



# The SENATE

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

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## Weekly

## “Thank you Turkana County for memorable Senate Mashinani”

**Speaker Kingi says Senate Mashinani is innovative way through which the Senate may exercise its roles as provided for in the Constitution.**



*The Senate Leadership pose for a picture after they were crowned Turkana Community elders in a ceremony presided over by County Assembly Speaker Christopher Nakuleu (extreme right). Speaker Amason Kingi was joined by (from left) Senator Boni Khalwale (Majority Whip), Senator Veronica Maina (Member, Speaker's Panel), Senator Stewart Madzayo (Minority Leader), Senator Aaron Cheruiyot (Majority Leader), Abdul Haji (Member, Speaker's Panel) and Mr Jeremiah Nyegenye, Clerk of Senate and Secretary of the Parliamentary Service Commission. Crouching is Senator Steve Lelegwe (Deputy Majority Whip).*

The County Assembly of Turkana pulled out all the stops to serve up a memorable Senate Mashinani, as it hosted Senate sittings, plenary sessions and other activities for a week.

History was made when the Senate, as an institution, literally relo-

cated to Lodwar town, the capital of Turkana County, and ran its affairs for a full week, which included the Tuesday to Thursday plenary sessions.

The plenary sessions particularly stood out for the near full-house attendance and conduct of business

that ran late into the evening. Senators also conducted committee sittings and toured various development projects,

Initially considered a Herculean task, owing to the distance between Turkana and Nairobi, the one week presence of Senators in the county,

passed on smoothly, with residents and other stakeholders applauding the initiative.

On its part, the Senate leadership played glowing tribute to the County Assembly of Turkana and the people of Turkana County for their full commitment which made the event





*Speaker Kingi hands over a gift to Hon. Christopher Nakuleu, the Speaker of County Assembly of Turkana. The Senate honoured the County Assembly with the Speaker's Chair as a gift for hosting the third Senate Mashinani.*

that started on September 26 through to September 28, 2023, a resounding success.

"Our sincere gratitude goes to the great people of Turkana County for the friendly welcome they accorded us to their county," said Speaker Amason Kingi in his farewell remarks after three days of plenary sittings.

"We shall forever be grateful for the acts of kindness and the warm hospitality extended to us. The Senate embraces the fundamental principle that it exists for the people and stands as a beacon of democracy representing their collective will, aspirations and concerns," Speaker Kingi said.

He reiterated that Devolved government, which is anchored in the 2010 Constitution, was designed to bring services closer to the people as a means of accelerating development

and enhancing collective responsibility.

The Senate sittings outside its traditional premises in Nairobi are designed as an ingenious way of enhancing the interaction between the national and county levels of Government. It is an innovative way through which the Senate may exercise its roles as provided for under Articles 94 and 95 of the Constitution.

"In this manner, we bring the Senate and by extension, the Parliament closer to the people."

The objectives of the sittings is to promote the role and work of the Senate and enhance public awareness regarding the business of the Senate and Parliament in general, highlight existing and new opportunities for engagement in the legislative processes and to develop and strengthen partnerships at the county level.

Senate Mashinani also provides

an opportunity for both the lawmakers and staff of the Senate and county assemblies to learn and share best practices.

"Through the Initiative, the Senate is making its contribution towards nurturing inclusivity and management of public affairs in Kenya

"In holding sittings at the County Assembly of Turkana, the Senate also affirms that county assemblies have the power to directly identify and address the people's concerns, revitalise the hopes and aspirations, deepen our democratic, consultative and participatory Government, as well as strengthening institutions of governance in the country."

The Speaker called on the County assemblies to complement good legislative practices by proactively and robustly taking up the constitutional and statutory rules as provided for under Article 185 of the Constitution

and the County Governments Act to bring the executive to account.

Senate Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot and Senate Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo, each lauded the initiative, terming it key to the success of Devolution.

According to Senator Cheruiyot, the presence of the Senate in Turkana County provided an ideal opportunity to deeply interrogate issues concerning the county and to verify whatever is documented with the reality on the ground.

"This is very important for oversight purposes," said Hon Cheruiyot, during a media briefing at the tail end of the event.

On his part, Senator Madzayo termed the Senate Mashinani a huge success and exposing Senators to the realities that county governments grapple with as they implement Devolution.

"This enables them to legislate on matters concerning individual from an informed perspective," Senator Madzayo said.

Plenary and committee sittings aside, the Senate Mashinani stood out for its pomp and colour that served to give Senators a taste of the culture and hospitality of the Turkana people.

For instance in the last day of the formal sittings, the County Assembly of Turkana Speaker Christopher Nakuleu presided over the installation of the Speaker Kingi, Senator Cheruiyot, Senator Madzayo, the Clerk to the Senate Jeremiah Nyegeye and other leaders as elders of the Turkan Community.

Besides getting festooned with colourful traditional regalia, the newly-minted Turkana elders were also each presented with a traditional stool and staff amid cheers, song and dance.

The event will also be remembered for a considerate ruling by Speaker Kingi that allowed Hon Senators to discard their official wear for less formal attire as they conducted plenary business.

This accorded Senators much reprieve from the sweltering Turkana heat that the fans and air conditioners worked overtime to hold in check.

This was the third Senate Mashinani, after the ones previously held in Uasin Gishu and Kitui counties.



# Parliamentary partnership will boost ties between Kenya and Korea, say Speakers



Speaker Amason Kingi poses for a picture with Rt Hon Kim Jin-Pyo, the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic South Korea and his delegation who are on official visit to Kenya. Speaker Kingi was accompanied by Deputy Speaker Kathuri Murungi (fourth left) and Senators Hamida Kibwana (third left), Hillary Sigei (fourth right) and Tabitha Mutinda (third right).



Speaker Kingi hands a gift to Rt Hon Kim Jin-Pyo, the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea after the meeting between the two on Thursday, October 5, 2023.

Parliaments of Kenya and Korea have agreed to explore new frontiers in their partnership with a view to enhancing their capacity for effective legislative work.

Through sharing experiences and best practices, the two legislatures will also give more robust support to the thriving diplomatic ties between the two countries for the benefit of the citizens.

This position was revealed during a

consultative meeting between the Speaker of the Senate Amason Kingi and Rt Hon Kim Jin-Pyo, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea at the Senate, Parliament Buildings, Nairobi on Thursday October 5, 2023.

Rt Hon Kim was on an official visit to Kenya and was accompanied by a high-level delegation from the Parliament of Korea.

Also present were Deputy Speaker

Kathuri Murungi, Senator Wakili Hillary Sigei, Senator Hamida Kibwana and Senator Tabitha Mutinda.

Speaker Kingi hailed the warm and cordial ties between Kenya and the Republic of Korea that go back many years and formed a foundation for vibrant trade, investment opportunities and other mutually-beneficial engagements in the global arena.

“Kenya Parliament will be glad to partner with the Parliament of the Republic of Korea, through avenues such as Parliamentary Friendship Group to enhance our relationship as legislatures.

“Your presence is adequate testimony that our two countries are enjoying warm and cordial relations and that,

going forward, things can only get better. As parliament, we would like to learn the best practices from you and vice versa,” said Speaker Kingi.

He briefed the delegation of the transformations in Kenya’s political landscape that culminated in the 2010 Constitution which ushered in devolution and created the Senate as the protector of the 47 County Governments.

“The primary role of the Senate is to safeguard the interests of the 47 County Governments. The Senate ensures the County Governments get their equitable share of the national cake; decides how much goes to the county governments and how much remains at the national level; and also provides oversight over spending of the money allocated to the County Governments,” he said.

Speaker Kim congratulated Hon Kingi for his election as Speaker and expressed confidence that under his leadership, the Senate will help deepen ties between Kenya and Korea.

He said the visit to Korea by President William Ruto in November last year, during which he also visited the National Assembly of Korea, has taken the relations between Kenya and Korea a notch higher.

“I am impressed by President Ruto’s vision for Kenya and Africa. Our two countries now have a great opportunity to strengthen their relationship,” said Speaker Kim.

