



REPUBLIC OF KENYA
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

*Approved
SNA
30/9/26*

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT – FIFTH SESSION – 2026
PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

REPORT ON-

CONSIDERATION OF PUBLIC PETITION NO. 13 OF 2026
REGARDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL POLICE FIREARMS
DIGITAL DETECTION AND TRACKING SYSTEM

 THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 30 SEP 2026	
DAY: Wednesday	
TABLED BY:	Hon. Janet Sitenegiri (Vice-Chairperson)
CLERK-AT THE-TABLE:	Hon. Male

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SEPTEMBER, 2026

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ACRONYMS

NPS	National Police Service
CCTV	Closed-Circuit Television
GPS	Global Positioning System
IBIS	Integrated Ballistics Identification System
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IoT	Internet of Things
RFID	Radio-Frequency Identification

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

On behalf of the Public Petitions Committee and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227, it is my pleasant privilege and honour to present to this House the Report of the Committee on the Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a national police firearms digital detection and tracking system. The petition was presented to the House pursuant to Standing Order No. 225 (2) (b) by the Speaker on behalf Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow.

The Committee observed that the NPS had undertaken preliminary steps towards digitization, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. This process stalled due to budgetary constraints. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates the Firecycle platform, a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), which can be expanded to support Service- wide tracking.

The Committee recommends that the Inspector General of Police avails an implementation framework for full digitization of firearms records, including amendments to relevant laws, and the resultant budgetary requirement to the National Assembly during consideration of the Budget Policy Statement 2027/28.

The Committee appreciates the Offices of the Speaker and Clerk of the National Assembly for providing guidance and necessary technical support, without which its work would not have been possible. The Chairperson expresses gratitude to the Committee Members for their devotion and commitment to duty during the consideration of the Petition.

On behalf of the Committee and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 199, I now wish to lay the Report on the Table of the House.

HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, CBS, M.P.

CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

PART ONE

1. PREFACE

1.1 Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

- 1) The Public Petitions Committee is established under the provisions of Standing Order 208A with the following terms of reference:
 - i) considering all public petitions tabled in the House;
 - ii) making such recommendations as may be appropriate with respect to the prayers sought in the petitions;
 - iii) recommending whether the findings arising from consideration of a petition should be debated; and
 - iv) advising the House and reporting on all public petitions committed to it.

1.2 Committee Membership

- 2) The Public Petitions Committee was constituted in October 2022 and comprises the following Members:

Chairperson

Hon. Muchangi Karemba, CBS, M.P.
Runyenjes Constituency

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Vice Chairperson

Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienei, M.P.
Turbo Constituency

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P.
Mavoko Constituency

**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya
(WDM-K)**

Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.
Kitui West Constituency

**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-
K)**

Hon. Ntwiga Patrick Munene, M.P.
Chuka Igambang'ombe Constituency

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.
Kuria East Constituency

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P.
Baringo Central Constituency

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, M.P.
Dagoretti North Constituency

Orange Democratic Movement (ODM)

Hon. Bernard Muriuki Nebart, M.P.
Mbeere South Constituency

Independent

Hon. Biego Paul Kibichy, M.P.
Chesumei

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.
Kangema Constituency

Maendeleo Chap Chap Party (MCCP)

Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P.
Taveta Constituency

**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya (WDM-
K)**

Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P.
Mwatate Constituency

Jubilee Party (JP)

Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P.
Sabatia Constituency

United Democratic Alliance (UDA)

Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P.
Makueni Constituency

**Wiper Democratic Movement-Kenya
(WDM-K)**

1.3 Committee Secretariat

3) The Public Petitions Committee is facilitated by the following members of the secretariat:

