

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

**OFFICIAL REPORT**

**Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2019**

The House met at 2.35 p.m.

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

**PRAYERS**

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Could you kindly ring the bell we get some quorum? Thank you.

*(Quorum Bell was rung)*

Okay. Good afternoon, Members?

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Mr. Clerk, proceed.

**STATEMENT**

BUSINESS FOR THE HOUSE FOR 30<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business on Statement of the House Business Committee to be moved by Hon. Justus Kiteng'u, Deputy Majority Leader. Hon. Justus.

**Hon. Kiteng'u:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I stand under Standing Order 41(2)(a) where during the Statement Hour, a Member of the House Business Committee designated by the Committee for that purpose shall, for not more than ten minutes, present and lay on the table, a statement informing the House of the business coming before the House.

Hon. Speaker, the House Business Committee met on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2019 and balloted business that was available for 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order 151 as follows:

Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2019

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

Report of Committee on Appointments on Approval Hearings of Nominees by Hon. Mark Muendo, Majority Leader.

Afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

Report of the County Assembly Leadership Educational Tour on Agriculture and Food Processing held in Greece from 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2019 by Hon. Paul Museku, Chairperson of Committees.

The committee will meet on Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 at 4.00 p.m. to ballot business for Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2019. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you very much, Hon. Justus Kiteng'u. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

### MOTION

#### PRIORITY IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING SCHEME

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members under this Order, we have one Motion to be moved by Hon. Moses Mitaa on behalf of Hon. Dominic Ndambuki, MCA Kathiani ward. Hon. Moses Mitaa.

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would want to table this motion on behalf of Hon. Dominic Ndambuki, MCA, Kathiani Central Ward.

Mr. Speaker, that aware THAT the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes the right to housing as part of the right to an adequate standard of living;

Noting THAT Article 43 of the Constitution of Kenya explicitly provides that every person has the right to accessible and adequate housing, and to reasonable standards of sanitation.

Mr. Speaker, further aware THAT affordable housing is one of the pillars of the Big 4 Agenda by the Kenyan Government and that it is key in the economic development of any country as it guarantees its citizens an improved standard of living;

Noting THAT majority of the civil servants want to access the house mortgages in current market, but are limited by underpinning factors including high interest rates and low remunerations.

Mr. Speaker, noting THAT the Government has established a Civil Servants Housing Scheme through the State Department for Housing and Urban Development which has been charged with the mandate of structuring and delivering the Affordable Housing Programme covering major urban areas across the country which is aimed at benefiting all civil servants;

Also aware THAT Machakos County is one of the beneficiaries and that there is an ongoing construction at industrial area in Machakos Sub County and Mavoko Sub County under this scheme;

Acknowledging THAT the Members of County Assembly are not entitled to house allowance and that they are also State Officers.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to move the motion THAT the County Government of Machakos, through the department of Transport, Roads, Public Works and Housing, liaises with the State Department for Housing and Urban Development to ensure that the County Government of Machakos employees and Members of County Assembly are given priority in the Housing Scheme.

Thank you Mr. Speaker and I beg to call Hon. Mbevi, Chairman, Transport committee to second my motion. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Mbevi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I second the motion.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Daniel for seconding the motion.

*(Question proposed)*

Hon. Members, you may debate on the motion. Hon. Cosmus Masesi.

**Hon. Masesi:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to compliment the mover of the motion, Hon. Mitaa, on behalf of Hon. Dominic Ndambuki. This is very key for us Members. In fact we are going through tough times when we imagine the needs of the electorates on the ground. Housing is among key items in one's life and I support fully that us Members we are given some priority because I want to understand as a County Government, now we are doing some housing on behalf of the National Government.

I want to believe still there is a gap because up to date, as much as I want to believe we have got a lot of houses which are for the County Government, we are still not aware of the revenue funds collected from the same. So Mr. Speaker, it will be of great importance if we Members and also employees of the County Government are given some priority when it comes to the ownership of the new housing scheme which is being geared upon by the National Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Cosmus. Hon. Patrick.

