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Senate intervenes in Nyamira County crisis

Two County Assemblies. Two Speakers. Two Clerks and two seals of the County Assembly define the crisis that has forced the Senate to get involved.



Senator Mohamed Abbas, the chair of the Devolution Committee.



Governor Amos Nyaribo and his finance officers when they appeared before the County Public Investments Committee.

A Committee of the House is expected to visit Nyamira County to try to resolve a festering crisis that has gripped the legislative arm of the county, leaving the institution sharply divided and completely paralysed.

The County Assembly of Nyamira is split into two rival groups, each conducting parallel sittings in different venues across the county. One is at the main County Assembly building and the other one conducts its sitting in other towns within the County.

The rival groups are led by separate individuals, each claiming to be a legitimate speaker and clerk of the County Assembly.

Senator Mohamed Abbas, the chairman of the Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations, told the House last week of the plan to visit in the face of tough questions that have emerged on the legitimacy of all the decisions, mostly budgetary, made by the County Assembly.

The situation is exacerbated by conflicting claims over leadership, with two separate individuals asserting themselves as the legitimate Speaker, the Clerk of the County Assembly amid reports that a faction of the MCAs has been operating outside the County Assembly premises.

“It is a very unfortunate situation,”

Senator Abbas told the House on Tuesday, admitting that the County Assembly has been operating outside the law.

“There is a lot of rivalry. I do not even know how the Governor was approving his budgets. We will visit the County to reconcile the two rivalry groups, so that at least, the County Assembly can execute their duties legitimately.”

Senator Abbas gave the assurance in response to a request for a Statement by Senator Okongo Omogeni who argues that the confusion has undermined the legislative integrity of the Assembly and unless addressed will potentially jeopardise public confidence in the institution, devolution, and the oversight role

of the Senate.

The Senator wants the Committee on Devolution to inquire into the officially designated and gazetted location of the Assembly and whether sittings that have been held outside that location were duly approved by the County Assembly and evidence to that effect tabled in the House.

The Committee is also expected to inquire into the status and legal standing of any business transacted by the two rival functions, including the adoption and passage of the supplementary budget and other legislative decisions that have been made during the standoff.

“The Committee should investigate



The Committee on Devolution in session.

the process through which the two speakers and clerks were appointed and whether due process and relevant standing orders were followed before their installation,” the Senator says in his request.

The Committee will also investigate the steps taken by the relevant constitutional and intergovernmental bodies to resolve the leadership disputes with

a view of restoring order in the County Assembly.

“The Committee should make recommendations on initiating and leading reconciliation and mediation process to return the Assembly to institutional normalcy, safeguard the rule of law, and protect the interest of the residents of Nyamira County.”

Senator Enoch Wambua said the Com-



Senator Okong'o Omogeni

mittee on Devolution should have taken immediate action to address the crisis. “It is not enough for the Chairperson to tell us that he will visit the county soon. Soon is not soon enough,” he remarked even as he urged for a swift action.

“We may actually need to call the County Government of Nyamira, both the executive and the assembly, to come and explain what exactly is happening.”

Senator Cherarkey echoed the sentiments by Senator Wambua and claimed the County Executive had deliberately stoked chaos within the Assembly following a failed impeachment attempt.

“Anything that has been passed is illegal,” he argued, underscoring the need for a thorough investigation into the legitimacy of the Assembly’s decisions during the period of dysfunction.

Senator Julius Murgor likened the situation to the collapse of the governance system, likening it to “two cooks cooking from one pot”.

He warned that the County is operating in a state of illegality, with the Assembly unable to function effectively due to the power struggle at the top.

Senator Beatrice Ogola, also expressed concerns over the Governor’s tactics of “divide and rule” which suggests that the Governor is undermining the Assembly’s oversight role, which is critical to the functioning of the devolution system.

Senators summon CoB to explain crisis in Nyamira Assembly



Senator Boni Khalwale



Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakango



Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot

The Controller of Budget Margaret Nyakango has been invited to appear before the Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations in response to the crisis affecting the County Assembly of Nyamira.

The Assembly is split into two rival groups, each conducting parallel sittings in different venues. One is at the main County Assembly building and the other one conducts its sitting in other several towns within the County.

In the face of the crisis, questions have emerged on the legality of all the businesses the House has adopted during the standoff, which most Senators believe was illegal.

Of particular interest are the budget

approvals that Governor Amos Nyaribo submitted to the Assembly during the period of the crisis and which were passed.

The Office of the Controller of the Budget (OCO) is responsible for overseeing the implementation of budgets by the two levels of Government.

Senators want Ms Nyakango to appear before the Committee to explain the legitimacy of the budgets of the County she has been implementing.

“The Controller of Budget must appear before the Committee to explain which County Assembly she has been dealing with,” said Senator Boni Khalwale, adding that she may have taken sides in the conflict.

Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot said the factions in the Assembly could only exist with the support of two offices: The office of the governor and the office of the CoB, which are critical in any devolution system.

“The CoB must appraise this House on which request for funding to the County Assemblies. Which of the two factions she is funding and the criteria she bases her decision on. Based on that decision, then that is a legitimate county assembly.”

The Majority Leader said it is the CoB who is letting devolution down. “There are certain statutory obligations that must be met by the County Assembly before requisitions in matters such as

budget are sent.”

