# REPUBLIC OF KENYA

# MACHAKOS COUNTY ASSEMBLY

# **OFFICIAL REPORT**

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

The House met at 2.44 p.m.

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

### **PRAYERS**

### **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

PRACTICE FOR CASA GAMES 2024

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Hon. Members, I take this opportunity to welcome you back after the just concluded short recess. I hope you have had an ample time to embark on different Committee activities as well as interact with your constituents and that you are ready to resume regular House sittings.

I have one communication to make concerning practice for CASA games. Hon. Members, the 5th edition of County Assembly Sports Association (CASA) is scheduled to take place in August, 2024 and the venue will be communicated in due course. This is barely two months from today. It is on this basis that I urge you to identify a sports discipline that you are comfortable participating in during the upcoming CASA games and register with the respective team captain.

Practice for the various sports and disciplines will take place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. in the respective fields guided by the team captains. Further to this Communication, I encourage Hon. Members and Staff to thoroughly practice in their respective disciplines for an outstanding performance during the CASA games. Thank you.

#### PAPER LAID

MACHAKOS COUNTY GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE THIRD QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2024

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Under this we have Hon. Majority Leader, Hon. Nicholas Nzioka.

**Hon. Nicholas Nzioka** (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I wish to lay the following Paper on the table of the Assembly today, Tuesday 18th June, 2024; the Machakos County Government consolidated Financial Statements for the third quarter ended 31st March, 2024. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** That Paper is committed to the Finance and Revenue Collection committee.

(The Paper was laid on the Table)

#### **MOTIONS**

KENYA INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (KISIP II) IN MAVOKO SUB COUNTY

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** On this one we have Hon. Daniel Ndwiki, Chairperson, Lands and Energy Committee; you may come forward.

**Hon. Daniel Ndwiki** (Mlolongo/Syokimau, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the Motion THAT, pursuant to Standing Order 190(5) this House adopts the Report of the Lands and Energy Committee on consideration of informal settlements (KISIP 2) program in Mavoko Sub-County laid on the Table of the House on Tuesday, 18th June 2024. I call on Hon. Dominic Maitha to second.

Hon. Dominic Maitha (Muthwani, WDM-K) seconded.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Daniel Ndwiki and Hon. Dominic Maitha.

(Question proposed)

Before I invite Members for debate, let me call the mover to take the House through highlights of the report.

**Hon. Daniel Ndwiki** (Mlolongo/Syokimau, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, the report is already with the Hon. Members so with your permission I would like to request you to allow me to read just the general committee observations and also recommendations, conclusion and acknowledgement.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Just start with the executive summary Hon. Member then you go straight to the recommendations.

Hon. Daniel Ndwiki (Mlolongo/Syokimau, WDM-K): I start with the?

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Executive summary.

Hon. Daniel Ndwiki (Mlolongo/Syokimau, WDM-K):

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Hon. Speaker, the physical development plans for Kwa Nzomo, Kwa Mangeli, Slota, Jam City and Canaan (KISIP 2) informal settlements were tabled in the Assembly on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 pursuant to Article 185 (4) of the Constitution. Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP) 2 is an Investment Project Financing (IPF) valued at US\$ 165 million and funded by the

World Bank. Pursuant to the Second Schedule of Standing Orders, the development plans were committed to the Committee on Lands and Energy for consideration and subsequent reporting in the House.

Hon. Speaker, after receipt of the development plans, the committee through its sittings dated 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 and 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024, discussed and analyzed the plans including the brief notes provided for each plan. Further, on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> June 2024, the Committee engaged the Consultant (TwoEms Consultancy) who had been contracted by the County Government of Machakos to prepare the development plans.

The implementation objectives of KISIP 2 is to provide tenure security through provision of title deeds to residents within the informal settlements and also upgrade the informal settlements by providing access to land and public infrastructure such as roads, electricity, schools and health facilities hence transforming the settlements into a more organized and sustainable living environment.

The program involved preparation and approval of local physical and land use development plans for the settlements, surveying, preparation and issuance of ownership documents to all the beneficiaries.

