REPUBLIC OF KENYA



THE SAMBURUCOUNTY ASSEMBLY THIRD ASSEMBLY (FOURTH SESSION) REQUEST FOR STATEMENTS

Hon. Speaker,

I rise to request a statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Education and Vocational Training regarding the indefinite closure and the continued absence of a teacher at Lmari Early Childhood Development (ECD) Centre, located in Losuk ward.

Hon. Speaker,

On 21st May 2025, I sought a statement from the said Chairperson concerning the failure by the Department of Education to deploy a teacher to the Lmari ECD Centre following the retirement of the serving teacher in 2024. In response, the Chairperson tabled a statement before this House on 27th May 2025, indicating that a teacher had been posted to the Centre with immediate effect.

However, to date, the teacher has not reported to the station, and the Centre remains non-operational since January 2025. This has denied the children of Lmari their right to early childhood education, which is a foundational and legally protected right.

Hon. Speaker, the situation is not only administratively unacceptable, but also a violation of several constitutional and statutory provisions, including:

1. Article 53(1)(b) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010, which guarantees every child the right to free and compulsory basic education, encompassing Early Childhood Development education.

2. Article 43(1)(f) of the Constitution, which provides that every person has the

right to education.

3. Part II of the Fourth Schedule to the Constitution, which assigns the responsibility for pre-primary education (ECD Centres) to the County Governments.

4. Section 4(a) of the Basic Education Act, 2013, which defines basic education to include ECD and places a duty on public authorities to ensure access, equity,

and quality service delivery.

5. The National Education Sector Strategic Plan (NESSP) 2018-2022 and Samburu County's Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs), which emphasize equitable access to early learning facilities, especially in marginalized areas.

Issues for Clarification

Hon. Speaker, in light of the above, I respectfully request that the **Chairperson of** the Committee on Education and Vocational Training urgently inquire into and reports back to this House on the following:

1. Why has the ECD teacher allegedly posted to Lmari ECD Centre failed to report to duty, several weeks after confirmation was made on the Floor of this House?

2. Is the Department of Education aware that the Lmari ECD Centre has remained closed since January 2025, and that children in the area have been denied access to early learning services?

3. What immediate plans are in place by the Department to reopen the Centre and ensure that a qualified ECD teacher is deployed without further delay?

4. Why did the Department fail to act promptly to deploy a replacement teacher following the retirement of the previous teacher in 2024, despite the County having reportedly recruited new ECD teachers in both 2024 and 2025?

Hon. Speaker, the prolonged closure of Lmari ECD Centre represents a gross failure in service delivery, a breach of children's rights, and a betrayal of the community's trust in the education system. It further undermines the County's commitments under its development agenda and education priorities.

I urge the Chairperson to treat this matter with urgency and seriousness, and to provide a definitive response with a clear timeline of action to restore early learning services to the children of Lmari.

SIGNED: ..

HON. PHELIX LENAMPARASIO, MCA

MEMBER OF COUNTY ASSEMBLY, LOSUK WARD

DATE: