

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 18th September, 2018

The House met at 10.21 a.m.

[The Speaker (Hon. (Mrs.) Mwangangi) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR
WELCOME FROM RECESS

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I have a brief communication from the Chair as our first day of the sitting after the recess; I welcome you all back Hon. Members from recess which you took from 14th August, 2018. It is my belief that you have rested enough, that you have interacted also with you electorate and that you are ready to embark on your mandate with vibrancy.

I just want to remind you that your mandate is legislating to the people, representing them and doing oversight the executive and I want to ask you not to back-track on any of those mandates. You passed a budget before you went on recess, you must ensure that it is implemented to the letter so that the people who you represent can get real and meaningful development.

Do not be detracted by any utterances coming from whichever direction because you must discharge your mandate and I also assure you that as the Speaker, I will not be detracted from any comment from whichever direction. The only comments that I will listen to are those which are urging the Assembly to make sure that it does its oversight role effectively so that the Mwananchi that we all represent gets the services that they deserve.

Hon. Members during the recess, you had various activities including the CASA games and I want to congratulate you; I saw a lot of talent in many of them Hon. Nziva you played netball very well and that is a good accolade. Hon. Mrefu and the other members here they really participated well and even the Speaker was a leader of the cheering squad

(Laughter)

It went very well and I think we exhibited talents that we did not know that we possess and as we agreed during the games even as we the congratulate the teams and encourage

the spirit of competition and cooperation, we agreed we are going to start practicing actually today so that we are able to excel in future in any of those games; that dream still remains, Hon. Members.

COMMITTAL OF THE MACHAKOS COUNTY FINANCE BILL, 2018

Hon. Members, there is also the issue of The Machakos County Finance Bill, 2018; under Section 132(1) and (2) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 provides that the County Executive Member for Finance is supposed, with the approval of the County Executive Committee, make a pronouncement of the revenue raising measures for the County Government each Financial year on the same and submit the same to the County Assembly for approval and this is supposed to set the revenue raising measures for the County Government and also together with a policy statement expounding on the measures.

Hon. Members, pursuant to this provision, the Executive Committee Member for Finance made pronouncements of revenue raising measures, if you remember on 3rd July, 2018 and however there was delay in the submission of the Finance Bill. On 3rd September, 2018 Hon. Members, when we were still on recess then now that Bill was submitted to the Assembly for your approval and that bill now stands committed to the Finance and Revenue Collection Committee for facilitation of its publication and remember public participation and the other interactions that must be done.

Hon. Members, there is much more communication which I will be making in due course so for the time being I urge you to take note of what I have already stated. Thank you, Hon. Members. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

NOTICES OF MOTION

SETTING UP OF INFRASTRUCTURE TO ACHIEVE GLOBAL RECOMMENDATIONS ON BREASTFEEDING AT THE WORKPLACE

Hon. Speaker: Hon Members, under this Order, we have two businesses by Hon. Pauline Munguti.

Hon. (Ms.) Munguti: Thank you, Madam Speaker, good morning Hon. Members.

Hon. Speaker; that aware that Article 53(1)(c) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 stipulates that every child has the right to basic nutrition, shelter and health care; Further aware that breastfeeding is the cornerstone of child survival, nutrition, development and maternal health;

Aware that, the World health Organization (WHO), recommends exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of life;

Further aware that exclusive breastfeeding reduces infant mortality due to common childhood illnesses and helps for a quicker recovery during illness;

Hon. Speaker, cognizant of the fact that the Employment Act, 2007 provides that a female employee shall be entitled to three month maternity leave with full pay;

Aware that, none of the departments of the County Government has put in place infrastructure to ensure, that its female employees attain the recommendation of WHO on exclusive breastfeeding;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that this House discusses and approves that all the departments of Machakos County Government put in place

infrastructure to give female employees an opportunity to achieve the recommendation of WHO on breastfeeding.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Pauline, please proceed.

NEW BUS PARK TO DE-CONGEST MACHAKOS CBD

Hon. (Ms.) Munguti:

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Article 174(c) of the constitution of Kenya, 2010 stipulates that one of the objects of devolution is to give powers of self-governance to the people and enhance the participation of the people in the exercise of powers and of the state and in making decisions affecting them;

Further the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution bestows the County Governments with matters of county planning;

Further aware that with the growth of the County, Machakos town has of late experienced congestion which has been evident by the traffic jams around the Bus Park;

Further aware that the Bus Park space is limited and with the increased influx of vehicles, there is need to come up with a long term plan to de-congest the town;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that this House discusses and approves that County Government of Machakos puts into considerations measures of de-congesting the town by planning for a new bus park outside the town's Central Business District (CBD).

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Pauline.

STATEMENT

BUSINESS FOR THE HOUSE FOR 18TH TO 19TH SEPTEMBER, 2018

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business by the Hon. Majority Leader, Hon. Mark Muendo.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand under Standing Order 41(2)(a) where during the Statement Hour, a Member of the House Business Committee designated by the Committee for that purpose, shall for not more than ten minutes, present and lay on the Table, a Statement informing the House of the business coming before the House.

Hon. Speaker, the House Business Committee met on 17th September, 2018 and balloted business for this week pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order 151 as follows:

Tuesday, 18th September, 2018

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

Report of Health and Emergency Services Committee on Status of Selected Health Facilities within Machakos County by Hon. Grace Mutwiwa, Chairperson.

Afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

Motion by Hon. Pauline Munguti that all departments of the County Government of Machakos put in place recommendation of WHO on breastfeeding.

Wednesday, 19th September, 2018

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

Motion by Hon. Betty Nzioki that the County Government of Machakos

- (i) Establishes a specific site for dumping garbage which is functional and compliant in waste management in Masii town and any other town within Machakos County falling under the same predicament;
- (ii) Constructs sufficient public toilets in all the towns within the County.

Afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

Motion by Hon. Pauline Munguti that the County Government of Machakos puts into consideration measures of decongesting Machakos town by planning for a new bus park outside the town's Central Business District (CBD).

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mark Muendo.

MOTION

REPORT ON SELECTED HEALTH FACILITIES

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order we have one business by the Hon. Grace Mutwiwa, chairperson of Committee on Health and Emergency Services. Hon. Grace Mutwiwa.

Hon. (Ms.) Munguti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand in for Mheshimiwa Grace Mutwiwa.

Hon. Speaker: Please for record purposes say your name.

Hon. (Ms.) Munguti:

Madam Speaker, that aware that Article 43(1)(a) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 states that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care;

Aware that under Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, county health facilities, pharmacies and promotion of primary health care is a function of County Government;

Further aware that the mission for the Department of Health and Emergency Services in Machakos County is to provide the highest attainable standards of quality health care which is efficient and effective to all, while promoting provision of an integrated quality curative and rehabilitative services;

Aware that the Health and Emergency Committee is established as per the Standing Order 190;

Aware that the Second Schedule of the County Assembly Standing Order underlines the functions of the Committee to include all matters related to County Health Services including in particular County health facilities and

pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary health care, licensing and control of undertakings that sell food to the public, cemeteries, funeral parlors and crematoria and refuse dumps and solid waste disposal; firefighting services and disaster management;

Madam Speaker, I wish to move the motion that this Hon. House discuss and approves the report of the Health and Emergency Services Committee on the status of selected health facilities in Machakos County.

I wish to call Hon. Peter Mutiso to second the motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Peter Mutiso. Thank you, Hon. Pauline.

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I second the motion.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Pauline Munguti.

Hon. (Ms.) Munguti: Madam Speaker, we have the report on the status of selected health facilities in Machakos. Madam Speaker, the Constitution of Kenya 2010, Fourth Schedule part 2(c) conferred County Government with the powers and functions of County health services including promotion of primary health care.