Noting that his visit to Kenya came 10 years after a similar one by his predecessor, Speaker Kim registered his appreciation for the warm relations Kenya and Korea have nurtured, resulting in great mutual benefits for the two countries.



Speakers Kingi and Kim Jin-Pyo lead a meeting of the delegations of the two Parliaments on Thursday.



# Take advantage of free Wi-Fi to grow your business, Committee tells Lodwar residents

The Committee on Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) launched free public two Wi-fi access portals during the Senate Mashinani in Turkana County.

The move is in line with the Government's policy of connecting Kenyans to the internet as one of the ways of leveraging on technological advancement across the country.

The two portals are at Lodwar Fresh Produce and Livestock Market and Lodwar Police Station.

The Chairperson of the Committee Allan Chesang urged traders in Lodwar town to take advantage of the connectivity to improve their business, promising to work with the Cabinet Secretary for ICT Eliud Owalo, to set up digital hubs across Turkana County.

"The future of this country is in technology. We have connected you to the internet it is upon you to use it and connect with your suppliers and customers," said Senator Chesang.

He promised the traders the com-



ICT Committee chair Allan Chesang, Senators Miraj Abdulrahman and Karen Nyamu purchase some fresh produce at the Lodwar Fresh Produce Market after they launched free Wi-Fi portal at the market.

mittee will go back to launch the digital hubs so that youths can start doing on-line jobs.

The vice chairperson of the committee Miraj Abdulrahman underscored the importance of the internet connectivity in today's tech-oriented marketplace, urging the traders to utilise the power of social media to advertise their produce and livestock.

"The world out there think that you

aren't connected to the internet. But we have inspected various ICT projects in the county, which means you're well connected. Take advantage of the free Wi-Fi to post your businesses on Facebook and Tiktok so that you can get more customers," advised Senator Miraj.

The Committee also inspected the Lodwar County Server Room; the Core Site Under the Eastern African Regional Transport, Trade and Development Fa-

cilitation Project (EARTTDFP); Turkana County Government NOFBI Server Room; Google Installations and Server Room at Lodwar County Referral Hospital; and, Kanamkemer Resource Center.

The Senators expressed their satisfaction with the ICT installations in Turkana County and reiterated their support in distributing the ICT infrastructure across the country.



Senator Chesang addresses traders at the Lodwar Fresh Produce and Livestock Market during the launch of the free Wi-Fi portal in the town.

## We will facilitate increased allocation to revive fishing industry along Lake Turkana, says Committee



Members of the Agriculture Committee led by Chairman James Murango (centre) inspect the fishing nets used by fishermen in Lake Turkana when the Committee visited the lake to inspect fishing conditions. Also in the picture are senators Dan Maanzo (left), Enoch Wambua (second left) and David Wakoli (right).

The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries has assured fishermen around Lake Turkana that the Senate will push for more resource allocation to facilitate the revival of factories and the acquisition of the modern fishing gears and boats to support the fishermen maximise their potential.

The committee, which is chaired

by Kirinyaga senator James Morango, gave the assurance after more than 4000 fishermen based in Kalokol, Turkana County, laid bare their frustrations in the hands of foreigners who they accuse of exploiting them of the resources from Lake Turkana.

"Turkana County has the potential of feeding this country not only through the supply of fish, but other agricultural pro-



Right: Senator David Wakoli waves to the fishermen who attended the meeting with the committee in Kalokol town. Left: Agriculture Committee chair James Murango admires fish caught from Lake Turkana during the visit to Kalokol.

duce. We will do everything possible to make sure that this fish processing plant is revived so that the locals can have development," said Senator Murango.

The fishermen told the Committee how liberalized market has affected their fish trade and left them in the hand of foreign traders exploiting their sweat on the cheap.

The fishermen narrated how a fish storage and processing plant funded by the Norway government has remained without use following a political disagreement between Norway and the Kenyan government in 1991.

Poor fishing gears, lack of fibre boats and storage facilities still hamper adequate fishing in the North Lake.

"When the government liberalised

the market, it brought to us a free market which is now hurting us. Ugandans and Congolese came and started buying fish at cheaper and lower prices that is no longer helping us as fishermen and as a community," said the fishermen, through their spokesman Sammy Emuria

The Committee agreed there is need to strengthen policies to regulate the fishing in the northern Lake.

Members of the committee who attended the event were senators Enock Wambua, Alex Mundigi, Dan Maanzo, Wakoli Wafula, Beth Syengo.

The locals charged that fish farming has provided food to hundreds of families in the area, thereby reducing the famine crisis that has stricken the area for years.



## Katilu Irrigation scheme is a catalyst to food sufficiency, says agriculture committee



*The Chairman of the Agriculture Committee James Murango (right) and Senators Eddy Aketch and David Wakoli share experiences with farmers when the committee toured Katilu Irrigation Scheme in Turkana South.*

The Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries has said the Katilu Irrigation Scheme in Turkana County is a key catalyst in ensuring food security in the country.

However, the committee admitted that the road towards food sufficiency faces danger as Kenya's irrigation sector faces increasing physical and economic water scarcity coupled with the cost of infrastructural maintenance.

"It is against this backdrop that we appreciate irrigation projects like Katilu Irrigation Scheme, which not only have a

positive impact on the communities, but are also huge catalysts in spearheading the push toward the food Security Agenda of the Government," said Senator Murango, who is chairs the committee.

The Senator made the remarks after the committee made an extensive tour of the scheme as part of the Senate Mashinani activities in Turkana County.

The committee toured the Scheme and held interactive sessions with officials of the County Government, local leaders and farmers, and other agriculture stakeholders over the state of the Scheme.



*Members of the Agriculture Committee with the officials from the National Irrigation Authority at the Katilu Irrigation Scheme during the visit.*

The Committee was satisfied with activities at the scheme, but observed the need for the state to address the state of security at the border of Turkana and West Pokot to promote crop production.

"It's very rare to get places with good farm produce like this. I think it's important to address insecurity as well as provide subsidized fertilizers as a means of promoting agriculture in this region" said Senator Murango.

The committee called for close co-ordination between the County Government, the National Irrigation Authority, and farmers in running the Scheme, stating that agriculture was a devolved function.

He said adopting and putting to good use water-efficient irrigation technologies is necessary for delivering water to every irrigable acre without creating conflict with other sectors."

Covering over 2,000 acres, the farmers cultivate tomatoes, groundnuts,

green grams, tomatoes, groundnuts, sorghum, kales, fruit trees (pawpaw and apple mangoes), watermelons, and banana tissue culture.

During the tour, NIA acting CEO Charles Muasya told Senators that irrigation schemes and projects within the County are characterised by heavy flooding, heavy siltation, Prosopis Infestation and unstable riverbanks which require frequent rehabilitation.

Over the years, NIA has been on the forefront in supporting farmer organizations.

"NIA has carried capacity building of farmers' organisations through formation of IWUAs and training of farmers' leaders in Katilu, Lokubae, Elelea and Morulem schemes.

NIA is currently collaborating with other key stakeholders such as the county government so as to improve and enhance the farmers' training in the other smallholder schemes in Turkana County.

## You must pay locals their due in oil deal, Energy Committee tells Tullow oil

The Committee on Energy has raised concerns over the failure by Tullow Oil to make payment to the County Government of Turkana and the local community after the sale of two oil batches in 2019.

Even though the firm sold the two batches of crude oil from Turkana oil wells between 2019 and 2022 it has not disclosed the amount and its value.

However, of concerns to the Senators is the fact that no payment was made to either the county government or local community, which has raised questions about the oil giant's financial dealings in the area.

During a visit to the area during the recent Senate Mashinani, the committee questioned the lack of accountability in the firm's operations and demanded compensation of up to Sh13 billion for the County Government and the local community from the sale.

"Tullow oil should tell us how they will benefit the people of Turkana and

the entire country," said Kakamega senator Boni Khalwale during the tour of the oil fields by the committee during the Senate Mashinani.

Available data indicates that the oil giant is expected to release 20 per cent, Sh10.4 billion of its proceeds to the County government of Turkana and another 5 per cent (Sh2.6 billion) to local residents

Mr Franklin Juma, Tullow Oil's External Affairs Manager, clarified that the company had not yet reached the commercial phase, and the two batches were solely for testing purposes, with the proceeds used to cover drilling costs.

