

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

**Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2019**

The House met at 10.26 a.m.

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

**PRAYERS**

**Hon. Speaker:** Serjeant at Arms, ring the bell.

*(Quorum Bell rung for 10 minutes)*

Serjeant at Arms, I note the 10 minutes are over can you ring the bell for another five minutes. After that I will give directions under Standing Order 32.

*(Quorum Bell rung)*

Serjeant at Arms, I am told we have quorum. Can we start the sitting? Good morning, Hon. Members. I think we are not starting on a good note because the Chair has been here from around 10.10 a.m. and we have been waiting for quorum. This is the second day after recess and I think we need to up our game. It is a shame if the public is to note that we are starting business of serving them late and you are here to serve them.

It is very wrong and I was almost declaring the sitting adjourned to the next sitting for lack of quorum and that is very wrong. So, Hon. Minority Leader, I saw you came a little earlier, Hon. Majority Leader call your sides to order; let us have quorum in the House when it is needed and we can start the business. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE CHAIR**  
**WELCOME FROM AUGUST 2019 SHORT RECESS**

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this Order, there are several communications which I request you to listen to carefully and I start by welcoming you again back to the sitting of the House. I did it yesterday but it was also in a hurry because we were going to receive bursaries; so I repeat again the welcome remark and requesting that you dedicate your time wholly and serving the people and being in the House when you are needed to do the business.

## CONSTITUTIVE AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SOUTH EASTERN ECONOMIC BLOC

Now, the second communication is on the constitutive agreement for the establishment of the south eastern economic bloc that is SEKEB. Hon. Members, on 25th of March, 2019, you recall there was a Statement that was brought by the committee on procedure and rules on the establishment of SEKEB and you remember Hon. Members, you were informed that there was an agreement that was going to be prepared and so that it can guide you on passing legislation that is going to establish that bloc.

That agreement was received in the Assembly on the 20th of August and it is for purposes of consideration by this House and so that you can appreciate that firstly you need to approve that constitutive agreement. Constitutive means that it is to guide in the legislation by the three counties of Machakos, Kitui and Makeni for purposes of setting up the SEKEB because that block must be anchored on law and this agreement is like a broad policy framework which is to guide on the formulation of the law.

So, what you need to do, we are committing that agreement to the joint committee on justice and legal affairs and devolution committee. This is for purposes of interrogating it so that we are able to work together with Makeni and Kitui to legislate similarly for purposes of operating SEKEB and we need to do it urgently.

Further directions will be given by the Chair to the two joint committees so that at least they are working from positions of information and the Chair will on-off visit the sittings of those committees so that the guidance can be easily available.

Hon. Members, there is a third communication; *Punguza Mizigo* (Constitution of Kenya Amendment bill 2019). Hon. Members, before you went on recess you remember I communicated to you that the Assembly had received communication from the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) and it forwarded this Bill as one of the attempts by Kenyans to review the current constitution.

Hon. Members, I indicated also the timelines for this Assembly to process that Bill if you remember and it being received in the Assembly on the 22nd of July, Hon. Members, three months and the constitution requires that you consider it within three months; pass or reject it. Then it means that by calculation we have up to 22nd of October to finalize it. Remember it being a Bill, you must involve the public through a public participation so the time is not so much on our side and for that purpose Hon. Members, the Bill is committed to the joint committee of Justice and legal affairs and devolution.

It has bit of national government, it has a bit on devolution and so it should go to the joint committees of those two committees for processing and, of course, urgent report Hon. Members, for purposes of processing the Bill within the time given by the constitution. I repeat by 22nd of October, 2019 we are supposed to have deliberated, we are supposed to have involved the public and we are supposed to have made a decision on it and while I am there Hon. Members, I just want to let you know that this *Punguza Mizigo* Bill is just one of the initiatives that Kenyans have come up with to review the constitution.

You know there is also the BBI which is being awaited and recently the CoG and CAF and your members of CAF have also thought of coming up with another initiative called *Ugatuza* initiative. For purposes of also participating in the constitutional review process as a group and the issue in the *Ugatuza* initiative which is being formulated by CoG jointly with CAF is to strengthen devolution and also to address other issues of national importance.

