

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 10th July, 2019

The House met at 2.33 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

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

PAPER LAID

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, we have one Paper to be laid by Hon. Moses Mitaa, Chairperson Agriculture Committee.

REPORT ON STATUS OF CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE IN THE COUNTY

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the House today, Wednesday, 10th July 2019; the report of the Committee on Agriculture on the Status of Climate Smart Agriculture in Machakos County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Moses. Where is that paper?

(The Paper was laid on the Table)

NOTICE OF MOTION

REPORT ON STATUS OF CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE IN THE COUNTY

Hon. Deputy Speaker: We have one notice of motion also to be moved by Hon. Moses Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa:

Mr. Speaker, that aware that the Mission for the Department Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries in Machakos County is to promote innovative,

commercially-oriented and modern Agriculture through development and enactment of enabling legal framework;

Aware that the World Bank (WB) Group is currently scaling up climate-smart agriculture in Counties and it is committed to working with Counties to deliver climate-smart agriculture that achieves the triple win of increased productivity, enhanced resilience and reduced emissions;

Informed that Machakos County was selected as one of the Counties to benefit from the climate-smart Agriculture program by the World Bank;

Further aware that in the next FY 2019/2020 the World Bank has budgeted Ksh. 150 Million as donor contribution whereas Machakos County is required to contribute Ksh. 24 Million towards the initiative;

Cognizant that in the FY 2018/19 initial programs involving coordination, zoning, survey and design including environmental impact assessment have been implemented;

Mr. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the report of the committee on Agriculture on the status of Climate-Smart Agriculture in Machakos County.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moses.

MOTION

REPORT ON SCHOOL-FEEDING PROGRAMME IN ECDE CENTERS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: We have one motion to be moved by Hon. Kiilu, Chairperson Education and Social Services.

Hon. Kiilu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I think I had moved this motion; I laid the Paper, the motion was moved and it was seconded. I was to read the report now.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: No problem, just go ahead and read the motion again and from there we proceed.

Hon. Kiilu: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, aware that Article 43(1)(f) of the constitution of Kenya provides that every person has the right to education and that aware that Part 2(9) of the Fourth Schedule converse to county government the responsibility to provide pre-primary education and child care services and such services are collectively encapsulated in the phrase Early Childhood Development and Education (ECDE) which is the holistic development of a child's social, emotional, cognitive, linguistic and well-being;

Aware that a motion seeking for introduction of feeding program in all public Early Childhood Education Centers within the county was discussed and approved by this Hon. House which was later committed to the committee on education to investigate and report back to the Assembly;

Aware that most of the children enrolled in ECDE centers within the county are from disadvantaged households and that they suffer from hunger and malnutrition

and that aware that the Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) is the bedrock and foundation of all learning and personality development in the life of any child which cannot be gainsaid;

I wish to give the notice of motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the committee report on initiation and implementation of school feeding program in all public Early Childhood Education Centers within the county.

Thank you. Mr. Speaker. I wish to call upon my vice chair Hon. Ndeti to second the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Daniel. Hon. Ndeti.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Kiilu

Hon. Kiilu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a report by the sectoral committee on education and the task was introduction of school milk programme in all public early childhood and development education centres in the county.

MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Speaker, the County Assembly is a creation of Article 175 of the Kenyan Constitution and Article 185 provides that, the legislative authority of the county is vested in, and exercised by the County Assembly. In order to give effect to Chapter Eleven of the Constitution, Parliament enacted the County Government's powers, functions and responsibilities to deliver the service. The committee's responsibilities under Standing Order 190(5) are to:

- a. Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned departments;
- b. Study the programmes and policy objectives of the departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- c. Study and review all county legislations referred to it;
- d. Study, asses and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- e. Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- f. Make all reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendations of proposed legislation.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Madam Speaker, the membership of the aforementioned committee is as follows:

1. Hon. Daniel Kiilu -Chairperson
2. Hon. Hellen Ndeti -V/Chair
3. Hon. Jane Nyawira -Member
4. Hon. Phoebe Koki “

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| 5. Hon. Ikusya Kaloki | “ |
| 6. Hon. Angela Munyasya | “ |
| 7. Hon. Margaret Ndalana | “ |
| 8. Hon. Francis Kalumu | “ |
| 9. Hon. Joseph Musau | “ |
| 10. Hon. Geoffrey Kamulu | “ |
| 11. Hon. George Kingori | “ |
| 12. Hon. Alice Nzioka | “ |

TERMS OF REFERENCE

In line with the provisions of the Constitution of Kenya, the Basic Education Act and the Standing Orders of County Assembly of Machakos, the terms of reference of the Education Committee with respect to the task assigned by the House were to:

- i. Find out the current status of child growth in all public Early Childhood Development Education Centre's in absence of feeding programmes;
- ii. Find out the type of food that would be beneficial to pre-scholars' health and the eventual impact on performance.
- iii. Table a report before the Honorable Assembly on its findings and recommendations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Hon. Speaker, Early Childhood and Development Education (ECDE) is the timely provision of a range of services that promote the survival, growth, development and protection of the young child and in every modern society, it is believed that education is the key to national development and there is a need to maintain every level of education especially the pre-primary stage because it is the bedrock upon which all other educational levels build.

Hon. Speaker, children are at higher risk of becoming malnourished which has severe effects on children's development, both physical and mental, and food is essential requirement in giving nutritional supplements to school-going children as provided for in Article 43 of the Constitution of Kenya which stipulates that every person has the right to be free from hunger and that the application of the School Feeding Program reliefs in reinforcing the nutritional status of school-going children as well as alleviating short-term hunger in malnourished children.

Based on the aforementioned, a Motion seeking the intervention of the house in initiation and implementation of feeding program for children in early childhood education centers by the County Government was brought to this Hon. House by Honorable George King'ori and it was referred to the committee on Education to investigate the current status of the ECDE Centres and report back to the House the committee's findings and recommendations

COMMITTEE VISIT TO THE ECDE CENTRES

Hon. Speaker, Standing Order 190(5)(e) states that one of the functions of a sectoral Committee shall be to investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary and as may be referred to them by the Assembly

The program of the visit to the ECDE Centers was scheduled for the committee to visit one early childhood education center in each sub-county with an aim of making recommendations based on the observation. The visit also meant to give ideas to the committee on matters pertaining policies that would make a positive impact on the county's approach on

Early Childhood Education and more specifically, the County Government policy on feeding program.

The Committee embarked on a fact finding mission to Early Childhood Development Centres hosted in primary schools including; Manza primary school, Ngukemwe primary school, Machakos primary school, Mangaani primary school, Kitengeini primary school and Nzaikoni primary school with a view of getting first-hand information on the issues concerning feeding program

FIELD OBSERVATIONS

Hon. Speaker, the Committee found out the following:

- i. That all public pre-primary schools visited had no feeding programmes and that the children were encouraged to carry packed lunch though majority of these children come from underprivileged families where there is no enough food at home, leave alone enough to carry to school.
- ii. That most of the children enrolled in ECDE Centres within the county are from disadvantaged households and that they suffer from hunger and malnutrition, due to their poor socio-economic backgrounds and that hunger has contributed to low enrolment, poor class attendance and high cases of drop-outs. This was observed in the school attendance registers
- iii. Some of the ECDE Centres hosted in public school compound lacks enough rooms to accommodate the PP1 and PP2 children. In Mangaani primary school, the PP1 and PP2 children are taught under the same roof by alternating the lessons.
- iv. The Committee noted that more than two –thirds of ECDE Centre’s lacked adequate furniture, while most of the available chairs and desks were unsuitable and unsafe for use by young children. Children sat on desks that were designed for primary school age which increase discomfort and risk of falling down
- v. Access to appropriate sanitation facilities is important for preventing infections. In most ECDE Centre’s hosted in primary schools, it was observed that younger children shared toilets with their older colleagues in primary sections. The poor sanitation conditions of those toilets affected children’s health status, which in turn, reduced educational outcomes by contributing to absenteeism and impairing cognitive abilities
- vi. Outdoor play equipment is important components of ECDE that children need for cognitive development and social interaction. These facilities were lacking in all centers which were visited by the Members.
- vii. That the kind of infrastructures are unsuitable for use by younger children as observed in ECDE Centre hosted in Manza primary school considering the poor state of floor, walls, roof and ventilation which were made of old iron sheets. Below, is the current status of the ECDE Centre hosted at Manza primary school; if you look at the picture, you see the kind of school where the ECDE center is hosted in; constructed with *mabati* and pupils are sitting outside in a windy and dusty field.



