

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF MACHAKOS
OFFICIAL REPORT

Wednesday, 5th April, 2023

The House met at 10.37 a.m.

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

PRAYERS

PAPERS LAID

2ND QUARTER AND 3RD QUARTER DEPARTMENTAL PROGRESS
REPORTS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ROADS, TRANSPORT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Under this one we have Papers from Hon. Nicholas Nzioka and Hon. Dominic Ndambuki.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the Table of the Assembly today, Wednesday, 5th day of April, 2023; 2nd quarter and 3rd Quarter departmental progress reports for the Department of Roads, Transport and Public works. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Dominic Ndambuki.

MACHAKOS COUNTY BUDGET REVIEW AND OUTLOOK PAPER 2022

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am taking brief for the Hon Dominic Ndambuki the Chairperson Budget and Appropriations Committee. Hon. Speaker, I beg to lay the following Paper on the floor of the House today, Wednesday, 5th April, 2023; Report of the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the Machakos County Budget Review and Outlook Paper, 2022.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Majority Leader. I wish to commit the Paper to Transport, Roads and Housing and Public Works committee.

(The Papers were laid on the Table)

NOTICES OF MOTION

MACHAKOS COUNTY BUDGET REVIEW AND OUTLOOK PAPER 2022

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Under this one we have Hon. Dominic Ndambuki, Chairperson Budget and Appropriations Committee.

Hon. Dominic Ndambuki (Kathiani Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that Section 118 of the Public Finance Management (PFM) Act, 2012 requires that each County Treasury prepares County Budget Review and Outlook Paper (CBROP) in respect of their County for each financial year. The CBROP presents the actual fiscal performance in the reporting period compared to the budget, updated economic and financial forecasts with sufficient information to show changes from the forecasts in the most recent County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP), information on how actual financial performance for the previous financial year may have affected compliance with the fiscal responsibility principles or the financial objectives in the latest CFSP and the reasons for any deviation from the financial objectives together with proposals to address the deviation and the time estimated to do so.

Hon. Speaker, further aware that the CBROP aims to provide a review of the fiscal performance for the FY 2021/22 and how the outcomes impacted the County's financial objectives and fiscal responsibility principles as envisaged in the PFM Act, 2012 and CFSP 2022. It also relays the primary sector ceilings for the FY 2023/24 budget inclusive of indicative projections for the FY 2024/25 and 2025/26 Medium Term Expenditure Framework. The ceilings will set off the budget preparation process for the next fiscal year;

Noting that the County Budget Review and Outlook Paper 2022 was submitted to the Assembly on 19th January, 2023 and tabled in the House on 15th February, 2023 and subsequently committed to the Budget and Appropriations Committee; Hon. Speaker, I wish to give notice of Motion THAT this House discusses and approves the report of the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the Machakos County Budget Review and Outlook Paper, 2022.

Thank you, Hon Speaker.

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

STATEMENT

BUSINESS FOR THE HOUSE FOR 5TH AND 18TH APRIL, 2023

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Under this one we have Statement by Hon. Nicholas Nzioka, Majority Leader.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon Speaker, the House Business Committee met today on 5th April, 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:

Wednesday, 5th April, 2023

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

- a. Statement on the status of Kola level III Hospital by Hon. Eric Musembi, MCA Kola Ward.

- b. Statement on the status of Machakos County taskforces by Hon. Paul Wambua, MCA Kibauni Ward.
- c. Motion on Issuance of Sanitary towels by Hon. Anna Ndilo, Special Elect MCA.
- d. Adjournment Motion by Hon. Nicholas Nzioka, Leader of Majority/MCA Machakos Central Ward

Tuesday, 18th April, 2023

Morning at 10.00 a.m.

- a. Response on statement on closure of Mavivye Market by Hon. Jeremiah Kaloi, Chairperson, Trade, Economic Planning and Industrialization Committee.
- b. Report on the County Budget Review and Outlook Paper (CBROP) by Hon. Dominic Ndambuki, Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriations.

Afternoon at 2.30 p.m.

Senator's address to the County Assembly

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Majority Leader. The next Statement is by Hon. Eric Musembi.

