

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION

Thursday, 04th June, 2020

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

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Carren Muga) in the Chair)

PRAYERS

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Good afternoon Hon. Members? Can the Clerk please take us through the Order Paper of this afternoon?

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Next order!

MOTION

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND
FISHERIES REPORT ON THE AGRICULTURE MECHANIZATION
SERVICES

BY

HON. VITALIS AUGUSTINE OTURA

CHAIRPERSON, AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Otura, Chairperson, Agriculture Committee, the floor is yours.

Hon. Otura: Thank you Madam Speaker. With me is a Report and if you allow me, let me read the report.

MANAGEMENT REPOSE FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES ON A STATEMENT SOUGHT BY HON. PHILEMEON OJUOK, MCA, CENTRAL NYAKACH ON TUESDAY, 28TH APRIL, 2020 ON AGRICULTURE MECHANIZATION SERVICE (AMS)

Preamble:

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, during the Assembly Sitting of Tuesday, 28th April, 2020, Hon. Philemon Ojuok the Member of County Assembly for Central Nyakach sought for a Statement operational status of the 7 (seven) AMS Tractors stationed at the Sub-county level.

Hon. Ojuok had initially sought for the same statement and the committee made responses on the same but, the Hon. Member felt that the response given by the Department had not met the required threshold and key issues were not addressed. The Members further requested the House to mandate the Committee to dig deeper and highlight on operational efficacy of these farm machineries stationed at Rabuor and the challenges encountered and interventions measures faced by the Department.

The Committee was guided by the following TOR;

- a) Look into the Schedules for Operations of Tractors at the 7 (seven) Sub-counties for a period of 4 Quarters of FY 2019/2020.
- b) Workplan and Impact of AMS and acreage done per Ward/Sub-county.
- c) Challenges encountered by the Department and Wayforward
- d) Interventions and Measures that need to be undertaken by the Department with relations to AMS.
- e) Formulation of Legislative and Regulatory Frameworks to improve Agricultural Mechanization Services (AMS) in line with Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. (Annexed) (Draft Bill on AMS, MRF Operations Manual and Operations Guidelines)

In the Speaker's ruling this matter was again referred back to the Committee with the objective to get more answers pertaining to the above and report back to the House within 3 weeks.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK UNDERPINNING COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE MANDATES

The Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee derives its mandate from the Fourth Schedule Part II of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, read together with the County Assembly Standing Order No. 193. The Committee is equally inclined to address raised in the House and committed to it while in compliance to explicit roles as stipulated in relevant legislative implication as below that require investigation and reporting back to the House;

- (a) crop and animal husbandry;
- (b) livestock sale yards;
- (c) county abattoirs;
- (d) plant and animal disease control; and
- (e) fisheries.

The Provisions of County Assembly Standing order No. 193 (5)

The functions of a Sectoral Committee are to:

- i) Investigate/inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operations and estimates of the assigned department;
- ii) Study the programme and policy objectives of the department and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- iii) Study and review all County legislation referred to it;
- iv) Study, to assess and to analyze the relative success of the department as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- v) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned department as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to it by the County Assembly;
- vi) To vet and report on all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 187 (Committee on Appointments) ; and
- vii) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The Standing Committee of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries is constituted as follows;

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|---------------------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Vitalis Augustine Otura | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon. Jennipher Obonyo | - | Vice-chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Kenneth Onyango | - | Member |

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- | | | |
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| 4. Hon. Aslam Khan | - | Member |
| 5. Hon. Johnstone Guya | - | Member |
| 6. Hon. John Atieno | - | Member |
| 7. Hon. George Ogutu | - | Member |
| 8. Hon. David Arao | - | Member |
| 9. Hon. Samson Ameso | - | Member |
| 10. Hon. Roy Samo | - | Member |
| 11. Hon. Judith Ogaga | - | Member |
| 12. Hon. Jane Manuche | - | Member |
| 13. Hon. Kennedy Ooko | - | Member |
| 14. Hon. Seth Okumu | - | Member |
| 15. Hon. Maureen Otiang' | - | Member |

Secretariat;

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|------------------------|
| a) Maximilla Awuor | - | Clerk to the Committee |
| b) Isaac Omollo | - | Clerk Assistant |
| c) Zablon Otiende | - | Secretariat/Hansard |
| d) Risper Auma | - | Serjeant-at-Arm |

COMMITTEE SITTING

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Member, for the Committee held 4 (four) sitting to enable it come up with a report. The Committee revolved that for it to circumvent that issues sought by the Member, the Committee revolved that, the Committee invites officers from the line Department to delve into the query.

