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Senate to National Treasury: Transfer County Cash based on DoRA 2024

The Committee on Finance says where there is no County Allocation of Revenue Act, the only applicable law that would allow the disbursement of county equitable share is Regulation 134(1) of the Public Finance Management, National Government Regulation 2015, but Senators disagree, arguing that Division of Revenue Act, 2024 is operational.



Senator Ali Roba, the chair Committee on Finance and Budget.



Senator Eddy Oketch



Senator Ledama ole Kina



Senator Samson Cherarkey

The House has directed the National Treasury to release county equitable share based on the current law, the Division of Revenue Act, 2024.

Senators issued the directive in the face of concerns by county governments that they have endured three months of this financial year without exchequer releases because of the absence of the necessary law.

On Wednesday, the lawmakers rejected the idea that the cash transfers should

remain in abeyance until the enactment of the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2024.

“The Senate has already passed the Division of Revenue Bill, 2024 and is now law. You cannot bring an argument and say that because you want to amend it, you stop its implementation,” Senator Ledama ole Kina told the House.

The lawmaker, who is also the Minority Whip, was reacting to a Statement issued by the Committee on Finance and

Budget on the delay in the disbursement of funds to county governments in the present circumstance where there has been a delay in the enactment of County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2024.

“The Cabinet Secretary in charge of Finance ought to follow the law and ensure that money is sent to counties. Let us apply the existing law that we passed so that we do not ground our counties to a halt,” insisted Senator ole Kina.

The National Treasury has not made

any transfers to counties, a situation the Committee on Finance acknowledged has impeded the ability of county governments to discharge their functions and is likely to lead to devastating consequences in crucial areas such as service delivery in health sectors.

The House had enacted the County Allocation of Revenue Bill, 2024 and transmitted to the President for assent.

However, the President referred the Bill back to Parliament with reservations after the rejection of Finance Bill, 2024 asking Senators to reduce the equitable share to counties from Sh400.1 billion to Sh380 billion for this financial year.

By the time of referral, the President had assented to the Division of Revenue Bill, 2024 which had allocated Sh400.1 billion to counties.

The Division of Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2024 which seeks to reduce the figure is currently before the House.

In the Statement, Senator Ali Roba, who chairs the Committee on Finance said in the circumstances where there is

no County Allocation of Revenue Act, the only avenue that can allow disbursements to counties is Regulation 134(1) of the Public Finance Management, National Government Regulation 2015.

Regulation 134 provides that if the County Allocation of Revenue Bill has not been approved by Parliament or is not likely to be approved by Parliament, by the beginning of the financial year, the Controller of Budget may authorise withdrawals of up to 50 per cent from the Consolidated Fund based on the last County Allocation of Revenue law.

The Regulations and Supreme Court Advisory Opinion No.3 of 2019 provide the same remedy for the disbursement of up to 50 per cent of the total County equitable share where the relevant legal

instruments are not in place.

“In light of these provisions of the law, the Committee on Finance and Budget has written to the National Treasury and the Controller of Budget to direct as a matter of utmost urgency the authorisation and withdrawal of up to 50 per cent from the consolidated fund,” said Senator Roba.

The withdrawals will be based on the last County Allocation of Revenue Act.

Treasury CS John Mbadi in the meeting between the Committee held on September 16, had indicated that they are ready to avail a percentage of funds to counties to facilitate non-discretionary monthly expenditures such as salaries.

An advisory the Treasury sought from the Attorney General cited the provi-

sions of Regulation 134(1) and the Supreme Court advisory opinion as the only applicable avenues that can allow the disbursement of the cash.

Senator Samson Cherarkey disagreed with the Regulation as the only available avenue and maintained the law is already in place.

He said the Committee on Finance should have based its argument on the Division of Revenue Act (DoRA) 2024, and not the Regulations.

“DoRA 2024 has been assented to by the President, alongside the Appropriations Act, which was later amended by the National Assembly after the collapse of the Finance Bill, 2024,” he said

Senator Eddy Oketch defended the Committee Statement, rejecting the

idea that Division of Revenue Act, 2024 should be the basis of disbursing the funds to counties in the absence of County Allocation of Revenue Act.

“The Division of Revenue Act (DORA) does not ensure the National Treasury gives counties money,” he argued, adding that the law only determines the money shared between national and county governments.

“The instrument used to get money for counties is the County Allocation of Revenue Act (CARA). It helps define what counties get among themselves from the shareable revenue between the national and county Government.”

House adopts Revenue Bill, with amendments



Senate in session.

The House has passed the Division of Revenue (Amendment) Bill, 2024 with amendments, retaining county equitable share at Sh400.1 billion for the 2024/25 financial year.

The Bill seeks to amend the Division of Revenue Act, 2024 to revise the shareable revenue from Sh2.9 trillion to Sh2.6 trillion, out of which County equitable share will reduce to Sh380 billion from Sh400.1 billion if it is passed into law.

To justify the proposal, the National Treasury argues the reduction is necessary as a result of the downward revision of projected revenue occasioned by the rejection of the Finance Bill, 2024.

However, a total of 28 Senators present in the House on Wednesday voted to

reject the reduction saying the move will hurt counties and impede county governments operations and affect delivery of devolved functions.

The House also amended Clause 2 on the objects and purpose of the Bill. The Act provides the purpose of the Bill is to provide for equitable sharing of the shortfall in revenue raised nationally, occasioned by downward revision of projected ordinary revenue, between the national and County Governments.

In their amendment of the Clause, the Senators have proposed that the object of the Bill is to provide for the downward revision of projected ordinary revenue.

The lawmakers also deleted Clause 3 of the Bill which proposes to amend

Section 5 of the Act that provides that sharing of any revenue shortfall in the 2024/25 financial year should be shared equitably between the two levels of Government.

Further, the Clause caps the proportion of revenue shortfall to be borne by county governments at a maximum of 15 percent of the shortfall.

“We have deleted the provision because it is not tenable,” said Senator Ali Roba, the chairman, Finance and Budget Committee, while moving the amendment.

Senator Roba faulted the National Assembly for introducing the Clause saying that it has not been practised for the 10 years the Division of Revenue Bill

has been enacted by Parliament.

The House also deleted the Schedule of the Bill as passed by the National Assembly, substituting it with one that proposes that the total shareable revenue should be capped at Sh2.6 trillion.

The National Government will receive Sh2.2 trillion while counties will receive Sh400.1 billion and Sh8 billion going to the Equalisation Fund.

In amending the Schedule, Senators said they are concerned that it only covers a reduction on county equitable shareable revenue.

