

## COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



### *THE HANSARD*

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2024**

**The Assembly met at the County Assembly Chambers at 2.30 pm**

*The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen), in Chair*

### **PRAYER**

## **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members, may I first take this opportunity and obsequious moment to welcome all of you to this part of the third session of the third County Assembly, as we come back from the short recess of public service and attending your duties as leaders of the people.

Hon. Members, it is my pleasure and duty to once again welcome you to yet another part of this session as we discharge our public duties. I therefore thank the Almighty God for keeping us all healthy, safe and re-uniting us here today; given that our Country has faced unprecedented challenges in recent times particularly with the devastating floods that have affected our communities.

Just to echo the words of our Assembly prayers, may his continued blessings descend upon us as we assembled and that He may behold us with abundant favor as we deliberate on matters brought before us, in so just and faithful manner. In this regard, I want to emphasize that the House shall embark on this; to discharge its core Constitutional mandates of legislation, oversight and representation as enshrined in Article 185 of the Constitution and other legislation.

However, these may not be possible without objectively focusing on areas of challenges and weaknesses to strengthen as an institution going forward. I believe progressive development shall only be realized through appreciation of our impending challenges and the need to positively reform for effective result-oriented success.

Hon. Members, as we resume our duties to reflect on various tasks ahead of us; including the 2024/2025 Budget estimates, the Members play a pivotal role in discussing, reviewing and making recommendations to the County Assembly, taking into account the recommendations of the select Committee and the views of the County Executive Committee Members responsible for finance.

Hon. Members, all these requires thorough discussions, constructive input from all members and a commitment to serving the best interest of the residence of Samburu County and a reflection of the priorities of our County. Hon. Members, our actions here in the August House directly affects

the lives of our people, it is our mandate to represent the interest of the people, making form decisions and drive positive change. I urge you all to stay focused on the tasks at hand, stay united in purpose and work collaboratively towards a common objective. Together we have a potential to bring about a meaningful improvement, enhance service delivery and create a better future for our people.

Hon. Members, your continued support, dedication and hard work are truly appreciated, let us harness our collective strengths, work hand in hand and make a lasting difference in the lives of the people we serve.

Hon. Members, thank you for your commitment and let us move forward together towards a brighter future of our County, thank you.

*(Applause)*

## **MESSAGES**

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members, pursuant to section 58 (a) (8) of the County Government Act 2012, and read with the County Government Amendment Act 2020, the Samburu County selection panel conducted a recruitment exercise for the new Secretary or Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the County Public Service Board as stipulated under section 18 County Government (Amendment) Act 2020.

Hon. Members, in line with section 58 (a)(7) of the same Act, I hereby notify the House that I have received from His Excellency the Governor, the name of the nominee selected to serve as secretary/CEO of the County Public Service Board.

Name of the nominee; Daniel Moss Lentiyo, Position; Secretary/CEO of the County Public Service Board.

Hon. Members, I hereby commit this name to the Committee on Labour, Social Welfare, Justice and Legal Affairs to deliberate upon as per its mandate and subsequently make recommendations to the County Assembly for consideration.

## **STATEMENTS**

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members, it is notified that the following statements are due for response today Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> June, 2024:

1. Statement No. 026/2024 requested by Hon, Jeremiah Leitoro to the Chairperson of the Committee on Environment, Water and Natural Resources in regards to water projects in Elbarta Ward.

**Vice Chairperson, Committee on Environment, Water and Natural Resources,** (Hon. Mohammed Asha): Thank you Mr. Speaker, the response is not ready, so I was asking my colleagues if they can give us up to 11<sup>th</sup>, kindly.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Asha, I think this statement is overdue. We have stayed for a very long time so, Hon Leitoro can we give them up to 11<sup>th</sup>; that is on Tuesday next week?

**MCA, Elbarta Ward,** (Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to register my dissatisfaction for the response from the Hon. Member, I know she is the vice chair of the Committee on Environment, water and natural resources.

*(Inaudible Part)*

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Take your seat Hon. Loloju, point of information from Hon. Leitoro. Just take your seat for a minute and let Hon. Leitoro inform, yes, yes

**MCA, Nyiro Ward,** (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): According to our Standing Orders, when we give a point of information, it is actually the Motion mover who should actually have a right of either to be informed or not, thank you.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Loloju, do you need to be informed?

**MCA, Maralal Ward,** (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Mr. Speaker Sir, allow me to answer.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Okay, continue

**Chairperson Finance, Economic Plan and ICT,** (Hon. Loloju Joseph): I am reading the statement Mr. Speaker Sir but despite knowing that Hon. Leitoro if I am not wrong, is specifically on question number 2, but whatever am reading is point of clarification. I want to

clarify from A to Z but be attentive on number 2 and I hope you have the paper. So, with your permission Mr. Speaker Sir and maybe Hon. Lorunyei, allow me to continue.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): It is me who will allow you to continue Hon

*(Laughter)*

And I have allowed you so please continue.

**Chairperson Committee on Finance, Economic Planning and ICT,** (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Where are we now? We are in numbers? Before the interruption, I think I was in (C); promotion of primary health care, (D) licensing and control of undertaking that is the sales of foods to the public (E) Cemeteries, funeral parlors and crematorium

In light with that, I came to now number one, the Department was allocated be attentive Kshs.1, 633,621,381 in the Financial Year 2023/2024. And the County purposed to allocate Kshs. 1,467,511,757 in the Financial Year 2024/2025 that is the purpose.

