

REPUBLIC OF KENYA
MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

OFFICIAL REPORT

Tuesday, 9th May, 2017

The House met at 2.34 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Order Number one? Proceed.

PAPERS LAID

STATUS REPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, SOLID WASTE AND
SANITATION FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2016/ 2017

Hon. Ngunzi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I beg to lay the following paper on the floor of the House today, Tuesday, 9th May, 2017; the status report for the first half of financial year 2016/ 2017 for the department of environment, solid waste and sanitation. Thank you.

COMPLAINTS BY WAMUNYU CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY AND STATUS OF KATANGI
PEOPLE'S PARK

Hon. (Ms.) V. Mbithe: Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir, pursuant to Standing Order 190(5), I wish to lay the following paper on the Table of the Assembly today, 9th May, 2017; the report of culture and tourism committee on Wamunyu co-operative society and complains and status of the proposed Katangi People's Park. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

STATUS REPORT ON PERFORMANCE OF AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT FOR
2015/2016

Hon. Muli: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to give a notice of the following motion; Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay the following paper on the floor of the House today, Tuesday 9th May, 2017; the report of agriculture and co-operative development committee on status report on the performance of agriculture department for the year 2015/2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Proceed, clerk.

NOTICES OF MOTIONS

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STATUS REPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT SOLID WASTE AND
SANITATION FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2016/ 2017

Hon. Ngunzi: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to give notice of the following motion; that this House discusses and approves the status report for the first half of financial year 2016/2017 for the department of environment solid waste and sanitation. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

COMPLAINTS BY WAMUNYU CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY AND STATUS OF KATANGI
PEOPLE'S PARK

Hon.(Ms.) V. Mbithe: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir, pursuant to Standing Order 190 (5) I wish to give notice of the following motion; that this Hon. House discuss and approve the report of culture and tourism committee on Wamunyu co-operative society, complaints and the status of the proposed Katangi People's Park. Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir.

STATUS REPORT ON PERFORMANCE OF AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT FOR
2015/2016

Hon. Muli: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wish to give a notice of the following motion; that this Hon. House discusses and approves the agriculture and co-operative committee report on status report on the performance of agriculture department year 2015/ 2016. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Proceed, clerk.

MOTION

STATUS REPORT FOR DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT SOLID WASTE AND
SANITATION FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2016/ 2017

Hon. Ngunzi: Mr. Speaker, Sir,

That aware that the solid waste management remains a manger challenge in all the 47 counties in the country;

Further aware that solid waste is an emerging health threat emanating from dumping of solid waste in un-designated areas like road reserves, water catchment areas and residential areas;

Remembering that mission for the department of environment solid waste and sanitation management is to provide a clean and safe environment for the people of Machakos County;

Mr. Speaker, Sir, cognizant that standing order 190 (5)(b) outlines that a sectoral committee shall study, assess and analyse the relative success of the department as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;

Informed that on 3rd March, 2017 the committee retreated to Naivasha to analyze the status report for the department of environment solid waste and sanitation for the first half of financial year 2016/2017;

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I wish to move the motion that this Hon. House discusses and approves the status report for the first half of financial year 2016/2017 for the department of environment solid waste and sanitation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I wish to call upon Hon. Nzoka to second the motion.

Hon. Nzoka: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I stand to second the motion being one of the members of the environment committee. The solid waste management is a challenge everywhere and we are trying to see how we can come up with a solution. So, I stand to second. Thank you.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Proceed, Hon. Ngunzi with the report.

Hon. Ngunzi: Mr. Speaker, Sir, solid waste management remains a major challenge in all the 47 Counties in the country. Over the years, most local authorities did not prioritize the establishment of proper waste management systems and hence the County Governments have inherited this state of affairs. Further, the councils lacked technical and institutional capacities to manage waste. This has led to the current poor waste management situation across the country.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, as a planning document, Vision 2030 is divided into three fundamental pillars: Economic, Social and Political pillars. The social pillar aims at realizing a just and cohesive society enjoying equitable social development in a clean and secure environment. Under the Social Strategy, paragraph 5.4 of the strategy envisions Kenya becoming a nation that has a clean, secure and sustainable environment by 2030.

