the coastal region with promises of spiritual guidance and fellowship. Among them were two pioneer pastors, Erick Sebastian Opongo and Patrick Ojwang, along with their families, a faithful, Mr John Otieno Ogutu, as well as Mr

Kennedy Otieno Gogo, his wife, and their four children.

Further, the committee was apprised of the activities of Kisumu Coptic Church, led by John Pesa, a former Catholic priest. This church claimed to possess the ability to cast out demons and heal mental challenges.

In response to these grave revelations, religious organizations urged the government not to resort to heavy-handed policing, but instead called for assistance

in developing self-regulating mechanisms. On the other hand, non-governmental organizations emphasized the need for a separate registrar of societies, dedicated solely to the registration and oversight of religious organizations.

Senator Shakila Abdalla, who led the team, was accompanied by Senators, including Tabitha Mutinda, and Veronica Nduati. The Kisumu County Team was led by Kisumu County Acting Commission Hussein Hussein.

Senators and International Development Law Organization discuss public policy on resources

Senate Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources Chaired by Nyandarua Senator John Methu met with International Development Law Organization (IDLO) to deliberate on best practices relating to public policy and Legislation on resources and the application of the same in mitigation measures including Climate Change.

The meeting was opened by Senate Majority Leader, Senator Aaron Cheruiyot who assured the participants that Senate is ready to collaborate with all Non-Profit Organizations that are involved in financing locally- led Climate Action.

Senator Methu said the discussions and pursuit of a perspective of the rule of law approach for achieving transformative climate action were timely. "We continue to witness adverse and far-reaching implications on the well-being and welfare of our



Senate Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources Chaired by Nyandarua Senator John Methu (right) during deliberations with a delegation from International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

constituents, our counties, nation, continent, and the entire planet.

"As representatives of the people entrusted with the noble duty and responsibility to govern and make decisions that shape their future, it is incumbent upon us to recognize the gravity of the environmental crises we face," Sen Methu said. IDLO has a significant experience on

empowering legal service providers and civil society organizations and building their capacity to spread rights awareness, improve legal literacy and provide legal services. The Organization also facilitate networks to promote collaboration among groups representing justice seekers.

The Program is financed by the World Bank, Government of Denmark, Government of Sweden, Government of Germany and Government of Kenya at an overall level of USD. 301.4 million. The Program became effective on 1st February, 2022 and is expected to run until 30th June, 2027.

Labour Committee meets petitioners, stakeholders over healthcare coverage, delayed internships

The Senate Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare held a meeting with petitioners and various stakeholders regarding the unfair terms and conditions for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) staff and delay in internship posting.

The Kenya Medical Practitioners and Dentist Union (KMPDU) on behalf of the duly registered Health Sector Unions, Associations and Societies in their petition had prayed the Senate to investigate and intervene on the matter of discrimination and unfair remuneration of the health workers; Make recommendations on such programmes including adequacy of resources, better terms of engagement; and recommend appropriate measures for such programmes including internship and posting of health workers.

During the Committee's meeting with the Public Service Commission, the Chairman Amb. Antony M. Muchiri informed the Committee that following a proposal by the Ministry of Health, the Commission has extended the contracts of UHC healthcare workers for a period of one year as an interim measure pending consultations on conversion of terms of services to permanent and pensionable. The petitioners took the chance to remind the Commission to ensure equity in



1. Committee Chair Sen. Julius Murgor and Committee Clerk Gertrude Nthiiri.
2. From left: Committee members Sen. Mohamed Faki, Sen. Alexander Mundigi and Sen. Crystal Asige.
3. Amb. Antony Muchiri, chair of the Public Service Commission, addresses the committee.

stipends offered during internships to the various cadres in the Health Sector.

The Committee highlighted to the Commission that the Persons with Disabilities in this Country experience a lot of difficulties when

seeking medical services due to lack of specialized staff to attend to their special needs in the medical facilities. The Commission undertook to deal with this matter and have the policy implemented in other Ministries and sectors in the Country once its in place.

The Committee resolved to schedule another meeting with the petitioners, the CS Ministry of Health, Public Service Commission and the Council of Governors for further deliberations and conclusion of this matter.

Tackling banditry: Senators explore global perspectives

The Senate Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations Chaired by Baringo Senator William Cheptumo met on Tuesday to deliberate on a brief on the global perspective of Cattle rustling and banditry.

