



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FOURTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 08, 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 Speaker.

3. **QUORUM OF THE SENATE**

The Speaker having counted the Honourable Senators present at the commencement of the Sitting and confirming that there was a Quorum, invited the Clerk to call the Orders of the day.

4. **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR**

The Speaker conveyed the following Communications from the Chair:

- i) **Election of Sen. Maureen Tabitha Mutinda, MP as a Member of the Board of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for 2025-2027**

“Honourable Senators,

The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an independent, non-governmental organization that provides a platform for Parliamentarians from across the world to engage with the World Bank Group and the IMF on issues of transparency, accountability, and development effectiveness. The Network facilitates dialogue between legislators, civil society, and international financial institutions, with a focus on promoting good governance in the management of public resources, advancing poverty reduction strategies, and supporting policies that foster inclusive economic growth.

Honourable Senators,

I wish to inform the Senate that Sen. Maureen Tabitha Mutinda, MP, has been elected to serve as a Member of the Board of Governance of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the IMF, for the term 2025 – 2027. The Board of Governance is charged with the responsibility of setting the strategic

agenda and providing guidance for the activities of the Parliamentary Network. In this capacity, Senator Mutinda will represent the East Africa Region within the Board.

Senator Mutinda will assume office on 13th October, 2025, during the Parliamentary engagements at the 2025 Annual Meetings of the World Bank and IMF.

Honourable Senators,

I take this opportunity to congratulate the Honourable Senator on my own behalf and on behalf of the Senate, on her election, and urge all Honourable Senators to accord her the necessary support as she undertakes this important role on behalf of our region.

I thank you.”

ii) **Distinguished dignitaries and reputable sons and daughters of Busia County on the auspicious occasion of the Sittings of the Senate in Busia County - Wednesday, 8th October, 2025**

“Honourable Senators, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the presence, in the Speaker’s Gallery this afternoon, of Hon. Kenneth Marende, EGH. As Honourable Senators are aware, Hon. Marende is a renowned personality in the Western Kenya region who comes from Vihiga County. He served as the Speaker of the National Assembly in the 11th Parliament from 2008 to 2013. He also served as the Chairperson of the Parliamentary Service Commission (PSC). Prior to being elected Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Marende served as Member of Parliament representing Emuhaya Constituency between 2003 to 2007.

A major hallmark of Hon. Marende’s tenure as Speaker, was the opening up of Parliament to the public through live broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings; modernization of the National Assembly Chamber and expansion of parliamentary facilities for Members and staff; and the establishment of structures to accommodate a bicameral Legislature, following the promulgation of a new Constitution in August, 2010.

I request the Hon. Marende to stand so that he may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition.

(Acknowledgment by Senators)

Honourable Senators, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As Honourable Senators are aware, when the Senate *Mashinani* programme was conceived in 2018, a tradition was established of recognizing persons of high stature who have made significant contributions not only to the host county, but to the country at large.

This initiative perfectly aligns with one of the legislative proposals that Sen. Miraj Abdillahi, MP is championing, the County Hall of Fame Bill (Senate Bills No. 18 of 2023). The Bill seeks to establish a county hall of fame in each county, through which county governments shall bestow honour on individuals within their respective counties acclaimed as being outstanding, exceptional or illustrious in any profession or activity. The Bill is scheduled for Second Reading in today's Order Paper and it is indeed a privilege and honour to debate it in Busia County.

Busia has had many outstanding individuals of renown and determining whom to acknowledge or recognize has been no easy task. There is always the danger of offending some constituencies and sensitivities by naming some persons and not others. The individuals we are recognizing today, some of whom we have invited and are seated in the Gallery, others who could not make, and yet others who have since passed-on, do not represent an exhaustive or closed list. Busia has many heroes and heroines.

As I read out this roll of fame, which is not in any order of precedence, I kindly request those who are present in the Gallery to stand in their place and be acknowledged by the Senate on behalf of a grateful Nation –

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| 1. | His Excellency Hon. Moody Awori, EGH | - Former Vice-President of the Republic of Kenya and the first person to serve in that capacity from Busia County. |
| 2. | Sen. Amos Wako, EGH, SC | - A renowned jurist, long-serving Attorney General of the Republic of Kenya and the first Senator for Busia County. |
| 3. | Hon. (Prof.) Julia Ojiambo | - A renowned politician and academic. First female Assistant Minister appointed to various portfolios. Party Leader of the Labour Party of Kenya, Member of Parliament for Busia Central Constituency, now known as Funyula Constituency, a crusader for affirmative action and one of the founder members of the Maendeleo ya Wanawake. |
| 4. | Hon. Justice (Dr.) Smokin Wanjala, CBS | - Renowned legal scholar, Judge of the Supreme Court of Kenya and current Director of the Kenya Judiciary Academy. |
| 5. | Hon. Sospeter Ojaamong, MGH | - First Governor of Busia County and former Member of Parliament representing Amagoro Constituency. |

