

The SENATE

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Pending bills: Senators to grill CS Mbadi and Controller of Budget

In the motion passed by the House last May, lawmakers directed County Governments to submit payment plans to the Office of the Controller of Budget (OCoB), prioritising pending bills as the first charge on the County Revenue Fund (CRF). However, the lawmakers are concerned the resolution has registered little progress, and instead, the challenge of pending bills has become more dire for the devolved units, undermining service delivery.



Speaker Amason Kingi shares a light moment with Senators Boni Khalwale and Senator Aaron Cheruiyot at a past function of the Senate.

National Treasury CS John Mbadi and Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakang'o are expected to appear before the House to brief Senators on the steps the State has taken to ensure that county Governments clear pending bills in line with the resolution adopted by the House earlier in the year.

In the motion, the lawmakers compelled the County Governments to clear pending bills amounting to Sh156 billion by the end of the last financial year, June 2024.

The lawmakers directed the 47 counties to prepare and submit payment plans to the Office of the Controller of Budget, prioritising pending bills as the first charge on the County Revenue Fund (CRF).

Three months later, however, the lawmakers are concerned the resolution has registered little progress, and instead, the challenge of pending bills has become

more dire for the devolved units, undermining the delivery of services.

In his directive, Speaker Amason Kingi asked CS Mbadi and CoB Nyakang'o to appear before the Committee of the Whole and explain what has been done since the motion was passed.

"The House passed the Motion on how to handle pending bill," said Speaker Kingi in his communication to the House, just before the lawmakers took the break.

"All the 47 counties were supposed to file a payment plan with the Controller of Budget (CoB). The two officers should explain whether this has been done. If it has not, they should explain the next course of action for the Senate."

"There must be meaning to whatever resolutions Senate makes. Otherwise, we will be making resolutions that will never give this House the results that were intended."

Leader of Majority Aaron Cheruiyot told the House that only the National Treasury and OCoB have the capacity to help the Senate review the matter objectively.

"The problem of pending bills is greater than all the other crises that we are handling presently. The Office of the Speaker should facilitate the OCoB and the Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury to appear before the House so that we can amicably conclude on the matter in a simple way."

The County Government's Budget Implementation Review Report for the first half of 2023/24 financial year, indicate that County Governments had accumulated a total of Sh156.34 billion in pending bills, as of December 31, 2023.

Regulation 18 of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act allows the OCoB to enforce the implementation of budgets at both levels of Governments.



Senator Ledama ole Kina.

Senator Cheruiyot noted that this provision mandates the OCoB to intervene in counties over the pending bills.

"They are duty-bound to commit before the House. Before any county government makes a requisition and is allowed to draw, they should show their commitment in compliance with the resolution of the Senate by sorting out the pending bills at their county."

CS Mbadi is expected to appear in the House soon after recess to respond to a Question by Senator Edwin Sifuna on economic planning issues. Senator Cheruiyot suggested that CoB Nyakango should appear in the House on the same day so that they could tackle the problem of pending bills together.

Minority Whip Ledama ole Kina supported the decision to invite the CS and OCoB but pointed out the efforts of the two State officers are limited by law.

He said the solution on the challenge of the bills lies with the Senators. "It is us who can actually bring in the solutions," he said, challenging the House to push for amendments to the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act as a matter of priority.

He urged the Majority Leader, togeth-

er with the Chairperson of the Committee on Finance and Budget, to sponsor amendments to the Act, to specifically deal with the issue of the Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS).

“Instead of leaving the problem of pending bills to the OCoB, it is about time that we amend the PFM Act expeditiously,” he told the House, adding that

the County Treasury have the habit of changing the payments at the last minute when they receive money as approved by OCoB.

“It now behoves us, as a House, to find a solution to the issue of IFMIS. We should amend the PFM Act to ensure that the IFMIS system is an end-to-end system such that once an expense has been entered, it comes out at the end of

the IFMIS system.”

The lawmaker proposed that the House should look through Regulation 109 of the Act to ensure that the cash disbursement schedule sent to the OCoB for releasing funds to counties, includes pending bills.

The funds should be ring-fenced such that pending bills become the first charge of the account, he said.

The Speaker directed the Committee on Finance and Budget to invite the two state officers to appear before that Committee of the whole.

“The Committee should invite all the Senators so that they get the opportunity to engage both the OCoB and the Cabinet Secretary on the resolutions that the House made on this particular matter.”

Third time unlucky: House votes to remove Governor Kawira from office



1. Governor Kawira Mwangaza in the company of her legal team arrive for the hearing during the impeachment trial at the Senate chamber.
2. Senator Mutahi Kagwe, chaired the Special Committee that tried Mr Benard Kiala, former deputy Governor Machakos County.
3. Senator David Musila, was in charge of the trial of Mr Mwangi wa Iria, former Governor Muranga.
4. Senator Njeru Ndawiga, presided over the trial of Mr Granton Samboja, former Governor Taita Taveta County.
5. Senator Chris Obure, lead the Special Committee that rejected the impeachment of former Kericho Governor Paul Chepkwony.
6. Senator Okongo Omogeni was in charge of former Wajir Governor Abdi Muhammad trial.