The committee made a comparison of the situation of Cattle rustling and banditry in Kenya with other countries on the global scene such as Madagascar, Nigeria, Mexico, South Africa, United State of America and Australia.

Members were taken through the findings of the situations across those countries with the research team highlighting how the situation has been handled in the said countries.

The Lawmakers noted that just like in Kenya poverty and lack of economic

opportunities in rural areas drive individuals to engage in cattle rustling as a means of survival or to generate income.

During the meeting, the Legislators recommended that more police officers be deployed on the borders to prevent cross border cattle rustling and entry of illegal arms into the country.

Further, the committee deliberated on the worrying state of security in sections of Elgeyo Marakwet County re affirming the need to conduct a county visit in order to assess the situation in the County.

Other members in attendance were Vice Chair Sen. Karen Nyamu, Kajiado County Senator Seki Lenku, West Pokot County Senator Julius Murgor and Lamu County Senator Joseph Githuku.



Senate Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations Chaired by Baringo Senator William Cheptumo (right) and others Members during a committee session.

We'll issue Kisaju titles, bank assures Senators

Kingdom Bank Ltd has declared its willingness to release title deeds for all Kisaju plots that it financed and whose owners will have finished paying by the time the Developer concludes the sub-division process.

Kingdom Bank CEO, Mr. Anthony Mburu confirmed this when he appeared before Senate Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing to deliberate on the petition regarding title deeds for properties bought in Jamii Bora Estate, Kisaju in Kajiado County.

The Committee, chaired by Kiambu Senator Karungo Thangwa, heard that the Bank advanced the Developer a credit facility of Ksh.100 million via a letter of offer dated 28th November, 2014, to finance construction of houses on the project and to enable the developer avail loans to buyers.

The borrowing is supported by resolutions of the Developer board dated 28th November, 2014. The facilities were disbursed on 28th January, 2015 and were secured by the existing charge of Ksh. 200 million over Kajiado/Kisaju/58.

Jackson Kimathi, the Kingdom bank's Head of Legal said that the balances outstanding from the Developer stood at Ksh. 131, 386, 344/- as of 25th October, 2016, when the bank suspended accrual of interest on this



Senate Committee on Roads, Transportation and Housing at work.

account. The debt would by now be at Ksh. 200 million (due to the application of the duplum rule) as payments were made on this loan.

The Kingdom Bank management told Senators that beginning 2014, the Developer commenced sale of the units developed on the project to various purchasers. The bank financed some of these sales on the arrangement in place and plans that on completion of the sub-division, the resultant titles would be charged

to secure these loans to individuals. "We wish to confirm that the bank and its advocates are in custody of the original mother title deeds for the Kisaju properties. The titles were forwarded to the advocates to facilitate the change of user process and for the registration of the replacement charges," said Mr. Mburu.

The bank has also agreed to cap the debt owing from the Developer at Ksh. 134, 386, 344/-, instead of Ksh.

200 million. The reason for capping this amount is to ensure the debt is within manageable levels.

"The Kisaju home owners should be issued with title deeds so that they live peaceful with worrying of being evicted," said Vice Chairperson of the Committee, Sen Peris Tobiko.

"We need to finalise this matter and ensure that these 78 owners who have paid all the dues owed to Jamii Bora are issued with title deeds," added Senator Thangwa.

This Week in History



"It was extremely sad for me to see the affected people of Kirinyaga County speaking to the Senate on the streets and in barazas. We know that they were pained and were feeling bad. However, for them to tell us to do things in a certain way was very sad. It is not only the people of Kirinyaga, but also the leadership of Kirinyaga. That is why the committee has given very strong recommendations of reconciliation."

Sen. (Prof) Margaret Kamar,
Contributing to debate on procedure to be followed upon tabling of the report of the special committee on the proposed impeachment of Governor Anne Waiguru.

Friday, June 26th, 2020.



"Impeachments will come to this House. This is unlikely to be the last one. When an impeachment comes to a House like this one, we are expected to be sequestered. We are expected to be locked from hearing opinion external to us or from listening to feelings other than facts."

Sen. (Dr) Ochillo Ayacko,
Contributing to debate on procedure to be followed upon tabling of the report of the special committee on the proposed impeachment of Governor Anne Waiguru.

Friday, June 26th, 2020.



"The process was tedious. I saw voluminous documents that I would like to make my suggestions on. In future, it will be important to give more time because we are required to examine the voluminous documents yet some of us are not expert accountants, lawyers or procurement offices. In future, the Senate should bring experts to assist the committee in capturing the most important areas."