But this was rejected by Senator Danson Mungatana who questioned the contractual agreement signed between the firm and the County and the Community on the other.

"How can a company use your land or your house to conduct business or profit then pay you later? I thought it was proper to pay the landlord in advance,"



*Senator Eddy Aketch makes his contribution when the Committee on Energy toured the site of oil drilling in Lokichar, Turkana County.*

asked Senator Mungatana.

Area senator James Lomenen questioned why the County was not involved in the sale of the oil, highlighting the significance of transparency and community engagement in the transactions.

Senator Wahome Wamatinga, who chairs the committee, said there is need to properly address the failure by the firm to make the payments which he noted re-

mains paramount to restoring confidence and paving the path for a more inclusive operation in Turkana County.

"Amidst the operational challenges and community grievances, a transparent and equitable resolution to the payment issue stands as a crucial step towards achieving sustainable development and shared prosperity," ruled Senator Wamatinga.



## Integrate traditional birth attendants into the provision of maternal health, Health Committee advises Turkana County Government



Senators Jackson Mandago (right) and Abdul Haji (second right) engage with workers at Kangagatei dispensary when the Health Committee made an inspection tour of health facilities in Lodwar.



Senators Jackson Mandago (centre), Mariam Omar (second right), Esther Okenyuri (fourth right) and Abdul Haji (third left) with local leaders and health workers during inspection of health facilities in Lodwar town.

Senator Jackson Mandago has challenged the County Government of Turkana to integrate traditional birth attendants into the provision of maternal health.

He said the County should provide training in safe delivery methods and offer payment to these attendants so that they can assist those in need.

The Senator, who is the chairman of the committee on Health, advised the County Government to compensate the attendants for their services.

“It is high time that the County Gov-

ernment of Turkana considers integrating traditional birth attendants into the provision of maternal health,” he said.

Senator spoke when he led members of the Committee on Health for a tour of Kangagatei dispensary, a primary healthcare hub located in Turkana County during the Senate Mashinani initiative.

The committee had the opportunity to witness a community outreach activity at the dispensary which primarily caters to minor health interventions related to children, lactating women, pregnant women, and maternal health.

During the tour, the committee was confronted with the local cultural belief that prohibits women from being assisted by male healthcare practitioners during childbirth.

This has led many women to give birth at home.

Besides, the committee was told that healthcare practitioners deployed to villages oftentimes do not understand or speak the local language. This has created a language barrier which has hindered effective communication with patients and, subsequently, the provision of suit-

able solutions to medical problems.

During the visit, the committee was treated to a demonstration by community health promoters regarding the Integrated Community Management of Childhood Diseases, a programme supported by World Vision and UNICEF.

The demonstration shed light on the invaluable work being done by grassroots organizations in improving healthcare access and outcomes within the community.

## Senators push for carbon credit pay for the community around Lake Turkana Wind Power project



Senator Wahome Wamatinga, the chairman of the Committee on Energy, speaks to the media after the meeting between the committee and the management of the Lake Turkana Wind Power. He is flanked by Senators Abbas Sheikh (left), James Lomenen, Danson Mungatana, Boni Khalwale and William Kisang.

The Committee on Energy has expressed concerns on the disconnect between Lake Turkana Wind Power and the local community which has worked to the disadvantage of the later.

The committee expressed regret that

the local community has reaped little to no rewards from the carbon credits as a result of this disconnect.

A major player in Kenya's energy sector, the LTWP has acquired carbon credits, as a recognition of its environmentally friendly operations.

These credits were intended to funnel financial benefits back to the communities in the project's locality, but this has not happened.

Mr. Rizwan Fazal, LTWP's Executive Director, confirmed during a recent visit to the area that the acquisition of

carbon credits but acknowledged that these benefits had not been effectively channeled to the intended beneficiaries.

“We are deeply committed to our corporate social responsibility and ecological preservation, which is why we obtained these carbon credits,” Mr Fazal told the committee during the tour of the facility during the Senate Mashinani

The admission alarmed the committee which vowed to engage Kenya Power, the primary recipient of the carbon credits, to account for the unremitted benefits.

Kenya Power is expected to provide clarity on the allocation and utilisation of the funds.

Senator Wahome Wamatinga, who is the chairman of the committee, said the carbon credits are important to the local community, emphasizing that they should be reaping the rewards of LTWP's commitment to clean energy practices.

“As we work to make electricity more affordable for all Kenyans, we cannot overlook the importance of ensuring that the benefits of such green initiatives are delivered to the very communities they were intended for,” he said.



# We are understaffed, Turkana schools' plea to Senate for more teachers



*Education Committee members inspect classrooms at St. Bernadette in Lodwar town.*

As part of its outreach programme during the third Senate Mashinani, the Committee on Education conducted an extensive tour of education facilities in Turkana County.

Some of the facilities the committee toured were St. Bernadette School for the Deaf, Nakwamekwi and the Education Assessment Resource Centre (EARC) at the Lodwar Mixed Primary School in Lodwar.

The aim of the tour was to assess the infrastructure, human capital, strengths and challenges encountered by the two learning institutions and by extension all the institutions in the County.

Understaffing was the main challenge in the two institutions, the committee was told, with St. Bernadette School for the Deaf recording a deficit of 8 teachers.

The school head teacher told the Legislators that the school has only 5 teachers handling learners from grade one to

class 8. The teacher pleaded with the Senators to intervene and push for deployment of more teachers owing to the specialised needs of the learners in the school.

Lodwar Mixed Primary school with a population of over 1800 learners has only 27 teachers an issue that the school head appealed for intervention to deploy more teachers.

The school head called on leaders to come in and help the school put up a security fence revealing that security of the learners is occasionally at risk due to lack of the fence.

Later, the Committee held a meeting with representatives of People With Disabilities who appealed to the Lawmakers to help address the challenge of renewal of cards for PWDs.

Senators present were Joe Nyutu (Chairperson), John Kinyua, Joseph Githuku, Lenku Kanar Seki, Johnes Mwaruma and George Mbugua.



*The chairman of Education Committee Joe Nyutu signs the Visitors' book at St. Bernadette School.*



*Consultative meeting between Senators, the Education Committee of County Assembly and teachers at St. Bernadette School in Lodwar.*



*Senator Lenku Kanar Seki greets pupils at St. Bernadette School.*



# We need more Police Reservists, Turkana Security team pleads during Senate Mashinani



National Security Committee Chairman William Cheptumo (left) and Senator Kanar Seki follow proceedings during a meeting between the Committee and members of Turkana County Security team.

The Turkana County Security team has said the National Police Reservists add value in the fight against crime in the area and has proposed the National Government increase their numbers to help stem cases of insecurity cases in the County.

Currently there are 1,125 NPRs in Turkana County with 625 trained and 500 untrained and the team is proposing an increase by an additional 1090 NPRs officers if the County has to effectively fight crime.

County Commissioner Jacob Ouma told the Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations that based on their understanding of the terrain of the County, NPR have had an impact on fight against cattle rustling.

"The National Police Reservists play a critical role in safeguarding community livestock and maintenance of general

security in far-flung areas given the vastness of the county," Mr Ouma told the committee which is chaired by Senator William Cheptumo.

NPR guard herders in grazing fields and water points, provide armed security to the Kraals where both people and livestock stay besides providing vital intelligence to security apparatus.

The County Commissioner briefed the committee the factors that have contributed to cattle rustling menace and banditry in the county even as he suggested the interventions that must be put in place to curb the vices.

Reasons contributing to cattle rustling and banditry are inherent in hostility among ethnic groups, competition for pasture, browsing and water resources, boundary disputes and cultural practices.

Other reasons are commercial interest and breach of agreements.



Turkana County Commissioner Jacob Ouma explains a point during the meeting.

"Commercialisation of cattle theft is steadily taking root among pastoral communities and high demand for meat and hides has pushed some individuals to engage in stealing livestock for sale in slaughter houses and livestock markets," he submitted.

Whenever the Kenya Meat Commission (KMC) advertises for purchase of livestock in specific areas cases of cattle theft register a rise, he emphasized.