Article 43(1)(a) states that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care.

In addition, the Constitution of Kenya under Article 185(3) further states that a County Assembly while respecting the principle of the separation of powers may exercise oversight over the County executive committee and any other county executive organs.

Pursuant to its mandate therefore, the Committee set its agenda ensuring its oversight role in the implementation of the Constitution especially with regards to the County health services is fully attained.

Mandate of the Committee

Madam Speaker, the Health and Emergency Committee is established as per Standing Order 190 under the second schedule that underlines the functions of the Committee to include all matters related to County Health Services including in particular county health facilities and pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary health care, licensing and control of undertakings that sell food to the public, cemeteries, funeral parlors and crematoria and refuse dumps and solid waste disposal; firefighting services and disaster management.

Committee Composition

The sectoral Committee on Health and Emergency service was constituted by the house pursuant to the provision of the Standing Order 190 comprising of the following Members:-

1. Hon. Grace Mutwiwa - Chairperson
2. Hon. Pauline Munguti - V/Chairperson
3. Hon. Peter Mutiso - Member
4. Hon. Anastasia Mutuku “
5. Hon. Daniel Kiilu “
6. Hon. Daniel Mbevi “
7. Hon. Ikusya Kaloki ”

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 8. Hon. Jacinta Luka | ” |
| 9. Hon. Jacqueline Munyao | ” |
| 10. Hon. Jeremiah Munguti | ” |
| 11. Hon. Johanna Munyao | ” |
| 12. Hon. Patrick Kituku | ” |
| 13. Hon. Paul Museku | ” |

Terms of Reference

Madam Speaker, the Committee was established with the following terms of reference:

- a) To find out the status of the health facilities in Machakos County.
- b) To table a report before the Honorable Assembly on its findings and recommendations.

Executive Summary

Madam Speaker, this report provides a short summary of the recent visit to some selected health facilities in Machakos County by the Committee. Article 43(2) states that a person shall not be denied emergency medical treatment. It was after considering the above Constitutional provisions and the existing Government policy on health that the Committee resolved that it was prudent to conduct a field visit to ascertain and analyze the services offered in health facilities within the County and establish whether they meet the various regulatory thresholds.

The tour was designed primarily as a sample for the members to understand and get first-hand information on the working conditions in Machakos Level V hospital and other primary health care facilities that is dispensaries and health centers, with an aim of making recommendations based on the observation.

The study activities, methodology and deliberations carried out while in the field were the same in all health facilities visited namely:

- Holding discussions with the officers responsible for health services.
- Taking a guided inspection tour to the departments within the health facilities and consulting the patients where applicable.

The Committee in total visited 10 public health facilities on various dates between the month of February and April, 2018 as listed below:

1. Machakos Level V Hospital.
2. Masinga Health Centre.
3. Mavivye Health Centre.
4. Kyaimu /Nzeveni health Centre.
5. Kalyambeu Health Centre.
6. Muthetheni Health Centre.
7. Kwa Musyoka Health Centre.
8. Mwala Health Centre.
9. Kamuthanga dispensary.
10. Mutituni health Centre.

Madam Speaker, upon scrutiny, the committee discovered that these health facilities face similar challenges which have adversely affected effective service delivery to the people of Machakos County. The Committee highlighted some of these challenges which include:

- a) Delay in getting back the facility improvement fund (FIF) after banking with the County treasury in Level V hospital.

- b) Poor remuneration of staff members and delayed payment of salaries due to delayed disbursement of funds to the health facilities.
- c) Unfavorable working conditions due to lack of essential supplies and equipment. This has been occasioned by non-funding of the hospital by County treasury.
- d) Since devolution, employees have lacked training, team building forums and awards which is very key in their continuous development when offering health services.
- e) Inadequate and late delivery of medical drugs due to lack of finances.
- f) Inadequate health personnel both skilled and support staff.
- g) Lack of equipped ambulances to respond to emergencies.
- h) Most of the health facilities lack adequate clean water supply which is very critical in running of a health facility.
- i) Lack of convenient staff quarters.
- j) Inefficient incinerators due to lack of proper maintenance.
- k) Lack of dental unit in some health centers.
- l) Lack of laboratory and where the laboratory exists like in Machakos Level V hospital, there is lack of essential reagents.
- m) The morgue at Level V hospital is congested and stretched past its capacity.

Summary of Findings

- A key finding of the Committee was that the procurement rules and regulations in health sector were, either deliberately or out of ignorance, flouted in all cases where challenges were confirmed. Our investigations revealed that there were instances when the medical supplies, more specifically drugs delivered to the hospital were different from the ones that were specified and ordered by the hospital management team.
- The Committee found out that the health facilities in Machakos County are understaffed and the few staff who are there cannot perform to their optimum level.
- The Committee further found out that there was serious limitation in physical infrastructure at the health facilities. There was overcrowding in most wards and several stalled buildings which were of questionable standards despite the fact that there were budgetary allocation in various health facilities.

General Observations and Recommendations

a.) Committee Observations at Level V hospital

- There was lack of essential drugs as a result of non- involvement of end users. It was noted that the available drugs in the store were irrelevant since what was delivered was different from what the end users had ordered.
- The hospital management team is totally not consulted during budget making process and when various issues affecting the hospital are being deliberated by the department of health. It was also revealed that the final copy of the approved health departmental budget is not shared with the hospital management team.
- There was acute delay in getting back the facility improvement fund (FIF) after banking them with the County treasury and the facility survives on what they get from the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) which is very little.
- Lack of staff promotion and recognition leading to massive exodus of highly qualified staff to other lucrative jobs.

- Delayed payment of casuals, contracted workers and security guards at the facility has led to frequent strikes thus affecting operations.
- b) Committee Recommendations to Level V Hospital**
 - The County Government of Machakos should streamline the process of procuring of hospital drugs, equipment and other general materials. The County department of health should develop a policy that will guide central procurement of drugs and medical supplies through a central procurement agency like KEMSA with an aim of guaranteeing quality and ensuring benefits from economies of scale. Additionally, the committee recommends for formulation of a policy to enable health centers procure basic equipment which may be of urgent need.
 - The hospital management team who are the end users must be involved in all activities pertaining budget making processes to make sure there is right budgetary allocation for the department.
 - The CEC department of Health and Emergency Services should implement the Machakos County Health Management fund regulations, 2015 to ensure that revenue collected in Level IV and V Hospitals is ploughed back to improve the service delivery in Machakos County. In addition, the CEC should forward a detailed report to the Committee on Health and Emergency Services on the implementation status within 60 days of adoption of the report.
 - As regards to the health workers, welfare on matters relating to terms of service and training, the Committee recommends that the sector formulates a coordinating body to address workers grievances across the County.
 - The casuals should be paid all their dues within a period of four weeks after adoption of this report.
 - The morgue at Level V hospital is congested and stretched past its capacity and should be extended to fit the body capacity.

OTHER PRIMARY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

a) Committee Observations

- The Committee discovered that some of the primary health care facilities were not registered. Kalyambeu dispensary in Muthetheni ward and Mavivye dispensary in Machakos Central ward are examples of the completed facilities which are not operational. The facilities are neither registered nor equipped despite their catchment area.
- The Committee observed the important role that has been played by the non-governmental partners like DANINDA, ICCAP and community health volunteers (CHVs)
- Acute shortage of staff was observed. Most of the facilities are operating on skeleton staff and in some cases, essential services are being provided by unqualified staff. A case study is Nzeveni/Kyaimu dispensary which has only one clinical officer and no permanent nurses. The patients depend on nurses from Muthetheni health Centre who operates on outreach basis.
- The pharmacy lacked essential drugs. The Committee received several complaints touching on shortage of drugs and other medical supplies in all visited public health

facilities a situation that has persisted for the last four months and that 70 per cent of drugs were out of stock.