BENCHMARKING TO MOMBASA COUNTY

Hon. Speaker, the Sectoral Committee on Education having investigated the current status of the ECDE Centers within the County in line with the assigned duty and in accordance to Standing Order 190(5)(e), resolved to undertake a benchmarking visit to Mombasa County Assembly to investigate the success stories of School feeding programmes and in line with its sustainability, policy formulation and the source resources.

The Education Committee met with their counterpart committee of the County Assembly of Mombasa on 24th and 25th April, 2019 and from lengthy deliberations on school milk programme, the Committee found out the following:

1. That the County Government of Mombasa embarked on the school milk programme after a research by the department of Education showed that provision of milk in public Early Childhood Education as well as equipping the constructed modern disability friendly ECDE Centres with modern materials as specified by Section 26 of the Basic Education Act, 2012 would retain the learners and entice others to join the Centres.
2. That through the Ministry of Education, the County Government launched school milk programme branded Maziwa ya County 001 in 2014, and implemented in 2015 in line with the County Integrated Development Plan and the established policy with the following objectives;
 - a. Improve the nutritional status of targeted ECD pupils in the County.
 - b. Increase enrolments of ECD children within the County.
 - c. Raise the attendance levels in all public ECD Centers.
 - d. Reduce the cases of dropouts among the ECD children.
 - e. Enhance the academic performance of the ECD Children in the County.
 - f. Increase the volume of milk processed within the County.
 - g. Increase rural employment as a result of the demand for locally produced milk.
 - h. Increase employment along the dairy value chain and in the support services.

3. That the County Government preferred giving free milk to the ECDE Children since Milk is one of the most nutritious foods children can drink, containing 18 out of the 22 needed nutrients including vitamins, minerals proteins, fats, sugars and carbohydrates
4. That the County Government of Mombasa through the department of Education have expanded their roles by working in partnership with the Kenya Co-operative Creameries (KCC) a move which has made the programme a success with many county Governments borrowing a leaf from the County.
5. That in every financial year, the County Government budgets Ksh. 120 million to fund the milk programme where PP1 to Grade Three pupils in all the 97 public primary schools in Mombasa receive one packet of 200ml twice in a week as per the school schedule, a move which has improved the retention of children in those ECDE Centers with less absenteeism and high enrollment.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Hon. Speaker, the following are recommendations for establishment and implementation of School milk programme in the County Government of Machakos, through the department of Education and Social Welfare based on the Committee's findings from the site visits and benchmarking study visit to Mombasa County:

1. That the County Government through the Department of Education formulates School milk program policy aimed at improving the nutritional status of children; alleviating short term hunger thus leading to improved child cognition; enhance completion of basic education; retention of ECDE children in schools; increase in attendance and subsequently there after develop legislation for enactment by the County Assembly to streamline the operationalization of the ECDE programs across the County.
2. That affordable school milk programme sponsored by the County Government be introduced in all public pre-schools within the county since the program has been factored in 2019/2020 budget.
3. Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) sector being a full devolved function of the County Government, the department of Education should advocate for adequate budgetary allocation in every financial year enhancing proper management of the school milk program.
4. Supervision, monitoring and evaluation of pre-school programme and teachers should be intensified to ensure that all measures be given standard in terms of adequacy, quality and availability of facilities, equipment for provision of feeding programme in all schools.
5. That the Machakos County Government through the relevant departments should find ways of expanding their roles by working in partnership with non- governmental organization interested in the County project. This should be done by direct provision of necessary materials or human resource enrichment and not cash funding to avoid misappropriation of funds.
6. There is need for all stakeholders and development partners in the ECDE section to be sensitized and mobilized through intensive awareness campaign in order for them to embrace school milk programme.

CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Speaker, we cannot speak about early childhood education without focus on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In fact, early education has been recognized as a foundation for adult health and productivity and if children suffer poor nutrition, lack education and lack security, the achievement of the SDGs remains but just a dream.

It is also worth noting that lack of access to suitable infrastructure like classrooms, safe sanitation, outdoor play equipment undermines the ability of Early Childhood Development Education centers to retain learners as well as provide holistic development to children's social, emotional, cognitive, linguistic and physical needs, which are collectively essential for building a strong foundation for lifelong educational attainment and socio-economic development.

Hon. Speaker, the Education committee is grateful to the office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk to the County Assembly for the support accorded during the committee sittings and visitations. I wish to express my appreciation to the Honorable Members of the Committee who sacrificed their time to participate in the activities of the Committee and in preparation of this report. It is therefore my privilege, on behalf of the Committee, to table this report and recommend it to this Hon. House for adoption. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Daniel Kiilu for that report.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Members, you may debate the motion. Hon. Angela.

Hon. (Ms.) Munyasya: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would first want to thank my chair for giving us a comprehensive report and articulate; this will enable Members debate it from a knowledgeable point of view. Mr. Speaker, ECDE children are at their early formative stages, physically, mentally and health-wise. It is the responsibility of any leadership to ensure that we grow a responsible nation and the formative stage of growing this nation is by ensuring that these children are formed holistically on that stage.

Mr. Speaker, nutrition is key to this formation and if the children don't get good nutrition from that level then we will only be growing a nation with which we will never be sure of because if they don't have good health then it will result to them dropping out from schools, getting ailments like kwashiorkor, polio and that will not be good for any nation because if we form that kind of grassroots then, our nation and not just our county, will be at stake.

The only way to build a nation is by ensuring a healthy life process and this starts with the children's good health. So, Mr. Speaker I urge this Hon. House to adopt the report and support the recommendations. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon Angela. Hon. Hellen.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand here to congratulate the chairman and his committee for a good report that is well put. I think as Mheshimiwa Angela has said, a nation is formed by the people and when the people's health is not in order then the nation cannot grow. We need our young ones to be given the foundation so that when they go to school

their stomachs are full and in that way they will be able to concentrate and come up with a good foundation.

So, I would urge the entire House together with the Machakos government to ensure that there is proper funding for this project because it is very crucial. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moses Mitaa.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to also give my input starting by thanking the Education committee under the leadership of Hon. Daniel Kiilu. Mr. Speaker, when we talk about early childhood education, we talk about the basic; this is the foundation and as the saying goes 'if you put a weak foundation, even whatever you are trying to come up with will be also weak.'

I support the report fully because Mr. Speaker, we need to create a conducive environment for the beginners of education and if we motivate them through such initiatives, Mr. Speaker, it will be a way of encouraging these young kids to find there is peace in class and not at home.

I remember very well Mr. Speaker, it is obvious whenever we are trying to wean these kids to school, you find mostly they do not want because they are used to the home and being with close relatives and such an input can create some sort of environment for them to like the school and as you are aware, if you are in any assignment and you have the will and the motivation is there, definitely the results must be there; they must be seen.

Mr. Speaker, health-wise, milk has nutrients as the report has said. Although my slight challenge Mr. Speaker, currently I have seen in some areas they have introduced porridge; I do not know which is better between porridge and milk. I might not have the technical knowhow but maybe in future we might be able to investigate and see the best way out because if porridge is better than milk, I would have preferred we go that way but for now, Mr. Speaker, there is a beginning for everything; let us start with the program and in between as we progress, we might be able to make changes where necessary. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Moses. Hon. Kieti.

