



The SENATE

Weekly

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No witch-hunt, Senator Chimera tells Governors over Bill

The lawmaker is seeking “a cooling period” to allow the House to look into audit issues raised against governors seeking to join the Senate at the end of their term. He says the cooling period will allow the audit to be done in an impartial manner and that at the end of the day, the country will end up achieving real, tangible and results-oriented oversight.



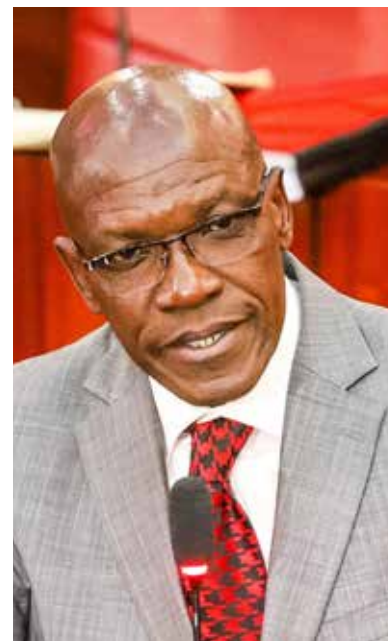
Senator Raphael Chimera



Senator Karungo Thang'wa



Senator Gloria Orwoba



Senator Boni Khalwale



Senator Okiya Omtatah

Senator Raphael Chimera has defended the proposal seeking to bar County Governors from running for Senate and County Assembly seats, saying the proposal is justifiable because the offices directly exercise oversight over county governments.

The lawmaker told the House that the proposal is meant to provide “a cooling period” to allow the Senate to look into audit issues raised against such governors in an impartial manner, without being afraid that one of its own is supposed to answer the questions.

At the end of the day, we will end up achieving real, tangible and results-oriented oversight, he told the House.

“I am not doing this out of witch-hunt or the fear to compete fairly with our colleagues who are serving as Governors,” said Senator Chimera.

He made the comments while moving debate on the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2023, whose debate

started before the House Adjourned for recess.

The Senator is the sponsor of the Bill, which if adopted, will amend Articles 99(2) and 193(2) of the Constitution as well as Sections 24(2) and 25(2) of the Elections Act so that persons who have served their full term as Governor will not be eligible to be elected as Senator or Member of County Assembly (MCA) for at least five years.

The Senate Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights and Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) have supported the Bill.

“I shudder to imagine that somebody who served as a full-term Governor appearing before a Committee that he sits in as a Member, or he chairs to answer questions on the misdirection and misapplication of finances under his watch. There will be conflict of interest,” he told the House.

He added that the Bill is borne out of

the desire for prosperity and the need to ensure there is proper accountability and transparency in the manner in which the funds get to the people of Kenya.

However, debate on the Bill was adjourned as the lawmakers argued that the issues raised in the Bill are weighty and require consultation.

Senator Karungo Thangwa, who moved the adjournment motion, said the move will allow members to consult further.

“As we go on recess, we are going back to our constituencies. We will ask our people questions, so that when we come back, we can make an informed decision,” he said.

Senator Okiya Omtatah, who seconded the adjournment motion, said the matter concerns an amendment to the Constitution.

“It is an extremely weighty matter that demands that the House be full, and everybody be given a chance to contribute

to it. People should go home and reflect. We have heard the opening shots on both sides. We need to go and digest them, then come back here with big guns, so that we can do justice to the Bill.”

While seconding the Bill, Majority Whip Boni Khalwale, described it as a win for integrity should it be enacted, expressing hope that the virtue will have its place in Kenya.

“We are doing hygiene by making the integrity of a person who becomes Speaker or a Senator higher than that of one of the wives of Caesar,” said Senator Khalwale.

Senator Gloria Orwoba said the spirit of the Bill has nothing to do with limiting anyone’s rights but everything to do with oversight and ensuring that those who intend to take up offices, Governors in particular, understand that they will come to the Senate to cover up corrupt dealings that their administration was involved in.

Kenya, French Senators to forge friendship ties – Speaker Kingi



Top, Speaker Amason Kingi poses for a picture with a group of Senators from the French Parliament who paid a courtesy call on the Speakers. Below, the Speaker in discussion with the Senators. Others in the picture are Senator Edwin Sifuna and Senator Tabitha Mutinda.