STATEMENTS SOUGHT STATUS OF KOLA LEVEL III HOSPITAL

Hon. Eric Musembi (Kola/Muumando, PICK):

Hon. Speaker, aware that, Article 43(1)(a) of the Constitution of Kenya 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;

Further aware that Part 2(2)(a) and (c) of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution of Kenya provides that the functions of the County government include County health services, including County health facilities and the promotion of primary health care;

Concerned that service delivery in Kola Level 3 Health facility is at stake owing to the fact that power was disconnected two months ago due to unpaid utility bills. Further the facility lacks drugs and patients are forced to purchase drugs from private dispensing chemist.

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to the Standing Order 41 of the Assembly Standing Orders, I wish to seek a statement from the Chairperson of the Assembly Committee on Health and Emergency Services concerning the following matters:

1. Why power in Kola Level 3 health facility was disconnected owing to unpaid bills yet this House approved a budget to cater for such under the Department of Public Health and what measures the Department is undertaking to ensure power is restored.

2. Why Kola Level 3 health facility has not received drugs for the last four months and what measures the Department is undertaking to address the inefficiency.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon Eric. Members, would you like to ventilate or we proceed? Okay. The Statement is committed to the Health and Emergency services Committee and should report back on or before 3rd May, 2023. Next we have a Statement by Hon. Paul Wambua.

STATUS OF TASK FORCES LAUNCHED BY THE GOVERNOR

Hon. Paul Wambua (Kibauni, PTP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker, aware that Article 183(3) of the Constitution of Kenya states that the county executive committee shall provide the county assembly with full and regular reports on matters relating to the county;

Further aware that Article 185(3) of the Constitution states that the County Assembly, while respecting the principle of separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the County Executive Committee Members and any other County Executive Organs;

Hon Speaker, Acknowledging that the Machakos County Governor on 26/10/2022 launched and presided over the swearing in of the following five taskforces namely;

1. Pending Bills Verification and Audit Taskforce.
2. Lands and Houses Verification Taskforce.
3. Human Resource Audit Taskforce.
4. Vehicles Inspection and Audit Taskforce.
5. Information Communication and Technology (ICT) Infrastructure Audit Taskforce.

Hon. Speaker, considering that their mandate was to help investigate and interrogate the current state of Machakos County Government and recommend to Governor's office the best way forward to enable the government work effectively;

Hon. Speaker, noting that their timeline was only 30 days and up to now more than 90 days later we have not yet received or heard of the findings and recommendations to the office of the Governor;

Hon. Speaker, I wish to seek a statement from the Chairperson Labour, Public Service and Committee on the following matters:

1. What were terms of reference of each taskforce named above?
2. Which department and vote line they are being enumerated.
3. When will the final reports for each taskforce be forwarded to the Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Paul. This one is committed to the Labour, Public Service and ICT Committee to report on or before 3rd May, 2023.

MOTION

ISSUANCE OF SANITARY TOWELS TO
GIRLS IN PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: On this one I call upon Hon. Anna Ndilo to come and proceed.

Hon. Annabel Ndilo (Nominated, UDA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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;

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 to move the motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves that the County Government;

- (i) Partners with non-governmental organizations and sanitary towel manufacturing companies to provide free sanitary towels to our girls in primary public Schools; and
- (ii) Formulates and forwards to this House a policy on issuance of these sanitary towels.

At this juncture I want to call Hon. Helen Ndeti who is the Chair for Women Caucus to second this motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Helen.

Hon. Helen Ndeti (Nominated, WDM-K) seconded.

Hon. Annabel Ndilo (Nominated, UDA): Thank you Members. Before I take my seat, I would want to give my take on this motion because it is a very pertinent issue in our society today. Our girls in primary schools, due to stigmatization and affordability of these sanitary pads, some of them are not able to continue with school. So, I found it pertinent we discuss and approve this policy to ensure that our girls are in school without absenteeism and to achieve their dreams. Thank you.

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

(Question proposed)

I now invite Members to debate on the motion. Welcome Hon. Helen.

Hon. Helen Ndeti (Nominated, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I congratulate the Hon. Ann Ndilo for being kind enough to bring this to the attention of the Members of this County Assembly. Indeed, I have been a champion in ensuring that our girls in schools have got sanitary towels because a lot of them miss three or four days in a month and you can imagine how many lessons they end up missing when they are not in class.