- Shortage of laboratory machines like hematology analyzer, bio-chemistry analyzer and laboratory autoclave machine for sterilizing equipment was witnessed at Masinga and Mutituni health Centres.
- The Committee observed that there were stalled buildings of community hospitals at Masinga, Kamuthanga and Muthetheni health Centres.
- Lack of Constant water supply in most health facilities is a major challenge.
- Most of the visited health facilities lack power backup.
- Most of the health Centres lacked incinerators meant for disposing off the medical waste.

b) Committee Recommendations

- The completed facilities in Muthetheni and Mavivye should be operationalized and registered within 90 days after adoption of this report.
- The Committee recommends that the operations and coordination of non- governmental organizations (NGOs) be clearly defined to have distinction between their projects and those of the County Government.
- The Committee recommends that the County Executive reviews staffing levels in all health facilities with a view of optimizing the resources to ensure key personnel are availed in each facility.
- Funds made for the drug supplies were increased from Ksh. 85 Million to Ksh. 170 Million in 2018/2019 financial year and the committee recommends that the County Government of Machakos ensures that every health facility has enough drugs and other medical supplies.
- The laboratory machines required in Masinga and Mutituni health Centres should be provided immediately to the facilities.
- The CEC Health and Emergency Services should provide the committee with detailed information on how the monies allocated to the community hospitals were spent within 30 days after the adoption of the report to enable the committee to make their final decision.
- The County Government of Machakos should take measures to ensure that health facilities have power backup systems.
- The County Government of Machakos should ensure each sub county has one main incinerator for safe disposal of medical waste.
- The department of health should provide dental units in every sub-county hospital.
- The committee further promises to visit all other health facilities not covered in this report to ascertain their status.

Acknowledgment

Madam Speaker, the Committee is grateful to the office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk for support granted in executing its mandate.

The Committee is further grateful to the organization and leadership of the various health facilities toured for their contribution. It is the intention of the Committee to visit all other health facilities not covered so far.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to the Hon. Members of the Committee who sacrificed time from their families and constituents to participate in the activities of the Committee including the extended field visits to various parts of the County. Madam Speaker, it is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege to present to this Hon. Assembly the committee report on the status of selected health facilities in the County for discussion and approval. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Pauline Munguti. Hon. Members I know propose the question.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Musyimi.

Hon. Musyimi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am happy today to stand to support the report of the committee which has already been tabled in the House. Madam Speaker, I am aware the committee has visited several hospitals or health facilities other than those which were given like the Kangundo Level IV hospital but in the report, I think I have not seen the report of Kangundo Level IV hospital in the report. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Grace appears to have an answer to the concern by the Hon. Member. Hon. Grace.

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa: Good morning, Hon. Members. Mine is to react on what Hon. Musyimi has said. In the report, it was indicated that we will be visiting those other health facilities which have not been visited. So, calm down, Mheshimiwa.

Hon. Speaker: I hear a promise by the Hon. Grace who is the chair of that committee that Hon. Musyimi that the committee is on its way to that health facility. It is good also to raise the concern where you find it is missing.

Hon. Speaker: Point of information Hon. Majority Leader.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think on the same case the committee of implementation also visited the Kangundo hospital and with the Hon. Member and there is a report which is coming out also. He was present that day when we visited. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: So something is being done about Kangundo health facility. Thank you, Hon. Cosmus Masesi.

Hon. Masesi: Yes. Thank you, Madam Speaker. Representing the great people of Matungulu West Ward and also the newly wedded, Madam Speaker, within the Assembly.

Hon. Speaker: You say the new what?

Hon. Masesi: The newly-wedded.

Hon. Speaker: The newly-wedded; congratulations.

(Laughter)

Hon. Masesi: Madam Speaker, I stand to appreciate the report by the health and the emergency services committee which is a thoroughly-researched report, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, healthy people will also lead to a healthy nation whereby a lot will be achieved in terms of development. The challenges highlighted by the committee are very much common. However, I believe the budget we gave to the executive will cater if not all the most of the challenges highlighted by the committee.

Madam Speaker, I want on the side of the committee observation, there is page number eight, the last bullet states there is delayed payment of casuals, contracted workers, security guards at the facility has led to frequent strikes thus affecting the operations. Madam Speaker, although we have been given some hope that our facilities will be visited soon, in my area at Matungulu DEB, I have a casual who is a security guard who has not been paid for the last 18 months. He has been working since May last year and he has never been given a penny as a reward in terms of wages.

Madam Speaker, I wish to urge the committee to move fast and investigate the matter and know why that casual has not been paid for the long duration of time. Madam Speaker, what we have now as an Assembly is to make sure that the report of this committee is fully implemented and we push for the implementation at all cost. Madam Speaker, I wish to rest my case. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cosmus Masesi. Hon. Ndawa.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want first of all to congratulate the Chair and the committee for this elaborate report which has been tabled to this Hon. House and after congratulating them I want to say that I support the report.

On the other issue, Madam Speaker, I want to say some of the issues raised in the report might be solved by the introduction of this universal health care. Madam Speaker, last week on Monday, the elected members of Machakos County Assembly and other elected leaders were called by the Governor in his office---

Hon. Speaker: Point of order.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, Madam Speaker---

Hon. Speaker: Wait, Hon. Majority Leader; I just want to clear the way for you so, can you go ahead now.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let the member of Matuu whom I respect not to mislead this House. Universal health care is not facility; universal health care is where the

finance is distributed by the National or County Government whereby they will cater for the treatment and medicine for the people of the counties. It is not the facilities; we are talking about the facilities here, Madam Speaker, which are in bad state. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ndawa.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also request you to give me protection because what I want to say is not contradicting the report or is not opposing the report. I do not know why the Hon. Member is not happy when I am introducing the agenda which was tabled to us by the Hon. Governor. Madam Speaker---

Hon. Speaker: I think Hon. Ndawa, if we can just listen to each other. If I understood where the Majority Leader is coming from is that the UHC which is actually a Godsend to the people of Machakos from the National Government with the assistance of the World Bank, if I got him right he is saying that it is going to cater for the services.

As to the infrastructure, the state of the health centers which are existing, he is saying it is a different story. But let us listen to each other because we may also find in the UHC some of these issues will be addressed; we cannot close our eyes to that part. Can you proceed and you are not being attacked by any person.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, very much Madam because you have even given some of the issues that I would wish to raise. Some of the recommendations, there is a recommendation which says 'the health regulations to be implemented to the letter and the health regulations says that all the monies collected in a certain facility should be ploughed back to that facility.' Madam Speaker, in this plan of the Universal Health Care the treatment will be free so we do not expect much---

Hon. Speaker: Point of information from Hon. Steven Mwathi.

Hon. Mwanthi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think it is also good Madam Speaker, for us to understand what the universal care is. Universal care will only be...it is a card that will be given to our residents so that when they go to our facilities maybe whatever they spend will be paid by NHIF. That is what we are calling the Universal Health Care. So it is the mandate of County Government to make sure our facilities are well equipped and in that aspect that is what we are discussing.

The County Government should now move fast and make sure our facilities are equipped so that our electorates can be treated from the same facilities. So, it is also good that we understand what the universal health care is and I understand the Hon. Member managed to go to the Governor's office and I do not know why he does not understand the whole issue. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ndawa you have been informed accordingly.

Hon. Ndawa: Yes, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Proceed, please.