Consequently, the Committee in turn did communication to the CEC Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries vide letter referenced CAK/ALFC/COM/INVI/Vol IX 2020 and dated 29TH April, 2020 inviting the CEC Member and his officer to appear before the Committee on 06th May, 2020 at 09:00 a.m. to provide both oral and written responses on the query that was sought through the House with regards to the issues of Agricultural Mechanization Services and provide milestone and interventions to improve these services.

The CEC Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and his team honoured Committee invitation and appeared before the Committee on Wednesday, 06th May, 2020. Below are the officers from the Department that constituted the team that appeared before the Committee;

- a) Mr. Gilchrest Okuom, CEC Member for Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries;
- b) Dr. Paul Omanga, Chief Officer, Agriculture and Irrigation;
- c) Mrs. Rosemary Akinyi Raluoch, Chief Officer, Livestock and Fisheries;
- d) Director, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries;
- e) Director, Agriculture Mechanization Services (AMS);

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Member, let me take this opportunity and pleasure to table the Management Response from the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on the Agricultural Mechanization Services (AMS) Kisumu County.

AGRICULTURAL MECHANIZATION SERVICES (AMS)

In Kenya there are twenty three agricultural machinery services (AMS) across the country, which have been devolved to the County governments. The AMS provide hire tractor machinery services for the farmers. These centres generate revenue for the ministry of agriculture (county governments), regulate cost of hiring tractor and provide service to farmers. Other partners include International organizations and Non-governmental organizations, these include FAO and World Vision are equally involved in the dissemination of agricultural mechanization technologies through donor funded projects when need arises.

The Agricultural Mechanization Services (AMS) located in Rabuor is part of agricultural extension services provision that operate under the directorate of Agriculture and Irrigation in the department of Agriculture, Irrigation, Fisheries and Livestock Development.

The unit serves the entire Kisumu County and is responsible for the developing agricultural land for crop production. The overall objective of AMS is to provide quality mechanization services at reduced/subsidized costs thereby enhancing agricultural productivity. The functions are to:

- 1) Carry out farm mechanization including land preparation, harvesting and processing
- 2) Stabilize the cost of land preparation
- 3) Generate revenue for the County.

This report is in response to County Assembly of Kisumu member for Central Nyakach seeking Clarity on the operational status of the AMS tractors at Sub-county levels and to know schedules for operations of the tractors at sub-county levels

A. OPERATIONAL STATUS OF AMS TRACTORS

The operational status of the AMS tractors heavily depends on personnel and the condition of the machineries including the tractors as well as vehicles and motorcycles for monitoring the activities.

Personnel

In order to provide services to farmers in the county, AMS has a manager supported by a team of 9 staff members including Mechanization Extension Officer, Workshop Manager, Field Supervisors, Store Keepers, Plant Operators, Plant Mechanics, Field Surveyor and Design Officer and Support staff. Apart from the employed staff, AMS also engages a number of casuals when required.

Vehicles, Tractors, equipments and their Status

The department has 2 Vehicles, 12 tractors which are operational and 8 old tractors that have been recommended for boarding. The status of the tractors is given below.

Number of tractors and their conditions

Condition	Description of the condition of the tractors	No of tractors
A	Very good and perfect	4
B1	Good, running but need minor repair	3
B2	Running, need major repairs;	2
C	Grounded, need minor repairs;	2
D	Grounded, need major repairs;	1
E	Grounded, too expensive to repair; Boarded	8

Operational procedures in place

The procedure used for hire and payment of these services is as follows;

- 1) Farmer makes booking through Sub-County Agricultural Officer (SCAO) or Ward Agricultural Extension Officer (WAEO) without payment
- 2) WAEO advises farmers to make payments through MPESA PAYBILL after attaining 5acres minimum threshold. Payments are made to pay bill Number 665570; Account Number AMS-Ward (eg AMS –Kobura)
- 3) WAEO communicates with the AMS for tractor to be availed for ploughing

It is important to note that during peak ploughing periods the tractors are stationed at Sub County headquarters.

