
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY**OFFICIAL REPORT****Wednesday, 10th February, 2016**

The House met at 10.10 a.m.

*(The Speaker (Mr. Mung'ata) in the Chair)***PRAYERS****Hon. Speaker:** Good morning Hon. Members. Let us proceed, Clerk.**MOTION****THIRD EDITION OF KICOSCA/CASA GAMES****Hon. Speaker:** Hon. Renson Muthiani.**Hon. Muthiani:** Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, and the House at large. I want to table before this House the report of the third edition of KICOSCA/CASA games.**Preamble**

Mr. Speaker, KICOSCA stands for Kenya Inter-County Sports and Cultural whereas CASA stands for County Assemblies Sports Association. KICOSCA, originally referred to as KIMSCA (Kenya Inter- Municipal Sports and Cultural Association) was formed in 1978 and the name changed after development of County Governments in accordance with the new Constitution.

Currently the KICOSCA organization is majorly for the County Government Staff whereas CASA is for the members of the County Assemblies. The games which bring together all the County Governments' staff and MCAs include dances, indoor and outdoor games.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, these games help and reduce inter-ethnic conflicts, promote equality of opportunities and good leadership. The games also facilitate and promote a Kenyan society whose values are harmonious and non-discriminatory for peaceful co-existence. The theme for the year's games was "enhancing national cohesion through sports"

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the KICOSCA/CASA games were held on 16th to 23th August, 2015 in Eldoret, Uasin-Gishu County. The games saw a turn up of 27 counties out of the 47.

Mandate of the Sub Committee

Mr. Speaker, these games squarely lie within the mandate of the Committees of Youth, Women and Sports and Culture and Tourism. Further, Mr. Speaker, Sir, pursuant to the Standing

Orders, Second Schedule, the Committee of Culture and Tourism shall deal with “All matters related to cultural activities, public entertainment and public amenities, including betting, lotteries, casinos and other forms of gambling, racing, liquor licensing, cinemas, video shows and county parks, beaches and recreation facilities and local tourism, culture; control of drugs and pornography and annual animal control and welfare, including licensing of dogs and facilities for accommodation, care and burial of animals”

The Committee of youth, women and sports is mandated to deal with youth welfare, women affairs, empowerment of women, matters of equality, affirmative action and gender related issues and sports activities and facilities. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the two committees met on 14th July, 2015 and formed a sub-committee to spearhead all matters related to the KICOSCA/CASA games.

Membership of the Sub Committee

Members of the Sub-Committee include;

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| 1. | Hon. Renson Muthiani | -Chairperson |
| 2. | Hon. (Ms.) Jacqueline Nziva | -Vice Chairperson |
| 3. | Hon. Joseph Itumo | -Member |
| 4. | Hon. Alphonse Wambua | “ |
| 5. | Hon. (Ms.) Nina Mbithe | “ |
| 6. | Hon. (Ms.) Benedette Mueni | “ |
| 7. | Hon. John Sila | “ |

The Office of the Clerk and the Department of Tourism and Culture assigned eight officers to form a secretariat to assist the sub-committee. The Secretariat includes:-

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| 1. | Ms. Norah Muteti | -Clerk Assistant |
| 2. | Mr. Luke Maingi | -Clerk Assistant |
| 3. | Ms. Christine Matee | -Games Coordinator |
| 4. | Ms. Loise Kithuka | -Records Officer |
| 5. | Mr. Paul Keli | - Librarian |
| 6. | Ms. Monicah Musyoka | -Accountant |
| 7. | Mr. Gabriel Muasya | -Sports Officer (Tourism and Culture) |
| 8. | Ms. Elizabeth | - Cultural Officer (Tourism and Culture) |

Preparation for the games

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Sub-Committee held several meeting with the CEC member and Chief Officer for the department of Tourism and Culture, the Clerk of the County Assembly and team captains of the participating teams with a view to adequately prepare for the events.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, having submitted a proposed budget of the KICOSCA/CASA games to the department of tourism and culture, the sub-committee made efforts to fast track that its implementation was done adequately. The budget included allowances, transport, uniforms and games equipment like balls, nets, darts board and darts, tug of war rope and boots.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sub-committee noted that there was no solid vote in the department of tourism and culture to cater for the KICOSCA/CASA games. The Chief Officer had to do internal re-allocations in the recurrent budget to cater for the games. The total cost for these games was Kshs. 16,389,738. Annexed is a breakdown of the expenditure.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the County Government of Machakos had registered 15 disciplines for the staff in KICOSCA and six disciplines for the MCAs in CASA. The sub-committee tasked the team captains with ensuring that all teams practiced for the games sufficiently and vetting for team members was done to avoid a situation where joyriders would find their way to the competition.

Performance of the teams

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Machakos County Government teams performed as follows;

KICOSCA games (Staff)

DISCIPLINE	POSITION
1. Folk song	2 nd
2. Traditional dance	7 th
3. Borrowed dance	17 th
4. Football (Men)	3 rd
5. Pool table (Men)	5 th
6. Basketball (Men and Women)	2 nd and 4 th respectively
7. Volleyball (Men)	NOT RANKED
8. Table Tennis (Men)	NOT RANKED
9. Set Piece	4 th

CASA Games- MCAs

DISCIPLINE	POSITION
1. Football (Men)	Lost at quarter finals
2. Darts (Men and Women)	2 nd
3. Pool Table (Men)	4 th
4. Netball (Women)	23 rd
5. Volleyball (Women)	20 th
6. Table Tennis (Men)	Lost at Semi-finals
7. Tug of war (Men and Women)	Was disqualified.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, Machakos County was ranked 4th position overall out of the 27 Counties which participated after Uasin Gishu, Nairobi and Narok.

