

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY
OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 19th February, 2020

The House met at 2.41 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

Hon. Speaker: Good afternoon Hon. Members. Mr. Clerk we are okay on quorum; so let us start the sitting. Proceed.

PAPER LAID

Hon. Speaker: We have one business by Hon. Kamitu, Minority Leader. Hon. Ikusya, Hon. Annastaciah, do you have information? Are you holding brief for Hon. Kamitu? Hon. Titus Kaloki, are you Deputy Minority Leader?

Hon. Kaloki: No I am the Deputy Minority whip

Hon. Speaker: You can still do the work of Hon. Minority Leader.

PAPER LAID

THANKS OF THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN
THE ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Kaloki: Okay. Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am standing in for Hon. Kamitu, the Minority Leader of this House. Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the House today Wednesday, 19th February 2020; the Governor's address to the Assembly delivered on 18th February, 2020. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ikusya. Let us see the Paper; give it to the Clerk at the Table so that we look at it. Okay, the Paper is laid on the table of the House. Next, Mr. Clerk.

NOTICE OF MOTION

THANKS OF THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN
THE ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Speaker: We have again Hon. Kamitu. I presume Hon. Ikusya you will continue to hold brief it is a notice of motion on the same Paper that you have laid. Let the Clerk at the Table provide the necessary document for you.

Hon. Kaloki: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Point of order from Hon. Maitha.

Hon. Maitha: Hon. Speaker, is Hon. Kisila properly dressed?

(Hon. Kisila withdrew from the House)

Hon. Speaker: I did not even see him; was he here?

(Laughter)

Hon. Maitha, you should have told me when he entered, was Hon. Kisila here?

Hon. Maitha: Yes, he was just seated there Madam Speaker. He has run away from the Assembly.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: Did he bow when he was running away?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: Okay, let us proceed.

Hon. Kaloki: Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ikusya, sorry; I was just asking about that notice of motion. I see it is not signed. I have a set and the Clerk at the Table do not have a signed one. What you can do, if you can reach the Hon. Minority Leader, I will give him the indulgence; if he can come before we finish the business, I call his business at that point but tell him he is not going to enjoy that latitude on another day. So have a seat. So, Mr. Clerk, proceed.

STATEMENTS SOUGHT

Hon. Speaker: We have two Statements; the first one by Hon. Jeremiah and the second by Hon. Betty.

(Hon. Kisila walked in)

Hon. Kisila, it was said that you were here but I did not see you and you were not were not properly dressed. Were you here undressed?

Hon. Kisila: I was not having my jacket.

Hon. Speaker: You were half dressed?

Hon. Kisila: Maybe according to the Member.

Hon. Speaker: What about according to the rules of the House; you were half-dressed. Do not come again half-dressed to the Assembly. Hon. Jeremiah.

MEASURES TAKEN BY COUNTY TO COUNTER THE LOCUSTS MENACE

Hon. Munguti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Article 43(1)(c) of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 states that every person has the right to be free from hunger and to have adequate food of acceptable quality. On distribution of functions between the National Government and County Governments, Part 2 paragraph 1 of the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution bestows on the County Governments functions and powers in agriculture including crop and animal husbandry; livestock sale yards; county abattoirs; plant and animal disease control and fisheries.

Based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, under Goal No. 2 which is Zero hunger, all Governments have a responsibility to put in place appropriate interventions to counter hunger, achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

Under the Big 4 Agenda of the National Government, food security is the first item that is identified as key among projected achievements by both the National and County Governments. In 2019, the Food and Agricultural Organization warned of a looming outbreak of desert locusts in the Horn of Africa. According to the organization, it was predicted that the locusts were likely to invade Kenya by the end of the year.

By the end of December 2019 and into January 2020, the desert locusts had descended on the counties of Mandera, Wajir, Garissa, Moyale, Marsabit, Isiolo, Samburu, Meru, Laikipia, Kirinyaga, Baringo, Kitui, Turkana, Embu, Muranga and Machakos. According to experts, this was predicted to be the worst locust invasion in the country in 70 years.

Hon. Speaker, in view of the above, I wish to seek a statement from the County Executive on:

1. What the department of agriculture has done to counter the locust invasion so far?
2. If the County Executive Committee Members for Finance has set-up and reserved emergency funds in the event of further invasion in the County.
3. What measures the County Executive has taken to ensure prompt surveillance of the locust threat and to support people in the areas that have already been affected? Thank you, Madam Speaker

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jeremiah. Hon. Members, as is our practice usually a Statement of this nature when it is sought as you wait for the response because of the importance of the matter, you normally express your views so that even as the office concerned is coming to answer, they also look at the records of the Assembly so that they can answer adequately.

Before we even start that, we are hoping that if the BBI passes, the recommendation that CAF, I keep on giving you tit bits, where is Mheshimiwa Kieti; if the recommendations that members of the National Parliament particularly the National Assembly be appointed as

Ministers, like we used to have before, similarly we proposed that Members of County Assemblies also be appointed as CECs.

(Applause)

This is coming in because if now we had a Member here sitting and assuming that Member is the one in charge of agriculture, they would feel the heat of your debate on this matter and they would seek a few days to bring you a report and if they do not bring a report then we deal with them through the parliamentary system even as you deal with them through the usual system of CECs.

So that is one area which you will also need to think about. It has not passed but that is a proposal if you are for the idea or not; there is forum for discussion. So, we want to hear on these Members even as we commit it to the relevant office. Hon. Ngunga.

Hon. Ngunga: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: I am not Mr. Speaker; or you are hoping for a Mr. Speaker

(Laughter)

This is a Madam Speaker. So Hon. Ngunga, when did you forget?

Hon. Ngunga: No, no, no; the whole of yesterday I had---

Hon. Speaker: Ooh, you were having a Mr. Speaker?

Hon. Ngunga: I had a Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Okay now, you have a Madam Speaker.

(Laughter)

Hon. Ngunga: I want to apologize for that, Madam Speaker. I want to thank the Member who is sitting next to me from Muthetheni for having brought before the House this statement; seeking the situation of the locust invasion. Members, as you might have realized, both National Assembly and the Senate have been keen on seeking Statements from the cabinet secretary for agriculture on the same.

So, Machakos county as one of the affected counties; I think this is a Statement that is very properly before the House where Madam Speaker, we need to get the indulgence of the CEC and the CO agriculture to get to know what kind of damage the locusts have been able to impact on us and what measures they have put in place.

Of course, we understand they are doing something but I think the Member is proper before the House to seek what measures are there so that Members can get to know. Madam Speaker, I remember a while ago when we were doing our supplementary budget, I did pose a question about how we get prepared in some of these things and I remember I was asking the

chairman of budget whether they were able to set aside some percentage of the budget to cater for emergencies but little did I know this was going to come.

Now here it is with us and I think it is the high time that as an Assembly we got prepared so that we do deliberations and budgeting process, we are also keen so as to save for these kind of emergencies. Madam Speaker, I am aware that this invasion could be a thing of the national government but the county government must be prepared as well so as to set aside a kitty. I am aware this afternoon Madam Betty, is also seeking a Statement about the status of the roads. This again is also on the same thinking because we had very heavy rains that pounded the county and it looked like we have always been unprepared.

Madam Speaker, therefore I want to challenge the House and say that the back starts and rests with us and we need to get prepared but, of course, I am happy my brother here is thinking ahead of time. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: There is an issue Hon. Ngunga you have raised on the emergency kitty; I think that matter came before this House. Whether we have an emergency kitty as a county; there was a motion. So this again this comes back to you; it starts with you and ends with you. You passed a resolution for establishment of an emergency fund.

Hon. Ngunga: Madam Speaker, if I may correct that, it is actually a requirement in the PFM Act, that any budget must have a reserve of two percent of the budget as emergency.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, that is why I am saying it starts with not you in particular but the Members of this Assembly because it is a requirement that you have that emergency fund and I remember sometimes back, the position was that you do not have the regulations. Remember section 116 PFM Act; you must have regulations in place just like you did with the bursary fund. So what have you done to follow up on implementation? Hon. Dominic, you have an answer to that?

Hon. Ndambuki: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We allocated some monies for emergency. However, for this money to be available for use, the County Executive Committee needed to have sat and passed draft regulations so that---

Hon. Speaker: Draft regulations and bring here for your approval?

Hon. Ndambuki: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: So, my question still remains; what have you done by way of following up on implementation of that. The position is like you have stated. Hon. Museku, you have an answer?

Hon. Museku: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think in the budget report which we read before this House, the recommendation was there, that first and foremost they had allocated Ksh. 70 million into that kitty during the main budget and then in the supplementary they moved all of it and left Ksh. 6 million in that account. Now, the explanation which was given by the Executive is that if we leave the money sitting there without the regulations, they are not going to be able to utilize it.

So, in the budget recommendation for the supplementary budget, we instructed them that they need to come up with regulations so that we can be able to create that kitty and fund it because we are going against the rules. There is no one single county which sits without an emergency kitty to be able to take care of any emergencies apart from Machakos County.

So I think the onus is on the Chair budget committee to ensure that we pressurize the Executive for them to bring forth those regulations and we have them in place, we put the kitty there and then we will be better prepared to respond to such emergencies.

Hon. Speaker: That is a matter that has arose within our Statement here and Hon. Dominic, chair of Budget, you need to do the necessary even as we go on with expression of our views on the Statement. You need to summon the officer that is supposed to come and tell you what they are doing about bringing draft regulations to this House for passing. Even without debating it, you need to bring that in the next two weeks; 14 days, that is called a debate within a debate.

Hon. Ndambuki: That is okay.

Hon. Speaker: Please take it up upon your committee. So now we go back to our statement; just the expression of Members. A point of order Hon. Kisila.