Lead Clerk

Mr. Victor Weke

Principal Clerk Assistant II

Ms. Miriam Modo

First Clerk Assistant

Mr. Benard Toroitich

Third Clerk Assistant

Ms. Kafuyai Wamae

Third Clerk Assistant

Mr. Clinton Sindiga

Legal Counsel II

Ms. Nancy Akinyi

Research Officer III

Ms. Viola Saiya

Research Officer III

Ms. Roselyne Njuki

Principal Serjeant-at-Arms

Mr. Paul Shana

Serjeant-at-Arms

Mr. Pascal Valerian

Hansard Officer III

Mr. Collins Mahamba

Audio Officer III

Ms. Felistus Muiya

Public Communication Officer

Ms. Fridah Ngari

Media Relations Officer III

PART TWO

2. BACKGROUND OF THE PETITION

2.1 Introduction

- 4) Article 119 of the Constitution accords any person the right to petition Parliament to consider any matter within its authority. Further, Standing Order 225(2)(b) requires the Speaker to report to the House any Petition other than those presented by a member.
- 5) In this regard, the speaker received a Petition from Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow calling for the establishment of a National Police firearms digital detection and tracking system.
- 6) While the Petitioner acknowledges the provisions of Article 243 and 244 regarding establishment and functions of the National Police Service in the Constitution of Kenya, the Petitioner is concerned that several security incidents, including attack on a police posts and stations in some parts of the country where officers were reportedly ambushed and firearms forcefully taken has exposed vulnerabilities in current firearm storage, monitoring and rapid response systems.
- 7) The Petitioner contends that the theft or unauthorized removal of police firearms places police officers at heightened operational risk, endangers civilians and undermines public confidence in national security institutions.
- 8) The Petitioner observes that firearm issuance and armory management systems in many police stations remain largely manual and lack immediate electronic detection mechanisms capable of flagging unauthorized removal or tampering in real time.
- 9) Further, the Petitioner notes that there is presently no mandatory nationwide encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures upon irregular firearm movement, thereby delaying rapid response and recovery efforts.

2.2 Petitioners' Prayers

- 10) The Petitioners prayed that the National Assembly intervenes to amend the National Police Service Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service, including biometric-controlled smart armories, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures.

PART THREE

3. STAKEHOLDERS' SUBMISSIONS ON THE PETITION

3.1 The Petitioners

The Petitioners Mr. Kelly Emmanuel and Mr. Evans Juma appeared before the Committee on Tuesday, 30th June, 2026 and submitted as follows;

- 11) Articles 243 and 244 of the Constitution of Kenya defines the establishment and functions of the National Police Service. However, there exists concerns that several security incidents, including attacks on police posts and stations in various parts of the country, where officers were reportedly ambushed and firearms forcefully taken, have exposed vulnerabilities in the current firearm storage, monitoring and rapid response systems.
- 12) Theft or unauthorized removal of police firearms, places police officers at heightened operational risk, endangers civilians and undermines public confidence in national security institutions.
- 13) Firearm issuance and armoury management systems in many police stations remain largely manual and lack immediate electronic detection mechanisms capable of flagging unauthorized removal or tampering in real time.
- 14) Currently, no mandatory nationwide encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures of irregular firearm movement, thereby delaying rapid response and recovery efforts.
- 15) Secure biometric system can be introduced and noted that several jurisdictions have modernized their weapon storage and handling systems. These jurisdictions include the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Canada. The existence of such systems in these countries demonstrates that it is feasible to implement sensor-based or biometric security systems for firearms

3.2 National Police Service

The Inspector General of Police, Mr. Douglas Kanja Kirocho, MGH, CBS, OGW, vide a letter GPC/PPC/2026/114 dated 15th July, 2026, submitted as follows —

- 16) The National Police Service takes note of the concerns raised by the Petitioner regarding the vulnerability of firearms in police custody, arising from incidents in which police posts and stations have been attacked and officers ambushed and robbed of their firearms. The Service appreciates that the proposal to establish a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System is a timely and welcome intervention that has the potential to significantly strengthen firearm accountability, enhance investigative and intelligence capability and improve national security.
- 17) Currently, control, storage and accountability of firearms and ammunition within the National Police Service is anchored on the National Police Service Act, Sixth Schedule

(Section 61(2)) B 8(c) and Chapter 14 of the Service Standing Orders and is maintained through an established manual framework of registers, ledgers and physical security measures. While this manual framework has provided a functional and auditable chain of custody that is properly maintained and supervised, the Service acknowledges that it has inherent limitations in real- time monitoring, particularly in a rapidly evolving security environment.

