

**REPUBLIC OF KENYA**  
**MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY**  
**OFFICIAL REPORT**

**Wednesday, 13th December, 2017**

The House met at 3.00 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

**Hon. Speaker:** Get seated, Hon. Members and good afternoon. We start our afternoon session. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

**MOTION**

CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF CATTLE DIPS

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this order we have a motion by Hon. Moses Mitaa. Welcome, Mr. Mitaa. Hon. Members, I indicated that we proceed because the petitions were brought to me as I was walking in here and I need to go through them and that is why I said, proceed. Thank you for drawing my attention to that.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, for granting me this opportunity to present my motion to this Hon. House.

Madam Speaker, the livestock sector has an important role in the overall economy and livelihoods of a large proportion of the rural areas as well as urban households in Kenya;

The contribution of the sector to Kenya's economy is often given as 12 per cent of the country's GDP and 42 percent of agricultural GDP;

Recognizing that despite the sector's economic significance the major challenge is livestock disease outbreaks, for instance Kenya experienced two major disease outbreaks over the past two years resulting in the imposition of disease-related export restrictions;

This had a negative impact on recovery of trade in livestock and livestock products;

Nevertheless, these diseases can either be controlled by vaccination or treatment; Vaccination is the most sustainable method of control and covers large proportions of animal herds;

Aware that plunge dipping remains the most efficient and economic method for periodically treating a large number of animals against ticks, flies, lice, mites and other external parasites;

This is still the case in many cattle farms in several parts of the country where thousands of cattle have to be dipped monthly or even weekly; Madam Speaker, I wish to move the motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves that cattle dips construction projects being incorporated in the second County Integrated Development Plan, existing cattle dips to be rehabilitated and new ones be constructed to have at least a cattle dip in each location in the county.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Who is the seconder of your motion?

**Hon. Mitaa:** I call upon Hon. Kieti to second my motion thank you.

**Hon. Kieti:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to second the motion brought by Hon. Mitaa owing to the fact that having the dips will help reduce cost of treating the animals and also avoid unnecessary losses due to disease. It also guarantees healthy livestock and it also creates jobs to the attendance of the dips. Owing to the fact that prevention is better than cure, I stand to support the motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mitaa and Hon. Kieti.

*(Question proposed)*

Hon. Helen Ndeti?

**Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would like to support the motion brought forward by Hon. Mitaa. I would like to support this motion because Machakos County does not have many resources apart from raising cattle and growing of maybe food but because of the shortage of water and many other amenities, I think we should do best what we are good at. So, there is need to come up with so cattle dips so that we can eradicate all diseases that end up giving us less production of animals.

I think, secondly, Kenya as a country does not have a lot to export in order to earn foreign exchange and this is also a very good resource in which the country can be able to export livestock and continue to earn foreign exchange for procurement of many other goods. Thank you.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Helen. Hon. Cosmos?

**Hon. Masesi:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to support the motion and say that these practices used to be there at our young ages. I used to see some cattle dips within my local areas where farmers of low earnings could afford them because it used to go for Ksh. 30 per cow, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, we need to make use of these good stuff when they come across this Hon. House and I wish that this House approves the same, Madam Speaker. I stand to support the motion. Thank you.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Cosmos. Hon. Pauline?

**Hon. (Ms.) Mene:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand in support of the motion but I am of the feeling that cattle dips are outdated methods. These days there are methods there are injectables and pour-ons maybe those are the ones we should adopt. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Pauline. Hon. Kisila?

**Hon. Kisila:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is one of the best motions this house is debating. As leaders, we are supposed to leave a legacy and Madam Speaker, I want to bring to your attention together with the Hon. Members that one of our biggest leaders we have ever produced in this country is one man who came from my sub-county called Hon. Mulu Mutisya and Mheshimiwa Mulu Mutisya, in my ward, started 17 cattle dips and unfortunately because of bad leadership, they died with him and it is a pity that our people continue suffering while the biggest source of livelihood is our livestock.

