

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF SAMBURU



THE HANSARD

Wednesday, 25th March, 2026

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, I would like to acknowledge the presence in the visitors' gallery this afternoon of a delegation from the Hansard Association of Kenya. The Hansard Association of Kenya is a professional body for Parliamentary Reporters and Editors dedicated to enhancing the production of accurate, timely, and authoritative records of Parliament proceedings. The delegation is here for a week-long workshop hosted by the County Assembly of Samburu.

The purpose of this workshop is to enhance capacity, standardize reporting, and guarantee high-quality verbatim reports of Parliamentary proceedings from Hansard Editors and Reporters, both at the National and County Assemblies. Towards this end, the Hansard Association of Kenya is proactively developing a specialized curriculum. On behalf of the County Assembly of Samburu, we warmly welcome the Hansard Association of Kenya and wish them a fruitful and productive week-long engagement. I request the delegation to rise as I mention their names and be acknowledged in the County Assembly tradition: *(The Speaker reads names of delegates as Members acknowledge by Applauding each delegate)*

1. Loise Keter – Vice President.
2. Resiana Ndilai – Organizing Secretary.
3. Vincent Nyamache – Secretary, Homa Bay.
4. Mary Mwathi – National Assembly.
5. Catherene Gatura – Senate.
6. Erick Kipkoech – Senate.
7. Florence Muthoni – National Assembly.
8. Joyce Kakia – National Assembly.
9. Fredrick Wairimu – Senate.
10. Silas Opanga – National Assembly.
11. Daniel Nyakundi – National Assembly.
12. Fatuma Mohammed – Lamu County.
13. Mwamdeo Mwang'ombe – National Assembly.
14. Alfred Malu – Kitui County.

15. Anastacia Mbeba – Senate.

So, as i said, on behalf of the County Assembly of Samburu, we warmly welcome you and wish you a fruitful and productive week-long engagement, thank you. May I give the Majority Leader a minute to welcome the visitors.

The Majority Leader, (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Samburu Government, County Assembly Hon. Members, I take this opportunity to most sincerely welcome our visitors. This is the County Assembly of Samburu. Feel free, feel wanted, and feel at home. Most sincerely, you are all welcome, thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

MOTION

The Majority Leader, (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Mr. Speaker, I beg to move the following Motion, **THAT**, this County Assembly, Pursuant to Standing Order 21(2) and (3) of the County Assembly of Samburu Standing Orders and further to the Speaker's written Notice to the County Assembly Business Committee issued under Standing Order 21(1), do approve the discharge of Hon. Felix Lenamparasio from the Speaker's Panel and the replacement thereof with Hon. Kelvin Lemantaan as a Member of the Speaker's Panel, thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Be seconded.

The Majority Leader, (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Sorry Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg Hon. Lemoosa to second the Motion.

(Hon. Lemoosa bows in secondment)

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members, I now propose a Motion, **THAT**, this County Assembly, Pursuant to Standing Order 21(2) and (3) of the County Assembly of Samburu Standing Orders and further to the Speaker's written Notice to the County Assembly Business Committee issued under Standing Order 21(1), do approve the discharge of Hon. Felix Lenamparasio from the Speaker's Panel and the replacement thereof with Hon. Kelvin Lemantaan as a Member of the Speaker's Panel. Hon. Members, I now put the question that this County Assembly...

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, you just propose. We want to debate.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members...

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Mr. Speaker give us a chance to contribute on the same.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): I want to put the question, this County Assembly...

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Mr. Speaker, it was a proposal.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members can you keep quiet...

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Mr. Speaker it is not procedural.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Pursuant to Standing Order 21/1...

(Hon. Silapia and Hon. Lorunyei interrupt the Speaker stating it is not procedural and that this is a House of procedure.)

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Mr. Speaker with your leadership, give us time to contribute on the same. Please Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): I have said, the Speaker has decided to put the question.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Mr. Speaker...

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): This County Assembly...Hon. Lorunyei, I will throw you out. Just keep quiet. This County Assembly Pursuant to Standing Order 21(1)(2) and (3) of the County Assembly of Samburu Standing Orders and further to the Speaker's written Notice to the County Assembly Business Committee issued under Standing Order 21/1, do approve the discharge of Hon. Felix Lenamparasio from the Speaker's Panel and the replacement thereof with Hon. Kelvin Lemantaan as a Member of the Speaker's Panel.

(Motion, proposed, put and passed)

MOTION

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I beg to move the following Motion, **THAT**, this House adopts and approves the Report of the Committee on Budget and Appropriation on the consideration of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the Financial Year 2026/2027, which was laid on the table of this House on Wednesday, 25th, March 2026. Thank you Speaker Sir. Mr. Speaker Sir, I wish to highlight...

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Order Hon. Lemoosa. The Motion has to be seconded.

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): I call upon the Hon. Asha to second the Motion Sir.

(Hon. Asha bows in secondment)

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Members I now propose the Motion, **THAT**, this House debates and approves the Report of the Committee on Budget and Appropriation on the consideration of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the Financial Year 2026/2027, which was laid on the table of this Assembly on Wednesday, 25th, March 2026. Hon. Lemoosa.

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. I wish to enlighten the important items for consideration on the matter of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper.

EXECUTICE SUMMARY

The County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2026 is a statutory and fundamental policy document that sets out Samburu County Financial Framework, strategic priorities and resource allocation, ceilings for the Financial Year 2026/2027 and the medium term, prepared in accordance with Section 117 of the Public Finance Management Act, PFM, Act 2012. The Fiscal Strategy paper serves as the primary instrument guiding the preparation of the annual County Budget. It translates the...

(Point of Order by Hon. Jane)

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Nakinyi Jane): Mr. Speaker we cannot concentrate please. There is a lot of movement.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Hon. Nakinyi take your seat...

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Point of Order Mr. Speaker, let the Hon. Member...

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Take your seat. Just take your seat first. Hon. Nakinyi what is your Point of Order.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Nakinyi Jane): I said that there is a lot of movement and noise, we cannot concentrate on the Motion.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyo Silapia): Mr. Speaker, Hon. Nakinyi cannot address you when she is sitting down. At the same time, let the Hon. Member say the Order number that she is raising on.

MCA, Wamba North Ward, (Hon. Lentukunye Christopher): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am not seeing any commotion in this House unless the Hon. Member can substantiate or tell this House who is moving and who is making noise. We are only consulting with Hon. Loloju unless the Member has a motive to disrupt the proceeding of the House, thank you.

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

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, sir, for giving me the chance. I think we need some protection when we are actually highlighting the paper. I think Members have to engage and listen such that maybe the inputs can be of vital input to the document that we are trying to examine, thank you Speaker. It can translate to the Integral Development Plan CIDP 2023/2027 and the Annual Development Plan ADP 2026/2027 into a concrete financial framework to establish the overall resource envelope, setting sector ceilings and defining priority expenditure areas. The 2026 Fiscal

Financial Strategy Paper is the fourth to be prepared under the third CIDP 2023/2027 and was submitted to the County Assembly on 27th February 2026 by the CECM for County Treasury in compliance with the statutory deadline.

Pursuant to Standing Order number 2273 of the Samburu County Assembly Standing Orders, the document was upon tabling, deemed committed to each sector, sectorial committee without question put. The Budget and Appropriation Committee thereafter conducted Public Participation forums and received this Sectorial Committee inputs and reviewed a detailed technical analysis from the County Assembly Budget Office resource envelope. The total projection resource envelope for Financial Year 2026/2027 is Ksh.8.2 billion, an increase from the Ksh.8.1 in Financial Year 2025/2026. This comprises one, equitable share from the National Treasury of Ksh.6.4 billion, conditional and un conditional grants from the development partners and National Government, Ksh.1.1 billion. That forms at least 17.5% own source revenue, Ksh.370 million a 4.5%.

