

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 3rd July, 2018

The House met at 11.00 a.m.

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

PRAYERS

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Hon. Speaker: Good morning, Hon. Members and our guests. I take this opportunity to welcome you to this special sitting of this House and as a way of communication, I have two from the desk of the Chair: to the Hon. Members, I am reminding you that tomorrow you will be travelling after plenary to attend to matters of strategic plan so that as you execute the budgets and planning, it is supposed to be as per the strategic plan of the Assembly. The details are well within your knowledge, as the lawyers normally say.

PRONOUNCEMENTS OF 2018/19 BUDGET

The second communication is about today's sitting; we have a special sitting because the Executive Committee Member of finance is going to make pronouncements on the budget for financial year 2018/2019. It helps Hon. Members to remind us where we are coming from; this is a process that is guided by the law. Section 132(1) of the PFM Act, 2012 provides as follows:

Each financial year, the County Executive Committee Member for finance shall, with the approval of the County Executive Committee, make a pronouncement of the revenue-raising measures for the County Government. Hon. Members, section 132(2) of the same Act requires the County Executive Committee Member for finance, to submit to the County Assembly the County Finance Bill, setting out the revenue raising measures for the County Government together with a policy statement expounding on those measures on the same date that the revenue raising measures are pronounced.

Hon. Members, before I invite the County Executive Committee Member for Finance, let me make some comments on the budget-making process. The process begins not later than 30th August in each year. Hon. Members remember we are now just about to start the cycle for the next financial year just as we are starting the financial year and in this case, the County Executive Committee Member for Finance issues a circular setting out guidelines to be followed

by all County Government entities in the budget process pursuant to Section 128(2) of the PFM Act.

Hon. Members, the process is closely followed by a submission of Annual Development Plan that is not later than 1st of September each year by the County Executive Committee Member for Planning to the Assembly for approval. The Assembly considered the Development Plan and approved it together with projects to be undertaken in the current financial year. You did that.

Further, Hon. Members, on 28th February each year, the County Treasury is to submit to the Assembly for approval, a County Fiscal Strategy Paper pursuant to Section 117(1) which outlines ceilings for each department. You members, through this Assembly, also considered and approved this document.

Hon. Members, in addition, the County Executive Committee Member for Finance is required to submit budget estimates and supporting documents to the Assembly for approval under section 129(2)(a) by 30th April each year. The Assembly received that document and considered the estimates and approved them with amendments on 26th June, 2018. Hon. Members, the budget also outlines various projects that are to be implemented in the financial year. It is my hope that the Executive will adhere to the recommendations of the Assembly and implement the budget as approved by the Assembly.

Before we came to this session, I also had a chat with the Executive Committee Member and we agreed that this time, the PFM Act is going to be adhered to going forward.

(Applause)

This afternoon Hon. Members, the Assembly will consider the Machakos County Appropriation Bill which becomes an Act upon which the budget that you approved will be implemented.

Hon. Members, when the County Executive Committee Member for Finance will be making the budget highlight pronouncements, he is going to be heard in silence. I just want to remind you the provisions of Standing Order 20(3).

Hon. Members, further to my communication of 26th June, 2018, I would like to inform you that that one is supposed to be on the strategic plan which I covered first.

Hon. Members, I now take this opportunity to invite the County Executive Committee Member for finance, Hon. Eng. Francis Maliti, who is also the Deputy Governor for Machakos County to make his policy statement on the county's financial year budget estimate 2018/2019. You are welcome.

(Applause)

THE BUDGET STATEMENT

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS AND REVENUE RAISING MEASURES FOR 2018/2019

County Executive Committee Member (H.E. Eng. Francis Maliti): Madam Speaker, on behalf of the people of Machakos County, it is my honor and privilege to present to this honorable house my first budget as the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning. This budget statement highlights the policies and priorities that will be implemented in the Financial Year 2018/2019.

Madam Speaker, the 2018 Budget Statement is informed by recommendations stemming from dialogue with various stakeholders and interested parties during preparation of various

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policy documents, notably, County Integrated Development Plan, Annual Development Plan and County Fiscal Strategy Paper among others. Most of these suggestions have been incorporated into the budgetary plans and programs.