Hon. Speaker, the Committee after considering the program, observed that Machakos County will benefit from the funding worth US\$ 165 million to upgrade the informal settlements in Kwa Nzomo, Kwa Mangeli, Slota, Canaan and Jam City and this will by a great extend improve the quality of life for residents in the said areas. Further, it was observed that a total of 1,438 people will benefit from the upgrading tenure system and acquire title deeds for their planned parcels of land.

The Committee on Lands and Energy pursuant to Article 185(4) recommends that this House approves the land use development plans of informal settlements of Kwa Nzomo, Kwa Man'geli, Jam City, Slota and Canaan.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to go to the recommendation Mr. Speaker, that is page 11.

### GENERAL COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Hon. Speaker, after discussing and analyzing the 5 development plans, the committee makes the following observations:

- 1. That Machakos County will benefit from funding worth US\$ 165 million to upgrade the informal settlements in Kwa Nzomo, Kwa Mangeli, Slota, Canaan and Jam City. This will by a great extend improve the quality of life for residents in the said areas.
- 2. That a total of 1,438 people will benefit from the upgrading tenure system and acquire title deeds for their planned parcels of land.
- 3. The land occupied by the Five (5) informal settlements is public land and pursuant to Article 61(1) and (2) that provides that all land belongs to the people, the process of regularizing the said public land is in line with the Constitution.
- 4. The program instituted key committees from the County to oversee implementation of the programme. These Committees include the County Project Coordinating Team (CPCT), Settlement Executive Committee (SEC) and Grievance Redress Committee (GRC). Members of these Committees were sourced from the County with full representation from all the groups including the office of the area MCA.
- 5. That as at the time of issuance of Notice of Completion by the Consultant which was done in September 2023, no single grievance was raised by the residents from all the 5 informal settlements. This means public engagement and participation was well

- conducted and that the Grievance Redress Committee (GRC) and all the other Committees did commendable work.
- 6. That before the Implementation of the KISIP 2 programme, an Intergovernmental Participation Agreement was signed between the National Government and the County Government of Machakos.
- 7. That as at the time of issuance of Notice of Completion by the Consultant, all the beneficiaries from the five informal settlements had signed their beacon certificates.
- 8. That all the 5 development plans have taken into consideration provision of public utilities as provided under the Physical and Land Use Development Act, 2019.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

Hon. Speaker, Article 185(4) of the Constitution provides that a County Assembly may receive and approve plans and policies for the management and exploitation of the county's resources; and the development and management of its infrastructure and institutions.

Pursuant to the above provision read with Section 8 (1)(e) of the County Governments Act, 2012 and Standing Order 190 (5)(a) and (b), the Committee recommends that this House approves;

- i) The land use development plan of Kwa Nzomo informal settlement.
- ii) The land use development plan of Kwa Man'geli informal settlement.
- iii) The land use development plan of Jam City informal settlement.
- iv) The land use development plan of Slota informal settlement.
- v) The land use development plan of Canaan informal settlement.

# CONCLUSION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hon. Speaker, implementation of KISIP 2 program in the stated informal settlements will lead to access to land and public infrastructures such as roads, electricity, schools and health facilities hence transforming the settlements into a more organized and sustainable living environment.

Pursuant to Article 10 of the Constitution that relates to principles of governance, adequate public participation and awareness creation was conducted and this is a good assurance that implementation of the plans will be welcomed by residents of the 5 informal settlements stated in the report.

Hon. Speaker, I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the offices of the Speaker and of the Clerk of the County Assembly for logistical and technical support accorded to the Hon. Members and the secretariat of the committee to enable them consider the land use development plans for informal settlements in Mavoko Sub County. Appreciation is also extended to officers from the Department of Lands in collaboration with TwoEms Consultancy for their dedication in preparation of the development plans, sensitization and offering related technical expertise.

Hon. Speaker, on behalf of the committee of Lands and Energy, I now have the pleasure to table before this Hon. House, the report on consideration of land use development plans for informal settlements of Kwa Nzomo, Kwa Man'geli, Slota, Jam City and Canaan for adoption. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker**: Thank you, Hon. Daniel Ndwiki. I now invite Members to debate the Motion. Hon. Jeremiah Kaloi.

