

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION

Tuesday, 31st August, 2021

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

(The Speaker (Hon. Elisha Jack Oraro) in the Chair)

PRAYERS

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

(Quorum bell rung for five minutes)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): The Majority Whip, can confirm if we have quorum.

Chief Whip (Hon. Misachi): Mr. Speaker, there is quorum.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Mr. Clerk, please take us through the Order Paper of today.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to welcome you to this session. I also want to remind you of the Ministry of Health Protocols on Covid-19. Put on your masks to cover both your mouth and nose. Ensure that you use a sanitized microphone. I also want to communicate that I got a message from our Minority Whip Hon. Ken Ageng'o that he will be burying his mother on Friday 3rd September, 2021. Those who will find time, kindly attend the burial.

At the same time, I want to communicate that we shall launch our Strategic Plan on Friday 3rd September, 2021 at Grand Royal Swiss Hotel from 9:00 a.m. The whole ceremony will take approximately one or two hours so that there is enough time for Members who may wish to attend to other functions including the burial that I have mentioned to do so. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!

MESSAGES

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I have got a message from the Governor of Kisumu County. He is grateful for the County Assembly having passed the Kisumu County Lakefront Development Corporation Bill, 2021 which he assented to today 31st August, 2021 after the Assembly adopted the Bill for the second time based on the memorandum he sent to us earlier. He is confirming that the Kisumu County Lakefront Development Corporation was launched and the first Board has been inaugurated. He is only seeking for your further assistance in the consequential Regulations and any other law that is necessary for the implementation of the Kisumu County Lakefront Development Corporation Act. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!

MOTION

ENHANCEMENT OF AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT THROUGH INCREASED
BUDGETARY ALLOCATION TO 3% OF THE TOTAL ALLOCATION FROM THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BY

HON. SALLY OKUDO

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Sally Okudo.

Hon. Okudo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. Aware that the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 Part 2 (1) (e) provides that Fisheries is a devolved function. Further aware that Fisheries Management and Development Act, 2016 Section 34, provides that a County Government may develop Fisheries Management Plan.

Concerned that in the past financial years, we have not been allocating adequate funds to Development and Management of Aquaculture in our county. Noting that Kisumu County is blessed with Lake Victoria which is a natural resource and remains underutilized.

Cognizant to that fact that, the Public Finance Management Act, 2021 section 131 bestows upon this House the powers to approve the County Government Budget Estimates, with or without amendments. Proposes that improving aquaculture through development of value chain addition,

construction of landing bays, acquisition of cooling plants, construction of market places, development and sustainability of aqua parks, training and standardization will automatically lead to creation of employment which in turn boost the dwindling own source revenue collection during this Covid-19 period.

This Assembly resolves in the best interest of the county and its residence, that we boost aquaculture development through increased budgetary allocation and set at least 3% of Agriculture Budget to aquaculture. May I request Hon. Maureen Otiang' to second.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Otiang'.

Hon. Otiang': Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to second the motion. Kisumu County is next to Lake Victoria and currently the fish business is currently dwindling. This is an important motion that will encourage people to do aquaculture. I am one of the people who do fish farming and I believe that the proposal of 3 per cent can be a game changer in this sector. Remember there are several people who are willing to do fish farming and with the support of the National Government, we shall be able to boost our economy. I encourage Members to support the report, I second.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, the motion has been tabled by Hon. Okudo and seconded by Hon. Otiang'. I now want to open it for discussion.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. George Ogutu.

Hon. Ogutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker. This is an important motion and I believe that we need to support the Aquaculture commerce in the county. Increasing of aquaculture budgetary allocation should not be limited to areas that are surrounding the lake. I represent a Ward surrounded by the lake and most beneficiary of these Aquaculture Commerce even those being undertaken by the County Government, there are questions which we as a House need to ask.

Mr. Speaker, it has been said or it has been the prayers of the motions that we as a House consider increasing the percentage allocation to a bare minimum of 3% of the Departmental Budgetary Allocation to aquaculture which I believe is gallant. Mr. Speaker, if we relook at the Budget Estimates of the County. Let us take it for instance that, the Budgetary Allocation for Kisumu County is Kshs 10 Billion, if it is Kshs 10 Billion let us do simple computation of the proposed 3% of the Kshs 10 billion which translates to Kshs 300 million if I am not wrong.