The Bill will be taken to the National Assembly for concurrence.

Speaker warns Senators on comments against Deputy President, Kericho Governor



Speaker Amason Kingi after his meeting with Mr Douglas Kanja, the new Inspector General of Police, who paid him a courtesy call at the Senate.

Speaker Amason Kingi has directed Senators to desist from publicly commenting on the proposed impeachment of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua pending the determination of the matter by the National Assembly, warning that the matter may find its way to the Senate.

“It is in the public domain that a Motion has been filed in the National Assembly on the proposed removal from office by impeachment of Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua,” said the Speaker in his directive.

On Thursday, the Speaker confirmed to having received documents from the County Assembly of Kericho on the proposed removal from office, by impeachment of Governor Erick Kip-

koech Mutai, promising to communicate the Message to the House at an appropriate time.

“I urge you to remain cognisant that comments you make on the impeachment process may be relied on by parties here in the Senate and in courts of law,” he added, citing the case in which former Mr Mike Sonko sought to challenge his removal as Governor of Nairobi by the Senate.

In the case, the former Governor argued that remarks made by Senators had eroded the capacity of the Senate as an adjudicating body in terms of Article 47 of the Constitution.

Under the law, the proposed removal from office by impeachment of the Deputy President, Article 145(2), requires

the Speaker of the National Assembly to notify the Speaker of the Senate, if such Motion is supported by at least two-thirds of all members of the National Assembly.

Action will be required of the Senate on the resolution pursuant to Article 145(3) of the Constitution.

Being the trial Chamber on the proposed removal from office by impeachment of the Deputy President, the Senate will be sitting as a quasi-judicial body to hear and determine the matter. Comments made, whether written or spoken, the Speaker argued may prejudice the just outcome of the process not only in the Senate, but also in the National Assembly, as this is a function undertaken by both Houses of Parliament.

“I cannot, therefore, emphasise enough that comments by Senators on matters that may come before the Senate or are already before the Senate will certainly attract some measure of scrutiny; some of which may be construed to mean that an outcome, one way or the other, has already been determined.”

He added: “During the pendency of the impeachment processes in Parliament and more particularly, in the Senate, I wish to caution Senators to desist from publicly commenting on the merits or demerits of the matters.”

“Doing so would amount to anticipation of debate, which is an infringement of Standing Order No.99 of the Senate. It will also amount to grossly disorderly conduct within the meaning of the Standing Orders.”

Mashinani initiative propels Senate to global recognition



Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot and Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo, jointly received the award on behalf of the Senate and inducted in the Hall of Fame.

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot and Minority Leader Stewart Madzayo have been inducted into the Democratic Innovators of the 21st Century Politicians Hall of Fame for their role in promoting democracy in Kenya.

The two leaders were awarded by the Apolitical Foundation in collaboration with Democracy and Culture Foundation on behalf of the Senate of Kenya.

Senator Cheruiyot and Senator Stewart Madzayo received the award during the opening day of the Athens Democracy Forum which was established by the New York Times in 2013.

The award ceremony is convened annually to serve as the North Star on

which democracy and the society can reinvent themselves.

Apolitical Foundation is an organisation that celebrates remarkable women and men who have dedicated their lives to advancing democracy worldwide by reimagining political systems and fostering inclusivity in traditionally exclusive spaces.

Senator Cheruiyot and Senator Madzayo were inducted into the Politicians Hall of Fame for their outstanding leadership in advancing democratic engagement and transparency between the national and county levels of government through the Senate Mashinani initiative.

Senate Mashinani is an initiative

where the Senate relocates from the capital to conduct its business in one of the local counties, which is meant to strengthen public engagement with the legislative process.

While awarding the Senate's leadership in Athens Greece on Tuesday, October 1, Ms Lisa Witter, the Chief Executive Officer of the Apolitical Foundation, hailed the two leaders for bringing the Senate to rural areas like Turkana County, adding that their efforts will go a long way in developing better policies for Kenyan citizens.

"Senator Cheruiyot and Senator Madzayo's collective work has brought us closer to the ideal of a democracy that truly serves its people and puts them at

the heart of developing better policies for citizens and the planet.

Their accomplishments remind us that the power to shape the future lies not only with leaders but with each and every citizen," Ms Witter said.

She added that the Senate has amplified citizen voices in shaping transparent legislation on issues such as insecurity, education, and food security, fostering a more participatory democracy at all levels of government.

The Apolitical Foundation is a non-profit organisation that explores the role of politicians in championing and institutionalising democratic innovations.

Committee calls for memoranda on Constitution Bill



Senator Wakili Sigei, who chairs the Committee on Justice.

The Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights has invited interested members of the public to submit their views on the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2024 currently before the House.

Articles 118 and 256 of the Constitution and the Senate Standing Orders require House Committees to facilitate public participation on any Bill and take into account the views and recommendations of public when they make report to the House.

The Bill, which is sponsored by Senator Samson Cherarkey, was read for the first time on Thursday, September 26 and committed to the Committee to facilitate public participation as required by the law.

Being a Bill to amend the Constitution, the Committee has 90 days, since its date of introduction, to engage the public, before it goes back on the floor for the second reading (debate).

The Committee, through the Office

of the Clerk, has asked members of public interested to submit views they may have on the Bill by way of memoranda.

"The memoranda may be hand delivered to the office of the Clerk located in the main Parliament Buildings," said the public advert signed by Mr Jeremiah Nyegenye, the Clerk of the Senate.

Alternatively, Mr Nyegenye directed the public to email their memoranda to clerk.senate@parliament.go.ke and copy to senatejlahrc@parliament.go.ke.

The memoranda must be received on or before October 25, 2024.

The Committee will hold a public hearing on the Bill on Friday, October 25 2024 at the Senate Mini Chamber.

If enacted, the Bill will provide a framework that would strengthen the existing system of devolution.

"It aims to do this by aligning the roles and functions of Parliament and all entities at the national and county levels of government in a manner that would promote the effective administration of



Senator Samson Cherarkey, the sponsor of the Bill.

the devolved system of government," says Senator Cherarkey in the memorandum of objects of the Bill.

The Senator is proposing to amend Article 58 of the Constitution to provide for the involvement of the Senate and the National Assembly in the approval of an extension of a state of emergency.

He says a state of emergency affects the stability and functioning of the national and county governments and the nation as a whole and thus, it is important that both Houses be involved in the process.

He also proposes to amend Article 96 which provides that the Senate is to exercise oversight over revenue allocated to, raised by, or otherwise received by the county governments and its expenditure.