KEY FISCAL INDICATORS

Development expenditure at 32% of the total budget meets the minimum 30% threshold under section 107(2) and (b) of the PFM Act 2012. The County implements a balanced Budget with no projection borrowing for Financial Year 2026/2027. However, the wage bill stands at approximately 41% of total revenue. Significantly exceeding the 35% ceiling prescribed by the regulation 25(1)(b) of the Financial PFM County Government Regulation 2015. This is the most critical physical risk facing Samburu County and demands urgent corrective action. The County Budget office further notes that own source revenue stands at 4.5% of total revenue as far below the County estimated potential of over 700 million as assessed by the World Bank.

Key concern raised, the Committee and the COB have identified the following as priorities concern requiring immediate policy action;

1. The wage Bill consistently exceeds the legal threshold constraining development spending and physical flexibility.

2. Own source revenue remains structurally narrow of concentrated in Tourism related income at 62% of own source revenue and significantly below the County Fiscal potential.
3. Heavy dependence on equitable share transfers at 78 expose the County's Budget to external shocks including delays in National disbursements.
4. Accumulation of Pending Bills totaling over 577 million across Financial Year 2025/2026 and Financial Year 2026/2027 poses a risk to Financial credibility and supplier confidence. Development Budget absorbs rates remains sub optimal due to the late initiation of procurement process.

SUMMARY

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee makes 15 substantive recommendation key among which are;

1. Urgent rationalization of the wage bill to bring it down within the 35% PFM threshold.
2. Implementation of a structured Pending Bills payment plan and strict commitment controls going forward.
3. Revenue mobilization reform including digitalization-based expansion and enhanced enforcement working towards 700 million of own source revenue potential.
4. Early initiation of procurement for development project to improve absorption rates.
5. Prioritization of Public Participation priorities, Healthcare, Education, Water and Infrastructures in the Financial Year 2026/2027 Budget Estimate.
6. the proposed sectoral ceilings in this report shall upon absorption serve as binding ceilings for preparation of Financial year 2026/2027 Budget Estimate.

Mr. Speaker, Members have a whole report and page number five talks about the mandate of the Committee which I believe Members understand the mandate of any Committee as actually stipulated or actually enshrined in our Standing Orders.

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

Mr. Speaker, the Committee is made up of nine Members;

1. Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan – Chairperson.
2. Hon. Koileken James Leleruk – Vice Chairperson.
3. Hon. Lekuchula David – Member.
4. Hon. Lenyakopiro Charity – Member.
5. Hon. Leitoro Jeremiah – Member.
6. Hon. Lenanguram James – Member.
7. Hon. Loloju Joseph – Member.
8. Hon. Nareyo Stacy – Member.
9. Hon. Kagiri Stephen – Member.

The Committee held a quorum at all sittings as required under Standing Order number 207/5 of the Samburu County Assembly Standing Orders; which stipulates that five Members shall constitute a quorum for meetings of the Budget and Appropriation Committee. On page 9, I wish to draw attention of the Members to number nine, examination of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper by the Committee, we have examined and one, two, three, four, five, six, seven were actually items that were discussed and of importance. The Committee to examine process involved in the following steps, received a review of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper documents submitted by the CECM for County Treasury on 27th February, 2026. Review of Sectorial Committee submission, pursuant to Standing Order number 227, though actually none was forwarded. Public Participation forums conducted across all three Sub-Counties, Samburu East, Samburu North and Samburu West.

A technical review and incorporation of the County Budget Office, Positional Paper on the County Fiscal Strategy Paper 2026, which provides independent Fiscal Analysts, Committee deliberations and adaption of the report at duly constituted sittings of the Committee. We wish actually to acknowledge the office of the Speaker and the Clerk for immense support in preparing the document and Public Participation. Mr. Speaker, one zero, in page 12, actually overview of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper as stipulated in page 12, 13. Criteria for resource allocation, this is also in page 13 as guided by the Committee. Adherence to the legal framework, one three Speaker on page 14, for Members to have a glance at it. Review of the County Fiscal

Strategy Paper 2026, page 14 and 15. Revenue projection, I wish actually to draw attention of the Members to page 15, revenue projection, ;the total projection revenue for year 2026/2027 is Ksh.8,217,373,432.

The two main revenue streams are the equitable share, which stands at Ksh.6.4 billion, a total of 78%. Grants and transfers, which stands at Ksh.1.4 billion 17.5% and own source revenue at Ksh.370 million at 4.5%, revenue from local sources is expected to finance a 4.5% of the County Government expenditure, while their balance will be financed by transfers from the National Government and development partners. The uncertainty in the disbursement of the both conditional and un conditional grant The County Government, together with the National Treasury and development partners, continues to face challenges in county revenue receipts.

1.6 Expenditure Projection

Hon. Speaker, Sir, the County Government is implementing a balanced budget where total revenue equals total expenditure for the Financial Year 2026/2027.

The total expenditure is projected at Kenya Shillings 8.2 billion, comprising:

- Recurrent expenditure of KSh 5.5 billion, representing 68 %; and
- Development expenditure of KSh 2.6 billion, representing 32 %

The 32 % development allocation meets the minimum requirement of 30% under Section 107(1)(b) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012.

1.7 Deficit Financing

Hon. Speaker, Sir, the County is implementing a balanced budget with a projected budget deficit of nil, although Sections 140–142 of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 allow borrowing for development projects.

The County Government does not envisage borrowing during the Financial Year 2026/2027. All projected expenditures are expected to be funded through own-source revenue, national transfers, and grants from development partners.

Members may refer to Page 17 on the macro-fiscal context and economic outlook. Members can also review Page 18 on risks to the economic outlook.

Revenue Analysis

Hon. Speaker, Sir, this section presents the Committee's detailed analysis of the revenue framework, incorporating the technical findings of the County Budget Office (CBO) positional paper on the County Fiscal Strategy Paper (CFSP), 2026.

The total projected revenue for Financial Year 2026/2027 stands at KSh 8.2 billion.

The composition of revenue is as follows:

- Equitable share increased from approximately KSh 6 billion to KSh 6.4 billion, representing 78%
- Own-source revenue increased from KSh 302 million to KSh 307 million.
- Conditional grants and development partner funding increased from KSh 756 million to KSh 816 million.
- Unconditional grants from the National Government reduced from KSh 983 million to KSh 620 million.

Own-Source Revenue Performance and Assessment

The Committee draws Members' attention to Table 2 on Page 22 regarding own-source revenue performance.

The projected revenue sources include:

- Game parks and national reserves: projected growth from KSh 185 million to KSh 231 million, representing 24.95 growth.
- Hospital charges and medical fees: projected increase from KSh 24 million to KSh 26 million.
- Environmental and conservancy fees: projected increase from KSh 15.6 million to KSh 20.9 million.

- Land rates: projected growth of 58.5%
- Market fees: projected increase from KSh 11 million to KSh 12.5 million.
- Parking fees: projected increase from KSh 8.5 million to KSh 9 million.
- Agricultural produce cess: projected growth of 15.4%
- Licensing fees: projected increase from KSh 4.3 million to KSh 4.8 million.
- Advertisement fees: projected increase from KSh 3.8 million to KSh 4.2 million.
- Building plan approval fees: projected increase from KSh 2.8 million to KSh 3.2 million.
- Hawking and trading licenses: projected growth of 11.1%

Hon. Speaker, Sir, I wish to draw Members' attention to the Committee recommendations beginning on Page 44.