Madam Speaker, during the first term, H.E Governor Dr. Alfred Mutua rolled out a number of programs and projects that have directly impacted on the people of Machakos. These projects not only addressed a gap that had been there since independence but also illustrated the commitment the governor has in empowering the population as well as changing the fortunes of the county.

Madam Speaker, provision of the highest possible attainable standards of health care for our people is paramount. To that end, the county government has since its inception embarked on building, renovating and expanding health facilities in the county. The ultimate goal is to see to it that each of the 40 wards has a functional community hospital-adequately supplied, equipped and staffed and with theaters and maternity wings. As you are all aware, our Machakos Level V Hospital was the first to receive modern equipment under the Managed Equipment Services. This has ensured our people receive services that were previously only available at Kenyatta National Hospital. For the first time patients have access to an ICU, Renal dialysis as well as MRI scans within the Hospital. This underlines our dedication to the healthcare sector.

On infrastructure improvement, Madam Speaker, the county government has made huge gains in opening up the county. Until Governor Dr. Alfred Mutua came to office, Makutano ma Mwala-Kithimani; Kivandini-Masinga and Kathiani-Kakuyuni-Kangundo roads had remained campaign promises for successive governments and MPs. These roads have opened up the respective sub-counties they link unlocking their enormous potential. Madam speaker, our efforts have not only concentrated on tarmacking main link roads as we have graded to motorable standards hundreds of kilometres of roads across the county. This is set to continue as we make movement of people and goods efficient

Madam Speaker, while we have made huge steps in the right direction, we are also alive to the challenges we face ranging from unemployment of our youth to easy access of health services for all, from easy access to clean water to food security for all. As illustrated in this budget, Madam Speaker, we continue to focus on implementing strategies that are not only addressing these challenges but also improving the livelihoods and creating wealth for our people.

Madam speaker, improving and expanding road infrastructure is key in opening up the County for business, promoting investment, increasing production and access to essential services as well as overall economic growth. This budget's programs are tailored to develop new infrastructure; maintain, and rehabilitate existing infrastructure in addition to improving efficiency and effectiveness of infrastructure development at all levels including planning, contracting and construction.

This was underscored by H.E Governor Dr. Alfred Mutua's move to acquire heavy equipment and machines to accelerate this process. These include bulldozers, excavators, graders and compactors. As a result, we have been able to cut on costs of construction while maximizing on efficiency.

Madam Speaker, the safety of the people of Machakos County is of utmost importance to the County Government. In that respect, we are putting in place a County Transport and Safety Committee to develop a County Specific Transport Plan. This committee Madam Speaker, among other things will be responsible for; reduction of road congestion, conduct safety awareness and public education, register and license taxis operating in the County, assign

designated areas and hours of operation for *boda bodas* and ensure signage on our roads. All this is geared towards ensuring there is order in the sector.

Madam Speaker, the County will invest on expanding the electrification program in all wards, market centers, primary and secondary schools, boreholes, mills and factories, hospitals and other government institutions by installing 100 transformers at a cost of Kshs. 50 Million. Madam Speaker, a further Kshs. 7 Million will go towards installation of *mulika mwizi* for security purposes.

Madam Speaker, the County Government has made significant efforts over the past years to ensure the residents of Machakos have access to clean and safe water. The county government is undertaking a comprehensive water program which has seen hundreds of boreholes drilled, hundreds of dams, water pans and weirs constructed. We have also distributed water tanks to public schools for rain water harvesting.

All these efforts are meant to ensure we permanently address the issue of water scarcity that has for years bedeviled the region. This program is informed by the realization that the provision of sufficient clean water solves a myriad of other human problems including health, food insecurity as much as it does support our rural economies.

Madam Speaker, Mavoko sub-county is the county's industrial hub whose contribution to our revenue and growth cannot be ignored. However, perennial water shortage has curtailed industries from achieving full potential. Madam Speaker, I am delighted to announce to this honorable house that, through partnerships with other stakeholders, we have embarked on construction of a 5 million liter storage tank at Syokimau.

The County government is also in the process of rehabilitating KMC and Portland Dams which will supply the areas of Athi River and Daystar at the rate of 8 million and 3 million litres a day respectively. Once completed, these projects will accelerate production on top of opening up opportunities for new investors.