Further information on that will also be coming to this House just like the House is also waiting for information on the BBI, just like the House is also waiting for any other initiative that may come up for purposes of amending the constitution through the popular vote as is provided for in the constitution. So you have a lot of work and the earlier you start interrogating what is already on your table the better for you and noting also that the other initiative of *Ugatuji* is one which is also very much central to County Governments in Kenya.

#### ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2020-2021

Hon. Members, the fourth communication is on annual development plan for financial year 2020/2021. Hon. Members, the Assembly received the ADP for the financial year 2020/2021 dated 30th of August, 2019 on 2nd September, 2019 from the County Executive Committee Member for finance and economic planning. The ADP, Hon. Members, is submitted to the Assembly in accordance with Article 220(2)(b) of the Constitution and Section 126 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012.

Hon. Members, that document is committed to the committee on trade, economic planning and industrialization for interrogation as soon as possible and Hon. Members note that ADP, you have been taught in various training sessions, is a very important document on planning for County Development and so it needs to be given a lot of attention and also the processing done urgently so that the House is able to finalize it not later than the 3rd of November, 2019. Hon. Members, that committee on trade, Hon. Kieti, is given 60 working days not 60 sitting days. I know you know the difference because there is urgency in processing the document.

#### NOMINATION OF MEMBERS FOR THE ASSEMBLIES APPROVAL TO THE COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

Hon. Members, fifth communication is on nomination of members for the Assemblies approval to the County Public Service Board. Hon. Members the Assembly received a list of nominees for position of members of the County Public Service Board from the Governor pursuant to Section 58 of the County Governments Act. The names of the nominees are as follows:

1. Mr. John Kimeu Kumbu
2. Dr. Jane Mutheu Mutune
3. Mr. Franklin Musila Makola

Hon. Members, the names of those nominees are hereby committed to the Committee on Appointments pursuant to Standing Order 42 and that committee is required to come up urgently with a workplan on how the approval hearings will be conducted and how the public will be involved in the sittings of the committee and the provisions of the Public Appointments (County Assemblies Approval) Act must be adhered to.

#### ACCESS TO HANSARD REPORTS

The sixth communication Hon. Members is on the HANSARD reports. This is for your information Hon. Members, that under Standing Order 213(1) it is provided that within 48 hours of your deliberations, a verbatim report of all the proceedings of the Assembly that is

the HANSARD is supposed to be prepared unless the Speaker sees that it is not possible to do that within 48 hours.

Hon. Members, I just want to notify you that the HANSARD reports of all the debates of the Assembly are now uploaded on the Assemblies website that is [www.machakosassembly.go.ke](http://www.machakosassembly.go.ke) domain. So, Hon. Members, kindly create some time access the HANSARD reports from that website and the beauty of it is that you will be informed so that if there is a matter that you debated on and passed on, not only this Assembly even the first one, you do not need to keep on repeating you just seek implementation.

If there is a matter you thought was addressed but not sufficiently captured because times also change you bring it up for review and that way you will be able to discharge your functions more effectively. So make that website your friend. Visit it every other time.

#### FAST TRACKING OF COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR DEBATE

Finally, Hon. Members are on Committee reports. The House Business Committee ordinarily ballots business of the House before the House sits; there is a practice and actually a decision in one of the court cases in the High Court that stated that, the Business of the House that is to be balloted should be done well in advance and even published for the public to know so that they can come, listen and follow up on any issues they are interested in. This has not been happening.

The reason is that reports are being prepared at a very slow pace so for this purpose, the Committee Clerk Assistants are required to fast track any reports that are pending on their desks to bring to this House for balloting. Similarly, all Chairs of Committees are requested to pay special attention to the processing of reports of every business undertaken by the Committees and to make sure that those reports are on the table for purposes of balloting.

I am saying this with a very good reason; the business this morning is one Motion and in the afternoon is one report and I do not need to say further on that and we are just coming from a recess. We want reports for purposes of balloting the business of the House well in advance. Hon. Members, I am hoping that that communication, in its totality, is going to assist you in the discharge of your functions in this Assembly. Thank you. Mr. Clerk, proceed.

#### MOTION

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Members, under this Order, we have one business by the Hon. Majority Leader Mark Muendo.