Governor Kawira Mwangaza was third time unlucky after the House upheld charges of her impeachment and voted to remove her from office.

Her removal was the fifth time the House has found the charges in support of removal from office of a Governor substantiated since 2013.

During this period, the House has conducted a total of 13 impeachment trials for the removal from office of either Governors or their deputies out of which it has upheld charges against five cases.

Out of the total impeachment trials, Governor Kawira appeared three times while former Embu Governor Martin Wambora was tried twice.

Out of the 13 cases, 11 have involved trial of Governors while 2 cases have involved Deputy Governors.

The House voted to remove Governor Kawira from office after it found her guilty of all the three charged levelled against her by the County Assembly.

During the trial held in the plenary, the House upheld charges of Gross violation of the Constitution and any other law, Gross misconduct and abuse of office.

Governor Kawira joins Mr Martin Wambora, the former Governor of Embu County whose particulars of impeachment were substantiated twice, Mr Mike Sonko (Nairobi), Mr Ferdinand Waititu

and Mr Abdi Muhamud Abdi.

Mr Wambora was impeached twice by the County Assembly and on both occasions the Senate found the particulars to have been substantiated during the trial conducted by a Special Committee.

Mr Waititu was removed from office as Governor of Kiambu County after a trial that was conducted through the Plenary in January 2020.

The County Assembly of Kiambu impeached the former Governor based on charges of gross misconduct, abuse of office and engaging in corruption.

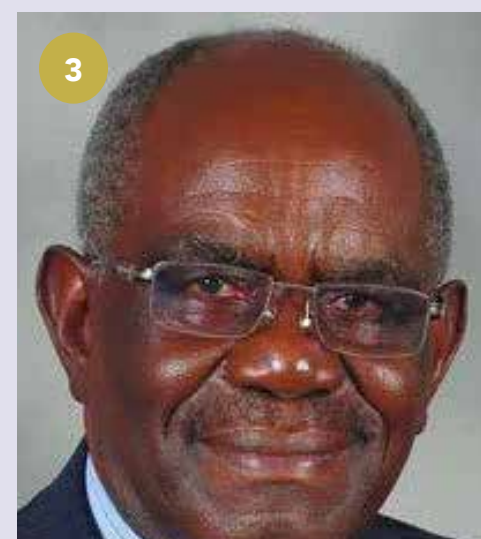
Mr Sonko was removed from Office in December 2020 through the plenary after the House upheld all the four charges levelled against him by MCAs.

The MCAs had accused the then Governor of gross violation of the constitution, abuse of office, gross misconduct and crimes under the national law.

The trial of the Mr Muhamud was conducted through a Special Committee which found him guilty on one of the four charges levelled against him.

Mr Mohamud was impeached by the Wajir County Assembly on four grounds - financial impropriety, abuse of office, gross misconduct and violation of the constitution.

The committee dropped three charges on grounds that they were not substantiated and recommended that the impeachment be upheld on one charge- gross vi-



olation of the constitution.

Other Governors who have been tried by the Senate during the period are Prof Paul Chepkwony who served as Governor of Kericho and was impeached by MCAs but was saved by the Senate on June 3, 2014.

The first Deputy Governor of Machakos County Benard Kiala was also impeached by MCAs and the Special Committee that investigated the allegations upheld the charges. But the House amended the report to save him on August 15, 2014.

Former Muranga Governor Mwangi wa Iria was saved by the House on November 6, 2015, even though the Special Committee that was formed to conduct the trial established that he breached some provisions of the constitution, the particulars which were not substantiated.

The MCAs had accused Governor wa Iria of violating the Constitution by making excessive spending without approval of the Assembly.

They further alleged that he had been inappropriately using public resources and had incurred a Sh2.5 billion debt.

The late Nderitu Gachagua, the former Governor of Nyeri County, was also saved by the House after MCAs failed to substantiate particulars of their impeach-



ment motion.

In the trial, conducted through the plenary, the MCAs had accused the late Gachagua of abuse of office and gross misconduct, declining to sign a Sh6.4 billion budget and embezzlement of funds.

Mr Granton Samboja, the then Governor of Taita Taveta, was also saved by the House on October 24, 2019 after he was impeached by MCAs for of gross misconduct after he declined to sign the motion they passed over the 2019/20 county budget.

Also saved by the House was Governor Anne Waiguru on June 22, 2020.

Speaker Kingi unveils late Karisa Maitha mausoleum



Speaker Amason Kingi addresses guests during the unveiling of the late Karisa Maitha's mausoleum.

Speaker Amason Kingi has called for unity among the people and leaders of the Coast region, saying it is the surest avenue through which they could effectively bargain for development and progress at the national table.

Noting that a lot still needs to be done in ensuring the coast people speak in one voice, Speaker Kingi challenged the region to emulate the late Emmanuel Karisa Maitha, a former Kisauni MP and one of the Coast political kingpins, who relentlessly championed the cause of the people of the Coast.

The Speaker made the remarks when he presided over the unveiling of a newly-built mausoleum for the late Maitha during the commemoration of the 20th anniversary since his death.

