



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY, MARCH 05, 2026

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 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 Speaker 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) Visiting Delegation from Naromoru Girls' High School in Nyeri County

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of a visiting teacher and students from Naromoru Girls' High School in Nyeri County. The delegation comprises one (1) teacher and thirty-two (32) students, who are in the Senate for a one-day academic exposition.

Honourable Senators,

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them a fruitful and enriching visit.

I thank you.”

(ii) Visiting Delegation from Rutune Senior Secondary School

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, of visiting teachers and students from Rutune Senior Secondary School, in Mukurwe-ini Constituency, Nyeri County. The delegation comprises forty-five (45) students and five (5) teachers, who are visiting the Senate for an academic exposition.

Honourable Senators,

On behalf of the Senate and on my own behalf, I extend a warm welcome to the delegation and wish them a fruitful and enriching visit.

I thank you.”

5. NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT OF THE LIAISON COMMITTEE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND OPERATIONS OF SELECT COMMITTEES DURING THE THIRD SESSION (2024)

(Sen. Mohamed Faki, CBS, MP on behalf of the Chairperson, Liaison Committee)

THAT, the Senate notes the Report of the Liaison Committee on the activities and operations of Select Committees during the Third Session (2024) pursuant to Standing Order 224 (2), laid on the Table of the Senate on Wednesday, 28th May, 2025.

6. NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY ON INQUIRY INTO THE SHORTAGE OF SMART ENERGY METERS IN KENYA AND THE POTENTIAL FOR THEIR LOCAL MANUFACTURING

(Sen. Ledama Olekina, CBS, MP on behalf of the Chairperson, Standing Committee on Energy)

THAT, the Senate adopts the Report of the Standing Committee on Energy on inquiry into the shortage of smart energy meters in Kenya and the potential for their local manufacturing, laid on the Table of the Senate on Wednesday, 11th June, 2025.

7. NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORT OF THE 3RD COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES (CPwD) AFRICA REGION CONFERENCE HELD IN LUSAKA, ZAMBIA FROM 24TH - 28TH FEBRUARY, 2025

(Sen. Ledama Olekina, CBS, MP on behalf of Sen. George Mbugua, MP)

THAT, the Senate notes the Report of the 3rd Commonwealth Parliamentarians with Disabilities (CPwD) Africa Region Conference held in

Lusaka, Zambia from 24th -28th February, 2025 laid on the Table of the Senate on 7th August, 2025.

8. **NOTICE OF MOTION - REPORTS OF THE KENYA DELEGATION TO THE SITTINGS OF THE PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT (PAP) COMMITTEES AND OTHER PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT (PAP) ORGANS HELD AT GALLAGHER CONVENTION CENTRE, MIDRAND, SOUTH AFRICA ON 13TH SEPTEMBER TO 20TH SEPTEMBER, 2024 AND 28TH OCTOBER TO 17TH NOVEMBER, 2024**

(Sen. (Dr.) Danson Mungatana, MP)

THAT, the Senate notes the Reports of the Kenya Delegation to the Sittings of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) Committees and other Pan-African Parliament (PAP) Organs held at the Gallagher Convention Centre in Midrand, South Africa on 13th September to 20th September, 2024; and 28th October to 17th November, 2024 laid on the Table of the Senate on Tuesday, 2nd December, 2025.

9. **QUESTIONS AND STATEMENTS**

(a) Statements pursuant to Standing Order 52 (1)

- i) Nominated Senator (Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP) made a Statement regarding the protection of freedom of worship in educational institutions, citing the case of a Grade 10 student at St. Mary's, Lwak Girls' High School who reportedly discontinued her studies following a dispute over her right to wear the hijab in school in observance of her Islamic faith.

The Senator expressed concern that assurances allegedly given at admission permitting the student to wear the *hijab* were later reversed, raising issues of institutional integrity and fairness. She further noted that the matter raised constitutional concerns regarding the right to freedom of religion under Article 32 of the Constitution.

The Senator urged educational institutions to uphold transparency in admission processes and respect learners' constitutional rights to practice their faith.

