

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY**

**OFFICIAL REPORT**

**Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2020**

The House met at 2.43 p.m.

*[The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Museku) in the Chair]*

**PRAYERS**

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Good afternoon Members. Mr. Clerk, proceed please.

**COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** There is a communication which is going to come from the Office of the Speaker and I am waiting for it and once it arrives, I will be able to read it over to you. In the meantime, we may continue with the next Order.

**STATEMENT SOUGHT**

**COUNTY IN RESPONSE TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, we have one Statement which is to be tabled by Hon. Moffat Maitha, MCA for Matungulu West Ward.

**Hon. Maitha:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. During the press briefing on the update of Coronavirus in the Country and response measures, as at 14th and 15th April, 2020, the Cabinet Secretary for Health Mutahi Kagwe made the following remarks;

- That increased cases of domestic violence, gender-based violence and sexual offences are being witnessed in the Country.
- The National Council on Administration of Justice (NCAJ) has recorded an increase in cases of sexual violence perpetrated by close relatives and guardians.

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(1), I wish to seek a Statement on what the County Government of Machakos is doing to engage entities like Law Society of Kenya (LSK) in order to protect the vulnerable groups within the County who are victims of domestic violence, gender-based violence and sexual offences witnessed during this Coronavirus epidemic as part of the collaborative effort to support the National Government in dealing with Coronavirus. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Maitha for that Statement. Again I am going to allow if there is any Member who would wish to make any comment on this Statement which has been raised by Hon. Moffat Maitha. Is there any Member who would like to make a comment before I commit it to a committee; Hon. Alice.

**Hon. (Ms.) Nzioka:** Asante Bw. Spika. Nimpongeze Mheshimiwa Moffat Maitha kwa tarifa ambayo ametoa. Ni ukweli, tangu janga la Korona livamie nchi yetu, kumekuwa na vita vingi sana vya kinyumbani. Ni vile hatujui kabisa tunapaswa kuvisema wapi, polisi wamekuwa na kazi nyingi. Mara mama amefukuzwa na watoto, mara amepigwa akaumizwa na nafikiria sababu kubwa sisemi wanaume wote lakini inaonekana.

Utafiti ukifanywa ni kwamba wanaume wengi hawawajibiki na familia zao; wakati ambapo watu walikimbilia usalama kwa ajili ya janga la Korona, wengine mwanaume anafika nyumbani; ako na karibu miaka tano hajafika nyumbani na sasa ni lazima wataanza vurugu na mama. Mama akiuliza mwanaume kuwajibika na pia zaidi, kuna wengine, mtu ameingia kwa hihi dawa za kulevya, na hizi dawa za kulevya wanaume wengi hasa vijana ambao wana miaka baina ya 20 na 40, wengine wameacha kuwajibika na shughuli za nyumbani.

Bw. Spika, tukisema ukweli, kuna shughuli sisi kama wabunge tunajua; ukiwa umepita umri wa miaka 18, kuna ambayo hata ukisema ni ya ukweli. Mwanamme anapaswa kuwajibika mchana mzima na akijua hali ya familia yake, mama na watoto na pia usiku kuna jukumu la mwanamme na ni lazima maana ni Mungu aliumba sio sisi.

Mungu aliumba Adamu akaona ni mwanamme na kwa sababu alitaka msaidizi, Mungu akampa. Alimpa wasaidiane nini? Wasaidiane maisha, makao nyumbani na wasaidiane vitu vingi ambazo ukiangalia, kuna Mungu ndani. Maana, kama wewe ni mwanamke na hauwajibiki, kama mama ako na watoto na haushughuliki juu ya watoto, na mama akiuliza lazima, kwa sababu hauwajibiki, lazima utatoa vita.

Mimi nauliza serikali yetu ya Kaunti ikishikana na vitengo vyetu vya usalama; akina mama wameingia kwenye shida kubwa sana na pia sisi kama viongozi, wakati ambapo tunaongea na wananchi wetu na hasa mwanamme, hata katika Biblia ndiye kichwa halafu shingo ni mwanamke; tuwaambie wanaume wawajibike katika familia.

Hio shida yote ni baadhi ya wanaume kukataa kuwajibika. Kwa hivyo ni jambo ambalo linapaswa kuchukuliwa na uzito ili tuwaokoe hakina mama. Asante.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Irene.

**Hon.(Ms.) Mwendu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will divert a bit because violence does not happen on the side of men only; there are also violent women. I am not sure whether Machakos has reported having cases of violence but because of this pandemic, we know stress is building up every day because you have not been used to staying with this guy 24/7 but here he is, and maybe he has not been there to satisfy you in many ways but here he is and you are wondering, 'dude, where have you been, why are coming now, you should go where you have been.'

But the Corona virus has created many stresses and mostly because most businesses have gone down and we do not experience provision as it was before and such stresses could cause violence at home between the wife and the husband. So in case of a lockdown, for example, and having the lack that we are already in now, even us as Hon. Members, we do not have enough to cater for our own families because most of our finances have been cut down to cater for this pandemic.

For example, if there is a complete lockdown today and everyone is told to stay home, violence will initially increase because there will be no food at home, there is no money anymore and this man is there and this woman is wondering; you are just staring at me and you cannot provide. So we need to look for ways, in case of a lockdown today, how will this County cater for the families of Machakos? Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Irene. Hon. Alex Kamitu.

**Hon. Kamitu:** Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker. This Statement by Hon. Maitha is really appealing and especially this time of Coronavirus pandemic in the sense that, this happenings

have increased because now, most of the families are back; they are staying together in their homesteads.

However, as good as it is, I really support this Statement. However, Hon. Speaker, I have got some reservations I have to make in regard to our structural leadership within the county Government and the National government. Looking at it as MCA Kamitu who is down on the ground, when we are talking about the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) as an MCA in Tala ward, there are very rare cases that I may need these people.

If there is a gender-based violence in a certain homestead, most of the reports are made to the Assistant Chiefs and that is why I said, on the structural hierarchy of leadership within the National Government, this Statement by Hon. Maitha is very valid and it is relevant to this House as leaders but now for the purposes of efficiency and effectiveness of following what has happened in a certain area in a certain homestead, I would say we should collaborate with the National Government through our MPs.

Anything related to violence is reported to the Assistant Chief who falls under the National Government in regard to arresting, reporting and even for a follow up because the Assistant Chief knows an area better than an MCA. When we come to the County Government, it is true we have got our village administrators but they are not very effective in regard to enforcing the law of the land.