Mr. Speaker, this Budgetary Allocation will be allocated to the Department of Agriculture, specifically to the Aquaculture Sub-sector. I thought that this amount of money or the proposer of the motion had a varied opinion as to where we were to get this 3% allocation. Mr. Speaker, if the proposed allocation of 3% is emanating from the total County Budget Estimates, the, I am a little bit skeptic. This is because is the total County Budget is Kshs 10 billion and out of the amount we reallocate Kshs 300 million to the Aquaculture Sub-sector, then it is my belief that other Sub-sectors will bear the brunt.

Mr. Speaker, it could have been prudent if the mover of this motion would have further enlightened this House as to whether this allocation was to originate from the National Government or it was to be funded by our Budget. This is because we are all aware that we have occasionally experience the inadequacy of funds within our purview and I have offered examples. Mr. Speaker, a very substantive example is that is we allocate the proposed Kshs 300 million which I believe is a virtuous idea because as we speak there is a lot of funds from our development partners being pumped to that sub-sector to the tune of Kshs 300 million. This is from KCAP.

Mr. Speaker, my only fear is that, if this particular proposal is to be funded by the County Budget, the, that implies that we are going to starve some of the sub-sector with funds. I believe that Agriculture is widespread and we are talking of Aquaculture. We have left out the Dairy Industry, the Crop Sub-sector. Mr. Speaker, if one particular Sub-sector can be allocated Kshs 300 million from the total Budgetary Allocation of the County, then I believe that we are not getting it right. Mr. Speaker, my argument is, if the motion mover had a different perspective on where we intend to get these funds, then, I would have delightedly supported this motion 100% because my people in West Nyakach Ward will be the first people to benefit from Aquaculture. Mr. Speaker, on the same note, we cannot starve the County of resources because one small Sub-sector this is not the entire Department because when we talk of Agriculture, it is all-inclusive but, we are only talking of the Aquaculture Sub-sector.

Mr. Speaker, our Development Partners have done a wonderful work because they have injected a lot of funds into this Sub-sector but, these funds hardly reach the people whom it is intended to reach. I believe that we had a meeting with this Department on the side of KCAP. I must be open and state that there is questioning business going on with these funds allocated by these partners. If the mover of this motion convinces this House that Development Partners are ready to inject funds into this venture, then, I will not mind but to support this motion 100% increase of Budgetary Allocation to this Sub-sector. Mr. Speaker, is this motion is dependent on the County Budget to reallocate this percentage, then we are getting it wrong because we equally have other Departments which deserve this allocations. Mr. Speaker, with those few remarks, I believe that if the mover of this motion can convince this House, then, I am willing and ready to support this motion 100%. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Leader of Minority.

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Thank you Mr. Speaker. The motion before us here is pertinent and we need to reflect back that this House had approved the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act, 2019. So, what does the motion entail?

Mr. Speaker, the motion is informing us that we need to pass this so that 3% of the Agriculture Budgetary Allocation in Kisumu goes to Aquaculture Sub-sector. Mr. Speaker, I repeat that 3% of the Agriculture Budget goes to Aquaculture Sub-sector. When this happens, in consultation with the Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food Security, there is the donor funding

that the National Government will add Kisumu County. Only if it happens. So, now what I would like to raise is that, if the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act has been approved by this House, and there was an omission of this 3%. This should have been brought in the form of a motion or an amendment ought to have been done on the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act, 2019.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that, when there donor funding that is coming, and there is an instruction attached to it, that the County must do this to enable it access that finding, that is the way we should go. Mr. Speaker, just like the Climate Change Fund which was passed by this House and 2% of the County Budget should be allocated to the Kisumu County Climate Change Act. Mr. Speaker, when that is done, the Nairobi Office under the Climate Change will also add Kisumu County some funds. I believe that is the way we should go. So, the most important issue that we should address which I believe is a very important issue for this County because an Act had been passed, there is a funding looming that we should access, should we pass this as a motion...

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is the Point of Order Leader of Majority?

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): On a Point of Order. Mr. Speaker, I am rising while citing the provisions of on Standing Order No. 89 on Statement of Fact.

Mr. Speaker, I have heard the Hon. Member stating that there is a fund coming. I mean that has not been stipulated anywhere in this motion. I want to treat it as pure conjecture because really where that is fund coming from and where are the facts. So, I believe that, that could be a little bit misleading. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Leader of Minority, please clarify.