#### PAYMENT OF HOUSE ALLOWANCE TO MEMBERS OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY

**Hon. Muendo:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. Let me also welcome the Hon. Members back to this House and we have noted that there was a hitch which we are not going to allow again. We are going to take seriously the business of the House. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Madam Speaker, that aware that the Devolved Governments are a key component of governance in the Republic of Kenya established under Article 11 of the Constitution of Kenya;

Further aware that the office of Member of the County Assembly has been strongly anchored as a fundamental component in the county government administrative system;

Cognizant of the remunerative needs of each public and state officer to ensure adequate facilitation for successful execution of their duties and mandate;  
Further cognizant of the existence of disparities within the state offices within the republic on remuneration of the office holders, particularly the payment of house allowance to which the members of the County Assembly have to their detriment been deprived of;

Noting that the High Court in the Republic has in Constitutional Petition No 328 of 2016, Council of Governors Vs Salaries and Remuneration Commission pronounced that denying some state officers similar benefits enjoyed by other state officers is discriminatory, unjustifiably selective and contrary to Article 27 of the Constitution;

Acquiescing that such conduct is a violation of the fundamental rights of the state officers which such conduct is desirous of denunciation by the Members of the County Assemblies *ab initio*; and

Whereas the Governing Council of the County Assemblies Forum has resolved that the non-payment of house allowance for the Members of the County Assembly is a fundamental breach of the rights of the members;

Whereas the Governing Council has further resolved and directed that there be effected payment of house allowance for the Members of the County Assemblies in tandem with the High Court finding;

Whereas the resolution of the Governing Council finds precedence and relative applicability from the Parliament of Kenya's payment of house allowance to its members despite lack of the Salaries and Remuneration Commission directive in affirmative of the same;

Madam Speaker, I beg to move the motion THAT this House does approve and adopt the resolution of the County Assemblies Forum Governing Council that:

- i. The Members of the County Assembly be paid a house allowance in tandem with the ideal and adequate endowment;
- ii. That the payment of the house allowance be effected and implemented as of the date of issue of the ruling of the High Court in Constitutional Petition No. 328 of 2016 being the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018; and
- iii. That the implementation of the payment of the house allowance to the Members of the County Assembly be commenced with immediate effect.

Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Majority Leader. Do you have somebody to second the Motion?

**Hon. Muendo:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I request Hon. Kaloki Ikusya to second the Motion.

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Ikusya.

**Hon. Kaloki:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I do hereby second the Motion.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you.

*(Question proposed)*

Hon. Members, I invite you to debate the Motion. Hon. Helen Matee.

**Hon. (Ms.) Ndeti:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I wish to comment on this Motion by stating that, it is the high time that our Country and more so the institutions entrusted with making laws start to implement the same laws they make. If there is a law to appreciate Members of National Parliament or rather State Officers by giving them house allowance, I do not see why there should be discrimination in this respect.

Members of County Assemblies are State Officers and they work hard to ensure that services are delivered to the people. It is for this reason that I request that this law is not discriminatory and we are given what is right for us. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Hellen Ndeti. Hon. Kalumu; you look a bit different.

**Hon. Kalumu:** Thank you, Madam Speaker for granting me the chance to contribute on this special matter. Madam Speaker, I would first say that the Supreme law of this country is the Constitution and the Constitution stipulates very well that, Members of County Assemblies are State Officers; being state Officers, there are those fundamental rights which are attached to the name of a State Officer which stipulates and says that, State Officers are entitled to house allowance.

The SRC did not pay attention to the payment of the house allowance to State Officers and we cannot just sit down and watch our rights being violated while others who are also State Officers are being paid the same. Madam Speaker, I say that is the highest order of violation of human rights because being elected and also being State Officers, we are also human and we represent people and we have that entitlement to be paid house allowance and if they are not paid then it means we are being discriminated from other State Officers which does not have any explanation from those who are entitled by the law to pay us.

Madam Speaker, I do not know how well I can define State Officer because if State Officers are people who are in the forefront fighting for the rights of other people and when it comes to our rights they are not paying attention to the people who are fighting for that then we are failing as State Officers. We are failing because we cannot fight for ourselves.