Speaker Kingi reminded his audience the late Maitha prioritised economic activity and was behind the push for legalisation of 'mnazi', a drink tapped from the coconut tree that abounds at the coast, besides value addition to expand its market.

"The late Maitha preached about the unity of the coast region until he passed on. He would be very disappointed if he were to return today and find the unity he desired for us still elusive.

"We must strive now to manifest this unity in the political arena, more so in the run-up to the 2027 General Election. This is the only thing that will give us clout in Government," said Speaker Kingi.

Known for his charismatic leadership, the late Maitha was a champion of the rights and welfare of the people of the Coast Province.

He served as the Member of Parliament for Kisauni constituency and Cabinet Minister in the late Kibaki's administration. He was a respected leader who played a pivotal role in advocating for land rights, poverty alleviation and improvement of the socio-economic conditions of his constituents.

The unveiling of his mausoleum at his official residence was hailed by the leaders and locals at the event as a befitting testament to the enduring impact he had



Speaker Kingi is received at the home of the late Karisa Maitha by Kilifi Deputy Governor Flore Mbetsa's during the 20th anniversary memorial service.



Speaker Kingi is received at the late Karisa Maitha's home by Davis Maitha, the eldest son of the late politician.

on the lives of many and the high regard in which he is held by those who knew and worked with him.

The late Maitha's contributions to Kenya's political, social, and economic landscape remain influential, and his memory continues to inspire future generations of leaders, they said.

The ceremony was attended by members of the late Maitha family, Kaloleni MP Paul Katana, Nominated Senator Minaj Abdillahi Abdurahmman, former Kisauni MP Anania Mwaboza and Deputy Governor for Kilifi County Flora Mbetsa Chibule, among others.

Speaker directs Committee to vet nominee for Competition Authority top job

Speaker Amason Kingi has directed the Committee on Finance and Budget to undertake the approval hearings of Mr David Kibet Kemei, who has been picked as the next Director General of the Competition Authority.

The Speaker further ordered that the process be carried out alongside the Committee on Finance and National Planning of the National Assembly with-

in the framework set out in the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act, as well as the Houses of Parliament Joint Sitting Rules.

The nomination of Mr Kibet for the job was communicated to the House by the Prime Cabinet Secretary, Musalia Mudavadi, a process that was conducted at the time was the Acting Cabinet Secretary of the National Treasury and Eco-

nomic Planning.

"Since the approval of Parliament is required and taking cognisance of the need to dispense of the matter expeditiously, I direct that the Committee on Finance and Budget, undertakes the approval hearing jointly with the equivalent Committee of the National Assembly," said Speaker Kingi in his communication to the House.

The Competition Authority Act does not provide specific timelines within which Parliament is to consider the hearings.

However, Section 8(1) of the Public Appointments (Parliamentary Approval) Act requires the Committee to undertake an exercise within 28 days from the date on which the notification of nomination was given to the House.

Lawmakers ask CS Murkomen to provide proper leadership to Kenyan Sport



Senator Aaron Cheruiyot



Senator Edwin Sifuna



Senator Veronica Maina

The House has urged Cabinet Secretary Kipchumba Murkomen to provide leadership to sports managers with Senators openly expressing their disappointment with Team Kenya's performance in the just concluded 2024 Paris Olympic Games.

Kenya finished 17th on the medal table with 4 gold, 2 silver and 5 bronze medals; a performance that was hailed across the country as it was the best of an African country in the Games.

But during debate in the House, Senators complained that the best was not good enough even as they expressed their unhappiness with the Team's failure to win the 3,000 Steeplechase and 1500 metres races.

"These are races that we have previously dominated and have come to be associated with Kenya as a Republic," Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot moaned on the floor of the House.

He was making his contribution to the debate on the request for a Statement sought by Senator Crystal Asige on Team Kenya's performance at the Games.

Senator Asige wants the Committee on Labour to assess the performance which she argues fell short of national

expectations.

In her request, the Senator wants the Committee to explain if there is any planned strategic changes by the Government to improve the overall performance of Kenyan teams in future and clarify whether sports psychologists, sports nutritionists as well as strength and conditioning coaches were part of the complement of supportive staff that travelled with Team Kenya to the Games.

The Majority leader said that while many of Kenyan athletes are talented and can succeed despite disorganisation in the sport's governing body, science has caught up with talent as other people, though not talented, have learned how to run the races.

High altitude training camps in parts of Rift Valley are known to be the destination of many foreign athletes who come in to study and train with locals.

They then disappear to practice back in their country for the final races at crucial competitions like the Olympics.

"We must come up with better solutions on how to manage our athletes. This starts with how we treat them."

Senator Eddy Oketch said the country is not investing in the right science, and

areas, it needs to as sports authorities leave athletes to depend purely on talent.

"The mantra in sports is that success is 1 per cent talent and 99 per cent perspiration," he told the House. "We must appreciate that we are not investing so much on the perspiration side of this success."

The lawmaker also linked corruption to the poor performance, citing the case where Kenyan born athletes have defected and are competing for other countries and performing well.