Mr. Speaker, so as to realize this strategy, the document explains that one of the specific strategies will be to improve pollution and waste management through the design and application of economic incentives, and the commissioning of public-private partnerships (PPPs) for improved efficiency in water and sanitation delivery. Some of the flagship projects earmarked for this strategy was developing tight regulations for the plastic bags in order to limit production and usage of environmentally-detrimental plastic bags, and a solid waste management initiative.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Machakos County, the mission for the department of Environment, Solid Waste and Sanitation Management is to provide a clean and safe environment to the people of Machakos County. This is a new department that was created last year and given a development budget allocation of Ksh. 121,412,721 in 2016/2017. Solid waste is an emerging health threat emanating from dumping of solid waste in un-designated areas like road side, water catchment areas and residential areas.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, in February this year the committee on Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources received the first half year status report for 2016/2017 and subjected it to discussion and analysis pursuant to Standing Order 190 (5) (d) which states that 'a Sectoral committee shall study, assess analyse the relative success of the departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives.'

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee on Environment, Lands, Energy and Natural Resources is established in the Second Schedule of Standing Orders and gives the committee specific mandates to deal with all matters related to the implementation of specific national government

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policies on natural resources and environmental conservation, including soil and water conservation and forestry and control of air pollution, noise pollution, other public nuisances and outdoor advertising; land survey and mapping; boundaries and fencing; electricity and gas reticulation; energy regulation; water management systems in built up areas and water sanitation services.

Mr. Speaker, this committee's composition is as given in part 2.1 and members can go through.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, on 3rd March, 2017 the committee retreated to Naivasha to analyse the status report for the department of Environment, Solid Waste and Sanitation for first half of 2016/2017 and the following is a summary of the findings as contained in the report;

- The department had purchased tools, equipment and machinery for handling solid waste comprising of *Jua Kali* rakes, hard brooms, heavy duty fork *jembes*, drainage shovels, wheel barrows, mattocks, slashers and pangas each 400 pieces. The estimated cost for these equipment was Ksh. 37,500,000 and by December, 2016 a total of Ksh. 6,808,000 had been spent.
- The department is doing street cleaning which involves sweeping, grass cutting and soil scooping which has helped to improve cleanliness in the towns and eradicating soil and dust that accumulates on roads especially the tarmacked roads.
- The department has undertaken garbage collection and transportation on daily basis and a total of 20 tons of solid waste are transported daily. The two programmes of street cleaning and garbage collection were estimated Ksh. 63,000,000 in 2016/2017 and by December a total of Ksh. 41,000,000 has been spent.
- The project of fencing of dumpsites and installation of incinerators in Machakos Town and Mavoko has also been undertaken at an estimated cost of Ksh. 10,000,000 and is expected to be completed by May this year.
- Rehabilitation of Mlolongo sewer line at estimated cost of Ksh. 7,000,000 has been undertaken and is expected to be completed by May, 2017.
- The department has been undertaking pollution control and management in all Wards on continuous basis at an estimated cost of Ksh. 2,520,000.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the department had other projects which were reported to be critical but there was no approved budget to undertake them. These projects were;

- The project of effluent discharge in Machakos and Mavoko towns estimated at Ksh. 5,000,000.
- Opening of storm water drains in all the wards estimated at Ksh. 6,000,000.
- Development of sanitary landfill in Machakos and Mavoko towns estimated at Kshs. 30,000,000.

Mr. Speaker, Sir from the above report the committee observed the following;

1. A total of Kshs. 47,808,000 out of budget allocation of Ksh. 121,412,721 had been spent by December 2016 leaving a balance of Ksh. 73,604,721 which is supposed to fund the approved projects for the remaining half of 2016/2017.
2. The department under performed as far as projects implementation is concerned possibly due to inadequate funds.
3. The projects reported to have no approved budget amount to a total of Ksh. 60,520,000.
4. The project of effluent discharge is a critical requirement as far as environmental hygiene and pollution control is concerned.
5. The project of storm water management together with its budget allocation of Ksh. 6,000,000 is a duplication since it was catered for in the budget for *El Nino* rains in 2015/2016.
6. Rehabilitation of Mlolongo sewer line estimated at Ksh. 7,000,000 is a priority project considering that Mlolongo is a major investment area of Machakos County but in the report there is no indication of the extend of implementation in terms of the amount of money the department had spent on this project.
7. Pollution control and management in Machakos County is also a priority project if development and good health of citizens are to be attained but still in the report there is no indication of what the department had spent.
8. Dumpsites that are not fenced indicates uncompleted projects since the wastes are later carried away by wind and flood water.
9. Installation of incinerators is a requirement especially in hospitals since they take care of poisonous biomedical wastes that cannot be released to the environment.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, the committee also did fact-finding visits to Machakos, Mavoko, Mlolongo, Matuu and Tala towns to ascertain the level of solid waste management in the said towns and came up with the following findings;