Many of them come from very humble backgrounds where the parents cannot also afford sanitary towels. I think at this time and age, it is not just in Kenya I know even in UK, they have NGOs that assist in ensuring that all girls in schools have these sanitary towels. I would say, Mheshimiwa Ann Ndilo has come with a brilliant idea and if we have a policy as a county, I do not think that she means the county should set money aside to buy sanitary towels but what Mheshimiwa is talking about is a policy.

When we have a policy, it is very easy for the county to attract donors and well-wishers who can give us the sanitary towels and if there is a policy on distribution, then we take it up as Women Caucus in this Assembly. So, Members, this is a very good idea, let us support it and see how we can get these girls of ours a dignity pack which will contain some soap, underpants and the sanitary towels especially the ones that one can wash and are usable for two years. Members, let us support this motion and that will be good for the county and our girls in Machakos. Thank you.

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

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I will start by congratulating our most able Member, Hon. Ndilo for coming up with this motion to rescue our girls and our young daughters who are in primary school.

Hon. Speaker, from what Mheshimiwa is seeking, I want your interpretation; prayer No. 1 is that we partner with NGOs to come up with a way of giving these sanitary towels to our young girls. I have no problem with that item but item No. 2 of formulating and forwarding to this House a policy on issuance of sanitary towels, everyone is aware of what is devolved and what is not. Primary schools are functions of the National Government and the education which is devolved is ECDE and vocational training schools and in most cases some of the policies which we bring here govern what is within the county mandate.

So, Hon. Speaker, I thought it would be better if we can alter but not delete bullet No. 2 we seek for Inter-Governmental and that is the County Government and National Government to come together and formulate that policy so that it can be co-owned by both levels of government. I am very sure we have addressed these problems and our girls are going to remain in school without fear or stigma or without feeling that they are not well. Otherwise, the Motion is hundred percent correct. So I support the Motion. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Constance.

Hon. Constance Mbula (Nominated, MCCC): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. First I want to thank the Hon. Member who came up with this Motion. It is worthy as we speak I know most of those girls suffer quite a lot. I am aware the subject is taught from primary to upwards but the problem is these children do not know where to get them. Most of them come from very poor backgrounds so when the period comes, this child will not speak, she will opt to sleep and not go to school until four days or five days are over.

I was shocked Hon. Speaker the other day schools were being opened and I do support some children and one of them came forward to my home so that she could pick papers, school fees before she reports to Mua Girls. Then we slept over and this girl is not talking, she is not eating and so in the morning I prepared her we go to school and she looks at me and asks me, "Auntie, do you have some pads?" I am like do I know even how they look like today and she wants to get them from myself?

(Laughter)

You know it is a shame. It is the truth of the matter it is long time since I used them and I do not know even how they look like now. We need to support them in the strongest way possible. These are our children, grandchildren; we need to show them the way. So before we go to those donors, Hon. Members, I would wish there is a way of this House moving together and starting a donation, we start with ourselves before we go out there to tell people about our children.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker, it is a worthwhile Motion it need to be done, we need to approve it and move on from this House onwards. Before you talk somebody their talk to your own self and own house so that you can know what is happening. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Paul.

Hon. Paul Wambua (Kibauni, PTP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me start by applauding my sister Hon. Ndilo for coming up with such a noble Motion. As a father to a girl and probably more girls in future, I feel that this Motion is a Motion that will help our girls in terms of self-confidence, personal hygiene and help them stay in school and get what they went to school to get.

Hon. Speaker the Minority Leader is separating the function of primary schools from the County Government. However, if you ask me, I would say this is a matter of hygiene which falls under the County Government's mandate and therefore squarely should be taken up by the County Government.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker, we have done and donated these pads privately and through partnering with other organizations. I would challenge even this County Assembly to set aside part of our budget to donate as a CSR activity to donate pads to all our schools within the County.

Even if it is just a few we can do that as a County Assembly. We can fore go part of our budget for a CSR activity so that as we tell the County Government to now come in, us as Members of this County Assembly we will have already given an example. Thank you, Mr. Speaker I support this Motion.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Paul. Hon. Francis then Hon. Majority Whip.

