

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION

Thursday, 01st July, 2021

House met in the Main Chamber at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Members, that pursuant to the provisions of county Assembly Standing Orders No. 32 (2) I want to request that the Serjeant-at-Arms to ring the quorum bell for five minutes.

(Quorum bell rung for five minutes)

(Resumption of House session after five minutes)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): The Deputy Majority Whip, could you please confirm if we have quorum.

Deputy Majority Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Madam Speaker, we don't have quorum.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Members, again, from the information I am receiving it seems is that we have not attained the required quorum. Yet again, I want to request under Standing Order No. 32 (2) that the Serjeant-at-Arms to ring the quorum bell for further five minutes.

(Quorum bell rung for another five minutes)

(Resumption of House session after five minutes)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): The Deputy Majority Whip, could you please confirm if we have quorum.

Deputy Majority Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Madam Speaker, we have quorum. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Thank you. Madam Clerk, kindly take us through the Order Paper of the day.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Honourable Members, you are all aware that one of us is bereaved and that Hon. Vitalis Otura who lost his mother three days ago. I encourage the Members to get time and go and bereave with him. Thank you.

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

STATEMENTS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Roy Samo.

Hon. Samo: Thank you Madam Speaker. I have a Personal Statement in concurrence with earlier communication, I wish to say that we had an opportunity together with the Chair of Finance, the Minority Leader and a number of us and we did exactly what you have communicated. We did visit Hon. Otura. I wish to say that one of the staff also lost a father. That is Fanuel Okode. We realized that both of them comes from the same village. I therefore want to request Hon. Members that as you as you visit Hon. Otura, please take your time to also visit the staff. The burial date will be communicated next week because they could bury at the same time.

Lastly, I am very much aware that yesterday we did pass the Kisumu County Budget Estimates FY 2021/2022 and we will soon having the Post-budget Implementation Meeting between the County Executive and the Assembly because if you look at the Budget Estimates that we passed yesterday, you will realize that it will have a lot of errors when uploading it. I believe that the uploading of the Estimates is taking place right now which is being undertaken by the finance team. We may have challenges and let me give you example, when we were passing the Appropriations Bill, we did pass

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Samo, are you certain that we shall have a Post-budget Implementation Meeting because I don't see the reason for having a discussion on the same.

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker, I am bringing this to your attention because what the Chairperson said might be passed by events because I know they are doing the uploading by now.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Samo, that is now not a Personal Statement under the Standing you are rising on. Can you have it on a hard copy?

Hon. Samo: I am just asking for your leniency...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes, Hon. Erick Agolla.

Hon. Agolla: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am very much acquainted on how motions, statements are handled in the House. We did pass the Kisumu County Budget Estimates FY 2021/2022 yesterday. We must wait for the Hansard team to prepare the Hansard Report and the Vellum to be forwarded to the Governor for assent. If Hon. Samo is saying that the budget is being uploaded then he is misleading the House. Thank you.

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker, I want

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Samo, I had made a ruling on that. Do not mislead the House. Please oblige.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): What is it Hon. Okiri?

Hon. Okiri: Madam Speaker, we passed the Kisumu County Budget Estimates FY 2021/2022 yesterday and we cannot open a discussion on the matter we dispensed with yesterday. We cannot do anything about that Budget Estimates now because that was done with. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Roy Samo.

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker, I agree with what Hon. Agolla is saying. I am passing a very critical information to this House. The Executive is doing a very critical work that requires our contribution. May be Hon. Steve Owiti can help us do so.

So that when they are uploading the Budget Estimates we ensure that our concerns will be addressed. Lastly, as I said the budget in terms of Roads we did pass one hundred and ninety million. If you look at...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Samo Sorry, we are not discussing the Budget Estimates in the House. I fail to understand where you are heading with this because all what you are presenting had already been done with and we passed the Estimates. If in any case there is an issue, then this is not the right time for it.

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker, you are the Speaker and if you may allow us as Members ...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Can you please do a Statement and bring it before the House because you seem to be having an issue which is burning. Can this be done procedurally?

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker that is why I was saying if you communicate with...

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

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker, the twenty million which was passed.....

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

STATEMENTS

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

Hon. Agolla: Thank you Madam Speaker. Pursuant to Standing Orders No. 41 (2) (b) which reads that the Minority, Majority Leader or committee chairperson as the case maybe or their designee may make a Statement relating to their responsibility in the County Assembly

Madam Speaker, as the Chair of Implementation, I want to make the following statements. Madam Speaker, my Committee is disturbed that the uploading of Bills and Motions and even records of Members in the website are not being done on time. We have passed Motions and Bills which have become Acts in this County hitherto you cannot get them in the Website of Kisumu County. Nonetheless this is the easiest way the public can access such documents.

For example, remember we passed Bills like the Village Council Bill, it is not in the public domain and it is missing. We also passed Kisumu Traffic Bill, 2019 which again is not in the website, just to mention a few.

Madam Speaker, I am concerned as a Chair who should track Motions and Bills in this House and ensure that they accessed by members of the public because we serve them. That was my only concern. Even in the Assembly, if you visit the website, for instance if you log in the name Hon. Roy Samo, you will find that he represents North Seme, which should not be the case.

Madam Speaker, I therefore want to urge the Assembly and the Executive to improve on this because we are paying monthly to run the websites. As such, the websites should have information that members of the public can access with ease.

Madam Speaker, without forgetting, I want to also applaud the Assembly Hansard Department because on the way they update our debates. They make the public access live proceedings through the County Assembly Broadcasting Unit. I want to urge them to continue that way because the public enjoys our debates. Thank you.

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

MOTION

AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE
CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH SUB COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICERS IN EACH

SUB COUNTY AND ASSESSMENT OF DISTRIBUTION OF COVID 19 INPUTS TO FARMERS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND IRRIGATION

BY

HON VITALIS OTURA

CHAIRPERSON, AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FISHERIES COMMITTEE

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

Hon. Ogaga: Thank you Madam Speaker. On behalf of my able Chair Hon. Otura, I wish to present a report from the Standing Committee of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation on the Consultative forum with Sub County Agricultural Officers in each Sub County and Assessment of the Distribution of Covid -19 Inputs to Farmers by the Department of Fisheries and Irrigation.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members,

The Agriculture, Irrigation, Livestock and Fisheries Committee in its sitting on Wednesday, 25th November, 2020 noted that since the House was proceeding for the Long Recess effective 3rd December, 2020 to 8th February, 2021 and there were huge pending works before it, the Committee invoked the provisions of Standing Order No. 165 and made a formal request to the Office of the Speaker vide an internal Memorandum dated Wednesday, 02nd Dec, 2020 (see annex I) to authorize it to convene sittings during Recess to enable it conclude the pending works.

Consequently, the request was approved and the Committee corresponded by preparing an itinerary of activities with clear objectives for the intended purposes.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK UNDERPINNING COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Mandate of the Committee

The Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation Committee derives its mandate from the Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, read together with Standing Order No. 193 of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders.