**Hon. Jeremiah Kaloi** (Athi River, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me take the opportunity to thank the office of the Speaker and the Clerk for enabling the Committee on Lands and Energy together with the consultant who was given the task for this program so that they take the Committee on Lands and Energy through the whole program. This is a milestone program that not only the Assembly but also H.E the Governor that I do not think there is within the Machakos County, a programme similar to this whereby the informal settlements are going to be issued with title deeds.

As area Member of County Assembly representing the great people of Athi River, due diligence was done, public participation was done on the same and I think the issue of planning on these informal settlements is going to be addressed. The issue that we normally hear of there are no roads and sewer lines, people have done encroachment, I think this program is coming to sort out those issues.

As area MCA I was able to raise some of my concerns and the consultant really addressed them. I can assure this House that we are now good to go. I also thank the Chair and the Committee for doing their due diligence addressing some of the concerns. I think it will set precedence to other informal settlements within the County of Machakos. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Motion. Thank you so much.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Kaloi. Hon. Dominic.

**Hon. Dominic Maitha** (Muthwani, WDM-K): Hon. Speaker, I do not think Hon. Kaloi seems to take this Motion seriously. He ought to be one of the happiest person and promise us an after party after this report is passed, Mr. Speaker.

# (Applause)

This is a critical report that is going to change the lives of those residents residing in those slums. Let me use a simple language, Mr. Speaker. Once this report is adopted by this House, in the next three months, the so-called slums and those people residing there will be able to own those parcels of land where they are settled through having a title deed which is a very important document. It is a milestone for Her Excellency; it has never happened.

For the last 10 to 15 years, the residents of those areas doing business there have always being living in fear. As you have seen Mr. Speaker of late eviction is leaving so many families homeless, poor businesses but this time around Hon. Speaker, the residents of those five settlements schemes settled on public land will be able to get their title deeds most probably in the next three months. It is one of the biggest achievements of the County Government of Machakos through Her Excellency.

Hon. Speaker, one thing that I am very happy about this program it is a programme is that is fully supported by the National Government and as you have heard the Hon. Chair said in his reading that the County Government may so we are at liberty to say that we are not going to approve but because of the love of the people by Her Excellency the Governor, she made sure that the process is given full support. Hon. Speaker, the technical team from the Department of lands headed by Hon. Nganga who was elected to spearhead that programme was one of the best teams that we have ever had in this County.

It is by so doing that the consultant who was given that job has been able to execute all the works diligently and competently. The happiest part of that programme is that there were almost zero complains considering life in slums is difficult. I want to commend the Department for spearheading that and most importantly applaud H.E the Governor for seeing it needful to have the residents of those five slums have their title deeds and ownership documents in the shortest time possible.

Mr. Speaker, without much ado, actually you will be doing us justice and not even us you will be doing justice to the residents of those slums if we can proceed and put the question so that they can have their title deeds started processing as soon as practicable so that the Hon. Member, in fact Hon. Speaker I can guarantee my brother if those five slums managed to get those title deeds, I am informed we have close to almost about 10,000 voters which is a guaranteed comeback. So can we do justice to our brother? Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

(Laughter)

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Dominic. Hon. Ndawa.

**Hon. Mbili Ndawa** (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, Sir. I will start by applauding our most able Chair for this self-explanatory report. Hon. Speaker, Hon. Dominic is selfish because he comes from that area and he does not want Members from other areas to contribute on this Motion. Let us be fair to each other. Hon. Speaker, I stand here to support the Motion and the report and inform the House that this is going to be a game changer for those slums.

### (Applause)

Why am I saying it is going to be the game changer? Hon. Speaker, without ownership documents one cannot claim to own that portion that he or she claims to be his or her. Hon. Speaker, without that ownership document one is not able to have what we call legal capacity to sue. In case anyone comes and encroaches on that plot that he or she claims to be his or her, if he/she goes to court the court will start a case and the final stage the other party during the submission will just give one statement. The statement will require the judge to decide whether the plaintiff has capacity to sue and the absence of that document denies that particular owner of that land that legal capacity to sue so he or she may lose. Hon. Speaker, approving this Motion we will have saved our residents who reside in those areas.