Hon. Kisila: Madam Speaker, do we actually as a budget committee normally follow up with the Executive to establish how budgets are being utilized? Or when we pass the budget we just assume that they are adhering to that?

Hon. Speaker: Is that a third debate within a debate?

Hon. Kisila: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: The question is, Hon. Kisila, do you sit in the budget committee.

Hon. Kisila: No.

Hon. Speaker: In fact, it is not just the budget committee but all committees and in the morning, Hon. Kisila you were not here, I started by telling you Members you do not have time now; it is not in your favor and that means that what you pass here and you think will make a difference to the people on the ground, make sure it is implemented. So that is another issue on implementation. So let us carry on with the Statement very briefly. Hon. King'ori, have they reached Katani?

Hon. King'ori: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am aware of the same thing but what I would like to say is that we need delegated legislation committee to be given more duties to do so that we can follow up on those issues because we have been idle yet regulations---

Hon. Speaker: Now, Hon. King'ori, you are out of order because that is not on the Table.

Hon. King'ori: Okay. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: But if I see anything that must go to the delegated committee; I like your zeal to want to do work, I will give you the work. So let us proceed to submissions on the Statement.

Hon. King'ori: Madam Speaker, I am aware that we have a problem in our area and sometimes they invaded my area, not this time round but in my home area where I come from in Nyeri and that is where I was born.

(Laughter)

I have to say that because everybody has a past.

Hon. Ngunga: Point of order, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ngunga, there is no point of order. All of us here came from somewhere to come to Machakos, so Hon. King'ori please submit and do not tell us your past.

Hon. King'ori: Thank you, Madam Speaker, I withdraw and I rest my case.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. King'ori, Hon. Kiteng'u.

Hon. Kiteng'u: Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would like to say that I was the first victim to have been affected by the locusts; I think they entered through a place Kivaa- Masaku Itee DC and it is terrible Hon. Speaker because they fly in swarms and they can cover an area of more than nine kilometers and they are kind of yellow but I can attest that I visited one *shamba* of a resident of Masaku Itee DC and they really caused damage.

As per the Statement Hon. Speaker, I must say that I called His Excellency the Governor and that time he was in Australia and I also involved the Chair of agriculture;ture committee and CO agriculture and because they visited us in the evening, the following day by 8 o'clock, the county officers were on site and we tried to mobilize through national government and we managed to start the aerial spray at midday and again we could not manage to chase all them.

We got another swarm the following day evening in another place called Kwa Kyumbo and at that time I made a lot of noise; I had a press conference addressing the national government and the following day we got the government spokesman Cyrus Oguna who now clarified that it is a national calamity as they entered through Garissa and Moyale and their origin is Yemen through Ethiopia, Somalia and then Kenya.

He told us that the government is handling the issue; what we need to do is to give the government ample time. I must attest that, although my ward has been like the highway as they come through my ward because even a day before yesterday I received some, and Hon. Speaker, I can say that the county government is on toes to end the issue but you understand now it is like

they are everywhere in Machakos because I have heard that they are in Kangundo and if they station in your ward for three or four hours, they can cause a very big damage.

So, I find the Statement timely so that now we can set aside funds because that time the County Government did not have any funds we were just trying to rely on the National Government whereby we could not have enough chemicals because the swarms were in Masinga Central, Kivaa Ward while others are in the junction of Kitui and you see the National government is not dealing with one ward or one County because they could spray in my ward again the aerial spraying they would direct it to Mwingi North and Central.

So you realize that we are asking the Government spokesperson that we need more than four or five aerial sprays just to handle the issue of Eastern. Hon. Speaker, for me, just to let the House know that the County Government, as per the Statement, is trying best to work with the National Government although there are no funds for this emergency so we could not procure any chemicals.

Hon. Speaker: Within the county.

Hon. Kiteng'u: In Machakos County.

Hon. Speaker: Funds within the county or in the National Government?

Hon. Kiteng'u: No in the county government of Machakos because we could not....the department of agriculture had funds but when I spoke to *Waziri* he told me that...

Hon. Speaker: What is *waziri*?

Hon. Kiteng'u: The minister; the CEC.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, speak English.

Hon. Kiteng'u: Yes I spoke to the CEC, sorry, Madam Speaker, and he told me they could not procure anything because they do not have funds for this emergency. So, I find the Statement timely that we need to have regulations so that as a county we can have this emergency kitty. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kiteng'u. Hon. Cosmus.

Hon. Masesi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am glad to report that as we speak now the locusts are within Matungulu Sub County to be more specific---

Hon. Speaker: I thought you would be crying? You are glad or you are sad to report that.

Hon. Masesi: I am sad to report.

Hon. Speaker: Yes.

(Laughter)

Hon. Masesi: I am sad to report that the locusts as we speak today, Madam Speaker, they are within Matungulu Sub County and to be more specific Matungulu North. Madam Speaker, since morning we have been talking about the budget and I want to believe it is the high time this House be getting some reports maybe on monthly basis from the executive of how much we get from the CoB maybe in terms of recurrent and development because Madam Speaker, we need to be informed on whether we are getting such funds which can assist us in this menace.

Madam Speaker, I am being told it is like they are occupying a diameter of six kilometers and they are yellow in color so I am trying to imagine the damage they will cause by the end of the day but the Chair of agriculture committee reported to us that something is being done to make sure that at least spraying is done today soonest. Otherwise, Madam Speaker, it is a calamity within us and we need to move fast as soonest. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Cosmus. Hon. Maitha.

Hon. Maitha: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Madam Speaker I want to first of all, congratulate the Member who has requested this Statement. This Statement is very important because Madam Speaker, our people are suffering because of the invasion of these locusts. These locusts as you have heard from Hon. Masesi are now in Matungulu North Ward and I wish that they do not come to Matungulu West where I neighbor Matungulu North Ward and as I speak I am told they have now alighted in the village of the Hon. Member and that is where he has rushed to.

Hon. Speaker: Which Hon. Member?

Hon. Maitha: Hon. Member for Matungulu North Ward.

Hon. Speaker: His name?

Hon. Maitha: Michael Mutiso.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Michael Mutiso.

Hon. Maitha: He actually whispered to me that the office of the CEC Machakos County has rushed there and that is where he has gone to accompany them. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the Chair of agriculture committee because he has been up and down all that time when those locusts have been mentioned in Machakos and we pray that eventually they will leave Machakos County.

Madam Speaker, I would wish to request H. E the Governor and his CECs to sit down and formulate the policies so that when they are given money, they can fight such invasions like the one at hand. I thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Maitha. Hon. Ndalana; Hon. Kamitu I will come to you.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndalana: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to say this, Madam Speaker; the word of God is telling us Joel 1:1 'things like his will come.' So I request our people to pray so that we can see the will of God. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: In fact, they should not only pray but they should also change from their wicked ways; it is usually a curse and it is some or all of us who have not been doing what God wants us to do. So, we do not...even I mean you are a House of legislation but remember there is also the higher legislation somewhere. Hon. Kamitu.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker. Madam Speaker, first I want to applaud Hon. Jeremiah to have brought this Statement and mine will be very brief Madam Speaker. I want to give out a historical event maybe, not even maybe and with due respect Madam Speaker, if you look at the number of Members of Machakos County Assembly some of them or many of them I would say have not experienced this is their first time to have experienced the locusts invasion.

Hon. Speaker: I think it is all of us. Has anyone here ever witnessed them before?

Hon. Kamitu: Yes, that is where I am coming.

Hon. Speaker: This is the second time you are witnessing?

Hon. Kamitu: No, I am saying when I was a young boy looking after cattle, I think I was about 13 years old and as I said I want to talk about experience and historical events. That is why I am saying some of us might not have experienced such an invasion of locusts. Locust invasion is a very destructive type of invasion in regard to agriculture, in regard to food security Madam Speaker. Now that the Statement has given us a pen picture Hon. Member for Kivaa has again given us a practical experience that he saw in his ward.

So what we are saying Madam Speaker, is that a policy is brought into this House if they are not followed by the Implementation committee for that matter or for any respective committee for that matter, we shall be doing mark timing. In police, mark time is just standing in one place and you are not moving backward or forward so this Assembly of Machakos Hon. Members, we should now stand up because you remember the Statement was made by our Speaker that time is moving and time is running out. We short of time 2022 will be I mean we are catching up with 2022.

So what am I saying? On a very sincere note we should be now on our feet, we should now, as a wake-up call, see that things, motions and Bills passed by this House should be followed for the benefit of the Hon. Members and the electorate who brought us into this House. We are the highest of the electorate so what I would like to say is that for the purpose being the high of the government of this Assembly.....I talked with H.E the Governor and really he is doing something in regard to the locust invasion in regard to the response but that is not enough.

Let us put regulations, let us document and make a follow up that whatever has been passed by this House has a follow up, we ensure that things are followed and we can say this is what we have and this is the short fall. Otherwise, Madam Speaker, this is not a game of cricket; it is a game that members should come up, it is war against locust invasion.

Otherwise, let us move forwards and ensure that we do not or we are not put into an area where we are going to experience starvation and as I said, historically, I remember when I was 13 years old, the locusts invaded our area and cattle died because they normally invade the grass, they go for their food and especially even the trees. They go for the trees so it is a serious issue that we should take a very big concern and move forward as a House and as you said the Chair of budget committee let us follow the regulations.