Running for Bahrain, Winfred Mutile Yavi, not only won the gold medal but also set a new Olympic Record in Paris. Other Kenyan athletes who donned other national colours during the Games were Nelly Jepkosgei (Bahrain) Norah Jeruto and Daisy Jepkemei (Kazakhstan), Lorna Chemtai Salpeter (Israel), Leonard Korir (USA), Isaac Kimeli (Belgium) and Stella Rutto (Romania).

"These are serious Kenyans who have been denied opportunities to perform for Kenya because of corruption. These are issues that the new Cabinet Secretary must address and allow truly talented people get the opportunity," said Senator Oketch.

Senator Veronica Maina regretted the

way sport is managed, citing the case of athletics, which, she said, has left a lot to be desired.

The lawmaker challenged the Ministry of Sports to call every county to account on what they are doing with sports, and add other skills that would impact on the lives and transformation of young people.

"We have certain officials who have refused to move out of their offices. They seem not to have a timeline within which they should serve and exit and allow others to come in. Could that be one of the issues that is ailing the sports management?" she asked.

Senator Edwin Sifuna said Kenya's performance in Paris was not unexpected.

"The output is as good as the input. We are a country on a downward trajectory when it comes to anything to do with sports," he explained, adding that successive regimes have failed to put proper infrastructure since the late President Daniel arap Moi built the Nyayo Stadium and the Moi Kasarani International Sports Complex.

Improve police housing, Senators demand as they approve nomination of Kanja as IGP



Senator Crystal Asige



Senator William Cheptumo and Senator Mohamed Chute



Senator Enock Wambua

The House has challenged Mr Douglas Kanja to focus on improving housing for the officers if he is confirmed as the next Inspector General of Police.

Senators decried the state of police officers housing, pointing out that most can be expected to serve diligently owing to the fact they live in inhumane conditions.

“How do you expect a police officer to work for the whole day and go back to those kinds of houses? That is terrible! I went to Ileretin in my county and visited police posts and police stations. The houses they live in were built in 1950s. I would like Mr. Kanja to visit police stations so that he can see how police officers live,” said Senator Mohamed Chute during debate on the approval of the joint committee of the two Houses that vetted Mr Kanja.

Besides housing, Senator Seki Lenku ole Kanar asked Mr Kanja to address the issue of shortage of police vehicles if confirmed.

“A number of police stations have no vehicles. If there are no vehicles, then there is no fuel, no transport, no supervision and a shortage of security. The issue

of housing for the police in this country is something that has been a big problem. Most of our police officers are staying in “viosks” and shanty areas, which is a horrible situation,” he said.

The joint Committee had in its report approved the nomination of Mr Kanja and recommended his appointment saying he meets the requirements of Chapter Six of the Constitution on leadership and integrity having obtained a clearance from EACC, KRA and all the other institutions.

“The Joint Committee was satisfied that indeed the nominee fulfils requirements of Chapter 6 on leadership and integrity,” said Senator William Cheptumo, who chairs the Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations of the House.

“The nominee demonstrated knowledge of topical, administrative and technical issues relating to governance and the requisite abilities, qualifications and experience to serve.”

Senator Cheptumo said Mr Kanja promises heaven for the Kenyan people that they will be available, hands-on, and visit the ground and respond to issues.

“We took time as a Joint Committee

to inquire from the nominee, if indeed he will be one of those people who will just come and make some public pronouncements, which immediately after appointment, they forget about,” he explained.

Mr Kanja joined the police service in 1985 rose from the ranks of a corporal and has served as a police officer for 39 years, rising through the ranks.

He has served in almost every part of the country in various positions.

The National Police Service Act obligates the Inspector General to establish broader relationships with the society.

“I request Mr. Kanja to come out and set a certain legacy; that in his time, the Kenyan Police Service actually becomes the police service,” said Senator Danson Mungatana, while seconding the motion.

“He should not be an IG who stays in Nairobi. We want him to come to areas where there have been security issues. We want to see him there and we want to see you talking when you are there, telling people what the Government is doing.”

Deputy Minority Leader Enock Wambua said the police service has failed in its mandate to uphold the highest standards of professionalism.

“That is wanting in the Service. The Service is supposed to prevent corruption, act transparently and pursue accountability. I cannot locate that in the Service. The Service is supposed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, which is also lacking in the Service.

The service should promote a relationship with the broader society. That also is lacking in the service.”

Senator Crystal Asige told the House that the proof of Mr Kanja’s effectiveness will be on what he does in his first 100 days or first year in that office.

The lawmaker said two months after recent demonstrations the country still has conflicting police reports on how many people died during the anti-Government protest.

“We heard the President give his number and the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA) and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) also gave their numbers. However, we still have over 240 unidentified bodies lying in mortuaries with no clue of where they came from,” she said.

Bill proposes livestock Fund in counties



Senator Steven Lelegwe is the promoter of the Livestock Protection and Sustainability Bill, 2024.

Counties in which livestock farming significantly contributes to the local economy will be under obligation of establishing a fund to be known as the County Livestock Enterprise Development Fund.

The Fund, which will be established through a county legislation, will be used to establish and manage strategic livestock feed reserves and provide grants to livestock owners for emergency interventions.

The proposals are contained in the Livestock Protection and Sustainability Bill, 2024, which was introduced in the House just before the lawmakers went for the short recess on August 8.