So, I support the Motion 100 percent and say, let us be given what is ours because outside here, mwananchi is looking at us and saying that these people and even those other State Officers are complaining that we are being paid much but we are paid peanuts and actually and when we go to our wards everybody is running after us trying to get something small from us.

So, we cannot look down when we are being oppressed by the state organs that should take that considerations and pay us and make us and see us be included as state officers. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Kalumu. Hon. Musau.

**Hon. Musau:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I am supporting the Motion by saying, these allowances are not privileges to the Members; they are their rights and the High Court has confirmed and ascertained the same. Hence, discrimination in paying these allowances shows

how some authorities are taking the MCAs for granted, Madam Speaker. The representative commonly seen on the ground is the MCA and today Madam Speaker, we can tell you, MCAs are spending more from their pockets on the areas of representation more than the MPs, more than the Senators and more than the Governors despite the fact that we went through the same process of election.

If you can remember, Madam Speaker, we had six ballot papers in our election; they were of the same size, what differed was the color. Out of the six elected, the MCA is the only person who right now does not enjoy the full benefits. This shows something somewhere is wrong. It is the high time all County Assemblies come together and demand what is rightfully theirs. If we don't watch, we came here driving, we shall go home riding on bicycles; it is pathetic, Madam Speaker. I fully support the motion. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Musau. Hon. Constance Mbula;

**Hon. (Ms.) C. Nzioki:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. First, I want to thank the Hon. Member who came up with this motion; it shows he has other Members at heart. I want to say this is a motion which is quite due; some of us live very far in the bushes and that is why most of the time you find some Members arriving late considering the distances are very far and because or maybe some cannot afford to pay for rent here in town but once we get this house allowance, we shall be able to live near the Assembly and we shall be well-taken care of.

Madam Speaker, these house allowances each and every one of us needs the money; more so it will take more care of us because it will be an additional cent in to what we earn. Members have shown that we are in more contact with the ground because we live with them and they expect things from us; they expect assistance from us and you cannot run away from the electorates. Even when we are nominated they still come to us, they know we are Members of this County Assembly and we are able to do so much to them.

So, it my great pleasure to support this motion and request all the Members to support so that it can pass as soon as possible and we get our house allowance. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Constance Mbula. Hon. Ikusya Kaloki.

**Hon. Kaloki:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want support this motion 100 per cent. I think this motion is long overdue. When you look at Members of this House, we are Hon. Members and we deserve to live honourably in honourable houses. Madam Speaker, as I said in this House earlier in a *Kamukunji* that; I don't know whether it is the constitution or the SRC who have never recognized the MCAs as Hon. Members.

We were elected just like any other Hon. Member. The difference between the National Assembly and County Assembly Members is very minimal; maybe the size of the area they represent and the population. Like in my area, the MP has four wards, I have one ward so that is one. The only other difference is that he sits in Nairobi, I sit in Machakos. It is the high time that Hon. Members start enjoying house allowance which can enable them rent houses which are decent and which befit the standards of Hon. Members.

If you look at some of our Hon. Members who come from very far like Masinga and Ndithini, they deserve to rent some nice houses in Machakos and don't be surprised to find that some of our Hon. Members are living in plots; some funny flats either on second or third floors with other ordinary members---

**Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Ikusya, I thought if the Hon. Member lived with ordinary members of the public that is how you would know best how to serve them. The idea is that you be facilitated to live with the ordinary people near the Assembly.

**Hon. Kaloki:** That is very true Madam Speaker but we must also be seen with some difference as Hon. Members for you to be treated honourably because we are elected. So what I want to say is that it is the high time we pass this motion, it is the high time we request for immediate implementation of the same to ensure that our Hon. Members stop suffering.

You can imagine the little salary that we earn; we still dig deeper on the same to pay for our house allowance and for those who live in their homes, they can also use the same to give their homes some facelift just to make it look a bit different from the rest for them to be seen to be living as Hon. Members. So, I urge this Hon. House to pass this motion as soon as possible so that we can see the implementation done within the shortest time possible. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Kaloki. Hon. Nicholas.

**Hon. Muia:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I want to fully support this Motion because as state officers, this is discriminatory to the MCAs. We really need to get this house allowance so that we can be able to live near the Assembly so that we can fully represent and work for our people.