Sen (Dr) Langat Christopher Andrew,
Contributing to debate on procedure to be followed upon tabling of the report of the special committee on the proposed impeachment of Governor Anne Waiguru.

Friday, June 26th, 2020.



"Wakati huu ni wakati wa kuwafurusha magavana. Ni wajibu wetu kama Seneti kuhakikisha kwamba hatuadhiriwi na mambo yanayo zungumzwa nje ya Bunge. Tuangalie ushahidi ambao unaletwa mbele yetu au mbele ya kamati kuhakikisha kwamba tunatenda haki katika masuala kama haya."

Sen. Mohamed Faki,
Contributing to debate on procedure to be followed upon tabling of the report of the special committee on the proposed impeachment of Kirinyaga Governor Anne Waiguru.

Friday, June 26th, 2020.

Clause by clause! Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee devotes the weekend to finalize two bills

After days of thorough Public Participation in Bomet, Kericho, Bungoma, Kirinyaga, Nyeri and Embu Counties, the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee chaired by Kirinyaga Senator James Kamau Murango, MP, embarked on closed door sessions to consider the Coffee Bill, 2023 and Tea (Amendment) Bill, 2023 with keen consideration of all proposed amendments from the farmers and other stakeholders.

The Coffee Bill, which is sponsored by the Chairperson of the Committee, seeks to provide for the development and regulation of the Coffee industry in Kenya. The Bill proposes to reorganize the coffee industry by transitioning the regulatory and commercial roles currently undertaken by the Agriculture and Food Authority to the Coffee Board of Kenya.

The Bill further seeks to transition the research of coffee currently



Members of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee during a session.

undertaken by the Coffee Research Institute under the Kenya Agricultural

and Livestock Research Organisation to the Coffee Research Institute.



The Tea (Amendment) Bill, 2023, which is sponsored by Bomet Senator Hillary Sigei, MP, seeks to amend certain provisions in the Tea Act, 2020, to protect the tea growers' proceeds from mismanagement by factories. The Bill also aims to incentivise value addition of tea by exempting value added tea from payment of the tea levy. It further seeks to liberalize the tea industry. This will be done through direct sales of tea overseas.

Senate team visits special needs schools in bid to enrich Learners with Disabilities Bill 2023

The Senate Education Committee, Chaired by Muranga Senator Joe Nyutu, conducted a fact finding visit to 4 schools with special needs and disabilities in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County.

The schools were 1) Eldoret School for the Hearing Impaired, 2) Eldoret Special School for the Intellectually Challenged, 3) Illula Integrated School and 4) Sosiani Primary School.

The fact finding mission was as a result of gaining and gathering more information, data and further submissions to enrich The Learners with Disabilities Bill, 2023, which is aimed at providing a proper legal framework in order to ensure the actualization of the right to basic education for learners with Disabilities at all the three levels of education in Kenya. The Bill creates provisions of law that obligate the National Government through the Ministry of Education and the County governments to carry out their duties in bringing the special needs education of learners with disabilities to parity with normal

learners and to end the exclusion of learners with disability from the education cycle.

The Committee commenced their visit with a courtesy call to the Governor H.E. Hon. Jonathan Bii-Chelilim, Uasin Gishu County at his office. The Committee was warmly received by the Governor, his Deputy, the County Executive Committee (CEC) Education Member and other Members of the Executive. Amongst issues discussed, the Committee was extremely impressed to learn that the Governor had started a school feeding program of providing milk especially to the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) schools. "H.E. Hon. Jonathan Bii-Chelilim becomes the first Governor in the country to introduce this noble program which will in turn improve the enrollment of students in schools and we hope that this sets an example to the other Governors to follow suit in all the other Counties" stated Senator Nyutu.

Arising from the visit, the Committee noted the following challenges:

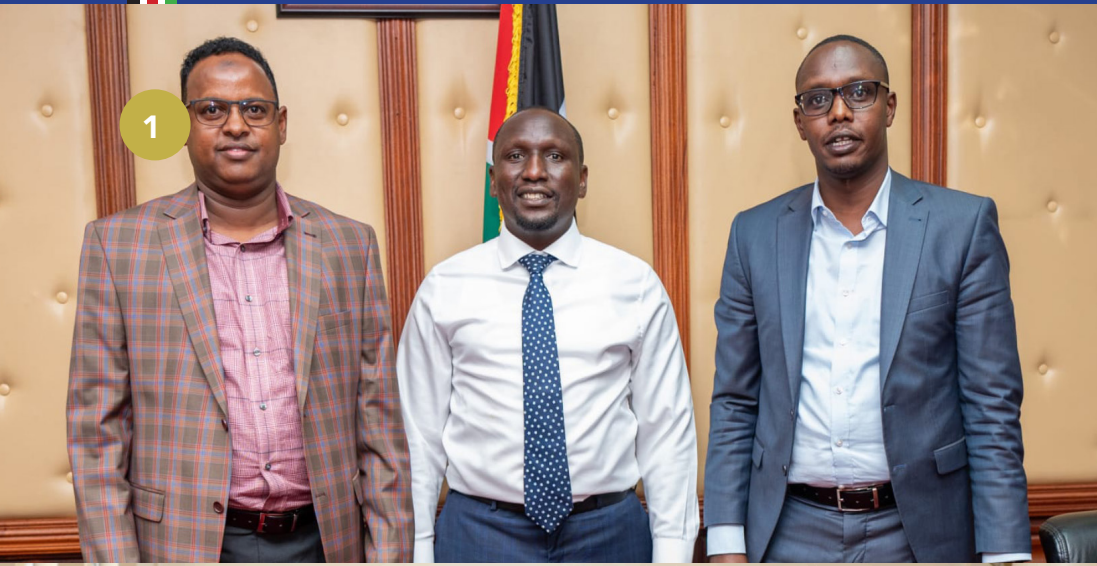


Senate Education Committee during the tour of special needs schools in Uasin Gishu County.

Societal attitude as a result of the stigma caused due to the disabilities of the children, some parents have been discouraged to enroll their children to the schools; most families experience poverty and therefore cannot afford the schools, delayed disbursement of Capitation funds; Schools lacking medical staff; Understaffing of specialized teachers, lack of provision of teaching and learning material to the schools; Some of the children were found to be talented but unfortunately there were no programs offered to provide the children an opportunity to explore their abilities; lack of occupational therapy; lack of speech therapists to help improve the level of communication for the children; lack of learning equipment

especially for the blind; High medical bills; there is a need to further enhance and develop a revised assessment process that includes an oral assessment to cater for children requiring the same; lack of provision for special dietary needs especially with focus to the Autistic children; Most children are on medication and NHIF is not catering for neurological cases; Autistic children are not well identified and categorized by the Kenya National Examination Council (KNEC); lack of suitable boarding facilities amongst others.

Other Members present at the visit were Vice Chair Sen. Peris Tobiko, Sen. Prof. Margaret Kamar, Sen. Agnes Kavindu and Sen. Johnes Mwaruma.



1. Hon. Mustafa Abdirashid (left), Deputy Speaker, Garissa County Assembly and Hon Philemon Sabulei Kiplagat (right) Speaker, Elgeyo Marakwet County Assembly, and Chairperson, County Assemblies Forum and Vice Chairman East Africa Local Governments Association (EALGA) during a courtesy call on Hon. Aaron Cheruiyot, Leader of Majority in the Senate on Tuesday, June 20, 2023.
2. Members of the Rotary Club of Nairobi during a visit to the Senate last week.
3. Credit Professionals before the Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Budget on Thursday June 22, 2023 to give their submissions on the need for enactment of a legislation to regulate the Credit Profession in Kenya.
4. Deputy Speaker of the Senate, Hon Kathuri Murungi, in a session of the 63rd Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) and 43rd OACPS-EU Assembly currently ongoing in the European Parliament in Brussels (Belgium).
5. A Sergeant-at-arms officer receives Lands Cabinet Secretary Zacharia Njeru at the Senate on Wednesday, June 21, 2023.
6. Members of the Senate Education Committee plant a tree after visiting a special school in Uasin Gishu County.
7. Vihiga Governor Wilbur Ottichilo with Members of the Senate Committee on Proliferation of Religious Organisations in Kenya, when they visited the county last week.

Three invites, no appearance! Furious Agriculture Committee now summons Water Minister and Kisumu County Governor

Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries led by the Vice Chairperson, Embu County Senator, Sen. Alexander Munyi Mundigi has summoned the Minister of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation Hon. Alice Wahome and Kisumu County Governor Hon. Anyang' Nyongo, for failing to appear before the Committee to formally respond to the Petition regarding the Ethics and Anti Corruption Commission (EACC) Graft Investigation of West Kano Irrigation Scheme.