Let us summon the CEC who is in charge of that so that when we are talking of emergency fund we should be talking of an emergency fund that is applicable, that is within our hand reach and we can apply when need arises. Thank you very much, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamitu. Hon. Mitaa from where you sit as the Chair of agriculture committee.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Again I support the Statement sought by Hon. Jeremiah Munguti on the issue of locust invasion, desert locust invasion. Well, it has come at the right time Madam Speaker, and I think before as we seek information from the side of executive, I do not know whether I would be wrong to at least update the House on issues we have been handling related to desert locusts, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Go ahead and let the House know; maybe you have the answers they are seeking.

Hon. Mitaa: You will give me the guidance, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: That is why I am saying you go ahead and give the information.

Hon. Mitaa: Okay, thank you. Madam, Speaker, on 24th of January we had some swarms which moved to Machakos County, to be specific Kivaa Ward from Embu and Kitui Counties. Madam Speaker, as we speak today, we have managed as a county, because the work of county is to survey and to monitor. We have our extension officers on the ground whose work is to inform the National Government whenever they trace these locusts in their areas, they inform the national government so that now the national government through Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is able to act on the attacks by these locusts.

Madam Speaker, as we speak today we only have one swarm in Machakos County which is in Matungulu North. It moved yesterday in the evening after it was sprayed in Matuu Ward. In fact, it was sprayed in the morning but because now the chemical they are using is not knock-down chemical, it works within a span of 10 hours. They managed to move to Matungulu North. They landed there yesterday in the evening.

Madam Speaker, the latest information I have which I received today around 2 p.m. because you cannot spray these locusts during daytime. There is after 10 o'clock, they become very active and they fly---

Hon. Speaker: 10 in the night or day.

Hon. Mitaa: After 10 a.m. in the morning; they become very active and they start flying. So you find you cannot because for you to spray successfully they have to be somewhere

stagnant and not on the move. So the time proposed for spraying it is either early in the morning between 6 and 10 or at around 5 o'clock in the evening or 7 p.m. because at that time they are settled somewhere.

Madam Speaker, as of today at 1 p.m. the information I got is that the plane is there, we have the chemicals but the most unfortunate thing is that the pump of the plane is spoilt and the engineers were on the way to work on the plane so that tomorrow very early in the morning we will be able again to confirm because these things are on the move.

What I understand is they might not be actually by late in the evening they might not be in Matungulu North they might have moved to another place and what we are doing through the surveillance and monitoring, wherever they land because now the state at which they are is the state for reproduction we are monitoring through GPRS, we are assembling a team to monitor so that because Madam Speaker, once they lay eggs it takes 21 days to hatch; after 21 days we will have nymphs.

Like at Hon. Kiteng'us ward we anticipate by between 28th of February, 2020 and 8th of March, 2020 we will have nymphs at his place, ward. While the attacks happened Madam Speaker, our Hon. Governor was not around and immediately when he came back, he assembled our CEC, Chief officer and our director with the information that the director who is conversant with this issue would advise the Governor and the executive on the chemicals which we need to use so that we purchase as a government and also hand sprays or ultra-low volume (ULV) pumps or modernized pumps so that now we equip areas like Kivaa ward areas where those things have been we prepare ourselves.

So, on the issue of emergency kitty comes in because we might procure the pumps and the chemicals but there is no law so at the end of the day the director of AOB (??) people will come and land whoever purchased those things, Madam Speaker. It again strengthens the need to have that emergency law so that we are able to purchase.

Hon. Speaker, again as agriculture committee chairs under SEKEB, we again thought it was good because this thing whenever it attacks Machakos it is attacking Kitui. Fortunately or unfortunately, Makueni has not had serious cases; maybe it's on the way because we know now whatever will come up the nymphs which will grow in the next two weeks at most they will now spread all over.

In fact, I can inform my colleagues we have not had the problem; what we are waiting is the real problem and that is why we want to prepare ourselves because these nymphs will take seven days to have wings to fly and within those seven days we will have to work on them so that we eradicate them. Failure to that they will be able to fly and now we will not be able to tame the issue.

So, Madam Speaker, we met at Mwingi because the neighboring ward, there is a neighboring ward I cannot recall the name maybe Mheshimiwa Ngutani Ward in Kitui County which neighbors Hon. More's Ward and that is actually it is---

Hon. Speaker: Who is Hon. More now here?

Hon. Mitaa: Hon. Kiteng'u's Ward and actually that acts like a breeding ground, Madam Speaker. We went there, we walked a radius of 15 kilometers; the land was purely yellow and we are very much aware that after 21 days, approximately at the end of this month and the first week of March, the eggs will have hatched and we anticipate a lot of challenges. So what we did under

SEKEB, because we met like under SEKEB, Madam Speaker, we met and we had a few resolutions and I do not know if I can just go through the resolutions?

Hon. Speaker: On locusts?

Hon. Mitaa: Yes it was on locusts, Madam Speaker, because the issue before us is on locusts and Madam Speaker, there is the danger now on the locusts. It is obvious the locusts are destroying food crops which is a threat to human food security---

Hon. Ngunga: Point of order.

Hon. Speaker: Point of order, Hon. Ngunga?

Hon. Ngunga: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Although the chairman agriculture has a lot of material on this but I think the purpose of the House I think it is pre emptying what answers we might be getting if this Statement were to be referred to a committee or to the right place.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Ngunga, I am in full control; this is a very important debate and I know at what point I will commit the statement to the relevant---

Hon. Ngunga: I just wanted to share that information.

Hon. Speaker: It is okay; I hear you but I am telling you I will commit it at the appropriate time. Just let the member continue. Hon. Mitaa, proceed

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I think for the sake of time which I think the Hon. Member is concerned about I will look for---

Hon. Speaker: I am looking at the clock; it is right in front of me.

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me just rush to the resolutions. The three counties should activate the emergency funds for easier control of locusts. Madam Speaker, that point clearly shows the importance of that emergency and this was discussed under SEKEB. Procurement of ULV motorized pumps and procurement of locusts control pesticide; Madam Speaker, I think if there is any other information we will get from the executive side and us as agriculture committee from the three counties, I want to assure Hon. Members we are on this issue and I must actually thank both the national government and the county government because at any given time Madam Speaker, there is a time we had four swarms and we managed.

Currently we have only one which I know within two days will be through with it. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mitaa. I was wondering, Hon. Mitaa, because you seem to be on top of things; what is the role of the community? Do they just sit and wait for the spraying or what? Is the community, is there any way members are sensitizing the members of

public on what to do even if it is appearing to be uncivilized way of doing it? Is there anything the members of the public can do?

Hon. Mitaa: Thank you Hon. Speaker, Well the community is much aware and they have improvised other ways of also working on the locust, Madam Speaker, We have an area whereby actually children were sent back home with the whistles so that they blow them and because these things don't like somewhere where there is noise. Others are working with the iron sheets, anything which is making noise but that is not a solution Madam Speaker, because even if I do it at my homestead, they will just go to my neighbor. It is just like transferring that. That is not a long term solution but it is a way of just---

Hon. Speaker: Okay. Thank you very much. Finally, Hon. Ndawa, very briefly.

Hon. Ndawa: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want also to share my experience because I am the---

Hon. Speaker: Don't make it very long experience.

Hon. Ndawa: Yes. I am the latest victim; they were in my ward yesterday, they came the previous night. So what I would request the Hon. Members once you see those locust, the first thing is to make sure that you pass the information to the relevant department. We passed the information to the---

Hon. Speaker: Is there a hotline?

Hon. Ndawa: We have structures from top to the grassroots.

Hon. Speaker: No, you need to share with the members; how do they pass the information? Is there a number they are going to call or do they call who.

Hon. Ndawa: Madam Speaker, almost every MCA who is elected from a ward has the number for the CEC Member, the Chief Officer and also the Director; most of them.

Hon. Speaker: It is important so that it goes on record; that is what they are supposed to do.

Hon. Ndawa: Yes. Again, His Excellency the Governor made an appeal that whenever we see them, we should report to the administrator. If we report to the administrator, the message will go up to his office. So the moment we reported, action was taken and by yesterday 8 in the morning is when the aircraft took off and when it took off, I was there by six in the morning waiting for that exercise to take off.

So, Madam Speaker, the exercise did not take more than 20 minutes. it is just an exercise which is going to take about 10 minutes then they are done. They may not relocate during that time, you will wait until when the sun is becoming somehow hot and that is the time they will start moving. Madam Speaker, this I don't know whether it is pesticide or chemical or you call what, it is not killing instantly; you will just see them alive but what we came to realize is that

once you spray, they just move from your area to another area. They will die in another place not in your place.

So, Madam Speaker, the locusts were at a place known as Ngengi village in Kaluluini Sub Location. So the moment we sprayed after maybe two three hours, they moved from that location. So they sprayed to every other part of Matuu, I was getting calls from every corner, so once the spraying is done, people should not be scared if you see them in other areas they are just on transit going to another place.

The distance according to the report we are getting from experts, once they relocate they go between 40 km and 130 km so, if they are in Matungulu North right now because I have interest in Matungulu North, Matungulu North is where we have Kyanzave Farmers Company limited.

Hon. Speaker: Now do not tell us that, Hon. Ndawa finalize your submission.

(Laughter)

Hon. Ndawa: Yes. So we have consulted the relevant offices that is the office of the Governor, people have been sent there, they have already given, I don't know what they are calling them, there are something which they are supposed to give back, coordinates, they have already done that and we have been assured that by 8 a.m. the exercise will take off. The other information that I want to share is rumors is that the government of America has donated---

Hon. Speaker: Did you say that they are rumors you are sharing?

Hon. Ndawa: I have heard from the radio; that is because I do not have anything to table.

Hon. Speaker: So can we proceed to what is not rumors, Hon. Ndawa.

