

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MACHAKOS
OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 29th March, 2023

The House met at 2.39 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): Point of information, Mr. Chair. It is worthy.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Minority Leader, we have not started so kindly you will give information---

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): There is an anomaly that we need to correct before we start. Hon. Speaker our proceedings are live and members of public are watching what is going on here. While we were waiting for you to come as the Speaker, the Serjeant at Arms informed us we be ready for Madam Speaker and you have come.

I think it is good to correct that anomaly because the Members will be confused. We heard; Hon. Members, Madam Speaker and now Mr. Speaker came. So it is good to note that. Let them as they watch let them be aware it is Mr. Speaker who is presiding over the process today. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Minority Leader. I hope the concerned authority will take care of that in future. Good afternoon, Hon. Members. We will be having our afternoon sitting therefore I call upon our Clerk to start.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

POLICY ON ISSUANCE OF THESE SANITARY
TOWELS TO GIRLS IN PRIMARY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Under this one we have a notice of Motion from Hon. Ann Ndilo.

Hon. Annabel Ndilo (Nominated, UDA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would wish to give a Notice of Motion.

Hon. Speaker, that Article 43(1)(a) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care;

Hon. Speaker, that aware that menstruation is a natural monthly occurrence in healthy women anytime from the age of eight years until the period of premenopausal;

Further aware that menstrual hygiene is fundamental to the dignity and wellbeing of women, both young and old, and is an important part of the basic hygiene, sanitation and reproductive health to which every woman has a right to;

Acknowledging that many primary school girls in our County come from poor families and are unable to afford sanitary towels on monthly basis; aware that many of these girls are still using clothing, tissue, cotton and rags to contain menstrual flow, exposing them to infections.

Hon. Speaker, further aware that some girls often choose to skip school for a period of one week every month due to stigma and others eventually opt to drop out of school;

Aware that at times some of them are forced or lured into promiscuity in order to get funds to purchase the sanitary towels;

Hon. Speaker, I wish give notice of motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves that the County Government;

1. Partners with non-governmental organizations and sanitary towel manufacturing companies to provide free sanitary towels to our girls in primary public schools.

2. Formulates and forwards to this House a policy on issuance of these sanitary towels.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ndilo. Next is Hon. Mbili Ndawa.

FORMULATION OF A POLICY ON REGISTRATION AND
PAYMENT OF NHIF PREMIUMS FOR VULNERABLE SENIOR CITIZENS

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am holding brief for the Deputy Speaker who is the MCA Ekalakala Ward. He is supposed to be the one who is giving this notice. I want to congratulate you for the factor of flexibility; you can sit here and you can as well sit there. That is an added advantage and that is the strength.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Article 43(1)(a) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010 provides that Every person has the right to the highest attainable standard of health, which includes the right to health care services, including reproductive health care;

Aware that Article 57(d) of the same Constitution mandates the state to take measures to ensure the rights of older persons to receive reasonable care and assistance from their family and the State;

Aware that Article 174(e) of the Constitution stipulates that one of the objects of devolution are to protect and promote the interests and rights of minorities and marginalized communities; Aware that the National Hospital Insurance Fund

(NHIF) reimburses our local hospitals based on claims done resulting from patients covered in this insurance;

Hon. Speaker, further aware that these amounts can be increased by registering more people to NHIF;

Cognizant of the fact that the senior citizen age in Kenya is 60 years and according to the KNBS, 2019 the population in Machakos County was 41,439. That is the population of those who qualify to be senior citizens. This was an increase from 32,346 in 2009;

Acknowledging that this age group is very vulnerable to infections and health complications which come with old age hence high likelihood of hospitalization which amount to waivers for those not able to pay bills;

Aware that these senior citizens have less dependents according to the insurance policies;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of motion that the County Government of Machakos formulates a policy, registers and pays NHIF premiums for the vulnerable senior citizens in the County to boost the hospital claims and bail them out when hospitalized.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Minority Leader.