The Senators, Beth Kalunda Syendo, David Wakoli Wafula, Daniel Kitonga Maanzo, and Enoch Kiio Wambua, expressed their frustrations on the same and termed it as total disrespect to the Senate from the CS and the County boss.

The committee had directed both



Members of the Senate Committee on Agriculture.

the Governor and the Cabinet Secretary to appear before them on June 20th, 2023 and further requested them to formally submit on the petition. The Committee had started investigations into the alleged graft at the West Kano



Rice Irrigation Scheme in Kisumu County, which had received millions of shillings from the government in the form of rehabilitation fund, farmers savings fund and rice sales funds; that were embezzled under the watch of the Ethics and Anti

Corruption Commission (EACC).

The Governor and the CS however failed to appear before the Senate twice and thrice respectively, necessitating the Committee to summon them.

Consumer data in telcos' hands safe, CS Owalo tells ICT Committee

The Senate Committee on Information, Communication and Technology led by Trans Nzoia Senator Allan Chesang met with the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Digital Economy, Honorable Eliud Owalo, over safety of consumer data collected by the Telecommunication firms in the country.

Mr Owalo informed the Hon Senators that his Ministry has put in place measures to support critical information network operators and service providers in the management of cybersecurity, through sharing of cyber threat advisories targeted at their network and resolution of cyber incidents.

"The Communication Authority of Kenya (CA), which is the regulatory organ of the telecommunication industry, has put in place conditions that require all licensees in the country to secure all consumer data and not to share data with third parties without the express consent of their customers," CS Owalo said.

Subsequently, the Members of the Committee pledged to continue

undertaking their oversight role to ensure that the Ministry and the Telecommunication stakeholders follow the law for the benefit of the common mwananchi.

"As a Committee, we are committed to undertaking our representative, legislative and oversight role to ensure that we both achieve our mandate to serve Kenyans," Senator Chesang said.

The Cabinet Secretary was appearing before the Senate ICT Committee to respond to a Statement sought by Bungoma Senator David Wakoli regarding the routing of international gateway tariffs by mobile telecommunication firms and mobile service providers.

CS Owalo was flanked by the Permanent Secretary for Broadcasting Prof. Edward Kisiangani, Data Commissioner Ms Immaculate Kassit, Safaricom Limited CEO Mr Peter Ndegwa, Jamii Telecommunication General Manager Mr John Kamau, Communication Authority of Kenya Director General Mr Ezra Chiloba and the Media Council of Kenya Director Mr Peter Bwire



The Senate Committee on Information, Communication and Technology led by Trans Nzoia Senator Allan Chesang during the meeting with the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Digital Economy, Honorable Eliud Owalo.

Engage SRC for review of our pay, MCAs ask Senators

The Members of the County Assembly (MCA) wants the Senate Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations Committee to help resolve their long-standing issues of remuneration and other benefits.

The MCAs through their umbrella body, the Association of Members of County Assemblies (AMCA) sent a correspondence to the Senate listing six key resolutions reached by the General Assembly of AMCA on 3rd May, 2023 that they need Senate to address.

The legislators formed a splinter group AMCA which brings together 2000 MCAs while County Assemblies Forum (CAF) consists of Speakers and MCAs.

The MCAs wants the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) be compelled to reinstate the plenary allowances citing the best practice at the national level and all legislative assemblies in the World.

They also want the establishment of a Ward Development Fund which is fully anchored in law and allocated at least 40% of the County Development budget.

The MCAs further wants County Affirmative Action Fund for Nominated members of County Assemblies and financial autonomy to the County Assemblies to aid



Senate Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair, Hon Abbas Mohammed (right), and Deputy Chair Catherine Mumma.

in effective execution of their legal mandate.

Lastly, they want the Senate to compel Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) to revoke and refund the 30% tax levied on Members Car Reimbursement.

They argued that the fund was an automatic privilege for members upon assuming office and not a benefit as it has been misconstrued by the authority.

The MCAs had in a letter dated, 20th June, 2023 addressed to the 47 County Assembly Leadership

expressed disappointment that their six resolutions had not been considered even after issuing a 14 days ultimatum on 3rd May 2023.

"It is in this regard that we therefore direct the leadership to proceed and adjourn the County Assembly plenary sessions indefinitely until that time when our issues will be addressed," read part of the letter.

The matter was thereafter brought to the attention of the Senate plenary sittings by Nandi Senator Samson Cherarkey, who informed the house of the impending mass adjournment

of all the County Assemblies.