The main reason for the reduction is the removal of 124 Million from the management equipment scheme. Their own source revenue increased by Kshs. 25,602,740 and the equitable share by Kshs. 282,788 totaling to Kshs. 107,885,528.

The ceilings given by the Commission on Revenue Allocation (CRA) for County Assembly and County Executive were Kshs. 631,730,000 and Kshs. 631,139,586 respectively. A combined increase of 18682510 from the increase in the revenue and the increase in the shilling the resultant decrease to be shared by the department was Kshs.78, 940,052 hence decrease in departmental allocation. I think that was the point of quotation. Take note: in recent times changes have been made on how health services are delivered. Introduction of facility improvement fund was enabled.

The facilities, improved financing Act 2023 Section 5 Cap 1 states:

There shall be detention of all monies raised or received by or on behalf of all public health facilities. The facilities will be able to retain all monies, levies including NHIF rebates which will assist the operations in the facilities. The County was a beneficiary of equalization fund and

allocated Kshs.58M for improvement of facilities in the department. The County utilized 54028478 on October 2023 in promotion, confirmation and employment of healthcare workers.

In a letter referenced IGFR/MOH/01CAP34 dated 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2024 from the Permanent Secretary, National Treasury, it was recommended that through the Council of Governors Ministry of Health and the Public Service Commission enter into a consultative framework to resolve the matter of UHAC staff and in doing so, consideration of availability of resources within the budgetary provisions shall be made. After deployment of the framework consideration is supplementary budget will be made later. I hope the above response satisfactorily addresses the concerns of the above member. Thank you.

**MCA, Elbarta Ward,** (Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the honorable member Loloju representing Maralal Ward. He is also the Chair for the Committee on Finance. I am happy because I think I am the first honorable member to ask the committee where he chairs and he has really tried in responding to the statement.

Before I continue, I really wanted to give some clarity and the time I tried to request for a point of information, I wanted to inform the honorable member Lorunyei from Nachola Ward that the statement I sought was specifically based County Fiscal Strategic Paper because we came to realize that the ceiling for the department of health was actually reduced from Kshs.16B to Kshs.1.4B and that is the reason as to why I sought this statement as the Chair of Health committee.

We really needed to know the reason as to why the ceiling was reduced to that because the department anticipated that instead of reduction there would be an increase to Kshs.1.8B. we were surprised that the ceiling was actually reduced to Kshs.1.4B. we all understand the nature of that department, that is the department of health. It is the department that is taking the bulk of our budgetary allocation and this is simply because of how sensitive that department is.

I am not really satisfied with the statement that has been given because it is not giving details and reasons as to why the finance department has decided to reduce the ceiling from Kshs.1.6B to Kshs.1.4B. if we adopt the budget as is, I want to inform this honorable house that we should prepare for disaster. This reduction in budgetary allocation has affected both the recurrent and the development allocation.

When we talk about the issues that affect the department of health. I do not know how to manage if we adopt as it is. When we table the report for the County Fiscal Paper, there was a recommendation that the department of finance should consider increasing the ceiling from Kshs.1.4B to Kshs.1.6B. now that it has not reflected in the budget estimates, I want to inform Hon. Loloju to be prepared because as much as all the areas of Samburu will be affected, Maralal Referral Hospital will be majorly affected.

This is a department whose budget does not need to be reduced. For members to understand this issue, we normally use about Kshs.40M for food rations for patients in the whole County but now it has been reduced by half. I do not know how we are going to manage that in the next financial year. Fuel for ambulances has not been catered for, salaries for the support staff and we already in a fix, Mr. Speaker. Now that there is no allocation for the same you will see that we are really in trouble.

Hon. Speaker, it has been mentioned that there was an initial amount that was being deducted by the national government especially on equipment, the amount was around Kshs.124M. this was deducted from the allocation of the department to cater for the machineries that have been supplied by the government. Those are a CT Scan and X-Ray machines. We thought things would be better at the department now that we have completed paying this loan.

It is so unfortunate that the Kshs.124M cannot be taken back to the department because those machines still need servicing. These are very expensive machines and their maintenance are usually done after every three months. The same applies to the machines in ICU, renal and dialysis department. If the machines are not maintained as required by the manufacturer then the quality of services offered here in the County Referral Hospital will be null and void. Instead of treating patients we will be killing them because by giving low quality services we are going to lose the lives of our people.

On top of that, Mr. Speaker, if I come to realize that my patient died because of such negligence and I sue the County Government of Samburu because they used equipment that has not been properly maintained you can be sued and the County will lose millions of shillings. I am saying all these to pump sense into our honorable members to see how sensitive this matter is and to lobby support from honorable members.

If the department of finance cannot increase the allocation to Kshs.1.8B, is it so difficult for it to maintain the Kshs.1.6B? It will be shameful for me as the Chair for the committee on health, for someone who understands the need for this money and now we have a CEC who is a medic, COs who are medics but at the end of the day instead of us improving the services that we are giving out to wananchi we are tremendously going down.

This is not fair. I want to assure the honorable members who are here that I will not be part of the team that will approve this budget, Mr. Speaker. By anticipating that these facilities will get financial autonomy through the facility improvement fund accounts based FIF Act that has already been passed by the national government.