1. There is excessive dumping of waste in un-designated areas such as road sites, adjacent residential areas and in water catchment areas and this was observed in all the towns visited. The commonest solid wastes emitted in these major towns include plastics, polythene papers, household refuse, glass and construction debris.
2. The department collects waste mostly on Fridays using trucks and the number of trucks are inadequate but the garbage load in the towns is too high. Even with this problem the committee noted that there has been improvement in cleanliness from the time the new department undertook waste collection.
3. Solid waste is mostly burned at the dumpsites where most of them are near residential areas which is a potential health hazard. Burning is done to reduce the garbage amounts since the available trucks only collect once per week.

4. The employees who work in this department do not have proper attire such as boots. Most of them use their own shoes and socks when cleaning along the streets, market centres and in the dumpsites. The effort of these employees was noted to have slightly improved cleanliness along the tarmacked market roads.
5. The department has done very little as far as pollution control and management is concerned since our main water sources like river Athi continues to suffer pollution from Nairobi and Kiambu counties.
6. The actual ground work of rehabilitation of Mlolongo sewer line had not started.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, for Machakos County to contribute into the realization of the strategies contained in the Vision 2030 planning document and for the development of the County and safety of its people the committee proposed the following recommendations;

1. The department in the next financial year should be given a budget allocation above the previous allocation of Ksh. 121,412,721. This is supported by the fact that with increasing consumption of industrial goods, lack of waste recycling programs and inadequate waste collection equipment, the tonnage of solid waste generated is bound to depict an increasing trend with time.
2. The project of effluent discharge in Machakos and Mavoko towns estimated to cost Ksh. 5,000,000 and which in the report had no approved budget is a priority project that is geared to prevent waste water from towns from polluting our limited water resources. The committee recommended the department to be allocated funds to implement this project project in the next financial year or be given a supplementary budget to cater for this.
3. The project of opening storm water management estimated at Ksh. 6,000,000 was catered for in the budget allocation that was meant to address the *El Nino* damages in 2015/2016 and so it should not feature in the report as a project that needs approval of funds.
4. Rehabilitation of Mlolongo sewer line estimated at Ksh. 7,000,000 is a priority project for the people of Mlolongo Ward remembering that through a petition report by the residents of Mlolongo tabled in this Assembly by the committee on transport and public works in February, this year, one of the prayers of the petitioners was rehabilitation of Mlolongo sewer line. The committee therefore recommends that this project must be completed by the end of this financial year.
5. The department should collaborate with the enforcement unit of the County, the public health department and NEMA to enforce pollution control as per Section 4 (5) of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act, 1999 that states that 'no person shall discharge or dispose of any wastes, whether generated within or outside Kenya, in such manner as to cause pollution to the environment or ill health to any person.' This will help

reduce pollution of water, air and soil and ensure that pollution control becomes a responsibility of each one

