



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

SECOND ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION

Thursday, 24th October, 2019

House met in the Main Chamber at 02:30 p.m.

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu) in the Chair)

PRAYERS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Thank you Hon. Members. Welcome to this session. I want to request the Serjeant-at-arms to ring the Quorum Bell for five minutes pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders No. 32 (2).

(Quorum Bell is rung for five minutes)

(House resumes session after attaining the requisite quorum)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Hon. Members, I would like to request both the Whips from the Majority and the Minority to confirm if we have attained the required numbers to commence sessions and at the same time to inform Hon. Members of the House not to leave the chambers, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Let me request the Deputy Whip to confirm if we have required quorum?

Deputy Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to confirm that the House has attained the required quorum to enable it commence business.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Thank you Hon. Members. Mr. Clerk, can you please take us through the Order Paper of the day.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Next order!

STATEMENTS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Hon. Muga.

Hon. Muga: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have a statement of make. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders No. 193, I wish to seek fir a statement from the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee of Planning, Industrialization and ICT regarding the development of the Kisumu Lakefront.

Mr. Speaker, in the statement the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee of Planning, Industrialization and ICT should inquire and investigate into the following;

1. Whether there was a Feasibility Study carried out?
2. What is the arrangement between the County Government of Kisumu and the Kenya Railways Corporation?
3. The arrangement between the Kenya Railways Corporation and the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA)?
4. If the planning along the Lake is geared at ensuring that they face the lakefront is still feasible?

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Thank you Hon. Muga. I acknowledge receipt of your statement which is directed to the Chairperson, Sectoral Committee of Planning, Industrialization and ICT and I direct that the responses to that statement be delivered to this House on Wednesday, 30th October, 2019 at 09:00 a.m.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Hon. Beatrice Odongo.

Hon. Odongo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to seek a statement on behalf of the Leader of Minority Hon. Oiko Pete, MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal Ward.

Pursuant to the provisions of County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193, I wish to seek for a statement from the Chairperson, Committee of Children, Culture and Community Services regarding the status of the stadium in Kisumu County from the FY 2017 to date. In the statement the Committee should inquire and investigate on the following;

1. Structural and Technical Designs of all the stadiums within Kisumu County?
2. How much was paid out for the repairs/construction for each stadium?
3. How these projects are to be funded by the County Government of Kisumu?

Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Thank you Hon. Odongo. I want to acknowledge receipt of the statement as was read by Hon. Odongo on behalf of the Leader of Minority, Hon. Oiko Pete. This statement is directed to the Chairperson, Children, Culture, Gender and Community Services Committee. I therefore direct that the questions sought be responded to on Wednesday, 30th October, 2019 at 09:00 a.m. I hope respective Chairperson of Committees are noting down those dates that we don't take long when responding to those queries.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Hon. Ogutu.

Hon. Ogutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker for according me this opportunity. I wish to seek for a statement while citing the provisions of Standing Orders No. 41 read together with Orders No. 193.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to request for a statement from the Chairperson, Committee of Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage regarding the roaming Hippos at Sango Rota Beach and along Nyakwere Stream to Nyadina Area. In the statement being sought I the Committee should inquire and investigate into the following;

1. An incident which transpired in my area where a woman was attacked by one of the Hippos and nursing her wounds at JOOTRH?
2. Mitigating measures being undertaken to prevent such occurrences and
3. Any compensations to the affected victims?
4. Long lasting solutions regarding such menaces in the County?

Mr. Speaker, I can say that such occurrences are so unfortunate where yesterday evening a woman was fatally attacked by a Hippo at Sango Rota Beach which ripped off everything from her private parts. On arrival at the hospital, we were advised that here fistula system has been interfered with and the victim was in excruciating pain. I can witness the somber mood of women in this House. Mr. Speaker, this was not easy because in my possession I have the pictures of such incidents which is not appealing to the eyes and we want a lasting solution to be found on this matter.

Mr. Speaker, I am equally aware that this is a function that is supposed to be undertaken by the National Government but at the same time we as leaders representing our respective jurisdictions we have the responsibilities to protect our residents and our voters as well.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is one of the weirdest thing to have happened to the people of West Nyakach and I argue through Standing Orders No. 1 to allow this House deliberate on this matter so that it dispenses of it effectively. I would equally request your Hon. Chair to direct the Committee of Health to intervene so that in case this victim recuperates, so that bills which will accrue can be waived. Through your Hon. Chair, I would like you to direct this House after this

debate, that the Chairperson, Tourism, Wildlife and Heritage to accompany me to do a report with the Wildlife Department.

So that the Chairman of the relevant committee to accompany me to recorder a statement at offices of the Kenya Wildlife Service. Let us also forward the Statement the KWS to give this matter more weight. This is not the first time this happening in my Ward, last week we had the same incident where a young man almost lost his life through Hippo attack.