We have not yet passed ours because every county is unique and every county needs to pass their own Bill, ours is on its way. It has stuck in the County Attorney's office and we are not even sure when the FIF Bill will be brought to this house. By anticipating and telling us we are going to retain money collected in the facilities and yet we do not have that account as at now is a big mistake.

Mr. Speaker, by also mentioning that we will have equalization Funds that will cater for medical or hospitals issues and gaps in our County. Hon. Speaker Equalization Fund is not under this

This honorable house, Mr. Speaker and it is not CEC Health or the C.O Health but the department in general. Equalization fund have their own committees and they can decide not to do things pertaining to health and decide to do things pertaining to roads and completely forget things pertaining to health. Hon. Speaker to be sincere I do not want to buy the idea of equalization funds that is being clever to want to skip or to give us an excuse or reason as to want to reduce the allocation for the department. For that reason, I cannot really buy the idea.

It has come to our attention as well those UHC personnel especially nurses are already on strike. If we do not have plans as a County to absorb this workforce to work in the hospitals, Mr. Speaker, I think most of our dispensaries, most of our sub-county hospitals are going to be closed. There is no allocation to cater for the absorption of the UHC staff. If at all we are going to adopt the estimates as it is, then I have taken enough time to give an explanation to this honorable house so that when this County, because I am anticipating that this County Government is going to fail, If this is what we are doing, then *ndovu ataanguka* very soon.

I have taken enough time to give information pertaining to the department of health that we are not going to do well if this is what we are doing. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. However, I am not satisfied with the answer.

**Specially Elected MCA**, (Hon. Nakinyi Jane): Thank you Hon. Speaker. I would also like to thank the Hon. Member for Maralal Ward for responding to the statement that our honorable Chair, Hon. Leitoro requested. However, I would to just, since I am the Vice Chair, health, let us have a meeting with the committee to inquire about the budgetary allocation for health department because it was also a concern for some of us individually.

We went and asked the department. It seems the department is very comfortable with the budget. Again, there is NHIF which comes directly to the County from NHIF and it is sourcing a lot of money. I think considering the food and money for the renal unit it is also sourced from the same account. However, I do not concur with the report that the CEC has provided about the enactment of FIF fund because as the Chair said we have the FIF Bill and we are trying to see whether we can enact it. Unfortunately, it is somewhere and it is very important that we need this FIF Bill so that we can have more money in the department.

So, I agree with the honorable Chair that we need to make it so fast and the department or the Chair Labour should do something as soon as possible so that we see most of the things which are pending are not dragging us back. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MCA Suguta Marmar Ward**, (Hon. Leleruk James): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to thank the Chair Finance committee for the response he has given us. However, Mr. Speaker, I think as a house we need to engage the department because we cannot work on assumptions. The issue of FIF we have not passed it and we cannot anticipate something that has not been passed, that is to be given to the finance department or the health department and we have not yet seen even as members of this house.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I work in the budget committee and I know we are dealing with proposals. We need to make some things right because to my understanding, the department is not satisfied with what has been allocated. If you see the budget that has been allocated to the department of health, there is no single project that will be done in that department. So how can we say that they are comfortable?

We need some hospitals to be equipped and the money that has been allocated as per the proposals, nothing is there unless. As Hon. Lemoosa has said the only people who can clarify this are the CEC Finance and CEC Health. We need to summon them to this honorable house so that we can iron out these issues.

The other curiosity that I have seen, how does the County Executive and the County Assembly budget affect the departments of this County? That is something that we need to be told, how it can affect all departments. All the departments are crying. As the committee on budget we have asked all the honorable members, the Chairs, to go to their departments. We are still waiting for their proposals. I hope some of the issues we can clarify.

For clarity and with your guidance, Mr. Speaker, we need to agree as a house on the best solution for this because the budget has not been passed. We need to engage both the departments of health and finance. To make matters worse nurses are on strike. The information we have received is that they have just started their strike. Mr. Speaker you can advise us on how to engage. The able Chair has answered, we have seen the figures but the facts on the ground are different. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**MCA Ndoto Ward**, (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Allow me to add my voice to this. I concur in totality that our budget has been affected. When our main budget is affected, it affects most items. We sought answers and we have been given reasons as to why this abnormality has occurred. Going back to the answering sheet, the main reason for this reduction has been explained.

We have been told that Kshs.124M have been removed from the NES and that definitely affects the whole budget. I concur with my colleagues that we need to sit with the CEC Finance and CEC Health so that we can ventilate on this and find out the reason why or how we are going to be affected by this, instead of us doing some guesswork.

Let us have a meeting with the CEC Finance and CEC Health so that we can get the real picture on the effect on the reduction of this budget. We also know that when the budget is affected we may be constrained to do more services. That is my take. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**Specially Elected MCA**, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Thank you, Hon. Speaker. I also take this time to thank the Almighty God for enabling us to be here today as we all are alive and

happy. I too rise to add my sentiment on the same matter as the honorable members have. The issue of the budget on health is a very sensitive matter. My prayer to you, but you are not my God. This matter is a very serious matter.

Mr. Speaker, protect me.

**The Speaker,** (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): Honorable Dube I have understood what you are saying. Take your seat. Let her continue.

**Specially Elected MCA,** (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Honorable Speaker when I say my prayer to but you are not God, the Speaker is not god but I can call him for advice or for help. So, Hon. Speaker, my request here is that we need your guidance and also your help....