Standing Order Number 193 (Second Schedule) of the County Assembly of Kisumu further stipulates as follows.

That the Committee shall inquire into, investigate and report on;

All matters relating to agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, livestock sale yards, County abattoirs, plant and animal disease control, veterinary services (excluding regulation of the profession) and fisheries; animal control and welfare, including licensing of dogs and facilities for their accommodation, care and burial of animals.

Provision of County Assembly Standing Order No. 193

The functions of the Sectoral Committees are to;

1. There shall be select committee to be known as Sectoral committees the Members of which shall be nominated by the County Assembly Business committee in consultation with County Assembly parties at the commencement of every County Assembly.
2. A Member appointed to a Sectoral committee at the commencement of a County Assembly or at any other time during the term of a County Assembly shall, unless the County Assembly otherwise resolves, serve for the term of that County Assembly.
3. Unless the County Assembly otherwise directs, the sectoral committees and the subject matter respectively assigned to them shall be set out in the second schedule.
4. The mandate of Sectoral committees in respect of the subject matter assigned under the second schedule of these Standing Orders shall only be exercised within the limits contemplated under Part 2 of the Fourth schedule to the Constitution.
5. The functions of Sectoral committees shall be;
 - a) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned departments;
 - b) Study the programme and policy objectives of departments and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
 - c) Study and review all the County legislation referred to it;
 - d) Study, access and analyze the relative success of the departments as measures by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
 - e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
 - f) To vet and report all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order No. 187 (Committee on Appointments).
 - g) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members,

The composition of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee under the County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193 is constituted as stated; -

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------------------|
| 1. Hon. Vitalis Otura | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Hon Jane Manuche | - | Vice Chairperson |
| 3. Hon. Samson Ameso | - | Member |
| 4. Hon. Judith Ogaga | - | Member |

5. Hon. Pst. David Arao	-	Member
6. Hon. Samuel Dede	-	Member
7. Hon. Aslam Khan	-	Member
8. Hon. Roy Samo	-	Member
9. Hon. Jennipher Obonyo	-	Member
10. Hon. Maurine Otiang'	-	Member
11. Hon. Ken Ooko	-	Member
12. Hon. John Atieno	-	Member
13. Hon. Johnson Guya	-	Member
14. Hon. George Ogutu	-	Member
15. Hon. Kenneth Onyango	-	Member

Secretariat

1. Omollo Isaac	-	Committee Clerk
2. Zablon Otiende	-	Rapporteur
3. Maximilla Awour	-	Committee Clerk
4. Risper Auma	-	Serjeant-at-Arms

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

The Committee in discharging its mandate was guided by the following TORs.

- a) Ensure prudent use of funds as stipulated in sections of the County Government Act, 2012 and the PFM Act, 2012 (Value for Money) as indicated in the Budget Estimates.
- b) Assessment of the efficacy of the criteria of distribution of farm inputs by the Line Department.
- c) Determining the Socio-economic impact of the Program to the beneficiaries.
- d) Operational efficiency and challenges faced by the Sub-County and Ward Agricultural Officers.

SITTING OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

The Committee held two sittings to chart the way forward and Programme how the activities will be executed to ensure that tangible results are made. An action plan running from 14th December, 2020 to 8th February, 2021 was also developed detailing the date of visits, objective of the visits and Sub-County to be visited.

Below is the attached itinerary:

ITINERARY/PROGRAMME DURING LONG RECESS (DECEMBER-FEBRUARY, 2020)

PROGRAMME FOR THE SUB-COUNTY VISITS EFFECTIVE ON MONDAY, 14TH
DECEMBER, 2020 TO TUESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY, 2021

Date	SUB COUNTY	Action plan	Objective of the Activity	Responsible Persons
Monday, 14 TH , December, 2020.	SEME	-Site Visitation of Beneficiaries of Livestock Distribution and assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat
Monday, 21 ST , December, 2020.	KISUMU WEST	-Assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains and other line projects by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment - Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat

Monday, 11 th , January, 2021.	MUHORO NI	-Assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains and other line projects by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment - Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat
Monday, 18 ^h , January, 2021.	NYAKAC H	-Assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains and other line projects by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment - Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat
Monday, 25 th , January, 2021.	KISUMU CENTRA L	-Assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains and other line projects by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment - Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat

Monday, 1 st , February, 2021.	KISUMU EAST	-Assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains and other line projects by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment - Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat
WEDNESDAY, 2 nd , FEBRUARY, 2021.	NYANDO	-Site Visitation of Beneficiaries of Livestock Distribution and assessment of the development of crop, poultry, Fisheries value chains by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation	- Ascertain Quantity, Quality and the Modalities and Criteria of Distribution to the Beneficiaries (Oversight) - Economic and Social Impact to farmers - Sustainability and Production System Assessment Policies enabling development of the value chains	-Chairperson. - Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Members. -Secretariat

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hon. Speaker and Hon Members, on behalf of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee members, I wish to extend our gratitude for the invaluable support accorded to us by the office of the Speaker and Clerk of the County Assembly towards ensuring that the committee mandate was well executed. The Committee was well facilitated with mobility enhancing access to the Sub-Counties which were the targets for this exercise.

Further, I wish to thank the members of the Committee for allocating time against their busy schedules guaranteeing the positive results in this course.

In extension, I appreciate the Sub-County and Ward Agricultural Officers who formed part of the consultative process and openly exchanged and shared their concerns with the Committee.

Lastly, Hon. Speaker, it is worth noting that during the Committee meetings, Members complied with the Ministry of Health Protocols regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic.

COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES/PROGRAMMES/OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee conducted its activities based on the Approved Action plans and significantly traversed the Seven Sub-Counties and obtained the relevant information which formed the basis of this report.

DAY I – MONDAY, 11th DECEMBER, 2020

CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH AGRICULTURE OFFICERS IN SEME SUB-COUNTY AT THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICES IN KOMBEWA.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee held its first consultative meeting with Sub-County Agricultural officers from Seme as per the approved work plan annexed in this report. Members were well received by the Sub-County Agricultural Officer who is in charge of matters Agriculture in the Sub-County.

In attendance from the Sub-County Agricultural Officers were as below;

- a) Mrs. Monica Fedha - Sub-County Agricultural Officer
- b) Mr. Okia M.O - Sub-County Crops Officer
- c) Mrs. Christine Meyo - Sub-County Horticultural Officer
- d) Mrs. Mikal A. Amadi - Ward Agricultural Officer (East Seme)
- e) Mr. Domnic Akoth - Ward Agricultural Officer (West Seme)
- f) Mr. Mourice Apiyo - Ward Agricultural Officer (Central Seme)

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, with regards to the TOR, the discussions were made as follows:

1. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAWS, POLICIES AND REGULATIONS PASSED BY THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY SINCE INCEPTION OF DEVOLUTION

While interrogating the Officers on the above agenda, they made following submissions;

That they are not conversant with the County Assembly enacted legislations. The officers associated this with lack of continuous training by the department and poor information and Communication breakdown from the top offices to the Sub-County offices.