"The amendment seeks to ensure that there is greater clarity in the role of the Senate in overseeing all county revenues and giving Parliament the mandate to legislate on the parameters of both nationally allocated and locally generated

revenue," he states.

The Bill also proposes to amend Article 101 to extend the term of a Member of Parliament from five to seven years and Article 108 to provide for the leadership and the order of precedence in the Senate.

As currently worded, Article 108 only provides for the leadership and the order of precedence in the National Assembly, omitting that of the Senate.

The Senator has also proposed to amend Article 109 to provide for the origination of any Bill in either House of Parliament. However, this excludes money Bills which may only originate in the National Assembly before going to the Senate.

The lawmaker is also to change the procedure for the consideration of the annual County Allocation of Revenue Bill by both Houses of Parliament, given the impact the Bill would have on county governments.

Senator Asige soars to the Summit

Senator Crystal Asige has said she is honoured and expressed gratitude after the US-based magazine, Time 100 Next, identified her as one of the most influential personalities in the world in 2024.

The official TIME100 Next list released last week spotlights 100 emerging pathfinders across various sectors including health, entertainment, politics and business.

The Senator Asige is among the people in the list that includes pioneers and leaders to artists and icons.

"I would never have seen this coming in a million years, what an absolute honour!" said the Senator after she received the news, promising to continue doing her work of advancing equity.

"Making this year's TIME100 Next list of influential leaders shaping the future of their fields and defining the next generation of leadership hasn't sunk in at all."

She promised to continue her work in advancing equity, accessibility, and in-

clusion - and to put the needs of marginalised groups above politics.

The legislator observed that it has been proven to her over time that disability itself does not discriminate, but people do. She reminded Kenyans and Africans at large that it is about time they realised what the people with disability can bring to the table, if only they look beyond what they see.

She thanked Time 100 Next for helping her show the world that young, quirky people can also create impact.

In its citation, the magazine described the Senator as one of Kenya's most prominent disability rights advocates, who has over the years worked tirelessly to promote the increased equity and inclusion of all people, no matter their ability or disability.

In the Senate, she represents the interests of persons with disabilities, women and youth. She is also an award-winning artist, as well as the founder of The Crystal Asige Foundation.

All 2024 honourees are set to be



Senator Asige with Hon Greg Ferguson, the Speaker of House of Commons of Canada, during his visit in Kenya last May.

recognised at the lavish star-studded TIME100 Next gala event in New York.

Senator Asige is a promoter of several Bills that seek to empower the disadvantaged and vulnerable groups. They include the Startup Bill, 2022, the Persons with Disabilities Bill, 2023, the Kenyan Sign Language Bill, 2023, the Kenya Government Election Laws (Amendments) Bill, 2024, the Constitution of Kenya (Amendments) Bill, 2024 and Learners with Disabilities Bill, 2023.



Senator Crystal Asige.

House calls for protection of ADC land

Legislators have directed the National Government, including the National Land Commission (NLC), to ensure that pieces of land belonging to the Agricultural Development Corporation (ADC) are protected from grabbers.

The Senators say the entities have been given the task of protecting public land, adding that countries that have made strides in becoming first-world or attained industrial status, value food security.

“Having gotten a Constitution that protects public land, Government agencies should be proactive in protecting public land. Land that is owned by ADC does not belong to private citizens. It belongs to the public and by extension it is owned by Kenyans,” said Senator Okongo Omogeni on the floor of the House.

“It will be a shame to the future generation if we realise that in a few years we will not be able even to provide our food. I remember that when we were growing up, we all knew that Kitale is a food basket of Kenya.”

The legislator was making contributions to a Statement sought by Senator Richard Onyonkah on the status of ADC farms spread across the country.

ADC is a crucial institution in Kenya’s agricultural sector, holding vast tracts of land intended to boost food security. Recent reports have been raised



Senator Okongo Omogeni

concerning management and utilisation of these lands, including the controversial lease agreements that have been signed, including underutilisation and financial instability of the agency.

Senator Onyonkah wants the Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries to provide a comprehensive list of all ADC farms in Kenya, including their specific locations, county by county.

He also wants the current operators of the farms revealed, specifying whether they are being run by individuals, corporations, entities engaged in agricultural activities and whether there are



Senator Richard Onyonkah

any known subleases or involvement of third-party operators.

He wants the Committee to table a comprehensive list of the current leases and agreements which have been signed by the Government, specifying whether there are executed leases or agreements with any organisation presently operating on the farms or individuals and an explanation on how and when these agreements were signed, whether they were signed with the agenda of having ADC to fulfil the mission of promoting food security and agricultural development.

Senator Omogeni said the Govern-

ment needs to protect the farms so that Kenya still prides itself as a country that has food security for its people.

Senator Mohamed Chute challenged the management of ADC to tell the public how many farms they have and whether some ranches, like Solio Ranch in Laikipia, which were meant for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), were grabbed.

“Some acres in that ranch were meant for IDPs, but we do not know what is happening with all the acreage now. We were told the Government bought that land for IDPs. We need to know how many acres were meant for IDPs, how many acres went to individual people and who those individual people are.”

ADC has been rearing animals on their farms and the Senator says the country needs an explanation on the productivity of those animals.

“Is it helping the country financially? If not, then we must be told what has to be done, so that we engage ADC as an entity that is supposed to do business.”

Senator Samson Cherarkey said the management of ADC must be compelled to state their own source revenue because the corporation is going through financial strain.

The lawmaker said the House should be told the amount ADC charges on leasing the land, which has a bearing on revenue streams of the agency.

Senators want end of unregulated Mining

Senators want the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs to ensure that only licensed companies are allowed to conduct exploration of mineral resources in Kenya.

The lawmakers further want the Ministry to bring to an end the sporadic problems that arise in counties due to unregulated mining.

Contributing to a debate on request for a Statement, the Senators regretted that companies that have been granted licences for explorations are mainly foreign, whose aim is to exploit vulnerable communities within the mining areas.

“These white people, in the name of licenses for exploration, are exploiting our resources,” said Senator Boni Khalwale, citing the case of a company called Shanta that has been exploring gold in Ikolomani constituency for the last 21 years with little success.

The areas with rich mineral resources in Kenya are Migori, Kakamega, Marsabit, West Pokot and Taita Taveta.

The Senators were making contributions to a Statement sought by Senator Eddy Oketch on mining sites in Migori County.

Senator Oketch wants the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources to explain circumstances under which clashes over the copper and gold mines



Senator Eddy Oketch and Senator Tom Ojienda want the State to end the practice of unregulated mining in Kenya.

in Nyatike Sub-County, in Migori County occurred on September 14, 2024.