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Having thoroughly examined the Samburu County Fiscal Strategy Paper, 2026, reviewed the County Budget Office positional paper, and considered public participation inputs from all three sub-counties, the Budget and Appropriations Committee makes the following observations and recommendations:

1. Wage Bill Overrun

The Committee observed that the county wage bill stands at approximately 41 per cent of total revenue, significantly exceeding the 35 per cent ceiling under Regulation 25(1)(b) of the PFM County Government Regulations, 2015.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should implement an urgent and time-bound wage bill rationalization programme comprising:

1. A comprehensive payroll audit to identify irregular entries, duplicate payments, and ghost workers;
2. A freeze on non-essential recruitment pending completion of the audit;
3. Full automation of the payroll process through an integrated HRMIS;

4. A structured staff rationalization policy with annual reduction targets; and
5. Submission of a progress report to the Assembly within 90 days of adoption of this report.

2. Pending Bills Accumulation

The Committee noted continued accumulation of pending bills.

The County allocated KSh 390 million for payment of pending bills in FY 2025/2026, with an additional balance of KSh 187.3 million projected for FY 2026/2027, bringing the total provision to over KSh 577 million.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should:

1. Submit a verified schedule of all pending bills as at 30th June, 2025;
2. Establish a structured payment plan;
3. Implement strict commitment controls; and
4. Ensure procurement processes begin early enough to facilitate timely payments.

3. Own-Source Revenue Performance

The Committee observed that own-source revenue at KSh 370 million, representing 4.3% of total revenue, remains significantly below the County's estimated fiscal potential of over KSh 700 million.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should:

1. Develop a comprehensive own-source revenue improvement strategy;
2. Fully implement cashless payment systems;
3. Conduct regular supervisory audits of revenue collection points; and
4. Review and update revenue rates under the Finance Act.

4. Revenue Structure and Fiscal Autonomy

The Committee observed that 95.5% of County revenue comes from external sources.

Recommendation

The County Assembly and County Treasury should jointly develop a medium-term fiscal autonomy strategy aimed at reducing dependency on equitable share transfers from 78% to below 70% during the CIDP 2023–2027 period.

5. Conditional Grants Oversight

The Committee noted that conditional grants from development partners amounting to KSh 1.4 billion are subject to strict accountability requirements.

Recommendation

The County Assembly should strengthen monitoring by:

1. Requiring quarterly progress reports;
2. Conducting at least two oversight visits annually; and
3. Holding the County Treasury accountable for compliance with grant conditions.

6. Development Budget Absorption

The Committee observed historically low absorption rates for development budgets due to delayed procurement and weak project preparation.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should:

1. Initiate procurement for development projects by the end of August 2026;
2. Ensure projects are supported by feasibility studies and bills of quantities; and
3. Establish a monthly procurement tracking dashboard.

7. Public Participation Priorities

Public participation forums identified healthcare, education, water, and infrastructure as the top priorities for FY 2026/2027.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should ensure that budget estimates prioritize these sectors in accordance with Section 125(2) of the PFM Act, 2012.

8. Fiscal Responsibility Compliance

The Committee observed continued non-compliance with wage bill thresholds under Section 107(2)(c) of the PFM Act, 2012.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should table a detailed fiscal responsibility compliance statement alongside the FY 2026/2027 Budget Estimates.

9. Budget Amendment Compliance

The Committee noted that Regulation 37(1) of the PFM Regulations, 2015 limits amendment of expenditure votes to one per cent.

Recommendation

Any amendments beyond the one per cent threshold must be processed through a supplementary budget.

10. Annual Development Plan Alignment

The Committee emphasized the need for consistency between the CFSP and the Annual Development Plan (ADP).

Recommendation

All projects in the strategy paper should be captured in the ADP 2026/2027 to ensure alignment and prevent unauthorized expenditure.

11. Performance-Based Budgeting

The Committee observed weak linkage between budget allocations and measurable outcomes.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should adopt a performance-based budgeting approach with:

- Clear output and outcome indicators;
- Baseline data;
- Annual targets; and
- Responsible officers.

12. Revenue-Generating Sectors

The Committee noted underinvestment in sectors capable of generating economic growth and revenue.

Recommendation

The County Treasury should progressively increase allocations to agriculture, trade, tourism, and infrastructure sectors.

13. Budget Calendar Compliance

The Committee stressed adherence to statutory budget timelines

Recommendation

The County Treasury should submit all budget documents within timelines prescribed under the PFM Act, 2012 and Samburu County Standing Orders.

14. County Assembly Budget Ceiling

The Committee observed with concern that the County Treasury unilaterally reduced the County Assembly budget ceiling from KSh 630,099,370 in FY 2025/2026 to KSh 586,216,000 in FY 2026/2027, representing a reduction of KSh 44,883,230 without concurrence of the County Assembly. The Committee stated that this action is unconstitutional and unlawful.

The County Assembly recurrent expenditure ceiling is governed by Regulation 25(1)(c) of the Public Finance Management (County Governments) Regulations, 2015, which provides that approved County Assembly expenditure shall not exceed 7% of the County Government's total revenues or twice the County Assembly personnel emoluments.

Chairperson Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan):...is lower. Critically, the applicable ceiling is recommended annually by the Commission of Revenue Allocation. Part 1 to it is Constitutional mandate under Article 216 (2) of the Constitution and Section 107 (2) (A) of the Public Finance Management Act, 2012 and it is therefore adopted by the Senate through the County Allocation of Revenue Act (CARA).

These are binding external determinations. The County Treasury has no legal authority to set the County Assembly ceiling below the figure prescribed through this process. Therefore, the County Assembly is an independent Constitutional institution established under Article 176 (1) of the Constitution of Kenya following the County Executive arm to determine and reduce the budget of the institution mandated to oversee it is direct violation of the doctrine and separation of powers and undermines the Assembly's oversight mandate under Article 185 and 196 of the Constitution of Kenya. If this is unchallenged, this sets a dangerous precedent for future Financial Year.

Recommendation; That the County Assembly resolves as follows:

- (A) The proposed reduction is hereby rejected and the County Assembly ceiling for Financial Year 2026/ 2027 shall be restored to the figure prescribed by the CRA and adopted through the CARA process.
- (B) The County Treasury shall in all future County Fiscal Strategy Paper determine the County Assembly ceiling strictly in accordance with Regulation 25 (1) (c) and the Public Finance Management Act, County Government Regulation, 2015. The CRA recommends under CARA without unilateral revision.
- (C) The Clerk of the County Assembly shall within 14 days of the adoption of this report formally write to the County Treasury and the CRA placing on records the Assembly's objection and demand restoration of the correct ceiling and D,
- (D) The Assembly shall decline to approve the Financial Year 2026/2027 budget estimate if the correct ceiling as prescribed is not reflected therein.

The Committee absorbs that; upon adoption of the report by the County Assembly the sectorial ceilings contained herein become the binding physical network framework for the preparation of the Financial Year 2026/2027 budget estimate recommendation that the proposed sectorial ceilings are set out in table five of the report shall upon adoption of this report by resolution of the Assembly serves as the binding expenditure ceiling for the preparation of the Financial Year 2026/2027 budget estimate.

Any deviation from this ceiling must be justified and approved through the process provided under regulation section 37 (1) of the Public Finance Management Act Regulation, 2015, Legal Basis Section 117 (6) and (7), Public Finance Management Act, 2012, Standing Order 227 Samburu County Standing Order. Thank you the Hon Mr. Speaker Sir.