That they are cognizant of the National Government laws which were used during the defunct Local Governments hence applies the same for their current undertakings.

The Members enlightened the Officers that there are two Agricultural laws enacted by the County Assembly in 2019 and includes;

- a. Kisumu County Crop Act, 2019 (passed and now a law)
- b. Fisheries and Aquaculture Act, 2019.

The Committee urged the Officers to be proactive in their work and make efforts to access the legislations from the County website or from the Senior Officers for proper implementation of the laws.

2. VIABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICES AND THE CHALLENGES THE OFFICES ARE FACING REGARDING SERVICE PROVISION.

The Committee probed the viability of the sub-county and ward officers with regards to service provision to the farmers highlighting that an outcry has emerged from farmers that the impact of the Officers is not being felt on the ground.

The Officers in response stated as follow;

The Officers informed the Committee that they have rolled out a number of development projects in the area. For instance, the Home Economist has trained three groups on food and Nutrition through Kitchen Gardening.

The Sub-County Horticultural Officer through the National Project Shape Class Project has trained farmers on vegetable and fruit production utilizing the Pundo Kouche Irrigation Project in west Seme ward through drip lining irrigation system.

Further the Officers narrated the history of successful Horticultural groups brought up by the Department in Seme including;

- ✓ Inuka Women Group – Successfully Producing varieties of Vegetables
- ✓ Othany Farmers Group – Successfully Producing Watermelon
- ✓ Pundo Kouche – Producing Vegetables
- ✓ Lingo Boha – Largely Producing Grafted Mango
- ✓ Promotion value addition – West Seme Ward

The Committee was informed that shade nets that were supplied in Seme Cetral ward in the FY 2018/2019 were substandard. That the County went ahead and fully paid the Contractor for the Project without similar consideration to the Project Management Committee. The officers also informed the Committee that the Shade nets are kept at Inuka Youth Group.

The Officers consequently shared amongst the many challenges they are faced with as highlighted hereunder;

Lack of Staff training to get enriched with current and modern farming technologies such as the hydroponics crop production system.

Rapid extension services discouraged due to the Centralization of funds which poses difficulties in ready access to funds.

The staffs lack motivation since they have not been promoted since 2009.

The Offices needs renovation and improvement i.e. the Kombewa office hosting the SCAO, SCCO, SCHO is not partitioned and lacks Office furniture.

The Officers also expressed the need for daily subsistence allowance to facilitate their extension work.

That most of the Motorcycles meant for the Ward Agricultural Officers are grounded and were last serviced and fuelled in 2014. The Sub-County office has a vehicle attached to it but is not timely serviced. The Committee was informed that the SCAO using the vehicle fuels it from her own pocket for official duties. The vehicle was fuelled last in March 2019 and has been serviced twice from that time.

That the Officers are under staffed since a number have retired without replacements done.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF FARM INPUTS FUNDED FROM THE COVID 19 KITTY

The Committee inquired and investigated on the modalities, criteria and the impact of distribution of the above mentioned farm production inputs. The Supply of the farm inputs were funded from the Covid 19 Fund Account to salvage farmers from the gross negative effects of the global pandemic. The Committee sought to know the amount of farm inputs received by the SCAO from the Department (if signed S11), amount of seeds distributed in every ward by the SCAO, identification of beneficiaries and the number of beneficiaries, demonstration and training farmers on appropriate production techniques and the stakeholders involvement in the distribution process.

The Officers stated as follows in response the Concerns;

The SCAO confirmed that they received the Inputs from the Department though never signed an S11. The Officers used a locally established Committee to help in the distribution and identification of beneficiaries comprising of Departmental representative, MCA representative, Women Group Representative, Youth Group Representative and the area Chief. Additionally the SCAO informed the Committee that they do have established policies or structures regulating the distributions hence should be established.

To validate and verify the transparency of farm inputs distribution system to the farmers, the Committee requested to be provided with data on what was received from the Department visa a vie what was shared amongst the four Wards in Seme. The Committee then randomly sampled East Seme ward to ascertain the accuracy of the data given by the Sub-County Officers and to affirm if the shared inputs reached the intended benefactors.

The Committee demanded to be provided with the list of beneficiaries in East Seme at the Ward Administrators office and conducted a comparative analysis between the data given at the Sub-County Offices against the actuals as captured in the beneficiaries list. The table below summarizes the analysis;

Farm Input Supplied	Quantity Received in Sub-County Office	Quantity distributed to East Seme Ward	Quantity Issued to Benefactors in East Seme	Variance/ Missing items
BLACK NIGHTSHADE(25g Sachet)	341	85	78	7
AMARANTHUS (25g Sachet)	344	86	79	7
COW PEAS (25g Sachet)	74	19	13	6
KALES (25g Sachet)	208	52	46	6

TOMATO RIO GRANDE (25g Sachet)	131	33	32	1
ONIONS (25g Sachet)	116	29	22	7
BEAN SEED (GLP) (100ml pack) for North & Central Seme	100	Nil	-	-
GREEN GRAMS (100ml pack)	40	10	10	0
MAIZE (2kg packs) DH04-17, H13-34, PH4-125	78	44	36	8

Based on the analysis, it was determined that significant number of the farm inputs were missing and the officers could not justify the variances leading to a general conclusion that the fraud was well spread throughout the Sub-County.

The Committee directed the Ward Administrator and Ward Extension Officer who were in charge of the distribution in Seme East to ensure that all missing inputs are produced and issued to the rightful beneficiaries.

The Officers were also informed to involve all the stakeholders during the distribution process e.g. the office of the MCA and also establish a legitimate Committee that would in future ensure that the criteria of distribution is fair and transparent.

4. EFFICIENCY OF INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, REPORTS AND REPORTING ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT FROM TOP OFFICES TO BOTTOM OFFICES AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRUCTURAL LINKAGES.

From the joint discussions, it was established that the structures of communication and information within the Department from Senior Offices to Junior Offices at the ward and village level is weak and marred with thick information breakdown. The SCAO informed the committee that the Department even lacked structures where the Sub-County Officers could directly meet with the Chief Officer and the CECM and for their concerns to be addressed must pass through the Director. According to the Officers the system is ineffective and limits proper forward and backward flow information.

The Officers also informed the Committee that they generate two types of reports:

The annual reports done yearly and the weekly compiled food and situation reports. For the later, reports flows as summarized; WAO-SCCP- Agribusiness Development Officer-Director.