During my campaign, Madam Speaker, following the footsteps of Mheshimiwa Mulu Mutisya, I managed to rehabilitate four of them and from my experience Madam Speaker, I was expecting members to clap for me but they do not want to. From the experience I have had from these four cattle dips, you cannot believe one cattle dip in Mango location, every Thursday we are treating over 800 livestock. One weekend!

Madam Speaker, this is one of the best things to support our people and in fact, I wanted it to be incorporated within our budgets so that the county meets the cost of managing the cattle dip together with employing someone who takes care of it and the dawa which is used in that cattle dip.

If we do that we are going to change the lifestyle of our people and I can give you from experience, in the last two to three months in the four cattle dips which I have managed to rehabilitate, the livestock as completely changed because the best way to treat livestock is through a cattle dip and if they are given proper treatment and proper management then we are going to improve the livelihood of our people.

So, Mheshimiwa Moses Mitaa, thank you very much for bringing this motion and I fully support it, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Brian Kisila. Hon. Chuma did I see you putting your hand up? Do you still want to put it up? Go ahead and address the house.

**Hon. Kituku:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am Hon. Patrick Kituku, MCA for Ndithini and Chuma is my nickname. I stand to support the motion brought before---

**Hon. Speaker:** For record purposes, if Chuma is a nickname, I withdraw my referring to you as Hon. Chuma. But I can offer that you swear that I did .....(*inaudible*) and became a chuma for real.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Kituku:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to support the motion brought before this House. Actually, it is a good motion because having a cattle dip in every location is one of the best ideas I would support. Other than control of the external parasites, cattle dips also treat

foot rot. There is some calcium sulphate they usually put somewhere and most of the farmers do not take care of their animals as far such disease is concerned.

Again, cattle dips are the most efficient methods of controlling external parasites as the animals are usually full immersed in the acaricide solution. Again, we also know that most actually of these external parasites usually transmit diseases and most farmers do not control their animals against these parasites and hence by introduction of these cattle dips will make the farmers adopt to this practice and most of our animals will not contract some of the diseases. So, I stand to support this motion and congratulations, Hon. Mitaa. Thank you.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Patrick Kituku. Hon. Constance Mbula?

**Hon. (Ms.) C. Nzioki:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. This motion is so much overdue. In fact, I had drafted and Hon. Mitaa was ahead of me. It is a very good motion, it is needful. However, I would like, if possible some extras to be added as I say I had already drafted it is only that I had not reached this House; we have a lot of problems when it comes to livestock market.

You find people walking long distances to buy, bring home and within that event the livestock you buy from, call it, Kathiani will reach wherever you are going with a different disease and you will need to take so much care of it. Not forgetting that you have to hire somebody to trek those livestock to your place. So, my suggestion was that if every ward can be allowed to have livestock market, it would help a lot and I support the motion. Thank you.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Constance Mbula. Hon. Nicholas?

**Hon. Muia:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, I stand to support Hon. Mitaa's motion on the cattle dips but I would like to request for some few amendments because according to his motion, he mentioned a cattle dip in each location and when I look in my ward Katangi where most of the people are farmers because you know the area is semi-arid, very dry and the farming of crops does not do very well, the location is so vast and big so one cattle dip per location would not be actually enough. So, if we can amend to say one cattle dip per each sub-location, I think that could make some sense.

Also in addition to that I would also request to have an audit of the available county veterinary officers because I do not see them in my ward. I am a farmer; I rear goats and chicken and some cows and when they get sick, I have to hire a private veterinarian which is very expensive. If the MCA finds it expensive what about the local common mwanachi.

So, I think we should have an audit and see how many veterinarians are available on the ground. Do they have the needed medicine because we end up losing a lot of livestock which is the source of livelihood for many Machakos residents? So, I would like the same to be added in the same motion. The availability of the veterinary services with the available medicines and such like things. Otherwise, I support the motion it is very important indeed. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Some guidance, Hon. Members. We agreed that you continue to learn every day. There is a habit that has developed in this House that whenever a member brings a motion and then another member wakes up to seek an amendment. I have just been looking at the provisions for amendments of motions and I can just refer you to Standing Order 52(1) 'the

proposer of an amendment, in this case read Hon. Nicholas, being a proposer of an amendment to a motion shall before moving it hand the proposed amendments in writing signed by the proposer, that is Hon. Nicholas, to the Clerk at least two hours before the order is read out.' Okay.