Kenyan Senators and their French counterparts will explore more opportunities for collaboration and partnership, as they up the ante on the role of the legislature in deepening ties between the two countries.

The legislators will work on creation of a friendship group, that in parliamentary cycles, drives the agenda of collaboration and engagements between legislators in different jurisdictions.

This was the outcome of an engaging meeting between the Speaker Amason Kingi and a group of Senators from the French Parliament during a courtesy call on the Speaker last Friday.

The delegation from the bicameral

French Parliament, comprised Senator Marie-Arlette Carlotti, Senator Francoise Bonneau and Senator Jean Luc Ruelle. They were accompanied by the French Ambassador to Kenya, Arnaut Suquet and other senior French Embassy staff.

Speaker Kingi was accompanied by Senator Edwin Sifuna, Senator Tabitha Mutinda and the Director, Office of the Speaker, Mr Benedict Furaha.

The deliberations touched on the centrality of the legislature in championing the cause of citizens through oversight, legislation and representation and how this can be exploited to bolster the thriving bilateral ties between Kenya and

France.

The leaders shared experiences drawn from the two different democratic jurisdictions and how they strengthen and deepen their collaboration through exchange programmes and joint caucuses for Senators.

At the request of the French senators for closer collaboration, Speaker Kingi advised the two groups begin immediate discussions on the setting up of the Parliamentary Friendship Group between the two legislatures.

“With the assistance of the Ambassador, who is a great friend of Kenya, we can have the Parliamentary Friendship Group set up to drive the agenda of

collaboration and engagements between the Senate of Kenya and the Senate of France,” said Speaker Kingi.

Senator Sifuna commended the French Government for its support to Kenya in virtually all sectors of the economy.

The French Government supports the school feeding programme in Nairobi that currently benefits nearly 250,000 children; the upgrade of a football stadium in Kibra, complete with an astroturf playing surface, and construction of a facility to be used by the Nairobi youth in content creation.

Senate starts process of recruiting SRC Member for counties



Speaker Amason Kingi directed the recruitment process to start.

The Senate has started the process of recruiting a member to the Salaries and Remuneration Commission (SRC) who will represent the interests of County Governments.

The term of the current Commissioners is expected to end later in the year

and the House must kick start the process early to forestall vacuum in the Commission.

The Head of Public Service Felix Koskei had last week brought to the attention of the Senate the matter.

Through a letter to the Office of the

Clerk, Mr Koskei notified the Senate of the impending vacancy and requested the House to start the process of filling the vacancy.

The Senate will be expected to forward the names of two persons of either gender to the Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury for transmission to the President for appointment.

Article 230(2)(b)(7) of the Constitution requires the Senate to nominate a commissioner to sit on the SRC on behalf of the county governments.

Section 7(1) of the Act further provides for the nomination procedure to be followed for the appointment of the commissioners. Section 7(2) of the Act states that the relevant nominating body shall consider the applications received to determine their compliance with the provisions of the Constitution and the Act.

Interviews of the applicants will be conducted and the names of two persons so qualified forwarded for appointment.

The Speaker referred the matter to the Committee on Finance and Budget for consideration. The Committee will be re-

quired to advertise the position through a notice published in the Kenya gazette, a newspaper of nationwide circulation and the Senate website inviting applications from the suitable candidates.

The committee will longlist the applicants and cause the list to be published, shortlist the candidates that meet the set criteria and cause the list to be published, facilitate public participation on the suitability of the shortlisted candidates, conduct the interviews of the shortlisted candidates; and finally, table a report for consideration by the House.

Public participation on the suitability of the shortlisted candidates will also be conducted before the Committee finally tables a report in the House for consideration.

“The Committee, and by extension the Senate, is reminded of the need to observe the timelines highlighted in the notification letter from the Head of Public Service. The deadline given for action by the Senate is July 31, 2024,” said Speaker Kingi.

ON THE FLOOR

House adopts motion on cattle rustling menace



Senator Joe Nyutu



Senator William Cheptumo



Senator Fatuma Dullo

The House has adopted the motion that sought to have cattle rustling declared a national disaster. With the resolution, a task force will now be formed to investigate the cattle rustling and banditry menace in the country.