Hon. Ndawa: I understand why this Hon. Member is raising that question. Suppose he attended the meeting, the question he is asking he cannot ask that question. The meeting was very vital and you failed to attend---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ndawa, what we have at hand is a report; please stick to the issues on the table.

Hon. Ndawa: Yes, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Do not go to irrelevancies. Proceed but stick to the report on the Table.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I was saying some of the recommendations in this report will be addressed by introduction of that universal health care. Madam Speaker, everybody is aware that Machakos is one of the counties which have been selected to benefit from that Universal Health Care and I am very sure we met with the officers from the health ministry and they have very good plans. The issue raised here about drugs, about facilities, about equipment lacking in certain facilities are well taken care of in that plan.

So, Madam Speaker, I am very sure there is another recommendation about some hospitals which are not registered. We were given a list of 40 facilities which are going to be registered; so I am saying the report is good and it is going as per what is being done by the ministry of health. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ndawa, and I think Hon. Members you will appreciate that it is very important that the Assembly is made to understand and I mean the whole Assembly, elected and specially elected members on the application of the UHC because it is you who are the mouthpiece of the people on the ground; you need to take it to the people on the ground and they need to understand what is it that they are going to do so that then we do not start climbing a tree from top down on the matter of the UHC. Are we in agreement?

It is for you to demand that your people that you represent should participate in deciding on how this matter is going to be operationalized and it is their right and it is the right of every member who sits here. I say elected or specially-elected. Thank you. Hon. Kieti

Hon. Kieti: Thank you, Hon. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. I am disturbed by the promises on the Universal Health Care when we all know that any negligence of treatment within a certain period may lead to so many deaths because this Universal Health Care will not be implemented today or tomorrow. It is a process that is likely to take two or three months. Now do we say that within that period of two to three months or five months when the Universal Health Care comes into force, our people will continue suffering as they wait for the promises?

I stand to support the report by the health committee on the recommendations that they have made and the observations that they captured on various health centers which is a replica of what we have on the ground on all the health centers that we have. So, I stand to request the Hon. Members who are giving us the promises to hold their horses and allow the recommendations

that have been given by this committee and also give other recommendations and observations that we have in our wards.

Like the observation that was made by Hon. Masesi; we have some workers who have not been earning like the casual workers in the health centers. I have one in Ithaeni who has not been earning for almost two years. Do we say that the Universal Health Care will come and settle the bills for that man? So let us be realistic in handling some of these issues because they are biting deeply on our lives.

At the same time, at the moment we have people who are suffering the wards; will we still wait for the universal health care to come and save those lives? I have one of my electorates who has been in the ward for the last three months and not just because the person is unable, she was requested...she had a broken leg and she was requested to buy that aluminum rod or what so that it is fixed on her leg and she bought in July and now we are in September and it has not been fixed up to now.

Are we waiting for the universal health care to bring a doctor from Cuba or from wherever to come and fix that plate on that woman's leg when she is suffering and she is in the ward? I know she is not alone there are others.

(Applause)

At the same time, I have observed of late, I had an emergency there was an accident in my ward and a patient was taken there and by 6 p.m. that is the time the head scan was concluded from outside; we did it outside and we took the observations back to the doctors. Are you aware that that patient was treated at 11 p.m. from 6 p.m. That is the time he got the first attention from the doctor. Do we continue with this kind of process where delays are observed, there is a lot of negligence and patients continue suffering while they are waiting for treatment and some of these cases are emergencies that need some attention.

I know the life of that man would have been saved if the doctors attended to him when the results were brought but it took so long and he was bleeding; he ended up dying. So, Universal Health Care will not solve the problems that we are facing at the moment. Let the health personnel address the issues that we are raising at the moment and come up with the remedy as we wait for the Universal Health Care because the issues about machines that are not working we cannot just sit and wait when the machines are still not working.

So, my request is that we hold the observations and recommendations of the health committee and I strongly support the report and let us not just wait for the Universal Health Care to come and solve our problems; we can solve them. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kieti, Hon. Kisini.

Hon. Kisini: Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me time to also give my views. I start by supporting the committee for the good job they have done and I think they have really outlined the challenges, the findings and the recommendations although I did not see the report of Athi River health center where they visited.

I do not know whether it was an oversight; they visited my place I think the recommendations will still come. I want to say they have done a very good job and in the findings there is one common factor that lack of doctors, lack of drugs, lack of proper

procurement, lack of water, lack of space and the like. That is a common factor within all the hospitals they visited.

So mine is just to stand and ask their recommendation is that we had Ksh. 85 million; why all these problems? Where did this money go yet it was increased in this financial year from Ksh. 85 to Ksh. 170 million. So it is my appeal that the County Government shows up how they spend the ksh. 85 million because it seems that this money was not pumped into those hospitals. I wonder these are the hospitals where our people go; these are the hospitals where every common mwananchi can afford and so if there is lack of everything it means that there is a lot of suffering.

So, I am requesting that the County Government puts into use whatever it has and it accounts for that ksh. 85 million. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kisini. Hon. Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Madam Speaker for granting me this opportunity first to thank the health committee for a report well done. Madam Speaker, I think I need to stress on the issue of the casuals. Unfortunately, Madam Speaker, you have noticed I have arrived here a bit late because there is a problem at Kangundo Level IV hospital and it happens that my office is just opposite the hospital. Whenever there is a problem in that hospital, Madam Speaker, there is tendency of the workers crossing to my office and somehow bringing chaos for me to react on their problems.

Madam Speaker, I must state that it somehow affects me negatively because people might think I am the one who is not working. Madam Speaker, I think we have visited that facility twice, the last we were with the implementation committee; we noted that there were some problems and the most unfortunate thing Madam Speaker, is that nothing changed since that time when we visited that hospital. I had an opportunity to call the Chief Officer Dr. Thanga and unfortunately he did not give me any help.

Madam Speaker, I think it is high time I requested this institution that we act immediately on the reports which we have come up with. If it is the implementation committee we give them the strength we can give to them so that some of these things which are pending, Madam Speaker, might come to an end. I am actually being disturbed every time either in news or down there people saying Mheshimiwa people have come to your office there is a problem; these are things we have kept on talking for the last one year.

The issue of casuals, either they get the appointment letters because they lack appointment letters and also when it comes to the remuneration, let them get their dues on time, Madam Speaker. I think it is becoming a problem Madam Speaker, because our people are not getting the right services when they visit the facility. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mitaa. Hon. Matee.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am sure all of us who have listened to this report that is so well-written by the committee concerned have got some interjection or some notes because it a report that is giving us a very grim picture of what is happening in our health facilities. Health is life and one specific item that I have picked is it starts with procurement. Why is our procurement department in the Machakos Level V going against the government rules and regulations where they are supposed to procure drugs from KEMSA or MEDS; why

are they buying drugs that we do not know whether they are manufactured in funny places that even will bring more problems to the health of our people?

I think, personally, the health committee should involve the entire ministry of health to ensure that these anomalies that are happening right now are taken care of and our people are given proper---

Hon. Speaker: Point of information from the chair of the committee whose report you are debating; Hon. Grace.

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa: I would like to bring to attention to that member Hon. Matee is that procurement is done through KEMSA but once they give their requisition, what is delivered is not what they have requested for. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Matee has been informed by Hon. Grace.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Thank you, Madam Grace. That is also even become more serious because that is illegalities on other illegalities. If for sure the LPO is written to KEMSA and different drugs are brought in through other dubious means then the more reason that department should be scrapped and new people employed who can serve our people. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Matee. Hon. Irene.

