



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

SPECIAL SITTING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025 AT 2.30 PM

1. The Senate assembled at thirty Minutes past Two O'clock.
2. The proceedings were opened with Prayer said by the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP).

3. **QUORUM OF THE SENATE**

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

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

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP) invited the Clerk to call the Orders of the day.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP) conveyed the following Communications from the Chair:

a) Convening of the Special Sitting of the Senate

“Honourable Senators,

On the request of the Senate Majority Leader *vide* letter Ref. *SEN/ML/CORR(134)* dated 15th October, 2025, and with the support of the requisite number of Senators, I appointed today, Thursday, 16th October, 2025, as a day for a Special Sitting of the Senate. The appointment was made *vide* *Gazette* Notice No. 15006 dated 15th October, 2025.

In the Gazette Notice, I indicated that the business to be transacted at this Special Sitting shall be consideration of a Motion for the Senate to pay tribute and eulogize the former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya, Rt. Honourable Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH.

Honourable Senators,

In accordance with Standing Order 33 (5), the business specified in the *Gazette* Notice referred to above and as outlined in the Order Paper, shall be the only business before the Senate during the Special Sitting, following which the Senate shall stand adjourned until Tuesday, 28th October, 2025 at 2:30 p.m., pursuant to the Senate Calendar.

I thank you.”

b) Demise of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH, Former Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya

“Honourable Senators,

As you are aware, on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025, His Excellency William Samoei Ruto, CGH, President of the Republic of Kenya, notified the Nation of the passing on of the Second Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya, the Rt. Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH, while receiving medical treatment in India.

Honourable Senators,

The Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga was born on 7th January, 1945 at the Anglican Church Missionary Society Hospital, now known as ACK Maseno Mission Hospital in Maseno Town, Kisumu County. He is the son of the late Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, who was the first Vice President of the Republic of Kenya, and the late Mama Mary Juma Odinga.

The late former Prime Minister, Hon. Raila Odinga, began his early education at the Kisumu Union Primary and Maranda Primary Schools in Kisumu County and Siaya County respectively. He later joined Maranda High School where he studied until 1962. Thereafter, he joined the University of Leipzig in the former East Germany. In 1965, the late Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga received a scholarship for further studies at the Technical College in Magdeburg, Germany, where he graduated in mechanical engineering in 1970. He returned to Kenya later in the same year and entered the academia as a lecturer at the University of Nairobi.

Honourable Senators,

In 1971, the late Raila Odinga founded the M/S East African Spectre Ltd., the first indigenous manufacturer of LPG cylinders in Kenya.

In 1974, the late Raila Odinga, joined the public service following his appointment as Group Standards Manager at the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS). He rose through the ranks to the position of Deputy Director in 1978, a position he held until 1982, when he was arrested and charged with treason alongside several others following an attempted coup on 1st August, 1982.

Honourable Senators will recall that the late Raila Odinga was placed under house arrest for seven (7) months and, subsequently, detained without trial for six years. These experiences arguably gave him the impetus to join active politics and become a steadfast advocate for democracy, justice and rule of law.

Honourable Senators,

The late Hon. Raila Odinga's early interest in politics can be said to be the product of his childhood environment and early adult life. When section 2A of the then Constitution of Kenya was repealed in December 1991 following political agitation for multiparty democracy that was inspired by the wind of change from one-party to multiparty democracy that was blowing across the African continent, he joined the Forum for the Restoration of Democracy (FORD).

His first plunge into elective politics was in 1992 when he contested for the Lang'ata constituency parliamentary seat. He won the seat on his first attempt and retained it in three (3) successive elections held in 1997, 2002 and 2007. The late Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga was a courageous and principled leader who lived by example. Honourable Senators will recall that he etched his name in the history of Kenya when he resigned from the Forum for Restoration of Democracy Kenya (FORD-K) in 1994 and faced a by-election through the National Development Party (NDP) later that year. For the record, he comfortably won that by-election. This was a rare demonstration of courage that many politicians of his day and the present, would dread to attempt.

As a Member of Parliament, he was a member of the House Business Committee in the 7th and 10th Parliaments, Public Investments Committee (PIC) in the 8th Parliament and also Chairperson of the Select Committee on the Constitution Review process. He served in these committees with dedication, fidelity to the law and constitutionalism, ideals that he lived by throughout his political career.

Honourable Senators,

You will recall that in the late 1990s, the late Raila Odinga led a merger between National Development Party and KANU which saw him appointed to Cabinet as Minister for Energy and KANU Secretary-General. Later, he was central in founding the National Rainbow Coalition (NARC), which defeated the ruling party in the ensuing 2002 General Elections.

After the formation of a new government led by the third President of Kenya, the late Mwai Kibaki, the late Raila Odinga served as Minister for Roads, Public Works and Housing, a position that he served with zeal by laying the policy framework for major infrastructural developments in and around the country. He shall be remembered for fearlessly overseeing the reclamation of grabbed public road reserves to pave way for expansion of the country's road infrastructure.

Honourable Senators,

You will recall that, after the disputed presidential election of December 2007, which triggered one of the darkest periods in Kenya's history in the form of post-election violence, the late Raila sacrificed his political ambitions and agreed to the formation of a Grand Coalition Government with the then President Mwai Kibaki and served as Prime Minister until March, 2013.

Notably, the late Raila Odinga contributed to the accomplishment of flagship infrastructure projects such as the Thika Super Highway and various by-passes around the Nairobi Metropolitan area, thereby facilitating ease of movement of goods and services. He was also instrumental in other key projects like the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia-Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor Project and the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), which were later implemented by the successive governments.

Other notable initiatives included the restoration of the Mau Forest which today boasts of increased forest cover, preserved ecosystem and better rainfall patterns in the area. He also steered national reconciliation, constitutional reforms and development, playing a pivotal role in the passage of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010. His legacy includes expansion of the democratic space, freedom of association, implementation of infrastructure projects and championing devolution to empower local communities.

The late Raila Odinga steadfastness stretched beyond the country. He served as the African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development from 2018 to 2023, extending his influence across the continent. He distinguished himself as a true African Statesman and a pan-africanist by championing the modernization and completion of the Trans-African Highways Network and Continental High-Speed Freight Railways Network in support of regional connectivity and integration.

Honourable Senators,

Despite electoral setbacks, he remained steadfast in promoting peaceful and democratic processes. Often, the late Raila Odinga set aside his political ambitions for the stability and survival of the Nation. This was evidenced in his involvement in the various national reconciliation initiatives including the 1997 Inter-Parties Parliamentary Group (IPPG) talks, the 2008 National Accord

and Reconciliation process, the 2018 Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) and the recent National Dialogue process (NADCO).

Honourable Senators,

The late Raila Odinga was a darling of the people and was affectionately addressed as *Agwambo*, *Baba* and *Jakom*. He connected well with his political audience whom he carried along in his addresses especially his use of metaphors, imagery and football commentary, which will be dearly missed by many. He leaves behind an indelible legacy as a nationalist, peacebuilder and symbol of resilience in the face of adversity.

On behalf of the Senate, we pay tribute to this great departed Kenyan hero and indeed the enigma of Kenyan politics, and convey our deepest condolences to Mama Ida Odinga, our colleague Dr. Oburu Oginga, Senator for Siaya County, the larger Odinga family, friends and the people of Kenya. May the Almighty God grant everyone comfort and strength during this difficult time of mourning and may the soul of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga, EGH, rest in eternal peace.

Let us now stand and observe a minute of silence in his honour.”

(Senators stood up in their places and observed a minute of silence)

“In recognition of the late Raila Odinga’s extraordinary contribution to Kenya and to afford the Senate an opportunity to pay tribute and eulogize him, I have approved a Motion which is scheduled at Order No. 3 in this Special Sitting’s Order Paper. After this communication, Notice will be given and, thereafter, the Motion will be moved in the usual manner for Senators to make their contributions.

I thank you.”

c) Visit to the Senate by Hon. (Prof.) Julia Ojiambo and Dr. Josephine Ojiambo

“Honourable Senators,

Allow me to invoke Standing Order 1 to acknowledge and recognize a senior citizen of this country who is seated in the Speaker’s Gallery.

Allow me to acknowledge and recognize Hon. (Prof.) Julia Ojiambo, a renowned veteran politician and academician. Hon. Julia Ojiambo, who was recognized by the Senate during the sittings in Busia, had come to Parliament today to pay her last respects to the late Rt. Hon. Raila Odinga, lying in state. This is an event, as you are aware, Hon. Senators, was moved to the Moi Sports Complex, Kasarani.

Hon. Senators, accompanying Hon. Julia Ojiambo is Dr. Josephine Ojiambo, who has served as Kenya's Ambassador to the United Nations in New York. Please acknowledge her in the usual Senate tradition.

I thank you.”

5. **NOTICE OF MOTION - TRIBUTE OF THE SENATE ON THE DEMISE OF THE RT. HON. RAILA AMOLO ODINGA, EGH**

(Sen. Enoch Wambua, MP on behalf of the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader)

AWARE THAT His Excellency the President issued a Proclamation on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025 communicating the passing on of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, former Prime Minister;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, served as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya between 2008 and 2013, and previously held various senior positions in government including Cabinet Minister for Energy; Roads, Public Works and Housing, and as a long-serving Member of Parliament for Lang’ata Constituency serving four consecutive parliamentary terms from 1992 to 2013;

NOTING THAT the late Odinga’s distinguished public service career spanned over four decades, during which he played a pivotal role in Kenya’s transition to multiparty democracy, the advancement of constitutional reforms, and the deepening of good governance, accountability, and inclusivity leadership;