The charges for ploughing are as given below

Operation	Current charges/Acre
Ploughing in sugarcane farms	3,500
Harrowing/ridging sugarcane farms	3,000
Ploughing in other soils	2,500
Harrowing/ridging in other soils	2,300
Rotavation in rice	2,500

Tractors assigned to various sub-counties

During the 2019/2020 season from July 2019 to May 2020, the assignments of the 9 operational tractors and contact persons were as given below.

Sub-county	Tractor Number	Base/Location of the tractor	Contact Person
Nyakach	42CG052A KBY453C	Sigoti and Pap Onditi	Eunice Anyango0713081330
Muhoroni	42CG055A KBY 456C	Muhoroni	Arthur Hongo:0717223881
Nyando / Kisumu East	42CG053A KBY 451C KBY 452C	Rabuor	Calleb Ogolla;0721582597 Joan Owade:0725324338
Seme/Kisumu West	42CG054A KBY449C	Holo	Monica Fedha:0722563841 John Olweru{0723945335

B. PERFORMANCE OF AMS (OPERATIONAL STATUS)

3.1 Previous performance 2013-2018

The revenue collection from 2015 to 2019 from the AMS tractors are presented in the table below. The collection peaked in 2016/17 and has been declining since then with lowest collection in 2019/20.

Revenue collection from AMS tractors from 2015 to 2020

Year	Total revenue collected
2015/16	1,665,748.
2016/17	3,261,387
2017/18	855,284
2018/19	894,780
2019/20	205,950

The cropping calendar in Kisumu County is so well spread such that if the tractors are well managed, they can generate enough revenue. The ploughing season for the Long Rains starts in November and runs up to February for farmers to plant in March.

Before the harvest of rain fed crop (maize, sorghum, beans, cowpeas etc) in June-July, the rice season begins in May with land preparation in June and extends to December. In the hilly areas of Seme, Kisumu West, Muhoroni, Kisumu East and Nyakach, land preparation for the short rains crops is in August and planting in

September.

The tractors can therefore be engaged in most of the months in a given year. This is well elaborated by the revenue collection in 2016/17, when AMS collected the highest revenue of Kshs 3,261,387 in the past 5 years between 2015 to 2019.

Revenue collection by month during 2016/17

Months	Revenue Collected
July	187,998

August	135,800
September	499,625
October	152,125
November	87,500
December	406,500
January	811,600
February	721,725
March	231,275
April	26,250
May	Nil
June	Nil
Total	3,261,387

AMS performance status in 2019/2020

The total acreages cultivated by the AMS operating tractors (9 tractors) from July 2019 to May 2020 was 82.38 acres. At the cost of Kshs. 2,500 per acre, this adds to a total revenue collection of Kshs. 205,950. The table below gives a summary of acreages cultivated in the seven sub-counties by month. To note is the fact that there was no any land preparation from October 2019 to February 2020. These are the main ploughing months for the Long Rainy Season whose crop is planted in March.

Monthly summary of acreages cultivated in the various sub-counties

S-county	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	TOTAL
Nyando	5.75	15							8.51		29.26
Kisumu-West		4.5	0.5						2		7
Seme		2.8	0.75						4.75	2.7	10.95

Kisumu East.	1								4.07	1	6.07
Nyakach									7.5		7.5
Muhoroni									18.1	2	20.1
Kisumu Central									1	0.5	1.5
Total	6.75	22	1.25						45.9	6.2	82.38

3.3 Schedules for operations of the tractors at sub-county levels

As requested, below is the schedule of weekly operation by sub-county in term of dates when the ploughing was done, ward in which it was done and acreages cultivated.

Weekly operations report per wards and sub-counties for the F/Y 2019/2020

Week	Sub County	Ward	Acres
1-7 July	Kisumu East	Kolwa East	1
8-14 July	Nyando	Kobura	1
15-21 July	Nyando	Kobura	3
29-31 July	Nyando	Kobura	1.75
5-11 August	Seme	East Seme	1.75
12-18 August	Seme	East Seme	1
12-18 August	Nyando	Kobura	1
12-18 August	Nyando	Kanyagwal	5
12-18 August	Kisumu West	Central-Kisumu	3
12-18 August	Nyando	Kanyagwal	5
19-25 August	Nyando	Kobura	2
19-25 August	Kisumu West	Central-Kisumu	1
19-25 August	Kisumu West	Central-Kisumu	0.5