...how are we going to make sure that the budget of health at least to be increased not to be decreased honorable speaker? As I speak here we have a very big challenge as people from east we normally have a catholic hospital in Wamba but it is closed honorable speaker and our people seserian can be done in Wamba it could be better but nowadays a person from Ngilai can be rushed to Maralal for treatment so that can be rescued honorable speaker this matter is very crucial because the honorable chair have just told us that even the ambulances are not there so how can just those people from East fight to get the necessary help or needs for example seserian and other issues even our dispensary have no Panadol and the budget of health is being reduced we need to do soothing honorable speaker, we need committee of health and budget to come together and make sure that at least we remain with the ceiling of the department as it was before, so that is my prayer is not a bad prayer honorable speaker as Dube think of it but let us help each other and make sure that the matter of ceiling on health to remain as it is or to be raised. Thank you, honorable speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Honorable Lorunyei

**MCA Nachola Ward,** (Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei): Thank you honorable speaker, a healthy nation is a wealthy nation, wealthy nation wealthy people aware that there is reduction of the budget of the department of health and the world is growing, the county is growing, people are growing there are not stagnant we are trying to take service to the people so like services are like standing they need more medicine e I don't understand why the money is being reduced.

As said by honorable Silapia instead of us taking services to the nearer to people, we are now trying to withdraw services from Ngilai not even to Wamba but to Maralal it is not making sense honorable speaker, in budget making it is this honorable house is in control not the department nor the executive, because through public participation where the representatives of the people in every ward should be there with the people because the opinions and proposal are taken from the people themselves by the executive and put their input because of their expertise and then come to this house we also put our input it doesn't matter what the executive have is a final Mr. Speaker.

And then we start crying that we doesn't have any power Mr. Speaker unless we don't know the budget making circle honorable speaker, it is the proposal of the people because it is government of the people for the people by the people so we are answering their service and it is this honorable house that is supposed to allocate the money and approve not the executive. That is why am in contrary with honorable of Elbarta ward saying the we are going to fail it means that he had agreed that the county is going to fail we rea not going to fail Mr. Speaker, we are going to do something about it so it is the committee of health to seat down together with the committees concern to reason about it and then from the proposal there, when it comes here the committee will disagree with the department then the observation and recommendation of the committee is the one we are going to take in this honorable house , Mr. Speaker that is why am are seeing that.

It is high time we take our space we fit to our space and do the work we are assign in this house, thank you honorable speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Honorable Dube

**Specially Elected Member,** (Hon. Osman Dube): Asante mheshimiwa spika, kabla ya kuugua mchango yangu ya idara ya afya, mheshimiwa sillapia alizungumza kwa kutumia kingereza na mimi kama Dube nitararua acha tu nibaki na lugha yangu ya Kiswahili na kwa kweli wewe si mungu mheshimiwa spika na tunajua mungu ni mungu na mimi staki kuskia jina mungu mahli kam hiyo kuletwa, mungu alitumba sisi zote na bingu na ardhi naomba tu tusitaje mambo ya mungu ...

**Specially Elected Member,** (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Honorable speaker I think honorable Dube he is not right to address me let him address the speaker and I think the matter about Silapia is not the topic of the day...(Inaudible)

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): I want you to stick on what we are discussing on the floor just continue

**Specially Elected Member,** (Hon. Osman Dube): Mheshimiwa Spika kwa swala la zahanati ni afya ni mambo muhimu sana, kama siyo afya mwanadamu hawezi ishi vile mheshimiwa Ali alisema mimi naunga mkono na kamati ya health na finance na CEC Finance na CEC Health sisi tukae pamoja na tutatuwe mheshimiwa spika , kwa abbu mambo ya hospitali ni mambo mingi sana, naunga mkono iwe kamati mbili, asante sana mheshimiwa spika.

**MCA Maralal Ward,** (Hon. Loloju Joseph): I am just seated here and I don't know on personal level am becoming impatient for on reason the statement before the house, was for finance now it has over suddenly changed to budgeting, now all the questions that...I think it is in the budget side of view and am unable to answer(inaudible) I have to thank honorable Leitoro for me to let this matter to rest in enteral peace, Mr. Leitoro is good friend of mine on personal capacities and I really respect it , Mr. Speaker I have been walking along with him in this particular ward, when it comes mostly to this referral hospital, I understand he point of view , truly I understand and we had a promise with him, we promised the CEC one on one that we will (inaudible) this particular budget 124 have been removed instead of increased and to rest this (inaudible), thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

**MCA Nyiro Ward,** (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Honorable speaker sir I want really to sincerely thank you for this opportunity to allude with other member matters actually from honorable Leitoro, I wish to appreciate the chair for committee of finance and also appreciate the honorable Leitoro for his concern but as matter of facts this house id house of rules and regulations.

Standing order ally in accordance standing order No 87 does not give a room for anticipation of any kind of debate that is the fact, No 2 honorable speaker this house is house for regulations and actually decorum, in other words we need to have parliamentary languages, when we say we pump sense into member, we are honorable members we are sensible, we are concern and we feel for our people none has any capacity to pump sense into us we already have

sense(inaudible), this issue ahead of us is budgetary issue and the best person to explain this is the CEC Finance who actually doubles up the finance and budget this is the best person he/ she have technocrat that can explain to the honorable members and I therefore allude with Jane and the rest, I suggest that for the interest of our people and the department.