The Speaker of the Senate Rt. Hon. Amason Kingi then directed the Devolution Committee chaired by Wajir Senator Hon. Abbas Mohamed to inquire into the matter.

The Committee has therefore written to the Salaries and Remuneration Commission, the Kenya Revenue Administration, leadership of AMCA and CAF to appear before the committee next week to apprise them on concerns raised by the MCAs.

OVERSIGHT MATTERS

Senators engage Cabinet Secretaries on ministry roles

Three Cabinet Secretaries appeared before the Senate last week to answer Members' questions touching on their respective dockets.

The trio were Hon. Moses Kuria, Cabinet Secretary for Investment, Trade and Industry; Hon. Mithika Linturi, Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development; and their Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development counterpart, Mr. Zacharia Mwangi Njeru.

In his question, Marsabit Senator Chute Mohamed Said sought to know from the CS the type and quantity of goods being imported by corporations and individuals prequalified by the Kenya National Trading Corporation (KNTC).

He also sought to know what procedure is used by the KNTC to identify and prequalify companies which import the goods, how many

companies were awarded business, those currently importing goods, and the type of and packaging of these commodities being imported during the Financial Year 2021/2022 and FY 2022/2023.

The CS was also required to disclose the financial state of KNTC and also indicate how much has been paid to the respective suppliers and how much is outstanding.

On his part, Mr. Linturi was asked, by Sen. Chute, to disclose the food commodities being imported duty free, stating the approved packaging and container size; the companies that applied for pre-qualification to import food commodities duty free from September 2022 to date and how many of these have been issued with a permit to import.

He was also asked to explain how many companies have so far imported goods what actions the minister intended to take against



From left: Lands, Public Works, Housing and Urban Development Mr Zacharia Mwangi Njeru; Hon. Moses Kuria, Cabinet Secretary for Investment, Trade and Industry; and Hon. Mithika Linturi, Cabinet Secretary for Agriculture and Livestock Development, when they appeared before the Senate last week.

the pre-qualified companies which have not complied with the terms of engagement.

The question for Mr. Njeru was brought by Samburu Senator Lelegwe Ltumbesi and touched on the operationalization of the Samburu Lands Registry. Sen. Lelegwe demanded an

explanation on the measures the government was taking to ensure full operationalization of the Samburu Lands Registry that was opened in 2021 to enable the residents of the county have access to land registration services and issuance of title deeds and when the government would deploy a land registrar to Samburu County.

Kamati ya usalama kwenye seneti yajadili mbinu za kuukabili wizi wa kimabavu wa mifugo

Kamati ya Kudumu ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Mashauri ya Kigeni iliandaa mkutano siku ya Jumanne kujadili mbinu za kulikabili kero la wizi wa kimabavu wa mifugo.

Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta wa Baringo William Cheptumo ilijadili mtazamo wa ulimwengu kuhusu wizi wa kimabavu wa mifugo, Maseneta wanachama wakiilinganisha Kenya na hali ilivyo kwenye mataifa ya kigeni kama Madagascar, Nigeria, Mexico, Afrika Kusini, Marekani na Australia.

Walipata nafasi ya kuitathmini ripoti ya utafiti kuhusu uvamizi na wizi wa kimabavu wa mifugo na mbinu zinazotumika na mataifa ya kigeni kuukabili uovu huo.

Kulingana na utafiti huo, umaskini na ukosefu wa fursa za kiuchumi kwenye sehemu za nyanjani huwasukuma watu kujiingiza katika uhalifu wa kuiba mifugo kutumia nguvu kama njia ya kujikimu na kujipatia kipato.

Hata hivyo Maseneta hao walipendekeza kuongezwa kwa idadi ya maafisa wa polisi mipakana hususan kwenye maeneo yanayokumbwa na wizi wa kimabavu wa mifugo ili kuzuia uvamizi na kuingizwa kwa silaha haramu nchini Kenya.

Mkutano wa Jumanne ulihudhuriwa pia na Naibu Mwenyekiti wa Kamati hiyo Seneta Karen Nyamu, Seneta wa Kaunti ya Kajiado Seki Lenku, Seneta wa Kaunti ya Pokot Magharibi Julius Murgor na Seneta wa Kaunti ya Lamu Joseph Githuku.

Kwingineko Kamati ya Kudumu ya Fedha na Bajeti kwenye Bunge la Seneti inajadili mapendekezo ya kuidhibiti taaluma ya mikopo nchini Kenya.