The lawmaker said it is only proper for the CoB to check which County Assembly has approved some of the budgets that come from Nyamira County because at the heart of the dispute, resources are never far away from it.

He suggested that CoB should have stopped the funds until the matter is resolved.

“How is the other county assembly resourced? It would be interesting to know how the purported clerk of that other House can draw from the Exchequer and meet their bills unless the Controller of Budget is not supporting the proper county assembly.”

Speaker Kingi hosts former Latvian President



Speaker Amason Kingi and Her Excellency Vaira Vike-Freiberga, former Latvia President, during the meeting.



Her Excellency Vaira Vike-Freiberga admires the gift she was given by Speaker Kingi



Former Latvia President Vaira Vike-Freiberga, signs a visitors' book in Speaker Kingi's office.

Speaker Amason Kingi on Wednesday hosted Former President of Latvia, Her Excellency Vaira Vike-Freiberga, who paid him a courtesy call in his office at Parliament Buildings.

Her Excellency Vaira Vike-Freiberga is in the country for a series of meetings and top-level engagements aimed at marshalling support for Nairobi to host a planned international High-Level Meeting meant to advance Global Co-operation and Multilateralism.

The High-Level Meeting to be organised by Nizami Ganjavi International Centre (NGIC) - a world-acclaimed institution named in honour of celebrated Azerbaijani poet and philosopher Nizami Ganjavi (1141-1209) - targets Nairobi because of its unique profile as the United Nations hub in Africa and strategic significance in global diplomacy.

Speaker Kingi reiterated that Parliament fully supports all engagements meant to make the meeting a reality, ap-

preciating that its envisaged outcomes that include a strengthened international cooperation between Africa and the global community, policy recommendation on sustainable development and climate action; and an enhanced African role in multilateral institutions, would present immense geopolitical benefits for our country and continent.

"Such initiative would also strengthen bilateral ties between Kenya and Latvia and add impetus to their strategic part-

nership and collaboration in the areas of technology, trade, and sustainability," said the Speaker.

Her Excellency pointed out that Latvia has identified Kenya as a key partner in promoting digital transformation and innovation, sustainable forestry management, trade and economic development, tourism and air connectivity, education and research corporation, and renewable energy and climate action.

Speaker redirects Police Sacco query to Trade Committee

Speaker Amason Kingi has directed the Committee on Trade, Industrialisation and Tourism to investigate the Statement seeking clarification on the management and operations of the Kenya National Police DT SACCO.

The Statement, which questions claims financial malfeasance at the institution, was raised in the House and committed to the Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations.

The National Security Committee, which is chaired by Senator Fatuma Dullo, has already issued invites to the officials of the Sacco to appear with a view to responding to the concerns raised in the Statement.

The invite comes in the midst of

mounting concern from members on how the Sacco officials handle contributions from its more than 75,000 members, a huge majority who serve as police officers.

While issuing the invite, Senator Fatuma Dullo said the move is aimed at ensuring transparency and safeguarding the welfare of police officers.

Senator Dullo said the probe is necessary adding that effective management of the SACCO is key to the financial well-being of police officers.

"This is on the welfare of police officers, it is a matter that we really need to know what is happening," said Senator Dullo when she issued the invite.

Speaker Kingi acknowledged the

anomaly and while rerouting the Statement to the Committee on Trade noted that SACCOs are issues to do with co-operatives.

"It will better be handled by the Committee on Trade and Industrialisation," he said, while directing the matter be removed from the Committee on National Security

"I order that the matter be placed before the committee in charge of cooperative affairs, be taken away from the Committee National Security and Foreign Relations, so that it can rightfully be propped in that particular committee."

The matter was raised by Senator Esther Okenyuri who argued that matters touching on SACCOs should be better

handled by the Committee on Trade and Industrialisation.

"It is totally misplaced there. The Statement, though it emanates from police officers, interrogates dealings of a cooperative society by police officers."

The Committee aims to delve into key operational aspects of the SACCO, including governance structures, accountability mechanisms and their impact on the lives of police officers who rely on the institution for financial services.

The scrutiny comes amid rising questions from stakeholders and police officers themselves, some of whom have expressed dissatisfaction with how their savings and benefits are being handled.

Governors oppose fourth revenue sharing formula



Lamu Governor Issa Timamy speaks when the Council of Governors made presentation to the Committee on Finance on the formula. On the left is Governor Fernandes Barasa.



The Committee on Finance during the meeting with the Council of Governors in which they discussed the revenue sharing formula.



Senator Ali Roba ((chair) and Tabitha Mutinda (vice chair) during the meeting.

The Council of Governors has opposed the Fourth Basis of revenue sharing among counties, terming it flawed and discriminatory.

The formula is based on five parameters with Population taking the largest weight of 42 per cent, Equal Share at 22 per cent, Poverty having an assigned weight of 14 per cent, Income Distance at 13 per cent, and Geographical Size the least assigned weight of nine per cent.

In a meeting with the Committee on Finance and Budget, the Council suggested that the Third Basis of the revenue sharing among counties be retained since it is more practical, noting that the parameters used in the formula should have been built on and tested, rather than introducing new and untested parameters.

