

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

SPECIAL SITTING

THE HANSARD

Official Report

SECOND ASSEMBLY – FIFTH SESSION

Thursday, 02nd December, 2021

House met at the Tom Mboya Labour College at 02:30 p.m.

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

PRAYERS

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Mr. Clerk, please take you through the order of the day.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!!

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, His Excellency the Governor Kisumu County, we are here formally convened on a Special Sitting as per Gazette Notice No.12936 of Friday, 26th November, 2021 and pursuant to the provisions of County Assembly Standing Orders No. 20. This is to conduct a single business which is delivery of the Fourth State of the County Address by the Governor, Kisumu County.

Your Excellency the Governor, I received your communiqué on the 27th October, 2021 requesting to address the County Assembly on the Fourth State of the County Address. As per our Standing Orders No. 25 and 26 the County Assembly had envisaged to adjourn the Assembly on Thursday,

02nd December, 2021 for the Long recess. However, on the 16th November, 2021, via your communique' the Assembly resolved to Adjourn the House on Wednesday, 08th December, 2021. I want to confirm to Hon. Members that via Gazette Notice 12936 of Friday, 26th November, 2021 which proves that we are convened here properly and legally.

Secondly, the Governor and the Hon. Members of the County Assembly and our visitors at the public gallery, this place is an Assembly, because it has been gazetted and it's properly constituted so the rules of the Assembly will apply.

Today, we only have one business which is for the Governor to deliver his State of the County Address. As the Governor will be making his address, we will keep quiet, but, if he says something that warrants your applause, you will show acclamation by clapping or stumping your feet on the ground. Yours phones should be on silent mode alternatively, you can switch them off. If you are consulting your neighbour, please do that in low tones because the Assembly House Rules will apply. If you need any assistance, you can always raise up your hand, our Serjeant-at-Arms will notice you and will be there assist you where appropriate.

Hon. Members, kindly I want to recognize in the presence of the Governor and some of the leaders who have graced this occasion; in our midst we have Senior Counsel who is the Senator for Siaya County, Aggrey James Orengo.

(Applause)

We have the Member of Parliament of Nyakach Aduma Owuor.

(Applause)

We have with us here the Deputy Governor of Siaya County.

(Applause)

We have with us here the Deputy Governor of Vihiga County.

(Applause)

And cannot forget that the Governor did not walk alone, he was accompanied by the First Lady Madam Dorothy Nyongó who is in the House with us.

(Applause)

Again, we have our Deputy Governor Hon. Doctor Mathews Owili.

(Applause)

Hon. Members and invited Guest, I may not be able to mention everybody, but I would like to welcome each and every one of you. You are our visitors and please feel welcome as we proceed with our today's business.

Hon. Members, I am being informed that Hon. Ayiecho Olweny is in the House sorry for that. He is the County Chairperson Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) plus the party officials. Please feel most welcome.

(Applause)

Hon. Members, this is to all the County Executive Committee Members (CECM). I have noticed that all the CECMs are in the House, again, please feel welcome.

(Applause)

Lastly, All Hon. Members, immediately after this session, we are going to convene for a small informal meeting "Kamukunji". So, please let us convene at the Assembly precincts.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!!

MOTION

4TH ANNUAL STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY.
BY

HIS EXCELLENCY, PROF. PETER ANYANG' NYONG'O,
GOVERNOR OF KISUMU COUNTY,

(The Speaker leaves his chair as the Governor moves to the podium to deliver his address)

H.E the Governor, Kisumu County (Professor Peter Anyang' Nyongó): The Speaker of the County Assembly, Hon. Elisha Jack Oraro, our Chief Guest of the Day, Sen. James Orenge, Excellency Governors from the Lake Region Economic Bloc, Honorable Members of the County Assembly, Mama Kisumu Dorothy Nyong'o, Members of the County Executive, Invited Guests and finally Members of the Fourth Estate;

Ladies and Gentlemen. Let me begin this afternoon by first of all thanking His Excellency the President Uhuru Muigai Kenyatta for delivering his State of the Nation Address two days ago, and following this august event with conferring Nakuru Municipality with a City status yesterday. Our Party Leader, Rt. Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, his Deputy, Governor Wycliffe Oparanya of Kakamega, myself and many other leaders were witness to this momentous day. Myself and the people of Kisumu would like to send hearty congratulations to Governor Lee Kinyanjui and the people of Nakuru for joining us – Nairobi and Mombasa as the cities of Kenya.