- 18) Between January 2024 and June 2026, a total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were lost across the country, mainly through attacks on police installations and ambushes on officers. Of these, 30 firearms have since been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition unaccounted for and posing a continuing risk to public safety and law enforcement. These incidents underscore the urgency of enhancing the current accountability framework.
- 19) The Service has already undertaken preliminary steps towards digitization, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates the Firecycle platform, a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), which can be expanded to support Service- wide tracking.
- 20) Having reviewed the current framework against the proposed digital system, and having weighed the attendant benefits against the implementation challenges, the National Police Service fully supports, in principle, the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System, subject to adequate funding, a sound legal and policy framework, robust cyber security safeguards and comprehensive user training, as elaborated in the sections that follow.
- 21) The National Police Service maintains accountability for firearms and ammunition through the following measures:

Storage of Firearms

- i) All firearms not in the physical possession of an officer are kept in a police armoury or safe box. Armouries are built to specific standards and are equipped with rifle racks and strong boxes secured with locks or padlocks.
- ii) At stations, posts and patrol bases without permanent armouries, firearms are chained in rifle racks and firmly secured by padlock to a concrete base, in a room under twenty- four- hour guard.
- iii) Pistols are secured in an immovable locked steel armoury box while in the armoury.
- iv) Each armoury lock or padlock has two keys, one retained by the Officer Commanding Station and the other by the Officer in Charge of the Armoury.

Monitoring

- i) Movement of firearms within the Service is currently monitored manually through the following authorized documents, registers and ledgers:

- ii) Issue and Receipt Vouchers (S.12) - used to issue and receive firearms to and from Units and Sub- Counties at the Service Central Arms Stores, Nairobi.
- iii) Ledgers maintained at Police Headquarters, recording all arms issued to each Unit or Sub- County, with date place, and voucher number.
- iv) Firearm Registers (GP 87) - maintained at all Unit and Sub- County Police Headquarters for accountability of firearms holdings. Arms Movement Book - kept in the armoury for issuing firearms to officers proceeding on duty, recording the firearm description, the officer's particulars and signature.
- v) Daily Arms Check Form (P139) - completed daily by Station Commanders following inspection of firearms in the armoury and affixed in the occurrence book.
- vi) Disposition Board - placed in every armoury and updated daily by the Officer in Charge of the Armoury, showing all firearms held by that command.
- vii) Stores Ledger and Stock Control Cards (S3 Cards) - used alongside the above to provide an auditable custody trail.

Rapid Response System

- 22) In the event of a stolen or lost firearm, the Service currently relies on a manual process involving incident reporting, mobilization of search teams and circulation of firearm particulars within the Service and to other law enforcement agencies.
- 23) The table below summarizes firearms lost and recovered nationally over the period under review, arising largely from attacks on police posts and stations, ambushes on officers and related incidents;

S/no.	Region	Firearms lost	Firearms recovered	Suspects Arrested	PBC	PUI	PAKA	Finalized
5	Eastern	17	8	23	9	4	-	1
6	Coast	3 (9 rounds)	3	5	3	-	-	-
7	North eastern	1	0	0	0		-	-
8	Western	3	1	5	2	-	-	1
9	ATPU	1	1	1	1	-	-	-
	TOTAL	42	30	56	24	17	-	4

- 24) A total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were compromised during the period, triggering arrest of 56 suspects. Of the 42 firearms lost, 30 have been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition still unaccounted for. The 56 arrests made have progressed into legal and administrative action across the affected regions. Rift Valley, Central and Eastern regions account for the highest incidence of loss, largely attributable to attacks on police posts and ambushes on officers in those areas.
- 25) As part of an ongoing modernization programme, the National Police Service has already begun transferring manual firearm records held in ledgers into digital (electronic

spreadsheet) form. This exercise has captured firearms held at the Service Central Arms Stores and those issued to Units and Sub- Counties, as maintained in the Arms Registry.