Sponsored by Senator Steven Lelegwe, the Bill seeks to safeguard livestock and livestock farming from adverse weather conditions and provide for sustainable practices to alleviate the

effects of drought on livestock farmers.

The Senator hopes that if the Bill is enacted, the Fund will facilitate livestock owners, pastoralists access loans for restocking after losses occasioned by adverse weather conditions and credit facilities for livestock related micro-enterprises in pastoral and agro-pastoral areas.

“The principal object of the Bill is to provide a legal framework that will promote the resilience of the livestock sector in the face of drought and other associated risks, emphasising both protection and sustainable development,” Senator Lelegwe explains in the memorandum of objects of the Bill.

“Recognising the paramount importance of the livestock sector to both the national and county economies, the Bill is structured to address the multifaceted challenges faced by livestock farmers

and to ensure the sector’s sustainable growth.”

Clause 10 of the Bill mandates the Cabinet Secretary in consultation with the Council of County Governors to develop a criteria for determining the significance of livestock farming to a county’s economy.

Each county executive committee member will refine the criteria based on their unique needs, ensuring that local realities and challenges are adequately captured. The Bill further provides that the refined criteria shall be subject to approval by the respective County Assembly to ensure alignment with county objectives and priorities.

The Bill establishes the National Livestock Feeds Reserve which will constitute physical stock of livestock feed held in the form of warehouse receipts and its cash equivalent.

The National Livestock Feeds Reserve will provide emergency feed supply for livestock farmers during drought, mitigate the effects of food shortages and price volatility caused by drought and promote efficient and sustainable use of feed resources.

Under the Bill, the Cabinet Secretary will have the power to declare types of livestock feeds to be Feeds Reserve Commodity.

If enacted, the county executive committee member will be forced to prepare a county drought resilience plan which

will include a comprehensive assessment of the county’s vulnerability to drought, an analysis of historical drought patterns in the county, the current and projected climate trends and the potential impacts of drought on livestock.

The Senator wants each county to allocate not less than 0.5 per cent of its annual budget, to the implementation of the county drought resilience plan, based on the significance of livestock farming to the county’s economy.

In making the annual allocation a county government shall take into account its financial capacity and budgetary constraints, projected severity and frequency of drought based on historical data and current climate trends and the overall economic dependence on the livestock sector and other sectors potentially affected by drought.

“The Cabinet Secretary in consultation with the Council of County Governors shall develop and maintain a feeds risk data management system,” the Bill states in Clause 5.

The system shall collect and store data from various sources, maintain a centralised database to store and manage the collected data, ensuring its security, integrity and confidentiality and utilise advanced analytical tools and methodologies to assess feed risks, identify potential shortages, and evaluate the potential impacts of feed shortages on livestock.

Senator pushes to incentivise creative industry through Bill



Senator Eddy Oketch wants to incentivise the creative industry.

A Senator wants the state to develop mechanisms that will ensure fiscal incentives, including tax incentives, are granted to facilitate the development of the Creative Industry in the country.

Senator Eddy Oketch says such incentives will help the creative economy to leverage on human creativity, innovation and ideas as a means of economic development.

Through the Creative Economy Support Bill, 2024, the Senator obligates the National Government and each county government to create an enabling environment through direct and indirect support for creative artists and organisations

and formulate and implement policies and strategies for the development and promotion of a sustainable and diverse creatives industry.

He argues that citizens working in the creative industry contribute to the gross domestic product by creating employment opportunities, paying taxes as a result of the activities they are involved in.

“The creative sector contributes to Kenya’s participation in the global economy as the skills and products in the sector transcend borders,” the Senator says in the objects of the Bill which was introduced in the House on August 6.

If the Bill is passed into law, the Cabinet Secretary in charge of matters related to trade will have to establish and maintain an online platform where persons in the creative industry will publish events and current affairs in the creative industry.

On the other hand, the Cabinet Secretary responsible for matters related to education shall ensure that the curriculum developed under the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development Act includes subjects relating to the creative industry.

If enacted into law, the Senator is proposing for the establishment of an entity that will be called the Creative Industry Guild which shall be governed by a 10-member Advisory Board.

The Guild will advise the Cabinet

Secretary in charge of matters of trade on the formulation of policies and legislation relating to the creative industry, conduct labour market surveys and mapping exercises of persons involved in the creative industry and put in place the most appropriate strategies that facilitate the development of the creative industry.

The Guild shall develop a programme for the training and capacity building of creatives and establish a platform setting out information at the national and county level of government on existing incubators, available training programmes, mentors and resource persons, available fiscal and non-fiscal support services among others.

A person who wishes to be a member of the Guild shall submit an application in the prescribed form to the Board.

The Board shall consider the application within 14 days and may approve the application and enter the name of the applicant in the roll, grant the application subject to such conditions being met as the Board shall consider necessary or reject the application.

Where an application is rejected, the aggrieved applicant shall appeal to the Cabinet Secretary.

The Board shall cause to be entered the names of all persons whose application is granted into the roll of creatives.

Clause 19 of the Bill provides that the

Guild shall, in collaboration with the respective county executive committee members responsible for matters relating to trade, put in place measures to support the establishment and development of the creative industry.