The task force will also be expected to establish the extent of suffering, loss and damage the menace has occasioned to the communities in the seven affected counties.

During the debate, the lawmakers also vowed to push the Ministry of Interior and National Administration to establish

a Fund to facilitate the compensation of victims of cattle rustling and banditry.

“I will never stop pursuing the resolutions of the House until we have a Fund established to compensate victims of cattle rustling,” said Senator William Cheptumo, the sponsor of the motion.

“This menace has caused a lot of suffering,” he added, citing seven counties where the menace is rampant.

The seven counties are Baringo, Elgeyo-Marakwet, Turkana, West Pokot, Isiolo, Marsabit, and Laikipia where the Senator said people have become Inter-

nally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in their own land.

“Not because they do not have somewhere to stay, but because they have been evicted by force.”

With the adoption of the motion, the National Government through the Ministry of Interior and National Administration and in collaboration with the Council of Governors will have to declare the menace a national disaster.

Senator Fatuma Dullo said there is laxity as far as dealing with cattle rustling is concerned and challenged the

State to be serious and make sure the issue is dealt with.

“We have a solution to this problem but we must be serious as a country. During the budget cycle serious actions are put into agriculture, but minimal on cattle rustling. Billions are put into the purchase of fertiliser. However, nothing happens to pastoralist communities.”

Senator Okiya Omtatah said cattle rustling has been mischaracterised to the extent that even law enforcement cannot deal with it, noting that giving it a sexy title like ‘cattle rustling’ is a way of getting away from the real issue.

“It should be in the Penal Code and the same sanction that applies to robbery with violence should apply to this particular activity. It is robbery with violence, nothing else. People die, a lot of their property is snatched and destroyed.

Senator Joe Nyutu called for a special investigative team to find out who funds these rustlers.

“We cannot continue having our people killed and lose their life investments through the livestock they keep just because there are some powerful people somewhere who support banditry,” he told the House, adding that those who offer political support and protection should be dealt.

The House unanimously adopted the motion.

Committee push Counties to comply with law in recruitment



Senator Mohamed Chute (third right) and other members of the Integration and Cohesion Committee pose for a picture with Governor Issa Timamy (centre) during the tour. Other members of the committee in the picture are Senator Betty Montett and Senator Joseph Githuku (fourth left).

The Committee on Cohesion, Equal Opportunity, and Regional Integration has urged counties to adhere to the constitution when hiring staff.

The committee, which is chaired by Senator Mohamed Chute, further urged counties to prioritise national diversity for the good of the country.

Senator Chute spoke when the Committee made a fact-finding tour in Lamu County to establish whether the county has upheld compliance with the national diversity and equity in its recruitment policies.

Over the last five months, the Committee has engaged various government institutions to examine the representation of Kenya's diversity in their staff composition.

The Committee is seeking to establish whether parameters such as ethnic composition, gender parity, age and People with Disabilities are considered in staff employment.

"PwDs are completely disadvantaged and we are pleading with institutions not

to sideline them when it comes to employment opportunities," said Senator Chute after it established that PwDs have been greatly disadvantaged across board when it comes to employment.

In Lamu County, only 18 persons with disabilities (PwDs) have been hired, constituting just one percent of the 1675 workforce in the county, falling below the five percent threshold.

Lamu County Public Board explained that the county's terrain has dissuaded many persons with disabilities (PwDs) from seeking employment opportunities in Lamu County.

Lamu Senator Githuku Kamau advised the county to use alternatives means of placing job advertisement like social media, vernacular stations to attract a wider audience.

The board's Chairman Abdalla Mohamed told the youths took the lion's share of employment and the Committee was surprised to discover that 20 county staff members are aged over 60 years.

"Can the Governor please explain to us why staff as old as 74 years old are



Senator Mohamed Chute chairs the meeting between the Committee and Governor Timamy and his County team.

still in employment at the expense of the young people," asked Senator Betty Montett.

The Board explained that staff aged 60 years and above were inherited from the previous government and were retained to train new staff.

Unsatisfied with the explanation, the Committee instructed the county to provide the specific names and job roles of the elderly staff members within a week.