Challenges faced

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sub-committee noted that participants for the various teams from our county faced the following challenges:-

- Delayed payments of per diem allowances where some participants had to go without their basic needs before payments were effected. Four participants have never been paid up to date. Others were underpaid.
- Delay in delivery of uniform hence participants didn't attend parades as the uniform was delivered late. Some teams have never received their uniform up to date. The tug of war team was disqualified from the competition because they didn't have the uniform and the boots. The uniform was not branded hence contravening the rules of the games.
- First-Aid services and refreshment (water and glucose) were not available for most of the participants. Further, there was communication breakdown where participants did not know when and where they were to perform from.
- The sub-committee also noted, with a lot of disappointment, that some Hon. Members forcefully got more than two uniforms. These, therefore, led to other Hon. Members and members of staff lacking uniform. However, the matter is being handled by the Committee on Powers and Privileges.
- Up to date, almost all the suppliers who supplied the games equipment and uniform have not been paid their dues. Efforts to address the matter with the department of tourism and culture have proved futile since the Chief Officer blamed the delay to the un predictable cash flows from the National Government.

Recommendations

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the sub-committee recommends the following:-

- That each of the two arms of the Machakos County Government to have their own KICOSCA/CASA budget for its Staff and MCAs as the case of the County Assembly to avoid conflict on facilitation of the participants. The budget should be set aside annually for the said games.
- Teams to register early and start practicing in different disciplines in preparation for the future KICOSCA games. This will ensure that teams perform much better in the events.
- The Department of Tourism and Culture moves with speed to see to it that the suppliers who have not been paid receive their payment within the next one week.
- The Department of Tourism and Culture should ensure that payment is effected for participants who have not yet been paid their allowances.

Acknowledgement

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the KICOSCA/CASA Sub-Committee is grateful to the office of the Speaker and that of the Clerk to the County Assembly for the support accorded during the Sub-Committee sittings. I wish to express my appreciation to the Hon. Members of the committee who sacrificed time to participate in the activities of the committee and in preparation of this report. The sub-committee is indebted to the committees of Tourism and Culture and Youth, Women and Sports for nominating them to sphere head these games. Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is therefore my privilege, on behalf of the KICOSCA sub-committee, to table this report and recommend it to this Hon. House for adoption. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

(Applause)

Hon. Speaker: Thank you very much. Let us proceed and discuss the report. If you recall, Hon. Members, this report had already been laid in the House. It is now open for debate. Yes, Hon. Itumo.

Hon. Itumo: Mr. Speaker, I start by saying that, I do stand to support this particular report that has been well compiled, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, time and time again we have been complaining from the Executive side, Mr. Speaker. It is very shameful to see our participants in this very big occasion having no uniforms yet we always talk about County number one, Mr. Speaker. This does not even smell, it stinks, Mr. Speaker and whoever concerned in procuring the uniforms and all this, I think the work of this particular sub-committee has not ended. It should carry on for more time to scrutinize the reasons why this one was not met.

Mr. Speaker, if we could manage to come number four out of 27 sub counties, Mr. Speaker, it shows each and everything, if it were put in place, we could have managed to finish either number one or two, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the work of this Hon. House or rather this Hon. Members has come and as I said yesterday, Mr. Speaker, you realize we have come for the final one, Mr. Speaker, maybe some of us. And this time, Mr. Speaker, we are going to do our work seriously because we know one of the mandates is the role of oversight, Mr. Speaker, and this one is going to be done seriously by Members of this particular House, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, I do support the report and I also do request, for all those failings that were met, to allow this particular sub-committee, to carry on with the duties and bring to book what really happened so that we could avoid all these failings, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Let us hear Hon. Katela

Hon. Katela: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I stand with a lot of delight to support my deputy in the labour committee, who has given a very good report. In fact, I was waiting for him not to mention that I did not get uniform but now that he has mentioned, I am here to support the report fully and say that, I am also swimming in the same stream of argument with the predecessor, whoever has just spoken, that we should take this matter seriously and again we should go, again, through this report.

POINT OF ORDER

Hon. Itumo: The Member who is just speaking should not say ‘whoever was speaking.’ my name is Hon. Joseph Kilonzo Itumo, a Hon. Member.

Hon. Katela: I apologize, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Hon. Itumo, you have become...at least you have some teeth now you can bite. Now what I am saying is that we should go through this report again privately.

Hon. Speaker: Order, order Hon. Katela, you must sincerely apologize.

Hon. Katela: I apologize, Mr. Speaker, through the Chairperson to Hon. Itumo from Kangundo. Thank you. Mr. Speaker, Sir, protect, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Proceed.

Hon. Katela: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am urging my fellow members to go through this report again and see where we should correct the mistakes we made last time and if possible, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Assembly should have its own budget, its own teams which should be participating all through and I urge the members to support the budget of the KICOSCA for Assembly so that, at least, we can shine and leave a mark at the County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Can I have Hon. Mutuku then Hon. Kitheka, in that order. Hon. Mutuku.

Hon. M. Mutuku: Thank you. First and foremost, let me appreciate and applaud the Chairperson of the committee and more so the Hon. Members of the same. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I hereby support the report for being objective because it has addressed many issues in line with what transpired. Mr. Speaker, Sir, there are some issues of concern in the report, specifically, the recommendations. Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you try to look, the aspect of the image and reputation of this Hon. House, having the Hon. Members being supplied with uniforms and up to now, the supplier has not been paid. It is really not in line with the best practice as a Hon. House.