He wants the Committee to investigate the circumstances that led to the clash at the Macalder copper and gold mines, resulting in multiple injuries and the destruction of vehicles.

The Committee should outline measures the Government has put in place to prevent recurrence of such incidences, giving details of local and foreign miners operating in the Macalder and Osiri copper and gold mines in Nyatike sub-county and in Masara Copper and Gold Mines in Suna West sub-county.

The Committee should confirm whether the miners are licensed and

compliant with the Mining Strategic Mineral Regulations of 2017.

“The Committee should ascertain whether there are Corporate Social Responsibility projects initiated by the foreign miners in the local community and determine how they are addressing environmental degradation,” said Senator Oketch when he made the request.

He wants the Committee to establish whether the foreign miners are conducting CSR activities through the Copper Hill Exploration and Mining Resources Company Limited, or the Macalder Copper Hill Circle or otherwise and also clarify their role in protecting the mines.

Senator Tom Ojienda raised concern

about political interests in the mining industry saying there is need to ensure that those who engage in the activities under the Mining Act comply with the law.

The infiltration of Chinese miners who go to counties and make arrangements with governors and county governments, is also an issue of concern.

He said a scuffle involving a Governor and a Member of the County Assembly (MCA) was because of a lack of understanding and clear compliance with the legal framework that governs mining.

Macalder is an area where gold and copper have been mined by individuals for a long time.

Senator Ojienda wants the Committee to visit the mines as this will help members have a clear framework on the role that counties play and shares that counties get from mining.

“We need to ascertain the framework that governs mining of copper and gold in Migori County. It will help with the regulation of mining, so that other counties can also learn from the framework because the Migori one is a big embarrassment.”

He added: “The visit will expose the sector and the role that foreigners play in prospecting, mining and commercialisation of minerals that under the Mining Act belong to the Government.”

Seneta Hamida ashinikiza kudhibitiwa kwa sehemu za burudani ndani ya maeneo ya makazi

Seneta Hamida Kibwana anatafuta Taarifa kutoka kwa Kamati ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Uhusiano wa Kigeni kuhusu kuongezeka kwa idadi ya sehemu za burudani na vilabu vya usiku vinavyofanya kazi ndani ya maeneo ya makazi katika Kaunti ya Jiji la Nairobi.

Kwenye ombi lake, Seneta Hamida anaitaka Kamati hiyo kubaini iwapo kuongezeka kwa sehemu hizo kunatokana na pengo katika utoaji wa leseni au udhibiti na iwapo mamlaka husika zinatekeleza sheria za ugawaji ipasavyo kando na kutoa maelezo kuhusu mchakato wa utoaji leseni kwa vilabu vya usiku na sehemu za burudani katika maeneo ya makazi ikionesha iwapo kuna miongozo maalum ya kuyalinda maeneo ya makazi dhidi ya shughuli hizo za kibiashara.

Anaitaka Kamati ichunguze athari za sehemu hizo za burudani kwa watoto na vijana, haswa katika suala la kelele, tabia zisizofaa na tabia mbaya za kijamii kama vile utumiaji wa dawa za kulevya na kupendekeza hatua za kupunguza athari mbaya za sehemu hizo kwa kuzingatia ulinzi wa watoto na kudumisha amani na usalama katika jamii.

Kadhalika Seneta huyo anaitaka Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta William Cheptumo kuchunguza jukumu la mamlaka ya serikali ya Kaunti na ile ya Kitaifa katika kudhibiti sehemu hizo za burudani na kubainisha mapungufu ya kisera ambayo yanahitaji kushughuliki-



Seneta Hamida Kibwana

wa ili kuimarisha utekelezaji wa sheria na ulinzi wa maeneo ya makazi.

Wakichangia kwenye ombi hilo, Maseneta wakiwemo Seneta Samson Cherarkey na Seneta Ledama Olekina walitoa wito kwa Kamati hiyo uchunguzi wa kina na kupendekeza hatua madhubuti zitakazosaidia kuukabili ukukaji mkubwa wa sheria, ukwepaji wa adhabu na mapendeleo katika utoaji wa leseni kwa wafanyabiashara wanaomiliki sehemu za burudani na vilabu vya kuhudumu usiku.

Kwingineko Seneta Stewart Madzayo ameitaka serikali kupitia vyombo husika kama Wizara ya Leba na Ulinzi wa Jamii na Wizara ya Mashauri ya Kigeni kuimarisha hatua za kukabiliana na wahusika wanaowalaghai Wakenya kwamba watawasaidia kupata ajira katika mataifa ya

ughaibuni.

Akiwasilisha Taarifa ya Binafsi, Seneta Madzayo amesikitikia namna Wakenya wanavyolaghaiwa na mashirika mbali mbali akitaka hatua za hima kuchukuliwa dhidi ya wahusika ili kuwalinda Wakenya wasiokuwa na hatia.

“Kenya imekumbwa na ongezeko la kutatanisha la visa vya ulaghai wa kazi na kuwaacha wengi wanaotafuta kazi wakiwa hatarini kwa mipango mibovu. Tukio la kutisha lilitokea Agosti, 2023, wakati Bw. James Wanjohi ambaye anahusishwa na Kanisa la Jesus Culture Ministries, alishtumiwa kwa kupanga oparesheni kubwa ya ulaghai,” alieleza Seneta Madzayo.

Seneta huyo aliye Kiongozi wa upande wa wachache aliwaambia Maseneta wenzake namna Wakenya wameporwa

mamilioni ya pesa akitaka hatua mafaka kuchukuliwa kuwalinda.

“Mshukiwa aliripotiwa kukusanya shilingi milioni 600 kutoka kwa maelfu ya Wakenya waliokuwa na matumaini, akiwaahidi nafasi za kazi ambazo hazipo nje ya nchi.

Mnamo tarehe 24 Septemba, 2024, iliibuka kashfa nyingine ya kumhusisha Bw. Ceaser King’ori wa Kampuni ya Vintmark Travel Agency Limited katika ulaghai wa mamilioni ya pesa. Kulingana na Idara ya Uchunguzi wa Jinai (DCI), Bw. King’ori anatumia kuwalaghai Wakenya na wageni takriban shilingi milioni 720,” alifafanua Seneta Madzayo.

Alisema wakati umewadia kwa viongozi kusimama kidete na kuukomesha ulaghai dhidi ya Wakenya.