Hon. Francis Kitaka (Ndalani, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I want to appreciate Hon. Ndilo for this noble Motion that is aimed at restoring the dignity of the girl child in the primary schools. For the interest and for the hygiene of our people and especially the girls in the schools, I beg to support this Motion and I want to concur with the Hon. Member for Kibauni who has proposed that it is important as much as we would like to request the County Government to come up with a policy or an arrangement on how these girls will benefit from the sanitary towels, it is important that this Assembly, as an institution Hon. Members, I would appreciate if we sit and task ourselves with a small percentage that would go directly to helping this girl child in our villages.

Then we will have a standing to now approach the non-governmental organizations (NGO) out there to support us. It is of importance to note that most of these NGOs will not always come to support areas whereby they are not getting a hand. Let us start it and then we move forward with ensuring that our girls can benefit.

It is important to realize that the matters raised and the concerns raised here by Hon. Member are very valid. Most of our girls miss school when they are experiencing there menstrual period. It is of importance that we understand if a girl misses school for one week, it will be very difficult for that particular girl to catch up with the rest. So, Members, I support this Motion and I appeal to all Members that we come together and collectively ensure that this Motion---

Hon. Lucky Nzau (Matungulu West, WDM-K): Point of order.

Hon. Speaker: Point of Order.

Hon. Lucky Nzau (Matungulu West, WDM-K): Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I want to applaud Hon. Ndilo and I move point of Order that we are deviating from the Motion and going to soliciting because we started by the Motion is to involve the government but now we have gone to soliciting. Why can we not stick to the Motion?

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Francis, stick to the agenda please. Welcome Hon. Paul.

Hon. Paul Wambua (Kibauni, PTP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, what Hon. Kitaka is doing is not soliciting but rather giving a solution to the problem because as a House we need to start giving solutions to matters that come before us. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Mr. Francis just proceed.

Hon. Francis Kitaka (Ndalani, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Members, we all agree and see the weight of the matter which has been tabled in this House. I beg all the

Members to be positive and to support this Motion and of importance. I will also like that all the Motions that we pass here, let them not just go to files; let us ensure that we pass Motions and they are implemented. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Francis. Hon. Majority Whip.

Hon. Lucky Nzau (Matungulu West, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I stand to support this Motion---

(Hon. Kitaka took his seat)

Hon. Brian Kisila (Makutano/Mwala, MCCC): While he is walking out, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Mheshimiwa, I think we cannot talk about him when the Member has left.

Hon. Lucky Nzau (Matungulu West, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. For saving the life of Hon. Francis from the crucial hands of Hon. Kisila. Hon. Speaker, I stand to support that Motion and with a lot of emphasis would request just as Hon. Francis Kitaka has proposed or insisted on that we pass the motion and very seriously follow the Implementation Committee to make sure that the motion is moved and at that point I want to congratulate Hon. Constance for having passed a certain point of life and wish the rest good time to reach that stage in life. So, Hon. Speaker, I stand to support. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kaloi, then Hon. Brian then we close with Hon. Majority Leader

Hon. Jeremiah Kaloi (Athi River, WDM-K): I stand to support the motion by Hon. Ndilo and I just experienced this morning a young girl from Mumbuni Girls who was having the same issues and other many issues and I was just checking the list of the items that I bought for her; the first one was sanitary towels.

(Applause)

So as we try to help our young girls and especially in the slum areas and it happens that these girls who experience such issues are the most bright girls in the society. So my humble request to Hon. Speaker is if there is something that this Assembly can really do is helping our girls because it pains a lot when you hear of a young girl not going to school because of lack of sanitary towels. We are fathers, we have our young girls and it is so painful.

So this Assembly, we can go a mile ahead and try to set our budget; even if we are going to get monies from our pocket and have a small kitty for our young girls. For the 40 wards, I am sure we are able to sacrifice some of our monies and we buy these before even we start looking for NGOs or other alternatives.