MCA Wamba North Ward, (Hon. Lentukunye Christopher): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to appreciate Honourable Chair for bringing this document before this House for deliberation. However, Mr. Speaker I am seeing some anomalies in this document

and, Mr. Speaker bearing in mind that this document called County Fiscal Strategy Paper is the guiding document towards resource allocation.

And, Mr. Speaker, should this House approve this, as this House is the way it is, even forget about the recommendations that they purport they are bringing to this House. Mr. Speaker, we are not sure whether the Executive will honour even the recommendations. And, Mr. Speaker without taking these precautions if we pass this document it will be final Mr. Speaker because going against a document or the law that we have passed here called a County Fiscal Strategy Paper it is going to be illegal again to go against it.

So, Mr. Speaker I just want to request you for your *Solomonic* wisdom that we defer putting the question on this document so that we engage even the Executive so that this document can be passed when all these problems are solved Mr. Speaker.

So, Mr. Speaker there are a lot of things that we need to raise which raises our eyebrows, Mr. Speaker, you know; there are Departments which are of more service to the people than others although all services are important but the way I am seeing if you compare the Department of Lands and Department of Roads Mr. Speaker, I personally feel that our priorities are turning upside down.

So, Mr. Speaker I do not see a reason why this House should rush and pass this this report and go by recommendation that we recommend that the Executive should do this. Instead, Mr. Speaker and that is my humble request that we defer this report so that we can deliberate and bring it and we pass it because I think when we pass it there is no any other law that supersedes this. This one supersedes any other recommendation that we are going to bring. So, Mr. Speaker that is my personal observation and that is my request Mr. Speaker I request this House, the Chair and also the Hon Speaker thank you Mr. Speaker.

MCA Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Thank you so much Hon. Speaker as just said by Hon. Lentukunye, let me congratulate the Committee for bringing this report here. But, Hon. Speaker in fact I am so shocked, I just want to say here that I stand here to oppose this report in totality because of the following four points and all of these points are in this report so I

will be saying my point and noting the page so that every member because all of them have this report can just go to that report.

Hon. Speaker, the first issue I have with this report is that; this report is for the CFSP. Hon. Speaker as per The Public Finance Management Act section 117. I do not know if somebody has The PFM Act section 117, let me just read that one; *The County Treasury shall prepare and submit to the County Executive the County treasury treasury shall prepare and submit to Committee the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for approval and the County Treasury shall submit the approved County Fiscal Strategy Paper to the County Assembly by the 28th of February of each year.*

So, let me start there; this service CFSP is supposed to be in this Assembly by the 28th of February, it was here by the 28th of February. So, let me go to section 117 (6) so if anybody has this PFM just read section 117 (6); *not later than 14 days after submitting the County Fiscal Strategy Paper to the County Assembly, the County Assembly shall consider and may adopt it with or without amendments.*

So, I just want the Chairperson on Budget and Appropriation maybe when he will rise to let me know what is the date today because we are supposed to have approved this paper by 14th of March that is according to PFM Act and not according to me. So, Hon. Speaker I do not know even what we are doing right now today's on 24th, as you know; the PFM Act supersedes any other ACT especially on issues to do with money. So, what are we doing today on 24th March debating about CFSP fast thing.

Second thing Hon. Speaker, this Committee comprises of nine Hon. Members from this House nine of them I do not want to talk about the secretariat and, these members if you look at page 49 they have highlighted that “the County Assembly budget, unlawful reduction of the by the County Treasury so, these nine members knew that our budget was reduced by KShs. 44,883,230 the last year that we had KShs. 630,000,000 we were even unable to perform our Committee work but this time round the County Executive Committee Member for Finance, Economic Planning and ICT has reduced our budget to KShs. 558,000,000 and these Hon. Members just brought us this report to adopt with a reduction of the County Assembly budget by KShs. 44,000,000.

We are not a Department of the Executive, so, nine members all of them who are Hon. Members bringing this report that we adopt it so that our budget to be reduced by KShs. 44,000,000, God forbids.

The funniest thing just look at page... no that was page 49. So, for the recommendation of that reduction of our budget I just want to read this recommendation do not seat in that Committee just go to page 50 recommendation number 14 so there is that reduction, I do not want to dwell on that one. "The assembly shall decline to approve the Financial Year 2026/2027 budget estimate if the correct ceiling as prescribed is not reflected herein"

So, after we have approved this but this report today which other law, where will we get powers again to go against what we have approved as this Assembly? So, you are telling us to approve this report and then again we wait for estimates to come on June then we disapprove how?

Hon. Speaker, I think the Chair is noting my concerns. The other concern the Department of Finance, I just want to the Chair and the Committee to just tell us here; what is this that is so urgent or so quick that for this current year and the coming year the Department of Finance, Economic Planning and ICT is now having a lot of things to do that their budget raised from KShs. 830,000,000 to KShs. 1.47 billion; all this money re-current these are money that will be withdrawn by cash while you have Departments like Education and Vocational Training which have little budgets.

I have seen Department of water here in my Ward 11 boreholes are not are not functioning you see the budget for water is three times less the budget of Department of Finance. So, what is this in the Department of Finance that is so urgent in this County that we raise their budget from 830,000,000 to KShs. 1.47 billion that is almost 470 million just like that. Remember, in the current Financial Year they had raised their ceiling to 1.01 without even following the law because the CFSP for Financial Year 2025/2026 was KShs. 830,000,000 but the budget that they are operating with right now is 1.1 billion that is my other issue.

The last one Hon. Speaker, by the way this Committee should just tell us where they did this report just go to page 35 let us all just go to page 35.

(Perusing the Report)

Hon. Speaker just go to page 35 if you have this report. The third paragraph from 6.1 public participation and stakeholder engagement; “in compliance with these provisions the budget and appropriation committee conducted extensive public consultation across the three sub- Counties Samburu East, Samburu North and, Samburu West from 19th to 20th February”. Before even this this paper was submitted to this House the Committee was conducting a public participation, for what? because public participation is supposed to be conducted after 28th of February because that is when the submission was done to this House by the Executive; but to them, they did their public participation from 19th to 20th February

In my phone here I have the Samburu County Assembly’s Facebook account here and the public participation was conducted on 22nd of March in Lkiloriti and Wamba; so, is this not contradicting so our official page here is saying that our public participation was conducted on 22nd of March that; was Monday of this week in a place called Lkiloriti and Wamba but from our report we conducted it on 19th to 20th February.

Hon. Speaker, those are the reasons as to why I do not support this in totality, what this Committee could have done is that they could have invited the CECM for Finance to appear before them, they do ammendments, we could have even been adopting this report with ammendments but if we adopt, how again will we make sure that our County Assembly ceiling has been brought to where it is.

I am so shocked because on 18th to 21st we were all in Nairobi for the County Assemblies Forum meeting and the president even was saying that with the they are considering that by June to consider maybe have get giving us some small increment of salary so where will the salary come from if the Committee is agreeing that we should reduce our Budget and the president was saying that the members should get something small to have their salary increased but the Committee is saying that this budget is too much let us cut it by KShs. 44,000,000, thank you so much Mr. Speaker. I oppose this report with my everything with sweat and blood.

(Laughter)

The Majority Leader, (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir. Mr. Speaker sir, I rise to oppose what the Hon. Member on the floor; Hon. Lenamparasio was talking about. I wonder if

I was reading the paper then he must be reading in between the lines not the paper itself. why do I say so? Mr. Speaker Sir, this particular paper originated from the Executive. What was the recommendation of the Committee, did we recommend anything? Yes, and the recommendations are there and we reject them in totality that is why we wrote recommendation go back to the dictionary again and re-read the meaning of recommendation and that is exactly what we give you as the Committee. Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir.