On the same matter, I request that after this house allowance, next we should, through the County Assemblies Forum where Madam Speaker you sit, to push for the car grants because we are using our own cars and these cars by the end of the five years will be fully used and they won't be of any use and as state officers, we should get either car grant or we get government official cars that we can be using so that we don't use our own cars and then they get---

**Hon. Speaker:** The word is depreciation.

**Hon. Muia:** Yes. Depreciation and dilapidated.

**Hon. Speaker:** You have found another one.

**Hon. Muia:** So, we request you as one of our own in the County Assemblies Forum to check on the car issue. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Nicholas. Hon. Annastaciah, you come from Kibauni; how many kilometers is Kibauni from Machakos?

**Hon. (Ms.) Mutuku:** I think it's almost 100 kilometres.

**Hon. Speaker:** How are the roads?

**Hon. (Ms.) Mutuku:** The roads are not quite friendly but the county government is trying to maintain somehow but I understand the national government needs to maintain the



roads.

**Hon. Speaker:** Go ahead with your contribution.

**Hon. (Ms.) Mutuku:** Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I think the Member who brought this motion it is quite okay and I support fully because some who come from Kibauni like me, it is very tiring for us to make in time to attend the Assembly because the distance of morning and evening is tiring. So, I think it is a very good Motion for us so that Members of the Assembly can support and it be implemented immediately and it will be supportive.

I would also like to request if the national government sometimes supports the national parliament, I would like also to request the national parliament to also consider the MCAs on the ground because sometimes we find that the national government is somehow discriminating the Assemblies. I don't understand the intentions because we have a lot of challenges when we are on the ground. We meet our people, we have no allowance, no public kitty; actually we serve our people with our pocket money and you understand Hon. Speaker it is very little for us.

Even the salary is very little; we use a lot of energy to support the community. Like Kibauni, every one of you understands that Kibauni there is a lot of drought, there is problem of food, problem of water and everyone waking up is to visit the MCAs office. Some of them come to my home so it is a bit tiresome and a headache for us and when we get this house allowance, maybe we can rent a house somewhere or it will be so supportive for us to get extra money for us to serve our communities. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you Hon. Annastaciah. Hon. Cosmus Masesi.

**Hon. Masesi:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I support fully the motion brought by our able Majority Leader and if my memory serves me well, today we are more than two years down the line after our election and if I look back in fact my level of poverty is going down since I was elected. Madam Speaker, we are putting up a lot of bills---

**Hon. Speaker:** So, if your level of poverty is going down, it means you are becoming rich which is very good.

*(Laughter)*

**Hon. Masesi:** No, Madam Speaker, it is on the opposite. In fact, my level of poverty is going up. In fact, I have got nothing to show as a Hon. Member. Sometimes even my mother asks some funny questions like 'are you really saying you don't have money when you know that I am elected member?' We need to stick fully to our constitution; I want to focus on Chapter one Article 1 which says has the sovereignty of the people. Madam Speaker Article 1(1) say that all sovereign power belongs to the people of Kenya and shall be exercised only in accordance with this constitution, Madam Speaker.

Article 27 is on equality and freedom from discrimination; Article 27(1) says that every person is equal before the law and has the right to equal protection and equal benefit of the law. Madam Speaker, I want to believe that state officers, the term state officers means that any elected person and I am sure that as we speak now, our brothers and sisters in the national government are getting their house allowance.

CAF needs to move very fast and implement the same bearing in mind that this is captured within the law and also Madam Speaker, we are asking the SRC to provide the budget for the same to enable us as state officers also to enjoy these benefits. Madam Speaker, I am trying to compare myself with our teachers or other employees of the government which we normally mix down there at our wards; they are all enjoying this benefit of house allowance and we don't see how Members of the County Assembly should be exempted from this.

So, we urge the CAF to move very fast and make sure that we have a budget for the same to allow Members of the County Assembly to enjoy these benefits being enjoyed by the other state officers. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank Hon. Cosmus Masesi, Hon. Stephen Mwanthi.

**Hon. Mwanthi:** Thank you, Madam Speaker, I also stand up to support the motion that Hon. Members of County Assemblies will also need to be treated as the other government officials including the executive. Madam Speaker, with me is a letter dated 1st July, 2019 when SRC sat down and allowed county executive employees to be paid house allowance that they referred to public service reference number SRC/TSMMDP/3/1/2 dated 11th August, 2015 where the circular gave house allowance, in fact, in clusters.