“Hali hii inahitaji hatua za haraka na madhubuti, hatuwezi kukaa kimya huku raia wetu wakinyonywa na ndoto zao kukatizwa na ni jukumu letu kuhakikisha kuwa kila Mkenya anayetafuta fursa nje ya nchi anaweza kufanya hivyo kwa uhakika kwamba haki na utu wao vitazingatiwa. Ingawa tunatambua umuhimu wa kutafuta fursa za ajira nje ya mipaka yetu, fursa hizi lazima ziwe halali na salama. Hamna Mkenya anayepaswa kuachwa katika hatari ya kunyonywa kwa jina la kutafuta kazi,” alikariri Seneta Madzayo.

Maafisa wa polisi waliojeruhiwa wakiwa kazini wadai haki



Seneta William Cheptumo, Mwenyekiti Kamati ya Usalama

Ombi lililowasilishwa likiitaka Seneti kuingilia kati ili kuhakikisha kuwa maafisa wote wa polisi waliojeruhiwa wanatendewa haki kwa kulipwa malipo yao kama wanavyofanyiwa watumishi wengine wote wa umma lilijadiliwa wiki iliyopita.

Baadhi ya maafisa wa polisi walio-

jeruhiwa ambao walifika mbele ya Kamati ya Usalama wa Kitaifa, Ulinzi na Mashauri ya nchi za Kigeni waliitaka Seneti kushinikiza kutolewa kwa orodha ya maafisa wote wa polisi waliojeruhiwa tangu mwaka wa 2021, ikieleza jina la kila afisa, asili ya jeraha, muda wa jeraha na kiasi cha fidia iliyotolewa kando na kushinikiza Bima ya Afya kuwalipa fidia maafisa walioathirika mara moja.

Walielezea masaiibu ambayo wameyapitia wakilaumu kutojali kwa taasisi husika kwa kuchelewesha malipo kwao wengine wakizungushwa kwa muda mrefu na maafisa hao bila mafanikio yoyote.

“Tangu mwaka 2021, maafisa wa polisi zaidi ya mia nne waliojeruhiwa hawajalipwa fidia ya kuumia baada ya kufanyiwa utathmini na kuagizwa kupelewa fidia kwa mujibu wa utaratibu uliowekwa, baadhi ya maafisa hao wamedhoofika kabisa kutokana na majeraha waliyoyapata wakiwa kazini, baadhi yao walipoteza mikono na miguu, jambo ambalo liliathiri vibaya maisha yao na

ya familia zao na watu wanaowategemea,” walieleza maafisa hao.

Waliongeza, “Kuongeza kwa malipo duni, makazi duni, maendeleo duni ya kazi na mitazamo ya chuki ya umma na hatari zingine za kikazi ambazo maafisa wa polisi huvumilia kila siku, kuyapuuza majeraha wanayopata wakiwa kazini hufanya iwe ngumu kustahimili. Tume ya Kitaifa ya Huduma ya Polisi na Hazina ya Kitaifa ya Bima ya Hospitali hazijaeleza ni kwa nini hamna afisa yeyote kati ya waathiriwa zaidi ya mia nne aliyelipwa fidia.”

Walikariri masikitiko yao namna serikali imekiuka kwa wazi sheria inayoweza wazi kwamba afisa yeyote anayejeruhiwa kazini anapaswa kulipwa fidia katika muda wa siku tisini kuanzia tarehe ambayo fomu ya kudai fidia itakuwa imewasilishwa ili kushughulikiwa.

Kulingana na utaratibu, baada ya afisa wa polisi kuripoti tukio la jeraha kwa kamanda wa kituo, utathmini unaostahili hufanywa na daktari binafsi na madak-

tari katika Idara ya Usalama na Huduma za Afya Kazini (DOSHS).

Maafisa hao wa polisi waliwaambia Maseneta kuwa licha ya kufuata hatua zote hitajika, bado hawajalipwa fidia yoyote.

Aidha walifichua masikitiko kwamba kwa sasa baadhi ya maafisa waliojeruhiwa hawawezi kuzifikia faili zao.

“Visa vya rushwa vimetajwa, mbaya zaidi baadhi ya maafisa kutakiwa kupimwa upya na wengine kutakiwa kulipa asilimia fulani ya fidia yao kabla ya kulipwa. Maafisa waliojeruhiwa wamejariibu na kushindwa kuipata Tume ya Taifa ya Huduma ya Polisi na vyombo vingine husika kuingilia kati ili malipo hayo yafanyike,” walikariri maafisa hao.

Kamati hiyo chini ya Uenyekiti wa Seneta wa Kaunti ya Baringo William Cheptumo iliamua kwa kauli moja kuwaalikali Waziri wa Usalama wa Taifa na Inspekta Mkuu wa Polisi kuliangazia suala hilo kabla ya kuwasilisha ripoti kwenye Bunge la Seneti.

Committee quarterly reports

The Standing Orders demand that the chairpersons of Committees to periodically make statements relating to activities of their committees at least after every three months. This week, more committee leadership briefed the House on the business they have carried out in the second quarter of the Third Session, covering the period between April to August 2024.

Security Committee held 28 sittings



Senator Fatuma Dullo

The National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations held a total of 28 sittings between April to August, 2024.

During the time, the Committee considered various legislative proposals, Bills, Statements, Petitions, Motions, a resolution from a County Assembly and approval hearing and stakeholder's engagements

In a Statement to the House, delivered by Senator Fatuma Dullo, the Committee conducted pre-publication scrutiny on the Protection of Criminal Infrastructure Bill, 2024 and approved the proposal, which has since been published as a Bill.

It also considered two Bills during the reporting period. The Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2024 and The National Disaster Risk Management Bill, 2023.

"Owing to the ongoing public discourse on the effects of miraa, and muguka, the Committee sought extension of time to consider the Narcotic Drugs

and Psychotropic Substances (Control) (Amendment) Bill, 2024 so as to engage the public in Meru, Embu and Coastal counties," said Senator when she delivered the Statement on behalf of Senator William Cheptumo, the chairman.

Currently, the Committee is considering a memorandum received on the National Disaster Risk Management Bill, 2023.

"We are in the process of finalising these Bills and table the reports in the coming month."

During the period the Committee considered 22 Statements and concluded 15, while seven are ongoing. Out of the five Petitions, it concluded consideration of four and tabled reports in May 2024.

The Committee is currently considering a Petition concerning compensation of police officers injured in the line of duty, which was directed from the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare. The Committee is currently meeting with the petitioners and relevant stakeholders.

The Committee concluded consideration of resolution from the County Assembly of Elgeyo Marakwet on measures to curb banditry in Kerio Valley and tabled its report.