So, for us as an Assembly to be successful, is to collaborate with our area MPs so that they can follow up these issues in the National Assembly. If it is an area that has been affected by drugs, violence against children or whatever, they have all the abilities, they have got their kitties where they can build a police station or a police post and they have got that money.

In regard to adding or being given more enforcement officers, they can request that because when you build a police post it means you need personnel. But as an MCA, you cannot effectively ask for any police post so that it can effectively enhance the area in terms of patrol.

For example, our school kids now are at home, the high school students too and you are even hearing in our media that there are some areas that have been identified where our big school going children are going to buy drugs. So it is within that collaboration with the Assistant Chiefs who can effectively do some patrols and the like. Otherwise, it is a good Statement and we need collaboration with the National Government. Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Constance Mbula.

**Hon. (Ms.) C. Nzioki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to say, the Statement is in good time; however, this is not the first time these things are happening because of the Corona. What has been happening is and most of the people want to do it the family way.

I remember a case where a young man came home after a few years in Nairobi before and got drunk, he raped his own mother and when we took him to a local police station, his mother followed the next day and said; just to wash out this shame from me, let us settle this at home. So the police released him, they came home and after three months, the man got drunk and hanged himself. We hurried him like three months ago.

So, these things, unless the Government pushes, people do not know the effects, because those doing these sexual abuse and other bad things, are your relatives, they are people we know, they are our close neighbours because nobody will come from Thika to Machakos to rape somebody. Those people know where you live, how you live, who you are with and so they take advantage.

I think we are not outspoken because if for example, you can see like the police releasing somebody, he goes and commits suicide and that ends there and next time, the old woman will still be raped. So, we need to find something to do away to do with cases; they are too many in the whole country not only in Machakos. No day passes without hearing such.

If you look at today's newspapers, there is a man who killed his wife on Sunday because he came home this time of Corona and he found the baby crying on the sofa and the wife was not around. Minutes, the wife came in, he did not even want to know where she was; he just took a nice and stabbed her to death. Now, he is being seen and the wife is dead.

So, how do we deal with this kind of thing; it is us now as legislators to know what to do. To the Chief, you may report to the Chief and the culprit goes there and gives the chief Ksh. 500 or Ksh. 1000 and that ends there. If they ask, they are told, this is a family matter; just like they marry girls away in other places, a very young girl, she is married off at 16 or 10 years and when you want to intervene you are told this is a family matter.

That family matter puts somebody in to great danger because if you want a child of 10 years as become a wife; what is a mother. Because they are doing the same thing; this girl has no experience, she is just learning and she is learning through a very wrong way. So, Mr. Speaker, we need to find something and a permanent thing to curb this kind of violence. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mueni.

**Hon. (Ms.) Mueni:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let us not ignore this Statement because you know many men were staying in Nairobi and they were not coming at home. They are even finding girls there which have 10 years and they have not seen her and it is a child. So, let us look for a ways Mheshimiwa Mbula has said so that we can solve the problem.

The Chiefs are given Ksh. 1,000 or Ksh. 200 and release the man so by saying that we do not care about them is very unfair because the MCA is the one who is very close to the people at home.

Let us look for a way of knowing the people who are staying well because some you may be seeing people come from one house and they are sleeping in different rooms, because they are not used to one another. Even the woman does not know what the woman wants to eat. She might cooking *githeri* and they were not staying together and the man is not buying the meat which he used to buy to the slay queen.

*(Laughter)*

So, I think it very important for us to know the differences in the households amongst us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mueni. Hon. Jacinta Luka.

**Hon. (Ms.) Luka:** Asante sana Mheshimiwa Spika. Kwa ukweli naunga mkono huo mjadala kwa vile ni mambo ambayo yamekua yakiendelea na hayajaanza huu wakati wa Korona, bali yalianza kitambo.

Maana ukiangalia watu wanaoteseka, kwa wingi ni walemavu maana wanakuwa katika sehemu kubwa ya kuteseka hasahasa wanawake. Wengine wananajisiwa na watu wa familia, labda wale anaishi na yeye wameondoka na mtu wa familia anaingia na kumnajisi. Ukifuatilia na maneno ifike kwa Chifu, unapata labda hawana pesa na Chifu akiahidiwa kitu kidogo, kesi inaishia hapo ama kesi inapelekwa nyumbani.

Kuna kesi ilikuwa pande za Misakwani; msichana alikuwa mlemavu na hawezi kutoka kwa nyumba na mtu akamnajisi. Baadaye niliulizia na nikapata kesi ilirudishwa nyumbani na ikaisha. Mwingine pande za Mwanyani pia, na kesi nyingi sana ambazo zimekuwa zikiendelea na kama kuna jambo ambalo linaweza kufanywa ndio hio mambo ikomeshwe itakuwa ni vizuri sana. Asante sana.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, very much Hon. Members for your contributions to that Statement. I commit this Statement to the committee of Justice and Legal affairs and request them as Hon. Kamitu has pointed out, the reason why I am committing it there is because it is concerning Coronavirus specifically. It has brought about gender violence and specifically brought about by Coronavirus.

I know there is the County committee level and in that committee level we have the administration; we have the County Commissioner there, we have the head of security, all the Chiefs in the County, we also have our County Government Executive leadership led by His Excellency the Governor and we have Madam Speaker in that committee.

So, I would be requesting the the committee of Justice to take up this issue through that County Committee on COVID-19 and bring up the issues before that committee and be able to report back to this House on the responses you are going to get from the committee especially side of the National Government in enforcement within a period of 30 days. Thank you, very much. Mr. Clerk, you may proceed.

### MOTION

#### REPORT ON CCTVs PROGRAMME IN MACHAKOS COUNTY

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, we have one motion to be moved by Hon. Francis Kalumu, the Chair Labor, Public Service and ICT Committee.

**Hon. Kalumu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a motion from the Labor, Public Service and ICT Committee on the issue of CCTVs.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that article 185(3) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, provides that a County Assembly, while respecting the principle of separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the County Executive Committee and any other County Executive organs;

Recognizing that the Labour, Public Service and ICT committee is established pursuant to Standing Order 190 and the Second Schedule of the Standing Orders define its mandate as follows; all matters relating to Labour, trade union relations, manpower or human resource planning; information, communication and technology;

Appreciating that the Labour, Public Service and ICT committee while undertaking its oversight role engaged the Chief Officer, Information Communication and Technology on the CCTV programme in Machakos with an objective of ascertaining its current status and also establish the viability of the project;

Further appreciating that the committee conducted fact-finding missions on select installed CCTVs within the County;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to move a motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the Labour, Public Service and ICT Committee on the closed-circuit television (CCTVs) programme in Machakos County.