Kamati hiyo chini ya Uenyekiti wa Seneta wa Kaunti ya Mandera Ali Roba Alhamisi iliandaa mkao na washikadau kuhusu mapendekezo ya kuidhibiti taaluma hiyo huku

Kulingana na utafiti huo, umaskini na ukosefu wa fursa za kiuchumi kwenye sehemu za nyanjani huwasukuma watu kujiingiza katika uhalifu wa kuiba mifugo kutumia nguvu kama njia ya kujikimu na kujipatia kipato.

Maseneta wanachama wakitathmini mapendekezo hayo.

Wakiwasilisha maoni yao mbele ya Kamati hiyo, washikadau hao waliwaomba Maseneta kuidhinisha utunzi wa sheria itakayosaidia katika udhibiti wa taaluma ya mikopo na hasa kuweka nafasi ya kubuniwa na

uanachama wa Taasisi ya Wataalam Rasmi wa Mikopo nchini Kenya. Walisema hatua hiyo pia itatoa fursa ya kuwekwa kwa majukumu na usimamizi wa Taasisi hiyo, usajili wa wataalam wa mikopo na utoaji wa vyeti vya kila kwa wataalam hao na kutoa kanuni za kuwaadhibu wanachama wataokwenda kinyume na mahitaji ya taaluma hiyo.

Kadhalika sheria hiyo endapo itatungwa itatoa nafasi ya kuundwa kwa Kamati ya kuwaadhibu, kuwachunguza na mfumo wa wanachama kukata rufaa.

Kwenye mkao huo, Kamati hiyo aidha ilitathmini mapendekezo kuhusu Mswada wa Marekebisho wa Usimamizi wa Fedha za Umma.

Wanachama wengine waliohudhuria mkutano wa Alhamisi ni Naibu Mwenyekiti wa Kamati hiyo Seneta Tabitha Mutinda, Seneta Joyce Korir na Seneta wa Kaunti ya Migori Eddy Oketch.

Seneta Cheptumo anataka mikakati kabambe kuwekwa kuwalinda waliotengwa nchini Kenya

Seneta wa Kaunti ya Baringo William Cheptumo amewasilisha hoja kwenye Bunge la Seneti akiitaka Wizara ya Utumishi wa Umma na Masuala ya Jinsia, Tume ya Kitaifa ya Jinsia na Usawa na taasisi zingine husika kwa ushirikiano na Baraza la Magavana kubuni mikakati muafaka kutambua na kuangazia mahitaji halisi na changamoto ambazo jamii za walio wachache na waliotengwa zinakabiliwa nazo nchini Kenya.

Seneta Cheptumo kupitia hoja hiyo anazitaka taasisi hizo kubuni na kutekeleza sera ya kitaifa na mfumo wa kisheria wa kuzihusisha kikamilifu jamii ndogo na zilizobaguliwa nchini Kenya kama inavyohitaji Katiba ya Kenya.

Anasema kufungamana na katiba na mpangilio wa tano wa Katiba ya Kenya, serikali imepewa wajibu wa kuyakuza na kuyalinda maslahi ya jamii ndogo na zilizobaguliwa nchini

Kenya.

Alisema licha ya serikali kuweka sera na mfumo ya kisheria na kitaasisi ikiwemo mipango ya usawazishaji kuangazia mahitaji ya makundi mengine maalum kama watoto, watu wanaoishi na ulemavu, vijana, wanawake na wakongwe, jamii ndogo na zilizotengwa zimesalia pakubwa kutosughulikiwa na juhudi sawia kutokana na ukosefu wa sera ya kitaifa na mfumo wa kisheria.

Seneta Cheptumo ambaye pia ni Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Kudumu ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Mashauri ya Kigeni kwenye Bunge la Seneti alikariri kuwa licha ya Kenya kuwa nchi yenye mseto wa utamaduni, lugha na mila, jamii za walio wachache na zilizotengwa nchini Kenya zinakumbwa na changamoto nyingi zingiwemo za kijamii, kiuchumi na kisiasa.

Huku hayo yajiri Seneta Mteule Karen Nyamu amemtaka Waziri wa Leba kushauriana na washikadau ikiwemo Halmashauri ya Ushauri kuhusu Ujira Kijumla na Halmashauri ya Ushauri kuhusu Ujira kwenye sekta ya Kilimo kwa dhamira ya kuongeza kiwango cha chini cha ujira kwa asilimia 50 na zaidi.