The Committee is currently considering a resolution of the Senate arising from the adoption of the Motion on the Current State of the Nation.

The Committee is meeting with the relevant stakeholders and will be tabling its report in October.

The Committee also concluded an approval hearing of Mr Douglas Kirocho Kanja, the nominee for appointment to the position of Inspector-General of the National Police Service with its counterpart Committee of the National Assembly.

The Committee held a stakeholders' forum to receive submissions from stakeholders on the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Control (Amendment) Bill 2024 and conducted a retreat with the Ministry of Interior and National Administration to discuss the Ministry's memorandum on the Bill.

Cohesion Committee met 28 Governors



Senator Mohamed Chute, chair National Cohesion Committee, consults with Senator Mwenda Gataya Mo Fire during a past function.

The Committee on National Cohesion, Equal Opportunity and Regional Integration has held meetings with 28 County Governors in the period commencing April to September, 2024.

The meetings are meant to audit the state of employment in the public service, including county governments and

propose strategies to adhere to meritocracy, equality and equity of opportunities across the public service as espoused in Article 232 of the Constitution on the values and principles of public service.

"While the Committee has made significant progress, we are yet to conclude on the Motion as further submissions are yet to be received from the remaining

county governments for consideration in preparation of a comprehensive and accurate report to be tabled in mid-October," Senator Mohamed Chute, the chairman, told the House.

On Wednesday, July 24, the House directed the Committee to engage the Public Service Commission (PSC) and the National Cohesion and Integration

Commission (NCIC) to audit the state of employment in the public service.

Senator Chute said the Committee in the course of its oversight role started an inquiry into the representation of Kenya's diversity in staff composition of various state agencies.

The Committee has successfully met with 29 State agencies as part of the inquiry process, with each agency providing valuable input towards the progress report that will be tabled in the House.

The Committee has processed five Statements which were sought by Members. Of the five, it has considered and concluded one, while four are pending.

Senator promised the House that the Committee will continue with an inquiry on the representation of Kenya's diversity in the staff composition of the various state agencies and conduct visits to various counties on peace dialogue meetings, especially in conflict regions and cohesive existence among communities.

Lands Committee held 18 sittings

The Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources held a total of 18 sittings in which it considered five Bills, six Petitions and twenty-four Statements.

The Committee held meetings with the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife and the National Land Commission on three different Bills and further sought written responses on Petitions and Statements.

In a Statement to the House on the activities of the Committee in the period between April and August 2024, Senator John Methu said some responses on Statements sought are still pending.

The entities concerned are the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development, Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Forestry, Ministry of Water, Sanitation and Irrigation, Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage, and the National Land Commission.

“The Committee considered and



Senator John Methu

tabled Reports on the Wildlife Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023, The Wildlife Conservation and Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023 and The National Rating Bill, 2022.

The Committee intends to table its Report on the Land (Amendment) Bill,

2022, following the conclusion of the consideration of the Bill.

The Committee is currently considering three Bills which are under mediation.

Eight Petitions were committed to the Committee, which has since considered

six after it received written submissions from stakeholders.

The Committee has tabled one report on the Petition by Siany residents on the destruction of 41 hectares Siany Wetland.

Senator Methu told the House that three of the Petitions require county visits by the Committee.

“The Committee endeavors to ensure completion of the remainder of Petitions that are pending by the next reporting period as it pursues the responses from relevant Stakeholders,” he told the House.

Cumulatively, the Committee has received a total of 132 Statements, out of which ninety-two have been concluded and 40 are pending, translating to a completion rate of 70 per cent

Seven Statements were considered by the Committee and dispatched to the relevant Senators.

Health Committee held 28 sittings



Senator Mariam Omar, the Vice chair Health Committee, (right) with Senator Miraj Abdulrahman and Senator Hamida Kibwana

The Committee on Health held a total of 28 sittings during the second quarter of the third session that covered the period between April to August, 2024.

In a Statement in the House on its ac-

tivities, Senator Mariam Omar, the vice chair, reported that the team considered one legislative proposal, 12 Statements, two Petitions and undertook county oversight and networking visits.

The committee, sitting jointly with

the National Assembly Departmental Committee on Health, conducted the approval hearing on the suitability of Dr Patrick Amoth to serve as the Director General in the Ministry of Health and consequently prepared its report which was adopted.

The committee conducted county oversight and networking engagements in four counties of Kiambu, Taita Taveta, Kwale and Mombasa.

“The objectives of these engagements were to assess the state and quality of the infrastructure, facilities and hospital equipment, the provision and decentralisation of ambulance and emergency service,” she told the House, adding that automation of health provision systems for the patients, drugs and commodity management was also considered in the visits.

The committee further sought information into the adequacy of health care personnel in the counties, the gaps, the challenges the counties face in regard to the health care workers.

The committee also held consultative meetings with the Ministry of Health, the Council of Governors (CoG) and the health workers unions during the countrywide health workers strike in April.

The committee conducted pre-publication scrutiny on the Tobacco Control

(Amendment) Bill, 2024, sponsored by Senator Catherine Mumma and recommended its publication.

“During this quarter, the committee is scheduled to consider presentations received by way of writing memorandum, prepare and table its report on the Bill,” she said.

The committee concluded its considerations of a Petition by the Kenyatta University medical students on the management and their use of the Kenyatta University Teaching and Referral and Research Hospital and tabled its report.

The committee also received a petition regarding the alleged medical negligence and staff incompetency leading to the death of Ms Annitta Jepkorir at the Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital.

During the period, 12 statements were referred to the committee for consideration, increasing the tally of pending statements to 47.

Already 37 of the 84 Statements referred to the committee have been considered.

The committee says it has categorised all the pending statements into broad thematic areas and scheduled meetings with the relevant agencies to deliberate on the issues raised on their specific mandate.

People with invisible disability seek state recognition

A resident of Narok wants the Senate to establish why people with invisible disabilities have been excluded from Government policies and management strategies.

Ms Beatrice Likwop, a resident of Narok County, wants the House to investigate the matter and recommend to the relevant Ministries to recognise and have the people with invisible disability included and sensitise the public with the aim to reduce stigmatisation and discrimination.

Ms Likwop, who declares she is a person living with invisible disability (Status Epilepticus, Bradycardia and Fibromyalgia) wants the lawmakers to oversee and ensure constant supply and availability of essential medicine and treatment to referral hospitals and provide financial support to cover basic needs.

“The Senate should ensure people with invisible disability have a representative to champion and safeguard their interests in terms of benefits, funding, job opportunities and programmes among others,” she says in the Petition whose contents were communicated to the House by Speaker Amason Kingi.