Some of the measures the Senator proposes include subsidise the formalisation of creatives, facilitate the protection of the intellectual property of innovations by creatives in Kenya and with international organisations and the provision of fiscal and non-fiscal support to creatives admitted into incubation programmes.

The Bill proposes the establishment of the Creatives Fund which shall consist of monies that may be appropriated to the Fund by Parliament, grants, donations, bequests or other gifts made to the Fund.

Persons in the creative industry shall be given grants out of the Fund in accordance with criteria determined by the Cabinet Secretary by Regulations.

The regulations shall set out eligibility criteria for a grant from the Fund, procedure for application for a grant.

The Bill provides that the regulation shall ensure that a person is eligible for a grant if that person is not above 35 years and has not benefitted from any other financial support scheme by the National or county governments.

Kamati yatakiwa kutoa taarifa kuhusu majani chai yaliyokwama Mombasa



Seneta Samson Cherarkey

Kamati ya Kilimo, Mifugo na Uvuvi imetakiwa kufanya uchunguzi na kuwasilisha ripoti kuhusu kutouzwa kwa asilimia 41 ya majani chai katika soko la Mombasa

yenye gharama ya shilingi zaidi ya bilioni 32.

Akiwasilisha ombi la Kauli hiyo Seneta Samson Cherarkey alitaka Kamati hiyo kuwasilisha maelezo kuhusu majani

chai ambayo hayajauzwa yanayohifadhiwa kwa sasa kwenye soko la Mombasa.

Seneta huyo kutoka kwenye Kaunti inayokuza majani chai anaitaka pia Ka-

mati hiyo kuweka wazi sababu ambazo zimesababisha kilo milioni ishirini za majani chai kusalia kutouzwa kwa muda wa miezi kadhaa baada ya kuwasilishwa ikibaini hali ya majani chai hayo kufikia sasa.

Kamati hiyo chini ya Uenyekiti wa Seneta James Murango inatakiwa katika ripoti yake kwenye Seneti kufafanua maelezo ya kina kuhusu majani chai yanayohifadhiwa yakijumuisha idadi ya wakulima walioathirika kote nchini Kenya na kuonesha gharama ya uhifadhi na atakayelipa gharama hiyo.

Seneta huyo vilevile anaitaka Kamati hiyo kufichua madhara kwa bei ya majani chai kwenye soko la Mombasa yaliyosababishwa na kutouzwa kwa majani chai hayo.

Kadhalika Kiongozi huyo anaitaka Kamati hiyo kuweka wazi hatua ambazo Halmashauri ya Majani Chai nchini Kenya (TBK) na Mamlaka ya Ukuzaji wa Majani Chai Nchini Kenya (KTDA) zimechukuwa kuepusha tatizo hilo kando na kuhakikisha wakulima wanapokea malipo yao bila kuchelewa.

Magavana wa Kilifi na Samburu watoa taarifa kuhusu uajiri na utoaji wa zabuni



Seneta Mohamed Chute

Kaunti ya Kilifi imewaajiri wafanyakazi 4297 kulingana na takwimu zilizowasilishwa na Gavana wa Kaunti hiyo Gideon Mung'aro kwenye Bunge la Seneti.

Akiwa mbele ya Kamati ya Uwiano wa Taifa, Usawa wa fursa na Utangamano wa Maeneo, Gavana Mung'aro alifichua kuwa kati ya wafanyakazi hao asilimia 43 ni wa kiume huku asilimia 57 wakiwa wa kike.

Alisema jumla ya wafanyakazi 31 wanaowakilisha asilimia moja ya idadi yote ni watu wanaoishi na ulemavu.

Takwimu zinaonesha asilimia 21 ya wafanyakazi wakiwa na umri wa mia-

ka chini ya 35 huku wanachama wawili kwenye baraza la Gavana huyo wakiwa na umri wa zaidi ya miaka 60.

Kuhusu suala la jinsia katika baraza lake, Gavana Mung'aro aliwaambia Maseneta kuwa serikali yake imezingatia hitaji la Katiba huku asilimia 41 ikichukuliwa na wamawake na asilimia 59 ikichukuliwa na wanaume.

Gavana huyo alialikwa kwenye Kamati hiyo kuangazia muundo wa jumla wa wafanyakazi kwenye serikali ya Kaunti ya Kilifi akimulika idadi kijinsia, watu wanaoishi na ulemavu, umri na makabila.

Akizungumzia suala la utoaji wa zabuni kwa Vijana, Wanawake na Waoishi na ulemavu, Kiongozi huyo alifichua kuwa jumla ya asilimia 29.5 ya zabuni imetolewa kwa makundi hayo akikariri namna utawala wake umejitolea kuwapa nafasi sawa raia kufungamana na Katiba.

Aidha aliiambia Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta Mohamed Chute kwamba serikali yake imejitolea kikamilifu kuyahamasisha makundi maalum yakiwemo Vijana, Wanawake na wanaoishi na ulemavu kuhusu fursa zilizopo kuhakikisha mahitaji yote ya Katiba na sheria yanakumbatiwa ipasavyo.