(Laughter)

Hon. Ndawa: Yes, but it is information that I have just heard---

Hon. Speaker: So the international community is also seeing---

Hon. Ndawa: They are seeing, they have said this thing is a big problem so they have promised to give about Ksh. 3 billion to Kenyan Government to work on that menace. Otherwise, if the other things could be done the way things are done when it comes to the issue of the locusts, this time round the government is doing 100 per cent and very effective and very fast. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Ndawa, Hon. Members; Hon. Kamulu, just leave it at that I know they have said also to have visited you but they passed so it is okay. I think it is the same similar experience. Hon. Kamulu, go ahead and then tell us very quickly.

Hon. Kamulu: Thank you, Madam Speaker. What I have, Madam Speaker in connection to this one is on number two request. The budget committee when they were trying to answer whether we have a fund on emergency---

Hon. Speaker: Do you want to say what Hon. Museku has just said?

Hon. Kamulu: Yes, that one.

Hon. Speaker: Were you here when he submitted?

Hon. Kamulu: Exactly Madam Speaker that is where I am. They said if I am clear, they never allocated monies because there is no policy. That is the position,

Hon. Speaker: There are no regulations.

Hon. Kalumu: Because there are no regulations, but Madam Speaker in the morning, during communication hour you gave us a caution that when we are making decisions on issues, we should also be careful because we can tie ourselves. Madam Speaker, we should be talking of a fund which was allocated as emergency but tied that it will only be used when regulations are there, but now we are talking of a kitty which is not there waiting for regulations to be formulated when locusts are invading us, when floods have destroyed our houses and we don't know when that kitty will be allocated to us.

Madam Speaker, my view is let us budget but let us have it and let it be used when regulations are there but let the money be allocated because if it was there now, it could be allocated as emergency then the policies could be made within a fortnight then we cater for the same. That is my view and that is my position.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kamulu. Hon. Members, let the committee on agriculture adding to the views of the Members and the views expressed by the Chair of that committee, attend to this Statement and seek the necessary answers which are not yet in the floor of the Assembly and bring the answers; you know you are going to seek them from your counterparts department of agriculture so that you bring that response not later than the 24th day of February, 2020. It is going to be a marathon and it is just next week at 2.30 p.m.

We have to do a marathon because we do not know where else can be they are going to land; they are within us and amongst us.

So, the next statement Hon. Members is sought by Hon. Betty. Sorry Hon. Betty, okay just be there. Hon. Members, even with the information you go to particularly from the Agriculture Chair, members of your wards when they ask you questions you may be able to answer but still tell them that you are waiting for further and complete answers from the county executive. So, you have some information to share with your people on the ground. They are worried, all of them. Hon. Betty.

COMMENCEMENT OF MAINTENANCE OF COUNTY ROADS

Hon. (Ms.) B. Nzioki: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Hon. Speaker, the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides for the distribution of functions between the National Government and the County Governments. County transport, including county roads, street lighting, traffic and parking, public road transport and ferries and harbors; they are functions of County Governments.

Hon. Speaker, heavy rains that have been pounding all over the Country for the last four months have brought a menace to the county roads. Flooded residential areas and impassable roads have become the new face of towns exposing their poor drainage system, a perennial problem for the County Government. School-going children, businesspersons, motorists and residents all over the County have been left to deal with the poor gullied roads exposing them to danger;

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 41(2)(c), I wish to seek the following statement:

What the Department of Roads, Transport and Public Works is doing to ensure that maintenance works on our roads commence and that the roads are kept in good condition to provide safe, convenient and efficient travel on them. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Betty. Hon. Members this is another statement that is addressing an issue that is core to the members; everybody has experienced what the statement is seeking to address. The few comments you have Hon. Members, can we have Hon. Muthoka; I will give occasion to members to comment. Hon. Muthoka.

Hon. Muthoka: Thank you, Madam Speaker. This is also another heavy issue and almost equal to that of locusts. In fact, people are calling in the radio every morning about the road. I have one from Mitaboni called *Mawiyoo* and he calls

Hon. Speaker: *Mawiyoo*, means in the evening?

Hon. Muthoka: Yes, he is called *Mawiyoo*. He is calling every day and I understand them and we came here and we passed a supplementary budget each ward was allocated Ksh. 500,000 for fuel for grading, Ksh. 1 million. The grader Madam Speaker is now at my ward, it came two weeks ago in a place called Nthinu and it graded only one day and now they are saying no fuel. It has stalled for the last two weeks, so also the Chairman of Budget Committee, we also want to I know where the Ksh. 1 million of the fuel went. Anyway, it is a big issue and we want the county government to act now. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Muthoka. I will give you, opportunity Members. Hon. Stephen Mwanthi.

Hon. Mwanthi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. After the long rains, I think we have been having a very big problem to some extent we are accusing the county executive because sometimes back they requested for the emergency projects and as Hon. Members we gave them and nothing has ever come forthwith on that same issue. Currently, although we had a motion here sometimes, back when we were saying that these county graders to some extent they are not

helping and we need to get an alternative way because, for example, our sub-county grader has been in Ekalakala for the last like three months or so but---

Hon. Speaker: Is it secure where it is?

Hon. Mwanthi: Yes, the grader is secure but now unfortunately for the last three months it has only done less than five kilometers. So it is just like something just positioned there to entice the public yet they are seeing nothing is done. The public has gone to an extent of asking us, if it is fuel so that they may fuel and sometimes you may find the graders are faulty, so it is something that has been disturbing us to an extent that nowadays when there is a burial at home it becomes a big problem to these Hon. Members going home because you do not know what you are going to tell people.

So, I think it is timely and it needs somebody now to work on that issue urgently because that way now things are very tough for this Hon. Members. Madam Speaker, I understand you know we were supposed to have a public participation, but Hon. Members are worried on what they are going to tell people in the public participation just because of that problem of roads and the way the roads are. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Stephen Mwanthi. Hon. Museku; I will come to you members, only that be brief please.

Hon. Museku: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I cannot agree more with the Statement which has been brought to the House by Hon. Betty in that there is a need for the county Government over the executive to move with haste and speed and repair the roads of our people. Madam Speaker, it pains me when I know, personally being a member of the Budget Committee and being a Hon. Member of this House, that we approved for funds in this House Both for Hon. Members individual projects of road grading and on top of that, we set aside Ksh. 40 million for fuel for graders.

Two different things here; we passed funds for roads to be graded, contracted out and we gave amounts of money for those roads to be done that. On top of that we said we are setting aside Ksh. 40 million for the county graders to be having Ksh. 1 million per ward to do the roads which they are supposed to do. Up to now, there is not one single road in my area which can tell you which has been done. What I did personally is that I got a grader, I fueled the grader so that it can be able to do a road which was in bad condition leading to the place where I personally stay and on top of that, after I fueled it, it was taken away from me when it had my fuel.

(Laughter)

Today in the morning when you saw me leave here, I went to the Engineer; when I left the House, I went to the Engineer Evans and I told him; my friend, there are jokes which are jokes and other which should not be jokes because I fueled a grader Ksh. 20,000, I used it for half a day, you take it away and up to now that is almost a weeks ago and I have not seen back the grader.

So, the fuel the grader everything gone. So I think it is an issue which we need to look at very seriously because it affects each and every one of us, every single time...

Hon. Speaker: Point of information, Hon. Stephen Mwanthi. Hon. Museku.

Hon. Mwanthi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. In fact, I just want to inform the Hon. Member that, you know we have forums with the executive whereby even the CEC is there and Madam Speaker, I remember sometime when he said that we have given them a budget of Ksh. 10 million for repairs and that was too little we need to give them Ksh. 60 million just for repairs only.

So, you can imagine spending Ksh. 60 million on seven graders to repair other than buying new ones. That becomes a challenge so I can understand what the Hon. Member is trying to say, Madam Speaker. Thank you.

Hon. Museku: Thank you very much that, Hon. Member.

Hon. Speaker: Our Standing Orders don't have point of support.

(Laughter)

Hon. Museku, please proceed.

Hon. Museku: Thank you Madam Speaker and I thank the Hon. Member for the issue he has brought on board. That amount you are hearing about, Ksh. 60 million to service eight graders and a new grader costs how much, give it Ksh. 10 million. Okay we are not talking about Caterpillar, we are talking about Shanju, if we are talking about Caterpillar you go to Ksh. 19 million the ones from China is Ksh. 10 million, so what we are saying is this, ours are from China they are not Caterpillar.

So, what I am trying to say Hon. Members is this, there needs to be more seriousness seen in the execution of things especially things which matter to our people. We cannot have graders and they are lying down simply because we cannot be able... If a grader uses Ksh. 10,000 a day and we have eight graders, then we are talking about Ksh. 80,000 a day. Are we saying that the county government of Machakos cannot afford to fuel eight graders at Ksh. 80,000 a day when we have set aside Ksh. 40 million for that? So, that is why I am supporting the Statement that there is need for accountability for us to be shown accountability.

If we have allocated Ksh. 40 million and we are now almost, some months afterwards, surely, something needs to be seen on the ground. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Museku. Hon. Mulatya.

Hon. Mulatya: Thank you, Madam Speaker. We made a handshake but it is time now to call a spade a spade. This roads department has totally failed. Madam Speaker, internet never forgets and so, is our HANSARD. Madam Speaker when we went to Ndithini for our *Bunge Mashinani*, I brought a motion that we should give contracts to all our roads because I saw this problem. In the last regime, the problem was there, the superior MCAs used to get the graders and other wards never got graders.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya, who are the superior MCAs; for my record all the MCAs other than the positions that they hold---

Hon. Mulatya: The ones who are close to the executive that time.

Hon. Speaker: Point of order from Hon. Kamitu Minority leader.