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| 6. | Hon. Chrysanthus Okemo, EGH | - A former Member of Parliament for Nambale Constituency; Cabinet Minister in the Ministries of Finance and Energy respectively; and a former Member of the Parliamentary Service Commission in the 10 th Parliament. A major hallmark of his tenure as Minister for Finance was the removal of tax on bicycles which encouraged taxi business commonly referred to as “ <i>boda-boda</i> ”. |
| 7. | Hon. Albert Aggrey Alexander Ekirapa | - Former long serving Nation Media Group Chairman and Chief Executive. He also served as Member of Parliament for Amagoro Constituency and Assistant Minister for Trade and Industry. |
| 8. | Hon. Francis Masakhalia, EGH | - First Member of Parliament for Butula Constituency and former Minister for Finance. |
| 9. | Hon. Florence Mutua | - First Busia County Woman Representative. |
| 10. | Hon. Ababu Namwamba, EGH | - Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations Office at Nairobi and the United Nations Environment Programme. Former Member of Parliament for Budalang’i Constituency and Cabinet Secretary in various portfolios. |
| 11. | Hon. (Dr.) Christine Mango | - A leading educationist, former Member of Parliament for Butula Constituency who also served as a member of the Judicial Service Commission. |
| 12. | Hon. Philip Masinde | - Former Cabinet Minister for Labour and Member of Parliament for Nambale Constituency. |
| 13. | Hon. (Dr.) John Sakwa Bunyasi | - Former Member of Parliament for Nambale Constituency and current Chairman of the Kenya Development Corporation. |

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| 14. | Ms. Susan Mang'eni,
CBS | - Principal Secretary, State Department of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Cooperatives, and Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises Development |
| 15. | Dr. Boniface Makokha | - Principal Secretary, State Department of Economic Planning in the National Treasury and Economic Planning |
| 16. | The late Hillary Ng'weno | - Nuclear Physicist, who was a career journalist, best known as the Editor-in-Chief of the Weekly Review. He founded the first independent television news station in Kenya, STV |
| 17. | The late Prof. Nimrod Bwibo | - A renowned paediatrician and academic and former Chairman of the Maseno University Council. He was one of the founding members of the University of Nairobi Faculty of Medicine. |
| 18. | The late Prof. Nelson Awori | - A widely celebrated medical doctor, educator and researcher. He was the first African doctor to perform a kidney transplant in 1978. He also pioneered the Department of Urology at the University of Nairobi. |
| 19. | The late Hon. James Charles Osogo | - Veteran politician and long serving Cabinet Minister in many portfolios. |
| 20. | Dr. Josephine Ojiambo | - Seasoned diplomat who has distinguished herself as one of Kenya's premier multilateralists. She is recognized by the Ministry of Health as the National Sickle Cell champion. |
| 21. | Hon. Justice Rtd. Mathew Emukule | - Former Judge of the High Court of Kenya and a distinguished jurist. |
| 22. | Dr. Joseph Jesse (JJ) Masiga | - Legendary footballer who starred as a striker for AFC Leopards and Harambee Stars. |
| 23. | Mr. McDonald Mariga | - Renowned international professional footballer for Harambee Stars and first Kenyan to play in and win the UEFA Champions League with Inter |

Milan. He serves as the current Vice-Chairperson of FKF.

- 24. Mr. Gabriel Mukele - Former Vice Chairman of the Electoral Commission of Kenya (ECK), the predecessor to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).
- 25. Mr. Vincent Ongidi - Celebrated musician renowned for his vibrant renditions of traditional music most notably the “Mama Mulayi” hit song.
- 26. Mr. Victor Wanyama - Celebrated footballer and Captain of Harambee Stars and the first Kenyan to play in the English Premier League and score in the UEFA Champions League.
- 27. Mr. Wilberforce Mulamba - Legendary attacking midfielder, best known for his sensational dribbling skills and prolific goal-scoring and his long service in AFC Leopards and Harambee Stars.

Honourable Senators, Ladies and Gentlemen,

As I indicated before, this list is not, by any means, exhaustive.