The petitioner alleges that the Ministry of Health (MoH), the Department of Social Protection, and the National Council for Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD) policies have barriers denying people living with invisible disability access to life-saving treatment and medicine.



Senator Julius Murgor, the chair Committee on Labour

She further states that she requires constant essential medicine and urologists and cardiologists’ services which are not available in county referral hospitals and are not affordable in private hospitals.

“The NCPWD and the Department of Social Protection have not established

programmes to benefit people living with invisible disability,” she claims, adding that job opportunities, financial support, donor funding and projects are allocated solely to people living with physical disabilities.

Ms Likwop says she has not been in any contact with the Community Health

Promoters (CHPs) and has not been successful in getting a card, which is a necessity for proper attention during an emergency.

The Government has not sensitised the society about invisible disability, leading to stigmatisation and discrimination within the society, resulting in denial of job opportunities, isolation by the community and denial into rental premises for purposes of suitable accommodation.

She argues that people living with invisible disability ought to be considered for universal healthcare and be granted prompt attention and express services in hospitals, banking services, supermarkets, among others, which is not the case currently as their conditions, symptoms or signs are not visible and that their status is not acknowledged.

Her attempts to resolve the concerns presented in the Petition through the Ministry of Health, Department of Social Protection, Ministry of Public Service, the NCPWD, the Kenya National Human Rights Commission (KNHRC) and the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA), all of which have been unsuccessful.

Speaker Kingi committed the petition to the Committee on Labour and Social Welfare for consideration.

The Committee is required to table its report to the House within 60 days for consideration.

This Week in History

Petition on NYS pending bills

On October 9, 2019, Mr Edward Mwangi, a member of the public, submitted a Petition to the Senate on behalf of the suppliers of the National Youth Service (NYS) over pending bills.

The petitioners asked the Senate to investigate and ascertain genuine pending bills and claims for verifiable works and services rendered and recommend that payments be made without further delay so as to ease the unbearable economic distress to the suppliers and contractors.

They claimed that from 2013 to June 2018, suppliers and contractors supplied goods and services to NYS, with the majority having not been paid. That at the end of every financial year since 2013, there was always a promise to pay contractors and suppliers, but the promise has not been honoured and that in the Financial Year ending June 30, 2019, the President gave a directive to pay all pending bills.

During the last week of June, 2019, a list of service providers was released by the NYS, but most of the genuine suppliers and contractors were not among the firms to be paid.



Senator (Eng.) Ephraim Maina while contributing to the debate on the Petition.

“This House should sympathise with a simple girl who was trying to survive through hairdressing. The question we should be concerned with is how public resources to the magnitude we were reading in the newspapers landed in her hands.”



Senator Njeru Ndwiga while contributing to the debate on the Petition.

“We have very many contractors in this Republic who are suffering because auctioneers have landed on them. They are unable to pay bank loans. They are unable to survive or to continue doing whatever they do for a living. It is very serious. This matter is not only for the national Government; even our counties are impoverishing our people when they do not pay contractors on time. Our people have had to go through financial hardships.”



Senator Moses Wetangula while contributing to debate on the Petition.

“The Public Finance Management Act is very clear that a public entity cannot procure for goods or services unless it has a budget and money for it in its account. When we are told that people have supplied goods and services to Government entities and are not paid, it is against an existing law and Government circulars. The President pronounced not once or twice that all Government departments must clear pending bills owed to Kenyans within one month. This is more than four months ago. What has happened?”

Senate concludes County Assembly engagements



Mr Faraj Yunus, the Senate Liaison Officer and head of the Senate delegation poses for a photo with Homa Bay County Assembly staff led by the Speaker Julius Gaya during the County Legislation Tracker follow-up visit.

The Senate in partnership with the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) has concluded a series of follow-up engagement to 10 County Assemblies.

The engagement visits were conducted between September 23 and 27, 2024

and involved the County Assemblies of Kisumu, Nyamira, Kisii, Vihiga, Kakamega, Migori, Homa Bay, Bungoma, Busia and Siaya.

The visits, conducted through the Senate Liaison Office, were tailored to support the continued use and enhance-

ment of the County Legislation Tracker system, launched in October 2023 to streamline legislative processes and promote transparency across 47 counties.

The County Legislation Tracker is a system that offers a centralised platform

for tracking Bills and laws across 47 County Assemblies to make it easy for the public to monitor legislative developments in counties.

The follow-up visits focused on addressing technical challenges, promoting best practices, and gathering recommendations from counties on improving the system.

During the visits, the 10 county assemblies underscored the importance of the ongoing capacity building initiatives and system improvements and thanked the Senate for ensuring there is a stronger internal coordination among County Assemblies.

The Senate is scheduled to conduct future engagements with the county assemblies to expand the system's functionality and incorporate public feedback mechanisms.

By addressing the challenges and fostering continuous engagement, the CLT system is set to enhance governance and accountability across counties.

COMMITTEE ROUND UP

ICT Committee held 20 sittings



Senator Allan Chesang (fourth left) chairs a meeting of the Committee on ICT.

The Committee on Information, Communication, and Technology (ICT) is investigating the operations of Integrated Financial Management Information System (IFMIS) and other County Revenue Collection Management systems in all 47 counties.

The Committee opted to probe the systems after learning county governments are losing money due to the non-integration of their revenue collection and management systems with IF-

MIS.

Senator Allan Chesang, the Committee chair, made the revelations while issuing the Statement relating to the activities of the Committee for the period between April to August 2024.

He informed the House the committee had received submissions and a Report of the Multi-Agency Taskforce on Integrated County Revenue Management System from the Council of Governors (CoG), and is scheduled to meet with the

National Treasury and the Kenya Revenue Authority to consider their views.

The Committee is also conducting an Inquiry into the Critical Telecommunication Infrastructure in the country and is scheduled to meet the Cabinet Secretary, National Treasury and Economic Planning, the Competition Authority of Kenya and the Kenya Revenue Authority to finalise its report.

The committee has held 20 sittings in which it has considered seven state-

ments among them one sought by Senator Hamida Kibwana on the Sale of Telkom Kenya to Infrastructure Corporation Africa and another by Senator Samson Cherarkey regarding the financial status and operations of the Postal Corporation of Kenya.

"While the Committee has made significant progress on these Statements, the Committee sought additional clarifications through supplementary questions to comprehensively conclude the matter," Senator Chesang told the House.

He however, decried the delays in concluding the Statements and Inquiries under its consideration due to frequent requests for postponement of meetings by the Executive, the Council of Governors, and other key stakeholders.