It is in order that the two joint departments call for the interrogation of the matter this is the best way to explain we are not finance experts nor budgetary experts I think that way would have solved ourselves a problem. Yes I understand the honorable Jeremiah has said which is true that of course there were some machinery which were deducted from the source but now I think the debts has been squared up so where this money does goes we cannot answer that the best is we invite the budget committee in conjunction to health. Invite the CECM interrogate the numbers before it is actually approved or otherwise by this honorable house.

Mr. Speaker, legal terms in law, I have done a bit of paralegal in my ten year chief or administrator. We plead in court, we pray, we give our prayer to the judges it is not only to God *Dua* in Kiswahili with your permission things like *swallah* this goes to God but prayer is a language that changes on how we want to use it. So there nothing wrong when the honorable member actually says I pray with the honorable Speaker because it is legal this house has echo powers with the high court we use words like we plea, we pray to the honorable speaker and it does not actually warrant that it is God it is not its exemption languages has different intonations as we use it. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen); Thank you honorable members I want to give directions on the same the committee on health and medical services together with committee on budget and appropriation not the finance. Meet with the CECM for finance and the CECM for medical services before we conclude the budget estimates that is next week. So they should meet the two committees plus the two CECM and then they bring a report to this house once they are finished.

Hon. Leitoro I think you are ok with that, okay thank you. Statement number 028/2024 requested by Hon. Lawrence Lorunyei to the chairperson of committee on Labor, Social Welfare, Justice and Legal Affairs in regards to the status of the village councils in the county. Honorable minority leader.

**MCA Suguta Marar**, (Hon. Leleruk James); Thank you Mr. Speaker I just came from my ward and I was with the county secretary and they are requesting that we will give the full report tomorrow at 9:30am

**The Speaker**, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen); that is fair and tomorrow 9:30am we will get the response Hon. Lorunyei I hope you will be here tomorrow at 9:30 to get the report.

**MCA Nachola Ward**, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence); Mr. Speaker it is very sensitive but I will be waiting for the response of the statement. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker**, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen); Thank you. Statement number 029/2024 requested by the Hon. Esther Lenolkulal to the chairperson the committee on agriculture and livestock in regards to the tractors and seeds distribution. Chairman agriculture Hon. Silapia

**Specially Elected MCA**, (Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia); Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have the response with me and I will read according to the question that are sorted by the Hon. Esther Lenolkulal, and Mr. Speaker the honorable member sorted four questions;

1. (a) The current conditions of the agricultural machinery, specifically tractors. And the answer given by the department read this;

There are currently twenty-two tractors serviceable with the AMS. However, 14 of them are in a good working conditions. While other 8 are either on repairs or yet to be availed for repairs. Some tractors are already in the AMS, while others are still on duty at the various parts of the county.

- (b) However, there been any recent upgraded or new acquisitions of farm machinery to support the farming communities?

Unfortunately, there has not been significant funding to enable the AMS Centre to acquire new farm machinery.

- (c) How many tractors are currently available for use in the community, and what measures are in place to ensure proper maintenance and efficiency management? The answer;

- There are currently 14 tractors that are serviceable to offer services to the community, with different efficiency levels.
- Maintenance for the tractors is still being done courtesy of funds allocated by the county government of Samburu to facilitate their repairs and maintenance.
- The management of the tractors faces some bottlenecks revolving around the lack of ring-fenced funds for the AMS. The funds need to be ring fenced possibly as funds/grants to ensure that they are easily accessible for use. The AMS Bill will provide this avenue when in place.

2. The county government had promised to plough an acre of land in areas affected by banditry; what progress have been made in fulfilling this commitment, the criteria and the requirement used for the farmers to benefit from it? The answer;

- During the first phase (October-December rain season) of the said initiative, the department was able to cultivate 1348 acres of the promised 1500 acres. For the March-May rain season, the department was able to cultivate close to 550 acres, which is still ongoing in some areas.
- The criteria involved some joint effort involving administrators, the departmental extension officers and other last-mile elected opinion leaders in that affected areas, who through community involvement developed a list of the proposal beneficiaries. The list is then used to undertake the cultivation guided by the last mile officers agreed upon.
- It was the decision of the farmer to identify and select the site where the one acre was to be done since most of them had left their homes/farms. There was no other condition required of the farmer other than having been identified and selected as proposed beneficiary by the aforementioned leaders.

3. What are the insights into the coordination between the county government and the local farming community implementing the ploughing initiative?

- That the initiative is very important and necessary to ensure food security for the affected households and to increase productivity by each household besides increasing general food production levels.

- That there is need to involve all leaders and partners in the initiative to ensure that there is enough support for the affected people, inclusive to all affected, without the possibility of leaving anyone behind and possible.
- That the proper teamwork and funding, the initiatives ensure that inclusion of the humble household in production a key factor in addressing poverty among our people. Teamwork will also exclude the livelihood of some not so much deserving people exploiting the opportunity available for the affected and humble households.