Chairperson Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you The Speaker. Speaker actually we all stand guided and of course get it by the law.

First and foremost, I wish to acknowledge maybe Hon. Lenamparasio's input of February dates that could be an error of printing but not the Committee, that can be of course corrected because he is right; when we posted the activities in our website that is our correct position so maybe the secretariat can do a quick thereof thereafter that change because that is a fact we conducted the public participation in Lkiloriti that is comprising of Samburu North, Baawa, Lodokejek and the same time Wamba that is correct of course and thank you for that. The secretariat will take note.

Number one; the Hon. Speaker it is really a fact that of course in accordance to PFM this paper should be tabled on before the end of the month that is around 27th which was done by the Executive and it also say it goes on and say that the House you act on it within 14 days. what happens Speaker when actually the House does not act on this particular paper on stipulated time what really happens? What does the law say? it naturalizes. It goes without saying if actually we do not adopt this recommendation to stop this particular ACT from the Executive, then we will have meant as if we have agreed with the recommendations from...

(Interjection on a point of order by Hon. Lenamparasio)

MCA Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Thank you Hon. Speaker, when I was reading this PFM Act on those regulations I was just very specific that section 117 (1) and (6) so kindly Hon. Chair, just also as well be specific just let me know which is that section that says that after 14 days if you have not to considered this paper it naturalizes. so kindly just let me know so that I can just read for myself.

Chairperson Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Thank you. You can go through the Public Finance Act because it tells exactly what happens when...it is just the same as a Budget that of course when a Budget is not passed within the same given time it takes its course and, the Hon. Member, it is not the making the Hon House, I am not addressing a person. But I have even said we stand guided, but the fact here is that if it was not the making of the Committee to sit on the report until this time it is about the finances and funding of the Committee to undertake its role.

I think you know that because had we been of course financed or facilitated at the right time, we were ready to do it but there were no finances just like what you have heard that of course some things are untimely because we are waiting for the exchequer that is exactly why we want to we went for public participation we went to public participation because that was the facilitation was have failed last week like any other Committee. Thank you.

And, Speaker, there are so many other things that the Hon. Member has raised; like number recommendation number 14; it does not mean that we have agreed it is an illegality because we have even noted that that of course it is an illegality if you read very well our recommendation we said that; the Executive does not have a mandate to reduce the ceiling, it is it is supposed to be the CARA circular that will determine.

So, we cannot just say that the Executive has reduced our ceiling by this, although we have indicated the figures but it does not mean they were per se correct and that is why we said we had a ride on it by recommending that we cannot abide by this because it is not within the mandate of the Executive. So, I think this is very important to note that of course if we let this this paper to go the way the Executive wants to have, then it means we have not challenged like any other Department we are saying that Departments like Health like, Agriculture, like Education they are under or maybe the ceilings was lowered but actually we give every Department a notice to bring their recommendations if they are comfortable but none of course none at all Hon. Speaker none brought it despite the fact that the Committee has given every sector or Department that of course we are working on this.

Hon. Speaker, the other thing is the issue of the Budget, The Treasury having a huge maybe increment in their Budget. Finance is comprised of a few Departments, it does not only stand as

Finance, there is Revenue, there is ICT and the rest but nevertheless Speaker, our Budget will inform the breakdown the Budget will of course this is an outline but the Budget will give us the breakdown of how these monies or these ceilings and what is what are the intentions if actually they do not meet the high and even not convince the House; the House will be at liberty or mandated to do the necessary amendments.

I have not noted any other matter but what is very important Hon. Speaker to us as a Committee that of course if this Fiscal Strategy Paper is not challenged then it means the Executive will actually be like given a clean slate or paper to work as they wish so that is why we had recommendations 1 to 15 such that maybe; after the Senate...Speaker, we have invited the *waziri*, we have an evidence but of course there are some priorities like the Senate of course, they will be at the Senate tomorrow but coming back we will still invite to discuss this matter, so thank you

MCA, Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence): Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Honourable Speaker, I also take this chance to congratulate the committee and the chair for the report. We know the document originated from the executive, but going by the excuses given by the chair, it should not make us to make illegalities more.

We should wait and do our things correctly. Honourable Speaker, as other members have proposed, instead of us shooting this document, it's a very critical document. Let us find a good way, and then we come together all as a county and pass a reliable policy.

Honourable Speaker, I think this is a very voluminous document. We were given five minutes before you enter. That's why we are rushing going through.

So still, a lot of members have not realized a lot of issues within it. Secondly, Honourable Speaker, as per the public finance management regulation 2015, and allow me to read section 29 1A: updated Forecast Express in Kenya Shillings, and has percentage of gross domestic product for the current budget year and three further years. In our report, really, we don't have a

comparison of the previous years in our report, which is within a requirement within the regulation.

Our document doesn't give us three years as required. We are just highlighting Kenya Shillings what we have allocated and other percentage. Honourable Speaker, secondly, is on the issue of conditional grants, being the chair of water and natural resource.

I think Floca was scrubbed. I don't know why they were still capturing Floca and our county was already blacklisted for the last year. We have not received anything.

What are we projecting to receive? The department should be clear on the standing of that conditional grant. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

And I wish also to tell our good chair, may I come back to your recommendation 15? It is extremely very clear. Let us not contradict ourselves as a committee or as a house, because recommendation 15 is extremely very clear that the proposed sectorial ceilings has set out in the table five of this report, shall upon adoption of this report by resolution of the county assembly serve as the binding expenditure ceiling for the preparation of the financial year 2026, 2027.

That's very clear within your recommendation. And if we put again, will not pass 2026, 2027 budget, we are contradicting the 15 recommendation. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

The Speaker, (Mr. Lenamarle Stephen): Honourable Chair, the issue of the ceiling.

MCA, Nyiro Ward, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Yeah, the issue of the ceiling, yes. The issue of the ceiling actually, it does not contradict the Honourable Speaker, because

1) We have already accepted from our recommendation. We have accepted the assembly.

It is very clear that of course the assembly, and I think it is very important, the Honourable Speaker to understand the fact that the treasury has no mandate to place ceiling to the assembly. It is actually supposed to be the CRA and the CARA or by a circular.

So until when the circular is actually submitted to the treasury is now, that is what binds the, unlike any other sectorial committee or department, the assembly is exempted completely by law that of course treasury cannot impose a ceiling. And that is exactly what we have said, that of

course assembly by the circular of the CARA passed by the Senate, it becomes law. So we are still, all of us waiting.

So maybe even to my own knowledge and anticipation, maybe the executive who are just like trying to imagine what to do, but we have just said clearly, because we have given the sectors the information that of course they bring forth whatever they feel uncomfortable to, and none was received by the period we were acting on the report. Then it means they are okay. But with the assembly, it's very clear. We are exempted and we are awaiting the CARA resolution of Senate too, to give us the correct ceiling. Thank you, speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia): Thank you, honourable speaker.

Honourable speaker, I also take this time to appreciate the honourable member who's the chair of committee on budget and appropriation for bringing up this report. But honourable speaker, I have concerns on the same.

The honourable speaker, before I raise those issues concerning this document, I just want to put something clear. That our fiscal strategy paper, it is a document that set out our ceilings, our policy priorities, and also on the issue of guidelines. And honourable speaker, if you are guided by this fiscal strategy paper, then I do oppose on that recommendation of the reduction of the ceiling for the assembly.