They informed Senators that if the

Fourth Basis of revenue sharing is implemented, a majority of counties will receive a lower equitable share than what they received in the Third Basis.

"The recommended allocation to counties is Sh417.425 billion. If you apply the CRA's recommended formula to this allocation, 31 Counties could lose a cumulative amount of Sh12.106 billion," Governor Fernandes Barasa, the Chairperson of the CoG's Finance Committee, told Senators.

Once the level of accounting has been raised to a certain threshold, they explained, lowering it would be detrimental to service delivery in counties and beseeched the Senate to take a firm stand that no county should lose any money.

While agreeing with CoG that no counties should lose money, Members of the Committee criticised the overall

submissions by the Council for lacking depth and counterproposals.

"A lot of thought has not gone into coming before this committee on this presentation. This is a very critical issue that is going to affect you very seriously. You don't oppose without making counter-proposals because otherwise, then it just becomes an academic exercise," Senator Ali Roba, the Chairperson of the Committee, remarked.

He directed the county bosses to review their presentation and provide more thorough and well-thought-out counter-proposals to the formula to enable the Senate to come up with a fair and understandable formula.

That notwithstanding, the Senators committed to advance the interests of the 47 devolved units by reviewing the use of parameters like geographical size,

poverty, income distance, and gross county product in the formula and considering alternative approaches that prioritise fairness and equity.

"I cannot face the people of Kakamega and tell them that I voted in support of a new formula that will occasion Kakamega County to lose Sh1.3 billion. I believe that the formula does not have to change," Senator Boni Khalwale submitted.

"When you look at the proposed formula, the assigned weight of the land has increased from 8 percent to 9 percent and they are capping it at 10percent. I keep asking myself, is land increasing in Kenya? Does land grow? We need to think through these parameters," Senator Tabitha Mutinda, the Vice Chairperson of the Committee, suggested.

PCS Mudavadi: Engagement ongoing with UNCHR on Shirika Plan

Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi says the Government is determined to implement the recently launched Shirika plan adding that conversations are taking place with the United Nations High Commission on Refugees (UNHCR) and the host communities on how best to proceed.

Shirika Plan is a comprehensive initiative by the Government of Kenya designed to integrate refugees into the country's socioeconomic fabric.

It was unveiled by President William Ruto in March 2025 and it represents a fundamental shift from a humanitarian-driven response to a government-led, development-oriented approach, aimed at fostering sustainable inclusion for both refugees and host communities.

Mr Mudavadi, who is also the Cabinet Secretary in charge of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, told the House on Wednesday that the Government is actively engaging to ensure that, as the policy development process progresses, Kenya maximises the benefits for the people.

"Means testing was conducted in the camps which involved assessing the well-being or economic status of refugees, which then determined the level of rations allocated to certain families compared to others," said the PCS.

He said that some issues affecting refugees, if not managed well, will create tension in the camps even as he emphasised that Kenya does not want to participate in any programme that is fully funded by the Government.

"We can only handle our position in the context of international obligations. If the refugees are going to be here, then institutions like UNHCR, World Food Programme (WFP), and other organisations supporting this programme will need to be engaged and urged to contribute more effectively. This will ensure that Kenya's resources are not fully deployed for that," he said.

The PCS spoke in the Senate when he responded to questions from Senators.

Senator Veronica Maina had challenged the PCS to confirm whether Shirika Plan is being funded nationally or internationally and whether there has been an exchange of humanitarian assistance that should ideally be going to the biggest camps in the world, Kakuma and Dadaab.

She also wanted to know whether Kenya has exchanged that with grants for development, as a result of which Kenya will be forced to pay for that Shirika Plan, as opposed to the international community taking up humanitarian assistance for refugees, which Kenya has been kind enough to host for a very long time.