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): The Leader of majority wants me to offer clarity. The Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Food Security is present in the House. I believe that he will also be given time to make clarifications on this matter. Mr. Speaker, what I am stating which I believe, this is the way we should go. The Aquaculture Act had been passed in the House, and if there was an omission that is what we should look at when this motion has been passed in this House and how do we go about it. We pass this motion or we ask the relevant Department to initiate that amendment to this Act so that as a County we become relevant when it comes on the way we get these donor funding.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Okiri, what is the Point of Order?

Hon. Okiri: On a Point of Order. Mr. Speaker, the Leader of Majority while citing the provisions of Standing Orders No. 89 raised a very important question which was directed to the speaker on the floor. He wanted this House to be furnished with facts as to where these funds will be coming from.

Mr. Speaker, up to now, the Member on the floor has not responded and he is trying to evade this question and take it to the mover of this motion. We wanted clarification from him. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Leader of Minority!!

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Mr. Speaker, when this motion was moved in the floor of this House, I did consultation with the relevant line department and I was exhaustively advised because I was asking myself why should a Hon. Member come up that this House should pass a motion requesting the Department top approve 3% of their Departmental Budgetary Allocation for Aquaculture Sub-sector. We discussed at length that the Aquaculture Act was passed in this House, but there was an omission of this 3% by that time which the Department was not aware. The Department was taken for a Workshop in Mombasa and they were briefed on this new Development. Therefore, I ask that we shall get more clarification from the Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee...

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Order!! Order!! Leader of Majority. Leader of Minority, I believe that when you rise to give your contributions, you are supposed to be doing that supported with facts. I believe that if the Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee is present in the House, and he is willing to contribute on this matter, then I believe he will shed light on that matter. Leader of Minority, I believe that you are not in order to give information on what you cannot substantiate. Unless you want to donate your time to the Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee. That is allowed in parliamentary practice that you can donate your time to another Member to assist you build your point. Only if you are in agreement, but the question that was raised by the Leader of Majority was very specific that the mover of the motion did not mention anything that funds are coming and this House needs to increase the Aquaculture Sub-sector Budgetary allocation by 3% of the Departmental Annual Budget. Neither did we get the reason for 3% as opposed to 10% and not 1% or 0.1%.

So, probably the mover of this motion is the one who can reply or he donates his time to the other person to build on that case. So, you can either withdraw that contribution or proceed or request the Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee if he is willing to substantiate your point.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Leader of Majority, you were on your feet, what was it that was burning.

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I believe that you have handled the issue that I wanted to raise. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Fair enough.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Leader of Minority, you were on the floor.

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Mr. Speaker, I would now request the Chairperson, Standing Committee of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries to clear the air. As a result of the argument of my two Hon. Colleagues, but the truth of the matter is that the request is valid and I believe that leader of Majority is in concurrence with the motion....

(Laughter)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): We did not get as to whether the Leader of Majority is in support or against the motion. Leader of Majority, are you still waiting for the speakers to substantiate before you arrive at a decision?

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Mr. Speaker, I have given a very liberal contribution that the motion is a good one and we need to embrace it but, we need to look at it if it should be handled as a motion or we should ask for an amendment to the Act and what is it that we as a House are being ask to approve.

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

Hon. Okiri: On a Point of Order. Mr. Speaker in the submissions of the Hon. Leader of Minority, the MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal, he has stated that the truth will come out on this funding. Mr. Speaker, that is the truth that this House would like to know, but if he doesn't want to state the truth as is expected under Standing Order No.89 which requires Statement of Facts, then the best thing for him is to withdraw. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Oiko Pete, do you have anything else to say?

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Mr. Speaker, I had concluded my contribution.

(Laughter)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): I had noticed Hon. Atieno but since Hon. Otura, Chair of Agriculture Committee was mentioned and he's on his feet, allow me to give him the chance.

Hon. Otura: Thank you Mr. Speaker, allow me to state that the motion being discussed was brought by Hon. Sally Okudo. Please allow me to be elaborate on the same but not in answering what the Leader of Minority has stated. Human are prone to errors of omission and commission but that doesn't make life come to end. The motion being discussed is quite important and would urge Hon. Members to support it; its explanation is that; The National government, under the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries had a relief from donor countries and were very specific that they will help...