- 26) The Service further engaged ICT officers from the National Intelligence Service to develop a digital firearms system intended to replicate electronically, the movement of a firearm from the Service Central Arms Stores to an individual officer in the field. This process stalled in 2021 due to budgetary constraints, at a stage when a pilot was to be undertaken in several police divisions within Nairobi Region. The National Police Service welcomes the opportunity presented by this Petition to revive and scale up this initiative.

Fire cycle Platform

- 27) Fire cycle is a digital lifecycle firearm and ammunition management platform and a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), recently upgraded and currently operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit, where it is presently limited to tracking exhibit firearms and ammunition submitted for forensic examination. The platform is programmed for twenty- five (25) users, with provision for additional users, and can be expanded to accommodate the tracking of all state firearms as well as firearms owned by private licensed firearm holders.

Other Proposed Technologies

- 28) In addition to Firecycle, the following complementary technologies have been identified to strengthen immediate detection and tracking of irregular movement of firearms and ammunition from armouries:
- i) Biometric authentication and digital registries, replacing manual ledgers with computerized armoury management integrated with fingerprint or facial recognition at issuance points.
 - ii) Electronic gun racks that automatically record every withdrawal and return, including the officer, date and time.
 - iii) Intrusion detection and alarm systems, including motion, door- contact and tamper sensors.
 - iv) GPS/Bluetooth tracking devices fitted to firearms where operationally practical.
 - v) An integrated digital armoury management system that records issuance, return, maintenance and stock levels, and automatically flags discrepancies.
 - vi) IoT firearm- tagging sensors on armoury doors, racks and storage containers, with tamper-evident digital seals.
 - vii) An SMS/email alert system notifying commanders and armourers whenever firearms or ammunition are removed outside approved procedure.
 - viii) Audit trail and data analytics capability to detect unusual access patterns or inventory anomalies.
 - ix) 24- hour CCTV surveillance with remote monitoring and motion detection within all armouries where practicable.
 - x) Automated perimeter and breach alarm systems linked to county command centres.

- 29) An indicative costing for expanding the Firecycle platform to National Police Service- wide coverage (approximately 10,000 users across 405 sub- counties) is set out below. This costing targets the National Police Service only; extension to other law enforcement agencies would attract additional costs;

Item	Amount (Ksh)	Justification
Firecycle system expansion (adding approx. 10,000 new users to cover NPS-wide rollout)	165,100,000/-	Extends the existing Fire cycle platform (already operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit under IB service- wide, covering armors and OCS in all 4 sub- counties.
Test firing / forensic ballistic data capture of all NPS firearms	86,467,500	Enables forensic capture of all Service firearms f ease of identification in the event of loss, theft or misuse.
Off-road motor vehicles (2 units)	16,000,000	Supports two mobile teams to conduct the exercise across rough terrain over a five-year
Fuelling of the two motor vehicles	8,100,000/-	Based on Kshs 20,000 per sub-county across counties.
Recovery box	800,000/-	Specialised fitting for the off-road vehicles to facilitate field test- firing.
Sub-Total	276,467,500	
Miscellaneous (3% of total)	8,294,025/-	To cater for unforeseen costs.
GRAND TOTAL	Kshs. 284,761,525/-	

- 30) Additional undefined costs that would need to be established with the system vendor include training costs for new users and costs of supplementary features such as ammunition chemical tagging and firearm GPS tracking (iDetect).

- 31) For the wider suite of complementary technologies at (E)(ii) above, a phased and scalable budget is recommended, covering: initial hardware procurement and site retrofitting; infrastructure development (secure servers, cloud storage, software licensing, network connectivity, backup and disaster recovery); training and capacity building; ongoing maintenance and operational costs; a pilot phase in high- risk counties and stations ahead of nationwide rollout; and long- term integration with national security systems.
- 32) It is further recommended that an annual maintenance budget of 10- 15% of total system cost be allocated for servicing, upgrades and replacement, alongside a contingency fund for damaged or stolen equipment and that supplementary funding be sought through the national security modernization budget and development partners.
- 33) It would enhance the ability of investigators to trace firearms used in crime through a centralized database of firearm issuance, assignment, transfers, maintenance and return, allowing rapid establishment of the history and movement of any government firearm recovered at a crime scene. It would strengthen accountability within the Service through a permanent electronic audit trail for every firearm across its operational life, deterring unauthorized use, illegal lending, diversion, loss or misuse. Integrated with existing ballistic identification technology, it would allow investigators to associate recovered bullets and cartridges with firearms used in earlier incidents.
- 34) It would support intelligence- led policing by enabling identification of trends in firearm deployment, loss, unauthorized movement and recurring operational patterns. It would provide real- time tracking, giving commanders instant visibility of a firearm's current location, the officer responsible, and the date and time of its last movement, and would automatically flag firearms not returned within the required period or transferred without authorization, eliminating reliance on periodic manual audits.
- 35) The National Police Service notes that the proposed system, while beneficial, presents the following challenges that require deliberate mitigation:
 - i) High implementation and recurring costs, including servers, computers, scanners, RFID/barcode equipment, software, secure communication infrastructure, maintenance and technical support.
 - ii) Dependence on reliable network connectivity; in remote operational areas with poor or no coverage, transactions may not upload in real time, reducing the effectiveness of real- time monitoring.
 - iii) Dependence on a stable power supply, with outages capable of interrupting access to firearm records.
 - iv) Cybersecurity risks, given that a centralized database of government firearms, deployments, armoury records and officer identities would constitute critical national security infrastructure vulnerable to hacking, malware, unauthorized access or data breaches if inadequately protected.
 - v) Gaps in the existing legal and policy framework, which may not comprehensively address digital firearm tracking, electronic chain of custody, data protection, access control or the evidential status of electronically generated records.

- vi) The need for extensive capacity building for armourers, investigators, station commanders and ICT personnel; inadequate training risks inaccurate data entry, poor system utilization and inconsistent accountability records.
- vii) System downtime and potential data loss arising from technical failure, software bugs, or server outages, in the absence of proper backup and disaster recovery mechanisms.

Recommendations

- 36) The National Police Service supports the establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System, to be implemented as an enhancement to, and not an immediate replacement of, the existing manual accountability framework (GP 87 registers, S3 cards, Issue and Receipt Vouchers, Arms Movement Books and Daily Arms Check Forms), which should be retained and run in parallel during any transition.
- 37) Implementation should be phased, beginning with expansion of the existing Firecycle platform and a pilot in high- risk counties and stations, before nationwide rollout.
- 38) Adequate and dedicated funding should be allocated, including the indicative budget set out in Section F, together with an annual maintenance allocation and a contingency fund for equipment loss or damage, supplemented where possible through the national security modernization budget and development partners.
- 39) A review of the legal and policy framework should be undertaken to address electronic chain of custody, data protection, access controls and the evidential admissibility of digitally generated firearm records.
- 40) Robust cybersecurity safeguards should be built into the system from the design stage, given the sensitivity of the data involved.
- 41) Comprehensive training should be provided to armourers, station commanders, investigators and ICT personnel ahead of and during rollout.
- 42) Should expansion to other law enforcement agencies be considered, this should be planned for separately, with corresponding budgetary provision.
- 43) The National Police Service is of the considered view that the proposed National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System presents substantial benefits for firearm accountability, criminal investigations, intelligence gathering, forensic analysis and public confidence in policing.
- 44) It would significantly improve the tracing of government firearms, strengthen evidential integrity and support intelligence- led policing in addressing serious and organized crime, in line with practice in police services in other jurisdictions.
- 45) Its successful implementation will, however, depend on adequate funding, a sound legal framework, strong cybersecurity safeguards, effective integration with existing systems and comprehensive user training.
- 46) Subject to the adoption of these safeguards, the National Police Service fully supports the establishment of the proposed system as a strategic initiative that will strengthen firearm accountability and contribute to the enhancement of national security within the country.

