



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)

THE SENATE

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026 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 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:

a) Visiting delegation of Members of the House Business Committee and Speaker's Panel of the County Assembly of Samburu

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Speaker's Gallery this afternoon, a visiting delegation from the County Assembly of Samburu, comprising members of the House Business Committee and Speaker's Panel and its secretariat. The delegation is undertaking a training programme at the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST).

Honourable Senators,

I request each Member of the delegation to stand when called out so that you may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition –

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Hon. Stephen Lenamarle | Speaker |
| 2. | Hon. Lelenkeju Jackson Layan | Deputy Speaker |
| 3. | Hon. Leleruk James Koileken | Minority Leader |
| 4. | Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence Sebastian | Minority Whip |

5.	Hon. Lemoosa Maura Lekuram	Member Speaker's Panel
6.	Hon. Eunice Serah Lekirenyei	Member HBC
7.	Hon. Lpesina Kelvin Lemantaan	Member HBC
8.	Hon. Jane Nakinyi	Member HBC
9.	Fred Lenapeer	Clerk
10.	Simon Lekupe	Deputy Clerk
11.	Timothy Leshoomo	Sergeant -At-Arms
12.	Agnes Learat	Hansard Editor

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 visit.

I thank you.”

b) Use of Biometric Authentication for Sign-In and Attendance Recording in Plenary Proceedings

“Honourable Senators,

Further to the communication I issued in the afternoon sitting on Wednesday, 25th February, 2026 regarding the basic operation of the Taiden Congress System, I wish to inform you that the biometric authentication module has now been operationalised.

We will, therefore, discontinue the use of key cards and transition to biometric authentication for sign-in and attendance recording in plenary proceedings from Tuesday, 24th March, 2026.

Kindly note that, after the transition, you will be required to sign-in with your biometrics whenever you are present for your attendance to be recorded. For the avoidance of doubt, any Senator that will attend a sitting and not sign-in to the system, will be marked absent.

Honourable Senators,

An IT desk has been set up right outside the Chamber to facilitate the registration of your biometrics ahead of the transition. Kindly ensure that you pass by the IT desk and have your biometrics registered before the sitting on Tuesday, 24th March, 2026.

I thank you.”

c) Visiting teachers and students from schools in Nyeri County

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Public Gallery this afternoon, visiting teachers and students from Ndiani Comprehensive

School, Kiaruthi Comprehensive School and St. Thomas Gatura Secondary School in Nyeri County. The delegation comprises thirteen (13) teachers and eighty-nine (89) students, 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 learning.

I thank you.”

d) Benchmarking visit by Members from Uasin Gishu and Makueni County Assemblies

“Honourable Senators,

I would like to acknowledge the presence, in the Speaker’s Gallery this afternoon, a visiting delegation of Members of County Assemblies from Uasin Gishu and Makueni County Assemblies. The delegation is on a benchmarking engagement on best practices at the Senate.

I request each Member of the delegation to stand when called out so that you may be acknowledged in the Senate tradition –

1. Hon. Julius Sang MCA, Megun Ward, Uasin Gishu County Assembly – Leader of Majority
2. Hon. Reuben Tobosei MCA, Tembelio Ward, Uasin Gishu County Assembly
3. Hon. Esther Mwongeli Nominated MCA, Makueni County Assembly

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

I thank you.”

5. MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY - PASSAGE BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, OF THE DIVISION OF REVENUE BILL (NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILLS NO. 2 OF 2026)

The Speaker conveyed the following Message from the National Assembly:

“Honourable Senators,

I wish to report to the Senate that, pursuant to Standing Order 46 (3), I have received a Message from the Speaker of the National Assembly regarding the passage, by the National Assembly, of the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 2 of 2026).

The Message, dated Thursday, 12th March, 2026, was received in the Office of the Clerk of the Senate on the same date.

Pursuant to Standing Order 46 (4), I now report the Message –

“PURSUANT to the provisions of Standing Order 41 (1) and 142 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby convey the following Message from the National Assembly:

WHEREAS, the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 2 of 2026) was published vide Kenya Gazette Supplement No. 14 of 19th February, 2026 as a Bill to provide for the equitable division of revenue raised nationally between the national and county governments in the 2026/27 financial year, and for connected purposes;

AND WHEREAS, the National Assembly considered the Bill and passed it with amendments on Tuesday, 10th March, 2026 in the form attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, in accordance with the provisions of Article 110 of the Constitution and Standing Orders 41 and 142 of the National Assembly Standing Orders, I hereby refer the Bill to the Senate for consideration.”

Honourable Senators,

Standing Order 163(1) requires that a Bill which originates in the National Assembly be proceeded with in the same manner as a Bill introduced in the Senate by way of First Reading, in accordance with Standing Order 144.

Accordingly, I direct that the Division of Revenue Bill (National Assembly Bills No. 2 of 2026) be listed in the Order Paper for First Reading tomorrow, Wednesday, 18th March, 2026, at 2:30 pm.

I thank you.”