STATEMENT

BUSINESS FOR THE HOUSE FROM 4TH TO 5TH APRIL, 2023

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Under this one we have statement from Majority Leader, Hon. Nicholas Nzioka.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, the House Business Committee met today on 29th March, 2023 to prioritize business for the House as forwarded by Committees and Hon. Members pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order 151(6)(d) . The Committee balloted business as follows:

Tuesday, 4th April, 2023

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

- a. Motion that the County formulates a policy, registers and pays NHIF premium for vulnerable senior citizens in the County by Hon. Stephen Mwanthi;
- b. Response on statement on closure of Mavivye Market by Hon. Jeremiah Kaloi.

Afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

- a. Motion that the County establishes management committees to oversee operations of all County Boreholes by Hon. Felix Ngui;
- b. Statement on status of implementation of Machakos County Cooperative Enterprise Development Fund Act, 2021 by Hon. Dickson Maundu;

Wednesday, 5th April, 2023

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

Motion on issuance of sanitary towels to girls in public primary schools by the Hon. Anne Ndilo.

Afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

Motion that County makes it compulsory for road contractors to replace any tree harvested during road construction upon completion of the Project by Hon.

Catherine Kyee.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Majority Leader. Next is Hon. Peter Kilonzo.

STATEMENT SOUGHT

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS OF LOCUST CONDITIONAL GRANTS

Hon. Peter Kilonzo (Mbiuni, UDA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I have a Statement on implementation status of locust conditional grants.

Hon. Speaker, aware that Machakos County was on January, 2020 invaded by a swarm of locust in Masinga Sub-county through Kivaa Ward which eventually spread to the Mbiuni Ward;

Aware that farmers expressed concern that their crops were destroyed by the locusts leaving their farms land bare;

Aware that farmers used local means to eliminate the locusts manually. However, the National government conducted aerial spraying of the locusts;

Hon. Speaker, acknowledging that the emergency locust response project in the financial year 2021/2022 was allocated Ksh. 28,384,000 as a conditional grant which was meant to benefit four wards that were affected by the invasion;

Noting that Mbiuni ward was to benefit through construction of Kwakatusya dam which was allocated Ksh. 13 million to compensate on the damage occasioned by the locust invasion;

Aware that the tenders were awarded but the project never commenced;

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 42(2)(c), I wish to seek the Statement from the chairperson Agriculture, food security and cooperative development:

1. What is the status of disbursement of the conditional grant funds meant to benefit organized groups in Mbiuni Ward
2. What is the status of construction of Kwakatusya dam in Mbiuni Ward.

Hon. Speaker, with your permission, I can try to elaborate a bit concerning this statement. Hon. Speaker, we are aware that last year we had the catastrophe of the locust which destroyed a lot of crops and the World Bank came in to compensate farmers whose crops were destroyed. Mr. Speaker, the four wards were in Masinga, Matungulu, Mbiuni and I want to ask for this specific one from Mbiuni because I participated before the elections when the public participation was being done and I was there and I have been calling to know the status of this issue and Mr. Speaker, I wanted to seek this Statement that the chairperson Agriculture can come and report in the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Peter Kilonzo and so I commit---

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Point of Information, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Kindly do.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Thank you. I want to congratulate my brother here for this Statement. It is only that the statement is missing some other important concerns. Hon. Speaker, the statement talks about the locust which invaded us about two years ago and Hon. Speaker as you are aware, the locusts first invaded Masinga Sub-County where you come from then from there the locusts came to Yatta and they flew from Yatta to Mbiuni and later to Matungulu.

Hon. Speaker, when the Locusts came to Masinga, an aeroplane was sent to go and spray the locusts and when they flew, another swarm invaded my area that is Matuu ward and Hon. Speaker when I reported the matter to the County Executive---

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Point of Order.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Allow me---

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Is it in order for the Hon. Minority Leader to extend or to seek information on a Statement that clearly states the issue of Mbiuni ward; now he wants his ward and the Sub-county of Masinga in general so he should seek for a substantive statement for his ward and Masinga and let the Statement for the Hon. P. K remain. I just want some guidance. Thank you.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Thank you, Hon. Speaker, the information I am getting is not adding value because I am changing the spirit of the Statement. I just want to shed light on what transpired because I was in this Assembly when these things were happening. Hon. Speaker, I want to say that for the first time, the government of the day was very effective on the issue of addressing the issue of locust.