DAY II - MONDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, 2020

CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH AGRICULTURE OFFICERS IN KISUMU WEST SUB-COUNTY AT THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURE OFFICES IN OJOLLA.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, on this particular date the County Assembly delegation visited the above stated offices. The entourage arrived in Ojolla at 9:00am and stayed until 12:00noon. By the Departure time, no Sub-County Agricultural Officer, Livestock Officer or Fisheries Officer had reported in Office.

The Committee made efforts in reaching out to the SCAO one Mr. Olweru who kept the Committee in long waiting saying he was at the verge of arriving and eventually not showing up. This was an absolute indicator that the Officers are used to reporting late and reports to work at their will.

The Committee attributed the occurrence to the underperformance of the Agriculture Sector in the County.

DAY III – MONDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 2021

CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH AGRICULTURE OFFICERS IN MUHORONI SUB-COUNTY AT THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURE OFFICES IN CHEMELIL.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee proceeded to this sub-county on its 3rd day of the visits. The Committee held a joint discussion with the SCAO Mr. Arthur Hongo.

The Chair introduced the members and briefed the SCAO on the objective of visit.

The Committee then delved into the discussion guided by the TOR as stipulated below:

1. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAWS, POLICIES AND REGULATIONS PASSED BY THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY SINCE INCEPTION OF DEVOLUTION.

The following findings were made;

1. That the SCAO is not vast with the new laws enacted by the County Assembly.
2. That the officers in their opinion feel devolution has limited their powers hence they can no longer enforce Agricultural Plans and Policies. The SCAO adduced that previously, they worked with Chiefs and could sue people who were breaking laws i.e. those who were tilling along the Riverbanks and encouraging soil erosion.
3. The need for the following legislative proposals was also made;
 - Tea and Coffee regulations since Kisumu County farmers have ventured into producing the crops.
 - CESS regulation (Sugarcane).

2. VIABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICES AND THE CHALLENGES THE OFFICES ARE FACING REGARDING SERVICE PROVISION.

The SCAO stated as follows in relation to the achievements:

- ✓ That they have enhanced crop development and irrigation within the Sub-County
- ✓ They have offered sufficient extensional advice to farmers however some farmers are too conservative to take advices.
- ✓ They assist in crop protection i.e. controlling pest and diseases and ensures that over 6% slops in the sub-county are not destroyed.
- ✓ Riverbank protection.
- ✓ The Department is working closely with the National Irrigation Authority to identify other areas where irrigation can be done in the Sub-County.
- ✓ Training farmer groups on modern technologies and appropriate crops that can earn farmers quick revenue and promote value addition through the help of the Home Economist.

The Officer further made the following remarks in regards to Sugarcane and Rice Farming which are the major crops grown in the area;

- i. That rice farming in the area especially Ahero Irrigation Scheme is faced with marketing challenges. The Officer opined that the Cooperative Societies in place are not mature to address the advanced Marketing challenges currently befalling Ahero farmers.
- ii. That the rice marketing crisis can only be solved through value addition hence farmers urgently need efficient rice milling machines since most mills are old and outdated.
- iii. That most farmers are incurring heavy losses due to poor market for Sugarcane. To avert the problem, the Department is advising farmers to consider diversifying production and adopt high value market crops.
- iv. That the Sub-County has three public Sugarcane milling machines with one factory nonfunctional and the other two are underperforming subjecting farmers to poverty and food insecurity.

The Officer also mentioned amongst the challenges affecting their performance as embodied herewith;

- I. That the Officers are understaffed i.e. 3 ward extension officers for the 5 wards and no Horticultural officer for the sub-county.
- II. That in the next 2 years, only 3 officers will be left since most of the officers will be going for retirement.
- III. That the extension officers are not facilitated in their work e.g. transport.
- IV. That the Sub-County offices for a period of 3 years have been without electricity hindering efficiency of service delivery

The motor vehicle and motor cycles report from the Sub-County is as indicated below;

MOTOR
VEHICLES:

Vehicle registration	Station	Make and CC	Yr of man.	Mechanical status	Remarks
GK V505	Muhoroni	Mitsubishi Pajero, 3000 CC	1997	B2	Needs piston rings replacement and other repairs whose inspection report has been forwarded to the CO's office for action

MOTOR CYCLES:

GK A189B	Chemelil	Suzuki TS 185CC	2001	B2	Requires Minor repairs
GK A091S	Muhoroni	Yamaha AG100CC	2010	B1	Requires piston rings
GK A889N	Masogo	Yamaha DT 125CC	2007	B2	Requires Minor repairs
0	Ombeyi	N/A	N/A	N/A	Needs a M/c seriously
0	Miwani	N/A	N/A	N/A	Needs a M/c seriously

3. DISTRIBUTION OF FARM INPUTS FUNDED FROM COVID 19 KITTY

The Committee established that two months from the date of supply, some inputs had not been distributed to the beneficiary.

The SCAO was urged to involve all the stakeholders during the distribution process e.g. the office MCA and to establish a legitimate Committee that would in future ensure that the criteria of distribution is fair and transparent.

Details of Distribution of the farm inputs mentioned above is attached on this report (see annex IV).

4. EFFICIENCY OF INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, REPORTS AND REPORTING ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT FROM TOP OFFICES TO BOTTOM OFFICES AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRUCTURAL LINKAGES.

From the joint discussions, it was established that the structures of communication and information within the Department from Senior Offices to Junior Offices at the Sub-County, ward and village level is very weak leading information breakdown.

In his submission, he indicated that there are two types of reports generated from his office;

The annual reports done yearly and the weekly compiled food and situation reports. For the latter, reports flows as summarized; WAO-SCCP-SCAO-Director.

DAY IV – MONDAY, 18TH JANUARY, 2021

CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH AGRICULTURE OFFICERS IN NYAKACH SUB-COUNTY AT THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURE OFFICES IN PAP ONDITI.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee proceeded to the above Sub-County on its 4th day of the visits. The Committee was welcomed by the Sub-County Crops Officer and Ward Livestock Extension Officer, Mr. Kennedy Omundo and Benson Langat respectively who were representing the SCAO and SCLO who were on official duties away from office.

The Chair called the meeting to order, introduced members and thereafter lead the team into the discussions;

- 1) ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAWS, POLICIES AND REGULATIONS PASSED BY THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY SINCE INCEPTION OF DEVOLUTION.

The following findings were made;

- The Officers are not cognizant of the Agricultural laws enacted by the County Assembly indicating suggesting lack of proper training by their senior colleagues hence applies the domesticated National Laws to run their operations.
 - The Committee urged the Officers to be vibrant in their work and ensure that they get accessed to the legislations for action and implementation.
 - It was also established that the officers do not understand the Budget making processing despite being the implementers of the budget.
2. VIABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICES AND THE CHALLENGES THE OFFICES ARE FACING REGARDING SERVICE PROVISION.

The Officers made the following submissions regarding their achievements.