6. **NOTICE OF MOTION - INCLUSION OF TEACHER TRAINING COLLEGE STUDENTS IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING MODEL**
(Sen. Joe Nyutu, MP)

AWARE THAT, the Constitution of Kenya under Article 43(1) (f) guarantees every citizen the right to education, and Article 53 (1) (b) provides that basic education is free and compulsory;

FURTHER AWARE THAT, the government of Kenya launched the New Education Funding (NHEF) model in 2023, primarily targeting University and Tertiary and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) students, leaving a significant gap in the financial support for students in Diploma and Certificate Teacher Training Colleges (TTCs);

CONCERNED THAT, students enrolled in Public Teacher Training Colleges are discriminated against and not expressly and fully provided for under the

prevailing higher education financing framework, thereby limiting or excluding their access to structured government support for tuition and accommodation;

COGNIZANT THAT, the transition to the Competency-Based Curriculum (CBC) requires a highly skilled teaching workforce, and that the financial burden on teacher trainees, many of whom come from marginalized backgrounds, threatens the sustainability of the teacher supply chain;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate urges the Ministry of Education, in conjunction with the Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) and the Universities Fund (UF), to:

- i) formally integrate Teacher Training College students into the New Funding Model to ensure equity, quality and inclusivity in the education sector; and
- ii) develops regulations and guidelines to define the eligibility criteria for Teacher Training College students covering tuition and reasonable accommodation and upkeep costs.

7. **NOTICE OF MOTION – EXTENSION OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SUGAR (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 2025 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 167 OF 2025) AND THE SUGAR (IMPORTS AND EXPORTS) REGULATIONS, 2025 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 168 OF 2025)**

(The Chairperson, Committee on Delegation Legislation)

THAT AWARE THAT, the Sugar (General) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 167 of 2025) and the Sugar (Imports and Exports) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 168 of 2025) were tabled in the Senate on 6th November, 2025, and referred to the Select Committee on Delegated Legislation for consideration pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act;

COGNIZANT THAT the Committee is required to make a report within twenty-eight sitting days after the date of referral of the instruments by the Senate pursuant to Section 15(2) of the Statutory Instruments Act which will lapse on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026;

AWARE THAT Section 15(3) of the Statutory Instruments Act provides that, by a resolution, Parliament may extend the time for consideration of a Statutory Instrument by a period not exceeding twenty-one calendar days;

NOTING THAT the Committee requires additional time to consider issues arising from stakeholder consultations and to allow for further engagement on the Regulations;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate, pursuant to Section 15(3) of the Statutory Instruments Act, resolves to extend the timeline for the consideration of the Sugar (General) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 167 of 2025) and the Sugar (Imports and Exports) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 168 of 2025) for a further twenty-one (21) Calendar days to enable the Committee to conclude its consideration and table its report on or before, Tuesday, 31st March, 2026.

8. **STATEMENTS****a) Requests for Statements pursuant to Standing Order 53 (1)**

- i) The Senator for Murang'a County (Sen. Joe Nyutu, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources regarding the ongoing review of water service boundaries and the management of water infrastructure in Murang'a County.
- ii) The Senator for Murang'a County (Sen. Joe Nyutu, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Labour and Social Welfare regarding the utilisation of funds allocated for youth and sports development in Murang'a County.
- iii) Seneta wa Kaunti ya Kilifi (Seneta Jaji (Mstaafu) Stewart Madzayo, Mbunge) aliomba Kauli kutoka kwa Kamati ya Usalama wa Taifa, Ulinzi na Uhusiano wa Kimataifa kuhusu uhifadhi wa miili ya waathiriwa wa janga la Shakahola.
- iv) Seneta wa Kaunti ya Kilifi (Seneta Jaji (Mstaafu) Stewart Madzayo, Mbunge) aliomba Kauli kutoka kwa Kamati ya Ardhi, Mazingira, na Maliasili kuhusu uharibifu na uchafuzi wa mazingira kutokana na uchimbaji wa madini ya titani (*titanium*) katika eneo la Nyari iliyoko kata ndogo ya Ganze, Kaunti ya Kilifi unaotekelezwa na Kampuni ya Shanich Jialin Mining East Africa.
- v) The Senator for Nandi County (Sen. Samson Cherarkey, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations regarding the role of the Council of Governors (CoG) in appointments and nominations to various boards, task forces and committees.
- vi) The Senator for Nandi County (Sen. Samson Cherarkey, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations concerning the police officer captured shooting at a student's house at the University of Nairobi, Kikuyu Campus.
- vii) The Senator for Tana River (Sen. Danson Mungatana, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Energy regarding the continuous blackouts affecting Bura town, Bangale, Madogo and Mororo in Tana River County.
- viii) The Senator for Tana River (Sen. Danson Mungatana, MP) sought a Statement from the Standing Committee on Roads, Transportation, and Housing regarding the socio-economic and environmental impact of the project for the construction of the new Tana River Bridge and its approach roads along the Ukasi-Garissa-Modika Road.