I know those who are living along the Lake are experiencing what the people West Nyakach are going through. As we debate on this matter, the fate of this lady lies with God. I want to implore you to allow the Members who represents the people who comes from the lake to debate on this matter. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Thank you so much Hon. George Ogutu. I acknowledge the receipt of your statement and you have requested through Standing Order No. 1 to allow the House to debate on your Statement and I want to accord you that opportunity but first ask a Member to second.

Hon. Ogutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker for allowing this Statement to be debated on that note I call upon Hon. Agola Erick to second the debate on the Statement. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Yes Hon. Agola.

Hon. Agola: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I stand to second the debate on the Statement raised by Hon. Ogutu in relation to attack by the Hippos along the lake shore. It is not only Hippos that are attacking our people along Lake Victoria. Two months ago, I buried a standard two pupil in my Ward who was bitten by a snake and six months ago, I also buried a child who was also bitten by a snake. I also remember burring a class six pupil who was also killed by the crocodile.

It is true that the attack by wildlife especially in Lake Victoria is becoming notorious and we need to ask the KWS to move with speed and tame these animals because they know how to handle those animals. These animals are now chasing after the human beings. From the statement made by Hon. Ogutu, this woman was not even in the water. She was along the beach and she attacked by the hippos. I hope she will survive the injuries and without many words, I want to urge this House that we need to look how best we can interpret the laws on how the KWS operates.

Mr. Speaker, even the compensation to those who are injured by these animals is not being done properly and that allocation is there in the national government budget. The lady that was injured must be compensated and I want to ask Hon. Ogutu to take this matter seriously and we can also ask for the intervention of the Senate because no single life should be lost without proper action being taken to the animals interfering with people's lives. With those many remarks, I am deeply concerned and I support the debate on the Statement.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Thank you Hon. Agola. I want to give Hon. Pamela who close to you.

Hon. Pamela Odhiambo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I am glad that you allowed this statement to be debated in this House and for how long are we going to debate the attacks meted to our people by the wild animals. We had the same discussions when two women were attacked. The KWS must do its work. The Implementation Committee must inform this House on the progress they have made to ensure that whatever we discussed is being acted upon. We must be ready to help our people. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Yes Hon. Ngeta.

Hon. Ngeta: Thank you Mr. Speaker. It is not only along the shores of the lake where hippos attack people. Two weeks ago, heard of hippos descended in my village and made enormous destruction to the properties. Our efforts to reach out to the KWS were fruitless because they never responded on time.

We want the relevant committee summon the CEC Tourism and Wildlife so that we get to the bottom of this matter. We cannot loose people every day because of Hippos. This not about hippos, few days ago a woman was heading home from the market was attacked by the leopard. She escaped the attack with some minor injuries. The regional KWS officers must be up to task. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Yes Hon. David Arao of Railways Ward.

Hon. Arao: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I stand to support the wishes of Hon. Ogutu and I want to say that we cannot loose lives because of wild animals. We recently heard that a woman was killed in Nyalenda B by the crocodile. This areas should be fenced off to minimize these conflicts. The compensation to the victims of animal attacks should also be factored in our budget so that we take care of our people. This time round we must realize the difference. An action must be taken. Action by all the Hon. Members and by them coming out during the Budget making process to make sure that those issues are captured into the budget so that our people can be helped. Time has come that we don't have to wait for things to go...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): What is it Hon. Agolla?

Hon. Agolla: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I want to inform the Hon. Member because it has been repeated by Hon. Pamela Odhiambo; Mr. Speaker before I joined this Assembly I was doing a research in Nyakach and I want to inform the Members that it is not very easy to erect fence with hippos and especially in Nyakach where those hippos follow that river. That is why they find their way in Awasi and other areas. So it is not very easy for a Government to erect fence. If you look at the scenario of what Hon. Ogutu is saying, this hippo just started chasing the woman outside the lake. So even if there was fence it seems like these hippos are becoming wild. I want

to inform the House that this Assembly has got the powers of the High Court. Mr. Speaker you can summon the commandant of wildlife in this region to appear before this Assembly plus the minister concerned.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Thank you Hon. Agolla for the information.

Hon. Pst.Arao: Thank you Mr. Speaker is stand guided and in my sentiments you will realize that I said Kenya Wildlife needs to do something to protect the lives of our people. Hon. Speaker, I know there is no problem without solution and the solution will not be that when we come and deliberate on matters they are kept under lock and key. The best thing is that we need to take this matter up to the next level so that we dispense with it. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Yes Hon. Steve Owiti.