That,

- I. Fertilizers and pasture seeds were given to Dairy farmers in 2016 for promotion of dairy farming.
- II. Several trainings conducted to educate farmers on proper handling and management of Livestock. The officers adduced that most trainings have been facilitated by NGOs
- III. The officers are implementing donor projects e.g. Kodikre Water pan sponsored by KCSAP
- IV. The Officers have initiated a group extension network to help outreach most farmers due to understaffing.

- V. That South East ward, South West Ward and North ward have largely benefitted from the County Livestock distribution program improving food security and nutrition of the populace.

The major challenges the Officers are facing while discharging their mandate is as listed below;

- a) That the Ward Extension Officers lacks transport, facilitation and appropriate equipment to effectively carry out their extension work.
- b) That most staffs are retiring and not getting replaced leading to great understaffing hence poor performance. The officers hinted that in the next four years the entire Sub-County will only have two officers left.
- c) Lack of enough office space for all the Officers i.e. the Committee was informed that the Central Nyakach WAO was to be relocated to Harambee in an Office which is incomplete.

3. DISTRIBUTION OF FARM INPUTS FUNDED FROM COVID 19 KITTY

- i. The SCCO informed the Committee that they received a consignment of different seeds from the Department through the Director. The seeds were further distributed to the WAO for onward supplies to the beneficiaries.
- ii. That the WAO identified beneficiaries from farmer groups and individual farm visits. Consequently, the farmers were trained before issuance of the seeds to enhance productivity of the input supplies.
- iii. That they are faced with challenges in assessing the status and development of the distributed seeds due shortage of Staff.
- iv. The Committee established that there is a ring of the know farmers who usually benefit during farm input distribution preventing other farmers from equally enjoying the provisions.
- v. Finally it was established that there is poor stakeholder involvement in the distribution process e.g. the office of the MCA is not fully acknowledged in the distribution process yet they serve same goals.

4. EFFICIENCY OF INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, REPORTS AND REPORTING ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT FROM TOP OFFICES TO BOTTOM OFFICES AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRUCTURAL LINKAGES.

The Committee established that there is unsystematic backward and forward flow of information leading to disconnect on various sensitive issues.

The Officers described their weekly reporting system as summered below;

That weekly food and situation reports are generated from the WAO and compiled by the SCAO who finally submits them to the Director for action.

Note: The officers failed to submit the farm input distribution reports and list of beneficiaries as resolved by the Committee during the deliberations.

DAY V – MONDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 2021

CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH AGRICULTURAL OFFICERS IN KISUMU CENTRAL SUB-COUNTY AT THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURE OFFICES AT DCS OFFICE.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee continued with the visits to the above mentioned sub-county. The delegation was welcomed by the SCAO Madam Monica Aluoch.

The Chair called the meeting to order and introduced members.

In attendance

1. Monica Aluoch - SCAO
2. David Simeo – Sub County Crops Officer
3. Mercy Opondo - Sub County Livestock Officer
4. Hezron Ogada - Sub County Agribusiness Officer
5. Florence Rieko – Ward Agricultural Officer (Kisumu East and Central ward)

The Joint Committee deliberated on the matters as described below:

- 1) ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AGRICULTURAL LAWS, POLICIES AND REGULATIONS PASSED BY THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY SINCE INCEPTION OF DEVOLUTION.

The following findings were made;

- That the Officers are not privy to the laws and regulations enacted by the County assembly hence operating amorphously.
 - That the officers do not understand the Budget making processes.
- 2) VIABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICES AND THE CHALLENGES THE OFFICES ARE FACING REGARDING SERVICE PROVISION.

The Officers made the following submissions regarding their achievements;

- I. Training farmers on various modern farming techniques i.e. farmers within the urban areas have been trained and encouraged to adopt Peri-urban agriculture.
- II. Provision of extension services to the farmers through youth groups and Barrazas.

- III. Promotion of Climate resilient crops in collaboration with KARI.
- IV. Demonstration of fodder planting and distribution of dairy livestock.

The major challenges facing the Officers while discharging their mandate are as listed below;

- a. That the Ward Extension Officers lacks transport, facilitation and appropriate equipment to effectively carry out their extension work.
- b. That Central Sub-County and Kisumu East Sub-County agricultural and Livestock officers are both hosted at DCs offices next to Kisumu Law Court. This has great disadvantage to the farmers who needs most of the services closer and in the immediate farmlands.
- c. That the officers attached in Kisumu Central Sub-County are doubling up for Kisumu East hence reduced productivity due to great responsibility.
- d. That most staffs are retiring and not getting replaced leading to great understaffing hence poor performance. The officers informed that in 2 years' time, under Agriculture directorate only 2 officers will be remaining in office while 3 staffs will be remaining from the livestock directorate in the entire Sub-County.
- e. Lack of adequate office space for all the Officers.

3) DISTRIBUTION OF FARM INPUTS FUNDED FROM COVID 19 KITTY

The SCAO informed the Committee that they received a consignment of different seeds from the Department through the Director and equally signed an S11. The seeds were further distributed to the WAO for onward supplies to the identified beneficiaries.

That the WAO identified beneficiaries from farmer groups and individual farm visits. Consequently, the farmers were trained before issuance of the seeds to enhance productivity of the input supplies.

N/B: The officers refused to share the list of beneficiaries of the farm inputs and the data detailing the amounts received against amounts distributed questioning the transparency and accountability of the process.

4) EFFICIENCY OF INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, REPORTS AND REPORTING ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT FROM TOP OFFICES TO BOTTOM OFFICES AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRUCTURAL LINKAGES.

- 1. The Committee noted that the communication and information system is poor and inefficient.
- 2. That no feedback is received by the officers for most of the reports submitted to the Department.
- 3. There is also exhibited weak linkages between senior and junior officers and offices in the Department.

NOTE: The Officers failed to submit the minutes for their meetings as agreed, documentaries for group activities and reports submitted to the Department as resolved during the joint meeting. On this basis the committee determined that the Officers lacks proper justification and support evidence for the achievements they had mentioned.

DAY VI – MONDAY, 01ST FEBRUARY, 2021

CONSULTATIVE FORUM WITH AGRICULTURAL OFFICERS IN KISUMU EAST SUB-COUNTY AT THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURE OFFICES AT DCS OFFICE.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee on this particular date visited the above Sub-County. The Committee was welcomed by the Sub-County Agricultural Officer Madam Monica Aluoch.

The Chair called the meeting to order, introduced members and thereafter led the sitting into discussions;

1) VIABILITY AND ACHIEVEMENT OF THE SUB-COUNTY AGRICULTURAL OFFICES AND THE CHALLENGES THE OFFICES ARE FACING REGARDING SERVICE PROVISION.

The Officers made the following submissions regarding their achievements;

1. Training farmers on various modern farming techniques i.e. farmers within the urban areas have been trained and encouraged to adopt Peri-urban agriculture.
2. They provide extension services to the farmers through youth groups and Barrazas.
3. Promotion of Climate resilient crops in collaboration with KARI.
4. Demonstration of fodder planting and distribution of dairy livestock.