Going forward Madam Speaker, the County will continue to develop and implement projects aimed at ensuring that Machakos has clean and accessible water for both domestic and commercial use. I have therefore allocated Kshs. 400 Million to go towards construction, rehabilitation and equipping of boreholes, construction of earth dams, weirs as well as provision of water tanks for water harvesting.

Madam Speaker, in line with H.E President Uhuru Kenyatta's "Big Four Agenda" on Universal Healthcare, the County government aims to gazette 58 dispensaries, 39 health centres and 6 Level IV hospitals. This is geared towards reducing the average distance to the nearest health facility, increase access to quality healthcare as well as reduce the pressure put on the existing facilities. Plans are also underway to upgrade one facility in each of the 70 locations to be able to offer maternity, X-ray, mini theatre and laboratory services to the population.

Madam Speaker, I am happy to inform this honorable house that Machakos is one of the four counties that will participate in the universal health coverage pilot program for the next one year. This will include provision of essential medical products and technology, leadership and governance, human resources for health and health information systems.

In the medium term, the County government will seek to address health challenges through continued investment in training of health professionals, providing high quality preventive, curative and rehabilitative healthcare services to all, and improvement in the working conditions of medical practitioners.

Madam Speaker, this FY 2018/19, our medium term focus is on:

- i. Upgrading level 3 health facilities to level 4 as well as ensuring all health facilities in the County meet international standards as prescribed by World Health Organization (WHO)
- ii. Partnering with donors to construct Machakos Cancer treatment and management centre
- iii. Establishment of new health centers in far flung areas from the existing health facilities.
- iv. Employment of additional health care givers and provision of medicines in all health facilities.
- v. Free healthcare to all children under 6 years, pregnant mothers and elderly over 65 (senior citizens) years old in all Machakos County hospitals for all services including and not limited to:- admission, lab services, treatment, x-ray, medicines and so on.

To achieve that, I have therefore, Madam Speaker, allocated Ksh. 4.4 Billion to the health sector.

Madam Speaker, human capital development is key to wealth creation in any economy. The social sector will focus on investing in human capital and ensuring a fair and inclusive society, which creates life transforming opportunities for all. In this regard, the Government of Machakos County aims to increase access to and improve quality education at the foundation levels and expand vocational training.

Madam Speaker, we have 1,080 ECDE centres with 996 care givers. We are in the process of hiring an additional 1,164 caregivers to fill the gap and ensure our young ones get the best foundation.

Madam Speaker, a capitation of Ksh. 50 million to go towards implementation of the one thousand shillings per child program in Early Childhood Development Education is testament to our committed we in implementation of early childhood education. Under this program, the tuition fee for every child in ECDE level will be catered for by the County Government.

Madam Speaker, higher education is not part of the devolved functions of the County Government. However, noting the role education plays in economic development, the Government of Machakos County has been assisting local students to study uninterrupted by providing a bursary kitty for needy students.

It is important to note that H.E Governor Dr. Alfred Mutua has already established a Machakos County Higher Education Scholarship program. A total of 2,000 students benefitted from the fund in the first phase and the plan is to reach more students. In this budget, Madam Speaker, I have allocated an amount of Ksh. 84 million to cater for bursaries and scholarship for our students from poor backgrounds.

Madam Speaker, aware of the input skilled personnel have in any economy, we intend to rehabilitate polytechnics to impart the youth with vocational and technical skills. To that end, a conditional grant of KShs.54M has been provided for the rehabilitation of Youth Polytechnics and Vocational Training Centres across the County.

Madam Speaker, investing in Agricultural sector not only achieves economic growth but also ensures food security, job creation, income generation and poverty reduction. The sector is the mainstay of the County economy with linkages in manufacturing, distribution and other service related sectors which will aid in attaining the Big Four initiative.

Madam Speaker, the County has developed several programs namely crop development and management, livestock resources and management, fisheries development, veterinary services and all which are aimed at raising agricultural productivity and increase commercialization of agriculture.