Hon. Steve Owiti: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also rise to contribute to the debate on the floor. I represent Kolwa East ward which happens to cover the shores of Lake Victoria part of it. Mr. Speaker the emergence of the hippos is real and as we speak today in my ward known as Nyaimbowhen it comes to around 9.00 p.m.it is risky to walk in the village because they have now come out and you find them grazing like cows. Sometimes when you want to leave the House you will find a hippo outside your House. In a number of occasions I have had stories where members living in the area complaining that sometimes you feel that it is a cow and yet it is a hippo.

Mr. Speaker we are living in a country where there are things that happen and we see them hence talk about them but until such a time that we lose lives it's when it comes to us as a reality. I want to urge this Assembly that we must not only ask the relevant committee but we must also ask the role of the disaster management team in this County. As we speak, we are aware that the crocodiles and the hippos are killing our people and it is a suggestion that has been put not only on the floor of this House but those areas that are prone to the inversion by these wild animals could even be fenced off. Something needs to be done and we don't hear crocodiles, hippos and snakes killing people in certain developed countries. To us it is like a normal thing. As we speak, the metrological department is now warning that we are going to have long rains and very soon my ward will be flooded. When the floods are invading my people, houses are destroyed and people are killed, you will find the County team, the Red Cross and disaster team running to give blankets and flour. When that happens the hippos will follow the streams to come out into the field. Apart from the threat that they give to the human life, they also destroy our crops. The area known as Namthoi which is known as the basket experiences a lot of challenges in agriculture and the people there cannot harvest due to this menace of hippos destroying their crops. So I want to plead with this House that we must take action so that we save lives. There is no need of us allocating money to so many other things and yet there are things that we can prevent.

Lastly, I have also heard Hon. Ngeta who comes from OnjikoAwasi ward which is very far, talking of the hippos. Maybe they follow the streams but we should also be aware that there are some people who are keeping these wild animals in the villages. We should also ask these people to take these animals back to the lake so that they don't destroy and kill our people.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Yes Hon. Miruka.

Hon. Miruka: Thank you Mr. Speaker, allow me to applaud Hon. Ogutu for coming with a statement about the invasion of wild animals. I also want to say that I come from a ward that borders the lake and what he has talked about is very true. Hippos have killed many people along the source of Lake Victoria. I want to say that we need as Members of the County Assembly to work on a policy document that defines what should happen when an incident like that arises. For a very long time since the time we came here people have been complaining a lot about this and asking about mitigation measures and compensation. Where do we put funds if we don't have a document that can guide us?

I would also like to request the Members of this County who stay along the lake to also take precaution. We should not more so during rainy seasons like this go to the rivers. We know that the hippos stay along the Lake and they also come out to look for food. Otherwise it is not good for a human being to lose a life. I want to say alongside what my friends have said that we need to compel the department of Tourism, the CEC concerned to come and address us on this because last year we did talk about this and nothing tangible was said. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Thank you Hon. Members for your elaborate discussions on the statements made by Hon. Ogutu. I want to direct that the Chairperson of Tourism answer the questions raised by Hon. Ogutu on 30th October 2019 at 9.00 a.m.

Secondly, I want to ask the Chairperson of Health, Housing and Sanitation to explore the possibility of waiver to the lady who has been hurt by the hippo yesterday and report back to the House on Tuesday 29th October 2019 at 2.30 p.m.

Otherwise, Hon. Ogutu we want to wish the leader quick recovery and we believe that we won't have any such incidences happening along our lakes. Lastly, I want to ask the Chairperson of Implementation through the Clerk to find out about the resolutions that have been made to this House with regard to wildlife so that they follow up on their implementation. Yes Hon. Agolla.

Hon. Agolla: Mr. Speaker, first I would ask the leave of the Chair and the leave of the House for me to move my statement. If you allow me because it would have been procedural to move it under Standing Orders no. 41 as a written statement but I was not able to know to which committee I was going to direct it to.

Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Orders no. 41 (d) which gives a member to give a statement directing it to a particular committee and I am afraid to which committee I should direct this statement to. So can you allow me to say what I want to say so that you give direction on it?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Could you please approach the Chair?

(Hon. Agolla consulting with the Speaker)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Thank you Hon. Agolla I think we have consulted and do you want to give your submissions with regard to the statement that you wanted to make?

Hon. Agolla: Yes Mr. Speaker being that I asked the leave of the Chair, I stand guided that I will move it next week.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): Thank you. Is there any Member with a statement?

Next Order!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu): There being no any other business to transact, this House stands adjourned to Tuesday 29th October 2019 at 2.30 p.m.

(House rose at 3.25 p.m.)

Addendum

Hansard Reporters

Zablon Otiende – In-charge

Fanuel Okode - Reporter

Edward Odanga - Reporter