Actually, in future we may not be creditworthy for some of the suppliers. In that regard, I would like to wish all the recommendations which have been highlighted be implemented without delay. Mr. Speaker, Sir, also the issue of failing to pay them, it is creating the aspect of killing small businesses, as we all know, some of these suppliers are beginners. In view of that, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to support the report and once again applaud the Members of those Committees. Thank you.

Hon. Kitheka: Thank you Mr. Speaker and the House at large. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to highlight on some pertinent issues which are in this report. First and foremost, I wish to congratulate my former Vice-Chairman in the Labor Committee, Hon. Muthiani for a good job. Mr. Speaker, as you can see, there are a lot of disciplines in the games which we are taking in Eldoret. Mr. Speaker, I wish to point out that all these disciplines and the games at large will contribute to the entire body so that we can participate. So, I kindly wish the Assembly can

participate in all the games which are available so that at least we can make good utilization of the contribution we make. So Mr. Speaker, to point out on that, I wish every Member and Members of the Executive can note that we use a lot of money to register so that we can go and participate.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, there is a call of divorce in the participation of the games between the KICOSCA and part of the MCAs. I think it is prudent enough because as we witnessed when we were in Eldoret, there were a lot of problems because the co-ordination was not adequate and we could end up, even others not knowing where to participate, where to get information from. Mr. Speaker, I still wonder and want to know clearly, there was a liaison officer from this Assembly, Hon. Mary Ndinda, who acted as the Liaison Officer between the KICOSCA games and the Assembly.

I tend to wonder, what part was she playing because there were a lot of hiccups, there were a lot of problems and there was no any co-ordination whatsoever as pertains the same. So Mr. Speaker, we should as well look on that. Mr. Speaker on the issue of the No. 7, on page 4, we went to the games ready to play the tug of war, to participate but unfortunately we could not even get into the field because we were not even having uniforms and immediately after the games ended, we were supplied with uniform.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to point out that, I was supplied with my uniform on the second final day when I was going home. So, Mr. Speaker, it does not make sense for this kind of deliberate delays of supplies. So, Mr. Speaker, on this other point, on the issue of tug of war, the uniform which was bought was just bought for the sake of it, it is just uniform for the participants. Mr. Speaker, I wish the people going to procure such uniform could consider the kind of games which are being played because the uniform which was being supplied, even could not be accepted in the field for certain disciplines because they were just bringing shoes which were almost like slippers and which not be accepted there.

Mr. Speaker, still to point on, I think the Assembly can carry on the process of budget for the games in a very amicable way so that, at least, we can divorce from such problems which have been created, because of the issue of coming together with the Executive and to participate together. So, Mr. Speaker, I wish this is the right time now to have a very strong part of the Assembly, in one of the departments to cater about this issue and to budget about it early enough so that we cannot have all these problems. Mr. Speaker, I think I came to your office on one of the issues of the costumes and dancers' uniform which had been bought, which the person who had been given the chance to go and buy, had gone to buy the uniform and supplied and he was even coming for the uniform in the Assembly claiming that even the time for payment had lapsed also.

So, Mr. Speaker, I think we can do something to help our people down there who are supplying the Assembly and even the Executive. Mr. Speaker, I cannot blame the Assembly because the Assembly pays in time, but the Executive are in a way that, failing, totally, to pay their suppliers and contractors in a way that, as if they are punishing them. So, Mr. Speaker, I kindly look for prudence in the payment of such issues in the Assembly and in the Executive. So,

Mr. Speaker, I wish to stop there and congratulate my Chairperson, thank you very much may God bless you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, let us hear Hon. Muthesya

Hon. Nzioki: *(Laughs)*, Thank you, Mr. Speaker---

Hon. Speaker: Sorry, the Hon. Member for Muthesya ward.

Hon. Nzioki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am also amused to see Mheshimiwa Muli waking up when Muthesya is mentioned.

(Laughter)

Mr. Speaker, thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I would say this, although these games were the first ones since devolution, the games were very poorly organized. The games were poorly handled. Mr. Speaker, we had a representative from the Assembly who was representing the Members but we did not get enough information, Mr. Speaker, on what we were supposed to do on those days. Mr. Speaker, when I say the games were poorly organized, we got uniforms late, some of us played with uniforms we used to exchange uniforms on the field.

If you had to come out, if you were to be replaced from the grounds, you had to give your vest to another player, having been played with it and you having sweat and you have to give it to another player. Mr. Speaker, it was a big shame and it was not a very good sign, they were not very good signs Mr. Speaker for the players.

Mr. Speaker, at the same time, I would recommend that next time that, Mr. Speaker, we are going for this games, we prepare as an Assembly, we prepare our own budget and we delink ourselves from the Executive side. Mr. Speaker, they are the ones who messed us, Mr. Speaker. We would have gotten medals but we could not because we did not even have gear, the uniforms, for particular events. Again Mr. Speaker, something has to be done. There were those players who were going there as players, then we had joyriders, the spectators and some of the spectators got uniforms, Mr. Speaker and they were not doing anything on the ground.

Mr. Speaker, something has to be done. Good organization must be done and, Mr. Speaker, if it is possible we pick people who have been in the field, who have organized sports and not people who have organized other things, Mr. Speaker, to organize the sports. Mr. Speaker, if that could be done, Mr. Speaker, and given adequate time, we are going to bring fame to this Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Let us hear Hon. Anne, at the back.