(Applause)

So, I stand to support the motion and God will bless us as Hon. Members. Thank you so much.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Jeremiah and thank you for the good gesture that you have just highlighted of what you did this morning. Hon. Brian

Hon. Brian Kisila (Makutano/Mwala, MCCC): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I stand here to congratulate my sister Ann Ndilo for coming up with a very good motion. In fact, Mr. Speaker, my concern is not just to girls. There are a lot of issues affecting girls and women and the Women Caucus is a very good platform that we can use to address a lot of issues affecting our women including sanitary towels and cancer as a disease. There are a lot of women actually even now who are suffering in silence and dying of cancer but they cannot talk. There are also women who have---

Hon. Constance Mbula (Nominated, MCCC): Point of information.

Hon. Speaker: Point of information from Hon. Constance Mbula

Hon. Constance Mbula (Nominated, MCCC): Yes. I want to advice the Hon. Member that he is diverting; we are speaking of cancer. Can he continue with the rest?

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you and Hon. Brian just stick to the agenda.

Hon. Brian Kisila (Makutano/Mwala, MCCC): No. That is not point of information. I am talking about the motion and as it relates to women; if that is not adding value to you then just do not listen to it. My point is women and girls have a lot of issues unlike men and my point is as we pursue the sanitary pads, we should also think of other factors which are affecting our women and I stand here to support and I think activating and operationalizing, actually coming up with a proper mandate for Women Caucus so that they can actually look at a lot of issues which are affecting both girls and women.

As we move forward, we might need to think about how do we facilitate the Women Caucus to come to the ground and I am surprised you are standing and you are one of the Women Caucus to facilitate Women Caucus to even have a budget so that they can start looking at contributing fare. We can contribute, nothing wrong but we have budgets which are there which can be used to take care of these issues. So my point was just to elaborate and add more weight to the sanitary pads on the role of Women Caucus to this. Thank you, for your point of order.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Brian. Hon. Majority Leader and then Hon. Aliphonce will close.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First of all, thank you Mheshimiwa Ann Ndilo for being very sensitive to what is really happening to the young girls in the primary school stage. I stand here to support. Mheshimiwa Kitaka rightly put it that it is about human dignity. I am a proud father of two girls; I shudder to think what would happen if I was not able to provide for such a basic necessity. The trauma that these young girls

go through and I remember for lack of knowledge and ignorance, when I was that age, would be laughing and embarrassing this young girls.

May be because of the education system these things have changed but the fact that these cases are still there, it is a question of the parents or the guardians not able to afford to provide for the kids so if the government can have any intervention measures, the government itself, partners in collaboration with this partners, I would be the first person to support such kind of initiative.

So also to inform the mover of the motion is that me and my friends also run a non-profit organization proudly called Wa Ngondi Foundation and some of the initiatives we do is this and so Mheshimiwa Ann Ndilo feel free to visit us in our office and we will see what we can do together.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Majority Leader, kindly address the Speaker.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Through the Chair, who is our Speaker; you are welcome to our offices and we see what intervention we can do in our own small ways. So I stand to support, thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Majority Leader. Hon. Aliphonce.

Hon. Aliphonce Mutinda (Kivaa, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I begin with appreciating Hon. Ndilo who has seen it better to bring a very sensitive motion before this House. Hon. Speaker, as we are aware of how inflation has gone high, and I believe Hon. Members who are in this House will agree with me and due to that Hon. Speaker some girls lack money to buy the pads and due to that they tend to use some materials which are somehow dirty and they should not be applied to their private parts.

Due to that they tend to acquire unnecessary diseases which make our young girls not to attend to school and also find themselves with a serious disease. So, Hon. Speaker, I want to confirm some cases which I personally have come across. When we were taking beneficiaries for bursaries, I had two cases for girls who came to look for bursary at my home and I personally I witnessed that they are spots on their back. That confirmed to me those specific girls lacked pads and that is why they ended up exposing themselves during the time they had their periods. So Mr. Speaker, I stand here to support the motion so that we can save our young girls. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Aliphonce. Hon. Members, on that part I think it is last week when I had a similar exercise in my ward. Thank you, to Hon. Helen Ndeti and Hon. Phoebe Koki who supported that exercise in my ward. Just giving a hand to the society and our girl child.

(Applause)

We managed to issue the same to around five schools in my ward which was more than 600 pieces so it is about the health of our girls and it is a good initiative and so I want to call upon the mover to reply.