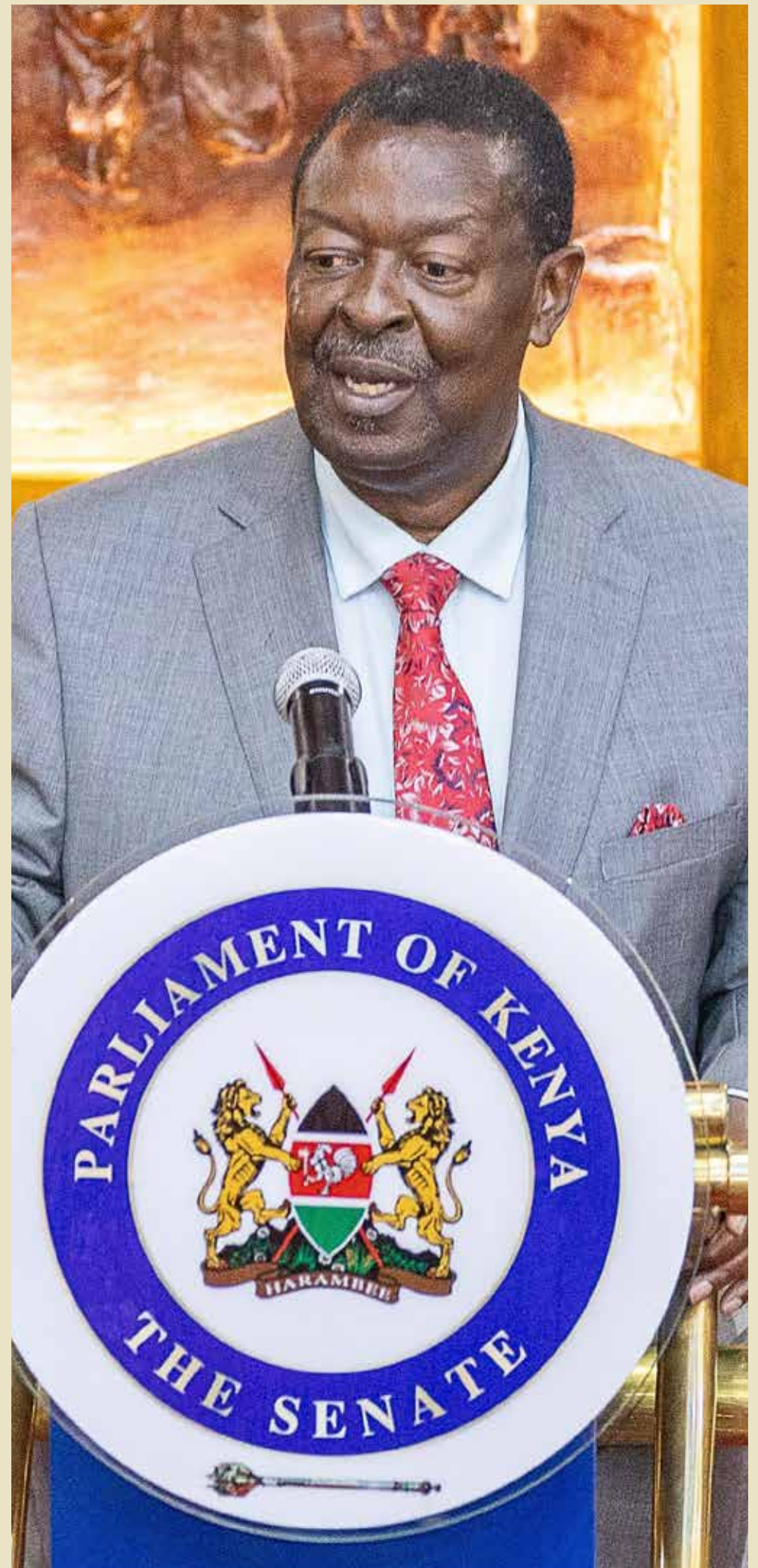
Senator Joe Nyutu wanted to know what the Ministry is doing to see to it that the resettlement and the integration of the refugees in Kenya has the blessings of the host community and that the government does not just wait for UNHCR to do all the planning.

PCS Mudavadi said Kenya does not want a situation where communities feel that refugees are enjoying a better quality of life than Kenyan citizens.

"These are very delicate conversations that keep going on between us, UNHCR, and the host communities where the refugees reside. It would be wrong if I made all the statements without appreciating the generosity and the humanitarian nature of the communities that have hosted the refugee camps for 35 to 36 years," said the PCS.

He said the goal of the Shirika Plan is to transition away from a situation where refugees are drawing from Kenyan resources.

"They must be placed in a position where they can contribute to growing the wealth of this country, rather than taking from the people of Kenya. The whole Shirika plan is premised on these basic principles and a few others."



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi in the Chamber last week.

Save TUK from collapse, Lawmakers urge State



Senator Veronica Maina



Senator Betty Montet, Education Committee chair



Senator Danson Mungatana



Senator Beatrice Ogola

SENATORS have directed the Ministry of Education to pay keen attention on the financial challenges at the Technical University of Kenya (TUK), arguing that the institution remains a leader in the provision of knowledge in technical skills that have served the country well.

TUK, argued the lawmakers, is one of the best in training technical skills, noting that a number of the lecturers that run vocational training institutes in counties, are students who were prepared by the institution.

“The Ministry should pay keen attention on Technical University of Kenya because it is leading in providing technical skills that serve this country,” said Senator Beatrice Ogola, even as she regretted that the institution was turned into a university.

“Maybe that is the reason that it has had a lot of management and financial problems.”

The lawmaker was registering her support for the request of a statement regarding the financial crisis at TUK and plans to lay off staff and alter employment contracts at the institution.

Senator Veronica Maina has expressed concern that the planned staff reductions and restructuring raise serious concerns about the quality of education, staff welfare and the long-term sustainability of the institution.

In her request for Statement, Senator Maina wants the Committee on Education to clarify several issues surrounding the planned staff layoffs, which are projected to see TUK reduce its workforce to 893 by the financial year 2027/2028.

The lawmaker challenged the Committee to explain the measures being taken to ensure that the layoffs do not compromise the quality of education, including strategies to address potential shortages of teaching personnel and safeguard student learning experiences.

She also wants the Committee to reveal the financial justifications for the layoffs, including a report on the university’s financial health, the specific reasons for the crisis and the basis for the proposal reducing staff to 893.

“The Committee should consider how the projected savings of Sh2.44 billion, will contribute to financial stability, the legal basis for altering employment

terms, including contract renewals,” she says in her request, adding that the Committee should further shed light on the proposal to remove gratuity payments and the justification of retaining specific numbers of graduate assistants and tutorial fellow, while replacing contract staff with part-time lecturers.