Hon. Kieti: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to start by congratulating the Chairman and his Committee for the report that they have brought to this Hon. House. The report is good because it is addressing a very important population in our Nation, the young ones who are the leaders of tomorrow.

As we are seated here, Hon. Speaker, those of us who come from the rural areas know what it means to have a feeding program in these schools because many of the families even at the moment are unable to have enough food so that the kids can eat well before they leave for school. I have been a teacher and I know what this one means. Many are even scared....many children do not even go to school because they are hungry and having that feeding program in the schools; it will also act as an incentive because many will be willing to go to school because there is something that they are going to eat and then they will be able to study.

At the same time, this feeding program will also enhance immunity in these children. Most of them get those early childhood diseases just because the feeding programs they have in their homes are not giving them enough nutrients. So, I support that, the feeding program is

introduced in our schools so that the children in those formative stages can get something to eat when they go to their schools. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cosmas. Hon. Thomas Mutinda.

Hon. Mutinda: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am on the floor to support this and let me say that the idea of ECDEs was supposed to have some standards where we were supposed to have the classrooms, the teacher and something like a source of water like a tank, a toilet and the furniture to be used. So, ECDEs were not supposed to be just mere classrooms and I think we should maintain these standards because what we have today as the standards in our ECDEs is you find in some schools there are no classes, others they have, others have teachers, others do not have.

So, we have to come up with minimum standards which we are going to maintain so that our people may benefit and I think we should see that we have what we need as bare minimum and maintain the standards so that our children can learn from a good environment and also on this feeding program. I think we should support that our children are provided with milk and also whatever may help our children feel that they are accommodated and appreciated as they start their schooling because when we do not appreciate them, then the future of our Nation will be doomed because if they continue feeling that this is not the right environment, then we may end up with many drop-outs in future.

So, Mr. Speaker, I support the milk program and any other assistance that may be provided to our children. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I support the report; I am a Member of the Committee but my name is not there. So, mine is to ask the MCAs, everybody was given a class. So, when we are giving the milk, we are avoiding the cooking, we are avoiding employing somebody to be feeding the kids, it is only that we are starting and it is by the goodwill by the Governor so that they can do the best and you know those children are for the poor people.

You know when we are in this town to take a child to ECDE class is very expensive and it is around Ksh. 20,000 which is more than taking a kid to Form one. So, we support our people down there who voted for you so that we can get people for tomorrow. If a person ends up missing the ECDE class and comes to learn when one is in standard five, one does not make it because he or she has missed the background.

So, we support those women and the people who are not able so that they can be remembering you while you were in the Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Kisini.

Hon. Kisini: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also want to commend and to support this report and the Chairman and the Committee for bringing such a good report. As earlier said, these children are at their formative stages and it is very good to build them health wise so that as they graduate from the lower level to the primary level, they are strong enough and they have the brains. We know most of these children come from very poor families and those families cannot afford to afford a good meal nor a good drink or something to nutritious like milk.

So, Mr. Speaker, we know that the Government is feeding or has a feeding program for the Primary children but the early childhood or these young children are not catered for in that program. So, if we request the County Government to set aside a kitty and also feed these children. They will graduate to the Primary level when they are strong, when they have the brains and when they have the energy and they are strong to read.

So, Mr. Speaker, I fully support, it might be expensive but if very well-balanced, if budgeted, the County Government plus as the report says, they look for partners to partner with so that they can support it, it can be affordable. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kisini. Hon. King'ori.

Hon. King'ori: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I want to support the feeding program or the milk as the report has stated but I would also like to recommend that, this report should be forwarded through the supplementary budget so that we can start feeding our children immediately because if we do not start that way and the way we are in Machakos you see there are symptoms of hunger in our areas, we shall loose so many kids out of school. We shall not have enough education to our kids because of drop out in schools. So we encourage this one to have our children in school.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, I would also like to add something else that if we support those kids and we have a small budget which is not so big, the county government can afford to fed our kids, we establish a fund like the bursary fund; we have a fund for the feeding program so that we do not fail to get that fund because we can source funds from outside and we can make that thing very easy for us and we shall have our children in school and organized. We just need to have regulations that which will see to it that we have a fund that will cater for the feeding program. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. King;ori. Hon. Johana.