The main challenges hindering security personnel's response to insecurity in the area are lack of enough motor vehicles, poor network coverage, lack of modern weapons, delayed allowances for officers in operation area, poor road network, hostility from host communities and inadequate fuel allocation for each motor vehicle monthly.

Other recommendations were deployment of KDF along areas with

Kenya borders such as Kibish, Loima and Kasarani area in Turkana East and deployment of additional Special Unit camps at Maruasi, Kamuge, Napeitom, Lokipoto and Loteteleit.

Turkana Governor Jeremiah Lomurukai appealed to National Government to enhance security operations so as to give citizens a conducive environment to carry on with their daily activities.

He however raised concerns on harassments of Kenyans at the border by foreign forces appealing to the Committee to intervene and have the issue addressed amicably.

Apart from Senator Cheptumo, other senators who attended the meeting were Senators Karen Nyamu (Vice Chairperson), Fatuma Dulo, George Mbugua, Lenku Seki and Joseph Githuku.

## Help us get resources to register community land, Turkana stakeholders tell Committee on land



Stakeholders on the Community land in Turkana during the meeting with the Committee on Lands in Lodwar town.

The Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources has advised communities in Turkana to work together to ensure that Community land in the county is registered.

The Committee, which is chaired by Senator John Methu also assured the stakeholders of its full support in ensuring that challenges regarding Community Land in the county are addressed.

The Ministry of Lands officials in the County revealed that Turkana County is vast and requires more resources, both

human and financial, to register all the Community land in the county.

The County Executive Committee incharge of Land Peter Akono informed the Committee that some sub-counties have no physical planner and surveyors which forces members of the public to travel to Lodwar to seek the services.

"The absence of by-laws to improve urban governance has been a challenge and also the improved spatial plan of Lodwar has limited space and should be expanded," said CEC Akono.



Senator John Methu, the chairman of Committee on Land, stresses during the meeting. He is flanked by senators Agnes Kavindu (left) and Mariam Omar.

The County also suggested that the boundary with the neighboring West Pokot County has to be looked into because it is an emotive factor.

"We are committed to working with the committee on Land of the Senate to ensure that our Ministry vision and mission are in line with the best interest of our community. We value your input in this matter," said Mr Akono.

"You have our full support. This committee will at all times be available to extend any kind of support you need. Don't

hesitate to reach out," Senator Methu said during a meeting of the committee and stakeholders in Lodwar town during the Senate Mashinani.

Besides the county government, the meeting also brought together representatives of the Ministry of Lands, the National Lands Commission (NLC) and Committee on Land of the County Assembly of Turkana County Assembly.



# Senate Mashinani is meant to ensure that oversight is not remote, says Clerk Nyegenye



Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye and the County Assembly of Turkana Clerk Linus Lokawa after the latter surrendered his office to the former on the first day of Senate Mashinani in Lodwar.

“Our presence here is part of the tradition we have established of taking the Senate to the people. We take the Senate away from the bubble that is Nairobi so that the lawmakers can interact and listen to the concerns of the people members represent.

The Senate needs to know where the County Assemblies are in line with our constitutional mandate of protecting counties and their governments.

Oversight is not remote. The Senate and senators must interact. The choice of Turkana County was meant to spread the opportunity for interaction, showcase transformation brought about by development of the last 10 years of devolution.

Turkana County is a fitting choice because it showed us where we are going as a country. Turkana County of today is

not the Turkana we all knew. There is transformation. We are going places as a country if the situation in Turkana is any guide. If we have to build something; if we have to build a unified country, we have to know our country.

Turkana County is the cradle of man. It has peculiar issues; there are issues related to oil, mining and many other natural resources.

Yet, it also has challenges, insecurity, banditry and harsh climatic conditions. Of course, these things can be addressed theoretically, but the best thing that we did was to bring Senators to the people so that they could have real interaction and they did.

Most importantly, our presence here offers an opportunity for peer learning and exchange of ideas between staff of the Senate and their counterparts in the County Assembly.

# Senate Mashinani offered high quality capacity building for MCAs and staff, says County Assembly Clerk



Mr Linus Lokawa, the Clerk of County Assembly of Turkana, when he appeared before the County Public Accounts Committee (CPAC) to discuss the financial statements for the 2020/21 financial year at the Assembly premises during the Senate Mashinani in Turkana County.

Mr Linus Lokawa, the Clerk of the County Assembly of Turkana, has hailed the leadership of the Senate for choosing to sit in the county saying the decision was the seal of approval of how devolution has worked in Turkana.

In an interview with the Senate

Weekly in the County Assembly premises in Lodwar town, Mr Lokawa said the relationship between the two should endure for many years to come. Excerpts.

**Q: How is it to have the Senate sitting in the Turkana County?**

**A:** The feeling is great. It has granted me some bragging rights among my colleagues within SOCATT – the Society of Clerks At The Table – which is a membership organisation of table clerks. The question has been how as an Assembly we pulled it. I will have a lot to tell them in the next meeting. But one thing is for sure: Senate Mashinani is real.

**Q: What has been the most exciting thing about the Senate coming to Turkana?**

**A:** The feeling among our colleagues (and even the Turkana County Executive) is how we at the Assembly succeeded in convincing the Senate leadership to come to Turkana County. My phone has been ringing off the hook. There has been curiosity about the Senate Mashinani in Turkana County.

**Q: Okay, tell us. How did you pull it off?**

**A:** Definitely our good work at the county Assembly was our major selling point. Then, there was bit of curiosity across the board as many people, including Senators, wanted an opportunity to

visit Turkana County, the Cradle of Man.

**Q: What is your assessment of the Senate's one-week presence in Turkana County?**

**A:** The County Assembly has accrued many benefits from the visit. First, we received high-level capacity building of both staff and members. We also learnt a lot in terms of House rules and procedural issues and this for free of charge.

It would have been costly for the Assembly to recruit a consultant to train us on these issues. The Senate Mashinani saved us the huge expenditure outlay, something we can only be grateful to the leadership of the Senate.

The general infrastructure around the County Assembly has also improved. The construction of the building hosting our committee rooms and offices which had stalled is now completed, ready for occupation. We have received some equipment in the chamber like TV Monitors, the Speaker's chair and microphones. We have requested the Senate to donate some these equipment to us. The leadership of the Senate was so gracious as to grant us our request and donate the equipment to us.

**Q: It may be another 50 years before the Senate Mashinani comes back to Turkana County. Are you okay with this or do you think the frequency of the Senate Mashinani is increased so**

**that Turkana County gets another opportunity to play host?**

**A:** It is clear that being an annual event is not enough to address the big appetite for this event in all the 47 counties. My view is that the Senate should be able to go around the counties in one election cycle. This will allow all the 47 County Assemblies to get the opportunity to host. For us in Turkana, we want to have another round of Senate Mashinani in the near future, not the next 50 years. I am convinced that Senate Mashinani is popular and the good feedback we shall give will help the leadership of the Senate push for increased budgetary allocation for this outreach so that the lawmakers can get to the people more often.

**Q: Your final word?**

**A:** It was our wish that the Senate Mashinani coincides with Turkana Tourism and Cultural Festival popularly known as Tobonglore. Unfortunately, it was never to be. We wanted the two events to connect. Initially planned for October 2, 2023 the Cultural event was pushed to October 12 as a result of the request of the Office of the President. We welcome all Senators and members of staff to the event.



# Former Speaker Ethuro says Senate Mashinani will hasten implementation of devolution

Former Senate Speaker Ekwee Ethuro has welcomed the Senate Mashinani in Turkana County said it effectively promoted engagements between the people and their representatives besides according the lawmakers the opportunity to visit the countryside.

In an interview with the Senate Weekly, Mr Ethuro described Senate Mashinani as a practical tool which will hasten the implementation of devolution for the benefit of the country.

Mr Ethuro, who served as the Speaker of the Senate from 2013 to 2017, said Senate Mashinani must be encouraged.

“As the guardian angels of devolution, I am very happy and encouraged that Senate Mashinani is happening in Turkana County,” said the former Speaker, who also hails from the County.