The Senator said the Committee is committed to explore measures to advocate for the reduction of import taxes on SIM cards and the zero-rating of SIM card manufacturing materials to support local production, with the ultimate goal of providing free SIM cards for all citizens.

Additionally, the Committee will focus on reviewing the progress of the digitization of government services across all Ministries and Agencies to enhance efficiency and accessibility.

Auditor General to audit defunct NHIF, says CS Mbadi

National Treasury CS John Mbadi has said the Office of the Auditor General should conduct an audit of the defunct National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF) to address issues of concern.

Even as the country transitioned to Social Health Insurance Fund, the CS told the House on Wednesday that no audit on NHIF funds has been conducted but expressed optimism that the exercises will be conducted by the Auditor General.

“As the National Treasury, we are responsible for ensuring transparency and accountability of management of public funds generally. We can also conduct audits using our internal audit team. However, as of now, we have not conducted audit on NHIF. That is a task that can still be conducted,” he said, while answering Members’ questions during last week’s Questions Time.

The CS was responding to a question from Senator Catherine Mumma who wanted to know the mechanism put in place to conduct an audit of the defunct Fund in order to account to the people who had paid their premiums in arrears.

The Senator said there are people who prepaid for health insurance at the beginning of the year. With the transition, they

have been told they can no longer use the NHIF card.

“How has this been transitioned and is a special audit being carried out on the accounts of NHIF to ensure accountability for every cent that the citizens have put in that institution?” she asked.

CS Mbadi admitted there have been challenges with NHIF, which is why the Government saw fit to change the system. There were a lot of fraudulent activities around NHIF in terms of collusion with service providers and the hospitals which complicated the management of the Fund.

“There is a high-level engagement to ensure that all pending bills are paid. A lot of pending bills are also owed to NHIF, even by Government institutions,” he said, adding that in the last Cabinet meeting it was agreed that the National Treasury will work very closely with the Ministry of Health to ensure money that is owed to NHIF is paid. After which NHIF can also pay the hospitals for a smooth transition to the new system.

Senator Edwin Sifuna wondered whether the payments to Social Health Authority (SHA) or Social Health Insurance Fund (SHIF) are also going to be integrated with e-Citizen, now that the



National Treasury CS John Mbadi responds to Senators’ concerns during last week’s Questions and Answers Time.

country has moved from the NHIF.

He challenged the CS to explain the justification for the convenience fee, which essentially is being charged when paying for a service.

“What is the justification for the convenience fee when you are remitting your monthly premiums for the NHIF?” asked Senator Sifuna.

The convenience fee is paid to the ser-

vice provider, so that we do not again end up with complicated accounting where the money that is meant for the actual service is the one that is now again being prorated and paying the service provider.

The CS said it is an Inter-Ministerial discussion that gave rise to the convenience fee and not a decision of the Treasury but it is a Government decision.

ON THE FLOOR

We are behind in county cash transfer, CS Mbadi admits

The National Treasury last week transferred Sh31.8 billion to counties as the first instalment of the county equitable share for the 2024/25 financial year.

Earlier on, in July, the Treasury had released another Sh30.8 billion to close the 2023/24 financial year.

“We have not paid the August and September allocations. I guarantee that we are making plans to at least make one more payment for the month,” he told the House on Wednesday last week.

Senator Mohamed Faki, Senator Munyi Mundigi, Senator Abbas Sheikh had raised concern over the delay by National Treasury to release funds to counties in line with the Cash disbursement schedule passed by the House.

Senator Abbas expressed concern on the delay in the release of funds to counties noting that it takes long, sometimes four to five months.

“Counties are forced to get salaries from the banks at a higher cost, with a higher interest rate. Certain reductions are not submitted in time and they are given penalties for that delay. I do not



Senators listen Attentively to National Treasury CS John Mbadi during last week’s Question time.

know what your Ministry will do as a result of the delays in fund release,” said Senator Abbas.

The CS acknowledged that the Treasury is having a deficit of not less than a month and will try to catch up.

“Before the end of this year, we must catch up so that we do not have any outstanding amount to the counties,” he said.

He challenged Senators, in their oversight role to put pressure on the counties to sort out their issues with the Controller of Budget (CoB), so that there are no huge balances sitting in the County Revenue Fund (CRF) account.

He revealed that there is Sh42 billion which has not been absorbed or taken up by counties. The money is in the County Revenue Fund (CRF) account of Sh38.2

billion and another Sh3 billion under recurrent, and Sh969 million under Development Vote.

“We need to have a smooth absorption because the last thing you want to see is balances accumulating in idle accounts,” he said, noting that it does not add value to the economy.

“It slows economic growth. Once the money is transferred to the CRF, it should go to the counties to pay salaries, recurrent and get into development. As we speak, the development money should be with the counties.”

He revealed there is a proposal to have a standardised system for the collection of revenue in counties so that revenue collection is almost predictable across the country.

“There is no reason why we should operate like we are 48 governments when it comes to revenue collection. We are a country with devolved systems of government. Nonetheless, we need a standardised system,”

He however regretted that consensus had not been reached with the Council of Governors.



1. National Treasury CS John Mbadi and the technical team from the Ministry take Questions from Senators during the Questions and Answers session in the Senate Chamber last week.
2. Deputy Speaker Kathuri Murungi (right) and Senator George Mbugua (left) converse with Mr Albert Mwenda, the Director General, Budget, Fiscal and Economic Affairs at the National Treasury.
- 3.. Senator Tabitha Mutinda (right) and Senator Miraj Abdullahi (left) escort CS John Mbadi out of Senate Chamber after Wednesday's Question Time.
4. Deputy Speaker Kathuri Murungi (third right) leads other Senators in a photo session with CS John Mbadi (centre) when he appeared in the Senate last week. From left, Senator Miraj Abdullahi, Senator Margaret Kamar, Senator Tabitha Mutinda, Senator Mohamed Chute and Senator George Mbugua.
5. Senator Miraj Abdullahi and Senator Margaret Kamar in discussion with CS John Mbadi.



6. Ms Josephine Kusinyi speaks to staff in the Directorate of Legal Services after her promotion to the position of Deputy Director in the Directorate.
7. Ms Josephine Kusinyi cuts the cake during the meeting with Staff in the Directorate of Legal Services.
8. Students and teachers of Turuturu Secondary School, Murang'a County, pose for a photo with Senator Veronica Maina during their visit in Parliament Buildings.
9. CS John Mbadi arrives in Parliament Buildings on Wednesday, October 2, for Question Time



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