



**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**

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**THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – (FIFTH SESSION)  
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

\_\_\_\_\_ (No. 007 of 2026) \_\_\_\_\_

**ON**

**REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STANDING ORDERS**

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**Honourable Members,**

1. As you may be aware, Standing Order 264 requires a review of the Standing Orders at least once in every term of Parliament. Indeed, it is a tradition in Commonwealth jurisdictions for Parliament to review its rules of procedure towards the end of its term, for use by the next Parliament.
2. Over the years, the termly review process has proven invaluable in providing the House with an opportunity to refine, update, and strengthen the Standing Orders for the benefit of subsequent Houses.
3. **Honourable Members,** this practice has been useful in affording Members an opportunity to enrich the rules of procedure based on their experiences and empirical interaction with the various provisions. Through your continuous engagement with the rules in both plenary and committee settings, you acquire useful, first-hand insight into how the provisions can be applied in practice and therefore, as the primary custodians and daily users of the rules, you are uniquely positioned to guide their refinement.

4. **Honourable Members**, in light of the foregoing, I wish to inform the House that the Procedure and House Rules Committee has officially embarked on the end-of-term review of the National Assembly Standing Orders pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 264. Accordingly, I now invite Committees, individual Members, parliamentary staff, members of the public, and all stakeholders to submit any proposals they may have for consideration by the Committee. The invitation to the general public and other stakeholders is in keeping with the requirements of Article 118 of the Constitution of Kenya.
5. In particular, I urge Committees to undertake an honest appraisal of the committee system, including its structure, scope of mandate, compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, operational practices, effectiveness of current legislative oversight mechanisms, handling of public petitions, and/or any gaps in the Standing Orders, and propose recommendations for improvement.
6. **Honourable Members**, for good order, all general views or proposed amendments to the Standing Orders should be forwarded to the Procedure and House Rules Committee, through the Office of the Clerk, by way of written submissions. The receipt and collation process should be concluded by **31<sup>st</sup> July, 2026**.
7. I therefore encourage you, **Honourable Members**, to present your views or proposals ahead of this deadline. This will also apply to any other stakeholders and the general public.

8. The Procedure and House Rules Committee is encouraged to undertake a thorough and open-minded examination of all aspects of the Standing Orders, including, among others—
- (a) the system of governance and the bicameral structure of Parliament, noting procedural challenges and opportunities;
  - (b) the committee system, with focus on size, composition, mandate, operations, tenure, efficiency, and effectiveness;
  - (c) oversight mechanisms, particularly in areas that may not have received adequate attention, such as the budget process and oversight of budget implementation and the national debt;
  - (d) facilitation of Constitutional Commissions and Independent Offices to interact with the House, including the handling of reports submitted under Article 254 of the Constitution; and
  - (e) the penal authority of the House including emerging trends on disciplinary procedures;
9. At the end of the review, the Committee will be expected to present a report to the House outlining provisions recommended for amendment, inclusion or repeal.
10. In summary, **Honourable Members**, I hereby notify the House of the commencement of the end-of-term review of the Standing Orders of the House and—
- (a) Invite House Committees, Honourable Members and parliamentary staff to make written submissions to the Committee on ANY areas for possible review or repeal;**

- (b) Require the Procedure and House Rules Committee to hold consultative meetings with the House Leadership, including committee leadership, to obtain their views on areas for review in the Standing Orders; and
- (c) Direct the Clerk of the National Assembly to facilitate the Procedure and House Rules Committee to undertake the end-of-term review of the Standing Orders, including the process of seeking views from the public and external stakeholders.

**11.**The House is accordingly guided.

**I thank you!**

  
**THE RT. HON. (DR.) MOSES F.M. WETANG'ULA, SC, EGH, MP**  
**SPEAKER OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

*Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026*