Madam Speaker, during the FY 2018/19 and medium term, the sector will continue to implement policies aimed at cushioning the agriculture sector and ensuring food security. These include:

- i. Subsidies to ensure they target improvements in food yields and production quality
- ii. Construction of fruit processing plant.
- iii. Construction of Dairy processing plant.
- iv. Construction of livestock yard and slaughter houses.
- v. Rehabilitation of existing cattle dips.
- vi. Pasture development.
- vii. Provision of feeds, fruit seedlings and seeds to farmers.
- viii. Provision of indigenous chicks to increase poultry farming and employment.
- ix. Expansion of chicks hatchery at Agricultural Training Centre (ATC).
- x. Carry out artificial insemination.
- xi. Acquisition of motor vehicles and motor bikes to support extension services to farmers across the County.
- xii. Improvement of Fish farming by increasing the number of fingerlings to farmers and establishment fish breeding at ATC.
- xiii. Acquisition of additional tractors.
- xiv. Promotion of drip irrigation as part of climate resilience interventions.

Madam Speaker, all these are to be achieved through improvement of land use and crop development, enhanced accessibility to affordable farm inputs, adding value to agricultural produce and link farmers to markets for their produce, extension services, use of environmentally friendly products, promotion of agro-based industries and development of post-harvest farm management systems.

Madam Speaker, the County Government through the department of agriculture intends to embark on a program to train farmers on how to grow high quality pulses like cowpeas, beans, green grams and others as well as coordinate the value addition and marketing of the same. This will enable locals to generate income through agriculture and use of new technologies.

High yields will be achieved if our farmers have access to the most suitable seeds for an area where rains are often erratic. I have therefore allocated Ksh. 5.1 million for the purchase of certified seeds which will be distributed across the county to farmers with low or no income.

Madam Speaker, we are encouraging our farmers to move away from substance farming and to instead practice agriculture as a source of income.

In partnership with local investors, the County Government has come up with honey production program targeting bee keepers in the County. Farmers will be linked to ready market besides training on value addition skills. I have therefore allocated KShs.13M towards the purchase and distribution of beehives across the County. I have also set aside, Kshs.7.5M for rehabilitation of cattle dips and Ksh. 5 million for coffee milling equipment.

Madam Speaker, sustainable agriculture is pegged on a conducive climate and an enabling environment. Through the Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project, an allocation of Ksh. 117 million has been provided to increase agricultural productivity and build resilience to impacts of climate change.

Madam Speaker, on May 12, 2018 H.E Governor Dr. Alfred Mutua launched a tree planting exercise aimed at increasing forest cover in the county and ultimately reversing the negative effects deforestation has had on the environment. This will go a long way in ensuring

that the County contributes towards the attainment of the 10 per cent forest cover target in the country. To ensure that this exercise is County owned and continuous, Madam Speaker, I have allocated Ksh. 8 million for purchase of tree seedlings and planting activities across the County.

Madam Speaker, to further underscore the importance the Government of Machakos County attaches in creation of an enabling environment for investment, I have proposed an allocation of Ksh. 250 million to set up infrastructure that will attract local and international investors to open businesses in the County. This will lead to job creation and hence contribute to the Big Four Agenda.

Further Madam Speaker, under the Kenya Urban Support Program, a conditional grant of Ksh. 1 billion has been provided for the establishment of Municipal boards and committees in Machakos, Mavoko and Tala/Kangundo municipalities. This is aimed at establishing and strengthening these urban institutions to deliver improved infrastructure and services so as to spur investments. Under this program, I have allocated Ksh. 303 million for Machakos, Ksh. 273 million for Mavoko and Ksh. 441 million for Kangundo/Tala municipalities.

These allocations were guided by the population in the municipalities in line with the Kenya National Housing and Population Census of 2009. It is envisaged that more towns will qualify for funding under this program after the 2019 Kenya National Housing and Population Census.

Madam Speaker, activities earmarked under this programme include:-

- i. Waste Management;
- ii. Storm Water Drainage;
- iii. Connectivity including carriageways, walkways among others;
- iv. Urban Social and Economic Development, that is, development of bus parks and slaughter houses and
- v. Fire and disaster management.

Madam Speaker, other measures targeted for a sustainable and vibrant environment for investment include:-

- i. Promotion of fair trade practices through consumer awareness, calibration and verification of weight and measures equipment.
- ii. Promotion of private sector development through enterprise and entrepreneurship development
- iii. Formulation and implementation of sound economic policies
- iv. Conducting feasibility studies to determine viability of new industries
- v. Construction of *Jua Kali* sheds and preparation of sectoral and strategic plans promotion.