- ix) The request for a Statement by the Senator for Nakuru County (Sen. Tabitha Keroche, MP) from the Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources regarding the allocation of Kisima land in Njoro Sub-County, Nakuru County to civil servants was deferred on the request by the Senator.

b) Statement pursuant to Standing Order 56 (1) (a)

The Chairperson, Standing Committee on Land, Environment and Natural Resources made a Statement regarding the recent flash floods experienced in various parts of the country.

c) Statement pursuant to Standing Order 57 (2)

The Senate Majority Leader issued a Statement regarding the Senate's oversight mechanisms under Article 96 of the Constitution. He explained that the Senate, mainly through its committees, exercised oversight over county governments in line with various constitutional and statutory provisions, particularly emphasizing its role in ensuring accountability for national revenue allocated to counties.

Sen. Aaron Cheryiout, MP noted that the Constitution granted Parliament and its committees powers to summon individuals, enforce attendance, and require the production of evidence. He further observed that the Supreme Court had affirmed the Senate's broad oversight mandate, including its authority to summon governors and hold them accountable for county financial management.

The Senate Majority Leader reported that, despite this clear legal framework, some county governors had repeatedly failed to honor invitations and summons issued by the County Public Accounts Committee. He stated that such actions violated constitutional and statutory obligations, undermined the Senate's oversight role, and weakened accountability and transparency in public resource management.

Sen. Aaron Cheryiout, MP warned that this conduct set a dangerous precedent and threatened respect for constitutional institutions. He concluded by affirming that the Senate would continue to carry out its oversight mandate, including confirming audit reports in the absence of governors and forwarding findings to relevant authorities for appropriate action.

9. **MOTION - EXTENSION OF TIME FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE SUGAR (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 2025 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 167 OF 2025) AND THE SUGAR (IMPORTS AND EXPORTS) REGULATIONS, 2025 (LEGAL NOTICE NO. 168 OF 2025)**

Order read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT AWARE THAT, the Sugar (General) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 167 of 2025) and the Sugar (Imports and Exports) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 168 of 2025) were tabled in the Senate on 6th November, 2025, and referred to the Select Committee on Delegated Legislation for consideration pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act;

COGNIZANT THAT the Committee is required to make a report within twenty-eight sitting days after the date of referral of the instruments by the Senate pursuant to Section 15(2) of the Statutory Instruments Act which will lapse on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026;

AWARE THAT Section 15(3) of the Statutory Instruments Act provides that, by a resolution, Parliament may extend the time for consideration of a Statutory Instrument by a period not exceeding twenty-one calendar days;

NOTING THAT the Committee requires additional time to consider issues arising from stakeholder consultations and to allow for further engagement on the Regulations;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate, pursuant to Section 15(3) of the Statutory Instruments Act, resolves to extend the timeline for the consideration of the Sugar (General) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 167 of 2025) and the Sugar (Imports and Exports) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 168 of 2025) for a further twenty-one (21) Calendar days to enable the Committee to conclude its consideration and table its report on or before, Tuesday, 31st March, 2026.

(The Chairperson, Committee on Delegation Legislation)

And there being no Senator wishing to contribute;

Before the Question was put, and pursuant to Standing Order No. 84 (1), the Temporary Speaker (Sen. Wakili Hillary Sigei, MP) ruled that the Motion does not affect counties.

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

Question put and agreed to.

RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY

THAT AWARE THAT, the Sugar (General) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 167 of 2025) and the Sugar (Imports and Exports) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 168 of 2025) were tabled in the Senate on 6th November, 2025, and referred to the Select Committee on Delegated Legislation for consideration pursuant to Section 12(1) of the Statutory Instruments Act;

COGNIZANT THAT the Committee is required to make a report within twenty-eight sitting days after the date of referral of the instruments by the Senate pursuant to Section 15(2) of the Statutory Instruments Act which will lapse on Tuesday, 17th March, 2026;

AWARE THAT Section 15(3) of the Statutory Instruments Act provides that, by a resolution, Parliament may extend the time for consideration of a Statutory Instrument by a period not exceeding twenty-one calendar days;

NOTING THAT the Committee requires additional time to consider issues arising from stakeholder consultations and to allow for further engagement on the Regulations;

NOW THEREFORE, the Senate, pursuant to Section 15(3) of the Statutory Instruments Act, resolves to extend the timeline for the consideration of the Sugar (General) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 167 of 2025) and the Sugar (Imports and Exports) Regulations, 2025 (Legal Notice No. 168 of 2025) for a further twenty-one (21) Calendar days to enable the Committee to conclude its consideration and table its report on or before, Tuesday, 31st March, 2026.

10. **THE HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL (SENATE BILLS NO. 12 OF 2025)**

Order for Second Reading read;

Motion made and Question proposed;

THAT, the Health (Amendment) Bill (Senate Bills No. 12 of 2025) be now read a Second time.

(Sen. Erick Okong'o Mogeni, MP)

Debate arising;

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

11. **SENATE ROSE** – at thirty minutes past six O'clock.

MEMORANDUM

*The Speaker will take the Chair on
Wednesday, March 18, 2025 at 9:30 am*