Thank you, Hon Speaker. I call upon Hon. Alex Kamitu to second the motion.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Alex Kamitu.

**Hon. Kamitu:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I stand to support the motion. Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon Kamitu, Hon Francis Kalumu you may read the report.

**Hon. Kalumu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a report on closed circuit television (CCTVS) programme in Machakos County.

Hon. Speaker, Article 185 (3) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, provides 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;

Further, Article 183(3) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 stipulates that the County Executive Committee members shall provide the County Assembly with full and regular report on all matters relating to the County. Further, Article 185 3 states that the County Assembly while respecting the principle of separation of powers may exercise oversight over the County Executive Committee and any other County Executive organs.

Section 18 of the County Assemblies Powers and Privileges Act provides that a County Assembly or its committees may invite or summon any person to appear before it for the purpose of giving evidence or providing any information, paper, book, record or document in the possession or under the control of that person and, in this respect, a County Assembly and its committees shall have the same powers as the High Court as specified under Article 195 of the Constitution of Kenya.

Hon speaker, based on the above provisions, the committee requested for information from the Chief officer, Information Communication and technology on the current status of the CCTVs programme; the committee further invited the Chief Officer to a committee meeting and discussed the Machakos County CCTV program with a view of ascertaining its efficiency and effectiveness

### *1.2 MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE*

Hon Speaker, the committee on Labour, Public Service and ICT was established pursuant to Standing Order 190 and the second schedule of the Standing Orders define its mandate as follows; 'All matters relating to Labour, trade union relations, manpower or human resource planning; information, communication and technology.

Further, Hon Speaker Standing Order 190(5) mandates sectorial committees to study the programme and policy objectives of the departments and the effectiveness of the implementation.

### *2.0 COMMITTEE COMPOSITION*

Hon. Speaker, the committee is comprised of thirteen Hon Members as listed below:

- |     |                        |                    |
|-----|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.  | Hon. Francis Kalumu    | Chairperson        |
| 2.  | Hon. Agatha Mutunga    | Vice - Chairperson |
| 3.  | Hon. Alex Kamitu       | Member             |
| 4.  | Hon. Christine Koki    | “                  |
| 5.  | Hon. Constance Nzioki  | “                  |
| 6.  | Hon. Irene Mbivya      | “                  |
| 7.  | Hon. Jacinta Luka      | “                  |
| 8.  | Hon. Joshua Nzuki Muli | “                  |
| 9.  | Hon. Justus Katumo     | “                  |
| 10. | Hon. Nicholas Mutuku   | “                  |
| 11. | Hon. Paul Nyanzi       | “                  |
| 12. | Hon. Rozina Kanini     | “                  |
| 13. | Hon. Dominic Ndambuki  | “                  |

### *3.0 OVERVIEW OF THE CCTV PROGRAMME*

Hon. Speaker, Closed-circuit television (CCTV), also known as video surveillance, is the use of video cameras to transmit a signal to a specific place, on a limited set of monitors. The primary advantage is that CCTV acts as a crime deterrent; potential criminals who see the camera may be dissuaded from following through with their planned criminal activities for fear of being caught on tape.

The County Government of Machakos embarked on the CCTVs programme in the year 2014 with an objective of deterring crime and ensuring the safety of citizens of Machakos County, the investors and their property. The CCTVS were installed in major towns within the County and highways, Government and public amenities during the time when the Country in general was experiencing rampant terrorist attacks.

Hon Speaker, since inception of the programme, the CCTVs have helped resolve many criminal and road accident cases. The CCTVs have been used for traffic management and crowd control during major events including CECAFA international football games, Mashujaa day celebrations among others.

#### 4.0 SUBMISSION BY THE CHIEF OFFICER, ICT

##### 4.0.1 NUMBER OF CCTVS

Hon. Speaker, since inception of the programme the County Government has managed to install a total of three hundred and sixty (360) out of which a hundred and sixty (160) are working. The table below highlights the location and status of each CCTVs installed in the County.

	CCTV PROJECT	No. OF CAMERAS	SUB COUNTY	STATUS	LOCATION	NO	REMARKS
1	MACHAKOS LEVEL 5 HOSPITAL	39	MACHAKOS	WORKING	Barrier Entrance to MRI Corridor Pharmacy Laboratory Maintenance Corridor ICU Corridor Diabetes Centre Pharmacy Waiting Area OPD Main Gate MCH OPD Corridor Emergency Waiting Bay Emergency Gate Emergency Area Emergency Cash Point Parking Lot 2 Administration	1 5 8 1 1 3 1 2 4 2 1 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 2	Functional. Need to stock maintenance materials including wireless radios, power adapters, circuit breakers, power cables and networking cables.

2	MACHAKOS-KYUMBI HIGHWAY	23	MACHAKOS	WORKING	Makutano Mosque Makutano Junction Makutano Towards Nairobi After Makutano Alim Kyemutheke Kathome Kathome I Springvale Sella Village Kilima PH National Oil	1 2 1 1 1 4 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Few cameras are offline due to power challenges, short circuits, vandalism and accident (camera pole knocked down). Maintenance materials and mobility is required.
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					Kenya Israel Show Ground	3	
3	MACHAKOS PEOPLES PARK NEW SYSTEM	16	MACHAKOS	WORKING	Parking I Parking II Fountain Power House Mast Toilet I Toilet II	3 3 4 2 1 2 2	Functional. Stocking of maintenance materials and a transport van required.
4	PEOPLES PARK	30	MACHAKOS	NOT WORKING	Cameras Distributed at the park	30	System Requires overhaul
5	KENYATTA STADIUM	19	MACHAKOS	NOT WORKING	Social compound Media Center office outside Media Center office inside Stadium Perimeter wall VIP corridor	1 2 3 12 1	System requires a complete power overhaul. Stocking of maintenance materials and a transport van required.