On August 21 2017, the decision of the people of the great county of Kisumu was consummated at the steps of “Aguch Kisumo”, now renamed Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Sports Complex as I took oath of office for the position of Governor of Kisumu County. The oath I took was to abide by, and fully implement, the manifesto which I had presented to the people of Kisumu and received their resounding approval.

That day marked the beginning of a journey to Socio-Economic Progress and improving livelihoods for the people of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker Sir, I am very happy to stand before this August house today to deliver my 4th State of the County Address as envisioned in the County Government Act and a reminder to me and indeed all of us that it is time to reflect on what we had set out to do together as a people.

The journey of developing and building Kisumu to respond to the needs of our people has been both challenging and fulfilling. At times we have been disappointed by little achievements but most of the time we have celebrated the bigger achievements as this report will show today.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the world is steadily warming up from the dark effects that have characterized our lives occasioned by the Covid-19 pandemic over the past two years. Notwithstanding the loss of many lives and the stagnation of our economy, there are critical lessons we learnt from this sad experience that we shall never forget. Life has taken a trajectory of new normal that must form part of our daily lives from now on. The easing of containment measures that have been in place must not lead us to complacency in observing the strict hygienic standards that will always be useful to us in preventive health. We must not lower our guards in ensuring we clean our hands as often as possible and wear masks because we are not out of the woods yet.

One of the critical lessons learnt is that we must focus more than ever, in producing enough foods for sustainable livelihoods.

This is amplified in the agenda number one of my manifesto; “Revitalizing agriculture for food security and agribusiness” and resonates well with the second SDG of “provision of food and establishing sustainable food production”. In this last decade of the implementation of the SDGs, this call couldn’t be more urgent.

In this regard, I am happy to note that our journey to sustainable food security is on course. Today, the potential of Kisumu I talked about when I became Governor has clearly been manifested in the growth recorded in the various sectors of Agri-production and agro-processing we are witnessing today.

Our strategies to develop the rice sub-sector through rehabilitation of the irrigation infrastructure, provision of input to farmers, capacity building and expanding land under irrigation has realized tremendous growth in production that has steadily risen from 15 bags per acre three years ago to 35 bags per acre today.

The steady growth of the rice subsector over the last four years led to last year's cumulative production of 280,000 bags (16,000 metric tonnes) from 8,000 acres of land earning our 2,285 farmers 560 million shillings. This translates to about 530% growth from 2016 when we realized a production of 52,500 bags from 3500 acres of land worth 105 million shillings.

This growth in productivity comes with demand for improved market access. However, sustainable market access must be premised on value addition. To this end, I want to thank our partner - Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), for financing the installation of a modern rice mill in Katito town to enhance rice processing. My government has also purchased a 30 million-shilling rice mill to be installed in Ahero town.

As we consolidate our gains in production through provision of the necessary inputs and extension services, we are also focusing more investments in putting more land to production and embracing modern farming methods.

In the concluded financial year Mr. Speaker Sir, my administration invested KES 160 million in irrigation infrastructural development that has brought 2,025 acres of land under production in Kobura, Awach, Kano, Gem Rae, and Siany CC3 Irrigation Schemes.

We have also concluded the rehabilitation of Gem Rae Irrigation Scheme at a cost of 32 million shillings. The rehabilitation saw the construction of a weir and lined canals to control and improve water flow efficiency. This will improve production of rice and horticultural crops and increase the area under irrigation from 300 to 500 acres supporting 800 households.

Likewise, our dairy sub sector has also recorded very encouraging growth over the last four years. Our strategies of developing the sector through distribution of superior resilient breeds to farmers coupled with investment in the dairy food chain has seen our milk production grow from 26 million liters in 2017 to 37.9 million litres valued at 1.9 billion Shillings in the last financial year. And we intend to continue reinforcing this trend in our second administration after election next year.

Over the past four years, we have distributed a total of 336 dairy cows and 669 dairy goats to our farmers with very minimal losses. This is attributed to the use of technology where we are able to track all the animals, keeping a close watch over their health needs through a revamped extension services including a toll free extension service.