Hon. (Ms.) Mwendu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Good morning members. I wish to congratulate the health committee and the chair for good report well done and I will still go to the Universal Health Care. One of the four main agendas of the government is to bring universal health care and for our County to achieve to that level or to get to that level of Universal health care is to have facilities that are in operation. So, would urge that this report is adopted and the recommendations that the committee has put forth are followed to the letter so that we can achieve the Universal Health Care to our County.

Otherwise, yesterday I heard news about Pumwani Hospital that is really disturbing about children who are put in paper bags and within our morgues being congested, we might end up being in the same place where we stuck up dead bodies in paper bags. Imagine a grown up dead and there is no place to store them and you end up putting them in paper bags; it is a shame. So it is a good report and I support it. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Irene. Hon. Annastaciah.

Hon. (Ms.) Mutuku: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want first to congratulate the chairperson and I am a member of this committee. I support the report, it is a very detailed report and also still stand to say that we had a meeting with His Excellency the Governor and we raised the same issues but he promised to work hand in hand with every member here to make sure the people of Machakos County get the services through the healthcare because the health is constitutional right.

I think everyone knows the challenges we have in development funds and he promised when he gets the funds, he is ready to articulate those issues. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Annastaciah. Hon. Alex Kamitu.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker. I have gone through this report and as we were being taken through the report, i was following very closely in regard to the work of the committee. It is a well-captured report which is touching the lives of the people of Machakos County and it is on that regard that in the report we have seen those areas that in regard to dispensaries and health centers, that are lacking some equipment; it has highlighted the welfare of the people employed in those health centers and dispensaries.

It has given us the right picture for our Level IV and Level V hospitals in Machakos county and that comparing with what we met because you are aware i was in the First Assembly; my humble request, Madam Speaker is that they have noted and it is a concerned that there are those areas they have not visited and for us to have the whole picture of all the dispensaries and health centers, level four and five hospitals, i would request the very active committee through their able chairperson, also to go and come up as a whole report and for this House to compare what was done in the First Assembly because through the Executive, it is also important that we are reporting of an area when the first Assembly came with the first Executive members under the leadership of the government was that there are some areas in these facilities and on a very sincere note, the report is here, the committee visited those areas so we should also be comparing those areas that had no dispensaries or where the dispensaries have been promoted to health center were formerly Machakos was a Level IV hospital it was promoted to a Level V.

So, i am standing here in with a feeling that this is a very good report and it is touching the life and the welfare of Machakos electorates. So, it is in this regard that on the second move by the health committee is to come up with another report where they never visited so that we may compare and see.

We came up with a budget Madam Speaker of 2018/2019 and see where we are going to allocate the budget allocations on the health sector, where we are going to promote the dispensaries to health centers, health centers to Level III and the like so that we can stand and say when the universal health care comes in, which areas will be given priority in regard to that important facility that the World bank, among the 47 counties, four counties were first given as a pilot test in regard to universal health care.

My humble request is that us as elected and nominated as you said in your opening address; it is very important, it is the work and responsibilities of all leaders of this Assembly that when we are called in for an important issue like that one because it is true that all Members were called and i am just giving you information; information is very important. We could have been there because---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Minority Leader, please stick to the matter at hand; we are not debating the meeting.

Hon. Kamitu: Madam Speaker, it is something which is also relevant---

Hon. Speaker: You made your point Hon. Minority Leader on the point of UHC and the report and it is appreciated. So, please proceed.

Hon. Kamitu: As i said, it is also the responsibility of the Members, anything that is beneficial to Machakos, we have the time and that is why we were elected to go and listen and compare notes for the benefit of Machakos electorates. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Minority. Hon. Maitha.

Hon. Maitha: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I congratulate the committee for work well done and i also want to support this document which they analyzed deeply. I want to say that Machakos County has a lot of money and it is pathetic when we hear that there are no drugs in some hospitals or we are getting wrong drugs to our hospitals. It is important to note that it is better in fact we miss services like *mulika mwizi* and we get drugs in our hospitals.

(Applause)

Madam Speaker, when we talk about stalled buildings, the committee noted not only in Kimiti Level III dispensary where a building was started in 2004 and up to now it is not complete. That is wastage of money; let us ask the government to start buildings which they can complete but not to continue building hospitals or buildings which cannot be completed. Again, i want to commend the committee, when they visited Kimiti Health center; they found only two nurses and we were told there are 14 nurses and the other time when i visited that dispensary with the Deputy Governor, we also found two nurses. Where are those nurses and who check to know that health officers are working?

We want to request the CEC to monitor what is happening in our dispensaries and hospitals. Hon. Speaker, we get a lot of monies from Non-Governmental agencies like DANIDA but is that money used for the intended purposes. We would wish this committee to get deeper and know whether the monies we get from our partners are used for the intended purposes.

Madam Speaker we also have cases where expired drugs are found in hospitals. We would wish to ask if a health facility has more drugs than the neighboring dispensaries so let it supply to them before they expire. When we talk of water, it is very important, water is an essential commodity in a health center; therefore i am asking the government of Machakos to try its level best and supply clean water to the health facilities for use by patients who are there. I support this report. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Maitha. Hon. King'ori has had his hand up for a while; you want to talk about Muthwani dispensary?

(Laughter)

Go ahead, Hon. King'ori.

Hon. King'ori: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't have any hospital in Muthwani so i can't talk about Muthwani.

Hon. Speaker: You don't want to ask for a dispensary.

Hon. King'ori: No, i don't wish to do that but i want---

Hon. Speaker: You know the electorates are listening?

Hon. King'ori: I know that. That is why i am not wishing to ask for that but what i want to ask for is; one, people who will take responsibilities, like the CECs should be sacked by yesterday. The Health CEC should be replaced. Why? The damage in Machakos County, somebody must be held responsible.

(Applause)

I visited Level V hospital, there are so many un-used drugs which were not even requested by the procurement officer and they are lying there; un-used drugs at Kangundo Level IV hospital and i wonder why we should have drugs lying idle costing us money and yet nobody is taking responsibility for that and yet there are so many hospitals in other areas like Kaviani in Upper Kaewa, my pronunciation is not good but you know what am talking about.

That health center has drugs, yes but they cannot be used because they are not the ones which were asked for by the procurement person there. People are being asked to be silent on the issue which is not good. Somebody is demanding that we should not get information; because somebody doesn't want to be mentioned as responsible. So, the CEC health should be sacked. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. King'ori. Hon. Antony.

Hon. Mulu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mine is to say health is paramount, so critical to every resident of Machakos and Kenyans in general and for the so called Universal Health care to perform and to be seen by the residents of Machakos County which is fully supported by the National government, we need to put our health centers in good conditions.

We need to work on them and with that we need to adopt this report, go out there and make sure our health centers before anything else are in good condition and we will see everything else moving smoothly. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Antony. Hon. Musau.

Hon. Wambua: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would wish to thank the committee on health because the report before the House is a true reflection of what is happening in our health facilities. The report is timely since it has come at a time when we have untold go slow in Level IV hospital. As my colleague Hon. Mulu has said health is very paramount. Everyone worries; if we had a budget for all these and we hear of unpaid casuals or facilities lacking drugs and other materials, where is the money going?

Somebody somewhere must take responsibility for this and must be held liable. Madam Speaker, greater percentage of the people of Machakos cannot afford private medication and therefore they rely on our public hospitals and health centers and the dispensaries for medication and it is their right; it is justice to them to be treated there and while this one is delayed, then it is justice denied to them.

Despite the much taxes they pay to this county, it is the time we put our political differences aside and tell His Excellency the Governor the truth; probably he doesn't know it.

The time has come for him to be told the truth because despite how much we are going to covet this issue, it is harming and injuring into the rights of our people.