Hon. Mulatya: Let him inform me, I am ready.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya, he is not informing you; he is informing the House.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you very much, Madam Speaker. I was in the last *Bunge*, Madam Speaker and there was no any definition of people who are supreme than others..... end of take. Otherwise, that is my point of order. We should now be discussing on issues that are affecting us and time factor us now. We are not forgetting about the past but sincerely I also support his statement that the way he is making his statement as a point of order is that, let us talk of what we have now, forget about the past because he cannot define who are those Members who were supreme at that time because you cannot point a finger on those ones.

Let us talk about the problem that we have currently and we are going to move forward. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya, alright?

Hon. Mulatya: I think he is trying to direct me and he cannot direct me because I am making my submission.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya, you are not addressing Hon. Minority Leader; you are addressing the Chair. Can you withdraw what you just said?

Hon. Mulatya: I withdraw.

Hon. Speaker: Proceed.

Hon. Mulatya: My argument was when I brought the Motion that we should give contracts or we should contract all our roads because of this problem. For instance, in Masinga Central, the grader which is there because of the size of our wards, it is serving three wards and we sat down with the Executive and we said it is going to work seven days per Ward. Madam Speaker, Hon. House, one year down the line it has never completed 21 days cycle. It is still remaining one day in Ekalakala. It is very traumatizing when you find that the grader is just kept at Chief's Camp and people are seeing it there and you find our opponents telling people; *Mheshimiwa* has consumed all your fuel, they are going to understand that person.

So, Madam Speaker, I do not see how this department and when you report to them, the CECM is very quick to command the engineers, 'bring the BQs.' I think the BQs which are in that Department can even fill this House because they are so many. So, I think we need to have a full House committee with the CECM and the whole Department of Roads because there is a big problem.

For instance, I have used this road where Madam Speaker passes every day; that road goes all the way to Joska or Kamulu. It is the worst road in this County and that is where our Speaker passes.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: That one I will not allow because..... let him finish what he is saying.

Hon. Mulatya: Madam Speaker, I am talking because I travel within our County. When you go to Ndithini, I think it is Ndithini or Muthesya where the Hon. Members, my colleagues come from, there is one of the Wards there, they graded and rains came and it was a big river. So, maybe we are going to add another Ward there because this side, you cannot go the other side. So, this is a very serious case and it needs very serious attention.

Like right now when I was issuing my bursaries I had to walk for six kilometers. Three going up to Kathui from Yuuma and three back and I could not deny my people the services and so I had to walk with my team. So, Madam Speaker, when I will call you and the Hon. Members top come and support me in Kathui, get to know that you are going to walk three kilometers and three kilometers back.

(Laughter)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya, can I walk three kilometers with this?

(Laughter)

Hon. Mulatya: Now you can see the menace there. So what I am trying to say is that I think after resolution on this, even if it is next week, very urgent, roads transport through our able Chair should call the CECM, we sit down because this is a problem affecting everybody. We sit down with them and we see what to do together. It is a very serious problem. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: We hear you Hon. Mulatya. I will give you an opportunity Members. Hon. Johana.

Hon. Munyao: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to support the mover of this Statement because it is very current and very thorny too. I am a victim of the prevailing circumstances brought about by the heavy rains. In fact, I have been featuring in the media for the last one month, NTV, Musyi FM and the others full of complaints of my electorates.

Madam Speaker, at some point I was forced to mobilize some well-wishers and solicit for some funds to give a gully which was threatening to cut across a major road in my Ward some first aid which also brought so many issues.

So, I concur with the Members who are for the opinion that we very quickly meet with the executive or the department concerned and seek an urgent lasting solution to the current status of our roads in the County. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Johana. Hon. Ikusya.

Hon. Kaloki: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to make a contribution to this Statement. I think it is well-placed, we are all suffering as Members of this House. Personally the other day we had a funeral in my Ward and we had to carry a body for about two

kilometers because the roads were totally impassable. I think it is the high time we get a statement from the CECM and also the roads committee on the current situation because it is like there is no one to bail us out. As I stand here I do not want to take the route of Hon. Mulatya; it is like there is something we are not being told from the Department---

Hon. Speaker: Which is route is that you do not want to take?

Hon. Kaloki: The one of superior MCAs. There is a point I want to put across, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: We finalized on superior MCAs.

Hon. Kaloki: Okay. There is a point I want to put across. There are some Wards that have never lacked a grader and other Wards have graders which are permanently either broken down or have no fuel at all. We do not know why. It is either our Sub-county engineers are not communicating this to the Department or to the relevant people or maybe we are always allocated the graders which are completely worn out. My suggestion is this; some Counties have hired graders for almost each and every Ward to substitute or to support the current system of grading. I mean, it is terrible in our Wards, something urgent needs to be done.

Secondly, the CEC, Roads, and Transport, needs to come out and tell us exactly what is happening with our graders and tell us exactly what happens with our fuel money and also what happens with our maintenance money.

(Applause)

I want to believe that His Excellency the Governor may not be aware of such issues that are happening on the ground. Yesterday, myself and Hon. Mitaa called the CECM and he never picked our calls, we called the Chief Officer and he never picked and we called the Chief Engineer, mechanical and he told me there is one grader which can be available within the next two to three hours. Since that time to date, he has never picked my calls. Our grader has been grounded for the last three months. Honestly, what are we going to do about this?

If we are not careful as an Assembly as a House, I am seeing danger ahead of us and these small things like roads, water, and even *Mulika mwizi* mean a lot to our people, they mean a lot to our Wards. As we speak you cannot cross from Kawethei Location to the other side of Kathana Location, you have to go all the way round the tarmac, pass through Matetani to get to Kathana Location because the roads are quite impassable. So, it is the high time we make an urgent decision to engage the executive in the shortest time possible. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Dan Mbevi, I think it is a matter that is affecting all of us. We need to make a decision on the way forward particularly on addressing the issue of County roads urgently. Hon. Dan Mbevi, if you have anything to tell us please do so because I know you are the Chair of Transport Committee and then when you make a contribution, we will take some decision as a House.

Hon. Mbevi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. First, I would want to request our Hon. Members not to despair and not to panic. Some of the problems probably may be coming from our side because actually the way Mheshimiwa Mulatya has just put it, we passed a Motion that all roads in our Wards should be contracted and I remember very well it was my contribution towards that because as the Chair, I had talked to almost every Member here and heard the complaints and what was to be done and once that Motion was brought, I thought these problems would end but you see it has not been implemented even up to now. I even collected---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Dan Mbevi, you told the Members not to panic. They have every reason to panic when things are that way.

Hon. Mbevi: No. What I am saying is, you know before, although Members are saying we should not get back to what was happening before, the division between us as a House sometimes was contributing to some of these things.

Hon. Ngunga: Point of order, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: I have not heard what Hon. Mbevi has said in the last part. Are you getting what I am saying? Hon. Mbevi now tell us what is happening on the roads and whether you want assistance because it is like your committee is not doing what the Members elected it to do.

Hon. Mbevi: Yes, thank you, Madam Speaker. That is why I am saying---

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, Order! You want to be answered.

Hon. Mbevi: That is why I am saying, we passed a Motion that all roads should be contracted and if the graders have to be used, it should be for emergency cases. We passed that Motion here so if implemented, we would not have these issues. The other issue is, when I heard the cries of all the Members I went to the office of the engineer, we did a letter to all the MCAs--

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Hon. Speaker: There are many engineers in the County.

Hon. Mbevi: The Chief Officer. So when I went there, we did letters to all Members that you should bring the immediate road that one that you would want to be done that is an emergency issue. So, when I called him---

Hon. Kiteng'u: Point of information, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Daniel, just a moment there is some information from Hon. Kiteng'u.

Hon. Kiteng'u: I would like to inform the Member that, what exactly the Members want to hear is, what exactly has the Department done? What he has done so far and the exact situation because he is the Chair?

Hon. Speaker: The Committee or the Department?

Hon. Kiteng'u: The committee to the Department because you know the committee has been liaising with the department. Exactly, what Hon. Mitaa has done to the House.

Hon. Masesi: Point of information.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I will not allow; let the Member respond because you inform him too much and then you know there has to be an end to this information. Hon. Daniel Mbevi, please proceed.

Hon. Mbevi: Thank you, Madam Speaker for defending me.

Hon. Speaker: No, you do not need to---

(Laughter)

Hon. Mbevi: So, I want to say this, as a Committee---

Hon. Speaker: Mheshimiwa Daniel Mbevi, you do not need defense; just tell the Members what you have done.

Hon. Mbevi: Actually as a Committee, we have conducted several sites visits.

Hon. Speaker: Are you successful in pursuing the concerns of the Members? Are you meeting any hindrances? Are you experiencing what the Members are saying?

Hon. Mbevi: Yes we are experiencing the same.

Hon. Speaker: The obstacles?

Hon. Mbevi: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: Alright. So then we hear you Hon. Mbevi.

Hon. Mbevi: So, what we have been doing, we have conducted some site visits to evaluate on the same status of the road and as all Members are aware, the rain that was there almost damaged all the roads but the biggest challenge is, once a road is graded, it is not done up to the standards because once the rains come, they carry all the soil that has already been---

Hon. Speaker: You are talking of shoddy execution of works?

Hon. Mbevi: Exactly; shoddy execution of work. So, if we go by contracting, you see a contractor will be paid as per the work he has done so I think if we implement that contracting system it is the only way we can save our roads because the grading of the roads by a grader alone actually it is like contributing to the destruction of the road, if I may put it like that because once the grader does the road, you find that it has already made the soil loose, that is on the roads.