Senator Maina said the Committee should question the financial rationale behind the changes and their projected cost savings, strategies in place to caution affected staff members, including details of consultations with staff unions and other stakeholders, the processes of selecting employees for termination and any compensation or support mechanisms provided.

She further wants the Committee, which is chaired by Senator Betty Montet, to explain the Government’s interventions to address the financial challenges facing public universities, particularly TUK and the long-term strategies to ensure sustainable funding for higher education institutions.

Supporting the Statement, Senator Danson Mungatana regretted the plan reduction of staff. “It is very sad to hear

that TUK is reducing its staff and cutting down on its expenditures,” he said, adding that this was proof of the total financial crisis.

“This suggests that this is one of the few universities in the coastal region that may be on the brink of collapse.”

He challenged the Committee on Education to interrogate the Cabinet Secretary in the course of its investigations. “Public universities have not been equally spread across the counties. We have seen certain counties enjoying a lot of facilities. You will find several public universities in one particular county or two, but in certain regions like in the coastal region, you will find very few public universities.”

“We would request that as the committee investigates this matter, they look into the possibility of driving the point that resources need to be spread fairly across the counties. The Cabinet Secretary must also look at the possibility of offering deliberate support for this particular university so that it does not collapse. They should look at the possibility of making sure that it survives the ongoing crisis.”

Outrage over KNH doctor's death

The House has expressed outrage over the death of Dr Daniel Ndege Chacha at the Kenyatta National Hospital (KNH).

Media reports have suggested that Mr Chacha, a medical Doctor attached to KNH, treated patients without pay, but when he fell ill, the hospital allegedly denied him medical attention because he could not afford it.

It was further suggested that his body was detained by the hospital, which reportedly demanded Sh300,000 before releasing it to his kin.

During debate on the floor of the House, the legislators expressed anger over the treatment the doctor was subjected to, leading to the loss of his life.

“Under Article 43 of the Constitution, every person has the right to health under socio-economic rights. There is no reason and no explanation, even from private hospitals, for a patient not to be treated if they are taken to an emergency room,” said Senator Veronica Maina.

The lawmaker was contributing to a request for a Statement by Senator Samson Cherarkey on the circumstances surrounding the death of the doctor.

Senator Cherarkey wants the Committee on Health to investigate allegations that KNH management denied the doctor medical services due to lack of medical coverage or financial ability and the procedure followed in providing medical assistance to intern doctors who fall ill while on duty, especially at the facility.

The Senator is demanding explanation on why Dr Chacha was not accorded the necessary support, despite being registered under the Social Health Authority (SHA), Emergency, Chronic and Critical Illness Fund, and whether the failures were administrative or decision-making issues that contributed to the situation.

The lawmaker further wants the Committee to also submit status of the investigation into the death of Dr Timothy Riungu, a pediatrician who died



Senator Veronica Maina



Senator Samson Cherarkey



Senator Esther Okenyuri and Senator Issa Boy Juma

on November 22, 2024, allegedly after being overworked without food for over 48 hours at the same facility, including details on the compensation awarded to his family.

Supporting the Statement, Senator Maina wondered whether Dr Chacha's death was a setup.

“How can a doctor not be treated within the area where they are working?” she asked, blaming fellow doctors at the facility.

“I believe this was malicious and they wanted to see their colleague down.”

She added: “Is it the Government to be blamed or should we blame SHA for not having a cover? Should we blame the doctor's colleagues for failing to render emergency services to the doctor who needed help?”

She argued that it is not proper for anybody to say a doctor or even a patient should die within a hospital setup because they do not have a medical cover.

Senator Abbas Sheikh said it was un-

ethical on the part of the doctors who refused to attend to him and challenged the KNH to take responsibility for whatever happened.

“Health has been commercialised. Whenever you take somebody who has had an accident to the hospital, you are asked if they are covered,” he said, wondering why the hospital did not treat the doctor first.

“The Committee on Health must take this matter seriously. It is not only KNH, but almost across all hospitals in Kenya.”

Senator Esther Okenyuri said it is not the first time the country is having such cases. He said KNH has been notorious and they give lame excuses when it comes to such issues.

“There were claims that the doctor was not fully employed by KNH. This is not a reason to just let him suffer the fate that he ended up with. If this can happen to a doctor, then I pity ordinary citizens who are lying in hospitals waiting for help to come nearby.”

Fate of former KCC employees lies with ministerial Committee – CS Oparanya



Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi and Cooperatives CS Wycliffe Oparanya share some thoughts before both of answered questions from Senators during last week's Question Time.



Cabinet Secretary Wycliffe Oparanya on the floor of the Senate.

Former KCC employees will be paid their terminal dues once the inter-ministerial Committee completes its work and recommends payment, the Cabinet Secretary for Co-operatives and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Development Wycliffe Oparanya has told the House.

He added that should the Committee recommend payment, it will depend on whether the National Assembly will appropriate the funds in the National Budget.

The CS admitted the employees have suffered for a long time adding that some of them have passed on and the issues are now being followed by their siblings.

"We are committed to making sure that they get their dues as soon as we finalise our inter-ministerial consultation and as soon as proper appropriation is done by the National Assembly. Once that is done, these people will be paid."