And honourable speaker, in the first thing honourable speaker, I think this assembly is facing challenges on finances. And coming here as honourable members, accepting to reduce the ceiling of the assembly, then we are not even caring ourself. And that's our main concern, honourable speaker.

I think the assembly is the first priority. If there is no assembly, no budget, no fiscal strategy paper, no everything, I think this County is surviving in our hands. And if our ceiling is being reduced without the instructions from the CARA or the SRC, then why the executive is supervising the assembly by giving them the little money or setting for them the ceiling.

And honourable speaker, I just want to read that page 51. I know the honourable members have brought up, has come up with a very good recommendation. But also, this recommendation is denying us to get this portion of money that has been reduced.

Because that's the last recommendation, honourable speaker, that the proposed sectoral ceiling are set out in the table number five of this report, shall upon adoption of this report by resolution of the county assembly, serves as the binding expenditure ceiling for the preparation of FYF 2026-2027 budget estimate. Any diversion from this ceiling must be justified and approved through the process provided by the under regulation 37(1) of the PFM regulation 2015.

Honourable speaker, PFM Act is a super legal framework that oversee the fiscal strategy paper, the budget estimate, even the CIDP, all those and honourable speaker, if this document align with our CIDP, there's no any way in our CIDP that shows the reduction of the county assembly budget ceilings.

So honourable speaker, in totality, I oppose this recommendation. Because, honourable speaker, if now we are going to approve this document here, then next, we will just blame ourselves, honourable speaker, because it is us who can call the CEC and we agree, but we never call the CEC, then we are preparing to call the CEC when we are approving the document, honourable speaker. I think that's not in order.

And I'm not in a place; I'm just here to raise my issue because it's a very serious matter. We can't just, hatuwezi jifunga, and then after that, tunasema nani ametufunga. So that's my big concern.

Secondly, honourable speaker, when you look at the fiscal strategy paper, is a performance based guide. It's a guide on how to set ceilings for the department. When we see the absorption rate of the department, if it is high, then that absorption rate gives the department their ceilings to be increased.

But what we are seeing, we are just seeing, let's just the executive prepare the ceilings the way they want, and then we approve the way they want. And honourable members, you really understand the challenges that our people are facing in the ground. When you look at the Department of Water, it is less budgeted. And those are the main priorities. And this ceiling, the first thing that the fiscal strategy paper told is the priorities, policies that are priorities. Those are water, health.

Yesterday, we have lost people because of shortage of machinery and even the machineries that are broken down. And we are not looking on that. Honourable members, let us look the priorities of our county, then we set ceiling from there. I think that's how this document is guiding us on

how to make a budget. But if today we are going to approve this document, tomorrow, don't tell us the assembly has no money. Speaker, if we are going to approve this one, or to rule this one to be approved today, honourable speaker, then don't tell me I have no money to facilitate me or to do my claim.

Because to show that the 585 million is enough for the assembly or enough for the staffs that are here. So honourable speaker, there is no way, and I stand here and record me, there is no way that we allow the executive to set again ceiling for us. Let the CARA do anything for us, but the executives, they are under us.

And we are not going to accept it at all. So that's my plea, honourable speaker. And I just want to tell the chair and the committee and the rest of the house, let us look at the issue of the high wage bill. We are growing up with high wage bill percentage of 41% which is against to the threshold that are giving us by the PFM Act. I think that one, PFM Act oversee all the documents or the legal frameworks that we have. And if we are going to continue, just to accept, let us just accept the way it is.

Who are we going to wait to come and do some correction on the same or to look at all those issues? So I stand here, honourable speaker, please defer this document so that we can discuss on the same. Thank you.

MCA, Lodokejek Ward, (Hon. Lekuchula Linus): Thank you, honourable speaker. Honourable speaker, before I put my comments to the document, I want to tell my sister, honourable Silapia, she's saying that she wants to be recorded. You're already in the record because already you are in the record. So there's no need for you to tell people to record you. So thank you, honourable speaker, sir. Honourable speaker, I rise to join my able chairman, Honourable Lemoosa, for the good job he did.

And actually, but he's not the only one. The whole committee did a very good job. And I want to join my colleagues that here the reason why these documents come to the house, it is just because we want to debate, we want to deliberate and discuss so that we can get the best way for us all. It doesn't mean that the recommendations from the committee will be the final report. No, the reason why we bring the documents here so that we can discuss, we deliberate, and then we see which the best way is for us. And honourable speaker, concerning the reduction of County

Assembly Budget, and I want to tell my brother, honourable Lenamparasio, that I also sit as a vice chair of the County Assembly Service Board.

I don't think I can just sit and I know we already have challenges, crisis, in the County Assembly because of the funding. And I don't think I can just sit in the committee and accept the county executive to reduce the County Assembly Budget. It's not possible.

It's only that we said in our recommendation here, it's only the CARA that recommends the ceiling of the county assembly. The only thing that we are doing here is we want to challenge the recommendation from the executive so that we can have; we want to restore the actual ceiling of the county assembly. So honourable speaker, with your guidance, with your Solomon's guidance, the way my brother, my uncle said, it's upon you to see if it's possible for us to pass this document today, if it is possible for us to discuss and refer the document until the next week.

It's well and good. All is, we want something good for us, for all of us. Thank you, honourable speaker.

The Speaker,(Mr. Lenamarle Stephen) Honourable chair.

Chairperson,committee on budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Yes, the honourable speaker, sir. I think we have a lot of, I really don't know whether we really understand what we want to, what we are discussing or maybe guided by the laws or we just want to take our own issues. Because I think the honourable Lenamparasio, with all due respect, has the PFM.I just want to refer you to PFM and let's see what it says: With your permission, speaker, I read,

Section 117 of Kenya Public Finance Management Act 2012, number 18 of 2012, is the relevant provision. Section 117 of the PFM Act 2012 provides that the county treasury shall prepare and submit the county fiscal strategy paper, CFSP, to the county executive committee for approval. An approved and the approved fiscal strategy paper then is submitted to the assembly each year.

The County Assembly, the county assembly shall, and the word is not me, shall, the county assembly shall not later than 14 days of the fiscal, County fiscal strategy paper is submitted,

tabled, discussed, a report containing its recommendation and passed resolution to adapt it or without amendment, shall, 14 days.

And that is PFM, not my words. And that is why I'm saying, and that is exactly, speaker, why I'm saying, if members can understand, that's why I'm saying, can we have some rider on this lest it goes without any shake?

That is what very important, speaker is. If the house really understand what we are saying. We are trying to put a rider to stop the executive from implementing because the 14 days have elapsed.

If actually we care about what we want to say, let's do that. If we don't, then the fiscal strategy paper goes its way.

MCA, Loosuk Ward,(Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): You know, honourable speaker, I don't think there's anyone of us who is a lawyer here, so we may understand these things differently, but the chair has just read that section 176 that I have already read. So I don't know what he's saying that we should put a rider because I think the last thing is that it's shall. That's a must, that after 14 days, we should have approved this report, but with or without amendments.

So you could have amended this report and took our ceiling back to where it was. It could have been an amendment. We could have approved it right now. So honourable chair, I'm not understanding what you are saying about that section six. Kindly, make me understand.

MCA Nyiro Ward, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): Hold on. Let me clarify. The Hon. speaker. Just clarify, honourable speaker. Yes, the clarification here is to the executive have no mandate to place a ceiling on this house. It has a mandate to place ceiling on the secretarial committee.