Hon. (Ms.) Musyoki: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have a lot to talk about this games, and let me start with borrowed dance; we had to intervene as the MCAs

because of this borrowed dance. Our staff members, they were No. 17 but I believe they could have been No. 1. Our staff members from the Assembly had really practiced that song so much and it was wonderful but we had to fight it with the CEC member saying her group from Matungulu has to come and dance. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we fought it but because she had her word, she had her way, we gave in and that is how we were defeated. It was so embarrassing. A county, fighting each other in Eldoret!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, about the tug of war, some of us were ready to have the tug of war but immediately we arrived there, we were so embarrassed, we were given shorts which for some of us, they could not fit us, they could only fit Hon. Kalembe, so we could not put them on. Then there were special boots for tug of war, we could not get them. Mr. Speaker, it was so embarrassing. Then before the sports, we were just given two weeks to practice, some of us played 10 years ago so jumping and doing other things, I think we should start early.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the challenges we faced there, it was so embarrassing Machakos County going to borrow glucose and water from other counties, that our County could not even buy water which is worth only Kshs. 2. It was so embarrassing. Our ambulances went there, County No. 1, they had no medicine, no emergency kits. What were they for there? We were wondering. We were abused because of them and I quote, '*hizi ndio vitu mmetuletea tuone?*' We were so embarrassed.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as I said about the uniforms, it was so embarrassing as the Hon. Member for Muthesya has said. The spectators are the ones who got three, four uniforms. Some of us even got only the jackets. The shoes were too small, as I say, and I am not belittling Hon. Kalembe, they could only fit her. So we played with our own shoes from home. Other counties had beautiful uniforms, shoes right from the Assembly, we were embarrassed. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wonder and I will continue wondering, here we are seeing a budget whereby equipment and uniforms were given Kshs. 4.7 million, choir Kshs. 400,000, cultural dancers uniform Kshs. 600,000, why were they not paid?

We should delink ourselves from the Executives completely when we are dealing with these things so that we will not embarrass our County. We tried our best that we became No. 4 so that, we will not embarrass our County. We stayed together, we talked and said we shall bring this fight back home and I think this is the time I think we should talk about it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. But maybe Hon. Anne---

Hon. (Ms.) Musyoki: Yes Sir.

Hon. Speaker: You talked about uniforms, yourself and Hon. Kalembe.

Hon. (Ms.) Musyoki: Yes (*Laughs*)

Hon. Speaker: A member of the public out there who does not know both of you will really not understand your point.

Hon. (Ms.) Musyoki: The point is, we were given, if it is a tracksuit, surely it cannot get into a leg. They were just too small. Some of us put on 3x's (XXX). She can put a smaller one, medium but us, they brought small, small and medium but us, some of us, most of these ladies in this Assembly put large L and XL and XXL---

Hon. Speaker: I think---

Hon. (Ms.) Musyoki: They did not take measurements from us, they just brought uniforms and actually the person who was supplying the uniforms at the field, was overwhelmed because everybody wanted uniforms, even the staff wanted, even outsiders, so they started grabbing them and pulling them from the *gunia*.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, I think the point is made now.

Hon. (Ms.) Musyoki: Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Yes, Hon. Kamitu.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you very much Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I normally sometimes stand in this House and talk of experience. Sir, I happen to be, as you know, I was in the Police and in the Police, we have all these activities, we have all these disciplines and my contribution on this point, Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is just to bring to the attention of the House that in all the competitions, in all the games, people have to come out prepared. So, let me applaud the Sub-committee and put the same remarks that some of our Members have already put, that we had a Liaison Officer from this Assembly whereby all the meetings that were held in the National level were supposed to be brought to this House so that the Assembly would prepare or the KICOSCA and the CASA and could have prepared themselves earlier.

So, I am talking about preparations and Mr. Speaker, Sir, if you have seen in the report, that the positions that we were given in the different disciplines, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am assuring you that, if these Members of this Assembly were well prepared, we would have even come up with better position. And Mr. Speaker, Sir, as you have heard from the Hon. Members who have spoken before me, we are talking of preparation, and as I said, if people, Members of the Assembly were prepared according to the discipline, in the early preparation, we would have come, we would have gotten the best players in the disciplines but what happened, Mr. Speaker, Sir, because I was among the participants in some various discipline, is that names were given but Hon. Members never participated during the practice, so what happened?

That is one of the parts that came up. That those who were not the best, were picked to go and represent ours. So that is what I am saying? That, people also Hon. Members, would have

come out earlier, give out there passion because some Members were just giving out their names that 'I know how to play volleyball' and even if you could see the way they were doing, there were indications that they were even not able to know the rules of volleyball, for example. Some gave out the names that they were footballers, even you could see, some of them could not even know how the football is played, the rules of the football.

So, entirely, we should not even blame the sub-committee but we should also blame ourselves. What am I saying Mr. Speaker? Now that we have noted and these observations have been made and the report has been made, I am saying and I am requesting, that during this calendar year, when the calendar comes out for KICOSCA, people passionate about different disciplines should come out and say 'I am a footballer' and if you give yourself a name that you are a footballer, you should be a footballer.

Otherwise, that is where we messed up ourselves and in regard to the event, the sequence of events when we were in Eldoret, I noticed that our Members were not even following the programs because the programs never came out. There were some people who were supposed to play volleyball and they did not know the game for volleyball was starting. So, I am saying next time, we should be prepared and we should come out with a program that, if you are a Member of a certain discipline, you must know when and where because we have different places and because these games were being played in different venues.