I am saying when the locust came to Matuu, in fact they did not come exactly to Matuu; Matuu borders Kitui that is what we call the land after Kivandini at B2 Yatta so it was just few meters to the boundary so using common sense it is only a matter of seconds the locusts move to Matuu. So, Hon. Speaker, we did not wait for the locusts to move to Matuu, we reported to the then Governor of Machakos and he instructed that we be ready to spray those locusts.

Hon. Speaker, the reason why I am giving sentiments on this Statement is that I want also the House to know and the County to know that whoever all those who were doing the spraying did not observe due diligence as they were doing their work. Hon. Speaker, I was called very early in the morning by then CECM and we were told to go and light fire so that when the aeroplane is on the sky it can see exactly where we are, and they did not give us instructions to move from the site when they were coming to spray. So I want the House and the County to know that my residents including myself were sprayed together with the locusts and nowadays I am feeling I am unwell. So as we address other issues, I also need---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Ndawa, you want to mean probably you got some---

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Of course yes. So I am kindly requesting that I be considered together with Mheshimiwa because she came to my rescue, we be considered for special and general damages together with the residents of Yatta. Otherwise we may stay and develop some other problems and you hear that there is a by-election in Matuu. Hon. Speaker, let this be considered also as we address other issues. Thank you Hon. Speaker.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Minority Leader. I think you will be invited in the committee on Agriculture when deliberating so that that information...

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Will appreciate so much, Sir. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Is there any other Member willing to say something on that? Okay, then the Statement is committed to the Committee on Agriculture and it should be responded back to this Hon. House on or before the 5th day of May, 2023. Thank you.

MOTIONS

REPORT ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MACHAKOS (EXECUTIVE) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022

(Hon. Kitaka 29.03.2023 (Morning sitting))

(Resumption of Debate on the Motion tabled on 29.03.2023 (Morning sitting))

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members. You remember we had not exhausted on this financial statement that was read by the Chair Finance Hon. Francis Kitaka and so that this Hon. House discusses and approves the report of Finance and Revenue Collection Committee on Financial Statements of the County Government of Machakos for the year that ended June, 2022. I invite Members to continue debating on the motion. Hon. Helen.

Hon. Hellen Ndeti (Nominated, WDM-K): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I think it is like we more or less exhausted this report unless there is anything burning we should be able to move forward and move on.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Point of Information, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Proceed.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Hon. Speaker, the Members who were requesting that we extend the debate are not in the House so there is no need of wasting this Assembly's time for no apparent reason so I request you call upon the mover so that we can move on.

Hon. Speaker: Then I call on the mover to reply.

Hon. Francis Kitaka (Ndalani, WDM-K): Thank you Hon. Speaker. First and foremost I want to thank the Hon. House for actively debating the motion and their contribution and I also take this opportunity to thank the Finance Committee for their contribution and more so the Clerk Assistants. We have deliberated more on the recommendations that we want the

department of Finance to implement and I want to undertake to this House that we will take and do what it takes to ensure that these measures are put in place and we shall be periodically be giving updates whenever it is necessary. Therefore I thank you members for the support. Thank you very much, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Francis.

(Question put and agreed to)

UPGRADING OF KANGUNDO-MWALA ROAD TO BITUMEN STANDARDS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: On this one we have Hon. Dickson Maundu.