“I am happy that the Senate leadership made the decision [to sit in Turkana County]. This is proof that representation and oversight are not theoretical. This is important in encouraging conversation on devolution.”



*Speaker Emeritus Ekwee Ethuro: Senate Mashinani is key in implementing devolution*

Besides granting Senators the opportunity to see the impact of devolution in the communities, Senator Ethuro was particularly excited with the choice of Turkana County because of history.

“It is among the far-flung areas that were victims of marginalization for many years. The decision to hold the sittings in Turkana County is good. It will impact on how devolution will be implemented,” he explained

During the Senate’s sojourn in the County, senators, at both individual and group, interacted with the local community. Committees of the House visited various projects in this vast county, held consultations with local leadership and

The Members of County Assemblies (MCAs) attended plenary sittings and experienced the Senate committee proceedings, which offered them huge lessons on how to execute their mandate.

“I am happy it is happening in Turkana County,” he told the Senate Weekly. He said the tour offers the Senators the opportunity to visit remote parts of the country and see the impact of devolution.

The former Speaker encouraged the Senate leadership to consider such visits to far flung areas as this reminds all that Kenya is one unitary state

“Residents of these areas can’t come to Nairobi because of many reasons. But they appreciate when issues concerning them being raised right in their faces. It is a rare opportunity,” said Ethuro, who also served as Turkana Central MP for three terms.

## A Senate Staff impression of Turkana on the first visit



*Public Communications Officers at the Senate Exhibition tent at the County Assembly of Turkana premises. The Author is on the second left*

Until 2023 Senate Mashinani came around, I had never set foot in Turkana County. The much I knew about the County was through tales from friends who had the occasion to visit the area or news from the mass media.

Oftentimes, the stories were as much

about banditry as much as they were about cattle rustling. About famine, starvation or floods.

Once in a while something good did pop up. Like the reports on the discovery of fresh underground water in the county or even the oil, the black gold, 10 years ago.

These are the images that conjured up in my mind as we set off for the two-day, 800km long road trip up north, to Lodwar town, the seat of Turkana County, for the third Senate Mashinani that was held in the county.

A sleep over in Eldoret town was a welcome break in this bone-jarring trip made better by the smooth thoroughfare that is Nairobi-Eldoret -Kitale - Lodwar Road.

From Eldoret we went through Kitale town in Trans Nzoia County, took an easterly turn to Kapenguria in West Pokot County before finally crossing over into Turkana County.

Save for the searing heat, Turkana County, with its huge swathes of barren sandy soils and scattered vegetations, is a beautiful place.

While the high temperatures proved too much for most of us, first timers in the county, things are not anywhere near what I had imagined all along as I came to discover during my 6 days stay in the county, famously described as the Cradle of man.

The town, and the county is generally peaceful. The roads leading to, and within, Lodwar town are well paved and well lit at night.

From Lokichar, 85KM, before Lod-

war, on the main Kapenguria Road, the junction to the famous Ngamia One, the site of oil drilling that, is easily noticeable.

The discovery of the oil has a had a huge impact on the face of this place, we were told. The future looks bright because Tullow Oil, the company that is doing the exploration, told the Committee on Energy tour on the facility the deposits are commercially viable.

The thoroughfare from Lokichar to Lodwar is as smooth as a baby face. The town has street lights on either side, a clear testimony that devolution is working.

Like all other growing metropolis, Lodwar town is dotted with nice hotels. From Acacia, Stegra, Cradle to Quanam the facilities are fit for purpose as they serve the rich clientele composed of humanitarian workers who serve to refugees in Kakuma refugee camp.

The cuisines are delicious and hospitality very nice, at least judging by the local standards. We had a variety of meals to sample from ranging from chicken, beef, fish and even vegetables.

Who would have expected this in Turkana County?

By Mike Mwamuye



# Invest in projects that directly benefit the people, CPAC tells Governors after Turkana projects inspection



The County Public Accounts Committee (CPAC) has asked the 47 Governors to invest money in projects that have a direct impact on the people.

The Committee, whose mandate is to consider the annual Auditor General's reports for counties and their entities, regretted that after 10 years the fruits of devolution are yet to be fully felt.

"We want to tell Governors that they should have mercy on our people and put money only where people can benefit. It cannot always be about the political class," said Senator Otieno Kajwang, the committee chairman.

The Senator made the plea after the committee conducted an extensive tour of development projects initiated by the Turkana County Government in Lodwar town during the recent Senate Mashinani in the County.

Apart from the tour, the committee also considered Auditor General's reports for both Turkana County Executive and County Assembly for the year 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years.

It also toured projects that have been initiated by the County Government since the advent of devolution in 2013.

Among the projects the committee toured are the ongoing construction works at the proposed County Headquarters, the stalled Governor's residence, the Speaker's residence, the new County Assembly premises and the Lodwar Fire Station.

All the projects have stalled despite the County Government having sunk in billions of shillings.

The County Headquarters was to be constructed for three years at the initial cost of Sh696 million. The contract was signed in May, 2015 and it was to run for period of 36 months with the completion date of June 2017.

But the cost was later varied by 25 per cent and the project bringing the total expenditure to Sh809 million. The project was given three new completion dates, the third being June 2019 but which was pushed to June 2020 and a further extension to December 2020 but still the project is not complete.

The Committee directed the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) to investigate why the projects have stalled despite hundreds of millions of Shillings that have been invested.

1. Members of the County Public Accounts Committee (CPAC) led by chairman Moses Kajwang (red tie on a white shirt) arrive at the Turkana County Headquarters for the inspection tour of various development projects in Lodwar town. The chair is accompanied by Senators Mwenda Gataya Mofire and Richard Onyonka.
2. The committee and Governor Jeremiah Lomorukai address the media at the end of the inspection of development projects in Lodwar.
3. Members engage the contractor of the County Headquarters project.
4. The stalled Governor's official residence in Lodwar town. Construction works started in 2015.
5. Senators inspect the stalled Governor's residence.
6. CPAC chairman Moses Kajwang and Governor Jeremiah Lomorukai at the Lodwar Fire Station.



# House paves the way for UHC roll out after two key passed in Turkana sittings

Kenya has inched closer to the dream of health care for all after the House passed two crucial Bills that lays down the legal framework for Universal Health Coverage (UHC) roll out.

The Facilities Improvement Financing Bill, 2023 and the Primary Health Care Bill, 2023 were debated and passed by lawmakers during the Senate Mashinani sojourn in Turkana County.

The Facilities Bill provides for public health facility improvement financing, management and administration.

If signed into law, the Bill will ring fence the money generated by health facilities ensuring that there is a predictable, regular and steady source of funding for health facilities operation.

The Bill gives the health facilities the power to retain not only the revenues they generate out of the services they offer. It also makes provision for development partners and donors to also put in resources directly to facilities.

The law will allow health facilities address short-term emergency procurement of consumables that would have



*Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot consults Speaker Amason Kingi during debate on The Facilities Improvement Financing Bill, 2023 in the County Assembly of Turkana premises.*

taken time if regular procurement processes are followed as per the law.

“The Bill is intended to guarantee funds are utilised for improvement of patient care at individual facilities and you prevent them from being absorbed into the county coffers,” said Senator Aaron Cheruiyot, the Leader of majority, while moving the Bill on Tuesday, September 26, 2023.

The primary healthcare Bill will serve as the frontline defense in healthcare systems if enacted into law. It will ensure that there is universal access to essential services that promote health.

If Parliament approves the Bill, training will be offered to all the 100,000 Community Health Promoters (CHP) that are being set up across the country.

Other than training, the community

health promoters will be equipped with specific tools and equipment for their work and will be responsible for, at least, 1,000 homes.

The Bill is proposing the establishment of Primary Healthcare Advisory Council and creates the County Primary Health Care Advisory Committee.

Whereas the Council will advise National Government and county governments on implementation of primary healthcare, test the systems, ensure information exchange and transfer, all the 47 counties will have the Advisory Committee which will be tasked with ensuring there is effective implementation of primary healthcare through resources.