Hon. Atieno: A point of information Mr. Speaker

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it Hon. Atieno?

Hon. Atieno: (*On a point of information*) I am confused as to whether the chair is responding to the statement or contributing to the same motion?

Hon. Otura: Thank you Hon. John Atieno.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Chair, Hon. Otura, please address the Chair because I gave you the chance to speak first because you were mentioned by the Leader of Minority.

Hon. Otura: My apologies Mr. Speaker for not addressing you. However, when I started, I requested that you allow me to be elaborate on my submission and that's the direction I am headed. The 3% that has been mentioned in the motion isn't specifically supposed to come from the County's Budgetary Allocation to support Aquaculture but is in line with the National Government's Budget on Aquaculture. All the counties in Kenya that have aligned their legislation, will benefit from that kitty. Therefore, our motion here in Kisumu intends to seek to amend the already existing Act on Aquaculture so that it can be in line with what the national Government is offering counties...

The Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): A point of order Mr. Speaker

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is the point of Order Hon. Kenneth Onyango?

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): (*On a point of order*) I wish that the Chair Agriculture could listen to himself speak. How can this motion amend an existing Act that was already passed in this House? If at all an amendment was intended, then the same could have been brought formerly so that we amend the Act to allow for the allocation of the 3% of the Department's Annual Budget. Otherwise, if we could pass this to Law, how would it be in sync with other legislations in Kenya?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): The motion can actually recommend amendment of a bill depending on the prayers given by the motion mover. So, if his prayer is that we amend the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act, 2019 and it is agreed upon, then the next step would be that we implement the resolution of the House. That would be to start the process of amendment of the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act, 2019. I would only agree with you to the extent that in the initial presentation of the motion there wasn't that prayer of amendment but it is indeed possible that a motion can lead to amendment of the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act, 2019

The Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Mr. Speaker, I have already looked at the motion and the prayer in it is that, the Assembly resolve that in the best interest of the county and its residents, we boost Agriculture by increasing the budgetary allocation to 3%.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Vitalis Otura

Hon. Otura: Thank you for helping me make the Leader of Majority understand that this is just a motion which intends to convince the line department to consider bringing a bill that will align the same prayer herein to the existing act so that we can also benefit from the Act like other counties

that have done the same. I agree that the prayer wasn't quite obvious as he may have wanted it to be but that is the direction that I would wish we get convinced to follow. Like I cited earlier that "to err is to human" that's why the prayer wasn't clear but I urge the Hon. Members to support this motion to amend the existing Act in order for the funding to get root in to our county. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Atieno

Hon. Atieno: Mr. Speaker, the intention of the motion is quite noble but the drafters didn't do more research on it.

Basically, if we say that we want to increase the aquaculture portion of the budget to 3% is in itself an affront of what we want to do as a County. Say in the ratio of 10% and in the Agriculture Department we have Agriculture, Livestock as well as Fisheries but if we allocate to Aquaculture Sub-sector only 3% yet it is the most pivotal sub-sector to the economy of this great county of Kisumu then we are doomed. This is because we aren't fairing on well in matters agriculture or irrigation and it is only the aquaculture which might put Kisumu in the map among those producing something. I would have wished for the movers of this motion to take like 20% or 30% of the total budgetary allocation on Agriculture. I am surprised that senior mathematicians such as Hon. Pete Oiko and Hon. Genga aren't capturing this scenario well. We are endowed with natural resources especially the lake and we need to utilize it by putting a lot of resources to the lake.

Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that, the Lake is not only owned by the County Government of Kisumu but the National Government. So, as we debate the motion in view of that, we need to understand that there is not much we can do as a County in the Lake. However, we can work on the areas of its shore and in the nearby environment. I want to encourage our people to invest in fishponds to help produce more fish, and to ensure that the inlets to the Lake are treated to avoid infecting the Lake and in turn kill the fish population.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, before I give Hon. Paul Okiri, I have noted that from the honorable members who have contributed, there is no stand for or against the report and yet the reason for debate is to ensure that it is so. If the resolutions prayed for isn't making sense whether to support or reject the motion, then there is the provision for amendment in the Standing order.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Paul Okiri

Hon. Okiri: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the motion but, the way it has been brought to the floor of this House, it doesn't add much flesh to it. The Second Assembly should have carried this motion as one of the most important motions to be moved in this House. The buck stops with the Assembly leadership because we have not considered to recruit researchers hence this quagmire. I wish the Assembly could have had the autonomy to employ research officers which could have made a great debate out of this motion and carried the day from it. This is a Motion

that the Chair for Agriculture himself is also not very conversant with. He is talking about a different thing compared to what the Mover is talking about. For us to save this motion, we need to do amendments.