Hon. Dickson Maundu (Kangundo Central, MCCC):

Hon. Speaker, THAT aware that Article 189(2) of the Constitution of Kenya on cooperation between National and County Governments provides that the National Government and the County Government, shall co-operate in the performance of functions and exercise of powers;

Cognizant that accessibility is the driving factor for rural development and that H.E the Governor, during her speech in this Assembly on 27th September, 2022, vowed to improve access to roads and mobility;

Aware that this mobility cannot fully be achieved without addressing cooperation between the National and County Governments on shared responsibilities in the roads sector;

Informed that Kangundo-Mwala road which in terms Schedule Four of the Constitution that deals with functions of both levels of Governments is classified under the functions of National Government and the said road forms a nerve center of development and accessibility between Kangundo and Mwala Sub-Counties;

Further aware that in the last financial year, the National Government through its spirit of cooperation of governments stated in Article 189 of the Constitution of Kenya constructed many roads in Machakos County through the Kenya Roads Board but this Kangundo-Mwala road despite its strategic location did not qualify as one of those roads;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the Motion that this House resolves that the County Government of Machakos:

- (i) Liaises with the National Government to upgrade the Kangundo-Mwala road to Bitumen standard in order to enhance accessibility and development across Kangundo and Mwala Sub-Counties.
- (ii) Allocates its share of budget in the FY 2023/24 and undertakes road work surveys in the said road in readiness for implementation of this program.

Hon. Speaker, with your permission allow me to shed a little light on this motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Proceed.

Hon. Dickson Maundu (Kangundo Central, MCCC): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First of all, I want to inform this Hon. House that the said motion is meant to increase revenue for Machakos County. This Hon. Speaker, is through the markets that are along the same road which once the road is done will improve their markets as once the market is improved will mean that revenue collected will increase for the County Government of Machakos.

Hon. Speaker, the road we are talking about is only 23 kilometers from Kangundo to Mwala. The last bit of the said road Hon. Speaker, was done in the 1970s; that is when the last bit to Kangundo town was done and since then no single kilometer has ever extended towards Kangundo-Mwala road. Hon. Speaker, as you all know, Kangundo and Mwala share a common factor and that is farming. Kangundo is known for coffee farming while Mwala is known for other various.....

So Hon. Speaker, at this juncture I would wish this House to discuss and adopt this motion such that it will assist the County Government and also as we urge the.....sorry Hon. Speaker, I am trying to use a better word but for lack of that I would wish to say during the speech that was made by H.E the Governor of this County, she talked of co-operating with National Government. It is in this manner and point that this House adopts the motion. Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would wish to call upon Hon. Member for Kangundo North to second the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mathew.

Hon. Wilson Ndunda (Kangundo North, IND): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to second this motion at least to be discussed in the House basing that if possible the matter is given priority. It will work on three factors that are crucial; increase the revenue to Machakos County basing that all vehicles going all the way to Kitui will be incorporated, basing on this measures we are going to also see the growth of the town especially Kangundo town which has been overtaken by events especially all the way from Tala and by doing so it is going to enhance source of income to the public living there and therefore, make the place suitable for survival.

Not only Kangundo but also Mwala because at the end of the day we know we are heading to the season of mangoes from Mwala and therefore you find for the people of Mwala it becomes a challenge for them since they have to take through Machakos or the other side of Thika road and therefore, I second. Thank you.

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

(Question proposed)

I invite Members to debate on the motion. *Karibu* Hon. Maeke.

Hon. Musyimi Maeke (Kalama, CCU): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I take this opportunity to really support that motion because you understand infrastructure is one of the key issues and from what I understand, I used to use that road studying at Kabaa High school. We used that road during games, traveling to Tala and recently I was there. The road really needs the requirements the Hon. Member has requested and even as we discussed, we should also implore and look into the financial implications of upgrading. I understand at the moment the road is at 23 kilometers as we have been informed by the Hon. Member and at the moment, the road is

under KeRRA and it is has murram whatever we are requesting is a request that the County Government of Machakos partners with the National Government.

I will say this because in Kalama ward we have had several issues and what we did, one we had roads, like today we were launching a road or rather we were starting some roads that were in the county but we have upgraded them to KeRRA. There are several ways of doing it like seeking a petition where if you collect a 1,000 signatures from the users of that road you can go petition KURA and it will come into place and they will be able to help you.