“It is now cardinal by law for certain levels of treatment to be available at various health levels, from dispensary to a health centre and sub-county hospital. It is stratified and defined so that a particular institution cannot pass and you do not have governors painting buildings and calling them health centers, where the only available thing is a cupboard and Panadol,” said Senator Cheruiyot.

The two Bills have been taken to the National Assembly for concurrence.

## Passing of Health Bills is victory for devolution



*Senator Godfrey Osotsi*

In a historic moment for devolution and healthcare, the Senate passed the Primary Healthcare Bill 2023 with significant amendments during Senate Mashinani in Turkana County.

This is a momentous achievement that reflects our commitment as senators to upholding the principles of Article 96 of the Constitution, safeguarding counties, and advancing the spirit of Devolution.

In its original form, the Bill contained provisions that were not only unconstitutional but also meant to undermine the progress we have made as a country in implementing devolution.

Adopting the proposals would have seen National Government wrestle control of key healthcare functions from counties.

We successfully passed essential amendments which support the Bill to establish proper framework and elaborate network delivery of access and management of primary healthcare.

I want to thank Senators for supporting and unanimously passing my proposed amendments which will see to it that there is:

- 1. Seamless Transition for Community Healthcare Volunteers (CHVs):** An amendment to clause 21 ensures a smooth transition for CHVs into community healthcare promoters without subjecting them to a rigorous selection process.
- 2. Involvement of County Assemblies:** An amendment to Clause 9 mandates the involvement of County Assemblies in enhancing primary oversight and enacting county legislation.
- 3. Protection against Political Misuse:** An amendment to Clause 22 safeguards community healthcare promoters from political exploitation by the National Government for political agendas.
- 4. Support for Community Healthcare Promoters:** An amendment to Clause 12 ensures adequate support for community healthcare promoters through training, provision of tools, monthly stipends, and supervision.
- 5. Additional Financial Support:** An amendment to Clause 13A requires the National Government to offer additional financial support to counties through grants, in line with existing laws on county governments. These grants will facilitate the payment of stipends to community healthcare promoters, among other primary healthcare obligations.
- 6. Elimination of an Unconstitutional Provision:** We have removed Clause 14, which aimed to establish a National Primary Healthcare Advisory Council headed by the Cabinet Secretary and populated by national government officers. Instead, we have proposed the establishment of such councils in every county to coordinate primary healthcare.

The amended Bill will now be presented to the National Assembly. We call upon members of the National Assembly to pass the bill as amended by the Senate, recognizing the importance of these changes in strengthening our healthcare system and preserving the principles of devolution.

**Senator Godfrey Osotsi**  
Chairperson, County Public Investments and Special Funds Committee





1. Speaker Amason Kingi in the company of senators arrive in Lodwar town for the third Senate Mashinani held in Turkana County.
2. The Speaker is welcomed at Lodwar Airstrip by Christopher Nakuleu, the Speaker of the County Assembly. Behind the Speaker is Senator Edwin Sifuna.
3. Turkana Governor Jeremiah Lomarakai was also at Lodwar Airstrip to receive The Speaker and his entourage.
4. Speaker Kingi Inspects the guard of honour mounted by officers from the Inspectorate Department of Turkana County government.
5. Members of the Kenya Women Senators Association (Kewosa) and Women MCAs from the County Assembly cheer after the Speaker was crowned a Turkana elder during a function at Cradle Hotel.
6. Speaker Kingi addresses a meeting Kewosa) and Women members of the County Assembly of Turkana at Cradle Hotel.
7. Speaker Kingi and Governor Lomorukai share a light moment when the Speaker paid a courtesy call at the Governor's office.





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8. Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot is crowned the Turkana Community elder.
9. Hon Christopher Nakuleu, Speaker of the County Assembly of Turkana is all smiles after he received the Speaker's chair gifted to the Assembly for hosting the third Senate Mashinani.
10. Minority Leader Madzayo looks on as he is made a Turkana elder.
11. Majority Whip Khalwale looks surprised as Assembly Speaker Nakuleu completes the task
12. Senator Maina is all smiles after she was crowned an elder.
13. It was Senator Lelegwe's turn.
14. Senator Haji adjusts the traditional head gear after he was crowned an elder.





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15. Speaker Kingi poses for a picture the meeting with members of the Kenya Women Senators Association (Kewosa) and women MCAs from the County Assembly in Lodwar.
16. Senator Hamida Kibwana, the chairperson of Kewosa, speaks to the media after meeting with Speaker Kingi.
17. Speaker Kingi is tickled by members of Kewosa and women MCAs after they crowned him a Turkana elder.
18. A Member of Turkana County Assembly women caucus crowns Speaker Kingi as a Turkana elder
19. Speaker Kingi is all smiles as he signs the visitors' book in the Governor's office after the courtesy call.
20. Speaker Kingi dances to a rendition of Turkana traditional song.





- 21: Turkana Governor Jeremiah Lomorukai (left) and Speaker of the County Assembly Hon Nakuleu escort Speaker Kingi out of the Lodwar Airstrip. Senator Joyce Korir, who is also a Commissioner at Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC), is on the left.
22. Speaker Kingi, accompanied by Senator Veronica Maina and Joyce Korir are shown around the premises of the County Assembly of Turkana premises by the Senate Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye. On the left is Mr Zakayo Mogere, who was the chair of the third Mashinani Planning Committee.
23. Senator Hamida Kibwana, Kewosa chairperson, makes her remarks during the meeting between the Association and the women MCAs from County Assembly of Turkana, Speaker Kingi was the chief guest.
24. Senator Kibwana Speaks to the media after the meeting with the women MCAs.
- 25.& 26. Speaker Kingi, Senator Raphael Chimera (left) Governor Dhadho Godhana and Senator Danson Mungatana clap as the first ever Bible translated into the Pokomo dialect is hoisted by members of the community during a dedication service in Tana River County on Friday, September 29, 2023. The translation process took 38 years but has been concluded, thanks to the role of many stakeholders and leaders among them President William Ruto.





- 27: Speaker Kingi and Governor Lomorukai in a meeting between Senate leadership and top officials of the county during the courtesy call.
- 28: The chairman of third Senate Mashinani Planning Committee Zakayo Mogere takes Speaker Kingi and Senator Joyce Korir for an inspection tour of facilities at the County Assembly of Turkana. They were accompanied by Senate Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye, third right.
- 29: Officers from the directorate of Serjeants-At-Arms of the Senate pose for a photo with their counterparts from the County Assembly of Turkana counterparts at the end of the formal sittings of the House in Lodwar.
- 30: Teachers and pupils of Seraphim Academy, Lodwar, were among the many visitors the Senate received. Here they are seen within the waiting room of the County Assembly premises.
- 31: Deputy Majority Whip Steve Lelegwe (third right), Senator Allan Chesang (in spectacles) and Senator Beth Syengo (in black) dance with Turkana traditional dancers after they landed in Lodwar for the Third Senate Mashinani.
- 32: Deputy Speaker Kathuri Murungi, Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot and Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo and Senator Esther Okenyuri join traditional dancers after their arrival in Lodwar for the third Senate Mashinani.
- 33: CSs Davis Chirchir and Salim Mvurya arrive at the County Assembly of Turkana premises where they responded to questions raised by members during the Senate Mashinani sitting in Turkana County.





34. PAG Secondary School, Lodwar, after attending Senate Plenary sitting at the County Assmby Premises.
35. Students of Lodwar Mixed Primary School when they visited the Senate exhibition tent at Turkana County Assembly buildings.
36. Pupils of Canopy primary School, Lodwar, follow Senate plenary proceedings at the County Assembly premises
37. Students from KMTC, Lodwar campus were among those who toured the Senate exhibition.
38. Turkana Senator James Lomenen with the Senate Catering team on the last day of the Senate Mashinani in the County.
39. Former Turkana Senator John Munyes also attended the Senate Plenary sittings in the County Assembly premises.



# Seneta Mandago aomba ufafanuzi kuhusu ruzuku kwa pembejeo

Seneta Jackson Mandago ameita-ka Kamati ya Kilimo, Mifugo na Uvuvi kutoa taarifa kuhusu mpan-go wa Serikali ya Kenya wa ruzuku kwenye pembejeo za kilimo.