Gavana Mung'aro vilevile aliwaam-

bia Maseneta kuwa Halmashauri ya Huduma za Umma kwenye Kaunti ya Kilifi imekuwa inawasilisha ripoti za kila mwaka katika Bunge la Kaunti ya Kilifi kufungamana na Sehemu ya 59 (1) (d) na (f) na (3) za Sheria ya Serikali za Kaunti ya mwaka 2012.

Kadhalika Gavana Mung'aro alifichua kuwa Halmashauri hiyo ilifanya utathmini wa namna serikali ya Kaunti imeliitikia suala kuhusu Maadili na Kanuni za Taifa za Utawala.

Maseneta wanachama wa Kamati hiyo walisisitiza umuhimu wa kila serikali ya Kaunti kote nchini Kenya kuzingatia kikamilifu mahitaji ya Katiba na sheria wakimtaka Gavana huyo kuhakikisha utiifu kwa mahitaji hayo.

Kamati hiyo kwa kauli moja ilimwelekeza Gavana Mung'aro kuwasilisha stakabadhi zaidi kabla ya ripoti kamili kuandaliwa na kuwasilishwa kwenye Seneti katika muda uliowekwa.

Huku hayo yakijiri Kaunti ya Samburu imewaajiri wafanyakazi wa kiume asilimia 63 huku wanawake asilimia 37 wakiajiriwa.

Hii ni kulingana na Gavana wa Kaunti hiyo Jonathan Lati Lelelit alipofika mbele ya Kamati ya Uwiano wa Taifa, Usawa wa fursa na Utangamano wa

Maeneo kwenye Seneti.

Alisema asilimia 1.25 ya jumla ya wafanyakazi ni wanaoishi na ulemavu wakijumuisha wanawake 9 na wanaume 24.

Aidha Gavana huyo aliwaambia Maseneta kuwa wengi wa wafanyakazi katika Kaunti ya Samburu ni wenye umri wa chini ya miaka 45 huku wote walio na umri wa zaidi ya miaka 60 wakiwa wanaoishi na ulemavu.

Aliogeza kuwa Halmashauri ya Huduma za Umma kwenye Kaunti ya Samburu imewaajiri wafanyakazi 240 katika kipindi cha miaka mitatu iliyopita, idadi hiyo ikijumuisha wafanyakazi 158 wa kiume na 82 wa kike.

Vilevile Kiongozi huyo alikariri kujitolea kwa serikali yake kuzingatia kwa kina mahitaji ya Katiba na sheria akifichua kuwa hitaji la asilimia 30 ya zabuni kutolewa kwa makundi maalum limezingatiwa ipasavyo na utawala wake.

Baada ya kipindi cha maswali na majibu na Gavana huyo, Maseneta walimwagiza kuwasilisha stakabadhi zaidi kufanikisha kuandaliwa kwa ripoti kamili itakayowailishwa kwenye Seneti.

Committee leads stakeholders in scrutiny of electoral bills

The Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs, and Human Rights Committee (JLAHRC) last week held a one-day workshop with stakeholders aimed at refining legislative proposals for the electoral system.

The workshop was a collaboration between the Committee, the Electoral Law and Governance Institute of Africa (ELGIA) and the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).

The meeting analysed the proposed Draft Elections (Amendment) Bill 2024, the Elections Offences (Amendment) Act 2024, and the County Government Elections Laws (Amendment) Act 2024, all critical legislative proposals vital in reforming the electoral process.

Senator Hillary Wakili Sigei (Bomet), who chairs the Committee, noted the importance of the collaboration, pointing

out that it underlines the shared commitment to enhancing the integrity and efficiency of the electoral process.

“By bringing together diverse perspectives from electoral officials, legal experts, and legislators, the workshop fostered a comprehensive approach to legislative refinement,” Senator Wakili told the meeting.

Participants engaged in intensive deliberations, focusing on addressing legal gaps and inconsistencies in the current electoral laws during the sessions.

“This initiative marks a crucial step towards ensuring free, fair, and transparent future elections in Kenya,” noted Senator Okiya Omtatah.

The outcome of the workshop is expected to have a significant impact on the final versions of the bills before they are presented for parliamentary scrutiny.



Senator Wakili Sigei, the chairman of the Committee on Justice and Legal, speaks during the workshop flanked by Senator Fatuma Dullo.



Senator Catherine Mumma and Senator Hamida Kibwana, members of the Justice Committee,

PARTNERSHIPS

Liaison Officers trained in anticipatory governance

Parliamentary staff drawn from the Senate Liaison Office have undertaken training on anticipatory governance which was sponsored by the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD).

The objective of the training was to enhance the capacity of the staff in utilising foresight tools and techniques in legislative processes to better serve the Futures Caucus.



1. Dr Katindi Sivi, an expert in Foresight and Anticipatory Governance, takes the Senate Liaison Officers (SLO) through the lessons during the training.
2. The Senate Liaison Officers follow proceedings during the training.
3. Dr Phillip Buchere, the Director Senate Liaison Office (SLO), poses for a group picture with the Directorate staff at the end of the workshop on anticipatory training.

Committee summons former Kitui Governor over textile firm's finances



Senator Godfrey Osotsi issued the summons against the former Governor

The Public County Investments and Special Funds Committee has invited former Kitui Governor Charity Ngilu to explain the finances at the Kitui County Textile Centre.