What places the ceiling here is the CARA. Approved by the Senate. We have not such a document. So we are waiting for that document. And that's why we are saying they have, we are cushioning the executive that whatever the case, whether they will take it as 14 days are passed without amendment, but for us, we are cushioning the executive that, of course, they have no mandate. We are waiting documentation and circular.

That is all. Thank you.

MCA, Loosuk Ward, (Hon. Lenamparasio Phelix): Honourable speaker, with a lot of respect, give me, I will ask a question. Let me just ask him a question, please, for the understanding of the house. Just finish your question. Yes. Just finish your question.

Honourable chair, honourable chair, please. You know this budget, the total, if you go to page, I think 30. Let me just quickly, thank you so much, honourable chair.

If you go to page 30, you see, this is the total amount of all these ceilings for the whole departments, translate to the 6.7 billion. That's our exchequer, isn't it? So I just wanted our chair to make me understand if then again, now we pass this recommendation the way it is, that our ceiling is 585, when again, CARA says that our budget should go to 630, where will we get the difference after we have passed this report?

The Speaker,(Mr. Lenamarle Stephen):

Honourable chair, now, I think that is the last one. Okay. I think that's common sense.

The common sense here is. Just put on your mic.

MCA, Nyiro Ward, (Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan): I think the common sense here is, the honourable speaker, that of course, the CARA, which is mandated, the CRA, the CARA, and the Senate having approved the ceilings of all assemblies, not Samburu, whatever actually here will be adjusted. It will be adjusted following the circular. Not our recommendation.

(Point of order by Hon. Silapia)

Specially Elected MCA,(Hon. Lenamatiyio Silapia): Honorable speaker, you know, the honorable member for Nyiro Ward is totally contradicting us, you know? Honorable speaker let us look at page 50. The last number D. From the number C. The assembly shall decline the approved FYF 2026-2027 budget estimate if the correct ceiling as prescribed is not reflected therein. So honourable speaker, the honourable member has just turned and says that the executive has no mandate for the assembly ceiling. That's right. And if there is no mandate, why do we decline for the approval of the 2026-2027 budgets if not so? So honourable speaker, even this recommendation then is not right.

It is not supposed to be here. If it is only that we are depending on CARA. But because you are saying that it's also the executive is playing also something on our ceiling, then we could have withdrawn this one.

That the assembly shall decline the approval of the 2026-2027 budget estimates if the correct ceiling as prescribed is not reflected therein. Why is the executive again?

The Speaker,(Mr. Lenamarle Stephen):

Thank you. Honourable Lemoosa, I think this is the last one. And the members, the law says that no member shall contribute in a motion for more than one time unless you rise on a point of order or a point of information. Unless the chair.

MCA, Nyiro Ward,(Hon. Lemoosa Jonathan) Correct. Yes. Now I want to, speaker, sir, thank you so much. This is a very healthy, of course, debate in the house. And because we need to understand, let not just totally rely on maybe some ambiguity. On some people who wants to take away or run away with maybe some illegality. And exactly that's why we pointed out here, the honourable speaker, that of course, if the executive, because right today, if we had the CARA circular approved by the Senate, there would be no more debate.

And actually even that pulling out our recommendation will have no meaning. We would even have pulled it out because we are actually given a direction by a body that has the mandate. But because of, that the lack of the CARA circular, we had to put a rider and cushion. But of course, this is an illegal, and we have said it very well. If you go through the recommendation, that the executive have no mandate to place ceiling on the assembly. And we went on saying clearly who has the mandate.

So speaker sir, following our PFM 117, that of course this house has no mandate to debate after the 14 days, which has already elapsed. We are only trying to say, yes.

But we are trying to do some recommendation that will give us a room for the executive to humble themselves before the house.

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon Lemoosa Maura): When we say we will not pass the budget in the House, nobody will force us. But with the help of the

CARA, you know sometimes when we do not understand, we tend to play about saying these are games. Read deeply what the law says, not Lemoosa. These are not my words of course but we can interpret what the law says, what does our Standing Order say? They are guiding us on something and that is exactly why we are saying the Executive have no mandate.

Number two; we are waiting for the CARA secular, which will give ceiling to all 47 assemblies in Kenya. Then after that, the Assembly now using our either rapport or our mandate, they will have to listen to us but of course their mandate is not above us. So please the Honourable Member, if we keep on saying let us decline meaning we are giving a room to the Executive for the 14 days which have elapsed to actually implement until when the CARA secular will come.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon Lenamatiyo Silapia): Point of order Honourable Speaker, point of order.

The Speaker, (Mr Lenamarle Stephen): No the Member has already finished.

Member, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon. Leitoro): Thank you Honourable Speaker. I also stand to support the report of the Committee of Budget, I think the point of contention here is only one issue which is on the ceiling of the County Assembly. It seems like we are creating a storm out of a cup of tea now. We want to force some issues where even force is not recommended at all.

On matters of who determines the ceiling of the County Assembly, I think it is quite clear that the body that is mandated for actually determining the ceiling is CRA and CARA. I do not know why we are putting much emphasis and a lot of effort on the issue or the mistakes that were raised by the County Executive and the Committee have already gone a hand further to actually recommend strongly that the County Executive have no mandate at all. It is true, if we end up defying putting this question today and having in mind that the 14 days have elapsed means is we might end up having this Report the way it originated from the Executive, being obsolete.

Let us all agree that it is not the mandate of the County Executive to put the ceiling for the County Assemblies. It is the mandate of the CARA and CRA and as we speak and there is no way a Committee could have actually put the figure in this as suggested by the Hon.

Lenamparasio that the figure could have been there as an amendment. There is no way we can be able as a Committee...

(Hon. Silapia interjects)

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon Lenamatiyo Silapia): Point of order Honourable Speaker, point of order.

(The speaker instructs Hon. Leitoro to take his seat)

We have the CARA ceiling for the last Financial Year. Let that ceiling guide us. So we stand here going with that ceiling as we wait to 2026/2027 ceiling from the CARA. Thank you.

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation (Hon Lemoosa Maura): We agree sometimes we use our minds and all that but when it comes to law, we have to be very careful. Because when we say let's put the 2026, meaning we have agreed with that ceiling. You see? we are we are we are also Members of this House. We also suffer the same fate. But much as we know, we have to be very careful other than giving the Executive a leeway and that will become a problem later. This is better for us, thank you.

Member, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon Leitoro): Honourable speaker, I therefore suggest that you continue putting the question because failure to do so, will therefore mean otherwise. We will not be doing justice to this Report because I see a situation now where we will be continue arguing here on the same issue and I think now it has come out clear, the only point of contention was only one and when Members stand up here and say they going to oppose the the Report in entirety because of just one issue of which as per our suggestion, we have we have actually clarified on matters.

Of course it was wrong for the County Executive to have to have placed the figure for the County Assembly, but we the Committee has come out very clearly to the County Executives that indeed they have no mandate. I think that is that is enough. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

MCA Nachola Ward, (Hon. Lorunyei Lawrence) Because we do not want to drop this Paper and again we do not want as the Honourable Chair who is saying, there is a problem from the beginning and saying again, the executive had these failures. They must discuss and give their recommendation to the cabinets and from there to come to this County Assembly. We do not want things to look right as said by the Honourable Chair, we want things to be right. I am saying that because as said by the Chair, we are already past the 14 days because of some

reasons so what is preventing us from deferring a bit so that we can come to consensus so that this Paper will go we pass this this Paper right because as said by Honourable Caunda those four points is the law, it is the order.