Again Hon. Speaker, those residents will be able to use the legal document that they are going to get that is the title deed may be to go and secure a facility in the bank. Hon. Speaker, they can use the same document to bail out their relatives in case they are sued. I believe this Assembly will give the residents the justice that they have lacked for many years.

Hon. Speaker, I am aware from the report because I went through the report they are likely to get over Ksh. 600 million from World Bank to develop that. Hon. Speaker, approving this Motion is just making a way for resources to come to our County.

Hon. Speaker, as I conclude I want to go the route Mheshimiwa went that we move with speed and approve this report within the next one minute so that the other step can begin. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Ndawa. Hon. Francis Kitaka.

Hon. Francis Kitaka (Ndalani, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I am rising to support the report and first congratulate the committee for a good job you have done. The Chair is around and very confident. Hon. Speaker, the mileage that we are propelling our people is now building the capacity. Indeed by passing this report we are breathing in new life to our slum people. It is important to note that we have our informal settlement areas which are not planned. We have now the opportunity to have them surveyed and planned and the occupants will have the opportunity to use their land without fear of being evicted.

We want to thank the Government of the day for this step and we urge our members once this report is adopted they make good use of their land so that at least they may achieve the benefits that come along with having a legal document that will enable them to settle, to be able also to access credit facilities and do their businesses well.

I would want also to urge the department of lands because it seems that our new County Executive Member has woken up and now Hon. Members this Department is becoming very vibrant it is important that now government focuses also on other settlement schemes so that we can have our people get these documents. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker and I support.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Francis Kitaka. Hon. Brian Kisila.

**Hon. Brian Kisila** (Makutano/Mwala, MCCP): Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker. I had to come back because I had very important guests in Ward but I had to come back because I am a very proud Member of this Committee. Mr. Speaker, if there is one thing that Hon. Kaloi should be very proud of is this Assembly. By passing this Motion.....we are among the first in Kenya by the way. We are among the top to pass this Motion and we deliberated on it and it is going to unlock a lot of potential and a lot of money from the World Bank funding.

My appeal to Members is there are Members here who also have other slums areas like the way Mheshimiwa Kaloi has. It is important that we take advantage of this World Bank funding because we are going to have Phase II and III of the same but a lot will come if we do a good job the way we have done in Athi River Ward. So Mr. Speaker this is a very noble task we are doing and I would like to appreciate all the Members who have come to support this Motion because it is a key milestone. For sure Mheshimiwa Kaloi is coming back with that kind of funding. Thank you

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Brian. Hon. Ruth.

**Hon. Ruth Kamau** (Nominated, CCU): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. To add a voice of my gender to this Motion, I have to say something though most of it has been said. With such an upgrade comes an upgrade in quality of life so as we upgrade these slums there will be clearly designated areas for social amenities and roads. We are also averting kind of medical disaster because in these slums were there are open sewer lines, no garbage collection areas, it is a health hazard which we are averting. Therefore we are improving the quality of life for our people.

Secondly, with such an upgrade comes accessibility because now it will be planned. We have seen cases where there is a fire in the slums and the fire engine cannot access the area therefore causing great damage. I appreciate that with this upgrade there will be proper planning and maintenance of the social amenities in those areas will be easy and finally Machakos County will be a better place for the citizenry.

I also want to appreciate the National Government because of the issue of title deeds. I know my middle name betrays me when it comes to land but title deed is a very important document whether you own an eighth or an acre. It is a document that can enable you to get a loan and do something with your life. Therefore we appreciate the National and County Governments for the speed with which they acted with for Phase I and Phase II is coming. I also appreciate the Lands Committee and the House at large for approving because these things have timelines and if we had not acted on time it would have gone to another County. This is a great milestone and we are grateful. I support.

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

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First I want to congratulate the committee for the good job and I dare say that the report will stand the test of time in terms of how big the improvement is going to make to the so many villages that the Chairman has spoken about. Two things stand out; the first one is the improvement of infrastructure within the slum areas and the ease of the government to offer services to its people. As it is now, maybe they are not able to access critical services like Mheshimiwa Ruth Wanjiru has alluded like solid and liquid waste management but also it will avert the imminent danger that we always find in slum areas like when fire happens and you are not able to access the point of the fire.