So, once the rain comes, it will do away with the roads and a gulley must be formed. So, I would wish to urge the Hon. Members, if the executive could implement that Motion that we passed, I think it could be the savior of everything and the other issue is concerning the graders to some MCAs Wards taking too long. I have talked to all the MCAs, if a grader is at one MCA for a longer time, it is at the cost of that MCA, it is not because the County is doing the road for the MCA or there is any favor. The MCA is using his own funds to do the fueling and it is not about a favor.

Hon. Speaker: Is it okay to do that even when there is a budget? Hon. Daniel Mbevi and then others have said the graders have been there for months but they are broken down or they have no fuel, it is not that they are there working.

Hon. Mbevi: I was responding to those who are saying some MCAs are being favored.

Hon. Mulatya: Point of order, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: No, please Members; we have not got to this.

(Loud consultations)

Hon. Speaker: Order, Members!

Hon. Mbevi: What I am saying the way forward, Madam Speaker. I had requested our Clerk to have a full House meeting with the CEC Member in the Departments of the roads so that we can see what can be done as an emergency for that reason. So, I think Hon. Members, you should know that once we pass a Motion and it is not implemented especially this one for contracting, it will not help us and you are all aware that the graders do not do proper jobs on our roads. They just grade, probably direct the drainage but they do not do even culvert works and the rest. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, we have heard the Chair. Hon. Members, please let your hands rest because we are going to have a solution to this and we must. So this Statement, the way it is going to be handled, is that, the CECM Transport. What is the full name of the Department?

Hon. Masesi: Roads, Transport, Public Works and Housing.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, the direction that the Chair is giving is that, the CEC, Member, Machakos County in charge of Roads, Transport, Public Works and Housing must

appear the committee for the full House on the 26th February, 2020, in the afternoon and that will cause a shifting of the business of the House on the 26th of February, 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

(Applause)

So, the office of the Clerk, do the necessary communication because the nature of business is---

Hon. Ngunga: Point of inquiry, Madam Speaker. Can I inquire about something? Just inquire to enrich this, Madam Speaker. Please.

Hon. Speaker: The office of the Clerk must do the communication immediately. If you have any further communication or any other issues we are going to address it before that committee. So, the necessary invitation should be issued and after an invitation, if there is no honoring the next one is usually summons. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

MOTION REPORT ON STUDY TOUR TO MALAYSIA

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business by the Hon. Robert Kisini. Hon. Kisini, you are having Hon. Matee, hold your brief?

Hon. Kisini: Yes, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Because when I called Hon. Kisini, I am seeing Hon. Matee.

Hon. Kisini: Yes she is holding brief for me. We were with her in that trip.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Matee, proceed.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. Motion regarding Environment, Lands, Water and Natural Resources Committee.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Article 42 of the Constitution of Kenya provides that every person has a right to a clean and healthy environment, which includes the right to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through legislative and other measures;

Further, Hon. Speaker, aware that Article 69(1), (a), (e) and (g) of the Constitution provides that the State must ensure sustainable exploitation, utilization, management and conservation of the environment and natural resources and protect genetic resources, biological diversity, eliminate processes and activities that are likely to endanger the environment;

Hon. Speaker, cognizant that energy is the life and pulse of any society and the well-being of people and economy depend on safe, secure, sustainable and affordable energy;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the motion THAT, this Hon. House discusses and approves the Report of Committee on Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources on study tour to Malaysia.

I would like to call on Mheshimiwa Cosmus Masesi to second the---

Hon. Speaker: What is the English word for Mheshimiwa?

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: A Hon. Member.

Hon. Masesi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I stand to second the Motion. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Cosmus Masesi and Hon. Ndeti. Proceed, Hon. Ndeti.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PREFACE

Hon. Speaker, the right to a clean and healthy environment is a constitutional right for all persons based on the provisions of Article 42. Further, Article 42(a) of the Constitution provides that every person has a right to a clean and health environment which includes the right to have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through legislative and other measures.

Article 43 (1)(d) of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to clean and safe water in adequate quantities. Further, Hon. Speaker, Article 69(1), (a), (e) and (g) of the Constitution provides that the State must ensure sustainable exploitation, utilization, management and conservation of the environment and natural resources; and protect genetic resources, biological diversity; eliminate processes and activities that are likely to endanger the environment---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mueni, you have what information?

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Madam Speaker, I think we do not have quorum.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mueni, a point of order. Hon. Mueni, on a point of order, says that we may not be having quorum. Clerk at the Table, can you confirm that concern. What is the quorum, Hon. Members?

(Loud consultations)

(Hon. Masesi and Hon. (Ms.) Nziva bowed to withdraw from the House)

Before the two Members walk out; and they are Members of the Committee---

Hon. Masesi: Point of information.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, I have a number here which shows that we have quorum so we proceed.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Madam Speaker, with your permission, I will repeat; I will start with introduction---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Matee, you had gone up to the first paragraph; please start with the second paragraph of the report.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Okay. Hon. Speaker, environment has significant inter-linkages across sectors that makes it a critical sector in the growth and development process. It is worth noting that water and forest nourishes entire ecosystems and provides important habitat for native plants and animals and therefore need for conservation.

Hon. Speaker, the main objective of the study tour was to get an overview of the achievements and milestones made by the Government of Malaysia in the Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Sector. This is in line with the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 which mandates Counties with matters of environment.

1.2 MANDATE OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon. Speaker, the Committee on Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural resources is a sectoral Committee established under Standing Order 190 and the second schedule with specific mandates to all matters related to the implementation of specific national government policies on natural resources and environmental conservation, including soil and water conservation and forestry and control of air pollution, noise pollution, other public nuisances and outdoor advertising; land survey and mapping; boundaries and fencing; electricity and gas reticulation; energy regulation; water management systems in built up areas and water sanitation services.

Hon. Speaker, further Standing Order 190(5) gives Sectoral Committees the following mandate;

- 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 program and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation
- c) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 184 (*Committee on Appointments*); and
- d) Make reports and recommendations to the Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.
- e) Study and review all county legislation referred to it;
- f) Study, assess and analyze the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- g) 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;

2.0 COMMITTEE DELEGATION TO MALAYSIA

Hon. Speaker, the following Hon. Members and staff participated in the educational tour to Malaysia:

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|---|-------------|
| 1. | Hon. Robert Kisini | - | Chairperson |
| 2. | Hon. Hellen Ndeti | - | Member |
| 3. | Hon. Michael Mutiso | - | Member |
| 4. | Hon. Jackqueline Nziva | - | Member |

- | | | | |
|----|----------------------|---|-----------------|
| 5. | Hon. Cosmus Masesi | - | Member |
| 6. | Hon. Pauline Munguti | - | Member |
| 7. | Mwikali Mwaniki | - | Clerk Assistant |

3.0 BACKGROUND

Hon. Speaker, the committee on Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources attended a study tour to Malaysia with an aim of tapping some knowledge which may result to great benefits to Kenya and Machakos County; that is:

- Promoting health interrelations between the two Nations that may boost development.
- Creating a platform for exchange of political, social and economic ideas.
- Promotion of technological expertise that constitute vision for many Nations.

4.0 OBJECTIVES OF THE VISIT

Hon. Speaker, for the purpose of conducting a fruitful study tour, the committee Members were guided by the following objectives.

1. To know how the Government of Malaysia administers the energy sector.
2. To learn how the Government has solved the problem of energy for its citizens.
3. To know some of the policies the Government has put in place for Environment, Water, and energy sector.
4. To learn the approach the Government had used to improve its economy.

5.0 AREAS VISITED

Hon. Speaker, the Hon. Members had the opportunity to tour some of the prominent areas that were key to economic development of Malaysia namely:

1. Energy Commission Diamond Building (Headquarters of the Energy Commission).
2. Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) this is the National Promotion agency of Malaysia.
3. Borneo Forest.

1. VISIT AT BORNEO FOREST

- i. Hon. Speaker, when the committee visited Borneo forest they were informed that, a century ago, most of Borneo was covered in forest but the region has lost over half of its forests, and a third of these has disappeared due to growth in illegal wildlife trade, deforestation, palm oil plantations, pulp plantations, illegal logging and forest fires. Illegal logging has become a way of life for some communities, with timber being taken from wherever it is accessible, sold to collectors and processed in huge sawmills. It was anticipated that Borneo forest could lose most of its lowland rainforests if strict measures were not taken.
- ii. Further, Hon. Speaker, the committee was informed that habitat conversion from natural forests to palm oil plantations has been shown to

have a devastating impact on tropical forests, along with plants and animals that depend on them. Animals such as elephant have increasingly come into conflict with human due to expansion of human agriculture activities in its natural habitat.

- iii. The committee was informed that, maintaining the forests is critical to ensure the island's water supply, moderate the impacts of droughts and fires, and to support ecological and economic stability in the lowlands.
- iv. To mitigate the current situation, the delegation was informed that there are protection laws that are in place but are often inadequate or are flagrantly violated, usually without any consequences.
- v. Further, the committee was informed that, initiatives such as involvement of technical expertise, stakeholder involvement, national and international policy advocacy and business and industry initiatives to conserve these pristine forests have been adopted.

LESSONS LEARNT

- i. The committee learned that forests are endangered and there is need for putting in place strict laws and implementation of the same to protect the forests and animals living there otherwise there shall be human/animal conflict. When forests are not conserved there are adverse effects to the climate.
- ii. The committee also learned that forests play major role in water conservation and therefore need for protection since water is life.
- iii. Indigenous trees play a major role of tourist attraction since many tourist visit Borneo forest to see some indigenous trees which have over hundred years and are very valuable and some are medicinal.