Mr. Speaker, I am supporting this motion to uplift the living standards of this county. Three percent of what is allocated is not enough. If we want this motion to see the light of day, one of the amendments I am suggesting is increasing the allocation from 3% to 10%. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, I had guided that we neither oppose nor support but, if somebody is proposing an amendment, the Standing Order is clear on what to do.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Roy Samo.

Hon. Samo: Mr. Speaker, Hon. Okiri has run away because I wanted to pump some sense in him. I was just looking at the Budgetary Allocation for Agriculture for the FY 2021/2022 and the allocation is Kshs 807 million. Mr. Speaker, 3% of that is about Kshs 24 million. That is a good amount of money to start aquaculture with.

Mr. Speaker, I therefore want to support the motion because having atleast 3% allocated to the Agriculture Sub-sector budget is just a good thing; it can go to even 10 percent or beyond because the cap is at least 3%. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Judith Ogaga

Hon. Ogaga: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to support the motion. We are in a difficult moment for the fish farmers and fish mongers, coming down to the consumers of fish. We import most of the fish that we consume in Kisumu County. Currently, we don't have Nile Perch at all, we only have Tilapia and it is very costly.

If we have enough fish, many people will get involved in the fish industry so that we have job opportunities and improve the living standards of our people.

Fish farming requires less land intensive. And there are so many people who rely on fish either as a source of food or as a means of earning livelihood. That is why I support the allocation of 3% of the Agriculture Budgetary Allocation to the Aquaculture Sub-sector. Apart from that, aquaculture will also help to raise our Own Source Revenue which is currently down through tax collection and exports.

Aquaculture will also open ways for other development activities which are beneficial to the county like having the cooling plants. It will also help the women fish traders who have to walk long distances in search of fish by ensuring there is enough fish production. Some women even have to pay for fish using their bodies because of the scarcity of the commodity.

Having enough fish production will empower our women by ensuring there is money in their pockets and therefore they cannot be taken advantage of. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it Hon. George Ogutu?

Hon. Ogutu: Mr. Speaker, I don't know whether I overheard of something unique. I have heard Hon. Ogaga say that women are using their bodies to pay for fish. What is she trying to insinuate? Does it mean women are selling their bodies for fish?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ogaga.

Hon. Ogaga: Mr. Speaker I am talking from experience. This is what I have done and it is true that there are certain conditions that women have to meet before they get fish because the production is low.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ogutu, are you satisfied? You know that Hon. Ogaga is a lady and you are an agent.

Hon. Ogutu: I am not satisfied because she says that she has an experience.

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Mr. Speaker!

Hon. Ogutu: Can she tell us ...

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Leader of Majority, I have noticed you; I am still dealing with the point of order.

Hon. Ogutu: Can the Hon. Member tell us what she actually did experience at that particular moment?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ogutu, I believe that the Hon. Ogaga is very clear that she is talking out of experience because she is a lady and probably knows what she is talking about.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Leader of Majority.

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Mr. Speaker, you know I was a little puzzled because I know that the Hon. Member is a fish monger. Can she just confirm that she has actually quid pro quo – give, I give.

(Applause)

Can she do that?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Leader of Majority, I want to protect Hon. Judith Ogaga. She has confirmed that she has that experience.

(Laughter)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Ogaga.

Hon. Arao: Mr. Speaker, on a point of information.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Allow me first deal with this point of order.

Hon. Arao: It is connected to what Hon. Ogaga said.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it?

Hon. Arao: Mr. Speaker, I am able to see some people especially from the male side of the Hon. Members. They are more in panic. I do not know whether the experience that the Hon. Judith Ogaga had, she had it with some of them within the House. My colleague from Central Kisumu Ward (Hon. Ogaga), be bold enough and mention names; those who have benefited from the experience, So that we clear this matter once and for all, thank you.

(Laughter)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Judith Ogaga, Hon. Genga, allow me clear with this matter.