26-31 August	Nyando	Kanyagwal	2
2-8 September	Kisumu West	West Kisumu	0.5
9-14 September	SEME	East Seme	0.75
2-8 March	Nyakach	South East	0.5
9-15 March	Seme	East-Seme	1
9-15 March	Seme	North-Seme	3.75
9-15 March	Nyando	Kobura	6.51
9-15 March	Nyakach	Central-Nyakach	0.75
9-15 March	Nyakach	South East	4.25
9-15 March	Kisumu Central	Railway	1
9-15 March	Muhoroni	Chemelil	5
16-22March	Kisumu East	Kolwa Central	1.5
16-22March	Kisumu East	Kajulu	2.57
16-22March	Muhoroni	Chemelil	11
16-22March	Nyando	Kobura	2
16-22March	Kisumu West	West Kisumu	2
16-22March	Nyakach	South East	2
23-29 March	Muhoroni	Chemelil	2.1
1-5 April	Muhoroni	Chemelil	2
1-5 April	Seme	East Seme	1.7
6-12 April	Kisumu East	Kajulu	1
6-12 April	Kisumu Central	Central Kisumu	0.5
12-19 April	Seme	East Seme	1
Total			82.38

CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT

Weather related issues

The heavy rainfall realized during the months of November 2019 to January 2020 affected land preparation. Most parts of Nyando, parts of Nyakach, Muhoroni and Kisumu East could not be ploughed due to much rains and floods.

Procurements Issues

For AMS to operate effectively funds for operational activities such as minor repairs of tractors and other equipments, fuel for production and payment of casual labour should be readily available when required. The central procurement system currently in place seriously inhibits the activities of this department.

i) Fuel Procurement

Fuel procurement for county vehicles, tractors and even motorcycles is centralized. Fuel can only be drawn from one or two fuel stations in Kisumu City. The tractors are not located in the city but based at AMS Center Rabuor and move to sub-counties at land preparation time.

- 1) In most cases fuel ferried in tanks by pickups to tractors at the beginning of the ploughing season. The AMS management often take tanks to a central fuel filling station in Kisumu, fill the tanks and transport this to where the tractors are stationed.
- 2) The worst is when fuel gets finished in the course of ploughing in the field. Take for example if it gets finished in Nyakach or Muhoroni, the tractor driver has to leave the tractor in the field, report to the Officer at station in Rabuor who arranges for fuel. The arrangement involves coming to the Departments Offices at Prosperity Building requesting for fuel, approval for the fuel by the Accounting Officer (Chief Officer) for department and final approval by the Transport Officer. Note that even with the approval of the Accounting Officer (Chief Officer) fuel can't be issued without the approval of the Transport Officer who is Junior.

ii) Maintenance and Repairs of Tractors

In the field, maintenance and repairs of tractors and equipments is paramount to good performance. Like in fuel, maintenance services for tractors are also centrally procured. The county government has identified garages in the city where all vehicles and machineries are maintained and repaired.

When a tractor breaks down in Muhoroni or Nyakach, it has to be brought to Kisumu City for repair. This is despite the fact that there are local mechanics in local markets who can easily repair the tractors.

iii) Delays in Funding

Delays in payment for fuel, repairs and maintenance of the tractors is another setback affecting the operations. In most cases, the tractors taken to garages may stay for some time before payment assurance is made. Sometime the tractors cannot get fuel due to prompt payments. This has resulted in increased machinery downtime and negative impact on service delivery. This Financial year (2019/2020) we requested for fuel for tractors but this has not been cleared to date.

The system that entails a central tendering process for fuel supply, operation and maintenance of the tractors is not efficient and effective in running the activities of the department.

iv) Issues of Plant Operators

For the nine operational and serviceable tractors, we require plant operators including 9 tractor drivers and 9 turn-boys. The county government has only 2 plant operators attached to AMS Rabuor. The inadequacy of plant operators implies that about 7 plant operators and 9 turn-boys are employed when the ploughing season starts as casuals. Depending on amount of work, AMS has been employing casual plant operators, however the payment of these casual operators has been an issue. Most of them have not been paid for more than one year.

Due to none payment, it seems that the casual operators have not been providing the true information on acreages ploughed. There is need to get permission to hire the plant operators on contractual basis clearly defining their mode of payments.