Hon. Kaloi, the only down take but it is an uptake for the County Government is that once the upgrading has been done and titles have been issued your people will pay a little more to the County Government but I think it outweighs the benefits they are going to get. It is also a source of revenue for the County and I thank the Members for strongly supporting this report and I beg that we approve it unconditionally. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Hon. Deputy Speaker:** Thank you, Majority Leader. May I now call the mover to come and reply; Hon. Daniel.

**Hon. Daniel Ndwiki** (Mlolongo/Syokimau, WDM-K): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I want to thank Hon. Members for supporting this motion. This motion will be a game changer to the people of Athi River and Machakos because this project will attract development worth over Ksh. 600 million that will come to Machakos and its people. That means there will be better roads, better garbage and solid waste management programmes and this will enhance development in our county. I am happy, thank you Hon. Members for supporting the motion.

The Chair also for urban development I want to thank you and your committee for your sacrifice that you showed towards the achievement of this motion and I also want to thank Members of the Lands Committee for your sacrifice even when it was during recess, you were available to make sure that everything goes well. Minority and Majority Leader thank you and everyone who has contributed towards this motion and all Members of the House who were present to enable this motion go through and to Speaker, the technical team I am happy and the people of Athi River will be happy. Hon. Kaloi as many have said will be the happiest man of the House after this motion is passed because he will have around 1,500 title deeds. This is a great milestone. Close to 1,500 homes getting title deed; this is a great milestone.

I also wish to extend this to other areas; I will talk to the organization to make sure that they also consider other regions like Machakos town where we know there are slums in that area

and other towns like Mwala and also other parts in Mavoko and Mlolongo Phase III as that is also another settlement area we wish they would come and give titles. Thank you very much and God bless you all. Thank you.

(Applause)

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

(Question put and agreed to)

I think Hon. Kaloi, Members have guaranteed you a comeback in 2027; it is a good motion and a good initiative and it is worth for our people.

ALTERATION OF THE CALENDAR AND ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE

Hon. Deputy Speaker: I call upon our Majority Leader, Hon. Nicholas Nzioka.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Hon. Speaker, I wish to move the Motion THAT, notwithstanding the resolutions of the Assembly made on 20th February, 2024 (Approval of Assembly Calendar), 21st February and 15th May 2024 (alternation of the Calendar) and pursuant to Standing Orders 25(4) and 27(3)(c), the Assembly resolves that;

- i. The Calendar (Regular Sessions) for the Third Session of the Third Assembly be altered to adjourn the sittings of Wednesday, 19th June, 2024 and resume its regular sittings on Tuesday, 25th June, 2024 and that the Assembly Calendar (Regular Sessions) for the Third Session be altered accordingly.
- ii. This House sits on Thursday, 20th June, 2024 at 10.00 a.m. to allow the County Executive Committee Member for Finance, Revenue Management, Economic Planning and ICT make pronouncements on budget highlights and revenue raising measures for 2024/2025 pursuant to Section 132 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and consider the third supplementary Budget for the financial year 2023/2024 and any other business of the House.

I call the Minority Leader to second.

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

Hon. Mbili Ndawa (Matuu, MCCP) seconded.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you Hon. Judas Mbili Ndawa, our Minority Leader.

(Question proposed)

I now invite Members to debate the motion. Hon. Judas Ndawa.

**Hon. Mbili Ndawa** (Matuu, MCCP): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the motion and since I sit in the House Business Committee, maybe highlight the issue which has

necessitated this motion. Members are aware the issue of County Allocation of Revenue Act (CARA) there were some changes on the issue of monies which were to be given to the counties and the matter was concluded on Friday, very late, so as we wait for the CECM to come and give us the highlights on the budget, he was supposed to come tomorrow but because of these changes, he was not able to finalize from his end.

So, Hon. Speaker, that is one of the reason why we have proposed we move this motion to alter the calendar so that instead of sitting tomorrow we sit on Thursday so that we can be able to insert what has been given to the County by the National Government.