- ii) Nominated Senator (Sen. Consolata Wakwabubi, MP) made a Statement on the commemoration of International Women's Day observed globally on 8th March, highlighting the 2026 theme "*Rights, Justice, Action, for all Women and Girls*" and its alignment with Kenya's commitments under the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals; Particularly Goal 5 on Gender Equality.

The Senator noted Kenya's progress in advancing women's representation through affirmative action measures under the

Constitution of Kenya, including the Two-Thirds Gender Principle, while expressing concern over persistent challenges such as underrepresentation in elective positions, gender-based violence and unequal economic opportunities.

She urged Parliament to strengthen legal frameworks, enhance oversight and budgetary support for gender equality initiatives, and promote leadership development and public advocacy to advance the rights and participation of women and girls.

- iii) Nominated Sen. Veronica Maina, MP, made a Statement marking the commemoration of International Women’s Day 2026 under the theme “*Rights Justice Action for ALL Women and Girls*”, and called for strengthened legislative and institutional measures to safeguard the rights and dignity of women and girls in Kenya.

The Statement highlighted the role of the Kenya Women Senators Association (KEWOSA) in advancing gender-responsive legislation and addressing violence and discrimination against women. Concern was expressed over the continued prevalence of gender-based violence, including domestic abuse, sexual violence and femicide, and the need to implement constitutional guarantees of equality under the Constitution of Kenya, including the Two-Thirds Gender Principle.

- iv) The Statement by the Senator for Baringo County (Sen. Kiprono Chemitei, MP) concerning the recurring drought – flood cycle in Baringo County was dropped in the absence of the Senator.

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

- i) Nominated Senator (Sen. Catherine Mumma, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Education regarding the exclusion of Kenyan sign language from the grading of the 2025 Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examinations.
- ii) Nominated Senator (Sen. Hezena Lemaletian, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources regarding illegal logging, murram extraction and commercial water harvesting in Kirisia forest, Samburu County.
- iii) The Senator for Turkana County (Sen. James Lomenen, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations concerning loss of lives and theft of livestock by bandits in Turkana County.
- iv) Seneta wa Kaunti ya Kirinyaga (Sen. James Murango, Mb) aliomba kauli kutoka kwa Kamati ya Kudumu ya Ardhi, Mazingira na Maliasili kuhusu ongezeko la ada za utoaji wa vibali na ufunguaji wa lazima

wa mita za kisasa (smart meters) na mamlaka ya rasilimali za maji katika kaunti ya Kirinyaga.

- v) The Senator for Busia County (Sen. Andrew Omtatah, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare regarding fraudulent recruitment of Kenyans for jobs abroad.

10. THE CULTURE BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 12 OF 2024)

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the Culture Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 12 of 2024) be now read a Second time.

(The Senate Majority Leader – 24.02.2026)

Debate interrupted on Wednesday, 4th March, 2026 (Afternoon Sitting) resumed;

And there being no more Senators wishing to contribute, and in the absence of the Mover, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Veronica Maina, MP), deferred the reply by the Mover to a later date.

11. THE AGRICULTURE PRODUCE (MINIMUM GUARANTEED RETURNS) BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 17 OF 2025)

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the Agriculture Produce (Minimum Guaranteed Returns) Bill (Senate Bills No. 17 of 2025) be now read a Second time

(Sen. Veronica Maina, MP -26.02.2026)

Debate interrupted on Thursday, 27th February, 2026 (Afternoon Sitting) resumed;

And there being no more Senators wishing to contribute, and in the absence of the Mover, the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Veronica Maina, MP), deferred the reply by the Mover to a later date.

The Temporary Speaker (Sen. Veronica Maina, MP), for the convenience of the House, pursuant to Standing Order 34(2A), adjourned the Senate at forty minutes past Six O'clock without Question put.

12. SENATE ROSE – at forty minutes past Six O'clock

M E M O R A N D U M

The Speaker will take the Chair on
Tuesday, 10th March, 2026 at 2:30 pm

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