1. Inadequate and uncoordinated research and development of agricultural mechanization
2. Limited research funding in agricultural mechanization Unavailability of machinery services.
3. Small farm holdings are fragmented, and therefore machinery cannot be used.
4. Inadequate information on agricultural mechanization.
5. Lack of skills on agricultural machinery.
6. Lack of commercialization strategy for agricultural mechanization innovations.
7. Lack of agricultural mechanization testing/inspection unit for machinery.
8. Uncoordinated research on agricultural mechanization.
9. Poor access roads in the rural areas

INTERVENTIONS

1. Introduction of Revolving Fund: This will ensure sustained service delivery and hence increased revenue generated. (A Bill and operations guidelines had been drafted and forwarded). Operating on a revolving fund basis will ensure: i) timely land preparation

- throughout the year; ii) efficient and effective service delivery to our farmers and iii) increased revenue generated
2. Fuel and maintenance: AMS be allowed to fuel tractors in the nearest fuel stations when fuel is used up. Minor repairs and maintenance should be done on site when and where required.
 3. The department to undertake planning as early as July.
 4. Hire of casual plant operators need to be streamlined, possibly engaged on two year renewable contract basis.
 5. More technical staff (field supervisors) posted to the station to supervise operations in the various sub counties.
 6. There is need to activate the technology development and promotion section of AMS through procurement of other agriculture machines and equipment. Diversification of mechanization services to include rotavation of rice fields, mechanical planting, weeding and harvesting; cutting and balling of fodder, and transportation of produce from the field. AMS should also look into Conservation Agriculture options.
 7. The Assembly to fast-track the approval of the AMS Regulations to operationalize and streamline the AMS segment of the Department.
 8. Develop and introduce appropriate machines for small farmers
 9. Enhance access to affordable loans for hire services.
 10. Formation of farmer groups to access credit and agricultural technology.
 11. Provide market incentives to enable farmers make profit to purchase agricultural mechanization inputs.
 12. The Government to finalize the draft agricultural mechanization policy to address issues of commercialization, testing, capacity building and research.

Madam Speaker, I believe that each and every Hon. Member has a copy of this report which contains the annexures where the Chief Officer has appended his signature and the details of the operations are contained.

Madam Speaker, above all, what is attached with the Report is the Draft Bill on the Agriculture Mechanization Services Bill which I am informed that it has not been forwarded to the Assembly for our action. So, it is through this Agriculture Mechanization Services Bill which highlights on the creation of a Revolving Fund that will properly address the concerns of the House. Thank you Madam Speaker, and call upon my Vice-chairperson to second the report?

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Hon. Obonyo.

Deputy Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Thank you Madam Speaker. I stand to second the report because I am a member of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee, thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Members, the Report on the Agriculture Mechanization Service (AMS) which was a Statement that was sought by Hon. Ojuok has been brought before this House by Hon. Otura, the Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee and seconded by his able Deputy, Hon. Obonyo. It is now before the floor to enable Hon. Members deliberate on it?

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Otura, before that, I have heard from your presentation you talking of the Agriculture Mechanization Services Bill. I fail to understand how you mention that yet the Agriculture Mechanization Services Bill has not been tabled before this Assembly.

Hon. Otura: Thank you Madam Speaker. This is just in response to the concerns raised by Hon. Ojuok where in the report if you read paragraph two in the Preamble, where he requested the Committee to dig deeper and highlight if there are any operational efficacies and any Legislative Proposals pertaining to the Operationalization of AMS at Rabuor. Madam Speaker, it is the reason as to why in the response from the line Department, they so it wise to attach this report in form of the Draft Bill on the Agriculture Mechanization Services that they has put in place but, not yet presented to the Assembly for ratification.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Thank you Hon. Otura. This was to make the Members aware that there is a Legislative Proposal on the Agriculture Mechanization Services that the Department is working on which is yet to be tabled before the House. Thank you for the good work.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): The floor is now open so that the House can debate on it?

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes, Hon. Oiko.

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Thank you Madam Speaker. This report on the AMS has been tabled before this House with an accompanying Agriculture Mechanization Services Bill. This Bill is still strange to this House because it has not been officially tabled before the House. I am seeing that the Bill is dated 03rd June, 2020 and that is when it was received by the Kisumu County Assembly and today we are in 04th June, 2020.

Madam Speaker, unless the Agriculture Mechanization Services Bill was tabled yesterday, and if it has not been tabled, it is still a strange document in this House and let us take note of that...