I cannot conclude this communication without acknowledging our very own Clerk of the Senate, Mr. Jeremiah Makokha Nyegenye, CBS, who hails from Bukhayo West Ward, Matayos Constituency of Busia County. Since his appointment as Clerk of the Senate in October, 2012 and subsequently as Secretary to the Parliamentary Service Commission in March, 2013, he has led the technical arm of the Senate with unwavering dedication, exemplary professionalism, zeal and integrity. The Senate thanks him for his continued service.

I thank you.”

iii) Visiting Students from Alupe University in Busia County

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting six (6) students from Alupe University in Teso South, Busia County. The delegation is in the Senate for a study tour.

Honourable Senators,

In our usual tradition of receiving and welcoming visitors to Parliament, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and, on behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, wish them a fruitful visit.

I thank you.”

5. PAPERS LAID

The following Paper was laid on the Table of the Senate:

The National Treasury and Economic Planning Annual Public Debt Management Report for 2024/2025.

(The Senate Majority Leader)

6. QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS

a) Statements pursuant to Standing Order 52(1)

- i) The Senator for Nairobi City County (Sen. Edwin Sifuna, MP) on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Crystal Asige, MP) made a Statement on the commemoration of Dyslexia Awareness Month.

Thereupon, the Senator drew the attention of the House to the global commemoration of Dyslexia Awareness Month, observed every October as part of the international neurodiversity movement. She highlighted the historical development of dyslexia research, tracing its identification in the late 19th century, and underscored the contributions of institutions such as the International Dyslexia Association in promoting inclusivity for persons with learning differences. The Senator emphasized that the commemoration presents an opportunity not only to raise awareness and promote accessibility but also to celebrate the creativity and resilience of persons living with dyslexia.

The Senator noted that in Kenya, dyslexia and other hidden learning disabilities remain poorly understood and inadequately addressed within the education system. Citing statistics from the Dyslexia Organisation of Kenya, she observed that 60% of children in Grades 5 to 8 cannot read at grade level, with up to 20% struggling with undiagnosed learning difficulties. He lamented the stigma and misconceptions surrounding invisible disabilities such as dyslexia and schizophrenia, which are often dismissed as weakness or madness, resulting in exclusion and rights violations. He stressed that these challenges constitute a breach of constitutional rights to education, equality, and non-discrimination under Articles 43(1)(f) and 27.

The Senator urged that Kenya transitions towards a dyslexia-friendly and disability-inclusive education system, aligned with international best

practices. The Senator pointed to the Learners with Disabilities Bill (Senate Bills No. 4 of 2023) as a comprehensive framework to ensure equal access, eliminate discrimination, and cover hidden learning difficulties such as dyslexia. He appealed to the House to pass the Bill without delay, translating awareness into action, and encouraged Senators to support the activities of the Dyslexia Organisation of Kenya, specifically the upcoming NeuroInclusion Gala Dinner and Tree Planting Hike, as a demonstration of solidarity with persons living with dyslexia and other invisible disabilities.

- ii) The Senator for Mombasa County (Sen. Mohamed Faki, MP) made a Statement on the ongoing strike by academic staff in public universities.

Thereupon, the Senator noted that the industrial action by members of the University Academic Staff Union (UASU) had significantly disrupted learning in affected institutions. He recounted a recent visit to Maseno University alongside Sen. Issa Boy, where they witnessed lecturers demonstrating, dressed in 'deras', to demand payment of salary increment arrears amounting to Ksh. 7.9 billion. The Senator observed that the strike had brought academic activities to a standstill, leaving students stranded despite having paid tuition fees.

The Senator urged the Government and UASU to engage in constructive dialogue to find a pragmatic solution, emphasizing that while the Government may not be able to pay the full amount at once, it should negotiate a feasible payment plan. He stressed that the prolonged impasse risks disorganising academic programs and undermining the quality of higher education in the country. To this end, he called upon the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare and the Standing Committee on Education to jointly intervene and facilitate an urgent resolution to the crisis, in order to safeguard both the welfare of academic staff and the learning continuity of students.

The Senator commended Maseno University's management for its steady growth in student enrolment and contribution to local economic development, noting that the institution's progress reflects the positive impact of devolution on regional education and service delivery.

- iii) Nominated Senator (Sen. Hezena Lemaletian, MP) on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Veronica Maina, MP) made a Statement on the rising cases of early teenage pregnancy and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) in Busia County.