**Hon. Kituku:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also want to make my input. This motion is of essence and actually, the county employees, including the ones from the Executive and County Assembly, have worked to make sure that the County has reached the level that it is today and they should be given this priority first so that they also continue feeling proud of the county and again the work they have done. So I support the motion fully that these members be given the first priority. Thank you.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Patrick. Any other member who would like to contribute before I call the mover of the motion to respond? Hon. Mueni.

**Hon. (Ms.) Mueni:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mine is to ask the Government to be giving the members the money for the houses because they know the way they pay very late when people are asked for the money for houses. That will make then not have stress. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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

**Hon. Mitaa:** Thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity. May I thank my colleagues Hon. Members for the support they have shown towards this motion. Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, housing is part of the Big Four Agenda and Mr. Speaker, as Hon. Members, we need to have somewhere Mr. Speaker, where maybe we can retreat in the evening after work bearing in mind Mr. Speaker, some of us come from far and there is much which is needed for us to do in this Assembly, Mr. Speaker.

Again, mine is to thank the National Government because they have subsidized; they have reduced the rates, the cost of these houses, Mr. Speaker. They have also introduced a scheme, a favorable scheme, friendly scheme, Mr. Speaker, whereby we will contribute on a monthly basis, something which maybe is affordable among ourselves, Mr. Speaker, and by doing so Mr. Speaker, I believe we will be propelling our County Government affairs because we will have created an environment, Mr. Speaker, conducive for us to operate without the hustles of thinking about landlords, Mr. Speaker.

So Mr. Speaker, I thank Hon. Members, I thank the House, the clerks for the cooperation they have shown and I believe that this motion will sail through and will see eventual good results out of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Moses Mitaa. I now put the question.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members I am thanking you for your participation this afternoon. We had a very short business because it was only one motion to be read today but the weight of the motion, now that you have passed it, I would like, I don't think most of you understand or have understood the gravity of the weight of the motion and that is why I can see low-key participation maybe. What we have discussed today are houses being constructed by the Central Government in the counties, and for which you Hon. Members and members of the staff are not party to.

Those are houses which are supposed to be given to everybody, unless you can be able to move quickly and make sure you are prioritized in the scheme. We are talking about flats, houses which are here at a subsidized price. We are talking about a house which maybe you will be told to pay Kshs. 2 million shillings over 20 years. So the low-key participation told me maybe you Hon. Members were not conversant with what is at stake. What is at stake here are houses which actually you get that house, you are given a two bedroom flat in Machakos town to pay over 20 years. Do you understand the gravity of the issue? And those houses are going to be allocated to people from everywhere because they are from the National Government?

So it is possible for them to be allocated to employees who are based in Kisumu, to be given to employees who are based elsewhere, I mean members of the civil service who are based everywhere else and that is the reason why this motion was important so that we can be able to pass it and adopt and say that we as members of the County Assembly and County Government employees in Machakos are given priority in allocation of these houses.

It is something which is important; it is something which has come out very timely. I thank the Hon. Member who moved the motion because for those of us who have been around for some time, I saw houses constructed in Ngara, in Nairobi. You know where Ngara is, right in the town, and given to the civil servants at Ksh. 1.5 Million; a two bedroomed flat in Ngara. That was not a long time ago; that was the year 2008 and they moved in, they are living in those

houses and they are paying for them over 20 years. So you have a house in Ngara where you are paying Ksh. 1.5 Million and you are renting out for Ksh. 40,000 a month and you are repaying Ksh. 5,600 over 20 years. It is the same thing which is going to happen here.

So I thank the Hon. Member who brought it up and Members, you need to be keen on it and follow up so that we don't lose out on this important venture.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** This House stands adjourned to Tuesday the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. Enjoy the rest of your afternoon.

The House rose at 2.55 p.m.