Hon. Ogaga: Thank you Mr. Speaker. When I talk about experience, it does not imply that I personally went through this but my fellow women and there are also some studies that have been carried out. However, this is something that has been happening. So, as a woman I come out strong to protect my fellow women and support anything that would empower them that they be able to do the right thing at the right time. These women also have children and from these, who does not know the HIV/ AIDS has been spreading and gone away with most of our people and our children were left languishing, thank you.

Hon. Ngeta: On a point of information.

Hon Ogutu: Thank you Mr. Speaker, I believe that my fear has been confirmed.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon George Ogutu, let us have some orders. Are you contributing or what is it?

Hon Ogutu: I am on a point of information.

Hon Ogutu: I believe that you were through with your...

Hon. Ngeta: On appoint of information.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Just a minute, she responded to what the Leader of Majority alleged.

Hon Ogutu: Yes.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): So, what is it?

Hon Ogutu: You have heard Hon. Ogaga confirming that it is not her own experience. That means she is spreading rumours in this House which is very dangerous.

Hon. Ngeta: On point of information Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it Hon. Ngeta?

Hon. Ngeta: Mr. Speaker, we are live on air. Therefore let the Hon. Member clarify this statement. She cannot experience on behalf of some other people. You do it on your own behalf.

(Laughter)

Hon. Ngeta: So, we need her to clarify this Mr. Speaker.

(Hon. Genga on his feet)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Genga, are you on the same thing or you want to contribute?

Hon. Genga: Thank you Mr. Speaker. May I proceed?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): I was inquiring if you want to contribute because Hon. Ngeta has raised something.

Hon. Genga: Mr. Speaker, I want to contribute while at the same time I am coming in the aid of Hon. Ogaga.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): But she has not requested for your rescue, why are you coming into her aid?

Hon. Genga: But she is an Honourable Member. Those are House rules that are allowed. Unless you do not want me to help expound on what she said.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Unless she gives you the permission.

Hon. Genga: Yes I believe with your authority.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Judith Ogaga.

Hon. Ogaga: Hon. Speaker, you know, he also advocates for the women and therefore I allow him to support me

Applause

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Judith Ogaga, are you saying that I guarantee him the time.

Hon. Ogaga: Mr. Speaker kindly, he advocates for the rights of women.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Genga!

Hon. Genga: Thank you. I rise to support the motion but, I believe that in the fullness of time, one of the people who should not ask for this to be expounded is my brother the Honourable Leader of Majority. Hon. Roy called him a historian; I did not know that, I thought he was a teacher of Geography. For that, he should be able to know this history.

Mr. Speaker, before I come to my point, what the Hon. Member is saying is very true. About two weeks ago, I watched a documentary that is through proven research. That was the reason why HIV/AIDS prevalence is higher. Almost 18-20 per cent in Homabay County neighbouring us here.

Mr. Speaker, one of the reasons why the prevalence is high is because women solely depend on fishermen who go out fishing and when they come back, the women give out their bodies in exchange for fish.

Mr. Speaker, what the Hon. Member is saying is therefore very true and I do not know why these male colleagues want her to explain if she has experienced the same. I believe that she said that she advocates for women and it is also common knowledge that such things do happen. Mr. Speaker that now brings me to my point that we need to support the motion. However, I believe that the mover of the motion should have been more specific. The 3% of the Agriculture budget, is it from the National Budget or primarily within the County Budget?

In addition, we were just sharing with my colleague here, if you look at the figure, the Total Budget Allocation is Kshs 800 million for the county. However, we have not separated the Operation and Maintenance (O&M), the Personal Emolument (O&E) and the Development Expenditure Vote.

Mr. Speaker, if we work out the 3%, even if we say the wholesome figure for the department, you will realize that we just have a bout Kshs 25 Million. My appeal to the respective department and now this mainly goes to my Chairperson Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries Committee, who should carry this thing and run away with it. He was just sharing with us that he has seen the same thing being done in Vihiga or Kakamega Counties so to speak. What we did not confirm is that how I wish they had gone for benchmarking as a team to borrow more from counties with success stories and then we as a House knows how to spread this across the department.

Mr. Speaker, my only concern is that with that quantity amount of Kshs 24 Million let the department start with one specific place. Since we are around Lake Victoria, we can with; for example, the Koguta Fish Banda where Hon. Ogutu comes from instead of taking that quantity amount and scattering it all over the place.