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Excuse me Leader of Minority, it is the reason I inquired to know more from the Hon. Chairperson of Agriculture Committee of where he has stated that the Bill was annexed so that the Hon. Member who sought for this Statement can know how far the Department has gone with regards to activities on AMS in Rabuor even though the Bill has not officially been tabled before this House. I believe that he came out clear on this matter.

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Madam Speaker, we may take it that way but, officially it should not be that way. Madam Speaker, the report as tabled, reflects on how the Department has failed on the Management of Machineries at Rabuor and at the Sub-counties. Madam Speaker, before this government came into power, these machineries were well managed because in the FY 2015/2016 the total Revenue realized was Kshs 1.6 million. In the FY 2016/2017, it managed to realize Kshs 3.2 million. Madam Speaker, what happened after that, mismanagement must have cropped up and now the collection dropped to Kshs 205,000.00 in the FY 2019/2020.

Madam Speaker, this shows the lack of seriousness in the Department. When we look at the Status of the Tractors and their conditions, they are worn out. We as a County cannot be proud that we have tractors that are helping out our people on the ground. Madam Speaker, when you look at page 6 of the report, very good and perfect report for the whole County for the seven Sub-counties. When you look at B1, Good Running but need Minor Repairs, only three. When you look at B2, Running, but needs Major Repairs. When they are running and need major repairs, what are the implications? They are soon stalling. This is the reason as to why farming activities in Kisumu County is seriously affected, because the tractors that are supposed to assist the farmers are grounded and poorly maintained.

Madam Speaker, when we go ahead, the Operators are all Casuals. When you engage Casuals for a year and you don't pay them and you give them tractors to go use in the fields, what do you expect? They will start vandalizing the parts and swindling the money and that has led to the poor conditions of the tractors and that is the same reasons why the Revenue Collections has slumped. So, the Department must tell us why they have failed to manage this Department the way they were doing in the previous regime.

Madam Speaker, we are being told of Procurement Issues. It beats logic when these tractors run out of fuel and some are stationed in Nyakach Sub-county and the Operators is compelled to run to Kisumu to look for fuel. When they have made it a habit of procuring fuel from particular Petrol Stations in Kisumu Town, yet they are aware that the needs will be at the Sub-counties. Madam Speaker, an officer could be doing this intentionally to stall the works of our people.

Madam Speaker, we look at the Bureaucracies in the Department of Finance. When a Chief Officer is given an authority for fuel to be procured, the Transport Officer can address this. Was this being done intentionally? Or is this the right procedure to follow? This Department has a question to answer regarding this matter.

Madam Speaker, the Department of Agriculture needs to improve on their services so that our people can get the benefits of these tractors. People cannot pay the exorbitant prices that are being charged for ploughing. The Bill that has been brought to us will address a number of these problems. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Hon. Ojuok.

Hon. Ojuok: Thank you Madam Speaker. Allow me to register my appreciation for the response given by the Chair. It has addressed a lot of concerns we have been raising. This is a detailed report and I doubt if the Governor has seen it. This report shows gaps that are in the Department of Agriculture. We should be having a subsidized rates when it comes to ploughing. I want to believe that the proposed Bill is going to address this problem. The budgets we are making should be able to have impacts on the people. I believe all of us are involved in some levels of farming and one of the things we should address is subsidized rates of using these tractors.

Madam Speaker, we know where the budget has reached and we must ensure that the issues the Bill intends to address is factored in the budget. We are an Agricultural Economy and one area we need to pay attention to is Mechanization. Without that we will not be able to use the fertilizer we are purchasing. The Department of Agriculture must start to work on their timing on some of the programs they are handling.

Madam Speaker, I also wish to clarify that my intension for this question is purely geared towards getting solutions to our County. It never intended to malign anybody's name and it only intended to ensure that the integrity of this House is maintained. I began by saying that the Committee did a lot of work and it brought to light a lot of things. I would request the committee to review the two reports in their next meeting possibly with the intention of finding out whether there are disparities in two reports that have been supplied in the House. Most Importantly I would like to say that the committee did a very good job and going forward on some of the ways to go which would be suggested here that these things which will be important should be carried out before the budget is effected so that this financial year is not affected like this other one. I would like to see revenues generated by this Department taken back to Kshs 4 million that it used to realize. I would like to emphasis that this County and the Country at large is an Agricultural economy. Thank you.