The summon follows damning audit reports for three fiscal years; 2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22, which highlighted significant management and financial challenges threatening the Firm's operations and sustainability.

The invitation was issued during the meeting between the Committee and County Government of Kitui which was attended by Governor Julius Malombe.

The Governor had offered unsatisfactory answers after he faced serious questions over the operations of the textile firm

"The committee hereby resolves to issue summons pursuant to Article 125 of the constitution to the former governor of Kitui county Charity Ngilu, the former top management officials and all officials who signed financial statements of the Kitui County Textile Centre in the 2019/2020, 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 financial years."

The Auditor-General issued adverse opinions for the firm financial accounts, flagging numerous financial discrepancies which include irregular payments of Sh49.1 million and Sh56.7 million in salaries and wages to casual employees, with questionable rates and contract practices.

The firm's financial health has deteriorated, with current liabilities increasing from Sh68 million to Sh90.7 million, whilst revenue plummeted from Sh203 million to Sh78.6 million between 2021 and 2022.

Governor Malombe was directed to submit comprehensive reports, including the firm's status, board member details, and bank account signatories.

The Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission has been invited to participate in the upcoming September meeting.

"The forthcoming hearing will indeed shed light on the management practices that led to the firm's financial predicament," stated Senator Tabitha Mutinda.

This Week in History



"We have to some extent heard that governors are using the same money to go to courts, so that we are stopped from going on with our business. This is absurd. Indeed, we must state that the Senate is not in the business of frustrating devolution as we have been reading in the newspapers. Governors are saying that any time we raise an issue of accountability, we are playing with devolution. That is not the case. Who told them that governors are equivalent to devolution? Never! Devolution is a process that is supposed to be carried out by all that are indicated here. The Constitution is very clear that the headquarters of a county is indicated in that county. So it follows that the office of the Governor must be in that county."

Senator (Prof.) John Lonyangapuo making contribution on the debate on the consideration of the amendment to the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2014 by the National Assembly on September 2, 2014.



"I am happy that people have started to realise the difference between an individual Senator and the Senate as an institution. When we sat here not so long ago and debated whether or not to stop the funding to four counties, including my own county of Murang'a, the debate that went around in the country was big. The Governors, of course, said – and wrongly – that we, as Senators from those four counties failed to defend them in the Senate or before the Committee. That is a fallacy because the moment that we dealt the way we dealt, we were dealing in our collegial capacity as the institution of the Senate. It was wrong – and I dare repeat it – it was very wrong indeed for the Governors of the four counties to point fingers at us and say that we negated our responsibility. I am going to say it again; that the accountability that is sought under the Constitution is mandatory and it has to be done, whether it is in Murang'a County that I represent or in any other of the 47 counties in this country."

Senator Kembi-Gitura making contribution on the debate on the consideration of the amendment to the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2014 by the National Assembly on September 2, 2014.



"We are told the intention was noble in fast tracking the availability of resources to the counties. Amongst many things that have been discussed in the House are issues of limits to expenditure or ceilings as one may call it. Really, I see no issue at all because after all, budgets are ceilings of expenditure. Anybody wanting to talk about ceilings should therefore dishonour any budgetary proceedings in the Houses of Parliament and in the county assembly at the county level."

Sen. (Dr.) Wilfred Machage making contribution on the debate on the consideration of the amendment to the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2014 by the National Assembly on September 2, 2014.



"The issue of accountability is critical, it is not negotiable. This is the message we have to send out clearly to the governors. The money that is being allocated is for the counties and not money that is being given to governors. It is money from public funds that has to be accounted for as Sen. (Prof.) Lonyangapuo has said. There is nothing to make anybody jittery about coming to account for what they have done within their particular counties. In fact, when this accounting is being done, it should be done to the whole country. It should be fairly comfortable for anybody who has been given funds not only to wait to be asked to account for those funds, but also to come forward and say: 'I would like to account for these funds.' They should try as much as possible to bring as much transparency into this as possible."

Senator (Dr.) Agnes Zani making contribution on the debate on the consideration of the amendment to the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2014 by the National Assembly on September 2, 2014.



1. Staff in the Directorate of Speaker's Office pose for a group picture after the birthday celebration of Sylvia Wendoh (raising her arms). Ms Wendoh serves in the Office of the Majority Whip.
2. Students and teachers from St Joseph Herman Max, Mombasa County, after their tour of Parliament Buildings.
3. A parliamentary protocol officer briefs the teachers and students from Testimony School, Uasin Gishu County, on the operations of Parliament during their academic tour of Parliament Buildings.
4. Members of Meru County Assembly follow the proceedings during the Impeachment trial of Governor Kawira Mwangaza in the Senate Chamber.
5. Speaker Amason Kingi, the Leader of Minority Stewart Madzayo and Senator Betty Montet in Bali, Indonesia where they attended the Indonesia-Africa Parliamentary Forum (IAPF) 2024.
6. Speaker Amason Kingi participates in the Joint Leaders' Session which was chaired by Indonesian President Joko Widodo during the Indonesia Africa Forum 2024 in Bali.



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