Again, Hon. Speaker, as you are aware, Mondays is a committee day and the Assembly works through the committees; since yesterday was a holiday, the committees could not meet yesterday and as the House Business Committee, we get the business to ballot from the respective committees so again, another reason for this adjournment was also to give the committees opportunity to sit and generate business so that next week we have enough business. I support the motion.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Hon. Judas. Hon. Brian.

Hon. Brian Kisila (Makutano/Mwala, MCCP): Mr. Speaker, I rise to support and I am urging the Members of the Budget Committee; you are the ones who will make us go home or stay. If you critically look at the proposals in the last budget, there are some very serious issues which we need to talk about and we need to have a discussion. As Hon. Members, having a discussion is the only way we can start looking at where we need to put our money. I am very concerned by the amount of money being allocated to roads and since the CECM is coming here, I am urging the Members of the budget committee that if we got any increment on funding, please let us look at roads, water and ECDEs. Those are the things which make waheshimiwa to come back.

Number one is roads, and there is no one who can say here that the roads in their wards are good. They are in a very pathetic condition and the amount of money we are allocating to roads, including grading is very minimal. It cannot even sustain us for a month. That is one item which can make an MCA go home or come back and I am speaking from experience.

The next thing is water. We have had massive drops in funding for water and we have also had massive drops in funding for ECDEs and also, we have had massive drops in funding of energy sector. Something like Mulika Mwizis; members of public prefer Mulika Mwizis more than a lot of other things we are proposing. We have had a massive drop of development funding for Health from Ksh. 1 billion last financial year on development to Ksh. 500 million. Members, let us have a discussion and let us critically look at this year's budget reminding all of us that the third year of any elected member is a critical year to make or break.

When you talk about next financial year the fourth financial year, we are having a different discussion because our opponents will have risen, they will have reason to talk. This is the year to make a difference and also, we need to look at ward fund as an item and let us engage H.E the Governor and see how ward fund can come down to members.

(Applause)

Let us have a discussion, remember the President one time told President Uhuru during BBI; let us have a discussion. It is important that we have a discussion and let us not, this budget

when we are passing it and I am happy Mr. Speaker you are a member of budget committee, Majority Leader is a member, Minority Leader is a member and other members here who are Members of that committee, please critically look at those items I have talked about otherwise we might end up having many casualties and it is not good to have casualties when we can see. So, I am making a passionate appeal let us not just pass the budget as just like that. Let us look at where we are allocating money.

I do not have a problem with Baby Care, these are good things, good to have. I do not have a problem with women funds, I do not have a problem with that, but I have a problem when we do not have money for ECDEs and at least each one of our elected members should not have less than two ECDEs in this financial year. That will make a difference and that is what will make us come back here. I am not behaving like a prophet of doom but it is high time that we become sober in the way we are approaching the budget. Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

# (Applause)

**Hon. Deputy Speaker**: Thank you, Hon. Brian. Next time do not scare us with our opponents. It is still early; just give us peace for now. Hon. Dominic.

**Hon. Dominic Maitha** (Muthwani, WDM-K): Hon. Kisila, you need to be audible enough on that but I tend to differ with the Hon. Speaker. He belongs to this side despite the fact that he is seated on the other side and that is the reality. This is the only year to make or to break for majority of us. As I support this motion, I just want to thank the Senate for adding an extra almost Ksh. 9 to 10 billion to the counties and that is what has necessitated to the change of the budget statement that was supposed to have been read by the CECM finance and I am sure that he is going to have an extra additional in terms of the County allocations especially our County Machakos.

If we get an extra like Ksh. 20 to 30 million, Hon. Speaker it is going to do a lot so basically the motion at hand is meant to allow this House change its normal calendar from sitting tomorrow and have a sitting on Thursday and Hon. Members, I want to throw a spanner in the box to all of us. This is a very critical thing for us. Tomorrow we are going to be having committees that were supposed to have been held yesterday and I want to request of you Members that will kindly lobby especially the Whips as many members as possible that on Thursday the House is fully to capacity so that we can listen to the budget statement.