Hon. Annabel Ndilo (Nominated, UDA): At this juncture, I would want to applaud and thank all Hon. Members especially from the male gender who have stood with us to support such a pertinent issue in our society being led by our Minority Leader here and I would like to cite case in the Senate as many of you know there was such a case by a nominated Senator Gloria Orwoba and you could see the victimization by even the Senators in the House.

So I would want to thank you for a good job and also for Hon. Members like Hon. Kisila who has brought a very important issue on cancer and this one says we as the Women Caucus are supposed to sit down and look at other matters besides sanitary pads just like cancer to ensure that our people and our women, children and girls in school are well catered for.

I have a few observations as the mover of the motion. I would also want us to bring attention to 75 percent of women and girls in Kenya are not able to afford these sanitary pads. My other observation is on the formulation and forwarding on this House policy on issuance of these sanitary towels; I am aware that education is not devolved in primary schools and on this matter we can direct it on health because health is devolved to the county government. Thank you, Members for supporting such a motion.

We are looking forward to act on this so that it may not be observed as a normal thing to come in the Assembly and discuss such issues but we are looking forward to working with more non-governmental organizations. An example of the one of the foundation of the Majority Leader Mheshimiwa Nzioka and we are looking forward to working with so many of these NGOs and even some of these organizations. Another example is Size 8 who runs a very important company and a good company that can issue free sanitary pads to us as long as we formulate a policy on the same. So thank you, Mr. Speaker and Members for your contributions.

(Applause)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Annabel Ndilo.

(Question put and agreed to)

Thank you, Hon. Members. The House stands adjourned....sorry next order.

PROCEDURAL MOTION ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Majority Leader. So you are taking his brief, welcome.

Hon. Francis Kitaka (Ndalani, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am holding brief for the Majority Leader.

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

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Yes, please. Point of information.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I said yesterday this is a House of procedure and whatever is written in the Standing Orders has to be followed to the letter. The motion on adjournment can only be moved by either the Majority Leader, Minority Leader or a Member of the House Business Committee.

(Applause)

For this matter the Hon. Member who is purporting to move that motion has got no legal capacity to do so. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Minority Leader, kindly proceed. Hon. Francis let the Minority Leader---

Hon. Francis Kitaka (Ndalani, WDM-K): Hon. Speaker, I stand informed. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Minority Leader, can you move the motion?

(Laughter)

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Sorry to my brother; if we lay the rules we have to follow them and this is the learning process. I am sure majority of us are new and this is the way Members will be able to learn faster.

Hon. Speaker, that aware that the Second Session of the Third Assembly commenced on 14th February, 2023;

Aware that pursuant to Standing Order 25(1), the Assembly approved an Assembly calendar on 14th March, 2023 and altered on 15th March, 2023 through a house resolution;

Aware that the calendar provides for the sittings and recess for the House;

Hon. Speaker, aware that Standing Order 25(4) provides that despite the adjournment date as scheduled in the approved Assembly Calendar, the Assembly may by resolution, alter its Calendar or the adjournment date;

Further aware that Standing Order 151(6) provides for the mandate of the House Business Committee which amongst others is to prepare and if necessary, from time to time adjust the Assembly Calendar with the Approval of the House;

Acknowledging that there is need for members to be trained on the House procedures, processing of the business in the House and law making process;

Hon. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order 25(4), I wish to move the Motion that this House resolves to adjourn its sitting from today Wednesday, 5th April, 2023 after the morning plenary sitting to resume on 18th April, 2023 to allow Hon. Members attend to a training program.

Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I call upon Hon. Don who is a Member of HBC to second the motion.

Hon. Paul Wambua (Kibauni, PTP) seconded.

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

(Question proposed)

I invite Members to debate. I invite the Hon. Minority Leader to reply.

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. As a linguistic officer, you have read the communication from the House and I want to thank you for understanding the language. Hon. Speaker, from the feeling in the House, Members are ready to adjourn so that they can undergo this training. I am sure by next week they will be sharper than they are now. Thank you.

(Applause)

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

(Question put and agreed to)

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members. The House adjourns to Tuesday, 18th April, 2023 at 10.00 a.m.

The House rose at 11.32 a.m.