6	OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR	32	MACHAKOS	WORKING	Parking lots Main Gate Finance door Cash office Procurement Workstation Corridor to cabinet VIP Door VIP Room Corridor to main office Back office Kitchen Strong room Entrance to Front Office Secretary to governor Cabinet Reception Store Perimeter Wall	5 1 1 1 1 1 2 1 1 3 3 1 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 4	Functional. Stocking of maintenance materials and a transport van required.
7	MACHAKOS TOWN NEW SYSTEM	9	MACHAKOS	NOT WORKING	Outside HQ HQ Main gate Social Hall Compound Bus park Grogon Cooperative Bank	1 2 3 1 1 1	Cameras require power maintenance and re installation of removed cameras due to ongoing road repairs. Stocking of maintenance materials and a transport van required.
8	MACHAKOS COUNTY HEAD QUARTERS & MAVOKO SUB COUNTY BANKING HALLS	15	MACHAKOS MAVOKO	WORKING	Machakos County HQ Mavoko Sub County HQ	7 8	Functional. Stocking of maintenance materials required.
9	MASII AND WAMUNYU TOWNS	18	MWALA	NOT WORKING	Stage Opposite post office Peter Mulei Level 4 Hospital Tawa Road Mast KCB Stage Wamunyu Sokoni Wamunyu	1 2 2 2 2 1 2 2 2	Cameras are offline due to wear and tear, short circuits, and broken wireless radios. Maintenance materials and mobility is required.
					Wamunyu Town	2	

10	MAKUTANO MA MWALA – KITHIMANI HIGHWAY	25	MWALA	NOT WORKING	IEBC Sweetwater’s Kwa Aindi Mwala Junction Kivandini Bishop Ndingi Mumbuni Kabaa Plateau	3 1 3 4 3 3 2 3 3	Cameras are offline due to short circuits, and broken wireless radios. Fixing power challenges, maintenance materials and mobility is required.
11	MATUU NEW SYSTEM	24	YATTA	WORKING	Trends Café Bus park Premier Pharmacy Junction to Sub county office Catholic Church Beta Bakery Sub county office Opp Bidii Supermarket KCB Opp Makutano Hardware	2 3 2 3 2 3 3 2 2 3 3 2 2 2	
12	MATUU, KITHYOKO AND KITHIMANI TOWNS	17	YATTA	NOT WORKING MATUU	Opp Bidii Supermarket Matuu Town Opp Makutano Hardware Matuu Town Matuu Memorial Junction to Sub county office Police Station Kithyoko Bullet Cameras towards police Bullet Cameras Market Kithimani Junction Towards hospital Sokoni Towards Highway	2 2 1 1 1 2 2 3 1 1 1	Kithimani and Kithyoko affected by worn out cables and cable cuts. Wireless radios require replacement. Transport is required to for maintenance and support services.

13	MACHAKO S TOWN (D.U)	48	MACHAKOS	NOT WORKING	Police Station Education County Assembly gate Barclays Bank Wizard Mosque Co-operative Bank Sokoni Oil Libya Petrol Station Bus Park DU Gate Grogon .Machakos county HQ GATE	3 2 2 2 2 4 5 2 3 15 2 3 3  3	Project affected by ongoing road expansion. Department plans to re-route the CCTV network to Social Hall control room when materials are available.
14	MAVOKO TOWN NEW SYSTEM	8	MAVOKO	NOT WORKING	Pepe Hospital Sunrise Academy Sokoni	2 2 2 2	Cameras are offline due to wear and tear, relocation for Mombasa highway expansion, short circuits, and broken wireless radios. New
							mast, maintenance materials and transport van required.
15	MAVOKO SUB COUNTY HEADQUA TER COMPUND	11	MAVOKO	WORKING	Sub County Office Compound	11	System requires additional cameras to cover blind spots
16	MLOLONG O TOWN	20	MAVOKO	NOT WORKING	Peter Mulei Bus Wananchi Toilet Luqman Gateway Way bridge Gardens Cooperative Bank Pork City	2 4 2 1 2 3 3 3	Cameras are offline due to wear and tear, short circuits, and broken wireless radios. Maintenance materials and mobility is required.
17	TALA TOWN	14	MATUNGUL U	NOT WORKING	Building next to Sub County HQ Building opposite Eastern Star Academy Sokoni Near JB Glasses Hardware Main road near	1 1 2 3 3 2 2	Project affected by wear and tear of solar panels, short circuits, and broken wireless radios. Maintenance materials, electricity power drops mapped, new mast, and mobility required.

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					petrol station Eastmat Police Station		
18	JOSKA – KANGUNDO HIGHWAY	5	MATUNGULU, KANGUNDO	NOT WORKING	Kangundo Town Koma Joska Cereal Board Oil Libya	1 1 1 1 1	Project affected by acts of vandalism. Requires maintenance materials, power drops and transport.
19	KANGUNDO TOWN NEW SYSTEM	15	KANGUNDO	WORKING	Bus park Sokoni Town Near Kobil Junction to Sub County HQ Sub County HQ Entrance Sub county HQ Corridor Sub County HQ Revenue office	4 2 4 2 1 1 1	Wireless section at town offline requires power maintenance. Stocking of maintenance materials and fixing power challenges required.

#### 4.1.1 CHALLENGES FACED BY THE PROGRAM

Hon. Speaker, the Chief Officer, Information Communication and Technology appeared before the committee and highlighted the below mentioned challenges that negatively affected achievement and realization of the CCTV program in Machakos County.

##### a) CCTV vandalism

The Chief Officer informed the committee that vandalism of the CCTV was a great impediment to the effectiveness of the program. He cited several scenarios where the installed CCTVs had been vandalized. He further proposed having vandal-proof security cameras that are outfitted with metal housings to prevent the lens from becoming damaged when there is maltreatment or physical abuse.

##### b) Roads infrastructure

It was noted that the recent roads infrastructure had negatively affected the CCTV program in that communication masts that were erected on the roads reserves had to be removed and also the underground communication cables were cut during the excavation process.

##### c) Battery power back up

The Chief Officer informed the committee that once power blackout occasioned, the CCTVs would not be operational as a battery power back up was not available. Having a battery backup for the surveillance system can help keep the monitoring system running during short-term power outages and provide much needed security at that specific time.

*d) Lack of personnel*

It was noted that the department did not have adequate personnel to effectively conduct routine maintenance of the CCTVs. Preventative maintenance is an essential part of ensuring continuous surveillance and helps to deter break-ins, theft and the overall security of the area(s) being monitored. Regular CCTV maintenance reduces the risk of system malfunction or failure to deter theft.

### **5.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Hon. Speaker, the committee conducted several site visits and held discussions with the Chief Officer, ICT on the management of the CCTV program and hence made the following observations.