Hon. Kisila is very open and take his words very serious. Hon. Members, the time has come that we have to ask of ourselves; do you want to come back or we want to stay at home? I am an experienced host with five years out and things are tough there. Life out of Assembly is very tough; a connotation name with nothing. Once a Mheshimiwa you will always remain one, you will be going to functions, be called the same name but treated differently but the narrative can change if we scrutinize the budget very clearly and give priority to what we feel the people who gave us the opportunity to come and serve them want.

They have already outlined those areas so let us come here on Thursday and listen to what the budget statement is all about and the budget committee because you are members of this Assembly, you are elected Members of Machakos County, kindly let us do justice to that budget. Whatever you feel is not going to bring mileage to you, to your fellow Hon. Member, whatever you even think that this is what can make the re-election of H.E the Governor, be and

may be when you slash in another department she might feel, take that bold step and advise her because if you can secure here votes by making a wise decision so be it.

Hon. Members, I want to request of you that as we second this motion that we make sure that we attend and if you allow me Hon. Speaker the Hon. Members pointed out the issue of financing in terms of our road infrastructure. Mheshimiwa Speaker, I want first to hit this Assembly in one way or another. I am just informed that we are unable to absorb Ksh. 300 million for development in this Assembly and that money is being supplemented back to the Executive because we cannot absorb it for development yet we have our own offices lacking so many critical infrastructures like chairs and fencing among others.

# (Applause)

Hon. Speaker, this leaves so many questions than answers. Somebody somewhere must be sleeping on his or her job or a certain department in this Assembly is not serious. Hon. Speaker, there is no way this Assembly can supplement Ksh. 300 million considering even from January some Hon. Members have not been able to come to this Assembly because of some nitty gritty issues that are well known to these Hon. Members. Hon. Speaker, I want to request of the budget committee to do us that justice and the Ksh. 300 million be supplemented to the department of roads if need be and every Hon. Member will be able to get Ksh. 7.5M that can fuel a grader in their own wards.

# (Applause)

We should not take that money anywhere else other than the department of roads considering that the nature of our roads is quite in devastated way. Already the supplementary budget paper has been laid today and the amount that come from this Assembly let it be allocated for development and especially one and only one department of roads. If every Hon. Member can be given Ksh. 7.5 million and fuel a grader, Hon. Speaker, the words of Hon. Kisila will come true, Members will be assured of their comeback unless otherwise dictated.

So, I support this motion and ask Members that let us attend committees tomorrow and the next day let us make sure we come here in full capacity so that we can listen to what the budget statement is all about. One thing that I am always happy about is budget days are always best days for Members to attend because at the end of the day may be there is a party because the CECM wants to soften the tongues of Hon. Members.

So, I want to throw a spanner in the box to the Leadership and see the quorum today is almost dwindling for the apparent reason known very well by all of us here. So it is my prayer that we are going to listen to the budget statement, scrutinize it and do justice to it where necessary but we want to ensure that members attend by being facilitated to come and attend and listen keenly because we will have interrupted with the programme. My submission and I support the motion Hon. Speaker. Thank you.

### (Applause)

**Hon. Deputy Speaker**: Thank you, Hon. Dominic, I now invite the mover to come and reply.

Hon. Nicholas Nzioka (Machakos Central, WDM-K): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I really want to thank the Members of the House for quickly understanding the reason as to why we are adjourning today and resuming on Thursday, it was because primarily the issue of CARA and also because we did not attend committees yesterday. We needed to create time as House business committee but what has come out clearly from Mheshimiwa Kisila and Mheshimiwa Dominic is we need to think about 2027 clearly and they are saying this is the year but Hon. Speaker I want to request you that Hon. Kisila is always sending us some texts on our phones reminding us of the doomsday and that we should stop doing that.

We have since known how to calculate so you should stop sending us those messages but I thank everyone. Thank you, Hon. Speaker.

Hon. Deputy Speaker: Thank you, Majority Leader.

(Question put and agreed to)

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Hon. Deputy Speaker** Thank you, Hon. Members and the House adjourns to Thursday, 20th June, 2024 at 10.00 a.m. Thank you.

The House rose at 3.45 p.m.