So that is where most of us went wrong and in regard to what we have heard about the tug of war, I was the captain of the tug of war and that is exactly what happened. We had no uniforms, so we were disqualified earlier. So Mr. Speaker, my humble request is that we have seen all these recommendations, we have seen all the challenges but for us to come out as a victorious county, we must prepare early and people should come out passionate to the discipline that they know not just giving out names. Otherwise, thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Hon. Matheka, yes.

Hon. Matheka: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I give a thumbs up to the committee Chairman and his team and the Hon. Members and the staff for a good job well done. Mr. Speaker, Sir, they did their work very well but there were shortcomings from here and there. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I will go straight to the annexure which is the budget, a total of Ksh. 16 million was done and Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a pity having a budget for equipments a team and could not participate because of lack of equipment, that is the tug of war. No boots, no uniform. Where did the money go and it was in the budget? Mr. Speaker, Sir, on the challenges, up to today, four participants have never been paid there per diem or their dues.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, here it points something, Machakos County is not creditworthy. It is now 180 days since the games were played. What are they waiting for? Those people went there on credit, they used their money to participate in the games knowing very well that they were supposed to be given their money in advance yet, four months, five months down the line, they are still waiting for their money. Shame on him or her, whoever is holding that money!

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Chief Officer, that is on the challenges, the last bullet, is complaining of delay of money from the National Government. That is the usual song in Machakos County, Mr. Speaker, Sir, if I have my facts right. We have suppliers of 2013/14 budget, money which was budgeted and used and all that money came from the National Government yet people are crying out there, they have dues with Machakos County dates as back as 2013/14. Why have those suppliers not been paid? The Chief Officers should not complain about money which has not come from the National Government. We have a budget and that is why budgets are made and passed in this House.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, if we go to the organizers, that is the CASA games, Mr. Speaker, Sir, we noticed some few things. I was one of the players, I participated in darts, we emerged No. 2 but there were a lot of anomalies, Mr. Speaker, Sir. It was not the MCAs playing, it was the workers and the rule is very clear, it should be either one or two workers. Like our team had five members, we were only supposed to have one employee but some teams were bringing in almost four employees and one MCA. Mr. Speaker, Sir, the organizers, whoever is presenting us in CASA team should see to it that it is only the Hon. Members who are fighting it out in the field.

Otherwise, even the football team was just the same thing. Our team played against Kisii, they played against Vihiga County but it was not the MCAs playing, it was the staff and even some were hired yet they were not staff. So the organizers should see to it that, if it is the MCAs playing, it should be the MCAs and not the other way round. On the recommendations, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I agree with the Committee fully that, the issuance of the uniforms should be done here before the team leaves. That one will enable the teams to participate in the parade and that one will enable the team to know whether the uniform is branded, if it is not, and that one will give members morale to know exactly they are going to participate and they are not going to be frustrated out there.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, Sir, on a light note, when a team goes to play and they bring a trophy back, they are rewarded. As a Member of the darts team, we brought our trophy back and a thank you has never been said to us.

(Applause)

See to it that, Mr. Speaker, Sir, the team is well appreciated. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you Hon. Matheka and thank you again. Let us hear the Chairperson.

Hon. Nzeki: Thank you Hon. Speaker. I want to bring a few comments concerning the sub-committee although they did a good job. I congratulate my former counterpart, finance Chairman, Kangundo Town Council. Hon. Speaker, I just wanted to talk about issuance of uniforms. One, I was not issued with uniform and I still complain that I need my uniform because next year, I do not know where I will be. I will be boasting with that uniform because it will be written Machakos County Assembly and I will be walking on the streets of Machakos

County or in the Machakos Town. Again, I am a sharpshooter in darts and even pool table. I tried to start to go and play and I was denied because we had no uniform and on the side of the uniform, I tried to see Hon. Peninah and Hon. Mueni, they played netball, they were not given uniforms. They were just loaned uniforms by other Counties. It was a shame to the County of Machakos which is referred to County number one.

On the side of the budget, they have recommended that we start early. If you happen to go to the pool table here, which is played by Members of County Assembly and even the staff, there is no cloth on top of the pool table. So I ask the management of the Machakos County Assembly to check on that. A table costs only Ksh. 4,000, why can't we buy it? There is also practice of darts, some of us are Church Elders especially A.I.C and you do not go to a night club and play darts. It was taken there for practice and I was just sneaking, checking whether there are some of my worshippers around because if they see me, I will be excommunicated.

So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, I ask that we be brought the darts to the Assembly so that we can be playing even when we are not in the Plenary. So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, because we came to No. 1, we came No. 4, and Machakos County does not believe in coming other than No. 1. Why did we become No. 4? Because money was misappropriated and we ask the Committee of budget to make a way whether we can have some money out into the Assembly so that we can be paid through the County Assembly Finance Department. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you very much. Let us hear Hon. Mueni.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I was a Member of the Sub-committee but Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had a lot of problems with the Executive. So, mine is to ask whether we can have our own budget for the Assembly but not to be mixed with the Executive. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think if you were coming for the meetings, which we were having with the Executive, with the CEC member and whatever, we were talking as if we were asking for money to go and buy food in our house. It was so bad. Even we were arguing so badly, no respect to one another, no what, even some people were told that they were given money, they were asking for money so that they can do this and this, which was not very true.

So, Mr. Speaker, Sir, not to have so much talking and so much thinking bad to one another, I think we have to have our own budget, to budget for our things, to budget for everything, to buy the clothes, to buy the uniform and the water and the glucose. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not know whether you came to Eldoret. It was so bad to Machakos, we were not having any water, even we were looking as if we were orphans from a County not even having whatever or whatever. It was so bad. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think you are hearing not sleeping.