4. (a) However, there been any challenges or successes in the management and use of tractors for agricultural operations?

i. Successes:

- Presence and availability of the tractors helped regulate the price charged per acre by the private service providers. In areas where there is a presence of the county tractor, the private service providers could not hike the prices per acre.
- It made it possible for the government to implement the ploughing initiative easily and conveniently.
- This has helped the county get more accurate data on the acreage cultivated land in the county a very important aspect in planning. Although it is not conclusive but helpful.
- The cost of tractor repair and maintenance has really gone down, while the efficiency of the tractors has improved due to economies of scale.
- It is possible with the availability of funds to conduct plant operators on farm refreshers training to help protect tractors through efficient use and on new ploughing technologies and designs.
- Better programmed ploughing literary would be in place to ensure timely land preparation.
- Support from the development partners and other agencies with a proper additional fund for the AMS would be accessible.

ii. Challenges:

- Coordination with the last mile administrators for proper provision of services remained a challenge since some officers engaged are not committed and adhering to proposed lists. And on the diligent use of the allocated resources like fuel.

- The lack of ring-fenced funds for the AMS has resulted in vote head/ budget lines currently used to support the service not being accessible for recurrent use, like fuel and payment of plant operator wages and lunches in time causing massive delays.
- The number and level of training for the plant operators engaged is still wanting. Some have little training and experience in the proper handling of tractors, which increases the cost of operations and damage to the tractors besides not providing recommended plough designs to help farmers in soil and water conservation.
- Most tractors are old and efficiency reduced thus leading to high cost of operations.
- On the environment and smart agriculture recommendations, the use of disc ploughs and other soil turning implements is discouraged. Therefore, there is a need to acquire non-soil-turning implements like rippers(chisel-ploughs)
- Funds allocation to AMS has not come easily yet the service will go a long way to ensure food and..
- ..Nutritional security to the people of Samburu County and enhance the capacity for income earning and improved livelihood.

**Question 4 (b). How have these challenges been addressed and what are the improvements?**

- Though the overall effect of the lack of a clear budget line to operationalize the AMS functions has lacking, leading to major delays in service provision. The department attempted to address the challenges after consulting widely by requesting budget re-allocation for the AMS fund from the development portfolio to the recurrent portfolio. The intention was to facilitate the procurement of fuels payment of plant operators and other important operations and training arrangements for the AMS.
- Although the application was granted, the adjustment came a little late, where the necessary procurements had to be done late, leading to delays.
- Besides, the budget line, (2211000 – specialized materials in particular, 2211007-agricultural materials, supplies and small equipment) limited the procurement of plant-operators services and fuels. The departments therefore, toiled for a long time to trigger the availability of the allocated funds for service provision.
- The available garages have been reluctant to provide services for the AMS, fearing delayed payments for the repair and maintenance. After a long consultation, the

department requested procurement to facilitate the “framework procurement approach” for the repairs which eventually eased the repairs of the tractors.

**5. What are the insights into the distribution of seeds and the specific villages that have received seed allocation in the wards?**

- Seed distribution was well conducted. The supplier delivered all the procured seeds (85 tons of maize and 46 tons of beans). The first proposed distribution was based on the latest population census conducted in 2019. However, with public participation, Barraza conducted following complaints of equity; an adjustment to the eventual distribution list was conducted. The distribution information is available (see attachments).

**6. (a) How has the quantity of seeds to be distributed been determined?**

- Data on households was used as per the KNBS 2019 data, and then, following public participation Barraza, adjustments were made against the quantities of seeds procured as per the allocated budget.

**(b). Are there specific criteria used to ensure fair distribution among the farmers?**

- The extension staff, last-mile administrators, both VGDUs and Village administrators, and other opinion leaders in the village ensured that the distribution was as computed. The farmers’ feedback did not provide concerns to the contrary.

**7. (a) What is the Current budget allocation for the Provision of seeds to the farmers in farming areas?**

- The budget allocation for seed in Financial Year 2023/2024 was Kshs. 40,500,000, and the same was proposed for Financial Year 2024/2025.

**(b). How are the funds for the seeds allocation being managed and distributed to ensure equitable access for all eligible farmers?**

- The seeds procurement was subjected to a normal competitive procurement process. However, the department supported the process and ensured that the correct quality of seeds was procured and at reasonable prices offered. This was by conducting a market survey: on best reason prices and credible sourcing. As earlier stated, distribution was

based on the data available both from 2019 Census and information gathered from the public participation Barraza. Efforts to ensure equitable access by all farmers were put in place as much as possible.

That is the response for the statement sought, thank you Mr. Speaker.

**Specially Elected MCA,** (Hon. Lenolkulal Esther): Asante sana Bwana Spika, nachukua fursa hii kumshukuru Mungu ambaye ametuwezesha sote kufika hapa hivi tukiwa hai. Kwa kweli, ninamshukuru mwenyekiti kwa kujaribu kujibu maswali hayo, lakini baada ya siku mbili kupita nilipowasilisha maswali hayo, haikuchukua muda kabla ya kuona mashamba ya wengi yakianza kulimwa ila wengine wao hawakuweza kupata mbegu.

Pia kwa sababu ninakubaliana naye, ningeomba... hata kama basi ..lakini bado hatujapata mbegu. Bwana Spika, ningeomba kwamba kwa sababu juzi tukiwa kwenye mapumziko, nilipata nafasi ya kutembelea wadi ya Angata Nanyokei na ningeomba kamati ile.. ipate kuwa na mkutano hata kama ni Siku moja na kuweza kufika kule kwani nilipata malalamishi sana.