3.3 Office of the Attorney General

The Solicitor General, office of the Attorney General, Hon. Shadrack J. Mose, CBS, vide a letter DAA&GPC/PPC/2026/098 dated 13th August, 2026 submitted as follows;

- 47) The National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) makes it an offence to lose fire arm by neglect. In particular, Section 88 as read together with eighth Schedule to said Act provides for disciplinary offences against the police. Paragraph (q) of the schedule provides that it is a disciplinary offence to “sell, pawn, lose by neglect, make away with or willfully or negligently damage, or fail to report any loss or damage to, any arm, ammunition, accoutrement, uniform or other article of personal issue or any vehicle or other property committed to his charge belonging to the Government or for which the Government is responsible.”
- 48) Further, Section 92(2) of the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) also provides that, *“any officer who pawns, sells, loses by neglect, makes away with or willfully or negligently damages any firearms, ammunition, accoutrement or uniform commits an offence and is, on conviction, liable to imprisonment for term not exceeding five years, or a fine not exceeding five hundred thousand, or to both.”*
- 49) Whereas the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) provides for offences in relation to lose of firearms, it does not foresee tracking and tracing of lost firearms or ammunitions through digital means.
- 50) The Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides for identification of firearms through serial numbers. The said Act does not foresee identification of firearms through digital means.
- 51) Further, Section 18 of The Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides for Storage and safe custody of firearms and ammunition. Subsection 2 thereof provides that, *“person having in his possession any firearm or ammunition shall keep it at all times securely and in safe custody and in a safe condition, and shall take all reasonable precautions to ensure that the firearm or ammunition is not lost or stolen and is not at any time available to any person not lawfully entitled to possess it.”*
- 52) Failure to store and secure fire arms is a punishable offence. In this regard, section 18(5) of the Firearms Act Cap. 114 provides that, *“Any person who fails to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall be guilty of an offence and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year or to a fine not exceeding ten thousand shillings or to both.”*
- 53) While the architecture of the National Police Service Act (Cap. 84) and the Firearms Act Cap. 114 mandate safe storage of firearms and ammunition, the said laws do not foresee digital identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition.
- 54) The Office considered the National Police Service Standing Orders. Whereas the Standing Orders have provisions for digital evidence, they do not provide for digital identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition.
- 55) The Attorney General recommends that;
 - i) The existing laws do not foresee digital management of weapons. Therefore, there must be a policy on this issue before the law is enacted or amended.

- ii) Security is a sensitive issue. Therefore, relevant stakeholders including security agencies should be involved before any decision on this matter is taken.
- iii) The impact of digitization in relation to identification tracking, tracing, and monitoring of the firearms and ammunition should be given serious consideration.
- iv) The petition raises fundamental issues which should not be ignored considering that absence of modern tracking and tracing of missing weapons increases the likelihood of weapons being used in violent criminal activities against both civilians and officers leading to loss of lives and property.
- v) The petitioner has alluded to establishing encrypted automated alert system that instantly notifies command structures upon irregular firearm movement. While such suggestion is noble, there is cost implication to it. Therefore, the issue of costs should be evaluated.
- vi) The Office is of the view that the merits of the petition should be considered objectively.

PART FOUR

4. COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Upon hearing from the Petitioners, Office of the Attorney General and the National Police Service, the Committee observed that—

- 56) The control, storage and accountability of firearms and ammunition within the National Police Service is anchored on the National Police Service Act, Sixth Schedule (Section 61(2)) B 8(c) and Chapter 14 of the Service Standing Orders and is maintained through an established manual framework of registers, ledgers and physical security measures. While this manual framework has provided a functional and auditable chain of custody that is properly maintained and supervised, it has inherent limitations in real- time monitoring, particularly in a rapidly evolving security environment.
- 57) Between January 2024 and June 2026, a total of 42 state firearms and 107 rounds of ammunition were lost across the country, mainly through attacks on police installations and ambushes on officers. Of these, 30 firearms have since been recovered, leaving 12 firearms and 75 rounds of ammunition unaccounted for and posing a continuing risk to public safety and law enforcement.
- 58) The Service has already undertaken preliminary steps towards digitization, including migrating manual firearm records to electronic format and piloting a digital firearms system through the National Intelligence Service. In addition, the Directorate of Criminal Investigations already operates a 'Firecycle platform'.
- 59) Firecycle is a digital lifecycle firearm and ammunition management platform and a component of the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS), recently upgraded and currently operational at the Forensic Ballistic Unit, where it is presently limited to tracking exhibit firearms and ammunition submitted for forensic examination. The platform is programmed for twenty- five (25) users, with provision for additional users, and can be expanded to accommodate the tracking of all state firearms as well as firearms owned by private licensed firearm holders.
- 60) The Service further engaged ICT officers from the National Intelligence Service to develop a digital firearms system intended to replicate electronically, the movement of a firearm from the Service Central Arms Stores to an individual officer in the field. This process stalled in 2021 due to budgetary constraints, at a stage when a pilot was to be undertaken in several police divisions within Nairobi Region.