It is a good start and noble idea. We all know that if we can consume the Chinese fish for up to 60-70 per cent of the fish that is being consumed locally, therefore, if we can get opportunity to develop our own Aquaculture Sub-sector, it will be a very noble idea for us to support.

As a house, we have a duty to be as practical as possible because we have the experience just like what Hon. Judith said. We have our women who need empowerment and this is one of the sources of empowerment for our women, youth and even people with disabilities.

My suggestion is that with this noble idea from the mover of the motion, the best that should come out of this is that we know 3% and even if it goes to 10% of the County Budgetary Allocation for Agriculture, it will still cost us up to Kshs 80 million. That will still not be adequate to have sustainable aquaculture within the county.

Mr. Speaker, it is very sad and I have experience from so many of my friends from Central Province; especially the ones around Lake Naivasha. You will be so surprised that every single day you will see them hawking fish. I tried to find out the reason behind that. When the Government gave Economic Stimulus Package some years back, they saw it wise to have fish ponds done. Now I can confidently tell you that if you go to Central Province, in as much as they may not know so much about fish, they are so much ahead of us in fish production apart from what we get from the lake.

Therefore Mr. Speaker such a bill is so good. Sometimes it is painful to see that the little fish that we get from Lake Victoria, they are processed in Thika for export to the European Union. So, the Chairperson should take this matter seriously and I add my advice for him to do benchmarking with Counties that have success stories. In that regard, we will be steps ahead and with a story to tell because currently we are just relying on fish from Lake Victoria.

My other advice to the department about fish caging in the lake, it is not doing well as was envisaged by the County Government. Lastly I want to thank the Hon. Member for moving such a noble motion; I also want to support this once again. Otherwise, thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Senior member Hon. Prisca Misachi.

The Chief Whip (Hon. Misachi): Thank you Mr. Speaker, the motion is a good one and it has been exhaustively deliberated upon. Therefore, may I call upon the mover to reply?

(Hon. Olima on his feet)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it Hon. Olima?

Hon. Olima: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I believe that the Chief Whip was asleep because we are still having a discussion on the same yet she is in a hurry to call upon the mover to reply...

Hon. Okiri: On a point of order Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): I want to hear what Hon. Olima is saying.

Hon. Okiri: Mr. Speaker, this is very crucial to this House.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes what is it Hon. Paul?

Hon. Okiri: We have parliamentary language and by saying that the Chief Whip was ‘sleeping’ is unparliamentary.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Olima. Withdraw that statement and put your...

Hon. Olima: Mr. Speaker, I want to confirm that I saw her doze off so I do not know whether that is not sleeping?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Olima, just go with the advice of Hon. Paul. We have parliamentary language, just withdraw and then you proceed.

Hon. Olima: What do I have to withdraw?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): The use of unparliamentary language.

Hon. Gard: Which is?

Hon. Okiri: Mr. Speaker, may I guide the member?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes.

Hon. Okiri: That we can either use the ‘resting her eyes’. However, we do not have the measurement to use or know whether it was true or false.

Chief Whip (Hon. Misachi): Mr. Speaker, I want it to come clear from you that anybody who calls upon the mover to reply is one who was not asleep. I have been following the debate and also believe together with these Members in the House who will agree with me that it has been exhaustively discussed and that is why I called upon the mover to reply.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): I wanted the Hon. Olima to use parliamentary language as guided by Hon. Paul.

Hon. Olima: Hon. Paul has requested me to say that the Chief Whip was ‘resting her eyes’. Isn’t it so?

(Laughter)

Hon. Okiri: Mr. Speaker that one will take a lot of chemistry to justify because it is just parliamentary that there is nothing to tell whether the Chief Whip was resting her eyes or not. The best thing for Hon. Members to do is withdraw and we move on. Thank you.

Hon. Olima: Thank you Mr. Speaker I withdraw and I want to support the motion.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Olima after withdrawing the mover has been called upon to reply. Hon. Members we have procedures on how we debate. Once a motion has been moved, seconded and debated, a Member can call the mover to reply but we have always had situations where there is still demand on Members to contribute and when we have time and there is no any other pressing business we have always considered Members who wish to contribute. Hon. Olima when a mover has been called to reply and the Chair is of the opinion that so many people want to contribute and there is still time then he/she can always give but you cannot insist. You have to be friendly and use parliamentary language. I believe that should be the order because the next time that you will be sitting here and you expect the members to cooperate and to respect each other's opinion. I noticed three Members and I am going to give you time but, you restrict your contributions to two minutes each. Hon. Olima.