On Sunday, one of my fellow boys there was accidentally hit by a car and i was called and informed he was taken to Level IV hospital and just imagine for three hours he had not been attended to. It is a very good hospital with very good buildings, very good facilities but no services to match the image of that hospital, Madam Speaker.

It is pathetic, very pathetic. You go to my health center Mbiuni, we have the staff there but no drugs. These staff are paid using public money for services not offered. You hear of drugs which were delivered but not the drugs that were ordered; one wonders, the last stage in the procurement process is inspection. You ordered for these drugs, in the last stage, you inspected them so did you get the right thing that you ordered?

It is unfortunate to hear of drugs those were not they are in the hospital; how did they get there way in those health centers? Have our health centers become the dumping places? I think somebody somewhere, Madam Speaker, if you allow, must come to this House and explain. How did those drugs find their way into those hospitals and health centers? It is unfortunate, Madam Speaker and if by accident these wrong medications are given to our people; what is likely to happen?

It is also not reasonable to have some expiring drugs in some facilities while others lack the same drugs. The time has come for us to take this health issues very seriously; more that serious, and not to take the absence of some Members in a UHC meeting to cover the menace in these facilities. We cannot afford to do that Madam Speaker.

Despite having the UHC, we must play our part as the County Government of Machakos and we talk with one voice. If we tell the Governor the truth, those responsible the truth, i think we shall go the right way. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Musau. Hon. Mark Muendo.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me congratulate the committee of health for this detailed report. I would like to say this report reflects what is happening in our county health centers. Let us not pretend that this are well in Machakos county; let us now stop singing the UHC, let me inform the Members what the UHC means, Hon. Ndawa; it doesn't mean that---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, address yourself to the Speaker not to Hon. Ndawa.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, for that correction. UHC means that the medicine you are going to receive and the health care you are going to receive is going to be paid by either National government through NHIF or by the County government. It doesn't mean that the facility in Matuu will be catered by that UHC; if there is no maternity bed, that is the work of the county. Drugs, is the work of the county; UHC is just to cater for the expenses, as simple as that. Let me come to what most of the Members are mentioning; that this meeting which was held on Monday and they are trying to stress how important it was---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, let us deal with the matter---

Hon. Ngunga: Point of information, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ngunga, i have said let us deal with the matter in the report.

Hon. Ngunga: Point of information, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: I have put the Member on the right path; let him contribute.

Hon. Ngunga: I want to inform him.

Hon. Speaker: I am saying he proceeds. Hon. Ngunga; i have ruled that he proceeds.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have an example of my health facility in Kinanie ward, where the health center has no clinical officer, no nurse; there used to be one, she stayed there for more than a year, she was not paid, she left and the watchman who was left there is the one who is attending to patients.

(Laughter)

Madam Speaker, i am very serious. If you want to get treatment through a watchman, come to my ward, Itimboni dispensary.

(Laughter)

I am saying this with a lot of seriousness and bitterness. We are trying to pretend in this House things are well. Looking at Members here, i am getting a bit worried when we don't say what is there. We don't want to tell the king he is naked. We are talking about the CEC health to be sacked; we don't have a CEC in health. When we start by saying we have a CEC, a CEC is not a doctor, he/she cannot understand whether the medicines ordered were the correct one or not and that is why we end up getting the wrong medicine.

In fact, in our facility i am wondering in future you might get instead of getting panadol, you get morphine, the medicine that makes you sleep. So, Madam Speaker, when we talk about Level V and this is very sad; last week on Thursday, my mother in-law was taken to Level V hospital because it was an emergency, she collapsed in my home in Kyumbi. She stayed there for more than four hours, because i was not around i said, transfer her to Bishop Kioko, she was transferred there then in the process of medication, she passed on.

This is really very bad; a facility where people of Machakos are paying tax, where a lady is taken there and five hours no one to attend. Actually, Machakos Level V is a net of death. When you are taken you must die; no medicine, no doctors and even now they are on go slow. Let me inform the Minority side---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader, it is not about Minority side and Majority side; address the House.

Hon. Muendo: Thank you. I am talking with a lot of bitterness---

Hon. Speaker: Don't have bitterness---

Hon. Muendo: This report is giving what is happening in our facilities; let us not pretend we don't have relatives who go there. They go there every day and our neighbors go there. I want our Members to be honest with this report and even when we go for demonstration, i want to see you demonstrating because soon we are going to demonstrate. We are not going to leave the money to be squandered, and then we say a CEC to be sacked.

The buck stops with at the Governors door. That is why the Governor doesn't know what is happening in our hospitals because he has not gone to any facility to understand the situation our people are suffering. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mueni

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mine is to support the report and our Members have to understand their work but not pretending. What is there in our hospitals, there are no medicines, the report has said and our work is to think how the hospitals can have medicine. The hospitals, people are paying money; how can this money go back to the hospital, but not talking about anyone, any meeting or whatever. You have to be yourself, you have come from recess, you have been to those hospitals, you have been called by people to raise money to go to the hospital; what can you do to those people of yours.

You were elected by those people because you were the better one who can think and work for them. So, when you come and become sycophants what are you doing? Why can't you--

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mueni, that is very unkind; can you withdraw?

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: I apologize, Madam Speaker, but when i say---

Hon. Speaker: Withdraw the word you have used.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: I withdraw

Hon. Speaker: Which word are you withdrawing?

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Sycophant.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: So, Madam Speaker, what i mean is this; the Members who are here are mature, they have to think for themselves and know what they can do for their people. Just think, like Majority Leader, when he says in-law died there, he is feeling it, and i know everyone here has a person who is next to him/her.

So why can't we think how our hospitals can do and how we can get money for them and when money comes from outside, how they can be taken care of but not being eaten. So, i know here has a right to support whatever you are supporting but think if you can come back if the election is held now, can you be elected. I think no one here can come if the elections are today.

(Laughter)

Thank you, Madam Speaker

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mueni. Hon. Mutiso, Machakos Level V is in your area, maybe in your interest to say something.

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As you have said, i have interests there because there are so many problems as we are talking now. As the Majority Leader has said, there is a go slow. If you go there you will find most of them casuals have been thrown out right now and there are new ones and i asked them what is happening because you cannot employ a new person while there is another person who has been there before because you don't want to pay him or her, you employ a new one so that you benefit from the expenses of other members.

Madam Speaker, i urge this committee or this Hon. House to work on this because Level V hospital is not for Machakos central ward only; it is for all of us because it is a referral hospital. As i have said before, people of Machakos Central are suffering a lot because when we go there, we don't get what we need. We are not attended to; why? Because many people are coming from Kitui, Makeni and all other places of this county even this country.

So, on that matter that is why I was requesting for Mavivye to be constructed and given stuff but what is happening now, Mavivye was constructed back in the year 2009. I has already been there for over 10 years and there is nothing happening there. I went to Level V to see the CEO with Mheshimiwa Kiteng'u but what we found there, we were told by Hon. Nthanga that he will address that matter but up to now it has not been addressed.

That property or that project has been there for over 10 years and it is just a white elephant project. I also request the County Government of Machakos not to come up with many projects that they cannot maintain. For one, that one has taken over 10 years and there is another one around Misakwani here which was constructed in 2014 and it is incomplete. It has already used Ksh. 5.6 million but when you go there you cannot find anything; it is something that is amazing.

So, Madam Speaker, what I can say is that, we need these health facilities to be attended as soon as possible because health is paramount and we need our people to be taken care of as it is in the Constitution of this Country. I echo the sentiments of the Majority Leader, we mobilize our people and we go to the Governor's office because even we are blaming the Governor who is even not aware of what is happening on the ground; there are Members who are there and we must work on them and we must question them because there is CEC, there are COs and you must call them here so that they tell us what is happening on the ground because the Governor maybe.....for example, Madam Speaker, I can give an example with you, you do not know what is happening in Machakos Central unless you are told by the Member from that area. Even Kivaa but if you are told, maybe you will be able to know what is happening there.