(Laughter)

So, Mr. Speaker, the other time we have our own budget to do these things. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Okay. Hon. Mueni, I am awake, Hon. Mueni.

(Laughter)

Let us hear Hon. Katumo at the back. *(Referring to the gooseneck microphones)* It should be working, I think the microphone is working? Kindly help.

(Low consultations)

Hon. Katumo: Firstly, I want to congratulate that sub-committee and the Chairperson for the good work of the report. Secondly, I also wish to congratulate the Hon. Members who participated and brought us glory in Machakos County Assembly. But I have two points here of concern.

Firstly, I witnessed when this uniforms were being issued and Members were scrambling for the same and with my condition, I could not grab any of these. So, I was left having no uniform and I witnessed Members taking two or three while I was waiting in vain. I think this is a gross misconduct of Members. Members should conduct themselves with a lot of dignity, they are called Hon. Members and therefore I think this is not a matter that should recur again.

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Katumo, I think the report says that, that matter is ready before the Committee on privileges where you are a Member?

Hon. Katumo: Yes.

Hon. Speaker: I do not know. How do you handle that and you are a Member of that Committee. Is it appropriate that you have already taken a position?

Hon. Katumo: In fact, I am the Vice-Chairperson of that Committee and I think the issue is before the Committee

Hon. Speaker: So, God will help victims now that---

Hon. Katumo: Yes, of course.

(Laughter)

I am not taking any position but it is just a concern that, of course, I am talking generally to make sure that next time we conduct ourselves with a lot of dignity. But my major point of concern is this one, that as we went to Eldoret to participate, I found some of us were left. I think there are disciplines here that those who were concerned should also include for persons with disabilities.

I think each County Assembly, has Members who are challenged in different ways and we have several disciplines that take part in and I think they are three or four and I think in future we should also include them to make sure that we are not mere spectators and for this Subcommittee, I think one of the recommendations should include an addition of disciplines to make sure that e also participate. There are several disciplines that we can also take part in. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Yes Hon. Muli.

Hon. Muli: Thank you---

Hon. Speaker: We will have one, two and then we conclude with. Yes.

Hon. Muli: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. Mr. Speaker, let me first applaud the Chairperson for Subcommittee of KICOSCA and Mr. Speaker, because I do not want to preempt what the Hon. Members have already deliberated, I have a point of concern on issue of the fifteen disciplines whereby which have been already been slotted for KICOSCA games in terms of staffs whereby they have already indicated 15 while in the list we have nine and also from the side of MCAs whereby, I am sensing that, maybe, this is why the budget which has been indicated here is very huge in terms of equipment and uniforms because I believe the budget has been slotted according to the number or the disciplines which has already been indicated while they have not been shown in the list.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the chairperson, he could have already given us the reason why the other disciplines have not been indicated in the column. Mr. Speaker, I have also the issue, the concern on issues of Hon. Members who forcefully got more than two uniforms. I believe Mr. Speaker, the fact remains already these Hon. Members, already there issues could have been already surrendered to the Committee of powers and privileges and I request, because we do not like to hear such an issue once again, I will request the Chairperson for Powers and Privileges to give us the verdict, the final verdict to this floor of the House so that we can understand if the issue was truth or it was just a rumour. We would like to hear so that we give the best issue which should be done to those Members.

Also, Mr. Speaker, the issue with the budget which already has been tabled in the list, there are much inconveniences. We request the Chairperson, next round, to try to give us the itemized budget not only indicating the vote heads which have high sums of contradicting sums which have already been indicated. Otherwise, I congratulate the committee with their chairperson for the good work which they have done but still not fully exhausted. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, yes.

Hon. Maitha: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I think Members are going round and round discussing about the issue of budget and Mr. Speaker, I think this House went ahead and employed a clerk who is responsible for the welfare of the Members. The issue of the County Assembly to fail to have a budget is a failure of the office of the Clerk outright and I have always said this Mr. Speaker, with reasons. The budget process starts way back from the month of February, March, April and ends in June. The preparations of these games, Mr. Speaker, started as early as March, April and everyone can attest to this, Members were going to practice as early as March, April, May, June.

So it was the prerogative of the Clerk who is an advisor of the Assembly to have a budget that is purely on the Assembly. So, let us not try to catch the blame where it does not belong. The welfare of the Members is purely under the office of the Clerk and the office of the County Assembly Service Board. So, it was not the Members to decide that a budget has to be put because if the office of the Clerk had directed Members to go and do practice, that is Members and staff of the Assembly, how was he expecting to finance the same? So, I think this is a failure that happened and what we ought to do is, the office of the Clerk should organize as early as possible to have the budget slotted, and not even the KICOSCA games budget, any other budget that is affiliated to benefit the Members in one way or the other because Members cannot concentrate on the electorate and the services of the electorate and as well go and concentrate on the same in terms of such kind of things.

So, to avoid such kind of embarrassments Mr. Speaker, then the Office of the Clerk should ensure that anything that has got any benefit to the Members is given and budgeted for so that we can avoid those future inconveniences. Members failed to go to Rwanda because of the same. So we are demoralizing those Members who will even practice this year probably and knowing that they will not go so, Mr. Speaker. As we go ahead and have the budget for this year, we need the office of the Clerk to do thorough calculation ensure that all the expenses for the members are met such that such kind of embarrassment is not seen in the near future.