To support the industry, 264 acres of pastures and fodder have been established to improve access to adequate quality feed for livestock thus creating opportunities and supporting livelihoods for 140 households.

The steady improvement in milk production has informed our diversified investments in this sector. The investments are also geared at strengthening the cooperative movements as key drivers to production and marketing. We started off by constructing the 10,000-litre Osiepe Milk Cooling Plant in Muhoroni, built in partnership with ILRI, to support the 3000-member OSIEPE Practical

Action Cooperative Society. This was followed by a 4000-litre cooling plant given to Seke Dairy Farmers Cooperative Society from Nyahera in Kisumu West, in partnership with the National Government, a 3000-litre Cooling plant to Ahero Dairy Cooperative Society from Nyando Sub County and a 3000-litre cooling Plant to Seme Farmers' Cooperative Society from Seme Sub County.

We have also finished the construction of the flagship Dairy Multiplication Centre in Nyangore in Chemelil. This 112 million-shilling project constructed in partnership with the European Union comes with a 10,000 litre cooling plant and fully integrated to produce dairy breeds that are suited to our climatic and environmental conditions.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we are fully focused on laying the infrastructure for the dairy industry with focus to production, marketing, value addition and strengthening the value chain.

Mr. Speaker Sir, when I presided over the commencement of the construction of Osiepe Milk Chilling Plant in Muhoroni in 2018, I gave an undertaking that my vision was to turn agriculture to a “young man’s” job.

I am encouraged to see more young people taking up agro-production and not just making a living out it, but creating more employment opportunities for others like Mr. Geoffrey Ogonji with us here today. (Mr. Ogonji, kindly rise up to be acknowledged).

Mr. Ogonji from Nyamaroka in South East Nyakach, a beneficiary of our dairy distribution project quit his bodaboda business to focus on dairy farming where today he produces about 13 litres of milk per day earning him an average of 700 shillings.

He has also realized that with increased production, he and other farmers around him are going to need a more coherent market access. To this end, he has mobilized his fellow farmers and formed Nyabondo Dairy Farmers Cooperative Society where he is the current vice chairperson. I would like to appeal to all our leaders at the Ward level to take keen interest in food production and encourage our farmers to take advantage of our service.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we all remember Mr. Evans Gichuru, a resident of Kadongo village, Kisian in Kisumu West Sub County who was a guest of this August House last year. Evans, a beneficiary of our poultry distribution project having dropped out of his course in Maseno University, was able to resume, fully supporting his tuition and upkeep from this poultry business. Today, Mr. Evans has employed two people to take care of his business full time as he focusses on his studies.

These are the life changing stories that our journey of transforming Kisumu has produced. We can only do more. And we SHALL do more.

Mr. Speaker Sir, our experience at the height of the Covid-19 explosion taught us that you cannot delink healthy living from sustainable food security.

We put together a recovery and response team from various sectors under the coordination of a special committee of Kisumu Economic and Social Council (KECOSOC). The committee's major finding was that health provision must be supported by investment in production of fast maturing and nutritious leafy vegetables.

This has been one of the areas that Mama Kisumu has been championing. She has been able to mobilize resources to provide cone gardens for cancer patients undergoing palliative care and yet needing to boost their immune systems through healthy eating.

Mr. Speaker Sir, our health care provision as a service has recorded the most notable growth over the years. Various lessons learnt from the UHC pilot scheme have shown that our investment in this sector must encompass infrastructure, commodity management, human resource and research not forgetting partnership linkages.

These investments must be supported by very innovative financing models which ensure sustainability and reduces overreliance on government funding.

Building on partnerships and linkages led to the implementation of our innovative "MARWA" Kisumu Solidarity Health. Through collaboration with PharmAccess Foundation and National Hospital Insurance Fund (NHIF), we currently support 42,564 vulnerable households and 79,761 dependents. In effect, MARWA is intended to effectively insure 450,000 vulnerable persons when fully operational. Further 1,968 Community Health Workers have also been enlisted to receive both inpatient and outpatient services at the 49 public health facilities spread across the county under this initiative.

Since the launch of Marwa, the 49 MARWA facilities have recorded 109,828 new outpatient visits. This influx can be attributed to availability of commodities and provision of quality services within the facilities.