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

Hon. Ogaga: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am a Member of this committee and I would like to appreciate the Members Agriculture Committee for the good job that we did as a team and I would also like to thank the Agriculture Department for the work that they are doing though they need to pull up their socks a bit given what we found out when we were coming up with this report. I would also like to echo what my colleagues have said about the timing. Normally, our farmers have challenges because of the support that they get from this department when it comes to the time when they are ready to plant and some have already planted. In our meeting with the Executive, they were informed that there was a research that was conducted by this organization called IRI and from the interaction of the residents of Kisumu County it came out very clearly that the Agriculture Department is not doing very well in terms of the kind of support they give to the people of Kisumu County residents and the people we represent. We still need to stress that they should offer what our people need and do it at the right time.

Madam Speaker and Hon. Members, according to the schedule that they have given us about the operation; if you look at page 9 of the report, Kisumu West where I represent Central Kisumu Ward, between 12th and 18th August there is 3 acres; if you come down between 6th and 10th of April Central Kisumu ½ an acre. I am wondering if this was a farmer from Kisumu West, Central Kisumu Ward or this was a farmer from Kisumu Central Sub-county. I have also tried to locate who this person are, and I have not been able to find the person therefore clarification needs to be done. They pointed out this to them and somehow they have not acted. My major concern is also the Agricultural Mechanization Revolving Fund. I asked a question and I also want to ask it before the House. This is a very good idea and we are very poor, the Governor is really trying and our farmers need this Revolving Fund so that they can improve their Agricultural practice. Do we have any success story on any Revolving Fund in any department in Kisumu County? Is there anything that should motivate us or are they sure that they will do this and come out with great success and our farmers will equally enjoy this fund. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Nancy Owiti.

Hon. Nancy Owiti: Thank you Madam Speaker. I wish to call the mover to reply.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Mover of the motion, you have called upon to reply?

Hon. Otura: Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Members who have contributed positively to this report and I would like to particularly respond to Hon. Pete's remarks that as a committee we are doing everything within our powers to ensure that all his concerns are addressed.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to thank Hon. Philemon Ojuok for his concerns that really motivated us and we are on toes since we need to get things done correctly. With regards to the variations in his earlier report I will be guided by Standing Orders No. 89 where I must get the Statement of Facts first. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the report. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Thank you Hon. Otura. I believe what Hon. Ojuok wanted is well explained to the House even though I look at page 7 where way forward is explained and therefore we are going to task the Committee on Implementation to make sure that your suggestions and way forward is implemented. Thank you.

Hon. Members, there was a communication that was supposed to be relayed to the House but we were having some breakdown in terms of Communication. The Hon. Speaker was supposed to be in the House but he has been held up in other official duties. I believe that the Parliamentary Group meeting will not proceed as scheduled.

There also was a notice to be issued by the Chairperson of Health Committee of which they have not done it. If there is any Health Member in this House, I would like to request that they withdraw it so that we schedule it to another day.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Hon. Nancy Owiti.

Hon. Nancy Owiti: Thank you Madam Speaker. I wish to withdraw the motion to next week.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): We believe that it will be given a slot on Tuesday in the House Business Committee so that, we can see when it will be brought before the House. I am advised that there is need of putting a question before the House concerning the issue of Agriculture that we have just discussed here.

Therefore Hon. Members, a report from the Committee of Agriculture on the Management Response from the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries on a Statement sought in the House by Hon. Philemon Ojuok on Tuesday 28th on the Agricultural Mechanization Services which is brought before the House by Hon. Vitalis Otura, seconded by Hon. Obonyo and debated upon be adopted. I therefore put a question on the same?

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): The report is hereby adopted and I direct the Committee of Implementation to follow up on the Implementation of the same.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Next Order!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): There being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to Tuesday 9th June 2020 at 2.30 p.m.

House rose at 3.52 p.m.

Addendum

Hansard Team

<i>Zablon Otiende</i>	-	<i>Head of Department</i>
<i>Edward Odanga</i>	-	<i>Hansard Reporter</i>
<i>Fanuel Okode</i>	-	<i>Hansard Reporter</i>
<i>Patrick Okoyo</i>	-	<i>Hansard Reporter</i>
<i>Jacklyne Atieno</i>	-	<i>Hansard Reporter</i>
<i>Dennis Onyango</i>	-	<i>Hansard Reporter</i>
<i>Jesca Otieno</i>	-	<i>Hansard Reporter</i>