The CS was speaking when he appeared to respond to a Question from Senator Eddy Oketch.

The Senator had wanted the Cabinet Secretary to explain the failure by the former Kenya Cooperative Creameries

(KCC) and, now, by the New Kenya Cooperative Creameries (New KCC), to pay terminal dues to former employees whose contracts were terminated in the year 1999. The lawmaker wanted the CS to clarify when the affected former employees expect to receive the dues and also indicate whether the former employees have received payment for the cooperative society shares they held as at the time of their exit from KCC.

The Ministry had formed the Committee on the advice of the Office of the Attorney General.

"My Ministry has already written to the National Treasury, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development to nominate suitable officers to implement the Attorney General's advisory," said CS Oparanya, adding that when the Committee is constituted and completes its work, its recommendations will be communicated to the Senate.

The decision to form the Committee was done after the Court of Appeal ruled that New KCC Ltd was not liable for the liabilities of KCC Ltd which included the terminal benefits and unpaid Sacco shares of its former employees.

Notwithstanding, absolving of New KCC Ltd from the liabilities in accordance with the law, the Appellate Judges implored upon the Attorney General's office to advise Government to honour its word and pay the employees.

In the advisory, the Attorney General said the Committee should be tasked to collate, audit, verify, authenticate and validate the claims and recommend whether the same should be settled, to what extent and with reasonable timelines.

CS Oparanya asked the employees to engage in out of court settlement with a view of finding an amicable solution to the impasse and notification of the outcome be done to the Senate.

The origin of the KCC Limited dates back to August 22, 1925, when it was incorporated as a limited liability company. Later, on February 8, 1932, it was registered as a co-operative society whereby it ran its operations until 1999 when it was then placed under receivership by the Kenya Commercial Bank (KCB), which was its debenture holder.

In 2000, private individuals incorporated KCC (2000) Limited and acquired

KCC business through bids invited by the receiver manager then, PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC).

KCC was liquidated and therefore ceased to exist as a co-operative society nor a body corporate since it was sold off to KCC (2000) Limited, which was a private company. On June 6, 2003 following a Cabinet directive, the Government bought back all the assets that had been sold to KCC (2000) Ltd.

On November 19, 2004, New KCC Limited was incorporated as a limited liability company with a 100 per cent Government shareholding thus converting its status to a State Corporation under Certificate of incorporation.

In 1988, during the subsistence of KCC Ltd, employees sued KCC Ltd following termination of their employment after a strike had been called by their union. The matter was heard, and the court made a finding that KCC Ltd was liable to pay them. However, KCC Ltd had collapsed, went into liquidation and subsequently wound up and ceased to exist vide a Kenya Gazette Notice of March 4, 2003.

Seneta Mundigi ataka majibu kuhusu uhamishwaji wa kiwanda cha maji taka



Seneta Mohamed Chute



Seneta Alex Mundigi

Seneta Alexander Mundigi anataka taarifa kutoka kwa Kamati ya Ardhi, Mazingira na Maliasili kuhusu kuhamishwa kwa Kiwanda cha Maji taka cha Embu (ESTP) na Kampuni ya Maji na Usafi wa Mazingira ya Embu (EWASCO).

Katika taarifa hiyo, Kamati inapaswa kushughulikia miongoni mwa masuala mengine ikiwa kampuni ya EWASCO imefanya ushiriki wa kutosha na wa maana wa umma katika zoezi hilo muhimu na kuhakikisha kwamba wadau wote, wakiwemo wakazi wa eneo hilo, jamii na viongozi wanazingatiwa kwa kina.

Seneta Mundigi anaitaka Kamati hiyo kutoa ufafanuzi kuhusu kulipwa kwa fidia kwa wamiliki wa ardhi ambao mali zao zimeathiriwa na mradi huo ikiwa ni pamoja na vigezo vilivyotumika kubaini fidia, muda wa malipo na uthibitisho kuwa pande zote zilizoathirika

zimepokea fidia ya haki na kwa wakati pamoja na kuweka wazi hatua zinazochukuliwa kuzitatua changamoto zinazotokana na kuhamishwa kwa mfumo wa maji taka, ikiwemo migogoro ya ardhi na masuala ya mazingira.

Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta Mohamed Faki imeombwa pia kubaini mipango ya kampuni ya EWASCO kushughulikia changamoto zisizotarajiwa wakati wa mchakato wa uhamishaji na mbinu za kupunguza athari mbaya kwa jamii na mazingira.

Kiongozi huyo kadhalika anaitaka Kamati hiyo kufichua kiwango cha fedha zilizotengwa kwa ajili ya ujenzi ikiichambua bajeti ya awamu mbalimbali za mradi na kuweka wazi kazi zinazotarajiwa kuanza na kukamilika kando na kuhakikisha uwazi na uwajibikaji kwenye shughuli hiyo.

Kwingineko Seneta Mohamed Chute ameitaka Kamati ya Ugatuzi na Mahu-

siano ya Kiserikali kwenye Seneti kutoa taarifa kuhusu miradi ya maendeleo ambayo imetekelezwa katika Kaunti ya Marsabit.

Aliitaka Kamati hiyo kuweka wazi namna hali ilivyo mashinani kuhusu miradi ya maendeleo.