Implementing MARWA has led to a steady increase in the claims process from NHIF for secondary healthcare, rising steadily from Kshs. 12,711,300 in the first quarter of implementation to an all-time high of Kshs 49,260,193 in the last quarter of the year. This brings the total claims through MARWA to Kshs 142,817,046 million shillings.

Health Products and Technologies are a vital component of healthcare provision. The county envisions universal access to essential health products and technologies such that these products should be available, affordable, safe, efficacious and of good quality and appropriately used; thus, contributing to optimal healthcare.

Therefore, we have adopted a comprehensive approach to maintain a reliable supply of these products as well as the requisite management systems through procurement from KEMSA, hence ensuring that pharmaceuticals and non-pharmaceuticals are affordable, effective and of good

quality. To improve on accountability and ensure end-to-end visibility of the medicines procured by the county, an inventory management system has been introduced. So far 102 county health facilities are using the system.

Technology remains the answer to the hemorrhage of products that has bedeviled public health facilities overtime.

Going forward, we shall digitize all aspects of health provision including clients' hospital visits and community health management.

As we continue investing in health human resource, we are putting measures in place to ensure enhanced productivity and improve on capacity building.

To this end, the government has partnered with Learning Institutions including Maseno University, Kenya Medical Training College and Kenya School of Government to ensure continuous information acquisition and skill advancement of health officers.

The University provides fellowship courses in Surgery and Obstetrics & Gynecology and plans are underway to establish one for Anesthesia in conjunction with East Africa College of Anesthesiologists.

Notable results in the area of collaboration and partnerships has been realized at Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH) where several specialized services like Neurosurgery, Gastroenterology, Nephrology, Cardiology, Neurology, Urology, Neonatology, Endocrinology, Orthopedic surgery, Oncology, Gyno-Oncology, and many more "ologies" among other services have been introduced.

Plans are at advanced stages to introduce more services like Open Heart Surgeries, Kidney transplants, Plastic and reconstructive surgery among other specialized services.

Through our inpatient expansion program to reduce congestion at the hospital the inpatient bed capacity has increased from 600 beds to 850 beds by the construction of three new wards.

A landmark development in the hospital is the construction of the Comprehensive Cancer Care Centre Cancer and Blood Disorders Center to comprehensively manage cancers and other blood disorders. The services will include Radiotherapy, brachytherapy, Pet CT, Chemotherapy among other related services.

On completion, the ongoing Kisumu Comprehensive Cancer and Hematology Centre at the Kisumu's Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH) will be a center for comprehensive management of cancer and blood disorders serving the entire East and Central Africa region and beyond.

Bone Marrow transplant services will be available and this will save patients from traveling to centers outside the region like India, South Africa, the USA, and Europe. This new development will position Kisumu as a medical tourism hub in the region.

The construction of the project is expected to be completed by March 2022 and the installation of equipment including the PET scan (an advanced digital tool for cancer diagnosis) will be complete in another three months.

Working with a renowned Pharmaceutical company Novartis, the hospital on 7th December 2021, will launch the Sick Cell Disease Infant Screening and Comprehensive Management targeting to screen 38,000 babies annually after the ‘migele’ machine arrived.

This is a machine that can detect cancer in the infancy stages.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Honorable Members, what gets measured, gets done. This is the mantra that has guided our journey of transforming and developing this great county.

My Manifesto at agenda three of “ensuring a healthy population living in a clean environment”, was heavily informed by the prevailing water and sanitation situation in the county.

My conscience was always pricked by sights of women with yellow jerricans trekking long distances at the “*hour of God*” to fetch this prized commodity.

The worst of documented experiences was where women had to bare abuse in return for water. My heart has never stopped bleeding at those exposes that filled our media spaces.

I was determined to forever consign that blot in our history to unreclamable abyss.

In our water implementation strategy, we set out to ensure that 68% of the people of Kisumu will have access to quality portable water by 2022.

Despite the challenges posed by the Covid Pandemic that slowed our efforts down for almost two years, I am happy to report that we were still able to surpass that target by four percentage point to record 72% coverage of the population.

In the just concluded financial year alone, characterized by the Covid-19 containment measures, we managed to increase the number of people with access to safe portable water by 4.8% translating to 56,700 of the population of Kisumu.