So, let the Governor of Machakos listen to the Members of the County Assembly because we are the people who know what is happening there. The other people who are there that is the

Ward Administrators. What is happening now, they are being used to work on behalf of the MCAs.

Hon. Speaker: Can you stick to the motion Hon. Mutiso.

(Laughter)

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: I am telling you because---

Hon. Speaker: Before I deny the---

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: Madam Speaker, the reason I am saying this, is because I was called this morning by a certain fella who is a Ward Administrator---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mutiso, I know you listen and you will listen. The word fella is not a language that you should use in this House. Secondly, stick to the report. You were doing very well so stick to the report. If you have other motions you have to bring, bring them then we discuss them when they are tabled. So, conclude on your submissions on the report.

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: Thank you, Madam Speaker. What I am saying is that, we need implementation on those health centers and what has been passed by this House, let the Hon. Members or the Executive side honor what is requested by the Hon. Members of this House because our people are suffering and not even that, if you go to Makueni or Kitui people there are attended to and our people are bitter because they ask why is that other Counties are doing better than Machakos?
Before we were pretending that we are No. 1 but I think we are number 47, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: You are going out of the topic.

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: I rest my case, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mutiso, you have finished?

Hon. P. J. Mutiso: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: You are just lucky that you finished because you had gone out of topic. I think we will just have a few more comments and I can see Hon. Nyawira wants to comment.
Hon. Nyawira.

Hon. (Ms.) Nyawira: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Much has been said and mine is just to add that when our people get sick, they prefer going to the chemists and we know chemists do not have doctors but quacks. There is a time I was not feeling well and Hon. Kisini decided to buy drugs and the drugs I was given made me go to another chemist and I was given different drugs and so I decided not to take them.

In fact, I went to see a doctor at Bristol Park and he did not give me either of those drugs and I asked myself, what of the other people who do not have money to go to see a doctor. Just but to

mention a few, we went to Makueni with the Committee of Health in Makueni there are no chemists anywhere because there are drugs but in our County, we have chemists and hospitals all over. Why?

(Applause)

Now we have to look at that point and the whole House and call our CECs and everyone who is responsible. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Members, I am so tempted to call the mover of the motion to reply. Is it alright? Hon. Kiteng'u then Hon. Katumo and just one minute. Are we in agreement? And Hon. Kamulu and Hon. Kituku and then the mover of the Motion although it was done by Hon. Grace. Do you remember that order? Just one minute each please.

Hon. Kiteng'u: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I just want to few things on the report as I support it. Madam Speaker, the time we were doing the CIDP public participation, it happens that I attended Machakos public participation and I was more on listening than advising them and I remember Hon. Mutiso was there and actually the name given to the Level V hospital, I learnt that they call it a shell, an empty building.

So, Hon. Members, I would request we be sober when it comes to health because it is the interest of our people and if the report states very clearly that we have a problem with our health facilities, let us all agree so that we can see how we can be able to save our County because Madam Speaker, I think we come from different wards and we have different health facilities and I must attest that Madam Speaker, I have fought a lot especially in my Ward because of lack of medicine, poor services and Madam Speaker it is the high time now we stamp our authority and make sure as Hon. Members we do our duty fairly for the cost of our lives of our people. If we pretend that all is well and the fact is that all is not well, Madam Speaker, we will be failing our duties.

Madam Speaker, I would request not even the Committee of health, so that we can all agree, if we want there is that committee of the whole House, we can even visit Level V hospital and you will see that all of will attest that there is a problem going on.

I benchmarked the same with the Committee of health and we met Hon. Nthanga and Hon. Nthanga had to brief us that in our health facility there is a problem but the problem is not the Governor, the problem is the CO or the department of Finance; they do not fully facilitate our health facilities.

So, Madam Speaker, I would request even if it will take us how long and I think I am going to move a motion to impeach whoever is working in charge of the department of health because they are lying to us, they are lying to the people if Machakos. Hon. Nthanga told us his hands are tied that once he does the request for any medicine, it happens that the CO Finance, Hon. Jacinta does not respond fairly.

So, Madam Speaker, I would request if we do not stamp authority, our health facilities are going to die very soon. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Kiteng'u that is clearly not one minute. Thank you. Hon. Katumo.

Hon. Katumo: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker, first I want to do two things quickly. I want really to thank this Committee and this is what the committees should do, this is work, this is the mandate. Actually if we have committees committed to produce search kind of work, we will be going very far. You see this report, when I peruse, when I read and re-read, I find it gives us status; somewhere where we can begin and to understand what is happening.

One thing I should say, if this County Government is very serious and they want to work for our people, they should of course request for this report immediately and I am also concerned if you see the Minority side and most of us are saying that the Universal health care is coming, those people responsible should be given this report. There is no need to start something and then we are ashamed.

You see you want to give medicine to a non-existing facility, you want to treat people in the bush itself, it is not possible and therefore this is a status report and for them that are responsible to bringing this health care should understand to where they are coming to. You see Madam Speaker, we must be very serious. I was here in the First Assembly with the Minority Leader; they know the struggles, they know the challenges and we have been saying the same, same thing, we are going to the same, same hospitals, we have been benchmarking all the time and nothing changes. Now are there miracles that we are anticipating in the universal health care? I say no.

(Applause)

If, Madam Speaker, this is the way, then we want to of course to blindfold the entire Country because the universal health care is coming so as we can forget and move on and accept the universal health care, things will be better. From where really?

Madam Speaker, I have heard my colleague saying we should impeach this CEC, we should impeach.....I say no. You see the one who should be impeached, the one who rightly in the place is messing us, is messing this County, we know who it is. Actually, when we pinched down, Hon. Members, these staff from the department of health are almost collapsing at our sight. They say we cannot do this because our hands are tied. So, what does that mean?

Madam Speaker, I want to support this report entirely and say indeed much has to be done in Machakos County for the people we are working for, if we want to uphold the welfare of our people because such kind of reports are very important. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Katumo. Hon. Kamulu. Please remember each Member to stick to the report that you are holding.

Hon. Kamulu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to support the Motion and I will contribute within one minute because my concern is on prevention is better than cure. During our deliberations here, an issue has come that a watchman in a certain facility is treating patients. Madam Speaker, is there a remedy on the same before we get casualties because that is my concern because prevention is better than cure. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamulu. Hon. Kituku.

Hon. Kituku: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I come from Ndithini Ward where I would say we have the buildings but nothing is happening and people there are worried because people get treatment from the neighboring County whereby they are normally chased and asked why are you coming here and yet you have your good facilities, you are number one? Madam Speaker, health is very important and we as a County we are not faring well as far as health is concerned.

I belong to the health Committee but Madam Speaker, a lot has to be done. I do not know whether we should all join hands in support of this Committee because actually there are so many problems as we have noted from the Members and they are so many only that they cannot be contained in just a single document and a lot has to be done. The Assembly has power but I do not know whether now we should walk to the streets and demonstrate because we have been singing and it is like there is somebody somewhere dancing to our tunes and doing almost nothing.

Implementation is key. The Implementation Committee should take concern and again the executive should work and we as the Members of the Assembly, over quite some time I have noted that some of us behave or else act as if we are Members of the executive and our role is oversight. If we end up supporting what the CECs and whoever are doing and they are doing in the wrong manner, when are our people going to get service? Obvious they will not and the executive side.....