However, the Committee was happy with ethnic diversity noting that the county establishment has the face of Kenya.

Whereas at 623, the Bajuni have the largest share of 1675 employees, other tribes employed by the county are Kikuyu (353) Mijikenda (170), Pokomo (84), Kamba (58), Luhya (57), Luo (44) Kenya Arab and Orma at (40) employees.

The Governor told the Committee has employed individuals from 35 out of the 42 ethnic communities in Kenya, positioning his county as the most ethnically inclusive in the nation.

The County assured the committee that they will undertake affirmative action policies to prioritise the recruitment of PwDs, women and minority groups in line with both national policies and their commitment to enhance diversity.

In terms of gender parity, the county has employed 698 females and 978 males.

The County Government's Act obligates county governments to ensure that no more than 70 per cent of positions in the county public service are occupied by individuals from the dominant ethnic community.

"The county in its bid to comply with the provision of the law has considered the merit of not more than 70 per cent position slots for occupation," said the Governor.

Nominated Senator Raphael Chimera advised the county to follow due process in their staff recruitment.

Senator Beth Syengo was also present in the meeting.

Committee engages ICT players on areas of collaboration



Senator Allan Chesang, the ICT Committee chair, when the committee visited the Uhuru na Kazi Servers at the Regional Coordinator's Office, Mombasa County.

Committee on Information, Communication and Technology last week held a series of engagement and networking meetings with the Private Sector and Development Partners Stakeholders in Mombasa County.

The retreat provided the perfect opportunity for Senators to engage and share notes with the stakeholders on areas of collaboration to strengthen the ICT sector policies and legal frameworks in Kenya.

Safaricom Plc Chief Executive Officer Peter Ndegwa, who was represented by the head of regulatory and policy

Fred Waithaka, beseeched the Senator Allan Chesang-led Committee to pass the Critical Infrastructure Protection Bill so as to protect the mobile operators' infrastructure from vandalism.

Mr Waithaka informed Senators that taxation continues to be a high cost for the telecommunication industry. He urged them to review the tariff structure around handheld devices and other digital devices to reduce their cost, adding that this will also provide incentives to locally manufactured devices.

"About 45 per cent of our customers remain on the mulika mwizi phones and

are, therefore, unable to enjoy the benefits of the digital world. The current finance bill is proposing a removal of the local manufacturing incentives which means that devices manufactured locally have no difference in price from imported devices," Mr Waithaka told the Committee during the retreat.

Technology Service Providers of Kenya (TESPOK) Chief Executive Officer Fiona Asonga urged the Committee to amend the Computer Misuse and Cyber Crimes Act and the Data Protection Act to cover Artificial Intelligence (AI) to avoid misuse of AI in the country.



The meeting between ICT Committee and Safaricom PLC in Mombasa.

She warned of the dangers posed by AI if not regulated and suggested that the Senate ensures the AI space is monitored by a regulator, adding that doing so would enable Kenya to become a hub of innovation in Africa.

"A lot can go wrong with AI if it is not regulated like impersonation and cybercrimes. I suggest that you pass a law that puts in place a regulator so that there are controls and there's someone we can hold accountable," submitted Ms Asonga.

Other stakeholders that appeared before the Committee and submitted their views include Airtel, Telkom, Huawei, KICTANET, Media Council of Kenya, Loop Telecom, Star Times, and American Tower Corporation (ATC) Kenya.

Members of the Committee promised to follow up on the matters raised and legislate on them to ensure the ICT sector has the necessary legal frameworks.

The Committee also conducted a site visit to the Uhuru na Kazi servers located in the Mombasa County Regional Commissioner's office.

Seneta Omtatah atilia shaka usimamizi wa fedha kwenye muungano wa mashirika ya akiba na mikopo nchini Kenya (KUSCCO)

Seneta Okiya Omtatah ameitaka Kamati ya Biashara, Viwanda na Utalii kufanya uchunguzi na kutoa taarifa kuhusu matumizi mabaya ya fedha kwenye muungano wa mashirika ya akiba na mikopo nchini Kenya (KUSCCO).

Seneta Omtatah anataka ibainishwe ni katika mazingira yapi ambapo fedha za akiba ya vyama vya ushirika zilipotea katika kipindi cha miaka kumi kama inavyooneshwa na ripoti ya ukaguzi uliofanywa na Wizara ya Vyama vya Ushirika na Maendeleo.