Madam Speaker, we know we have to be innovative, effective and efficient in our revenue generation and collection for us to meet our revenue targets. In this regard therefore, the County Government has embarked on a comprehensive revenue enhancement strategy which includes increasing revenue within existing streams and debt management.

Madam Speaker, to bring additional revenue to the County we propose to widen payment of land rates to all urban and peri-urban towns. Currently, our major land rates revenue come from Mavoko, Machakos and Tala towns. Plans are therefore underway to expand to other centres which will see a huge growth in revenue from land rates. Further Madam Speaker, we are in the process of undertaking land revaluation in the County as the current valuation roll was undertaken in 2007 and therefore is outdated. The law requires that valuation be undertaken after every ten years.

As a debt management strategy Madam Speaker, the County Government has secured the services of debt collector. One of the terms of reference is to track and collect all outstanding debts, dating back to the days we had local authorities. Other strategies will include:

- i. Promoting voluntary tax compliance through rate payer education.
- ii. Intensification of revenue mobilization campaigns and education.
- iii. Formation of ad-hoc revenue taskforce for enforcement of revenue payment.
- iv. Close monitoring of debt levels with timely action being taken before the debts become overdue.
- v. Linkage of revenue sources and introduction of a debt clearance certificate.

Madam Speaker, the County Government also intends to mitigate cases of deficits in the future by instituting strategies to counter challenges that hinder revenue collection. These interventions will amongst others include:-

- i. Collaboration with Kenya Revenue Authority in revenue collection especially in urban centres.
- ii. Establishment of a resource mobilization unit.
- iii. Continuous mapping of all available revenue streams.
- iv. Incorporating hospital fees and charges in the County Finance Act in line with the Hospital Fund Management Act.
- vi. Enactment and enforcement of revenue related Acts.

In order to eliminate leakages and non-disclosure of revenue, Madam Speaker, the County Government will institute the following measures;

- i. Continuous automation of the revenue collection system.
- ii. Continuous redeployment, rotation and capacity building of revenue collection staff.
- iii. Awareness creation on the benefits of paying rents, rates and fees.
- iv. Revenue target setting and monitoring i.e. introduction of reward and sanction scheme for revenue collectors.
- v. Benchmarking and enhancement of peer to peer learning.

To achieve all these Madam Speaker, I have set aside KShs.76M to enable the directorate of revenue management enforce revenue collection. Madam Speaker, the ambitious projects and programs highlighted above will require huge financial resources to enable the County achieve its development agenda.

Madam Speaker, the total proposed expenditure estimates for FY 2018/19 amounts to Ksh. 12.2 billion compared to that of 2017/2018 of Ksh. 9.9 billion. The 2018/19 shall comprise Ksh. 8.4 billion recurrent and Ksh. 3.8 billion development translating to 69 per cent and 31 per cent respectively which is within the requirements of the Public Financial Management Act 2012.

Madam Speaker, we intend to implement KShs.12.2Billion budget using our County revenue estimated at Ksh. 1.7 billion, Ksh. 8.3 billion equitable share from the National Government and Conditional Grants of Ksh. 2.2 billion.

Madam Speaker, the thrust of the 2018 Budget calls for the implementation of a phased but comprehensive and coherent expenditure management strategy that allows for reorientation of resources towards development programs that benefit the population. Madam Speaker, the government will accelerate the full roll out of the Human Resource Management Information

system which will eliminate ghost workers hence cleanse the payroll. All payroll systems will be fully integrated in order to have an end to-end solution.

Equally Madam Speaker, the Government will continue to explore every necessary measure to find an efficient way of managing the public sector payroll including putting all staff under performance contracts beginning July, 2018, a program which has already been rolled out.

Madam Speaker, under Kenya Devolution Support Program to support capacity building initiatives, a provision of Ksh. 53 million has been made that will go towards:

- i. Strengthening public financial management systems
- ii. Strengthening County human resource management
- iii. Improving County planning and monitoring and evaluation systems
- iv. Civic Education and Public Participation and
- v. Strengthening Intergovernmental relations.