So, let us differentiate politics and development because there are terms. Our conscience should speak and actually we know what is happening on the ground and nothing is happening and we should wake up and open our eyes wide and we do something as far as health is concerned. So, let us be very keen because like in our place in Ndithini, we have a facility called Ndithini Level III but it is only the right up on the on the gate.

Nothing is there, we have nothing and actually when you visit there you will see that it is only the building and it is very well-painted and I am so sorry about the facility. So, before the universal health care as most of the Members have said, let something be done and seriously because we have allocated a budget to cater for health. Let us see development as far as the facilities are concerned. Otherwise, thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kituku. Hon. Grace.

Hon. (Ms.) Mutwiwa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mine is just to remind the Hon. Members that this is a very rich report which the Committee sat down, compiled, went out of the office, visited the facilities and what they saw there was just pathetic situation. I wish the whole House could visit; we probably could not be talking the way we are talking here.

What I want to remind Hon. Members is that, we are talking about people's lives, we are not talking about gardens, we are not talking about roads, we are talking about people's lives. Also, have in mind that when we go for visit we are spending people's money. How can we return that money to the community? By giving them the services we went to inspect.

The other thing, we come here, bring report like this one and it is never acted upon, no action is taken. I would request the entire House now to step forward and act on each and every

report brought in this House. We are here to work for the community, we are not here to sit and just talk, talk, we finish the day, we get the allowance.

The much said Universal Health care, is dealing much with non-communicable diseases rather than curative. So, when we are talking about UHC, let us understand the concept. Where there is curative, we need drugs, where there is non-communicable diseases like pressure, diabetes, cancer.....those are non-communicable diseases whereby we need civic education.

So, UHC is talking much about civic education so that we can reduce the patients, we can reduce the diseases. If the people re given the right education, they will not fall sick it will be much of community health workers volunteers than the doctors we are talking about in the hospitals.

We should not gamble with people's lives when we are in this House trying to defend somebody somewhere, let us rise up and act and the people will see what we are doing for them; let us not talk about 2022, we are coming back. We are coming back to what if we are not doing anything right now?

Also for the Members who are talking about their health centers not being visited, like now we have got about 10 health facilities which we have compiled the reports and we are yet to present here in the House like Ndithini, Muthesya, Masii, Ndalani and also Matuu, Hon. Ndawa his place is also pathetic. We found some machines which were taken from Kangundo and they were dumped in Matuu and they were said that they were bought. If you find those machines you will just wonder.

So, Hon. Members, let us sober up and see the animal in front of us which is health services. Thank you, very much Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Grace. I invite the mover of the Motion, Hon. Munguti to reply.

Hon. (Ms.) Mene: Thank you, Madam Speaker, thank you, Hon. Members for contributing towards this report and thank you very much Hon. Grace for granting me this opportunity to present this report. Madam Speaker, matters of health are very dear and close to my heart and this is because I am a health professional. Madam Speaker, the other day, I went to Mlolongo for the CIDP and it was very evident that we do not have proper medical care.

A young gentleman reported to us that he went to hospital, he was seen but he was requested to do laboratory tests but when he went to the laboratory there were no re-agents. When he was asked to do an x-ray, he could not get an x-ray and so he had to get money from his pocket and this gentleman is not working. Honestly speaking, Madam Speaker, health facilities in our County are wanting.

Madam Speaker, there are issues which I have noted that must be addressed by this House and must addressed immediately and this include a proper plan on how to pay the casuals; this is an issue that we have noticed in almost all the health facilities. Madam Speaker, I do not understand how these casuals are recruited, I do not understand whether they have a contract or not, it is the same problem over and over again. This is an issue that needs to be addressed.

Madam Speaker, we have also noticed that there are stalled buildings in all health facilities and we hear that contractors come in and go out, they are not paid, they get fresh

contractors, they come, those ones are not paid, they go again, another set is brought. So we are just wondering what is happening in our County, Madam Speaker.

We have also noted with concern that our hospitals are not stocked with pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals. Madam Speaker, we have also noticed that the end users are not at all involved in the budget process and we are just wondering, how do you supply to somebody something they do not require. Does it really make sense?

The next item I want to talk about is the laboratory department and the x-ray department. Madam Speaker, x-ray and laboratory departments are the cash cows in these hospitals but they are not well stocked. Madam Speaker, I wish to bring to your attention that, a container of urine test strip cost Ksh. 1,000 and yet it can fetch Ksh. 40,000. Madam Speaker, you just wonder why these things are not purchased yet they are in the budget.

The other thing I have noticed is Hon. Nyawira who has just stepped out; she noted when they went to Makueni that, there are no chemists in the town meaning there is medicine in the hospitals. So, I am just wondering if Makueni can supply and they get money from the Government like we do, why can we not stock our hospitals with medicine?

(Applause)

Madam Speaker, the other issue I noticed is the under staffing and I am just wondering how it will be addressed because we hear that we have a ballooning wage bill. So, I am just wondering how this issue will be addressed.

Madam Speaker, to end I would like to say, with all humility that the buck stops with the Governor. We cannot blame this to the CEC or the COs; it is the Governor and it is the high time Hon. Members, we rise to the occasion, let us go to our people, collect signatures and get this Governor out. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Pauline, you are finalizing on a matter which is not on the table.

(Laughter)

No wonder you walk away very quickly.

(Question put and agreed)

(Applause)

Hon. Members, you will also allow me to comment now that you have made your decision on this matter. I know you have said and you know very well that health is a constitutional right and then the Government is given the mandate to ensure that mwananchi gets that right and guess what? You are part of the Government, you are part of the County Government of Machakos and health is a devolved function.

So, what are you doing about ensuring mwananchi gets these services? Actually you can be sued and if I was out there, I would sue you that you have failed to ensure that I get that health, it is a constitutional right. It is only that we do not have Omtatas around, we can be sued.

It is not just enough for you Members to discuss a good report like this one, pass it and then sit back. What about implementation? Because if it is implemented, even half of it, we would have the people having this, I have also suffered actually as a result of the services lacking in Machakos County.

About two or two and half weeks ago, I think you heard there were brutal attacks in Kyumbi and one of the construction site was manned by a relative and he was cut on the head very badly, he was brought to the Level V, I was woken up at 3 a.m. and we made the arrangements but up to even late the following day he had not received the treatment until he was taken to Kenyatta Hospital but then it was too late. He passed on; we are burying him on Friday.

He was bleeding throughout; he was also with others who were also transferred and then again you know we are all capable of getting sick and emergencies at night. So, if that dispensary near you is not working, if you have that emergency like a heart attack and God forbid or even a snake bite or whatever in the night, even if you have money to be taken to Nairobi Hospital, will you make it?

Don't we need the nearest dispensary working so that it can give you that first aid and the you go on now to specialized treatment? It is not a joke it is serious. We are the saviors of the people because you have to ensure that implementation of whatever you pass is done.

So, you have a duty, Hon. Members, to ensure that the people get services and let us just avoid mere talks, please. If we have this report and Members have gone round and you have experiences of not getting the services, is there anything wrong saying it must be done? You must ask also about the budgets that have been in the past and then also the budgets that we have been giving so that you can see that the money is being used appropriately and remember it is a Constitutional right starting with you; you have that right and then your relatives, your constituents and it is their right so make sure you give it to them please.

Let us just call our minds to thought and be objective. So, Hon. Members, I thank you very much and thank you to the Committee for that very good report and let us hope that at least some implementation will see. I will shed some light and assist the public that is outside there wanting those services.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: We are going to take a break Hon. Members and then the sitting of the House stands adjourned to resume on the 18th September, 2018 at 2.30 p.m.

House rose at 12.25 p.m.