As said by the Chairman again that the ceiling of the County Assembly is not done by the Executive. It is done by the CRA and CARA. Do you think they do not know that? And why did they do it when they already know that it is not their mandate? So there is something going on, I see we are contradicting here. We are seeing a lot of errors in this Paper and yet we want to hurry it to pass it. Our Member of the Service Board who is our treasurer, know that our budget has been reduced and he is comfortable about that I do not know why.

I thank you very much Mr. Speaker for giving Members enough time to submit, to say the truth, although the order says that we must not talk about it twice. Why can we not defer as said by Hon. Lentukunye and then we reflect a bit and see what to do next so that we can do things right, not to look right as other Members are saying, it cannot be right. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

MCA, Ndoto Ward, (Hon. Lealmusia Ali): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I think I raised my hand long time ago but it is like you are not looking to us here. I really congratulate the Budget Committee for the kind of work they have done and also recommendations are very clear. It has come out clear that it not the mandate of the County Executive to set ceilings for not only the County Assembly of Samburu but for the for the entire assemblies in the country and I think that we agree that we are waiting for CARA and the CRA so that we can confirm our ceiling.

I think according to this Report here; one thing is clear that we are we are behind the schedule and it has been explained why we could not have brought this Report early enough. Now that we have delayed already, I think when we buy time to delay this then the unusual will happen that this will be assumed passed and we will not have done anything for the well-being of this Assembly. So I will suggest that as long as the Committee has made recommendations and they are very clear, we go by it and approve this Report. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon. Dube Adan): Asante sana Mheshimiwa. Mimi leo nakumbuka hadithi ya Mtume Sallallahu ‘Alayhi Wasallam, nataka niseme Kwa Kiarabu alafu nitafsiri. Baada ya hii nitoe yangu. Mtume amesema; (*Aongea Kiarabu*)

Ongea ukweli hata kama ni uchungu. Mimi siungi mkono wale wanaopinga wala wale wanaounga, naongea ukweli wangu. Bunge hii tuko na shida, ikifika wakati wa mwisho tu sisi tunabishana hapa. Leo roho yangu ni nzito sana nikisikia Bunge inakatwa pesa. Vile tunakaa hapo awali Nyumba hii karibu tufunge, sasa ikiongezeka tena itakuwa shida nyingine.

Mheshimiwa Mwenyekiti anasema tumeandika barua. Hii barua mtu akiniandikia nawezajibu ama nikose, hayo mawili tu. Mheshimiwa Spika nawaomba pamoja na Mwenyekiti, haraka haraka haina baraka. Kama amechelewa amechelewa. Hebu tupe nafasi kidogo hata kama dakika tano tutoke alafu turudi tuketi tuangalie yaliyosemwa kwenye Ripoti hii. Mimi sio Kamati wala sijakutana na waziri. Sijapata barua yoyote ile iliyondikwa kutoka huko juu, kwa hivyo inawezekana kesho nitajikaanga kwa mdomo wangu tu nitakapopinga ama kuunga mkono Mswada hui. Mheshimiwa Spika naomba tu hata kama dakika tano tukae tuongee tuelewe hii kitu ni nini. Asante sana Mungu awabariki.

Specially Elected MCA, (Hon Lenamatiyo Silapia): Thank you Mr. Speaker. where we are now, the timeline has already elapsed. Even making our recommendation the Executive will just assume. So let us do as a layman language with the Executive because when before, I talked about the issue of CARA and CRA. Now that we have a CRA that has already guided the ceiling of the Assembly last Financial Year and we are still waiting the CRA or CARA ceilings for the 2026/2027 Financial Year.

It is good we weight the matter because even if the ceiling could have been put from (600-585) million to the (611- 630) million we could still do the supplementary and reduce it the way we have done before. Even now, if we will know the guidelines from the CARA let us use the ceiling for the last Financial Year. Then if they bring the lesser then we will do the supplementary. But now the time has already elapsed. Hata saa hii ikipelekwa hiyo recommendation hakuna kitu kinafanyika. Hakuna kitu itakuwa implemented na Executive. Time yao imeelapse, ni kuassume everything. Thank you.

The Speaker, (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): Honourable chair, now you can give us your final so I can give direction.

Chairperson, Committee on Budget and Appropriation, (Hon Lemoosa Maura): Mr speaker I have already done so you can put the question whichever way it goes. Whatever the outcome.

Specially Elected MCA, (Mohamed Asha): Honourable speaker, I wanted to congratulate the Committee on Budget for the good work they have done. Since we have the recommendation here and the time has already elapsed, there is nothing we can do about it. So Honourable Speaker I do not see the reason as to why you cannot put the question. Yes, you just put the question.

The Speaker, (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): Let me consult.

Honourable Members, it is good that we do what best fit for us and we have Order Number 11; altering the calendar. I am aware of 19 Members being engaged next week starting from Monday. We are supposed to start our recess on Wednesday up to 20th April because we also have Legislative Summit. Now, if we defer this question, when can we put the question? It will be in May.

So there are two scenarios here. Either we put the question now or we defer until next week and I know there are Members who are engaged starting from Monday next week, I have a letter in my office. Therefore the decision that I am going to make is that I will put the question.

Honourable Members, I now put the question **THAT**, this House debates and approves the Report of the Committee on Budget and Appropriation on the consideration of the County Fiscal Strategy Paper for the Financial Year 2026/2027 which was laid on the table of this Assembly on Wednesday 25th March, 2025.

Will as many as of the same opinion say I?

Will as many as of the contrary opinion say nay?

The Is have it.

MOTION.

MCA Maralal Ward, (Hon. Loloju Joseph): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I beg to move the following Motion; Aware **THAT**, this House adopted its calendar for the Fifth Session 2026 under Standing Order 31 cap 2 and recognizing that Standing Order 34 cap 3 allows for alteration of the calendar by resolution to address urgent Business. Noting that majority of the Members of the County Assembly will be away on official duty during the coming week which

may affect the attainment of quorum to transact House Business. This House therefore **resolves** to alter the approved calendar to adjourn today Wednesday 25th March, 2026. The house will resume its sitting on Tuesday 21st April, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. after the short recess that was scheduled to commence on 1st April, 2026. Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I call Honourable Nakinyi to second.

(Hon. Nakinyi bows to Second the Motion)

The Speaker, (Hon. Lenamarle Stephen): Honourable Members I now propose the Motion **THAT**, this House adopted its calendar for the Fifth Session 2026 under Standing Order 31(2) and recognizing that Standing Order 43 allows for alteration of the calendar by resolution to address urgent Business. Noting that majority of Members of the County Assembly will be away on official duty during the coming week which may affect the attainment of quorum to transact House Business. This House therefore resolves to alter the approved calendar to adjourn today Wednesday 25th March, 2026. This House will resume its sitting on Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 9:30 a.m. after the short recess that was scheduled to commence on 1st April, 2026.

Honourable Members I now put the question **THAT**, this House adopted its calendar for the Fifth Session 2026 under Standing Order 31(2) and recognizing that the Standing Order 34(3) allows for alteration of the calendar by resolution to address urgent Business. Noting that majority of Members of the County Assembly will be away on official duty during the coming week which may affect the attainment of Quorum to transact House Business. This House therefore resolves to alter the approved calendar to adjourn today Wednesday 25th March, 2026. The House will resume its sitting on Tuesday 21st April 2026 at 9:30 a.m. after the short recess that was scheduled to commence on 1st April 2026.

Will as many as of the same opinion say I?

Will as many as of the contrary opinion say nay?

The Is have it.

ADJOURNMENT

Honourable Members, the time being 2 minutes past 5:00 and there being no any other business, this Assembly now adjourns until Tuesday 21st April, 2026.