Kwenye utathmini wake, Kamati imeitakiwa kufichua mikakati ya udhibiti na uangalizi ambayo Wizara ilichukua kuhusiana na KUSCCO ili kuangazia na kuzuia matumizi mabaya ya fedha katika kipindi hicho cha miaka kumi.

Seneta Omtatah aidha anaitaka Kamati kuwasilisha ripoti kuhusu hali ya KUSCCO kuzingatia kanuni katika kipindi cha miaka kumi kukiwemo kuhi-



Seneta Okiya Omtatah

fadhi hesabu za fedha zilizo sahihi, kufanya ukaguzi wa fedha kila mwaka na kuwasilisha ripoti ya mapato kila mwaka kwa Wizara.

Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta Lenku Seki imetakiwa vilevile kubaini hali ya mikopo ikifafanua mikopo iliyotolewa kwa wakurugenzi na wafanyakazi wa ngazi ya juu ambao walitimuliwa kufuatia ukaguzi maalum ulioamriwa na Wizara mwezi Oktoba, 2023.

Kiongozi huyo aidha anataka Kamati ibaini hali ya kutolipwa kwa wanachama ambao muda wao wa kulipwa akiba za kudumu uliwadia japo hawakuwa wamelipwa wakati wa ukaguzi.

Seneta huyo kadhalika anaitaka Kamati kuorodhesha hatua ambazo zimechukuliwa na Wizara kurejesha fedha ambazo inadaiwa zilitumiwa visivyo na halmashauri ya wakurugenzi na wafanyakazi wa ngazi ya juu kando na kuweka mikakati itakayohakikisha uovu huo haufanyiki tena.

Huku hayo yakijiri Seneta Wafula Wakoli ameitaka Kamati ya Leba na Masuala ya Jamii kuwasilisha ripoti kuhusu wafanyakazi katika kiwango cha usi-

mamizi kwenye kampuni ya mbegu ya Kenya Seed.

Seneta Wakoli ameomba ripoti ya kina kuhusu wafanyakazi katika kiwango cha usimamizi ikijumuisha wakuu wa idara kwenye kampuni, viwango vyao vya elimu, tarehe za kuajiriwa kwao, masharti ya uajiri yakiwa ni kandarasi, kudumu na vibarua.

Seneta huyo aidha anaitaka Kamati kubainisha mchanganyiko wa kikabila katika kila kitengo kando na kuweka wazi vigezo vilivyotumika kuwaajiri na kuwateua kwenye usimamizi wa kampuni.

Kiongozi huyo kadhalika ameitaka Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta Julius Murgor kuweka wazi hati za ushahidi kuhusu kiwango ambacho izingatiaji wa sheria umekumbatiwa na kampuni ya Kenya Seed katika uajiri wa wafanyakazi hususan kuhusiana na mchanganyiko wa kikabila na maeneo.

Seneta Cherarkey ataka majibu kuhusu matumizi ya pombe na dawa za kulevya

Kamati ya Usalama wa Taifa Ulinzi na Masuala ya Kigeni imetakiwa kufanya uchunguzi na kutoa ripoti kuhusu hatua zilizopigwa katika vita dhidi ya matumizi mabaya ya pombe na dawa za kulevya nchini Kenya.

Seneta wa Samson Cherarkey amewasilisha ombi akiitaka Kamati hiyo kuorodhesha hali ilivyo kwa sasa kwenye vita vya kupambana na matumizi mabaya ya pombe na dawa za kulevya nchini Kenya.

Seneta Cherarkey anaitaka Kamati hiyo kuweka wazi idadi ya kampuni ambazo bidhaa za pombe kutoka kwazo zimepigwa marufuku ikibaini mikakati ambayo Mamlaka ya Taifa ya Kupamba na matumizi mabaya ya pombe na dawa za kulevya nchini Kenya (NACADA) imeweka kukabiliana na kero hilo na kuzuia tabia hiyo kurejelewa katika siku za halafu.