1. That the objectives of the CCTV program are key to the social-economic development of the County; the programme has an objective of deterring crime hence providing a safe environment for investors.
2. That overall management of the program has not been as expected in that it was initiated almost six years ago and has been funded consistently over the previous budgets but has not yet produced the optimum results as expected.
3. That several big towns, both peri-urban and urban, do not have CCTVs installed;
4. That some installed CCTVS in Machakos town and its environs are not working; Machakos town being the County headquarters should set precedence by ensuring that all its CCTVs are operational.
5. The committee observed that the CCTV program is faced by hurdles such as vandalism, inadequate personnel, lack of a power back up and changing technological trends.

### **5.1 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Hon. Speaker, the Committee makes the following recommendations;

1. That the Chief Officer, ICT should come up with a CCTV policy that will foster the efficient and effective management of the CCTV, the draft policy should then be forwarded to the County Assembly for consideration and approval.
2. The department of ICT should endeavor to ensure that all urban and peri-urban towns in the County are fitted with these surveillance cameras so as to foster security. Further, the department should ensure that all CCTVs are operational and have a power back up.
3. The Department of Information, Communication and Technology should revamp the CCTV program with current technology in a bid to foster achievement of the set objectives. Technology changes by the day and since 2014 when the program was initiated, technological advances have been achieved so it is important to ensure that the CCTV program keeps up with current technological changes and advancements.

### **6.0 CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Hon Speaker, the objectives of the CCTVs programme are key to the development of our County, proper management of the programme should be advocated by the two arms of government and ensure that the program functions as required so as to foster achievement of the set objectives. Hon. Speaker, the committee is grateful to the office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk of the County Assembly for the support accorded during the committee sittings. I wish to express my appreciation to the Hon Members of the committee who sacrificed their time to participate in the committee activities and preparation of this report.

Hon. Speaker, It is therefore my privilege and duty on behalf of the Labour, Public Service and ICT Committee to table this report on the floor of this Hon House for consideration and approval. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you very much, Hon. Francis Kalumu.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Moses Mitaa.

**Hon Mitaa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker, for the opportunity you have granted me. Mine is first to thank the committee under the leadership of Hon. Kalumu for the great job they have done. I must appreciate that when they were visiting Kangundo town they invited me and we went round the town and highlighted some of the challenges which have been captured here, Mr. Speaker.

This initiative was indeed good because matters related to security cannot be underrated. Hon. Speaker When we went to Kangundo, I would want to capture that because I had the opportunity at least to see how the system operates, and you would tell whoever came up with that design actually had the idea now of avoiding issues of insecurity both day and night because the cameras have been installed in strategic area.

Hon. Speaker, we seem to have lost on the way something on the way Hon. Speaker, because if I remember very well a town like Kangundo is designed to have 38 or 36 cameras, Mr. Speaker. When you look at the report, less than 15 are working and so you ask yourself what about the rest because they were not being installed for the sake of installation; they were supposed to work.

Indeed now if the committee was to go back again to Kangundo, you would find like four are working. Well, I believe we have good projects let us put some budget for servicing or else for improvements because installing is something different and operating or maintaining something different. I would wish the committee would again visit the towns again and check on how these recommendations can be implemented because Mr. Speaker, it is not good to have invested so much funds on a project which is not giving us returns.

We need to see results from these projects we are doing and now that most of our towns have become municipalities, that time Kangundo was not a municipality and Tala was not a municipality, yet this is part of growth we would want to go hand in hand with other development which are being undertaken in our towns.

So, Hon. Speaker, if the issue is funds, through this Assembly, we can avail funds but again we check on the worthiness of projects instead of not just doing things (??). Let us see the impact what are we getting out the projects, Mr. Speaker? Like in my town, I know there is something that can be gotten if these CCTV are well maintained. We have had some cases of break ins but when you go to the CCTV control room, you find whatever you are after you cannot get because maybe that CCTV was not working. So it would be very wise.

Again something else I realized Mr. Speaker, is that we need to connect them with the National Police Service. I understood we are maintaining them as a county but issue to do with security, I think Mheshimiwa Alex Kamitu is here he has wealth of information on matters related to security, we need to involve the National Police Service in operations of our CCTVs because even when we are following a case, again you have to go to the police to come and review the scene and then they start investigating.

So from the onset, if we could involve them and maybe train some officers from the National Police Service to come and control the control rooms or else to maintain the control rooms... yes the facility is ours as county government but let the National Police Service maintain the control rooms. I think it would even shorten time on matters related to investigations. So, Mr. Speaker, it is a worthy project and I wish the arrangement would uplift it in one way or another (??). Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Fredrick Muthoka.

**Hon. Muthoka:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I thank the chairman for a good report and this CCTVs should use them even to enhance revenue collection in our county. We happened to pay a site visit to one of these quarries in Lukenya with our Clerk Assistant Dominic and some members and we found lorries there on strike so we asked them what is the problem and they told us they have been told they should not operate at night.

So when we called the Mavoko Sub-County Administrator told us they are not realizing any money at night so our question was why? He was arguing these revenue clerks are collaborating with these lorries drivers and they did not pay.

If we have a CCTV camera there, they will capture all the lorries which are getting to the quarries and which are moving out. So this issue of CCTV cameras is very important in our security and enhancing our revenue. So I think chairman ICT committee and chairman finance committee should collaborate and enhance this thing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Member. Hon. Constance Mbula.

**Hon. (Ms.) C. Nzioki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, this is a very good project it is only that... first I am a member of this committee and we have gone round all over wherever there are CCTVs and we have seen how they work and how they have failed. Mr. Speaker, it is a very good project if it is well managed but problem looks like there was no good planning or feasibility study because the department put so many of them on way and yet they could not afford to maintain them.

Again they did not have qualified staff; the offices we went we just found people who could just say it was working yesterday today it is not working and then as we moved on, we found this was a project not designed to do very well. I am sorry to say but we need to revisit the subject because to speak of the CCTVs there is no better security than a CCTV anywhere because you can rewind to watch what happened yesterday, the day before if it is a thief you will be able to catch up with that thief.

However, the way the department is running it now it is like you take a child to form one you pay for school fees for form one, form two then form three the child drops out. You have lost that child and you have lost the money you have spent so this project is not giving us any value for what was spent. I must say, although there is a lot of financial difficulties, Finance alone will not run it; we need qualified staff, we need somebody who knows what a CCTVs is, what they are doing and who can be there 24/7.

Many places we went we were finding no staff or one person who could not answer questions. I think and I hope the department had a good reason to put a CCTV but somewhere along the line that interest got lost and now we are calling on a department to do its best or else those machines can be removed from there and do something else with that money. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** May the mover of the motion Hon. Francis respond please?