2. VISIT AT ENERGY COMMISSION DIAMOND BUILDING (HEADQUARTERS OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION)

Hon. Speaker, the committee had an opportunity to meet the management of Energy Commission of Malaysia and the main focus of this meeting was discussions on Transforming the Energy Sector and also to analyze the uncertainties which will affect the future of the nations' energy sector. The committee got to learn that:

- Malaysia government is taking decisive steps to ensure that their energy future is green, sustainable and diverse and that they use energy in the most efficient manner.
- Malaysia's embracing of green technology is not only to conserve and preserve its resources, but is also envisaged to act as a new economic motivation for the country.
- By practicing energy efficiency, they can preserve the environment and energize the Malaysian economy towards becoming a developed nation by 2020.

LESSONS LEARNT

Hon. Speaker, the committee learned that:

- i. For a country or county to tap solar energy, it is not mandatory to have a big space of land. Technology can be embraced and enjoy the benefits accrued from solar energy with a sizeable piece of land.
- ii. A county can make their own solar power when technology is embraced and stop relying on Kenya Power which is not 100 per cent reliable.

3. *VISIT AT MALAYSIA EXTERNAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (MATRADE) THE NATIONAL PROMOTION AGENCY OF MALAYSIA*

Hon. Speaker, the team managed to visit Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE) where you get product directory, service directory of Malaysia brands, textile e-showcase, Exclusive from Malaysia products etc.

Recognition Awards to MATRADE which the committee saw are: International Recognition Award, Malaysia Book of Records Award.

The committee observed that there are different programmes for Companies and different categories of people like Women and youth which are organized and facilitated by MATRADE and for either group or company to be eligible the following must be observed:

- i. The company must be locally incorporated under the Companies Act.
- ii. The Company must be in operation for at least 1 year and 60 per cent of its equity shares be owned by Malaysia.
- iii. The company is not a government linked majority owned company.
- iv. The group or company must be exporting Malaysia Products only.
- v. The group or company should be registered with MATRADE.

Benefits expected from joining MATRADE are:

- i. Assistance in exploring the export market.
- ii. Participation in three international trade promotion events a year and MATRADE covers the cost of flights, accommodation, participation fees/rental and cost of exhibition.
- iii. Participation in Export Training Programme (Seminars and Training) organized by MATRADE.

The committee visited Malaysia Export Exhibition Centre (MEEC). This is a permanent display centre exclusive designed to showcase and promote Malaysian products and services. This centre is able to accommodate over 500 Malaysian companies, covering 30 industries.

MEEC Showcase is categorized into three sections:

- Home Display Area that provides real life backdrop the showcase for visitors to view the products in its actual application and usage.
- Booth Area that allows visitors to view a wide range of Malaysian products and services according to specific industry cluster.
- Open Concept that segmented by industry cluster whereby products are displayed in a creative manner to demonstrate its appeal.

The committee was very much impressed by the good work of MATRADE AND MEEC and borrowed some ideas as explained in the report and if they will be put in to consideration and practice, they can really raise level of business and economy of Machakos County.

6.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Hon. Speaker, within the five days the Hon. Members Interacted with the Malaysians, they noted some key facts about the country which if well thought about and adopted, Machakos County could easily transform their trade, energy, water and environment sector. The Capital City of Malaysia is Kuala Lumpur and their currency is Malaysian Ringgit. According to World Bank census (2017) their population was 31.62 million. Malaysia is a multicultural country, whose official religion is Islam.

Hon. Speaker, key observations made include:

1. Unlike many countries of the world, Malaysia has fully utilized its scarce resources.
2. Environmental conservation is highly valued. The city is green with trees and flowers planted by the roadsides in addition to the tropical rain forest and botanical gardens. No bare ground was seen within the city premises.
3. There is no drop of water which goes to waste and therefore recycling and treatment of water is highly practiced.
4. Sun is a natural resource which is highly valued and highest percentage of power used in Malaysia is solar power.
5. Malaysia has seriously embraced technology in all sectors and especially generation of solar power and business transaction.
6. Transport sector is highly developed with very good tarmac roads, railways and pathways for riding.
7. Malaysians have taken the initiative to control transport sector themselves by obeying traffic rules. Surprisingly, no traffic police was sighted along the roads as observed in many countries.
8. Maximum space utilization was a key observation since 90 per cent of buildings were storeyed.
9. All the streets and towns were very clean with bins placed strategically in different places and on enquiry, the committee was informed that there was a lot of sensitization even from home level on how to handle waste.
10. It was evidently clear that a country like Kenya is blessed with good soil, big chunks of land, rain, wild animals, plant and technical expertise and that could transform Machakos County for the benefit of the locals and foreigners who may wish to visit the County.

7.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Hon. Speaker, having been amazed by the commendable work Malaysia Government was doing, the committee of Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources came up with some recommendations geared to transforming Machakos at large. The recommendations are:

1. The department of Environment to embrace planting of indigenous trees that are environmentally friendly and also embrace planting of trees and flowers on the side of the major roads in Machakos County.
2. The committee recommends that the departments of Water, Environment and Energy needed to be given a bigger percentage of money so as to ensure that energy efficiency water efficiency and environmental protection is achieved.

3. The county government to embrace tapping solar power to create a competitive energy market for Machakos, encourage energy conservation and induce sustainability of energy resources.
4. The public to be sensitized on how to harvest and store water without allowing even a single drop go to waste.
5. The public to be sensitized on how to sort waste for easy disposals even at homesteads.
6. The county government of Machakos to give priority to water harvesting, recycling and storage since it is a major problem.
7. County Executive to come up with a permanent display centre exclusive designed to showcase and promote Machakos products and services.

8.0 CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Hon. Speaker, energy is the life and pulse of any society. The well-being of people and economy depend on safe, secure, sustainable and affordable energy. With the current status of technology and tourism vision, it is evident that Malaysia would be a benchmarking destination for many Nations.

Hon. Speaker, I wish to take this opportunity to thank the Office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk to the County Assembly for facilitating the delegation to attend the study tour to Malaysia and further thank the members who attended and cooperated in compilation of this report. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ndeti.

(Question proposed)

Hon. Members, the Motion is open for debate. Hon. Museku, are you sure you want to say something.

(Laughter)

Hon. Museku: Madam Speaker, I standing, first of all, to congratulate the Committee Chairman and his team for the report they have to us on the trip to Malaysia and the observation that they have made which when you look at, if they are actually implemented in our County, we will be able to get a learning from the trip which they made to Malaysia. Mine will be to urge each and every sectoral committee which goes out of the country to come back quickly with a report like this and table them before the House so that the House and County can be able to benefit from the trip from which the Hon. Members are making in those specific countries.

I like the recommendation that we should have a designated area where we can be able to showcase our products. Machakos, we have many things that we can showcase; we have craftsmanship from Wamunyu, we make very good honey and we also have very good coffee here so the things that we have in the county, it will good for them to be showcased somewhere and people can come and see what they can get from Machakos County.

So, I thank the team and it is a good report. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Museku. Hon. Cosmus.

Hon. Masesi: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am one of the Members who were privileged to travel to Malaysia through Dubai and---

Hon. Speaker: Is it necessary to say it was through Dubai? It depends on the airline you use.

Hon. Masesi: Madam Speaker, as the report says, Kuala Lumpur is the capital city of Malaysia and one of the notable things that I captured in the town is that they have the Petronas Twin Towers which are 451 metres tall.

Madam Speaker, one Ringgit is equivalent to Ksh. 24.32 and I can assure the House that life there is quite cheap because by then, a litre of petrol was going at Ksh. 54. The country has maximized a lot on solar power where the Committee noted that the country is producing more than enough power for the residents in terms of Kilowatts.

We noted that the roads are very good and compared to ours, I think if you compare the cost of maintenance and the output, you need to look for a law, if allowed, to have the graders sold and we purchase new ones for the works to be done across the sub-counties.

Madam Speaker, the report is very well explained; we saw no traffic jam on the roads and it was electronically managed. You just pick the cards and you are good to go. If you look at the populations of Malaysia, it is 34 million; it is a small country but well-managed.

Madam Speaker, my urge to the County Government is to try and borrow some of the recommendations we have made and I want to believe that we promised we will invite some of the companies to Machakos County only that we will need to check with our Clerk whether he road because we had the Clerk Assistant Mwaniki and we had promised to call some of the directors to Machakos to give us some input on how we can develop as a County.

Otherwise, it was good and we enjoyed it. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. It is actually commendable that when you go out there, you see good things and you want them to come; even if to start with Machakos County because we can also be the pacesetters for Kenya as a County. So, the way Hon. Museku said, when you go out there, please bring a report as good as this one. Hon. Mueni.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Madam Speaker. I was lucky that I went to Singapore with Ngunga.

Hon. Speaker: We do not have Ngunga here.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Mheshimiwa Ngunga.

Hon. Speaker: Honourable.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Yes. Hon. Ngunga and our Chair for devolution and the committee; our report is on the way. The place is good and Hon. Ngunga took us to Malaysia where transport is fast and we enjoyed it. Mine is to ask Machakos County to clean the water in River Athi the way those people do it. Even they do not have much water like in our River Athi but

they recycle the water and their land is small and it is not like Machakos. I think it is like Ndithini *huko*; a village because even they pass down (??). It was so good; you also went there and the eight hours from Dubai.

Hon. Speaker: Mheshimiwa Mueni, I was not in the team.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: You went alone but you have seen the way the place is good and they take care of old people where they build houses for them. You are not left at home, you just go to work in the hotels and you are busy and even when you educate your child, it is not a must to be helping you out. You do not care about your mother or any relative and everybody there is busy doing their own work.