The major challenges facing the Officers while discharging their mandate are as listed below; Kisumu East Sub-County and Central are faced with similar challenges since they are under management and administration of same officers.

That Central Sub-County and Kisumu East Sub-County agricultural and Livestock officers are both hosted at DCs offices next to Kisumu Law Court. This has great disadvantage to the farmers who needs most of the services closer and to their immediate farmlands.

2) DISTRIBUTION OF FARM INPUTS FUNDED FROM COVID 19 KITTY

The Officers acknowledged receipt of the farm inputs however did not provide details of amounts received and distributed to the beneficiaries as resolved during the Committee deliberations.

3) EFFICIENCY OF INFORMATION DISSEMINATION, REPORTS AND REPORTING ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT FROM TOP OFFICES TO BOTTOM OFFICES AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STRUCTURAL LINKAGES.

Information obtained in regards to the above agenda was consistent to that of Kisumu Central.

MOBILITY

That the Agriculture Directorate has a vehicle but has been grounded since March, 2020.

The vehicle attached to the Livestock Directorate was withdrawn in 2019 and is currently being used by Director Livestock.

That the extension officers do not have motorcycles to aid their operations.

- The Committee observed that, the Sub-County Agricultural Offices are poorly managed and maintained e.g. untidy, busy, neglected hence needs immediate rehabilitation and renovation.

Recommendations

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee in consideration of the observations and findings made during the visits, derived this recommendations to promote the development of the Agriculture sector in the County. That,

- 1) The Department should improve and advance its Communication and information systems to enhance efficiency of services. This would promote reports and reporting system and further strengthen the structural linkages across the system.
- 2) The Department should establish a stronger performance monitoring and evaluation framework for the staffs to ensure that value for money is realized. This would minimize the high rate of absenteeism and late reporting to work by staff observed during the visits.
- 3) The Department should involve all stakeholders when drafting legislations and train their staff on all laws enacted by the County Assembly. The proposed Tea and Coffee bill and Cess Bill (for sugar) should be fast tracked and other pending legislations and regulations be submitted to the assembly for ratification.
- 4) The Officers should be trained on the Budget making process for better understanding of the Budget cycle.
- 5) The County Public Service Board should employ and deploy enough agricultural officers to replace the retired officers for effective service delivery to the residents.
- 6) Kisumu East Agricultural offices be urgently transferred to Nyabera to bring services closer to the people for increased productivity.
- 7) Departmental projects and activities be properly documented and recorded in order to justify the success and achievements and provide basis for consideration for increased budgetary allocation to the sector.
- 8) The Department should repair all the grounded vehicles and motorcycles kept in various Sub-Counties and provide the Officers with enough mobility and facilitation to enhance proper extension services.
- 9) The CECM for ALF be invited to respond to various concerns raised based on the findings detailed in this report i.e. understaffing, absenteeism, need for legislations and regulations.

- 10) The Department of Business Cooperatives and Markets to work closely with the Agriculture Department to strengthen and empower upcoming Cooperatives Societies and address Marketing Challenges affecting rice farmers in Ahero.
- ❖ Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Committee was not able to conduct visits to Nyando Sub-County since the date for the visit coincided with the date the Assembly called for a special sitting to lay the Constitution Amendment Bill, 2020. In this regard, the Committee rescheduled the visit to a later date.
 - ❖ The Committee remains cognizant to the fact that Kisumu County is a potential agricultural zone with potential and fertile land with untapped resources and on optimal utilization by combining appropriate factors of production will achieve food sufficiency, increased productivity and increased revenues.

CONCLUSION

The Committee would like to implore this House to deliberate and consider adopting this report and ensure that resolutions passed in this House are communicated to the Department appropriately. Thank you. I therefore call upon Hon. Obonyo to second our report. Thank you
The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Obonyo.

Deputy Majority Whip (Hon. Obonyo): Thank you Madam Speaker. I second.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Thank you Honourable Members. A report on the Consultative Forum with County Agricultural Officers in each Sub County and Assessment of the Distribution of Covid-19 Farm Inputs to Farmers by the Department of Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation has been read by Hon. Ogaga and seconded by Hon. Obonyo. I therefore propose a question that the report is open for debate.

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

Hon. Okiri: Thank you Madam Speaker. Today, I am not going to reject the report because Hon. Ogaga signaled me to go through the report in finer details. I therefore rise to support this report though with a few comments.

Madam Speaker, a good report must not be voluminous. It could be about two or three pages but still makes an excellent report. The Standing Committee wants to hoodwink this House by presenting a voluminous report that has only 10 per cent on meaningful substance.

Madam Speaker, I do not wish to speak much because Hon. Ogaga had shared with me of which I do not want to get into. However, I wish to invite you to consider recommendation No. 10 (a). Madam Speaker, the Standing/Departmental Committee is submitting that they could not go to Nyando. In this County if you cannot visit Nyando and Muhoroni in matters agriculture then you're being unfair to this House. These are the places that can best demonstrate what is happening on the ground.

Madam Speaker, it is now clear that the Standing Committee did not go to Nyando because they were rushing to the Assembly for a Special sitting. Did the Committee know that what was taking them to Nyando was equally important? Madam Speaker, this House can only run efficiently if Committees effectively perform assigned tasks. It was inconsiderate for the Standing Committee to rush for the special sitting at the expense of its work.

Madam Speaker, the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) Bill was laid around February. Four months later, the Standing Committee failed to visit Nyando. This is July and still we are waiting to get what is happening in Nyando.

Madam Speaker, on recommendation No. 5. The County Public Service Board should employ and deploy enough Agricultural Officers to replace those exiting. A Departmental Committee that has been in this House for this period will still go and ask the CPSB to do the same because they can only do so if the department has made a formal request. I was calling it voluminous because you might see that the report is big but what is written in it is irrelevant. Unless there is an annex indicating that they have written to the CPSB but they haven't responded.

Madam Speaker, on item No. 9 on the recommendations. That the PM to be inverted to respond to the various concerns based on the findings. However, the Standing Committee is now telling us the action they will take is to invite the CEC Member to respond to these concerns. What are we doing here then? This is their mandate of this Standing Committee and we expected them to have said that they had already invited the CEC Member for Agriculture, Livestock Fisheries, and Irrigation and presented us with the responses. Whether or not the report is passed, it must go back because they are requesting to invite the CEC Member hence this report will be eligible after the CEC appears before the Committee. Nevertheless, Madam Speaker, I support the report with those reservations, thank you.

The temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes, Hon. Erick Agolla.

Hon. Agolla: Thank you Madam Speaker, I stand to oppose this report. Reading Standing Order No. 193 that the Committee has referred to, part 5 (a), (b) and (c), 5a (*The functions of a Sectoral Committee*)- reads "A sectoral committee shall investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate and management of activity administration operation and estimates of the assigned departments.