**Hon. Kalumu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank you for being available at this particular moment, let me say this. You might not be aware of how good and how effective and how advantageous could be these CCTVs to our county. If at one particular time, Mr. Speaker, Machakos County is termed as the safest county in Kenya it will bring with it a lot of advantages, one of it being uplifting the economy of Machakos by investors coming to invest in our county.

Staying in Machakos County knowing that I am in the safest county in Kenya will give you peace. Staying in Machakos knowing that anyone who will dare attack me will be seen tomorrow in the TV you will know him, Mr. Speaker, that will be the most important issue. These cameras put criminals out of Machakos County but the question is, are we getting the value for money? If you

go back to the year when these cameras were installed Mr. Speaker, you will find that a lot of money was used. One time when we visited Machakos CCTV control room we found nobody.

In fact, we had been there several times without finding anybody to open for us the control room. When at last the person came, who was manning the control room told us that he has not been able to even repair something very minimal costing like Ksh. 1,000 and some of the times he has been forced to use his own money to repair some cameras. Having a question; what has happened with the money that is allocated for that function? So that tells you a lot, it tells you that all the money we allocate here for such purposes is not used for that purpose.

If you look at the report you find that there are no personnel yet there are so many employees of Machakos County who do not even go to work and yet we need a lot of personnel to man these control rooms and to repair damage, Mr. Speaker. This House has powers, again I will say that, to stamp its authority and say let money be used for whatever purposes it is allocated for.

We have been giving Ksh. 20 million every financial year but that money is not used for that purpose. Mr. Speaker, I call upon this House to help my department at least achieve the most advantageous purpose of making Machakos County the safest and even to save our money as Hon. Muthoka has said. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you very much Hon. Francis. I now put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

Hon. Members, you have adopted that report by labor public service and ICT committee and I would like to say the committee on Implementation needs to pick up this issue and follow it up closely to find out the recommendations which have been laid here by this committee to ensure they are implemented. Pick it up, run with it because as Hon. Members have said here it will not only improve on our security if they are all working but will also improve on things like revenue collection. Those two are very key which we can be assisted by the CCTVs.

A Hon. Member here talked about the National Police Service; Hon. Moses Mitaa who said that this needs to be connected to the national police. We cannot work in isolation if we have installed CCTVs let us connect them with the National Police Service who have the expertise in manning and management of CCTV. If you go into it as a joint venture between us with provision of equipment and them for provision of expertise, I can assure you they will be included as part of their security detail where they will be able to have officers going and manning those areas and using those equipment as part of their security reporting system.

So I think Hon. Kamitu you can be able to assist the Hon. Committee and Implementation committee to see how the executive can work with the national government and have these two functions working together in as far as monitoring and implementation of this thing is concerned.

Remember also Hon. Constance Mbula has talked about sunk cost; if you educate a child up to form three and they drop out you have sunk that money there and you have gained nothing because the child did not finish form four. The same with the CCTVs; we have already invested in the equipment and software and if we do not go the extra mile of making sure they are functional and they are giving us security and they are giving us enhancement of revenue collection, then it will be a sunk cost which I do not think anyone wants us to be in that position. So thank you very much. Mr. Clerk, you may proceed.

### PROCEDURAL MOTION

#### ADJOURNMENT UNDER STANDING ORDER 24 IN THE FACE OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members under this Order, we have one motion to be moved by Hon. Alex Kamitu, Leader of Minority. Hon. Alex Kamitu.



**Hon. Kamitu:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Standing Order 24(1) states that except for the sessions commencing after a general election, the regular sessions of the Assembly shall commence on the 2nd Tuesday of February and terminate on the 1st Thursday of December;

Aware that standing orders 24(2) provides that despite paragraph one the Assembly may, by resolution, alter the date specified under paragraph one in respect to a particular session;

Hon. Speaker, noting that the World Health Organization (WHO) Director General on 11th March, 2020 declared Covid-19 as a global pandemic based on the alarming levels of spread and severity and by the distressing levels of inaction;

Aware that H.E the President of the Republic of Kenya Hon. Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta in his address of 18th March, 2020 to the nation directed that where possible, government offices, businesses and companies be encouraged to allow employees to work from home with the exception of employees working in the critical or essential services;

Hon. Speaker, aware that as of 4th May, 2020 Kenya had 465 confirmed cases with 167 recoveries and 24 deaths. Globally at the same time there were 3, 510,000 infections with 1,130,000 recoveries and 247,000 deaths;

Further aware that currently there is no known cure of the virus;

Acknowledging that there is need for Hon. Members of this House to abide to the measures put by the government to combat the spread of Coronavirus;

Hon. Speaker I wish to move the motion that the House resolves that;

- a. To adjourn plenary sittings indefinitely until the situation on spread of Covid-19 is put under control; and
- b. To hold special sittings convened under Standing Orders 26 to discuss urgent business of county importance.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** You need to be seconded. You need to get a seconder for your motion.

**Hon. Kamitu:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I call upon Hon. Moses to second.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Moses Mitaa.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I second the motion by Hon. Alex Kamitu leader of minority to this Hon. House and he has given clear reasons as to why we would want to adjourn Hon. Speaker. As you are aware we are also in those ward committees, the sub county committees and it is saddening actually today what we have gotten from the Health cabinet secretary that if I am not wrong we have 45 cases today.

It is serious and we need to engage an extra gear now especially on the issues related to checking our people; the infected. We need to get to the population and our involvement now needs to be more in our ward levels than even in this assembly Hon. Speaker, because we can sit in this Hon. House discuss and pass things when our people are dying so we would be doing zero work, Hon. Speaker.

So it is on that note that I would want to support that motion. Let us be called in this Hon. House when we have urgent matters to discuss Hon. Speaker. Thank you.

*(Question proposed)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Alright Hon. Members let us contribute to that motion. Hon. Francis Kalumu.

**Hon. Kalumu:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to say also I appreciate the Motion from the Minority Leader because we are also human beings and we also want to be protected from this Covid-19. We are also vulnerable like any other person in Kenya and if there is prevention, it is social distancing and not going to places of gatherings.

I think that is what we should follow what the national government is saying that we should not converge in places where we can endanger our lives through contamination because every member here is a candidate to that it is only that you need to protect yourself so that you do not become a victim. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you very much. Hon. Jeremiah Munguti.