Kulikuwa na kamati zilizoanzishwa na marehemu ndugu yangu akiwa mwakilishi wa wadi hiyo ya Angata Nanyekie, nikiwa kule nilifika kijiji kimoja alipo Babangu na nilifika kule kumjulia hali walikuja kunipata..na walikuwa wamechaguliwa na ndugu yangu...kufika hapa niweze kuzungumzia kuhusu maneno hayo. Nafikiri kwamba Bwana Spika...na waangalie shida ni gani ili mweze kutatua...ningeomba mwangalie kuhusu hayo kwa sababu watu hao wana malalamishi, asante Bwana Spika.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): asante sana, kuhusu suala la kamati,tutaweza kukaa chini na kuangalia. Turudi kwa suala la mbegu.

**Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture,** (Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia): Thank you Mr. Speaker and also to the beautiful lady in the House, Hon. Lenolkulal Esther...

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Order Hon. Silapia, Kiswahili kimekushinda kabisa?

**Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture,** (Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia): Ninaomba msamaha Bwana Spika. I will go to the department with my able committee members to see if we will get some other seeds for the people of Porro Ward. As you have seen from the

challenges by the department that the budget allocation for seeds is still very small/ so, I will have to take the complaints to the department with the Hon. Members of the Committee.

**MCA Nyiro Ward**, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I do not think I have much to say but I think that the chair has actually omitted some very important information..

**The Speaker**, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Lemoosa, najua kwamba wewe uko sawa kwa kuzungumza Kiswahili, ungejibu kwa lugha ya Kiswahili tu.

**MCA Nyiro Ward**, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Asante Sana Bwana Spika, ningependa kusema kuwa mwenye kiti wa Idara ya Ukulima ameweza kuacha habari ya muhimu sana kwani huwezi kusoma taaarifa na kuacha nusu. Ripoti yake inaionyesha wadi na vyumba vilivyoweza kunufaika, asilimia, idadi yao na kilo fulani. Hiyo pia ni mzuri kwani inaonyesha wazi kwamba kuna mweleko ambao kidogo wametupa. Hivyo mwenyekiti kwa heshima tu, ni vizuri kuonyesha waheshimiwa kuhusu ziada hilo la habari, asante.

**Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Agriculture**, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Thank you Mr. Speaker, and I also thank Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan (MCA Nyiro Ward), I just read from the report and said that there is a list attached to the report, thank you very much.

**MCA Suguta Mar Mar Ward**, (Hon. Leleruk James): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Hon. Chairperson for the good response she has given us. Although I have an information to pass because we had not asked as a Question, on the issue of the tractors that maybe when they will be going as a committee to meet with the Chief Executive Committee Member (CECM), we also need to know about the money that is being charged on this tractors and how it has been appropriated; that is what we also need to know.

And the other issue to the Committee and I also remember that during the last regime, these tractors were being managed by the community and it has worked to avoid this issue that had been mentioned by Hon. Lenolkulal Esther.

Kwa sababu ikiwa matrekta yangukuwa yakifanya katika kila kijiji, nafikiri kuwa watu wangeweza kulima mapema na wangeweza kujua ni nani ambaye hakuweza kulima. Matrekta ikiletwa mahali kama hapa, kutakuwa na mzozano na shida kwa sababu watu wote si sawa. Kuna yule atakayesema kuwa anataka kulima hekari zaidi ya ishirini na kwa sababu za kibiashara,

wanaohusika huishia kuelekeza matrekta mahala moja na baadaye wakati mvua itakaponyesha, matrekta mengine huenda ikawa na shida. Kwa hivyo ningependa kusema asante, na kuhusu yale mtakayoongezea kwa sababu bado mtaullizwa maswali mengine wakati mwingine...

Lakini kwa sababu hatukuwa tumeuliza hiyo ndio maoni nilikuwa naona tuangalie, kwa sababu kama ni ya county pia iende chini juu sioni tofauti ya hii ya kawaida na ile ya county yote Imefanana ndiposa sioni haja gani ikuwe inasemakan tusitumie ile ya wtu wengine, wanabiashara wengine na wote wanaweka bei sawa kama ingekuwa ya county yetu sis nfdio tunachugulikia tunaweka kukarabati hii pesa zingine tunaweka pahali kwengine iteremke hata elfu moja mia tana kuliko ikiwe elfu mbili mia tano kwa nyinyi kama kamayi muende make chini, Asante.

**Specially Elected Member, (Hon. Osman Debe):** Asante sana mheshimiwa Spika, mimi nauliza kwa sababu malalamishi ziko mingi swala kuhusu mbegu wananchi wanalalamika sana, nashukuru sana mheshimiwa Esther kulete hii hoja, ni hoja muhimu sana, namheshimiwa spika vile mheshimiwa Leleruk amasema trakta kulima na hile ingine ya kibinafsi bei ni moja haiku sawa, hakuna haja hii ya county na unalima nah hii bei ni moja mwenyekiti tunaomba acha ya county iteremke bei ndiposa watu wetu maskini wafaidike spika.

Ya pili tuinaomba hiyo mbegi ifike mahali yote na ninaomba tu iwe namna hii uendeleo na kazi kwa hivyo ikikuwa swali tukiuliza mheshimiwa mwenyekiti saa hii ukuwe rada tutauliza swali saa yeyote ile, asante sana.

**Specially Elected Member, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia):** Thank you honorable speaker I think I have capture the issue of the minority leader also the issue of the celling distribution which is really in this response and am seeing Ngari with a 1498 households also the total 2kgs package and they got it with 1998 but I know this one is just a paper work and I will do a follow up with that.