Kiongozi huyo anataka Seneti kufahamishwa kuhusu idadi ya watuhumiwa ambao wametiwa mbaroni na kufunguliwa mashtaka, idadi ya kesi ikifichuliwa na ufafanuzi kutolewa endapo hukumu imetolewa au kesi bado zinasikilizwa.

Seneta huyo aidha anaitaka Kamati kubaini mikakati ambayo idara ya Usalama wa Ndani na Usimamizi wa Taifa imeweka katika kuwasaidia waraibu kupitia kwenye vituo vya kurekebisha tabia ikiweka wazi idadi ya waraibu ambao kufikia sasa wamesaidiwa na wale waliorekebika tangu kuanza kwa vita dhidi ya kero hilo.

Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta William Cheptumo imetakiwa pia kufichua Kaunti ambazo zimeathirika pakubwa na tabia hiyo ikieleza wajibu unaofanywa na serikali za Kaunti kupiga vita matumizi mabaya ya pombe na dawa za kulevya.

Kadhalika Seneta Cherarkey anataka ibainishwe iwapo Wizara husika ilishirikiana na taasisi husika za vijana kubuni mipango na shughuli za vijana ili kuwahusisha kwa njia nzuri kwenye vita vya kulitokomeza kero hilo nchini Kenya.

Kwingineko Seneta George Mbugua amewasilisha ombi akitaka kauli kuhusu hali ya sekta ya Utalii nchini Kenya.

Seneta Mbugua kwenye ombi lake ameitaka Kamati ya Kudumu ya Biashara, Viwanda na Utalii kuweka wazi



Seneta Samson Cherarkey

takwimu za vituo vya Utalii ambavyo vimefungwa katika muda wa miaka mitatu iliyopita ikifafanua sababu zilizosababisha kufungwa kwavyo.

Kamati hiyo imetakiwa vilevile kueleza kuhusu ufanisi wa sekta ya Utalii katika kipindi cha miaka mitatu iliyopita ikiweka wazi uekezaji kwenye sekta na mikakati yoyote iliyowekwa kukuza ufufuzi wa sekta hiyo baada ya janga la maradhi ya Covid-19.

Seneta huyo aidha anataka Bunge kufahamishwa mikakati iliyowekwa



Seneta George Mbugua

kukuza uekezaji na upanuzi wa bidhaa za utalii sawia na kuunga mkono wahusika wa kati, wadogo wanaoendesha shughuli kwenye sekta ya Utalii.

Kadhalika Kiongozi huyo anaitaka Kamati hiyo chini ya Uenyekiti wa Seneta Lenku Seki kukariri mikakati ambayo imewekwa kukuza uendelevu wa sekta ya Utalii kukiwa na hatari zinazochipuka dhidi ya sekta hiyo zikiwemo mabadiliko ya tabianchi, ugaidi na mizozo kati ya binadamu na wanyama wa porini.

The Senate to work with the private sector to spur development



The Senate has promised to work with the private sector to drive development across the counties. The decision follows last week's 6th Speakers RoundTable engagement with the Kenya Private Sector Alliance (KEPSA) in Mombasa County.

Speaker Amason Kingi told the participants that the Senate would support the private sector by enacting laws that will create a conducive business environment and advised the business community to take advantage of existing opportunities to do business.

"I implore the private sector to deepen its engagements with our counties for enhanced development in the regions. I particularly urge you to show keen interest in investment forums and conferences, periodically hosted by our counties," said Speaker Kingi.

The conference is a high-level platform annual event for the public-private sector dialogue between the business

1. Speaker Amason Kingi makes opening remarks during the 6th Senate Speaker-Kepsa roundtable conference in Mombasa last week.
2. Speaker Amason Kingi arrives at Pride Inn Hotel, Mombasa County, for the 6th Speaker Roundtable Conference. He was received by Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye (left), Senator Mohamed Faki and Senator Wakili Hillary Sigei (right).
3. Participants at the 6th Speaker Roundtable pose for a group picture led by Speaker Amason Kingi.

community and the Senate that facilitates a joint review of the country's policy and legislative environment.

The conference identifies crucial legislation for the private sector that needs to be reviewed or fast-tracked and addresses any gaps that require new legislative intervention based on the country's development priorities.

The theme of this year's conference

was: "Strengthening the role of the Senate in improving county business environment competitiveness for the creation of wealth, jobs and inclusive prosperity in Kenya."

The interventions for 2024 between the private sector and the Senate are aimed at boosting county economic competitiveness

The conference focussed on improve-

ment of the overall ease of doing business and competitiveness in the counties, promotion of the manufacturing sector as a key driver of economic transformation and job creation, addressing factors that inhibit agribusiness in counties, ensuring counties integrate environmental and social considerations and strengthening the Senate's vanguard role as shepherds for devolution and county competitiveness.

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot and Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo urged the private sector to seize available opportunities and offer technical support to Parliament and other government bodies that will facilitate formulation of effective legislation and policies for a conducive business environment.

KEPSA Board Chairperson Jas Bedi highlighted the challenges faced by private businesses due to high credit costs and urged legislators to help address these issues.

"The high cost of credit and reduced tenor of credit to private businesses is adversely affecting private businesses," he noted.



1. Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali follows proceedings during the Conference.
2. Senator Mariam Omar and another participant at the Conference.
3. Senator John Methu makes his contribution a panel discussion which also included Senator Beatrice Ogola and Senator Dan Maanzo.
4. Senator Wahome Wamatinga, Senator Mohamed and Deputy Minority Leader Enoch Wambua.
5. Speaker Amason Kingi makes his keynote address at the Conference.
6. Senator Eddy Oketch makes his contribution.
7. Senator Mohamed Faki shares a light moment with Speaker Amason Kingi on the opening day of the Conference.



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1. Senator Mwenda Gataya Mofire follow proceedings during the conference.
2. Senator Dan Maanzo and Senator Godfrey Osotsi
3. Senator William Kipsang makes his presentation
4. Senator Danson Mungatana
6. Senator Shakila Abdalla and Senator Mariam Omar.

This Week in History



"Our late brother passed on because of cancer complications. In this House, we lead the people of this country. In fact, we are the shepherds of the people of this country and we are supposed to take care of them. Cancer today is a major killer in this country. It has taken away our brother and many others. We are talking of our brother and there could be many others out there suffering from it, but we do not know them. As we mourn our brother today, we are being told that some people have imported sugar with elements of mercury and copper. These two metallic elements are actually very poisonous to the human body. It is time this nation reckoned with itself, knelt down and asked God what is wrong with it. We should pray to God to save our souls because none of us is safe."

Senator (Eng.) Ephraim Maina contributing to the debate on the death of Senator Ben Oluoch Okello, then Senator of Migori County, on June 19, 2018.



"As we condole the family of Senator Ben Oluoch, I wish to say that Cancer is a disease that does not only take lives, but also resources. Therefore, as my colleagues have said, it is the high time that we ensure that there are cancer centres in all counties, which will assist people in the treatment of cancer. Many people cannot afford to go to India or other countries to be treated. As a result, a number of us have suffered. If you go to the counties, you will realise that one out of three deaths is caused by cancer. It is high time we sat down and reasoned together. Maybe, through legislation, we can ensure that the necessary equipment is put in the counties. This will ensure that those who are suffering right now shall have relief."

Senator (Dr.) Alice Milgo contributing to the debate on the death of Senator Ben Oluoch Okello, then Senator of Migori County, on June 19, 2018.



"I join other Senators in saying that the problem of cancer is a real issue. It is taking a toll on both the young and old. It is high time we critically thought about the whole issue so that we can save generations to come. I do not want to talk about the current challenges with sugar and other things, but as leaders, we have the opportunity to save this situation and to save Kenya. We have an opportunity to stand and think of how best we can help those people who are already suffering from cancer. I am sure every one of us knows at least one person in every village who is suffering from cancer. Let us stand up and support them. Let us see how best we can help those who are already suffering and see how we can minimize the problem."

Senator (Rev.) Naomi Waqo contributing to the debate on the death of Senator Ben Oluoch Okello, then Senator of Migori County, on June 19, 2018.