**Hon. Munguti:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would also like to applaud the member who is our Minority Leader for moving this motion into this House. Hon. Speaker, you will bear with me witness that since this pandemic was announced by the CS Kagwe Mutahi we have lost several people. We are close to 26 people who have now lost their lives and I am very much concerned, Mr. Speaker, when we keep coming to the House deliberating on issues while our people there...it is very funny that majority of people in the villages, in our wards do not know the impact this pandemic can cause to them.

Every moment you traverse to the ward, you will find a congregation of more than 20 people sitting together, and the majority of them are young boys, chewing miraa, smoking and they are sharing cigarettes and therefore Hon. Speaker, my plea is that, if we can be empowered as the representatives of the people so that we can go to our wards and do what we call civic education concerning this pandemic.

It is the rights of Kenyans and every citizen of this nation to have better health and for doing this it is a matter of us as members of the Assembly and as leaders of Machakos County that will be on the forefront so that we can educate our people on how to protect themselves.

You will realize that as it was earlier discussed there in the morning that our people do not have PPEs for protecting themselves and it is through the majority of the MCAs and other well-wishers who are donating their own money so that we can get these PPEs and therefore, my request is that if we can adjourn until further notice, not unless something is of county importance, we can be called through a special sitting because when we are down there and meet people who are congregating you can advise them.

Also through the committees that we have from the sub-county through the wards and also in the sub-location level but the problem is our people do not understand how this thing can cause them harm because when you talk to people, majority will tell you I have never seen anyone sick in this area but they do not know.

As Hon. Mitaa puts it, today the CS has put it clearly that we have 45 cases which have been reported and when you tally the number of people who have been infected now in this nation, we are over 500 within several weeks. May I tell you Mr. Speaker, that because the majority of the counties now have started the rapid testing of COVID 19, we are going to get more people and more people.

So, it will be prudent for this House if we can move with speed within our wards so that we can educate our people how to avoid congregation in the villages. Therefore Mr. Speaker, I support and I am requesting that if we can be empowered or facilitated in other words so that we can go and supply things to our people and some of the foodstuffs which are required also. There are vulnerable families which do not have food we can also supply to them and also educate them. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Mueni.

**Hon. (Ms.) Mueni:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also support the motion that we stay at home and work from home because we might be coming here and become sick and we take the sickness to our people at home. So, as the Mweshimiwa who was on the floor has said, we can help them get something and go and teach their people down there how this disease is dangerous because some small men do not know what they are doing.

They are chewing *muguka*, smoking cigarettes one, two, and when they meet you, you can see them putting the mask as if it is rosary on the chest and when they see the police they wear them. So, the important thing is our MCAs to go down and every time maybe a day at 10 o'clock they announce in the radios how serious the sickness is.

In Machakos I do not know whether we announce; even the Governor announces when he is giving food I do not know when. It is like a joke! It is very important we go down, be serious and we tell our people how serious the sickness is. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mueni. Any other Member.....there is some communication I am awaiting from the office of the Clerk and it is being typed that is why I want to continue with the debate and I finalize and I do a communication. I have sent the secretary to bring the communication before we close the House so any other Member who would want to comment on this issue? Hon. Kamitu, you may comment

**Hon. Kamitu:** Ones again Hon. Speaker with your permission I would also like to contribute on an addition to the information that I had given to the House. I would only appeal that it is very important for us as the Hon. Members even through the media we are able to educate our people through the media and more so on the government directives that were given because they were very important.

Hon. Speaker, my addition to the report that I have given to the House is that it is very important for us as Hon. Members even through the media, we can also inform our electorates through the media and more so to stress the importance of Government directives because they are very essential and as Hon. Moses has said and the other Hon. Members, it is very true that as we walk across the sub-counties, across your Wards, there are some citizens, our own citizens you find that they are ignorant and I will say they are ignorant because since this epidemic was announced in the Country or globally people have been informed up to the village level that this thing is very serious but it is very funny that as you traverse wearing your mask following the Government directives you sometimes go and meet some people, the electorates and some of them are not even wearing masks and it is very important because they are told if you are going to any public place, you must maintain the social distance, you must wear your mask and possibly if you go to a town in areas where there is water tanks provided for washing hands.

So, I am trying to emphasize it is to Hon. Members is that as you walk across your Wards, first of all you should also have the necessary preventive essentials facilities so that you may not be a victim and so my emphasis is that as we go out, let us emphasize the Government directives that are very effective and they are going to be followed. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Rozina Kanini.

**Hon. (Ms.) Kanini:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to say this, Mr. Speaker, this pandemic is real and if we do not move with speed it going to be a national disaster. What I have observed of late, the public has almost gone back to their normal businesses. If you walk around the town, you will see bodaboda riders carrying two passengers, they are not keeping distance and they think it just business as usual.

So, I think the public needs proper sensitization and that is why we should adjourn and work from home and do thorough sensitization. This thing is real. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you. Hon. Constance Mbula.

**Hon. (Ms.) C. Nzioki:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As you can see and read, the virus is there and it is deadly; it is only that we have not been hard hit like other places in Europe and elsewhere but Mr. Speaker, something we need to think about. We are going to pork from homes, we are going to meet the people on the ground and from here we are told we go prepared like we have the masks, sanitizers, we have water but the problem arises not even from tomorrow, even from before, you appear to those electorates and you are ready, you have your mask and everything but these people have nothing and so they are looking at you like *'Mheshimiwa umetuletee zetu?'*

It is a shame like you are going to your nearest market-ready and you have nothing to offer to them and they do not have them. My request from the Government to the Assembly, can we have more to give to the electorates wherever we go or what we got here for 50 pieces is that what we are supposed to supply to them also. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Constance. Hon. Joshua.

**Hon. Muli:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. As much as we would like to teach our people about this epidemic, we are also facing some challenges. There are those officers who actually should enforce the laws and those are the policemen. Sometimes you meet them and then when they arrest any of these culprits like the *bodaboda* riders they just get some money like Ksh. 300 or Ksh. 500 then they let them go. So, the seriousness of the matter is not known at the ground level.

Again that was last Sunday, I met with some Pastors from my Ward and then they were discussing about the epidemic and they were saying that there is nothing like Covid-19 is only that the Government wanted some money from the overseas and that they should be allowed to go back to the Churches and preach but then I was trying to explain to them on what is really happening and how people are dying overseas. I even gave them examples of how people are dying in Italy and other countries.

People are still ignorant; these are Pastors, leaders of the churches and they are so ignorant and they do not believe there is any sickness. They were even saying that, since everything was announced here, it is only 25 people who have passed away so they were claiming that, that is not so serious as people are saying.