This achievement was made possible by close collaboration with partners in the sector under Kisumu County WASH Network Forum. In this regard, I want to acknowledge the support of

UNICEF, USAID (KIWASH Programme), SWAP (Safe Water & Aids Project), Living water Service Centre, Practical Action, World Vision, Water is Life, LVWWDA (Lake Victoria Water Works Development Authority) and Carbon zero.

I want to assure them of our strong undertaking that we shall build on this partnership going forward by ensuring that we play fidelity to the various partnership agreements governing our collaboration.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Climate Change remains one of the biggest threat to the world of our times. Sadly, the biggest polluters are not willing to stop their bad habits of emitting Green House Gases into the atmosphere through equally bad industrial habits of exploiting fossil fuels for automation and production.

Supporting developing countries to undertake this change by establishing and financing **the ADAPTATION FUND** is non-negotiable.

Since COP26 failed us in this regard, we hope to make better progress in COP27 in Cairo next year. World refused to take action when the scientists spoke.

We have reached a point of no return. Inaction will mean catastrophic outcomes for life on the planet.

It is for this reason that my Government prioritized the formulation of County Climate Change Policy and Kisumu Climate Change Act, 2020 which this Assembly debated and approved. Mr. Speaker Sir, I must thank the Assembly through your leadership for this.

The Act operationalizes the County Climate Change Fund Mechanism (CCCFM) where, the Climate Change Council, the County Climate Change planning committee and the Ward Climate Change planning committees were institutionalized.

The ward climate change planning committees have formally been established in every ward to coordinate and identify climate investments for local action.

The act also provides for 2% of County development budget to be used for climate investments and projects in all our 35 wards particularly in supporting tree planting.

These institutions give Kisumu County a millage in localizing climate change actions and hence contributing to the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC).

Mr. Speaker Sir, Honorable Members, our overall activities in the area on environment will not only impact climate action but also how we leave in our dwellings.

Studies have shown that by 2050, the world population will be living in urban dwellings.

We are therefore called upon to start preparing our urban areas to be able to respond to emerging challenges that will have a bearing on the quality of livelihood going into the future.

This informed our decision to start planning our urban areas in line with global trends.

Mr. Speaker, you will recall that we gazetted five urban areas into towns that is Maseno, Kombewa, Katito, Muhoroni and Ahero. We have since unveiled Maseno, Ahero and Katito and put in place institutional structures to manage it in accordance with the law.

In the concluded financial year, we have prioritized infrastructure improvements in those towns that would prepare them for commercial take-off. Paving of Kadani road in Ahero, Kombewa ring road in Kombewa town and paving of Katito market in Katito town will ease movement of goods and services and allow for more trading hours in a healthier environment.

Mr. Speaker Sir, Prudent use of resources from development partners has been one of our strengths for attracting further support from bilateral partners.

Following successful implementation of Kenya Informal Settlements Programme phase one, a World Bank funded project through the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, we have qualified for phase two of the project worth Kshs. 984.395 million. This fund will be used for infrastructure improvements in 10 settlements around the county.

The successful implementation of KISIP one has also put us in good stead for consideration of a further 40 million Euros to be disbursed to 33 counties participating in KISIP 2.

Mr. Speaker Sir, our Urban Regeneration Agenda is now clear for all to see. The transformation of Kisumu City has positioned it as a business hub of choice.

Further, the consultative framework with the people living and doing business in the city has brought us together in collaborative framework to better the development of the city.

I want to thank the private sector who have joined us in the “City beautification and Urban Aesthetics Enhancement” and the “city greening” projects.

These projects have brought life to focal places in the city especially the roundabouts. We shall continue engaging the citizenry and the private sector on how best to build a sustainable resilient city together.

Honorable Members, the industrial growth potential will be driven by innovative investments.

In order to create investments of the future, we must introduce our people, especially the youth to cottage industries and innovation. The construction of Rotary Innovation and Incubation Centre has been concluded and we shall soon be calling for admissions of young innovators to be admitted. This Centre will officially be opened soon.

However, we are alive to the fact that not all cadre of innovators will gain access to the centre due to space limitation.

It is for this reason that we are working with the youth and women groups in various locations to build their capacity and help develop their cottage innovations.

In the concluded financial year, we re-established Kawuonda Bakery cottage industry by supplying and installing a modern, energy efficient 3-oven 25.2KW Bakery machine in Sigoti, South East Nyakach in Nyakach Sub County.