PART FIVE

5. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 61) Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 227, the Committee responds to the Petition as follows—

On the prayer that the National Assembly intervenes by amending the National Police Service Act and related legislation to establish a secure national digital firearms detection and tracking system within the National Police Service, including biometric-controlled smart armouries, encrypted real-time tracking and alert mechanisms, safeguards for operational confidentiality, dedicated budgetary support and statutory protections to ensure that officers are not unfairly held liable for systemic technological failures; **the Committee recommends that within three (3) months upon adoption of this report, the Inspector General of Police should avail an implementation framework for full digitization of firearms records, including amendments to relevant laws, and the resultant budgetary requirement to the National Assembly within ninety (90) days of tabling of this report for consideration in the Budget Policy Statement 2027/28.**

Signed:  Date: 30/09/2026

HON. MUCHANGI KAREMBA, M.P.
CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

	
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PAPERS LAID	
DATE: 30 SEP 2026	DAY: Wednesday
TABLED BY:	Hon. Janet Sithole M.P. (vice-chairperson)
CLERK-AT-THE-TABLE:	Lemane

ANNEXURES

- Annex 1: Report Adoption List
- Annex 2: Public Petition No. 13 of 2026 regarding the establishment of a national police firearms digital detection and tracking system
- Annex 3: Minutes of proceedings

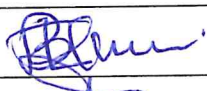
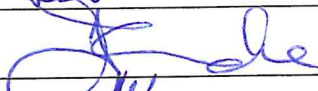
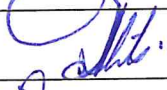
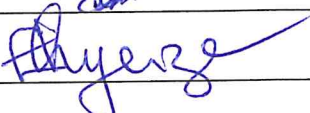
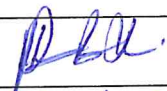
PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE

ADOPTION LIST

(i) Consideration and adoption of the P/No. 13 of 2026 regarding Establishment of a National Police Firearms Digital Detection and Tracking System by Mr. Emmanuel Kelly Ojow.

We, the undersigned, hereby affix our signatures to this Report to affirm our approval:

DATE: 4/9/2026.

	HON. MEMBER	SIGNATURE
1.	Hon. Muchangi Karemba, CBS, M.P. (Chairperson)	
2.	Hon. Janet Jepkemboi Sitienci, CBS, M.P. (Vice Chairperson)	
3.	Hon. Patrick Makau King'ola, M.P.	
4.	Hon. Beatrice Kadeveresia Elachi, CBS, M.P.	
5.	Hon. Joshua Chepyegon Kandie, M.P.	
6.	Hon. Maisori Marwa Kitayama, M.P.	
7.	Hon. Edith Vethi Nyenze, M.P.	
8.	Hon. Patrick Ntwiga Munene, CBS, M.P.	
9.	Hon. Paul Biego Kibichy, M.P.	
10.	Hon. (Eng.) Bernard Muriuki Nebart, M.P.	
11.	Hon. Peter Mbogho Shake, M.P.	
12.	Hon. Suzanne Ndunge Kiamba, M.P.	
13.	Hon. John Bwire Okano, M.P.	
14.	Hon. Sloya Clement Logova, M.P.	
15.	Hon. Peter Irungu Kihungi, M.P.	