Madam Speaker, what the committee went out to do was to fact find which was quite fundamental and the report from the committee on the Consultative Forum with the Sub-County Agricultural Officers in each Sub-county and Assessment of Distribution of Covid-19 Farm Inputs to Farmers by the Department of Agriculture, livestock , Fisheries and Irrigation. I remember the Governor flagging the distribution of Covid-19 farm inputs when we were inaugurating Ahero to be a town. I'm a representative of South-West Kisumu area and our farm inputs were to be distributed from Maseno but the Committee has alluded that the officers were not ready to give them the

information about the farm inputs. We did not get any farm input from the Covid-19 funds yet it was channeled to all counties, and these are the same funds that we have lots of questions about its expenditure.

Farmers have been affected by the pandemic, and if that money comes from World Bank and channeled through National Government to the County Governments departments and then the Standing Committee brings a report saying that junior sub-county officers could not avail the report. In addition, they are coming up without any report saying what action they took because the Standing Order is quite clear that they should take action against any officer, in this case the CEC Member who couldn't avail the report. Madam Speaker, the Department of Agriculture should be investigated because it's dying. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Agolla, I believe that the Departmental Committee has brought to the House on what they found. You as the Chair, of the Committee on Implementation will see what to do about it.

Hon. Agolla: Madam Speaker, the guiding principle is the Standing Order, that is why I started by referring to the Standing Order No. 193 which stipulated what roles the Sectoral Committees should have been adhered to by listing the actions taken against what was not done.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): please continue.

Hon. Agolla: Madam Speaker, I must be shown in this report involving the Department of Fisheries and with a letter head of the Department but without that I must reject it because I represent the interest of fishermen. Why couldn't the Standing Committee investigate the challenges faced by the fishermen? Were they not affected by the pandemic? Are they also members of this public?

The temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): What is it Hon. Paul Okiri?

Hon. Okiri: Madam Speaker, this House won't go with what Hon. Erick Agolla wants but what the committee was mandated to do, and this report not only talks about fisheries but also, Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation. So, probably next time when a report is brought on fisheries only, he will be right to say so but today we will be discussing in totality what the report entails.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Eric Agola, I hope Hon. Okiri has guided you.

Hon. Agola: Madam Speaker, I have gotten nothing from Hon. Paul Okiri because I don't know he stood on which Standing Order. This is a House of Order.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): He talked of a point of information.

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

Hon. Okiri: Madam Speaker, you need to ask Hon. Agola to apologize for not being keen when you are communicating to your Members because you gave me permission as a Member to rise on a point of information. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Agola, I hope you have heard that.

Hon. Agola: Madam Speaker, I was moving a point that should be captured by the Committee Clerk for this House Committee. The committee was fact finding on livestock, fisheries, irrigation and agriculture. But in the report, nowhere is indicated that they visited the fisheries, the fishing community so that they can put in writing the challenges or the benefits that the fisheries have gotten from the Covid-19 funds.

The fishmongers or the Fisheries Department was also affected by Covid-19 and that is why this Standing Committee ought to have enquired from the County Executive the interventions that have been put in place to help mitigate this. The problem with Hon. Okiri is that he did not get lunch. You should address that as soon as we finish with the debate.

Madam Speaker, I was stressing that the Covid-19 funds did not cover the fishermen or the fish traders, at least going by this report. This department is always spending funds and we don't see results yet agriculture is the backbone of every economy. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): What is it Hon. Pamela Odhiambo?

Hon. Pamela Odhiambo: Thank you Madam Speaker. I have gone through this report. In the challenges, they have talked of staff who retired and have not been replaced. I don't know how that is related to the consultative meeting on Covid-19 farm inputs. I find this report out of order and I cannot support it.

However, the findings of the report are true with the department. The House Committee has however not brought the report that they were tasked to do. So we might need to give them more time to bring the required report. Thank you.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Rashid Miruka.

Hon. Miruka: Thank you Madam Speaker for the opportunity. I am here to talk on an item that my fellow colleagues have really tried to find any value if it befits what we have in the document.

Madam Speaker, as has been earlier mentioned they have somehow deviated from the mainstream of what we expected from them. The main thing that could have guided the discussion was the impact of Covid-19 Fund Input of a Sub-County. If that could have been expressly stated, then, I believe that all of us would have had what to contribute on. Nonetheless, I am saying that the other items that they have introduced as has been echoed by Hon. Pamela Odhiambo are also key but they did not mention other items on growth. They talked about some Sub-Counties lacking infrastructure. However, in their recommendation, I did not see where they have talked about how

we can get the infrastructure. To Hon. Judith, in your response, you should be able to capture that to form part of the recommendation.

Madam Speaker, I also looked at their recommendation about challenge of having staffs who are fully equipped and not having less staff at the moment. I wonder whether they considered the Wage Bill that the County has, even at the moment, most of the development projects cannot be done because of the Wage Bill that we have if the Committee recommends that the County hires more staffs; or will our development projects continue.

Madam Speaker, another issue that I want to talk about is that they have mentioned so well and these factors goes to the Sub-Counties that they managed to reach. That they do not have the ability, they do not have the capability of understanding the Budget Making Process yet they are the implementers. Madam Speaker, I believe that the other good thing that the Standing Committee would have done after getting the information from the Sub-Counties is that they ought to have visited the department; talk to them and diagnose what they have gotten from the field and ask the department what they have done including the arrangement they have. I believe if they could have done that and then they bring the item with the document, we would have been convinced and be able to share what best we can do our County. That is an anomaly that they did that.

As was mentioned by Hon. Paul Okiri, it becomes so unfortunate. It was rather a waste of stationery having compiling one item from one Subcounty to another. We needed a helpful information for us solve the problem that we have.

As I conclude, I want to suggest that we encourage the Standing Committee to go back to the Department of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries so that they can find out what they got from the Sub-Counties, then we be able to discuss it. Otherwise, to me I still feel, it is still a no, thank you Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Hon. Vincent Jagongo.

Hon. Jagongo: Thank you Madam Speaker. I am not a member of this House Committee but, I want to begin by thanking them for bringing the job that they have done.

Madam Speaker, the title of the report and the content do not tally. If you look at what has been reported and the title, they do not go along. I believe that the committee need to do more than this.

Another issue is that we have discussed the issue of stock-taking in the Department of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries for quite a while. I believe also that it is high time that we need to compel the department to get to know the Assets that we have. That is because, we keep on talking about vehicles that are grounded and other assets for the department. So, I believe that it is high time that we get to know the assets that the department has but they are not making good use of.

Madam Speaker, there are issues on that department. We all know that in this same department, we have the Extension Officers who are not doing their work properly. Madam Speaker, the backbone of this County depends on agriculture especially my ward (North West Kisumu) which entirely depends on agriculture.