Likewise, my government bought a Lathe machine for Nyaori Self-help group in Nyalenda 'A' thereby up-scaling their carpentry and workshop capacity.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the marvel of our constitution 2010 is clear on the Fourth schedule as to the responsibilities of the two levels of government.

Why do I say so?

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 apportioned the County government's responsibilities that touch directly on the people. Be it health, water, environment or education. I am especially elated that our education responsibilities are for molding citizens of the future at ECDE and building producers of manpower that will drive government economy at TVET level.

Kisumu County has 673 ECD centers of which 660 are anchored in primary schools while 13 are stand-alone public ECD centers.

The public ECD centers have a total enrolment of 51,408 children in the Seven Sub-counties. Out of these, 25,266 are girls and 26,142 are boys. Nyakach sub-county has the highest number of ECD children at 11,369 while Kisumu Central has the least at 3,207.

In the last financial year, 2020/2021 our Pre-Primary Program focused on delivering our mandate through Access to Free, quality, and safe ECDE education to pre-primary children in Kisumu County.

The feeding program has been scaled up to ensure a 100 percent retention of children in school. In the Financial year 2020/2021, the County government distributed food to all the ECD centers and fed 50,000 learners,

In the financial year 2020/2021, my administration distributed Kshs 205,000,000 worth of bursaries and scholarships to needy students in high schools and Colleges.

Scholarship and bursaries beneficiaries in the year were 1,260 and 36,259 respectively spread across all the 35 civic wards.

The beneficiaries increased from 33,403 in 2019/2020 to 36,259 in 2020/2021 which translates to a 9% growth.

That is why we must do more to ensure that our investments in those two core areas deliver the desired results.

We have resolved as a government to start giving bursaries to those seeking to study Marine studies at the recently built Marine school.

Over the four years of my administration, we have kept pace with the aspiration of strengthening this devolved mandate by building infrastructure at the two levels and equipping them so as to produce market ready professional and strong minds that can graduate to the next level of education.

I want to recognize the efforts of Mama Kisumu for championing the strengthening of inclusive ECDEs where parents can continue to play a crucial role in the growth of the young ones even during school hours.

In as much as higher levels of education are the preserve of the National Government, we are alive to the fact that the students in those schools are still our responsibility as local governments.

It is for this reason that we have continued to grow our bursary and scholarship portfolios to broaden the numbers of beneficiaries.

Having increased the number of beneficiaries through enhanced budgetary allocations, we have gone ahead to ensure that each beneficiary receives allocations that are commensurate with their schooling needs.

Honorable Members, following the debilitating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic that adversely affected the business environment across the country and the world in general, my Government advanced loans to traders with a one-year grace repayment period to cushion them from the effects of the containment measures of the pandemic and reinvigorate the trading environment.

This fund was able to impact vulnerable households enabling them to pick up their shattered livelihoods.

The results have been quiet impressive. The revitalization of the business sector has come with improved own source revenue generation.

This has translated to an increase of revenue collection by over 100 million shillings in the just concluded financial year.

The biggest effect of the loan is seeing people whose livelihoods were shattered back on their feet and able to meet their obligations and take care of their families. I hope that when we come to this August House with a proposal to enhance this fund so as to touch more lives, we shall be heard favorably.

Mr. Speaker Sir, as we support the business community to pick themselves from the debilitating effects of the pandemic, it is not lost on us that Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises have in the recent past become the engine of growth for the cooperative movement.

I am happy to report that our efforts at sensitization on the benefits of the cooperative movements have borne fruits.

In the last financial year alone, we were able to register 16 new Cooperative Societies. Of these, eight (8) were Marketing Co-operative Societies and eight Savings and Credit Co-operative societies.

This development lays the ground for re-engineering the Co-operative sector in Kisumu that will help play a very important role towards growth of our businesses.

The focus of the trainings is not just to prepare them for registration but also to ensure that they are managed in accordance to the applicable laws. To this end, a total of 63 Co-operative societies were audited. Out of these, ten Co-operative Societies were given authority to borrow from financial institutions to sustain their operations because of their sound financial and administrative grounding.

Mr. Speaker Sir, our recovery efforts from the past flooding that caused untold destruction to our roads infrastructure is far from over.