Kwenye taarifa hiyo, Kamati hiyo inahitajika kueleza bei hakika ya mbegu kwa wakulima mbele ya msimu wa mvua fupi unaoanza, ikizingatiwa ongezeko linalotarajiwa kwa bei ya pembejeo kutokana na changamoto za kiuchumi kote duniani, na ifafanue mipango yoyote ya serikali, ikiwa ipo, ya kupunguza bei ya pembejeo nyingine muhimu za kilimo ikiwemo mbolea ya unyunyiziaji mimea wakati wa msimu ujao wa upanzi na kubainisha kiwango kitakachowekwa.

Kwingineko Seneta Mteule Hamida Kibwana ametaka taarifa kutoka kwa Kamati ya Leba na Maslahi ya Kijamii kuhusiana na madai ya kudhulumiwa



Seneta Jackson Mandago.

kwa wazee wanaoishi kwenye makao ya kuwashughulikia wazee ya PCEA Thogoto Care Home.

Haya yanajiri baada ya madai ya wazee kudhulumiwa kuangaziwa na makala maalumu ya kiuchunguzi kwenye kipindi cha BBC Africa Eye.

Hamida aliuliza taarifa hiyo kwenye majengo ya Bunge la Kaunti ya Turkana ambako Bunge ilifanya vikao vyake vya Senate Mashinani.

Katika ombi lake, Seneta huyo mteule anaitaka Kamati hiyo inayoon-gozwa na Seneta wa Pokot Magharibi

Julius Murgor ichunguze madai ya kudhulumiwa kwa wazee kwenye Makao ya Kuwatumiza Wazee ya PCEA Thogoto Care Home.

“Kamati ieleze ni hatua gani za dharura zimechukuliwa kuhakikisha mkao yote ya kuwashughulikia watu maalum kama wazee, yakiwemo makao ya PCEA Thogoto Care Home, yana-heshimu na kufuata sheria zilizopo,” al- isema Seneta Hamida.

Vile vile ameomba Kamati ya Se- neti ya Leba kutathmini upya sheria na mwongozo uliopo kuhusu makao ya kushughulikia watu wenye mahitaji maalum ikiwemo idadi na ubora wa wa- fanyakazi hitajika na itoe mapendekezo kwa wale wanashindwa kuafiki sheria na mwongozo ili kulinda haki za wakazi na kuendelea kwao kuishi vyema.

# Seneta Wafula Wakoli aitaka Wizara ya Masuala ya Kigeni kueleza hatima ya Wakenya 5 waliokwama nchini Malaysia



Seneta David Wakoli

Seneta Wafula Wakoli ametilia sha-ka utendakazi wa Wizara ya Ma- suala ya Kigeni na Ubalozi wa Kenya nchini Malaysia kwa kuzembea katika kuwashughulikia Wakenya wata- no waliokwama nchini Malaysia baada ya kuhadaiwa kupewa ajira ya malipo mema.

Seneta Wakoli amewasilisha ombi kwenye Bunge la Seneti akitaka majibu kuhusiana na hatima ya Wakenya hao.

Anataka utathmini wa kina na kuhojiwa kwa maafisa kwenye Wizara ya Masuala ya Kigeni na Wizara ya Us- alama wa Ndani na Utawala kufanywa kuhusiana na suala hilo.

Seneta huyo wa chama cha Ford Kenya alishangaa namna Wizara ya Ma- suala ya Kigeni kupitia kwa Ubalozi wa

Kenya jijini Kuala Lumpur nchini Ma- laysia haijafanya lolote kuwasaidia Wak- enya hao licha ya suala hilo kuripotiwa rasmi kwenye Ubalozi nchini Malaysia.

Alifichua taarifa ya kuteseka kwa Wakenya hao watano nchini Malaysia akitoa wito wa hatua za dharura ku- chukuliwa na mamlaka husika kuwareje- sha Wakenya hao nchini Kenya kando na kuwahakikishia haki.

“Watano hao waliuandikia Ubalozi wa Kenya jijini Kuala Lumpur, Malay- sia wakiomba usaidizi japo kufikia sasa hawajapokea majibu yoyote na kwa sasa wanaishi msituni wakati wa mchana na kulala kwenye bohari moja lililo karibu na msitu wakati wa usiku,” alifichua Se- neta Wakoli.

Kulingana na Kiongozi huyo,

waathiriwa walisafirishwa hadi nchini Malaysia kwa ahadi ya kuajiriwa japo ajira hiyo ilikumbwa na utata na msuru- ru wa masaiibu kwao.

Inadaiwa Kampuni ya Mawaka- la ya Elite Job Hub21 iliyowasafirisha watano hao iliwapokeza kwa raia mmoja wa Kenya nchini Malaysia ambaye ali- wapokeza kwa raia wa Pakistani kabla ya raia huyo wa Pakistani kuwapokeza kwa raia mmoja wa India ambaye baa- daye aliwapokeza kwa Kampuni ya Ki- china kwa jina J&T Cargo kwa ajira.

Kinyume na ahadi ya mbeleni ya kazi nzuri na malipo mazuri, watano hao walipewa kazi ya sulubu ikihusi- sha kupakia na kupakuwa mizigo mizito kama jokovu na mingine kwenye bohari la kampuni hiyo bila malipo.

Wakenya hao Sospeter Ngahu kuto- ka Kaunti ya Bungoma, Geoffrey Maina kutoka Kaunti ya Kiambu, Charles Gi- tonga kutoka Kaunti ya Nairobi, Dickson Amin na David Nyamanga wote kutoka Kaunti ya Kisumu wanadaiwa kufanya kazi jumla ya saa kumi na mbili kila siku kwenye mazingira magumu bila chakula cha kutosha huku cha kusikitisha zaidi wakinyima malipo.

Kadhalika Seneta Wakoli alifichua Bungeni kuwa Wakenya hao wanafan- ya kazi bila kandarasi yoyote rasmi wa- kiambiwa wazi wazi na mwaajiri wao

kuwa walinunuliwa kufanya kazi kama watumwa hivyo hapana malipo yoyote watakapopokea.

Seneta Wakoli aidha alishangaa endapo enzi ya utumwa imerejea dun- iani akizitaka Wizara husika kufanya hima kushughulikia tatizo linalowa- kumba Wakenya hao.

Akichangia kuhusiana na ombi hilo, Seneta wa Kaunti ya Migori Eddy Oketch alishangaa ni vipi Wakenya wasio na hatia wameteswa kwa muda mrefu nchini Malaysia bila serikali ku- chukua hatua yoyote.

Aliikashifu Wizara ya Masuala ya Kigeni kwa kile alikitaja kuwa kush- indwa kwayo kulishughulikia suala hilo ikiwaacha Wakenya kufanywa watum- wa kwenye taifa la kigeni.

Alisema ni kinaya kuwa serikali inawatuma maafisa wa usalama nje ya nchi kushughulikia maslahi ya raia wa kigeni ilhali haina mpango madhubuti wa kuwalinda raia wa Kenya wanao- teseka mikononi mwa walaghai katika nchi za kigeni.

Spika wa Seneti Amason Kingi ali- ahidi kuelekeza ombi hilo kwa Kamati husika ili ilishughulikie kwa dharura.



# Free medical clinic for residents as curtains come down on third Senate Mashinani



Residents of Lodwar town were the beneficiaries of free medical clinic during the just concluded Senate Mashinani.

The Clinic, held on Sunday, September 24, 2023, was sponsored by the Kenya Women Senators' Association (Kewosa) as part of its outreach programme.

The clinic included general clinical check-up, screening, medication administration and dermatology consultations.

The Camp kicked off with a big number of residents, mothers carrying babies, teenagers and the aged who went through the check-ups, consultancy as most were being offered medication from a Redcross mobile clinic track.