The other worst thing, Mr. Speaker, that we went through and I am realizing, to date, Mr. Speaker, there is no single member of this Assembly who has a branded material for Machakos County Assembly. Not even a single one. If there is any, maybe that person, that Hon. Member might have done it on his or her own cost. It was so ashaming Mr. Speaker, to interact with Members from the other County Assemblies and other Counties with properly branded uniforms and the Hon. Nzeki has said it clearly. What will I be proud of as a Member of this Assembly maybe next year when I am out of this Assembly? Not even a t-shirt, nothing else, Mr. Speaker.

So, we need to see that every Member, at least, whenever we will be going to the next KICOSCA games or any other activity, we need to be branded, we need to market our County we cannot market our County on plain uniforms. Where do we come from? Strangers! And a budget has already been spent for this, Mr. Speaker. It is absolutely pathetic and it is not acceptable. So the welfare of Members, and I want to over emphasize on this, the welfare of Members of Machakos County Assembly is being taken for a ride. We are struggling so much to ask for things that are supposed to be catered for the Assembly Service Board and the office of the Clerk.

We have to keep on begging on these things. Mr. Speaker. Are we Hon. Members or horrible Members, Mr. Speaker? This should not be repeated and if repeated, Mr. Speaker, I think these Hon. Members have got a right and powers to decide that they can even get people who can represent their welfare and their issues in the right manner and before we get to that extent, Mr. Speaker, I know your able office can facilitate the same.

Mr. Speaker, on the issue of the same, and I would like to even seek a diversion from the same, if you allow me, Mr. Speaker to date, sometime years back we proposed to have a fully-equipped canteen that Members can discuss their own issues there, where Members can take a glass of water, a cup of tea, a glass of wine, if needs be and a bottle, maybe beer, if need be, because these are Hon. Members and it is in the National Assembly, Mr. Speaker, and we have been there. The welfare of the Hon. Members is fully taken care of.

Sometimes when I take one or two for the road, maybe I tend to spill beans and the information goes to the wrong people but when we have a canteen within that has got those facilities, then the welfare of Members can be taken to consideration. Mr. Speaker, we need to be treated as Hon. Members but not as horrible Members and that is what we went through in Eldoret. So, the issue of uniforms, the issue of budget, it is all about the welfare of the Hon. Members. We do not want to go outside there and say that we are County number one but we are a County number one in terms of frustrating the Hon. Members and the staff of the County.

We saw the staff of the Executive going through hell. For almost three days, they had no money to eat, we had to give them money to eat, we did not have water to drink, we did not have glucose, then what was the purpose of that preparation, Mr. Speaker? Uniforms which were given, it is like someone went somewhere, bought them and gave them the last minute. The t-shirts in blue and Members can attest to this, when you wash that t-shirt once Mr. Speaker, it becomes a duster, whatever.

You cannot use it twice because somebody went somewhere last minute and bought substandard goods and this, is an effort that I will even, maybe, try to think that, someone made huge amounts of money out of it by buying shoddy clothing, Mr. Speaker. We need to avoid this in future. One week before Members proceed for such kind of an event, they need to be given uniform, fit their uniforms and be sure that their uniforms are properly fitted and branded. Mr. Speaker, to-date I was given a pair of shoes that is the same leg, left. So whoever has a shoe, that does not match with his, can he please come we share, we inter change---

(Laughter)

Up to date, I have never worn my shoes, Mr. Speaker, because they are for the same side Mr. Speaker. These are some of the irregularities and actually we were being given when we were almost coming back home. What was the purpose? Mr. Speaker, it is very embarrassing and this should be taken seriously and Members I want to say this; let the welfare of the Members be taken as a serious matter. That is the work of the County Assembly Service Board and we need to have an Assembly Service Board that knows that the welfare of the Members cannot be

compromised. We will not come to discuss issues in the Assembly as if we are fighting and we are also going through the same in the wards where we have come from, Mr. Speaker.

So, to avoid this, let proper plans be done, let proper arrangements be done, then those people who have been given the responsibility to go ahead and do that. Like the Member who was in charge of the sports, if she has failed then she ought to even, if possible, be surcharged for the training, Mr. Speaker, so that we can avoid such kind of irregularities, Mr. Speaker.

Otherwise, I support the committee and the best way we can do to support the Committee and to have the report adopted in this House in the best way, is to implement what has been requested in this Committee plus some other suggestions that Hon. Katumo has brought so that we can cater for everyone, everywhere in the right way in the right manner and avoid harassing members. Otherwise, I support in totality and wish the best out of it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you. Let us hear Hon. Nzoka.

Hon. Nzoka: Thank you. There is disturbance here? Yes, so, much has been said. I want to stress only two points here; one, if Service Board does not know its duties, let us know then we come and do the brush. In fact, it is bad to be talking of our rights here, when they know our rights and they are not working on it. It is not we to say. Like a parent, I know my responsibility to my kids. So, I do not have to be told. So, if we have employed some people who don't know, we are here to employ others who know. Again, what I wanted....(inaudible) because it was shameful in Eldoret, I do not want to repeat, it has been said. We have a budget here of Ksh. 16 million, you can hear there are those who are not paid.

I do request you, Mr. Speaker to direct this one to the Committee of implementation where I am. We shall come up with a good report on that one because if there is any embezzlement of funds, we have to see who did it and what action can be taken against him or her. It is wrong to hear there are some people who have not been paid and they have supplied some materials which even we do not know where they went, you can hear some Members did not have the material. I appreciate Hon. Nzeki, he came to me and asked me in Eldoret, 'why are you in uniform and I am not in uniform and I come from the finance? I told him, 'it is you who messed up the issues---

(Laughter)

You should be giving solutions to me not asking me to give you. So, what we can say, when we went there, I saw another County, whereby they were receiving uniforms in good manner and well-disciplined. There are times where we need to put someone who knows about discipline. Like here we are lucky to have Hon. Kamitu here, he is a disciplined person. He should be given in charge of such duties.

