



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT - (SECOND SESSION)
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

(No. 079 of 2023)

(Sitting convened vide Kenya Gazette Notice No. 14715 of 3^d November, 2023)

CONVOCATION

(On the occasion of the Address to Parliament by His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya pursuant to Article 132(1) (b) & (c) of the Constitution on 9th November 2023 in the National Assembly, Main Chamber at 2:30 pm)

1. Your Excellency, Hon. (Dr.) William S. Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces;

The Rt. Hon. Amason Kingi, EGH, MP, Honourable Speaker of the Senate;

Honourable Members of Parliament;

Members of the Diplomatic Corps;

Distinguished Guests; Ladies and Gentlemen;

2. Article 132(1)(b) of the Constitution of Kenya requires the President to address the nation once every year and at any other time. Further, Article 132(1)(c) requires the President to once every year, report, in an address to the nation, on measures taken and progress achieved in the realization of our national values.

3. Additionally, Article 132(1)(c)(iii) of the Constitution provides that the President shall submit a report for debate to the National Assembly on the progress made in fulfilling the international obligations of the Republic.

4. In this regard, **Hon. Members**, by way of a Message to the House dated 26th September 2023, H.E. the President conveyed his desire to address a Joint Sitting of the Houses of Parliament today, 9th November 2023. Therefore, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 22 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, by ***Gazette Notice No. 14715***, which was published in the *Kenya Gazette* on **3rd November 2023**, I gave Notice of this Special Sitting of Parliament to the Members of the National Assembly.

Accordingly, Honourable Members, this Special Sitting is properly convened.

5. **Your Excellency**, it is the custom of Parliament to recognize invited guests seated in our galleries. I therefore wish to recognize the following guests who are seated in the Speaker's Row:

- (i) Her Excellency Rachel Ruto, EGH, First Lady of the Republic of Kenya and other members of the First Family;
- (ii) His Excellency Hon. Rigathi Gachagua, EGH, the Deputy President of the Republic of Kenya and the Spouse of the Deputy President, Her Excellency Pastor Dr. Dorcas Rigathi; and
- (iii) the Hon. Musalia Mudavadi, EGH, the Prime Cabinet Secretary;

6. Your Excellency, Hon. Members, also present in the Speaker's Row this afternoon are the Hon. Lady Justice Martha Koome, EGH, Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court, Hon. Lady Justice Philomena Mbete Mwilu, MGH, Deputy Chief Justice and Vice President of the Supreme Court. They are accompanied by Hon. Justice Eric Ogola, Principal Judge, High Court, Hon. Justice Oscar Angote, Presiding Judge, Environment and Land Court, and Hon. Justice Byram Ongaya, MBS, Principal Judge, Employment and Labour Relations Court.

7. We are similarly pleased to host the former the former Vice President of the Republic, the Hon. Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka, EGH, who is also the Co-Chair of the National Dialogue Committee.

8. We are also honoured to have in our midst the immediate former Speakers of the Houses of Parliament, the Hon. Justin B.N. Muturi, EGH, the Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya, and the Hon. Kenneth Lusaka, EGH, the Governor for Bungoma County.

9. Your Excellency, May I also accord special recognition to all Cabinet Secretaries present, Mr. Felix Koskei, Chief of Staff and Head of the Public Service, Principal Secretaries, members of the diplomatic corps, and Heads of Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices present.

10. Your Excellency, I wish to make a special mention of the Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces, General Francis O. Ogolla and the respective service commanders, the Inspector General of Police and other leaders of our disciplined forces who are seated at the Speaker's Row. We are grateful for their distinguished service to the Nation.

To all invited guests, *Karibuni Bunge.*

Honourable Members, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

11. It is now my singular honour and privilege to invite His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya and Commander-in-Chief of the Kenya Defence Forces to address this Special Sitting of Parliament.

Welcome, Your Excellency.


THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES M. WETANG'ULA, EGH, MP
SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Thursday, 9th November, 2023