“Inapendeza kuona serikali za Kaunti zikiyapa kipaumbele maendeleo. Takwimu zinaonesha kuwa Kaunti ya Marsabit, haswa, inajitokeza pakubwa kwa kutenga asilimia 38.6 ya bajeti yake katika mwaka wa kifedha wa 2023/2024 kwa maendeleo, ambayo ni ya juu zaidi miongoni mwa Kaunti zote,” alisema Seneta Chute.

Aliongeza, “Ni muhimu kuthibitisha kama maendeleo yaliyorekodiwa yanalingana na hali halisi ya namna mambo yalivyo mashinani.”

Seneta Chute kwenye ombi lake anaitaka Kamati hiyo kuangazia miradi muhimu ya maendeleo inayotekelezwa

katika Kaunti ya Marsabit, ikiwa ni pamoja na upeo na hali ya miradi hiyo kwa sasa huku ikithibitisha iwapo kweli ipo nyanjani.

Anaitaka Kamati hiyo kubaini mradi mkubwa ulioorodheshwa katika rekodi rasmi, tathmini ya maendeleo yaliyoripotiwa na athari halisi kwa wakazi na kama rekodi zinaonesha ukweli halisi mbali na kufichua kiwango cha ushiriki wa jamii na uangalizi katika utekelezaji wa miradi hiyo.

Seneta huyo aidha anaitaka Kamati hiyo chini ya Uenyekiti wa Seneta Mohamed Abbas kufafanua hatua zinazochukuliwa ili kuimarisha uwazi na uwajibikaji katika kuripoti miradi ya maendeleo na changamoto zozote zinazoathiri utekelezaji ikipendekeza pia mikakati ya kuhakikisha kuwa mafanikio yaliyoandikwa yanawiana na matokeo halisi nyanjani.

Seneta Orwoba azua maswali kuhusu nafasi za ajira ughaibuni

Seneta Gloria Orwoba amewasilisha ombi akitaka Kauli kutoka kwa Kamati ya Leba na Ustawi wa Jamii kuhusu hatima ya Wakenya waliorodheshwa kwenye mpango wa ajira za ughaibuni chini ya Wizara ya Leba na Ulinzi wa Jamii.

Seneta Orwoba anataka hatima ya watahiniwa 89 waliorodheshwa ambao tayari walilipa ada ya shilingi 15,000 kila mmoja, waliomaliza na kufaulu katika uchunguzi wa kimatibabu na bado hawajapokea kandarasi zao za kazi iwekwe wazi mbali na kutoa mwelekeo wa ni lini waathiriwa wanapaswa kurejeshewa pesa zao.

Kamati hiyo imetakiwa pia kubaini hatima ya maelfu ya watahiniwa waliorodheshwa ambao wameajiriwa kupitia kwenye Wizara ya Leba na Ulinzi wa Jamii na kuelekezwa kwa mawakala kulipa ada ambao baadhi yao wametoza zaidi ya shilingi elfu hamsini.

“Kamati ibaini jukumu la Mkurugenzi Mkuu wa Mamlaka ya Kitaifa ya Ajira na Waziri wa Leba na Ulinzi wa Jamii, katika mchakato wa uajiri na iileze ikiwa maafisa hao wawili wanamiliki mashirika yoyote ya uajiri. Ifanue iwapo utaratibu unaofaa ulifuatwa katika uhakiki wa mashirika yaliyohusika kufanya kazi

kwa kushirikiana na Mamlaka ya Kitaifa ya Ajira na Wizara, ikizingatiwa kuwa mmoja wa mawakala wakuu wa kampuni iliyohusishwa na Wizara Festus Omambia amekamatwa awali na kufunguliwa mashtaka kwa tuhuma za kukusanya pesa akiwalaghai Wakenya kuhusu nafasi za ajira ughaibuni,” alikariri Seneta Orwoba.

Kamati hiyo inayoongozwa na Seneta Julius Murgor imetakiwa pia kuweka wazi orodha za wanaonufaika na mpango wa sasa wa usafirishaji wa wafanyakazi na sababu za mrundikano wa watahiniwa walioteuliwa kutokana na kuajiriwa hivi majuzi ambao bado hawajasafiri kwa kazi zaidi ya miezi sita baada ya kulipa ada ya uajiri.

Suala la kulaghaiwa kwa Wakenya wanaotafuta ajira ughaibuni linaendelea kugonga vichwa vya habari humu nchini huku Walioathiriwa wakiulaani vikali ulaghai huo na kutoa wito kwa serikali kuchukua hatua kali za hima kuwakabili vilivyo washukuwa wa ulaghai huo.

Wakenya wameishinikiza mara kwa mara serikali kuweka mikakati na sera kabambe za kuwaangazia mawakala wanaondesha shughuli za kuwasafirisha Wakenya haswa vijana hadi mataifa ya ughaibuni kwa ahadi ya kuwapa ajira.