(Applause)

Because he shall tell you what is the truth, no sympathy of this and this or you are my friend this and this. He is a disciplined man. We should give him some duties in connection with that. If he was the one who was in charge of uniform, you could not have these questions you are asking here. So, it was given to anybody because there was no management. We lacked management in that one and also administration. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members, let us hear the mover in conclusion.

Hon. Muthiani: Once again, thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir and the House at large. I want to take this opportunity to thank the Members who have contributed because the debate was very positive. So I think all what you have said has been noted and in future the challenges we got, I think we are not going to have them. Otherwise, I thank the Members; you did very well in Eldoret. You participated whole-heartedly and you gave Machakos what we deserved. So, in future, let us try and start preparing ourselves in time, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think you are going to note this one.

Right now there are some Counties which have already started preparing for this year's event so, let us be positive in this area we commit ourselves. We have the stadium here, so let us make use of the facilities we have in preparation of this year's events. Otherwise, I wish you all the best. I think we are going to do well in Kisii, the County which I think is going to host this year's event although it has not been confirmed. So let us be prepared, we work together, we work as a team. Let us be working as brothers and sisters of one mother and I am very sure this year we are going to get the first position. Otherwise, thank you, very much.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Members. I will proceed to put the question, with perhaps this additional directions as I heard the debate that, the event that an independent early budgetary proposal was being prepared by the Committee to enable independence of future participations and that the darts board that I am told it is out of the compound, be recalled to the Assembly to enable Hon. Nzeki and his team prepare for this year's events. All other issues, as ventilated to be noted. But then I proceed to put the question that, those in support of the report as presented by Hon. Muthiani and debated today

(Question put and agreed to)

Thank you. I think that marks the conclusion of this morning business, we will meet later in the afternoon. Thank you.

(The Speaker rises up and the resumes the Chair)

Hon. Speaker: Hon. Members you can have your seats for one minute. Sorry, I apologize. I have noted the presence of the Chairperson, Budget, and I will give him a minute to

address us, while I was looking at some social media, I noted that he was appointed to a position that I will allow him to address us. Kindly, Hon. Budget.

Hon. Muinde: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and the House at large. I am happy to be back, it has been a long recess but while on recess, I got an invitation to attend a workshop for all the Chairpersons of budget across the country, the 48 Chairs, that includes, the Chairperson of the National Assembly Budget Committee which was held at Sarova Panafric Hotel in Nairobi. It was a two-day workshop and the theme was to prepare for this year's budget starting with the fiscal strategy paper in handling emerging issues because there are now new regulations that are in place, regulations that are going alongside the PFM Act, the PFM regulations which has made budgeting a little different from how we have doing it for the last three years and it is in line with the new regulations and circulars from the CS Rotich.

You realize the draft budgets as presented to the House, you are only able to change at least 10 percent. This is contained in the new regulations which Members of this Assembly will need to get acquainted with and in trying to handle that, we also discussed among ourselves as Members of County Assemblies, the 47 of us across the country, that there are many instances where you feel the budget committee is losing its powers to the National Oversight Authorities like the CRA, the CoB, the Senate and the TA and therefore there was need also to form a forum that will also advance our agendas County Assemblies spearheaded by the Budget Committees most specifically to make noise when things do not go right and in that forum, Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, we had to have interim officials and I got the chance to be the first elected Chairperson.

(Applause)

To be the Chairperson of the Kenya County Assemblies Budget Committees Forum and I consider that an honor to Machakos County Assembly and County Government as a whole and to myself as an individual and therefore we will be interacting much more to bring into the attention of Members on the regulations and what is expected and we will be starting with the Sectoral Chairpersons, for a lot is happening.

In fact, the budget-making process will entail giving more time to the fiscal strategy paper which we expect to get later this month that is on 28th February. Unfortunately, we are only given two weeks before we can adopt that paper but the budgeting will be taking place at that level, the fiscal strategy paper. We get it wrong at the fiscal strategy paper, we will get it wrong when we interrogate the final budget. It is a clever way by the National Authorities and the County Executives to ensure that we do not mutilate their budget drafts when they come here but we are cleverly going to do it when interrogating the fiscal strategy paper.

So, Hon. Speaker, I will be asking for more time later in the course of the week to engage all Hon. Members and especially starting with the Sectoral Chairpersons to get them know what is expected of them. Otherwise, I am happy and humbled by the gesture given to us by all Chairpersons of budget Committees in the country, including that of the National Assembly, to be given the chance to sphere head that forum. Thank you.

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, very much Chairperson budget. Hon. Members you realize that, it is a good honor to this Assembly, at least to have a Chairperson, a national Chairperson coming from this House. And as I have always said, we are growing. The House, through the office of the Speaker, extends good wishes to the Hon. Chairperson, Budget. As we note that the trends of budget-making process are changing and that a lot needs to be done on the fiscal strategy paper, so I will urge Members to re-look at that paper because the issues that were being raised today about the budget for the sports can only be outlined in that paper. So, we need to be careful and scrutinize that paper.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Speaker: Thank you, very much and let us meet later in the afternoon. Thank you.

The House rose at 11.28 a.m.