However, it has become an eye opener on how best to mitigate such, going forward. We have been able to turn that disaster into an opportunity.

To this end, we have focused on in-house roads construction and maintenance that will cut out the bureaucratic tapes attached to construction processes while at the same time giving an opportunity to own people at the grassroots to be part of managing their own resources.

It is for this reason that we are championing the Roads Maintenance Teams and Machine Based Roads Construction.

To ensure that these two deliver effectively, we have invested in construction equipment and recruited young people from across the county to be part of this innovative journey of managing our roads infrastructure through the Roads Maintenance Teams.

Using the machine based strategy for roads management, we were able to open and maintain 160 kilometers of roads across the County. Some of the roads that have benefitted through the program; Riat-Awach Road, Manason - Ogendo road and Kondik – Lunga road to name but just a few.

The success could be small against our set targets but it has enabled us to learn areas to tighten to improve efficiency going forward.

To ensure longevity of the roads, we are put strong emphasis on holistic roads construction, encompassing run-off water management and protection of road reserves.

In this regard, roads that are crossed by rivers were mapped and commensurate culverts and water drainages built on those crossing. In the concluded financial year, 10 Box culverts were built to completion.

As a measure to roads sustainability, we have adapted use of new technology in road maintenance, “the Claycrete Technology”. Claycrete offers new technology in road maintenance which can sustain roads conditions between 5 to 10 years.

The technology has been pioneered in maintaining of Guba-Gita Number Kabongo filter road in Kisumu East.

Mr. Speaker Sir, this roads stabilization method “Claycrete” has been proven to be environmentally safe and protects roads from erosion caused by run-off water.

Mr. Speaker Sir, we have also made a strategic decision to improve our major link roads to bitumen standards.

Currently, we contracted the National Youth Service, a government agency, to construct lot one of Namba Kapiyo-Bodi-Asat road at cost of Kshs 222,182,469.

The 15 kilometer road will open up Ndere Island, a major tourist destination and also help the fisher folk access markets easily.

We intend to have this road completed in time for Africities next year so that our guests can enjoy the scenic beauty of Ndere Island.

Mr. Speaker Sir, the gains enumerated in this report have been as much the effort of the County work force as it is the support of the people of the Great County of Kisumu.

My administration has continued to invest in our public administration for better service delivery.

This has called for energizing areas that required reinforcements as well as ensuring that the staff are placed where they truly belong.

To this end, promotions of deferent cadre were effected right from the health workers to our teachers both in ECDE and TVET institutions.

I have been quite encouraged by the timeous manner that our human resource needs have been addressed by the Public Service Board. In this regard, I want to say a big thank you to the Board for ensuring that professionalism has been the hallmark of managing our human resource requirements.

It is also a period that the staff establishment was hit hardest. We lost a number of very dependable colleagues that might not be easy to replace. Prof. Boaz Nyunya, the CECM for Health and sanitation; Mr. Akaka Ramoya, the Chief Finance Officer; Mr. Munoko Wamalwa from the Directorate of Human Resource; Mr. Lazaraus Obera and Nelco Sagwe from the County Assembly; Mr. Andrew Bala, the Village Administrator for Kochogo Village; Joannes Gamba from the City Hall and drivers Herbert Onditi and John Obiero.

They were all promising and committed members of this government. We miss them dearly. May I ask that we pause for a minute in their honor. May the Almighty receive and keep their souls in eternal peace. Amen.

The easing of Covid containment measures means going back to our old ways, a more sociable society – more gatherings.

We must not forget that we are not out of the woods yet with coronavirus menace. Let us keep our guards up all the time; wear masks, wash hands and keep social distance.

However, we must also remember that this is also the defining moment to show our hospitality prowess as we welcome 10,000 delegates from across the globe to the 9th Africities Summit in May, 17 - 21 2022.

Let us seize this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to showcase the abilities and opportunities of Kisumu and the intermediary cities of Africa.

The successful hosting of the Africities Summit in Kisumu, the first intermediary city to do so, opens a world of opportunities for secondary cities of Africa.

Not only will they be in a position to bid for such conferences in the future against established metropolises, the 9th Edition of this Summit will focus on building sustainable resilient cities including the much talked about cities financing.