The old women are here but the worst thing is they do not believe in God. They go to worship other things and every morning you see them doing what I cannot say. So, I think this report is very okay and even Hon. Kamitu can take the report to give to the executive so that they can do something. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Mueni. What Hon. Mueni is saying in brief is that when you go out there, there are some very good things that you need to borrow and bring here but there are also some bad things which you do not need to borrow but leave there. Hon. Jeremiah.

Hon. Munguti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. When I look at this report, it is so good that the members who went to Malaysia really traversed the country and they have brought us a good and comprehensive report. One thing that I am very much interested in is the solar power which they saw was working very well because it is less expensive because after they make the solar panels, they utilize the natural source of sun and by so doing they provide energy.

One thing, Madam Speaker, as Hon. Mueni was saying, we also went to Singapore which neighbours Malaysia and one thing I learnt from that area is that they are so good in recycling materials because all their solid waste is recycled and they make some toys which are later sold to other countries and also make revenue to their country. They also embrace the technology which they make their own things. The young school-going children usually do a lot of things through technology and by so doing they are making a lot of money by doing such technologies.

Madam Speaker, it is also doable in Machakos County that we can utilize our spaces because we understand according to the observation of the committee, 90 per cent of their buildings are just but skyscrapers because they have no space but they have utilized it well. We can as well utilize our space in Machakos County and also generate some revenues.

Madam Speaker when it comes to environment, I've learnt that in Malaysia, through the report, they conserve their environment very well and one thing I would like to request the chair for Environment, because I'm a member, is that we ensure that we conserve our environment by planting trees and also making sure that we tap all the rain waters which are flowing to the Indian Ocean. By so doing, Madam Speaker, our county will be an evergreen town and the environment will be embracing our people. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jeremiah. Hon. Mulatya.

Hon. Mulatya: Madam Speaker. Mine is very brief. I think it is in order one, it is a good report; I support the report, but I think when we go out and get these kind of reports, it's also good to go to their departments to know like how much budget is set aside for these kind of projects, to know that, because if you come here and tell us we tap the solar, we do this, maybe it is something which is not attainable in our budget. It is also good if we go there with all the invitation we strive to go to their departments where they do their allocations, at least when we are coming here we come with something complete.

Otherwise, I support the report; it is a very good report. Myself I have been in the country and I know how it is; it's a very nice country and I also wish Masinga to be like this and I don't know how we'll make Masinga like this, especially Masinga Central, when we don't have their budget at least we can make comparisons.

So, Chair of Chairs maybe when you are giving out these kind of foreign trips, also good to advice our chairs that they also look at the budget. Wherever they are going to visit, let them like when we traveled to Greece, I think Madam Speaker and Chair of Chairs and Majority and myself we were there and Deputy Majority, and when we went to all those companies, it was very clear how much they have spent. I remembered Madam Speaker engaging one of the companies there; they were saying they have been using a lot of money. You remember---

Hon. Masesi: Point of information, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: You were also in the team?

Hon. Mulatya: He has never been in Greece; I don't know what he is---

Hon. Speaker: No, he doesn't have to have been in Greece, Hon. Mulatya. Hon. Cosmos, you want to inform the Member?

Hon. Masesi: Madam Speaker, I am just informing the Member on issues to do with budget which says when we have travels like these ones, Madam Speaker what is written here is not rocket science; it is not that we don't do solar power in Kenya, only that it depends on the size of the project.

Hon. Speaker: So, what you're saying is that the question of budget would depend on how large we want---

Hon. Masesi: Precisely, Madam Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya---

Hon. Mulatya: That point of information is too shallow, Madam Speaker, comparing to what I am presenting here. Madam Speaker---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Mulatya, that is disrespect to the Member. There is no Member here who has a shallow brain.

Hon. Mulatya: I apologize to my friend and my colleague, Hon. Masesi, but what i was trying to put across Madam Speaker is, when you go there you have seen the project which is there; it is also good to tell us, that project, like when people come here and go in a very simple place called Machakos People's Park, the place to be, it is always good to say this project cost this amount of money.

At least when you are giving a report, you won't say we are doing this one in Kenya but in Kenya we can do a smaller budget. It is always good to have a complete budget, this was my argument. Thank Madam Speaker and Hon. Cosmus, thank you for the information.

Hon. Speaker: Alright, Hon. Mutiso let us hear from you then we can now finalize.

Hon. P.J. Mutiso: Madam Speaker, my concern is on page 6(i) whereby I thought in Kenya is where we have problems of forests being distracted by people, but now I've seen that in Borneo, they had the same problem that we are having here. For example, many of the people here know Mua. Mua had big forests sometimes back, even Iveti Hills. You could not even go through this area at this time because there was a lot of frost, so I think Hon. Member from Mua that time had not lived in that place.

He was maybe at that place down there, so he doesn't know anything about this, but I was born here and I know what was happening here. So it was a big forest at Mua and even Iveti here, but now there is nothing, so if he can plant trees, it will be better for us and even for rains because the area now is in a pathetic situation. It is only that sometimes I and *Mheshimiwa* Hon. Museku and even *Mheshimiwa* Ngunga among others, we saved Katunga forest whereby most of the people were destroying that forest.

Another concern is on Page 11 Madam Speaker, whereby we have so many problems in Machakos, like some departments are doing nothing. For example, inspectorate or D.U. (Decentralized Units). The CEC Member of that department, I think, is doing a lot of nothing, and I want to support my statement on that. You could see them chasing our people here like locusts, while in our rivers and even along the roadsides, you see our young people scooping sand, whereby if we can leave that sand to pile, we will be able to get water and also to save our roads and also our forests.

So we need to caution those departments to work hard and also Members to deal with that, because some areas are not serious on their mandate, and I also request the Chair of Environment to take caution on that because in some areas like Machakos Girls on that stream, if you go there, you can see a lot of sand heaps which is being put there and remember, the environment committee is here. So, if they can tour those areas, they will see what I am talking about. Even at my place there Kusyomuomo, that is what is happening now.

So, I thank people from Mwala because I passed there sometimes a week ago and there was a lot of sand which is protected by the residents. By the way you cannot joke with that sand. If you do that, they chase you and even they burn the truck. Thank you, Madam Speaker, I rest my case.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. P.J. Mutiso. I call upon the mover of the motion to reply.

Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti: Thank you, Madam Speaker. As a member of this committee and as one of those who traveled, I would like to say that this was really an eye-opener. We learnt alot,

we got a lot of exposure that as we go along, we should be able to sit down with the Executive and see what can be implemented. 2013 to 2017, I happened to be a Director of Investments Promotion Board in Machakos County and I traveled to the same countries again with the Board and we got a lot of foreign investors wanting to come to Machakos, but the challenges we have as a county is the lack of water and lack of energy as electricity.

I am sure, if we start sensitizing our children and our people to know how to conserve this water and recycle the water that we have, because that is what Malaysia is doing, they are even recycling like water from the kitchen being recycled to the level that you can drink it, if we learn to conserve our forest cover that will help us in catching rain, if we learn to use the energy, the solar that God has given us and invite investors who can come and put up big plants that can produce enough electricity that we can even be selling to our neighbour counties, I am sure it is practical, it is doable, it is a matter of saying yes, we can do it.

The other observation that I learnt and I think we should really be very serious about is the fact that the people are self-policed. There are very few policemen on the road because everybody knows there are traffic rules and they follow. Cleanliness, you don't have to be followed not to throw garbage or litter anywhere you move.

Those few things are things that we can put in place, through our education system, to ensure that we make Machakos the place to be. Members, Madam Speaker, I would like to thank you very much for taking your time sitting with us, going through this report. Thank you very much and I just wish that whatever we have put in place is going to be properly implemented. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ndeti.

(Question put and agreed to)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, this report, like all the other reports we have said, needs implementation. It is going to go back to the same committee because it is the same committee that can work towards implementation, of course in liaison with the Executive. So, we will be expecting some report on the implementation of this particular report. Thank you Hon. Members.

Hon. Members, you remember earlier on, I called out order No. 6 and Hon. Kamitu was to give a notice of motion and there was something he needed to do to do that. I can see Hon. Kamitu here; I don't know whether he has done what he was supposed to do.

Hon. Kamitu: Madam Speaker, through your directions, I have done so. I did the correction and---

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Kamitu, the Notice of Motion that was available to the House did not have your signature so we wanted you to sign and then just come and give the notice. I gave you that latitude; I gave you the permission to do it at this time. Can you proceed and do it. Do you have a signed set of it?

Hon. Kamitu: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: So, proceed and give a Notice of Motion so that you can prosecute the business going forward.

NOTICE OF MOTION

THANKS OF THE ASSEMBLY FOR THE EXPOSITION OF PUBLIC POLICY CONTAINED IN
THE ADDRESS OF THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you, Madam Speaker, for your guidance.

Hon. Speaker, that aware THAT Standing Order 18(1) provides that the Governor shall address a special sitting of the Assembly once every year and may address the Assembly at any time;

Aware THAT H.E. the Governor, Dr. Alfred N. Mutua addressed the Assembly on 18th February 2020; Noting THAT the Governor's address outlined the roadmap which the County Government of Machakos should take to ensure the County realizes high economic growth;

Aware THAT Standing Order 20(4) provides that whenever the Governor delivers an address, a Member may as soon as practicable thereafter, lay the address on the Table of the Assembly following the reading of such address;

Further aware THAT Standing Order 20 (5) requires that debate on the Governors Speech should not exceed four sitting days;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of the motion THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 20(5), the thanks of the Assembly be recorded for the exposition of public policy contained in the Address of the Governor during sitting of the Assembly delivered on 18th February 2020.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Minority Leader, Alex Kamitu.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members, at that point, the House is adjourned and it is going to resume its sittings on the 25th day of February, 2020 at 10.00 a.m. Have a good evening.

The House rose at 5.07 p.m.