The second option is that we all understand that it is unfortunate that in our country development will always *vis-a-vis* peoples support to the National government. I implore and encourage the Hon. Member, as we continue requesting, we also show support to the National Government of UDA because definitely if you will go to roads and ask for the upgrading of the roads and probably your MP is on the roads throwing stones and especially during these times, you may wait for the road---

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Point of order.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Point of order Hon. Majority Leader.

Hon. Musyimi Maeke (Kalama, CCU): Which Order? Order No. 1 what? Hon. Speaker, please protect me.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central - WDM-K): You are misleading the House when you ask us to support a political party. I think the County Governments and the National Government work together in the spirit of reciprocity; we cannot start supporting political parties as a House. We will work with the National Government using all legal and other means but not through political parties.

(Applause)

Hon. Musyimi Maeke (Kalama, CCU): Even though the Hon. Majority Leader has stood, he has not mentioned any point of order. So I think he was out of order to stand on a point of order without mentioning a point of order.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I think he got permission from the Speaker. Let us proceed.

Hon. Musyimi Maeke (Kalama, CCU): Thank you. I think the Speaker is being is not biased but I know the Speaker, we know he is a good person.

(Laughter)

If I was to speak to the motion, I agree together with our Majority Leader that no person should be coerced to support the Government in order to get services. However, the reality is that and history has shown that things will go to where they support including this Hon. House. If when we were putting things on the table, I was just trying to share and say we are looking at County Government collaboration with the National Government to go and seek services from the national Government, whereby probably whoever you are seeking through is anti-

government, I tell you, it will be a tall order. My prayer is this.

(Loud consultations)

So protect me so that I may speak my important point. I seek your protection.

Hon. Helen Ndeti (Nominated (WDM-K): Mr. Speaker---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let us hear from her.

Hon. Helen Ndeti (Nominated, WDM-K): I think it is very unfortunate that the Hon Member is misleading us. Let us not involve the National Government and County Governments here; let us not involve politics. The national Government has a responsibility to give 15 per cent of the revenue they get to the Machakos County Government and the two Governments should be able to work together.

So please, it is very unfortunate if you are trying to imply that the national Government is not going to support the people of a certain area because the Member of Parliament or the Member of the County Assembly happens not to be from that party. This is very bad politics and we should not allow it.

Hon. Musyimi Maeke (Kalama, CCU): Madam. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Sorry. If we continue calling you Madam, you know we are used to Madam Speaker but I want to tell Hon. Ndeti, the motion before the House states clearly that we collaborate. Now the word collaborate means to join hands to work together and you cannot work together with somebody own we are not sharing the same development agenda. I am speaking the reality; what is the cost implication? Hon. Ndeti, it is good you listen. The Hon. Member I want to---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Address the Speaker.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Point of information, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Point of information from, Hon. Ndawa.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Yes, Hon. Speaker, thank you. Mheshimiwa Maeke, kindly. Hon. Speaker, I want to inform the House and the Speaker, that the Member is just wasting this House's time because he is out of what we are discussing here; we are discussing about Mwala to be upgraded and it is either yes or no other stories. Hon. Speaker, make a determination, so that they can be able to have time to give my contribution. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Let the Hon. Member finish.

Hon. Musyimi Maeke (Kalama, CCU): Thank you, for the protection, as you have understood it looks like a coordinated attack on the member of the floor. However, I was putting my point and I was saying this; Hon. Speaker, I support the motion that Kangundo-Mwala road should be upgraded in collaboration. However, as we pass the motion, let us understand anything

we pass here becomes law it becomes something that the House should follow and see to it that it is done.

Today, we may put a very big burden to the Hon. Governor when we pass a motion here that the road be upgraded and 10 years down the line, it has not been upgraded. So I was saying as we collaborate with the Government, let us also seek goodwill. Thank you

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Minority Leader.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCC): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. You know this session of learning also as we discharge our mandate; education has got no end that is what the wise men say. Hon. Speaker, I stand here to support the motion before the House and congratulate the Member from Kangundo Central, Hon. Dickson Maundu for coming up with his noble motion. Hon. Speaker, the road we are talking about has been talked about since independence to date and nothing much has ever been done on that particular road.