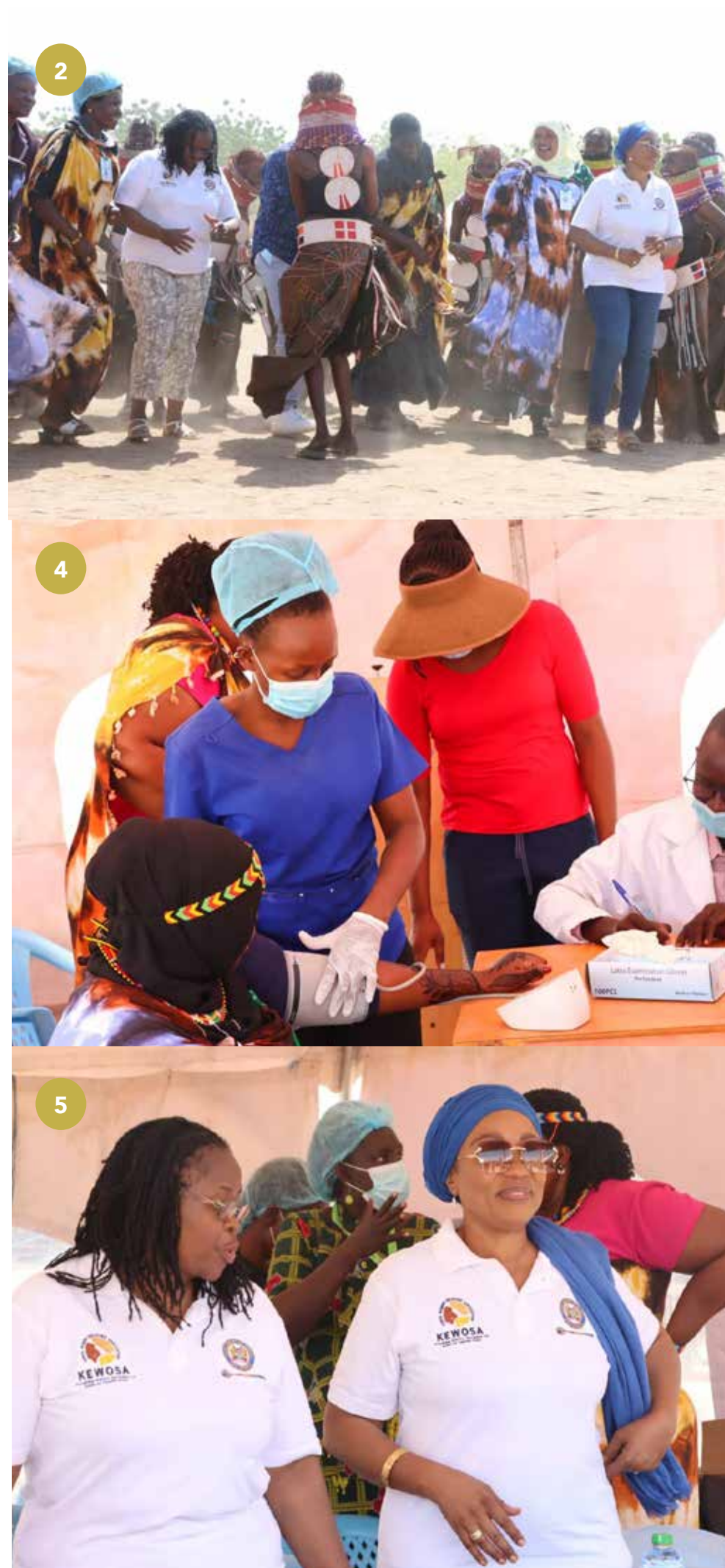
Nominated Senator Hamida Kibwana, who is the chair of Association, led the exercise which was conducted at the Kenya Prisons Field in Lodwar town, Turkana County.

The clinic was the dress rehearsal of the Senate Mashinani, which took place in Turkana County between September 25 and September 29, 2023.

Apart from Senator Kibwana, other Kewosa members who attended the event were Senators Agnes Kavindu, Catherine Mumma, Beth Syengo and David Wakoli.

They were joined by Women Members of the County Assembly of Turkana.

1. Turkana residents are issued with medication after diagnosis during the Free camp clinic in Lodwar organized by Kewosa.
2. Senators Hamida Kibwana, chairperson, Kewosa (right) and Catherine Mumma dance away to renditions of Turkana traditional songs during the free medical camp in Lodwar town.
3. Senator Beth Syengo makes her address during the event.
4. Residents who responded to the invite go through the treatment.
5. Senator Catherine Mumma and Hamida Kibwana at the event.







6. Senators Beatrice Ogola, Beth Syengo and Agnes Kavindu with Lodwar Girls' students after they gifted with sanitary pads. The lawmakers also delivered speeches meant to mentor the students.
7. Senators Ogola, Hamida Kibwana, the Kewosa Chair; and Agnes Kavindu pass to the Lodwar Girls School administration goodies the lawmakers delivered to the students.
8. Senators Veronica Maina, (in white top), Beth Syengo (third left) and Beatrice Ogola join the students and teachers of Lodwar Girls for a dance during the mentorship visit at the school.
9. Senators Kavindu and Kibwana, the Kewosa Chair, join the Girls in a dance
10. Senators Kibwana and Ogola join the Girls in a traditional dance
11. Kewosa Chair Hamida Kibwana, Senator Ogola and Senator Syengo gift the Girls during the visit.



# Cabinet Secretaries on the floor of the House



Three CSs have appeared on the floor of the House in the last two weeks to discuss weighty national issues raised by the lawmakers. Energy CS Davis Chirchir and Salim Mvurya of Mining and Blue Economy appeared during the Senate Mashinani in Turkana County. While Defence CS Aden Duale appeared before the House on September, 4, 2023.

CS Chirchir acknowledged the problem of power outages in Lodwar town pointing out that it stems from a malfunctioning generator, rendering it incapable of meeting the power demands of the region. A replacement is in the procurement pipeline. CS Mvurya said the government is planning to construct a gold refinery in Kakamega County, Western Kenya, because the area has huge deposits of Gold.

Cs Duale detailed to the House Kenya's military involvement in Somalia under AMISOM, now AT-MIS. He revealed that the decision to enter into Somalia was because Kenya's national security interest was threatened by al-Shabab and other terror groups who have found haven and a base within Somalia and the Horn of Africa.

"Secondly, we have a cardinal and moral responsibility to participate in regional peace, security and stability. Kenya is an anchor state. It is first among equals in this region. We have a moral, security and economic duty to protect our economic interest. We aim to participate and be a leader in the maintenance of regional peace, security and stability," he said.



## This Week in History



*"The World Health Organization (WHO) has ranked Kenya as one of the worst countries when it comes to road safety. It is just because of what keeps on happening. Every day, we lose our people. At that same spot, I read somewhere that we have lost over 100 lives. Today, we have lost 50. Nobody knows how many more will be lost for us to take action. Something must seriously happen. We urge the county to take the responsibility because when this happens, it affects a county. We also urge the national Government to support the bereaved families. What we are doing is not enough."*

**Senator Amos Wako** contributing to a debate on the grisly bus accident that killed more than 60 people in Fort Ternan, Kericho County on **October 12, 2018**.



*"It is very unfortunate that time and again, we keep sending condolences to the families who have lost their loved ones very carelessly on our roads. Kenya is a very reactive country; all the time we react and have reasons to blame each other. It is unfortunate that we always react and are not proactive. I have always said it and will continue to say that, as a nation, we should be very prepared and proactive."*

**Senator Rose Nyamunga** contributing to a debate on the grisly bus accident that killed more than 60 people in Fort Ternan, Kericho County on **October 12, 2018**.



*"It is quite unfortunate, as somebody has already pointed out, that as legislators, we have reduced ourselves to condolences passers only despite the fact that as Parliament, it is within our powers to summon some of the people that have been professionally negligent and led to the loss of lives."*

**Senator Aaron Cheruiyot** contributing to a debate on the grisly bus accident that killed more than 60 people in Fort Ternan, Kericho County on **October 12, 2018**.



*"Every time we have accidents, we come here and condole with families who have lost their beloved ones. It is a pity that we do not go beyond our debate here. We forget it very fast. We talk about banning night travel and so on. Is it a long-term solution? We, as Senators, are mandated by the Constitution to defend the interests of counties and their people."*

**Senator Ledama Olekina** contributing to a debate on the grisly bus accident that killed more than 60 people in Fort Ternan, Kericho County on **October 12, 2018**.





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