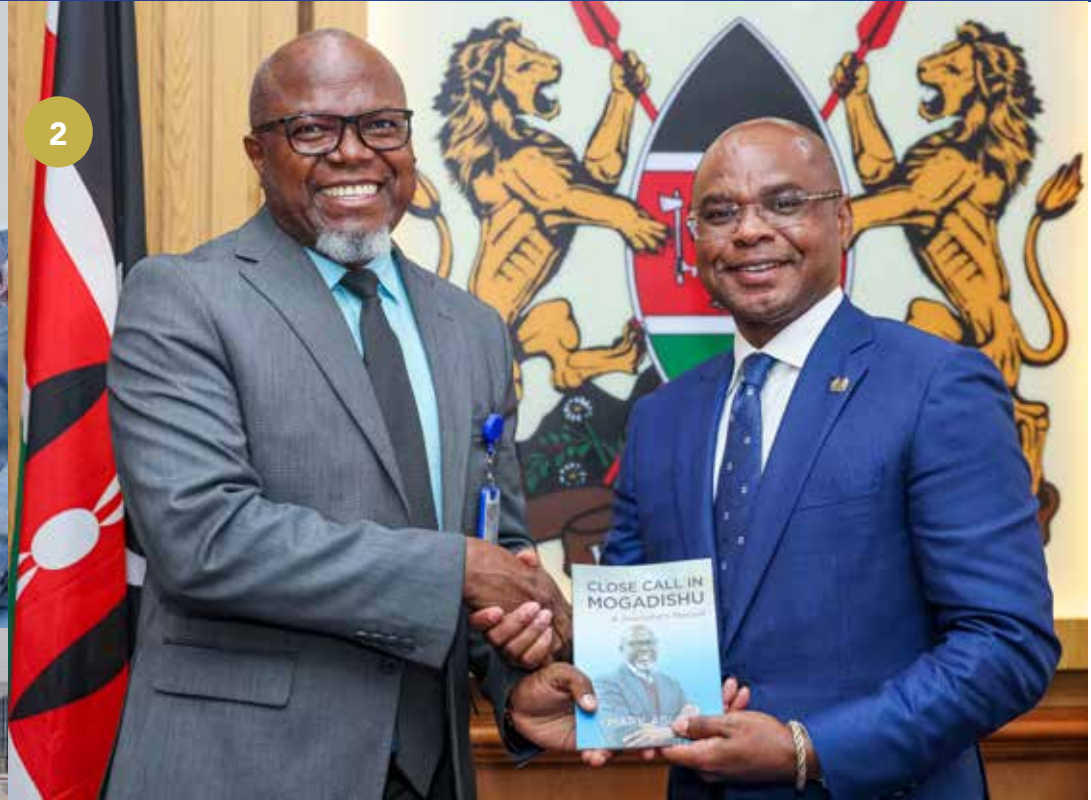


"My colleagues have addressed the issue of cancer being the menace that is consuming our population in Kenya. As a House, we need to come up with measures to curb the ever-spreading menace. We need to come up with solutions such as establishing cancer centres in all our counties. We are the defenders of counties and we need to defend the populations that live there. I would be very grateful if this House adopts a policy whereby every county will be mandated to come up with a cancer centre."

Senator Cleophas Malalah contributing to the debate on the death of Senator Ben Oluoch Okello, then Senator of Migori County, on June 19, 2018.



1. Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot
2. Senator Catherine Mumma
3. Senator Richard Onyonka makes his point during the Conference.
4. Deputy Minority Leader Enoch Wambua and Majority Whip Boni Khalwale
5. Senator Miraj Abdulrahman and Senator Beatrice Ogola
6. Kepsa CEO Carole Kariuki makes her presentation.
7. Senator Hezema Lemaletian and Senator David Wakoli



1. Senator Esther Okenyuri with one of the Youth leaders from Kisii who visited her office at Parliament Buildings.
2. Head of Communication in the Speaker's Office, Mark Agutu presents a copy of his memoir to Speaker Amason Kingi. Mr Agutu worked as a journalist and captures his memories in the book titled: *Close Call in Mogadishu: a*
3. Students and Teachers of Isiolo Boys High School when they visited the Senate.
4. Students and Teachers of Oshwal Academy, Mombasa, during their tour of Parliament Buildings for a study tour
5. Senate Liaison Officers led by Director Brighton Buchere pose for a picture with the visiting officers from Faraja Africa Foundation, Uganda.
6. Members of the ICT Committee and the Secretariat after their meeting in Mombasa last week.



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