Hon. Munyao: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand to support this report. Hon. Speaker, the kids at such tender age require a lot of care because that is where attitude is formed towards some of this life programs like education and when at such age, pupils see schools as places of comfort where they feel they are being taken care of and in terms of structures where they are living in and also through such programs, it is very likely that once an attitude is formed, it will grow the child and the child will grow positively and also with esteem required as they grow up. I would like Hon. Speaker to suggest because the element of sustainability in any program is what counts.

As we roll out the program, we ask ourselves whether it will be viable for us to roll it out to the entire county or whether we are going to consider either some of the areas which are hard hit maybe environmentally where poverty levels may be are higher some areas and we us them as pilot areas so that we can learn from the cases we are able to see whether the programs runs the logistical issues in running the program and then from there we can project on the amount of budget the program can be able to consume if now rolled out to the entire county.

Then I am sure if we see it is sustainable, the reasons given by the committee Hon. Speaker, are valid; it will boost even the locals. It will create market for production of milk within the county. It will also take care of the malnourished pupils for that matter and there are

so many advantages attached to it. If we are able to work it smartly, get partners and make it sustainable, I think it will be the best program ever. I stand to support. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Johana. I call upon the mover of the motion to respond.

Hon. Kiilu: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Let me start by starting by thanking the Hon. Members in the House for supporting the report of the committee. Actually, as a teacher I know what it means to have a school-feeding program in place. Definitely, it will enhance the enrollment in the school and it will also enhance the retaining of the pupils in school, it will also enhance the attendance and it will also boost the immunity of the children.

Actually the reason why as Hon. Mitaa had said, the reason why we did not want to start with the porridge program is that we did not want to incur so many other expenses on top because once you introduce the porridge program then you need provision of water which is not available in most of the institutions, provision of firewood, you need a cook in place and so many other areas.

Without good will from the community then you can realize that you have the flour in the school but the porridge is not there to be cooked. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank the House for supporting this report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you very much Hon. Daniel Kiilu for the report and the response.

(Question put and agreed to)

(Applause)

Hon. Members, I would like to make one comment on the same and that is on two points which have been raised and which I hope the committee as they finalize on their report will look at now that the report has been adopted. The first one is the issue of the creation of the fund for sustainability and I think in recommendation item number three, Early Childhood Development Education (ECDE) sector being a fully devolved function of the county government they need to ensure that there is a fund in place.

Once you create the funds and a fund has regulations, then that will ensure every year amounts are budgeted as Hon. King'ori and Hon. Johana have talked about that the fund will be there and will be making sure every year there is allocation to this.

The other important point which has been raised is by Hon. Johana also on pilot study and selection of schools where you want to roll it out. Some of this schools which are especially in the urban areas, you might not get a lot of mileage on this one whereas you might get a lot of mileage by starting in those marginalized areas. So maybe there is need for the committee to work with the Executive and come out with a targeted area where we can be able to roll out this program initially and then as it picks up and as the funds become available it can be rolled to the entire county.

Finally, the other item I needed to talk about on the same issue is; you have talked about milk verses porridge. It is a health debate, there are merits and demerits as the Chair has said. One might lead to other incidental expenses coming in and the other one is easier to handle but in as far as, I think I knew where it was coming from, that you might be getting to killing two birds with one stone, with the porridge.

Inashibisha and that child might not need lunch now; some of us who come out through those schools we know, *ukikula* one meal a day, back in our days that was all you could be able to get and if it is affordable to be gotten in school, then that child will be able to have a healthy development.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members with that, this House stands adjourned now to resume on Tuesday, 16th July, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. Enjoy the rest of your afternoon.

The House rose at 3.25 p.m.