- Another issue honorable speaker we have a MS draft bills in the office of the county Antony let me plead to you honorable speaker or pray to you as honorable Leleruk told me that is not a crime we have a problem with the office of County Antony, we have several draft bills in that are stuck there and I don't know why I think there's a purpose why the departments have decided to come up with those bills like now the FIF bill,

MES bill like now animal health bill I think across all the sectors I think if we could have MES bill in place I think the complains will be reduced honorable speaker so with your guidance honorable speaker can we do something on those drafts bill that are stuck in the office of County Antony and we will do a follow up with my committee members and we will let honorable members including Hon. Dube to know the distribution of the seeds and the concern from the honorable Esther, Thank You.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Thank you very much, Hon. Silapia I think we are not discussing about the Antony because it is not there in our standing order so can we get a statement about the same as I said earlier it is the committee that is supposed to do something not the speaker once we have the statement concerning the same office let the labor committee do a follow up about the same and they give us report, they give us response on that.

Statement 030/2024 requested by Hon. Lenolkulal Esther to the chair of the committee on medical service, public health and sanitation regards on the status of Poro Health Center. Hon. Leitoro.

**MCA Elbarta Ward,** (Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah): Thank you honorable, and before I continue I want to withdraw my statement previously I did not made that statement with bad intension but I wanted to seek attention from the honorable members on how matter was serious honorable speaker, honorable speaker I beg to respond the statement on reference SPUCKAITL Vol 5/06/2024 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 requiring responses from the department of health on;

The current status of the electricity supply Poro health center: initially before we break for recess I think I gave a verbal response on that honorable speaker the issue was sought and the formal response read as follows facilities connected to Kenya power KPLC supplied through a post pay system currently facilities as power, the Kenya power staff had disconnected the power but to advice the department to reconnect it as the await the payment they reconnect the power the bills has since has been paid.

Honorable speaker the concerning question is the measures being taken to address the lack of electricity in Poro ward health center, going forward the department has assured to do our timely payment of the facilities electricity bills and the department coming to an agreement with Kenya power lightening company so that they don't disconnected the power from the health facilities.

Honorable speaker another way of measure of tackling electricity in Poro was payment of danished national cooperation they need funds to facilitate so they can sought out any concern thy might have although we all understand that their funds have taken long before being submitted.

Then a proper cost of electricity budget for the department which is always under budgeted as per the case financial year 2023/2024. Honorable speaker the question is what is the current status of the employment of the casual staffs in the health center, then the honorable speaker the facility has four casual staffs paid using Nanina fund, the staffs are employed on casual basis to work as support staffs. Honorable speaker I also gave verbal explanation on that, that the Nanina funds have not yet been disbursed and they are the part that was supposed to be taken care of by the department and going forward the subordinate staff are usually paid a standard rate of 4500 per month across only for two and three health facilities then this is usually subject to availability of funds and counter funding but the department of health has said early with Nanina, they are slowly with withdrawing so the county government come fully and take the charge of payment of this staffs.

This also goes back to our budgetary allocation and we hope honorable speaker that if we have enough budgetary allocation this coming financial year then we will able to take the full cost of the payment of the subordinate staffs from Danida as we all know Danida have already withdrawn. Last time I gave explanation on Kiswahili honorable speaker and I think my sister honorable Esther was satisfied, thank you honorable speaker.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Esther you can just confirm to us that whatever has been said is true.

**Specially Elected Member,** (Hon. Lenolkulal Esther): Asante mheshimiwa Spika, nashukua fursa hii kushukuru mwenyekiti wa idara wa afya, najua mheshimiwa spika kutosoma ni ugojwa ingine mbaya na nafkiri sai niko kumbaru na nikikuja ile muula ingine nitakuwa nikichapa kingereza vilivyo, kwa hivyo nitajitahidi mheshimiwa spika ndiposa nashukuru mwenyekiti kwa sababu hiyo nilipoleta hiyo kauli hapa mheshimiwa Leitoro alienda huko na saaa kumi nilipigiwa simu kwamaba wafanyikazi wa Kenya Power wameirudisha stima na nashukuru sana bwana spika, hatuleti hapa kauli kwa sababu kuna jambo tunalibagua ama tunalipendekezea ile

kwamba kwa sababu ya watu wetu mheshimiwa spika kama hatungeleta hizo kauli singedhani Kenya Power wangeirudisha hiyo stima, nilishukuru sana kwa sababu wamama wetu waliendelea kupata matibabu na wanaendelea vizuri...nilikuambia mheshimiwa mwenyekiti kwamba kuna mama mmoja alikaa san hiyo zahanati kwanza mwanzo kwa kweli nilikuambia peleka killio change mbele andikwe kazi ya kudumu tafadhali kwaz sababu ametumikia wsatuw eyu kwa miaka yake yote saisi amekuwa mzee kabisa... Mheshimkiwa spika hatujui tutafanya nini vile mheshimiwa mwenyekiti amesema...naomba idara zote za afya ingaliwe kwenye bageti na pesa zao zote zirudishiwe. Asante mheshimiwa Spika.

**The Speaker,** (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Asante Sana.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Honorable members the time being 16min to 5 o'clock and there being no any other business this assembly now adjourns until Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 20204 at 9.00 am.