Thereupon, the Senator cited data from the National Syndemic Disease Control Council, where she noted that between 2016 and 2024, more than 65,000 teenage pregnancies were recorded in the county, with 4,542 cases reported in 2024 alone, Samia Sub-County recording the highest rate in the country. The Senator noted that early pregnancy robs young girls of education and economic opportunity, exposes them to

serious health risks such as maternal complications and HIV infections, and perpetuates cycles of poverty and social exclusion.

The Senator also highlighted that SGBV remains a growing crisis, with 2,884 cases reported among adolescents in Busia County between 2016 and 2024, a sharp increase over the years. She observed that enforcement of existing laws, including the Sexual Offences Act and the Children Act, has been slow and inconsistent despite stringent penalties for offenders. The Senator urged the Judiciary and law enforcement agencies to act more decisively to ensure justice for victims and deter perpetrators. She also called on the Government to support victims through compensation, psychosocial care, and reintegration into the education system, while ensuring that children born to teenage mothers receive access to healthcare and education.

The Senator further announced that the Kenya Women Senators Association (KEWOSA) would champion new legislation to strengthen protection for victims of SGBV. The proposed law would provide for safe shelters, restitution from offenders, improved evidence handling, cross-border repatriation of offenders, use of video testimonies, and the outlawing of informal “kangaroo courts.” She urged collective action through stronger law enforcement, community awareness and national advocacy to end the scourge of teenage pregnancy and sexual violence, reaffirming KEWOSA’s commitment to lead this fight across the country.

b) Requests for Statements pursuant to Standing Order 53(1)

- i) The Senator for Nairobi County (Sen. Edwin Sifuna, MP) on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Crystal Asige, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare regarding the unjust charging of medical assessment fees to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).
- ii) The Senator for Nairobi County (Sen. Edwin Sifuna, MP) on behalf of Nominated Senator (Sen. Crystal Asige, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Education regarding the status and future of the Kenya School of Revenue Administration (KESRA).
- iii) The Senator for Nandi County (Sen. Samson Cherarkey, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights regarding the brutal killing of two (2) people and the use of excessive force by police at Kimwani area in Tindiret Sub-County, Nandi County
- iv) The Senator for Murang’a County (Sen. Joe Nyutu, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Health regarding the implementation of the Health Insurance Programme dubbed *Kang’ata Care* in Murang’a County.
- v) The Senator for Mombasa County (Sen. Mwinyihaji Faki, MP) on behalf of the Senator for Kisumu County (Sen. (Prof.) Tom Ojienda SC, MP) sought

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a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding the ongoing police recruitment exercise.

- vi) The Senator for Busia County (Sen. Andrew Omtatah, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources concerning the stalled irrigation and water supply projects in Busia County.
- vii) The Senator for Busia County (Sen. Andrew Omtatah, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources concerning the illegal gold mining activities in Bumutiru in Busia County, Ramula in Siaya County and Rosterman in Kakamega County.
- viii) The Senator for Busia County (Sen. Andrew Omtatah, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Justice, Legal Affairs and Human Rights concerning the nomination of a female judge to the East African Court of Justice (EACJ).
- ix) The Senator for Marsabit County (Sen. Mohamed Chute, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations regarding the reported abduction of Mr. Jillo Guyo Boru, a 47-year-old laboratory technician attached to Dambala Facana Health Centre in Marsabit County.

7. THE COUNTY HALL OF FAME BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 18 OF 2023)

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the County Hall of Fame Bill (Senate Bills No. 18 of 2023) be now read a Second Time.

(Sen. Miraj Abdillahi Abdulrahman, MP – 07.10.2025)

Debate interrupted on Tuesday, 7th October, 2025 resumed;

And there being no more Senators wishing to contribute;

Mover replied;

Pursuant to Standing Order 66 (3) the mover requested for the deferment of the putting of Question to a later;

And the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP) acceding to the request, deferred putting of the Question to a later date.

8. **THE COUNTY OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 3 OF 2024)**

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the County Oversight and Accountability Bill (Senate Bills No. 3 of 2024) be now read a Second Time.

(Sen. Ledama Olekina, MP)

Debate arising;

And the time being thirty Minutes past Six O'clock, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP) interrupted the proceedings and adjourned the Senate without Question put, pursuant to the Standing Orders.

9. **SENATE ROSE** – at thirty minutes past Six O'clock

M E M O R A N D U M

*The Speaker will take the Chair on
Thursday, 9th October, 2025 at 2:30 p.m*

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