So, Hon. Speaker, the motion is seeking to request for what we call inter-governmental intervention. The County Government and the National Government to come together and bring resources together and have these roads tarmacked, it is as simple as that. So Hon. Speaker, I do not want to go back to what Mheshimiwa Maeke was talking about. The time of politics is over, we know the President of the Republic of Kenya, we know the Governor of Machakos and we know the Members of parliament and we know the MCAs.

It is now our time to work for the electorate and the electorate needs nothing else; what they want is development. Hon. Speaker, a stretch of 23 kilometers is a road that can even be managed by the County Government even without involving the National Government.

(Applause)

Remember, the previous regime did 42 kilometers from Makutano to Kithimani and that is 42 kilometers. In fact, that is almost two times the length of this. So what we are talking about is something that is manageable but since then, the issue of roads is a shared function, the County Government has what to do. And the national Government also has its part. Hon. Speaker, it is the constitutional rights of the members of Kangundo, Mwala and those who are in between and also those who are in other parts and want to use that road because there is what we call freedom of movement, and when we talk of movement, it is to move from point A to point B and the other point is that we intend to go.

Hon. Speaker, it is the duty of the county and it is also the duty of the national to ensure that the residents of this country the residents of this county enjoy that road that right as it is envisaged or enshrined in the Constitution. It is the County to ensure that we enjoy that right of movement and the only way we can ensure that they enjoy, is to ensure that the road is passable.

Hon. Speaker, if one has to be successful, you need to have alternatives. If you follow one route and there are chaos, you will may not be able to reach your home. I was born in this county. I was born in Matuu Yatta sub-county and our capital city is Nairobi. Hon. Speaker, when Kenyatta University students are rioting, residents from Yatta suffer a lot to reach Nairobi because they block that road. Residents from Kithimani also suffer.

So I am proposing it is good at least we have another road in case they are a problem there we can use another route. Remember Hon. Speaker, the opposition leader who is Right

Hon. Raila Odinga has called for demonstrations and you are aware when the demonstrations are at Githurai and maybe a patient needs to be transported from Matuu to Kenyatta National Hospital, we need another route because the crowd is very big everyone cannot assume.

So I am calling upon the County Government or the national Government, the shortest route from Matuu to Nairobi, without passing Thika is Mwala-Kangundo-Koma to Nairobi. That is the shortest route. So if we can have this road tarmacked, we will have assisted very many people. Hon. Speaker, patients from Yatta and Masinga have started coming to Machakos when this road was tarmacked before we were taking our patient to Kangundo Level IV and which is a hospital where he was circumcised and I need to ensure that at least we do something. Yes, it is good to say, I was circumcised today and we need to ensure that at least we can be able to access that hospital.

So, Hon. Speaker, I call upon Hon. Members, I know the other residents are listening to what I am saying. We are discussing the motion which is before the House they may ask why you are not talking about this other road and time for that other road will come for today we are discussing about Mwala-Kangundo road 23 kilometers and many promises have been given about this road. From times of Hon. Ngei to date many promises have been given up that borne no fruit and I am requesting we do not give promises that will not bear any fruits.

Let us kindly ensure that we approve this and call upon the Hon. Member for Kangundo Central, Mbiuni, Makutano/Mwala, Kangundo North and Kangundo East to ensure that before we approve the CIDP, this road is in the CIDP because if it is not in the CIDP it is going to be difficult for the County to pump money on that road. So, you are lucky we have not approved the CIDP; you can as well ensure that it is captured. Hon. Speaker, I support.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Minority Leader. Hon. Everlyn

Hon. Everlyn Nzeki (Kangundo East, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I do not know whether I will be out of order or I will be informed when I directly translate a Kamba proverb which says, cobras do not spit venom on each other; in short governments do not fight the other governments because I do not see the reason as to why the two governments may fail to work together for the development of their people since they are serving the same people. So, I am sure in collaboration with the National and County Government, the motion on the floor is going to go through.