We have a facility known as Maseno Agriculture Training Center (Maseno ATC). These are some of the issues that we have been talking about like the ones which have been mentioned here. It would have been good if they visited Kisumu West Sub-County because I believe that from there, they would have seen what is happening at Maseno ATC.

The Hon. Members who attended a meeting at Maseno that was named Maseno 1, saw for themselves how facilities are underutilized. I plead with the House Committee to move to other Sub-counties also and see what is going on so that we can improve our economy as a County through that department. Otherwise, I request that the Standing Committee should do more work on what they were mandated to go and do, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Philemon Ojuok.

Hon. Ojuok: Thank you very much Madam Speaker. First I want to thank the committee for bringing us the information that was not available in this House. Unfortunately, when I look at the title, it should be; *Factors Ailing the Productivity of the Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries Department in Kisumu County*.

However, the title that I am seeing here, whichever they have written inside is very different. So, it is impossible to support this report. Considering the fact that the Chairperson of this Standing Committee is a committed and a honest person, and I also know that he was involved with some issues concerning his mum -I met him and he was so much busy- I am very sure that he did not get time to go through the report especially the title and the content.

Madam Speaker, I therefore want to appreciate sentiments raised by Hon. Members. Again, the Implementation Committee should take over this report and use the content for some other issues in the same way they have highlighted some issues affecting that department. This is a department that operates on their own without coordination. For instance, at the ward level, you will find out that the offices are operated with the area chiefs. Mostly, the information just reach you since they cannot transport the items without you funding the transportation cost and I have seen they have documented that issue so well.

Madam Speaker, I am requesting that considering the Covid-19 Funds and the pilferages and everything that is going around is so much that someone may think that they were going around because they were aiding the people who have not accounted for this Emergency Covid-19 Funds inputs. Madam Speaker, I would request that you accord this Standing Committee more time to go back and get the most important information that this House requires. I regret not to support. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Olang'o.

Hon. Olang'o. Thank you Madam Speaker. Going by the mood of the House, I want to call upon the mover to reply. Thank you.

Hon. Samo: Madam Speaker, I would like to seek your indulgence. I am a member of this Standing Committee and I want to give a word or two on this report.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Member, I believe that your contribution has been overtaken by events, because the mover has been called upon to reply. I believe that Hon. Olang'o rose up before you.

(Applause)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): The mover, it is your time to reply.

Hon. Ogaga: Thank you Madam Speaker. Let me take this opportunity to appreciate the Hon. Members for robustly and exceedingly deliberating on this report.

Madam Speaker, foremost, I want to say that the Committee did not visit the Nyando Sub-county due to time constraints and these visits have been rescheduled and this is because we really valued the Special Sitting as a result of the business that was there to be transacted which was the Constitutional of Kenya (Amendment) Bill commonly known as the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) Bill which is coming with so many goodies. So, as a Standing Committee, we really wanted to be present to give this Bill the undivided and necessary support and equally support "Baba" for this.

Madam Speaker, I want to assure this House that very soon, we are going to visit Nyando Sub-county and do our report.

Madam Speaker, on Staffing. In our communique inviting the CEC Member in-charge of this portfolio. This has been included and when he appears before the Committee, we shall get a way-forward. This is because as it has been mentioned, the Wage Bill is soaring high but we require the technical staff to assist our people on the ground. The department and the Standing Committee has been busy even and it is the reason there was a delay. Madam Speaker, you are all aware that Sectoral Committees have been busy with the Budget Making process and this has been concluded with and we are going to finish up or bridge the gap that are missing. Once we convene a meeting with the Department of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries including the key persons it shall be well and we shall report back and share with this House on our findings.

Madam Speaker, in cases where distribution of Farm Inputs could not be accounted for. The Committee had their reservations as to why this happened. This is because, once you undertake implementation where there is a Ward Committee in-charge of this. I believe there should have been a report. Madam Speaker, when we requested that we be furnished with these reports, the

Committee could not do so and we wondered why. Madam Speaker, investigations on this matter are ongoing which is being undertaken by the Department, ultimately, we will be furnished with reports of what transpired when we will be having a meeting with the Department.

Madam Speaker, on the aspect of Fisheries. This was not handled as much as it is one of the mandates and functions of the Committee as indicated in the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010. Madam Speaker, it is in the Committees' next assignment. In our last meeting, part of the discussions we had was on the Committee can undertake visits in Sub-counties where fishing is predominantly practiced.

Madam Speaker, on the Challenges that our Officers are encountering in their line of duty. This came out and we had to mention them because as a Committee we wanted to know why the Department has been flagged out and the reasons it is not performing as expected. So, in our visits to the fields, when these officers brought out their challenges, we had to include these in our report so that this House is made aware why the productivity of this department is dwindling and find the best way forward.

The Committee evaluated and assessed what they did because there are Members who have been talking about this topic. As a Standing Committee, we chose to work on that topic and not the impact of Covid-19. The Covid-19 Support was implemented and the impact cannot be felt immediately. It takes time to get the anticipated impact. Therefore, we were looking at how these inputs were distributed to our farmers and the impact will be assessed after sometimes.

Madam Speaker, on infrastructure, this is really wanting in all the Sub-counties. These officers are poorly officed and some don't even have offices. This we have similarly communicated and we are waiting to be furnished with plans the Departments is having for their staff on the ground.

Madam Speaker, on the Agricultural Training College (ATC) in Maseno. The Committee has had a series of meetings with the Department. We are aware how badly it is doing and we have had meetings with the leadership of ATC and this is being addressed as we speak. So, very soon it will be brought up as a Statement and we shall furnish this House with a comprehensive report on the same.

Madam Speaker, with all that, I really want to appreciate our farmers for the good job that they are doing to ensure that we are food secure and I would seek your indulgence that you give us a way forward. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Thank you very much. The report from the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee on a Consultative forum with Subcounty Agricultural Officers all the Sub-counties on the Assessment of the Distribution of Covid-19 Farm Inputs to Farmers by the Department of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation was brought to this House by the Chairperson, Hon. Otura and moved by Hon. Ogaga on behalf of the Chairperson,

Hon. Otura. This was seconded by Hon. Obonyo well debated on. I would like to put a question on the same?

(Question put and negatived)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Members, today Thursday, 01st July, 2021, The report from the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee on a Consultative forum with Subcounty Agricultural Officers in all the Sub-counties on the Assessment of Distribution of Covid-19 Farm inputs to farmers by the Department of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries and Irrigation has been rejected. Thank you.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Members, there being no any other business to transact, this House stands adjourned until Tuesday, 06th July, 2021 at 02:30 p.m.

(House arose at 04:23 p.m.)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Senior Hansard Reporter

Edward Odanga – Hansard Reporter

Fanuel Okode – Hansard Reporter

Patrick Okoyo – Hansard Reporter

Jacklyne Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Denis Onyango – Hansard Reporter

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