Seneta Gloria Orwoba

This Week in History - On April 7, 2022

House debates Sugar Bill, 2019



Senator Johnstone Sakaja

On April 7, 2022 the House debated the Sugar Bill, 2019, which was sponsored by Kanduyi MP Wafula Wamunyinyi. The Bill is among key issues is proposing the introduction of sugar development levy, reintroduction of Kenya Sugar Board, establishment of Sugar Arbitration Tribunal and the Kenya Sugar Research Training Institute, sugarcane pricing committee as well as delineation of sugar catchment area into five zones. The Sugar development levy will be charged on both local and imported sugar to support the local sugar industry and the levies collected will be allocated with 15 per cent going for the maintenance of local factories, 15 percent towards local research training, and 40 percent for cane development for farmers. Contributing to debate, Senator Johnson Sakaja said Kenya's agricultural sector was challenging. “Generally, it is a huge challenge and we have a big problem. We call our country an agricultural country because that is the activity we take part in. However, any economist will tell you that in as much as agriculture contributes 56 per cent to our Gross Domestic Product (GDP), its contribution to national revenue is less than 5 per cent. That gap is what we call the value gap. There is a gap in value addition. The products that we produce are mainly subsistence. We are not able to go to the market and monetise this sector as it should be because this should be the engine of economic transformation.”



Senator Aaron Cheruiyot said:

“It is unfortunate that we have to wait this late. Sugar forms a very important sector in our country. It employs many people. Back in the day when sugar farming was thriving, many industries and societies were doing well. You cannot compare Mumias Town now with when Mumias Sugar Company was thriving. Closer home to where I come from, when Chemelil was Chemelil, when the sugar factory was performing and was at its peak, generating good sales, paying the outgrower farmers using their own nucleus, that town had life. Chemelil even had a football club they were sponsoring. It played in the Kenyan Premier League and it used to do well. There were many others as well. We can think of Nzoia. There was Nzoia Football Club (FC). This is an industry that used to thrive. However, because of mismanagement and how we are not good at making good companies grow bigger and better, we lost it at some point.”



Senator Naomi Shiyonga said:

“Currently farmers are suffering because some individuals are importing sugar. They have even bought land in Uganda where they are growing sugarcane. It is a pity that they import sugar from Uganda and package it as Kenyan sugar. It is disheartening for us farmers. Let us listen to the voice of all stakeholders and revive sugar industry. Some Members are coerced to support one miller against the others. This does not augur well in this sector. It is not good to interfere with sugar millers who are helping in improving the livelihoods of Kenyans.”



Senator Sylvia Kassanga said:

“We have to look towards optimization of farm produce. We have to also look at adopting the best practices and best methods of agriculture so that we can uplift the capacity of our farmers and make the most out of our lands. We have to take cognizance of climate change and we have to also protect the environment as much as possible and that is the work that the research institute is going to do as it promotes best practices.”



Senator Okongo Omogeni said:

“As legislators and people's representatives, we need to proactively do all we can to reform the sugarcane, tea, cotton and sisal industries, so that our farmers can start earning decent incomes from agriculture. Since we do not have jobs to offer to all the unemployed youth, we need to ensure that those who engage in farming get good returns. That way, we will keep populations away from our urban centres.”



1. Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali with Members and staff of the Committee on Powers and Privileges of Makueni County Assembly who were in the Senate for a benchmarking tour last week.
2. Mr Mohamed Ali, the Deputy Clerk, with MCAs and staff of Makueni County Assembly.
3. The Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali and Mr Njuguna Njenga, the Director in charge of Governance and Accountability Committees, in the meeting with MCAs from Makueni County.
4. Students from Lorna Laboso Secondary School, Bomet County, follow proceedings in the Senate Chamber.
5. Majority Leader Aaron Cheruiyot speaks to students and teachers from Kipsitet Day Secondary School, Kericho County, who were in the Senate for an academic tour last week.
6. Students and Teachers from Nyambaria High School, Kisii County, at the Senate.



1. Senate Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye hosted Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi in his office last week. PCS Mudavadi was in Parliament to respond to Members' questions.
2. Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye arrives at the retreat of the staff secretariat of the Bunge sports team that represented Kenya in last year's East Africa Community Parliamentary Games in Mombasa. He was received by Mr Zakayo Mogere, Deputy Director, Legislative and Procedural Services, Senate, (right), Mr Nicholas Matiko, the Chief Public Communication Officer in the National Assembly (left) and Mr Dishon Nyagah, the chairman of Bunge Sports Club.
3. PCS Musalia Mudavadi and Senator Jackson Mandago.
4. Senate Clerk Jeremiah Nyegenye poses for a group picture with the Secretariat of Bunge Sports Team during the retreat to assess the team's performance in last year's EAC Parliamentary Games.
5. Deputy Clerk Mohamed Ali (second left) introduces Prime Cabinet Secretary Musalia Mudavadi to Major (Rtd) Samson Sorobit, the Chief Serjeants-At-Arms (Senate) and Mr Zakayo Mogere, the Deputy Director Legislative and Procedural Services, Senate, when he arrived in Parliament for Question Time last week.



1. Members and Staff of Makueni County Assembly follow proceedings in the Senate Chamber during their benchmarking tour.
2. Senator Dan Maanzo shares a light moment with some of the MCAs from Makueni County who were on a benchmarking tour of the Senate.
3. Senator Dan Maanzo with one of the MCAs.
4. Senator Dan Maanzo poses for a picture with the MCAs and staff of County Assembly of Makueni who serve in the Committee on Powers and Privileges.



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