6. The Ksh. 10,000,000 budgeted for fencing of dumpsites should be reallocated to develop and fence one mega dumpsite in Matungulu West Ward where the County Government of Machakos had earlier mapped an area for dumpsite. This is because in that area there is availability of land.
7. On the project of incinerators in Machakos and Athi River, it was found that since procurement process had been done as per the report, the committee recommends that Machakos and Athi River should have procured and installed with the incinerators before June, this financial year. Incinerators are commercial hazardous waste treatment facilities that are not only a critical environmental issue, but also an essential economic factor for a country that aspires to grow its industrial base as per Environmental Management and Coordination (Waste Management) Regulations, 2006. Nakuru County has installed one big incinerator in Longonot town approximately 2 km from the old Naivasha road.
8. The department should provide more waste collection bins in all the residential areas of the major towns of the county and promote public participation on matters of waste disposal. This will reduce haphazard dumping of waste in un-designated places like roads and water catchment areas.
9. In order to increase the frequency of collection of waste and reduce waste accumulation, more trucks from the department of transport and roads should be deployed to this department of solid waste to help support the few trucks which are there. This will improve cleanliness and ensure good health of residents of our towns who constantly keep on inhaling bad odour originating from accumulated waste piled on residential areas.
10. The department should enforce waste reduction, re-use and recycling (3Rs) policy. This will help reduce waste generation at the source, prevent emission of greenhouse gases and conserve resources.
11. The department should develop a meaningful partnership with private sector, informal workers and communities to help the County in solid waste management and creation of awareness on matters of waste management.
12. The Committee still recommended the department to endeavor into a programme called clean development mechanism whereby solid waste is decomposed and methane and propane gases are recovered for use in cooking and heating purposes. Countries like Sweden have embarked on this program which has boosted energy generation.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, Sir, rapid economic growth and industrialization of the developing countries has created serious problems of solid waste disposal due to uncontrolled and un-monitored urbanization, inadequate inclusion of the waste generators (the public) and

financial and human resources. The County Government of Machakos is now faced with the challenge of managing solid waste in most of its major towns.

Solid waste management remains one of the cardinal priorities in the world. It was even identified as part of the world Agenda 21 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development in 1992. It is essential to address the problem of solid waste management in the County as one of the strategies to achieving a sound environment and promoting sustainable development.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is therefore my pleasant duty and privilege to table this report of half year status report for 2016/2017 for the department of Environment, Solid Waste and Sanitation to this Hon. House for discussion and approval. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Chairman. The report is properly laid before the House and is open for debate. I think it is one of the best report we have heard in a long time. So, I would want to give a few opportunities for members to contribute before we approve. Hon. Nzoka.

Hon. Nzoka: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. The report is comprehensive. It is touching every dumpsite because there is a challenge of garbage all over the county and also in the 47 counties. It has to be taken seriously and we should also include surrounding counties like Nairobi which dump waste in river Athi. Sometimes in river Athi, a cow cannot even take water because it is contaminated.

Again we have a good dumpsite in Matungulu west, a big tract of land which was bought when we were Councilors and it is not well utilized. It is open, there is a lot of wind, which after dumping waste there it is blown by the wind which now we should tackle and see how we can make a perimeter wall and how we can make some incinerators there and a recycling plant should be suggested to go there.

When you see the dumping site of Tala and I have my colleague here, they cry every day because waste is dumped in the water and the source of river Thwake is in Tala. So, everything is dumped there and goes all the way through river Thwake and my colleague here can testify that. I think the House has a well discussed comprehensive report of how we got and came up to there.

So, we have suggested that we can go the Sweden way. We have what it takes to make sure everything is recycled well. We cannot add problems on to another problem. We usually think we are reducing garbage by burning but we are also polluting the air. So, it is something that should be done scientifically. So we have done the report, I wish the House shall pass this document as soon as possible. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Mueni.

Hon. (Ms.) Mueni: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I think there is no need to waste time. You can put the question because the committee has done its work and we are going home, the other people who will come will come and finish the work. Thank you.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Hon. Kamitu.

Hon. Kamitu: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I am one of the MCAs from Tala where there was an improvised dumpsite. It was not a gazetted dumpsite, it was a livestock yard and the good thing is that the environment committee visited the area and we decided to stop further dumping of garbage in that place.

In furtherance to the report tabled in this House, Mr. Speaker, there is a need for us to be scientific in regard to solid waste management and by good chance, I happen to be one of the members who went to Sweden in relation to solid waste management and our visit with the members of the executive bore some fruits and I am reporting of our partnership of Machakos County government with the Swedish-Boras Kenya partnership and it is in that collaboration that we are waiting for the executive and this House because it is us who approve the budgets.

So, my recommendation and observation is that we should go scientific because what we saw in Sweden was something that can be of benefit to the Machakos county government and as you heard from Hon. Nzoka, in Sweden, recycling was very evident and again, energy production. So it is my recommendation that this report laid by our chairman is of great benefit to Machakos County. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you members.

(Question put and agreed to)

The report is approved as it is and it should be transmitted to the county executive for quick implementation.

ADJOURNMENT

Hon. Deputy Speaker There being no any other business, the house adjourns until tomorrow. Good afternoon.

The House rose at 3.12 p.m.