



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (THIRD SESSION)**

**THE SENATE**

**VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY, JULY 09, 2024 AT 2.30 PM**

1. The Senate assembled at thirty Minutes past Two O'clock.
2. The proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Speaker.
3. **QUORUM OF THE SENATE**

The Speaker, having counted the Honourable Senators present at the commencement of the Sitting and confirming that there was no Quorum, directed that the Bell be rung for ten minutes, pursuant to Standing Order 40;

And there being a Quorum before the expiry of the ten minutes;

The Speaker invited the Clerk to call out the Orders of the Day.

4. **PETITION**

Pursuant to Standing Order 236(2)(b), the Speaker reported a Petition to the Senate by former employees of the Kenya Cooperative Creameries Limited (KCC) concerning non-payment of outstanding terminal benefits and Maziwa Sacco dues.

Pursuant to Standing Order 238 (1), the Speaker committed the Petition to the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare for consideration.

5. **PAPER LAID**

The following Paper was laid on the Table of the Senate:

Report of the Auditor General on County Government's Revenue Funds for the Financial year 2022/2023, and Summary Report of the Auditor General on County Government's Revenue Funds for the Financial year 2022/2023.

*(Sen. John Methu, MP on behalf of the Senate Majority Leader)*

**6. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS****a) Statements pursuant to Standing Order 52(1)**

- (i) Nominated Senator (Sen. Tabitha Mutinda, MP), on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP) made a Statement concerning men's mental health.

The Senator highlighted the alarming state of men's mental health in Kenya, pointing to high rates of depression and the significant impact of mental health disorders on morbidity rates. She emphasized that societal expectations and stigma often deter men from seeking help, exacerbating their challenges.

In response to these issues, the Senator proposed a series of urgent measures. These include launching nationwide awareness campaigns to destigmatize men's mental health issues, ensuring accessible and tailored mental health services, implementing workplace mental health programs, and integrating mental health education into school curriculums. Drawing inspiration from successful global initiatives like the Movember Foundation and Heads Up Guys, she suggested adapting similar approaches in Kenya to raise awareness and provide support for men's mental health.

In conclusion, the Senator called upon her colleagues to support initiatives aimed at promoting mental health awareness and services for men. She stressed that by addressing these challenges head-on, Kenya can make significant strides in improving the well-being and quality of life for countless men across the country.

- (ii) Nominated Senator (Sen. Tabitha Mutinda, MP), on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP) made a statement regarding the recognition of the late Ms. Njambi Koikai's struggle with endometriosis and her efforts in raising awareness of the disease.

The Senator recognized the efforts made by the late Njambi Koikai, a renowned media personality, in raising awareness of endometriosis until her untimely demise at the age of 38, following years of struggle with the disease. The late Njambi long battled with a rare and extreme manifestation of endometriosis known as thoracic endometriosis, where endometriosis patches grow on or around the lungs, leading to repeated lung collapses.

The Senator applauded the late Njambi for using her platform as a media personality to raise public awareness of endometriosis and push for better healthcare support for women suffering from the disease.

The Senator also noted that despite thousands of women being affected by endometriosis, there is a lack of comprehensive studies and low public awareness of the disease in Kenya, which has contributed to many cases going undiagnosed or misdiagnosed.

Thereupon, the Senator called on the Ministry of Health to launch nationwide campaigns to educate the public about endometriosis, enhance access to quality diagnostic, counselling, and treatment services for endometriosis, and allocate resources for research on the prevalence and impact of endometriosis in Kenya.

**b) Requests for Statements pursuant to Standing Order 53(1)**

- i.) Nominated Senator (Sen. Crystal Asige, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Finance and Budget regarding an allocation of Kshs.156 billion given by the World Bank, to the Kenya Government, for the integration of 400,000 refugees.
- ii.) The Senator for Mombasa County (Sen. Mwinyihaji Faki, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources concerning land issues in the coastal counties.
- iii.) The Senator for Kakamega County (Sen. (Dr.) Boni Khalwale, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding the harassment by police of residents of Ikolomani Constituency in Kakamega County over gold mining rights.
- iv.) Nominated Senator (Sen. George Mbugua, MP) on behalf of the Senator for Marsabit County (Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations concerning on-going illegal mining activities at Hillo Gold Mine in Moyale, Marsabit County.
- v.) Nominated Senator (Sen. George Mbugua, MP) on behalf of the Senator for Marsabit County (Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding attacks on Marsabit County residents by Ethiopian Government forces.
- vi.) The Senator for Nyamira County (Sen. Okong’o Mogeni, SC, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries regarding the postponement of elections for the position of director of the Kenya Tea Development Agency (KTDA).
- vii.) Request for a Statement by the Senator for Bungoma County (Sen. David Wafula Wakoli, MP) from the Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries regarding the raw fertilizer donated to Kenya by Russia in 2023 was **dropped** in the absence of the Senator.

**7. MOTION-THE CURRENT STATE OF THE NATION**

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

RECOGNIZING the State of the nation at this moment; the ongoing protests following the passing of the Finance Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 30 of 2024) on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 by the National Assembly; the loss of lives, maiming and loss of property that has been occasioned following these protests;

COGNIZANT THAT pursuant to Article 115(1)(b) of the Constitution His Excellency the President of the Republic of Kenya declined to assent to the Bill and referred it back to the National Assembly with recommendations to delete all clauses of the Bill;

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT the conversation on the Finance Bill has triggered the broader important public conversation on the question of the high cost of living juxtaposed against the wasteful expenditure in all public institutions including Parliament;

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING the issues raised by the youth and other members of the public to do with corruption, impunity, incompetence within state and public appointments, opulent lifestyles of public officers, unemployment and high cost of living amongst other issues bedeviling the economy;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate—

1. calls upon-

- i) the National Assembly to expeditiously consider the presidential memorandum pursuant to Article 115(2)(a);
- ii) all government ministries, departments and agencies, and constitutional commissions, including Parliament, to put in place austerity measures in undertaking their respective functions;
- iii) the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and other government multi sector agencies in the governance, justice, law and order sector to upscale and make concerted efforts to fight corruption;
- iv) the National Police Service to cease abductions, unlawful arrests, extra judicial killings and exercise restraint in dealing with peaceful and unarmed demonstrators;
- v) release of all persons arrested for planning and participating in peaceful demonstrations relating to the enactment of the Finance Bill;
- vi) the government to waive hospital bills for persons who have been injured and defray funeral expenses for those who lost their lives, during the demonstrations; and
- vii) the Judiciary to prioritize and expedite all court cases relating to the enactment of the Finance Bill and the resultant demonstrations.

2. considers all the challenges facing the country and makes necessary recommendations to address them.

*(The Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader – 03.07.2024)*

Debate interrupted on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 resumed;

And the time being thirty Minutes past Six O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Hillary Sigei, MP) interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

8. **SENATE ROSE** - thirty Minutes past Six O'clock.

**M E M O R A N D U M**

*The Speaker will take the Chair on  
Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 9.30 a.m.*

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