Madam Speaker, Machakos County has been prudent in collecting revenue and we were among 18 counties that are getting a share of the Ksh. 6.8 billion from Commission on Allocation of Resources for fiscal effort in the Financial Year 2016/2017. The money will be disbursed this Financial Year 2018/19

Madam Speaker and fellow Machakos residents, in the previous years' budgets, we have had fiscal deficits due to shortfalls in revenue collection. To address that, we have put in place measures to enable us meet our revenue targets as already mentioned in this budget statement. This Budget Statement therefore represents a major step in our call for the collective support and commitment of our citizens to affect a behavioral and cultural shift to put our local economy on a renewed path of sustainable growth.

As a Government, we cannot pursue this transformation agenda on our own. We are open to new ideas and solutions and collectively, we are fully capable of overcoming difficult economic circumstances and to navigate the County to the socio-economic prosperity we all desire.

Madam Speaker, we therefore must all adjust, cut our cloth to suit our coat, as the proverb says, curb wasteful expenditure, demand value for money and seek to improve on productivity and accountability and make the required sacrifices. I am certain Madam Speaker, that if everyone plays their part, we will be more productive and efficient as a people and as a County, more resilient and ready to meet any challenges.

As I conclude, I do urge all of us to support His Excellency the Governor's commitment to the County's transformative agenda to ensure equitable development across the County. Madam speaker, I also appeal to all of us-both the executive and the assembly, to treat the revenue collected as a baby that needs our nursing, that way we will collectively achieve our goals. Let us keep politics out and focus on service delivery.

Madam Speaker, I wish to sincerely thank H.E Governor Dr. Alfred Mutua for the support he accorded us during the budget making process and ensuring the exercise was smooth. I also wish to thank fellow Executive Committee Members for their cooperation and assistance.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to express my gratitude to you, speaker of the Machakos County Assembly and the clerk for making the process of approving the budget estimates for 2018/19 a success: Members of the Budget and Appropriation Committee led by the chairman Hon. Dominic Ndambuki and the other Assembly Committees for taking their time to go through the documents we presented to this House; Majority leader Hon. Francis Ngunga, Minority Leader Hon. Alex Kamitu; all members of the County Assembly for their cooperation in support of budget preparation and implementation.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to commend the outstanding professionalism and dedication of the public officials in the Department of Finance led by the Ms. Jacinta Masila, Chief Officer-Finance and the other County Government departments and agencies who assisted us, for their exceptional work beyond the call of duty. Indeed, their support has not only been efficient but also effective as illustrated by the technical rigour and socio-economic assessments contained in the budget documents I just presented to this House.

Lastly, I wish to thank Machakos County residents for their input in the budget through their contribution during the public fora for the CIDP and Finance.

I hereby table the statement before this Hon. House for deliberations and further submit proposed budget estimates 2018/19 so that together, we can embark on the journey of transformation and change the livelihoods of our people as we make Machakos County the Place to be. Thank you Madam Speaker. God bless you, God bless Machakos County.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Member of the Executive Committee, finance. I just want to assure you that the Assembly and indeed the people of Machakos County have heard you loud and clear, and what they are asking is implementation of your words so that they transform---

(Applause)

---into a development that the people of Machakos can feel, that they can see, that they can benefit from. The Assembly has been very active in playing its role: legislation, oversight and representing the people and indeed in your highlights, one of the issue you mentioned is the creation or setting up of a cancer treatment and care centre and that is a motion that came from this Assembly courtesy of Hon. Museku---

(Applause)

---and what the members of the Assembly and the public in Machakos would wish to see is that care centre and treatment for cancer up and running like yesterday. The Assembly, take the assurance from me, is going to be more than ever, vigilant in executing its oversight role and its legislative role so that the budget of the current financial year and other budgets going forward are implemented and the assembly is seeking the cooperation of the Executive in that because the people of Machakos County want to see real development.

(Applause)

Hon. Members, at this juncture, you will allow me to welcome you for a group photo and also a cup of tea with the guests that visited us from the Executive.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: And at this moment the sitting of the House is adjourned to resume today, the 3rd day of July, 2018 at 2.30 p.m. Thank you Hon. Members and our guest.

The House rose at 11.58 a.m.