Seneta Nyamu kupitia hoja ambayo amewasilisha kwenye Bunge la Seneti anasema hatua hiyo itasaidia pakubwa kuwalinda Wakenya dhidi ya kupanda kwa gharama ya maisha.

Anasema licha ya nyongeza ya asilimia 12 kutolewa kwa wafanyakazi mnamo mwezi Mei, 2022 kwa lengo la kuwasaidia kukabiliana na kupanda kwa bei ya bidhaa muhimu kama chakula, mfumuko wa bei uliopo sasa bado umefanya gharama ya maisha kusalia juu na hivyo kunapaswa kuwepo na mikakati ya kuwasaidia Wakenya.



Seneta William Cheptumo, Mwenyekiti wa Kamati ya Kudumu ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Mashauri ya Kigeni kwenye Bunge la Seneti

Rotary Club of Nairobi visits Senate to learn about its work, explore areas of collaboration

The membership of Rotary Club of Nairobi, led by their President Amb. Dr. Josephine Ojiambo, paid the Senate of Kenya a courtesy visit today to learn about the workings of the Senate and common areas of possible interaction.

In hand to receive the team was the Clerk of the Senate who is also the Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission Mr. Jeremiah M. Nyegenye, who apprised the members of the rotary club about the history, structure and role of Parliament as well as an overview of the place of devolution in the governance structure.

"The sub-national governments do not themselves sit at the table of decision making at the national level. So, if they're to be co-players in the system of government, bargain reasonably and be assured of their entitlement in terms of the Constitution, then they need to have another organ that spearheads and is the custodian of their interest at the

national level, which is the Senate," Mr Nyegenye said.

"Under our system of Government, the Presidential system, a lot of the work of Parliament is undertaken in committee. In the Senate, we have a total of 17 committees divided into various thematic areas which speaks directly at what rotary members focus on," Deputy Clerk Eunice Gichangi added.

On her part, Amb. Dr. Ojiambo outlined the objectives of the rotary club and the various activities that it has spearheaded in different counties, before urging the Senate to collaborate with the Rotary Club of Nairobi whenever they're undertaking social responsibility activities in the counties.

The Senate of Kenya and the Rotary Club of Nairobi resolved to entrench their partnership in the coming days and deliberated on the areas of common interest.



1. Clerk of the Senate Jeremiah Nyegenye presents a gift to Rotary Club of Nairobi President Dr Josephine Ojiambo.
2. Deputy Clerk of the Senate Madam Eunice Gichangi makes her remarks.
3. Senior Staff of the Senate and members of the Rotary Club of Nairobi during the meeting.

Senate, Konrad Adenauer partner on climate action

The Senate Climate Action Caucus and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS), have established a partnership that will bring parliamentarians on board in the upcoming Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi in September, 2023.

The two parties concurred that parliamentarians' voice was needed in the forum which is expected to come up with landmark proposals and resolutions that will need to be anchored in law to drive Kenya's Climate Action initiatives.

During a meeting at the Senate last week, it was resolved that representatives of both sides work closely to actualize this agenda, within the shortest time possible.

The Senate team comprised of Hon Moses Kajwang', the caucus chairperson, and members Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, Sen. Alexander Mudigi, Sen. Tabitha Mutinda, Sen. Beth Syengo, Sen. Johnes Mwaruma and Sen Mohamed Faki.

KAS team was led by the Ms Anja Berreta – KAS Head of the Regional

Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa and Mr Erick Omollo, an officer from the same office.

Sen. Kajwang' said the caucus was keen to work with partners to build capacity of Senators and MPs and even staff on matters Climate Change.

The Senator said Kenya was in the spotlight as the host of this great event. Similarly, President Ruto has come out strongly as a climate champion, a position that is fully supported by Parliament of Kenya.

"However, we want Members of Parliament to be heard on this critical matter of Climate Change. We need to do a legislative stock-take to determine to what extent we have come up with laws that support and facilitate Climate Action," Sen. Kajwang' said.

Ms Berreta said support for climate adaption and mitigation formed a key component of KAS objectives hence her support for partnership with the Senate team on this matter.



1. Senate Climate Action Caucus in the meeting with KAS delegation.
2. Senate Climate Action Caucus chairperson Moses Otieno Kajwang'.
3. Ms Anja Berreta – Head of the Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change in Sub-Saharan Africa, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.

"Parliaments and politicians play a big role in legislation. The Summit is a big opportunity for Africa to speak with one voice and I am glad the African leaders understand the urgency of this matter," she added.