

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Tuesday, 13th February, 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

Hon. Members of the County Assembly;

As you are aware, today we are resuming from long break following adjournment for long recess on 7th December, 2023. I therefore, with great humility welcome you back. I trust that you had a wonderful and fruitful break together with your families and constituents, including a break for self and institutional evaluation.

Honorable Members,

I stand before you today with an overwhelming sense of gratitude and enthusiasm as we gather once again following an extended recess. The familiar faces of dedicated public servants and esteemed members of this august assembly are truly heartening to see.

As per our standing orders that established parliamentary procedures, it was anticipated that we would have the honor of receiving the address of His Excellency the Governor during the opening of this session. However, due to unavoidable circumstances, the governor's address has been rescheduled to the 22nd of February, which is next Thursday. This alteration in our schedule is essential, and I appreciate your understanding as we adapt to unforeseen events.

During this prolonged break, I extend my sincere appreciation to each of you for your unwavering commitment and dedication to the noble cause of serving the people of Samburu County. Despite the recess, our assembly exhibited commendable diligence and achieved noteworthy milestones that reflect our collective dedication to the betterment of our community.

Honorable Members,

First and foremost, a special sitting was convened to deliberate and approve the report of the County Assembly Service Board regarding the recruitment of the Clerk of the County Assembly. It brings me immense pleasure to announce that Mr. Fred Lenapeer, with his wealth of experience as the deputy clerk, has been chosen for this pivotal role. His familiarity with the intricacies of our assembly undoubtedly positions him well for the responsibilities that lie ahead. I invite each and every one of you to join me in extending our warmest congratulations to Mr. Fred Lenapeer on his well-deserved appointment as the Clerk of the County Assembly.

Honorable Members,

In addition to this significant recruitment, our assembly undertook another crucial task during the recess – the discussion and endorsement of the supplementary budget. Your thoughtful deliberations and constructive input during this process played a pivotal role in ensuring that our financial plans align with the evolving needs and priorities of our beloved county. To all members, I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering dedication to the fiscal responsibility of our assembly.

Honorable Members,

Still during the recess, the list of the selection panel, forwarded by His Excellency the Governor, has been duly tabled and stands committed to the Committee on Labor, Social Welfare, Justice, and Legal Affairs. This selection panel, essential for various functions within our county, underwent thorough vetting by the committee. I express full confidence that the committee conducted a comprehensive evaluation, and once their report is ready, we will engage in a meaningful debate and approval process, ensuring transparency and accountability in our proceedings.

Honorable Members,

As we embark on this new legislative session, let us collectively renew our commitment to the service of the people of Samburu County. The challenges we face may be daunting, but with our collective dedication and shared vision, I am confident that we can achieve remarkable outcomes for the betterment of our community.

Honorable Members,

As we resume our legislative duties after a considerable recess, it is imperative that we collectively emphasize the importance of proactivity in the functioning of our committees.

Our committees play a pivotal role in the efficient and effective operation of the assembly. In accordance with the County Government Act and our standing orders, I earnestly request each committee to embrace a proactive approach in fulfilling its responsibilities. This involves not only adhering to the prescribed timelines but also ensuring that reports are tabled diligently and without unnecessary delays.

Honorable Members,

Committees serve as the eyes and ears of the assembly, meticulously examining matters within their purview. Their recommendations and reports significantly contribute to the decision-making process, shaping the direction and policies of our county. Therefore, a proactive stance from each committee is essential for the smooth functioning of our legislative body.

Honorable Members,

I kindly urge all committee chairs and members to adhere to the timelines set forth in the County Government Act and our standing orders when preparing and tabling reports. The timely presentation of reports is crucial in providing adequate time for thorough consideration and debate by all members.

Moreover, committees are encouraged to adopt a quiet and efficient approach when tabling their reports. This ensures that the assembly's proceedings remain focused, orderly, and conducive to productive deliberations. It also allows for a more seamless incorporation of committee recommendations into the broader legislative discourse.

Honorable Members,

By upholding these principles, we not only adhere to legal and procedural requirements but also demonstrate our commitment to transparency, accountability, and the effective functioning of the County Assembly of Samburu. As leaders and representatives of our community, we have a responsibility to showcase the highest standards of governance.

In Closing, Honorable Members,

I wish to reiterate that, as Members we have the responsibility to improve the role played by this important organ of the Samburu County Government, as mandated by our Constitution. Our collective individual efforts must contribute towards making this Assembly a critical pillar in a paradigm of a developmental government. This Assembly must act as the voice of the people and an important platform for monitoring the implementation of the policy programs of the county government.

Once again, may I take this opportunity to officially welcome you back, I Thank You.

ADJOURNMENT

Honorable Members, the time being 2:57 pm and there being no other business, this House stands adjourned until 14th February 2024 at 9:00 am.