APPRECIATING his lifelong commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom, and justice; his central role in the enactment of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, his tireless advocacy for devolution and equitable development, his dedication to reconciliation and peace-building through the 2008 National Accord and Reconciliation Act;

FURTHER APPRECIATING his passion for unifying African countries and promoting Africa’s economic integration and as the African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa, he championed regional integration, cross-border infrastructure connectivity, and the continent’s socio-economic advancement;

RECOGNIZING that the late Odinga stood as a symbol of resilience and courage, dedicating his life to the struggle for democratic space, social justice, social and economic transformation, youth empowerment, national unity, even in the face of great personal sacrifice, and his enduring legacy as a visionary statesman who inspired generations of leaders across Kenya and the African continent;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate of the Republic of Kenya expresses its profound sorrow and conveys its heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and the

people of Kenya on the demise of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH; and resolves to record its sincere appreciation of his outstanding service, monumental contribution to the Nation and Africa, and his indelible legacy as a patriot, democrat, and visionary leader.

6. **MOTION - TRIBUTE OF THE SENATE ON THE DEMISE OF THE RT. HON. RAILA AMOLO ODINGA, EGH**

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

AWARE THAT His Excellency the President issued a Proclamation on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025 communicating the passing on of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, former Prime Minister;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, served as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya between 2008 and 2013, and previously held various senior positions in government including Cabinet Minister for Energy; Roads, Public Works and Housing, and as a long-serving Member of Parliament for Lang'ata Constituency serving four consecutive parliamentary terms from 1992 to 2013;

NOTING THAT the late Odinga's distinguished public service career spanned over four decades, during which he played a pivotal role in Kenya's transition to multiparty democracy, the advancement of constitutional reforms, and the deepening of good governance, accountability, and inclusivity leadership;

APPRECIATING his lifelong commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom, and justice; his central role in the enactment of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, his tireless advocacy for devolution and equitable development, his dedication to reconciliation and peace-building through the 2008 National Accord and Reconciliation Act;

FURTHER APPRECIATING his passion for unifying African countries and promoting Africa's economic integration and as the African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa, he championed regional integration, cross-border infrastructure connectivity, and the continent's socio-economic advancement;

RECOGNIZING that the late Odinga stood as a symbol of resilience and courage, dedicating his life to the struggle for democratic space, social justice, social and economic transformation, youth empowerment, national unity, even in the face of great personal sacrifice, and his enduring legacy as a visionary statesman who inspired generations of leaders across Kenya and the African continent;

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(Sen. Enoch Wambua, MP on behalf of the Senate Majority Leader and the Senate Minority Leader)

Debate arising;

And there being no more Senators wishing to contribute;

Mover replied;

Before the Question was put, and pursuant to Standing Order 84 (2), the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP) ruled that the Motion does not affect counties.

And the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP) having ascertained that there was Quorum, pursuant to Standing Order 42 (1);

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY

AWARE THAT His Excellency the President issued a Proclamation on Wednesday, 15th October, 2025 communicating the passing on of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, former Prime Minister;

FURTHER AWARE THAT the late Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH, served as the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kenya between 2008 and 2013, and previously held various senior positions in government including Cabinet Minister for Energy; Roads, Public Works and Housing, and as a long-serving Member of Parliament for Lang'ata Constituency serving four consecutive parliamentary terms from 1992 to 2013;

NOTING THAT the late Odinga's distinguished public service career spanned over four decades, during which he played a pivotal role in Kenya's transition to multiparty democracy, the advancement of constitutional reforms, and the deepening of good governance, accountability, and inclusivity leadership;

APPRECIATING his lifelong commitment to the ideals of democracy, freedom, and justice; his central role in the enactment of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, his tireless advocacy for devolution and equitable development, his dedication to reconciliation and peace-building through the 2008 National Accord and Reconciliation Act;

FURTHER APPRECIATING his passion for unifying African countries and promoting Africa's economic integration and as the African Union High Representative for Infrastructure Development in Africa, he championed regional integration, cross-border infrastructure connectivity, and the continent's socio-economic advancement;

RECOGNIZING that the late Odinga stood as a symbol of resilience and courage, dedicating his life to the struggle for democratic space, social justice, social and economic transformation, youth empowerment, national unity, even in the face of great personal sacrifice, and his enduring legacy as a visionary statesman who inspired generations of leaders across Kenya and the African continent;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate of the Republic of Kenya expresses its profound sorrow and conveys its heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and the people of Kenya on the demise of the Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, EGH; and resolves to record its sincere appreciation of his outstanding service, monumental contribution to the Nation and Africa, and his indelible legacy as a patriot, democrat, and visionary leader.

And there being no other business on the Order Paper, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Abdul Haji, MP) adjourned the Senate at forty-nine minutes past Four O'clock without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

7. **SENATE ROSE** – at forty-nine minutes past Four O'clock.

M E M O R A N D U M

*The Speaker will take the Chair on
Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 2:30 pm*

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