Hon. Olima: Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me the chance.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Olima you are not dressed properly. We agreed that when you are coming to the Assembly then you should dress properly. Serjeant-at-Arms please escort Hon. Olima out so that he can dress properly.

(Hon. Olima is escorted out by the Orderlies)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Leader of Majority.

The Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Mr. Speaker the intention of the motion is very good but the mover of the motion was very economical with details. For example, we would have wished to know what the percentage of the Agriculture Budget is so that we say that this percentage is done so much but it would have been increased then it would do much more. I believe that those details are very critical. Mr. Speaker I want to say that, I attended a seminar sometimes back which was convened by some partners and this matter of Aquaculture came up.

Mr. Speaker, those partners impressed upon us to align our legislations with the National Legislation because the National Legislation prescribes that 3% of the Agriculture budget goes to Aquaculture and most Counties are now doing the same. I believe they gave an information to the effect in Kisumu County that there is only 1% of the entire Agriculture budget. So, they were trying to impress upon us to change the current Act so that 3% of the Agriculture budget goes to Aquaculture Sub-sector. The prayer of this motion would have been that we amend the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act of 2019 which was passed in this House so that it is in line with the National Act which has now been aligned in so many other Counties. Those are the facts and I thought probably the Chairperson of Agriculture would clarify that. The reason as to why they were doing that is that, those Counties that have aligned their Act are able to get donor funding so that we were clear on what we want to achieve with this motion. I would wish that an amendment be done so that we amend the current Act and align it to the National Act. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Mover of the motion.

Hon. Okudo: Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to thank each and every Member that have contributed on this motion. I would specifically like to thank the Leader of Majority for the insight. I may have been a little bit economical with my words and I would like to apologize for that.

Mr. Speaker, I was trying to bring out the fact that we would like to have the Department of Agriculture to put a lot of emphasis and have 3% of their budget taken to Aquaculture Budget. Aquaculture is basically farming and being that we are within the Lake region we know the benefits of what the Lake has done and the benefits of the Lake being among our people. We also know that the Lake has been exhausted in the past because it has been over utilized and what aquaculture would basically do is that it would give our people and the Lake time to basically rest as we do other things. We are encouraging a lot of people to do Cage Fish Farming which is part of the aquaculture that we are also doing. We are also encouraging other types of farming. A lot of people across Kenya are making money from selling things from gold fish. We want to encourage our people within Kisumu County that those are other options of generating revenue and resources. Mr. Speaker, one of the other things that we are also trying to discourage is the fish from China which is being consumed here. We are able and very capable to produce and consume our own. So, by us putting the 3% of the Agriculture Budget on the Aquaculture Sub-sector, then, it would really improve the stakes that we have in Kisumu County. I also take note of Hon. Ogotu who pointed that out. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members I think now you have heard the clarification. The adoption of the motion does not mean that it is implemented the way it is but it can results into different operations including and not limited to amendment of the Kisumu County Aquaculture Act of 2019.

Hon. Members, I am also aware that the County Executive is already working on the Annual Development Plan (ADP) and as you go through the ADP to the final stage of the Budget Estimates then the same could be considered. Alternatively dismissing the whole motion. As per our Standing Orders, once a motion has been moved, seconded, debated and the mover replied; I therefore put a question on the adoption of the motion by Hon. Okudo on boosting Aquaculture Development through Increased Budgetary Allocation setting it at least 3% of the Agriculture budget.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): The motion by Hon. Okudo on Boosting Aquaculture Development through Increased Budgetary Allocation setting it at least 3% of the Agriculture budget is hereby adopted today 31st August 2021 at 1603 hours.

Hon. Members, I do direct that the recommendations and the prayers of the motions be implemented. On the same premise, the Standing Committee of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries will take lead in ensuring that these results are put into action.

Consequently, the Select Committee of Implementation will have to follow up to note that the resolutions of the Assembly are implemented appropriately.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next Order!

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): There being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to Wednesday, 01st September 2021 at 9.00 a.m.

(House rose at 4.08 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

Jesca Otieno – Hansard Reporter