So, I support and I applaud the Hon. Member who came up with the motion. It is long overdue and as it has been said, that road has been on the platform of most of the politicians including the President himself by making promises to the people of Kangundo that the road will be tarmacked. So, I think this is the right time and the motion is in order.

In support of the motion of the motion Hon. Speaker, you know transport is key in driving the socio-economic growth of every county and this road cuts across my ward and Kangundo East does not have any piece of tarmacked road and it is a busy road. Again, it becomes impassable during the rainy season and with value addition to this road it is going to bring several changes in that Sub-County and it will benefit other sub counties like Mwala.

It will also link Kangundo Sub-County with other counties like Kitui and Makueni and thus there will be economic growth because of increased investment in the transport sector, it will create employment and make travelling easy because there will be ease of access of health

facilities and markets. So, I am in total support of the Motion that Kangundo-Mwala road should be tarmacked in collaboration with National Government and County Government. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Everlyn. Hon. Peter Kilonzo.

Hon. Peter Kilonzo (Mbiuni, UDA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for giving me time to contribute on this fundamental motion which has been tabled by Mheshimiwa Kavaa (??) and earlier on I had seen the Majority Leader who was very angry and castigated the remarks of Mheshimiwa Maeke when---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Point of information.

Hon. Charles Mbuva (Kangundo West, GDDP): Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is good to inform the Hon. Member, we do not have a Hon. Member by the name Kavaa; he is called Dickson Maundu. Thank you.

Hon. Peter Kilonzo (Mbiuni, UDA): Thank you, for that information. Hon. Majority Leader, castigated Mheshimiwa Maeke when he out rightly mentioned UDA and I want to inform the Hon. Majority Leader---

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Kindly inform the Chair not the Member.

Hon. Peter Kilonzo (Mbiuni, UDA): Yes, through the Chair, UDA in this matter, Mheshimiwa Maeke was referring to Ukambani Development Annex therefore there was no need of talking about political parties in this House. Meanwhile, Mr. Speaker, I support this motion of upgrading Kangundo-Mwala road because it will serve residents not only from Mwala and Kangundo but also Machakos County.

We understand very well that this is one of the major roads in connecting Mwala and Kangundo. In Mwala, we have been experiencing challenges in accessibility of the roads. When we upgrade this road and have it tarmacked, we will serve the purpose of Mwala. The services we are asking the government to do is not a privilege; it is a right for the people because the leaders who are holding the offices in trust to them to be in those offices and they have been paying taxes. Therefore, we are asking the government to ensure that this money is utilized well.

Mr. Speaker, when we say that we need to liaise with the National government, I find it not adding value because this road is being maintained through KeRRA, at no single time KeRRA will give money to the County Government to upgrade the road. Therefore, it is either we tie the knots and say that the County Government of Machakos upgrades the road. When we say that we have to work in conjunction with the National Government, Mr. Speaker, we want to mean that we let the National Government through KeRRA, continue maintaining that road until the time the County will chip in.

To me, I see it will be appropriate because the County Government has enough resources and funds, we commit this and say that road be maintained by the County to avoid games of

saying let the National Government do this or let the County Government do this. However, I support the motion with all my body parts. Thank you.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I think Members, we have exhausted, so I call upon the mover to reply.

Hon. Dickson Maundu (Kangundo Central, MCCP): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I am pleased by the way the Hon. Members have contributed to this motion. First, I want to say this road has been used for political gains in the past. Time has come when we should not risk the lives of our people due to politics. It is in record that the current President Dr. William Ruto, while addressing the electorates from Kangundo, promised to have the same road put in to bitumen standards so, I want thank you Hon. Members and Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Members. That road is a road we use often and it needs to be upgraded and if possible, soonest and I do support that and I hope the relevant authorities will do the needful after these Members approves this motion.

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Members, the House adjourns to Tuesday, 4th April, 2023 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 3.36 p.m.