Those clusters are the same, same clusters we use when travelling, when we have retreats we use the same clusters with the executive. So, I don't know why and how Assemblies should not use the same clusters also to get the house allowance as we are working together with those county executive members. So, Madam Speaker, I do support and say that it is good that we all be treated the same with the other members of the public. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

**Hon. Speaker:** Thank you, Hon. Stephen Mwanthi. I call upon the mover of the motion Hon. Majority Mark Muendo to reply.

**Hon. Muendo:** Thank you, Madam Speaker. I don't have much to say this motion belongs to us, Madam Speaker. We all know we are state officers, some of the state officers like in the National Assembly they are receiving their house allowances, the CECs, the COs are receiving their house allowance so unless we have the now playing the Animal Farm where some animals are equal and others are more important than others, Madam Speaker, I think we need to support this Motion fully.

Madam Speaker, as I was going through the Motion, I was thinking that car grant will be very important although I know you are the vice chair of CAF and those matters you are pursuing and I know definitely we are going to have what other members of National Assembly are having. Madam Speaker, considering the work we do as Hon. Members, we are also lawmakers, we also represent our people we also deal with our people directly than even the Hon. Members of Parliament.

I remember I normally wake up, see a lot of people coming to me; like today it was a bit hectic for me because they know the cheques are out. I had more than 100 people in my compound and the Hon. Member of Parliament, the last time he was there is about three months ago and he is getting house allowance, he is getting car grant and us here as lawmakers and doing all those, we are not getting anything.

So, Hon. Speaker, I would like to say this matter should actually be taken seriously and also in future *Punguza Mizigo* and also through your communication, BBI; if they are not going

to consider the MCAs as a representative of the people because we being left out, we are going to consider which one we are going to support. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

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

*(Question put and agreed to)*

Just a short comment, Hon. Members, on the resolution that you have just passed. The issue here is the feeling which is countrywide of all Members of County Assemblies of being discriminated against and to some extent disregarded and not appreciated in the service they do to the public. If you compare to the national parliament who are also legislators just like County Assembly Members, the only difference is the size of the representation, I guess as Hon. Kaloki quoted.

Hon. Members, that has not been lost to the leadership of County Assemblies and in the moment, there are engagements going on with the SRC because it has also been noted that the house allowance which is alleged to have been given to the Members of County Assemblies is said to be compounded in the salaries you get. You cannot tell for sure how much that is and under the Employment Act, no employee whatsoever, does not know how much the house allowance is. It is supposed to be distinct, itemized so that you know this is the total.

The issue of the Members welfare is core to CAF leadership and all the matters that you have raised are valid and you are justified to raise them in the process of discussing this motion. It is the story everywhere you go in every County Assembly in Kenya. So, this Motion which you have passed is going to form part of further action that the CAF leadership nationwide is going to take to ensure that the welfare of Members of County Assemblies is addressed effectively. If you are not capacitated, it is obvious you cannot discharge your functions effectively. That is the bottom line.

*(Applause)*

Hon. Annastacia has said she travels morning and evening to Kibauni about 100 km away from Machakos and it is on roads that are not friendly and it is the time the truth be said and there are many other Members here who travel long distances to come. So, if the Members are able to serve the people they represent effectively, it can only be if the Members themselves first are facilitated and that is the thinking of the CAF leadership.

So, the matters which you have raised and others which you have not raised are going to be taken up and one thing you need to appreciate is that the Commission on Revenue Allocation put ceilings on recurrent expenditure for County Assemblies and so the other matter that has to be taken up is the increase of the ceilings to cater for the house allowance because even if we go now and say pay; where is the money unless those ceilings are increased?

So, we still have a lot of work but what you have done here in the motion is to form part of the material of engagement between the CAF leadership and the commissions like the CRA, commissions like SRC so that what you need and what you are entitled to must come to you Hon. Members. Thank you.

## ADJOURNMENT

**Hon. Speaker:** At this juncture, the sitting is adjourned to resume on the 4th day of September, 2019 at 2.30 p.m.

The House rose at 11.20 a.m.