So, that one is already out but if you come to (2), 'despite paragraph one, the Speaker, may in exceptional circumstances, allow a member to move an amendment to a motion before the House at any time during consideration of that motion.' For the Speaker, the amendment proposed by Hon. Nicholas and the amendment hinted to by Hon. Constance Mbula are not exceptional circumstances.

So, I will not allow that amendment proposed. What you will do, Hon. Members, if you so feel, bring the motions we debate them on their own. So, we are not going to have an amendment to the motion. Let us proceed, Hon. Maitha?

**Hon. Maitha:** Madam Speaker, it would be, if for example we get the Order Papers two hours before debating in the chamber, I think the members can make amendments so I am praying that if it is possible, we get the Order Papers in our pigeonholes early enough so that we can peruse them and see whether one has an amendment so as to do that one, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Point of information.

**Hon. Maitha:** I do not want to be informed. I am talking about what the Hon. Speaker, talked about.

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Members, I do take very seriously the point of order by Hon. Maitha and I can assure the House that the office of the Speaker, will liaise with the office of the Clerk to ensure that the Order Paper is available to the members in good time and I think with that we can proceed.

*(Applause)*

As a matter of fact, I am also the office of the Clerk is also having a very good defense. They are saying that they gave notice at 10 a.m. in the morning.

*(Applause)*

Hon. Members, it is alright. Please be checking your pigeonholes and I will keep on reminding also the office of the Clerk they give the notices in good time but also yourselves check the pigeon holes also in good time. Can we proceed with the motion? Anyone who has any contribution? Hon. Ndawa.

**Hon. Ndawa:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand here to support the motion and say this motion ought to have come at least some months ago because it is one of the best motions. When I was a young man, I used to take our cows to the dip but now the young ones, these teenagers, if you ask them what a cattle dip look likes, they cannot tell. So, Madam Speaker, I support this motion 100 percent.

The other issue, I would like to come where you have just indicated that it is not fair for people to be amending motions. Madam Speaker, I want to say the ruling you have given is the best because some of the members here might be lazy they may not be willing to search or research for their own motions and instead they would wish to come and amend motions on the floor of the House.

So, I would urge you, Madam Speaker, to be strict on that and kindly never allow anybody to amend any motion. Otherwise, this motion is excellent. What I would request is that because I know most of the cattle dips are there but they are not functional, it is good that we ensure the ones that are not functional become functional and we construct an extra one. Thank you so much.

*(Applause)*

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Ndawa, I hear you only that you do not say Hon. Members some of them are lazy; that is very bad language. What you do, a leader is never lazy. If they are lazy, you heard the other time we were told if they are sleeping, you say they are resting their eyes. Look for kinder words; do not use those ones.

**Hon. Ndawa:** I withdraw that word and replace it with, they may not have enough time to look for their own motions

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Members, allow me to call the mover to reply Hon. Mitaa.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Thank you, Hon. Members. Mine is to appreciate the contributions from my colleagues because they have seen the importance of this facility which some of us we found in existence when we came to this world. So, Madam Speaker, I wish to request my Hon. Members to maintain that spirit and pass the motion as it is. Thank you.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Mitaa. Hon. Members I put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

Hon. Members, this motion having being admitted by this House is committed to the committee on agriculture for further interrogation. The committee should table a report on the motion before this House on or before the 28th February, 2018 at 10 a.m. That committee should note that they have the leeway, they do not have to wait up to 28th February, 2018; they can do it even before we go on recess, if they are able to do it. In other words they should not exceed 28th February, 2018 at 10 a.m.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Members, at this point the house is adjourned to the Tuesday, 19th of December, 2017 at 10 a.m.

The House rose at 3.26 p.m.