So, we need some more time to go back to the electorates down to the ground and try to teach them the seriousness of this disease because still up to this moment people do not believe, they do not understand, they do accept that the sickness is very serious. So, I support the Motion and we go back and we interact with them, teach them the importance of whatever is being said by the Government so that we may be safe. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Member. Before I put the question to that, let me read some communication which is coming from the Speaker. Let me just put the question first because I think everybody has finalized on the Motion.

*(Question put and agreed)*

So, Hon. Members, with that, we are saying that once we finish we are going to adjourn the House *sine die* because of the issues which have been raised by the Hon. Members but before I conclude I want to read a Statement from Hon. Madam Speaker.

## COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

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## MANDATE OF THE MACHAKOS COUNTY CORONA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMITTEE

Good afternoon, Hon. Members. Apologies Hon. Members, I was not able to join you in today's sitting for the reason that in the morning I was attending a video conference meeting on the Machakos County Corona Emergency Response Committee which lasted from 10.15 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. I could also not join you in this afternoon sitting due to the requirement and the current health directives on the coronavirus disease for prior fumigation of any public sitting space.

You note that the Speaker's seat and the table had been occupied by the Hon. Deputy Speaker for the morning sitting and the fumigation could not be done within the period of the Assembly took a break for the morning sitting. Hon. Members, this communication arises from the information that reached me after the Assembly adjourned from the morning sitting, information arising from a Statement brought to the House in the morning sitting by the Hon. Michael Mutiso Nthuma that Members raised several issues concerning the Machakos County Corona Emergency Response Committee.

Hon. Members, I did communicate to you the formation through the Assembly online channels the formation of that committee and the fact that its purpose is to lead the public in the County in the fight against the coronavirus disease.

I also notified you of its composition consisting of the national and county government representatives as follows:

1. The Governor, chairman.
2. The County Commissioner, co-chairperson.
3. The County Speaker.
4. The County Assembly Clerk.
5. The Majority and Minority Leaders of the Assembly.
6. The Chairman of the Assembly Health committee.
7. The CECs notably those of those for health, water, transport, agriculture and other departments related to health.
8. The County Secretary.
9. The County Chief of Staff.
10. The officer in charge, NCPB.
11. Senior Officers in the office of the County Commissioner.
12. Senior officers from the KURA.
13. Senior Officers from the NTSA.
14. Recently, Members of Parliament from the County, among other officers from other national government offices.

In short the committee is in short multi-agency committee and its main purpose is to address the coronavirus disease in the County in liaison government. Since its formation from mid-March, 2020 the committee has addressed various issues mainly on compliance by the public with the directives of the President and the Ministry of Health for stopping the spread of the coronavirus disease.

The Committee is decentralized to the sub-county, location and ward levels and in each level the MCAs, both elected and specially elected, are members such that at Sub County level the members are:

1. Members of County Assembly from the sub-county.
2. County Commissioner Representative.
3. Sub County Administrator.
4. The Assistant County Commissioner.
5. Representatives of the relevant County departments, among other relevant officers.

#### Ward Level

1. The Member of County Assembly.
2. Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs.
3. Ward administrator, among other relevant officers.

The County Commissioner is on record in the deliberations of the committee saying that the MCAs have been of great assistance in assisting her office in the sensitization of the public in their respective areas on the control of the disease, thanking them and asking for more involvement of them through the decentralized units of the committee.

However, Hon. members, I now have information arising from the deliberations of the morning sitting in the House that you have raised several issues over the operations of committee and its decentralized units where you are members, notably that you are not being involved or are being side-lined in the operations of the decentralized units of the committee, that you need to be informed on the operations of the committee and that you are seeking information on the budget for the fight against the coronavirus disease, including information on the Machakos Stadium Isolation facility which was set up recently.

Hon. Members, briefly stated please note the following:

1. That as the people's representatives, you have a right to sit in and participate in the deliberations of the decentralized units of the committee and if you are being denied that opportunity it is very unfortunate and I will take it up in the committee with the offices of the County Commissioner and the Governor.
2. The detailed formal communication on the deliberations of the committee should be coming from the Clerk who is a joint-secretary to the committee, and if the same has not been happening I will take up the matter with the Clerk. In other words, what Madam Speaker is saying is that our Assembly Clerk is a Co-Secretary in that committee and whatever deliberations that are done there, he needs to be disseminating the same through the Secretariat to all Hon. Members to them to get up to speed with what is happening.
3. The County is yet to supply masks and sanitizers to the public and this matter has been discussed severally in the committee. The information from the County Executive is that procurement processes have been initiated, that some local manufacturing is being done and further that calls have been made for donations as both the County and the national government are short of funds and once the same are available they will be distributed to the public. However, a caution has been made that both the national government and the County government are not able to supply each member of the public with those items due to financial constraints and that members of the public should take up the responsibility of providing themselves with the items and only the most needy and the medical officers will be supplied with them.
4. The function of resource mobilization is purely with the Governor's office and on 4th May, 2020 some donations were received at the office and details of them will be given to you by the Clerk.
5. The assistance coming in is targeted at the most needy households some of which have been identified through the decentralized units of the committee. It is expected that Hon. Members you take part in the identification of the needy among your society and Hon Cosmus Masesi has been very vocal on this in the committee where he is our representative.
6. On the Stadium Covid-19 Isolation facility, the particulars of the budget are with the office of the Governor and only that office can provide the same, only to add that in the committee the possibility of having an existing Level IV or V hospital upgraded for isolation was discussed but is yet to be implemented. In other words what Madam Speaker is saying is that instead of setting up that isolation Centre, raising

those funds to upgrade another facility to a Level V and put the equipment there has been discussed by the committee but has not yet been implemented.

7. The County Executive through the committee is drafting an Emergency Response legislation that will soon be brought to the Assembly for approval.
8. The issue of the overall budget for the fight against the disease in the County has not been discussed in the committee and as you are aware, the Assembly has not yet received the Supplementary Budget from the County treasury for passing and if and when it comes, the Assembly will address it. Thank you, very much Hon. Members.

So, thank you, very much Hon. Members, that is the message from Madam Speaker and I am very sure it also going to be shared widely on the other communication channels of the Assembly so that every Member can be able to read and discern and digest the things the Hon. Speaker is talking about.

### ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** With that Hon. Members, the House stands adjourned *sine die*. Thank you, very much.

The House rose at 4.21 p.m.