We remain truly grateful to the Government of Kenya and United Cities and Local Governments of Africa for keeping faith with our capability to deliver.

Further, I want to thank His Excellency the President of the republic of Kenya, for ensuring that the resources required to deliver a successful Summit are availed through the relevant ministries. I do hope that some of the nay sayers will join us in addressing the challenging and not bickering.

Some of these infrastructure like the construction of the Africities Convention Centre in Mamboleo and the expansion of Kisumu International Airport, will position Kisumu as the investment hub of the region.

Kisumu is ready to lay out the red carpet and deliver the most memorable Africities Summit.

As a precursor to this Pan-African event, we have organized Kisumu Investment Conference to be held in Kisumu from 19th to 22nd December 2021 before we break for Christmas.

This conference seeks to lay the ground and prepare us to fully reap the benefits of Africities when the world converges in Kisumu.

The preparation journey towards the investment conference led to consultations with various sectors of the society including the Diplomatic Corps, National Government Agencies and the Private Sector to share with them the investment opportunities that abound within our borders. This is a time that Kisumu can tap investment from various sectors example in agriculture, tourism, hospitality and such like to help enhance trade. Kisumu is leaving nothing to chance as it prepares to reap from the emerging opportunities in the Blue Economy initiatives. The refurbishment of Kisumu Port, the Lakefront Development Authority will provide the much needed fresh impetus to try improve the Blue Economy as one of the key drivers for economic development in Kisumu County.

As I conclude Mr. Speaker Sir, I want to once again thank H.E Uhuru Kenyatta for selecting Kisumu to host this year's Madaraka Celebrations and to officially open Jomo Kenyatta International Stadium which was on the 01st June, 2021.

This, I must say went down as one of the most successful national days celebrated in this country and under such challenging times and I must thank the people of Kisumu for being very good hosts. "Asanteni sana!!

The jamboree atmosphere exhibited the unparalleled passion only found in the people of Kisumu.

And to the people of the great County of Kisumu, I say a big thank you for welcoming the guests as you did. I hope with the same spirit, you will welcome the world during the Afri-cities Summit scheduled to be held next year in the month of May.

Let us march into the future confidently, TOGETHER. Indeed, the future is bright and together we shall make it brighter! A future defined by our journey to prosperity through hard work is what we want. "Tich Tire" Thank you.

Mr. Speaker, let me now announce it publicly that, I am now tabling before this House. Thank you.

(Applause)

Mr. Speaker sir, with your indulgence, please allow me to call to the podium my dear friend Senator James Aggrey Orenge who is our Chief Guest of today's occasion. Senator James Orenge needs not be introduced to you. He has distinguished himself as a gallant leader in this nation. He was in the fore front during the second liberation and he was one amongst the young tusks who were noticed to be against daring aggressive and authoritarian regime that was led by the six great elders that was led by none other than the Great Jaramogi Oginga Odinga and the history of Kenya transformed from then. I must say kudos to my colleague our Party Leader Raila Amollo Odinga, Gitobu Imanyara, Paul Muite, Joe Ager, Mikisa Kituyi and James Aggrey Orenge. I would like to request you to speak from my podium as he prepare himself for something that he has an ambition for. Please welcome James!!

(Applause)

Sen. James Aggrey Orenge (Senator, Siaya County): Mr. Speaker sir, your Excellency the Governor of the great County of Kisumu and the First Lady, the Hon. Members of the County Assembly, your Excellencies the Deputy Governors from Kisumu County, Vihiga County and Siaya County. Members of the Executive Committees of the Government of the County of Kisumu.

I am indeed honoured and privileged to address the County Assembly on this very important County when H.E. the Governor of the County has given his State of the County Address.

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, I will be very grateful if I am accorded two minutes. The first, is that if you go by the orders of the day, and this is normal parliamentary practices that on the day when the Chief Executive of the County is delivering the State of the County Address, it may be the President of the Republic or an Honorary, or an Emperor. In a devolved system like ours, or a federation, it may be a Governor after that day, there normally only four orders in the Order Paper. This is Communication from the Chair, the State of the Nation of the County Address and then a Notice of Motion by the Leader of Majority of the County Assembly. So, if you look at this Order Paper, I do not feature anywhere at all.

So, in Parliamentary Practices the Speaker has not seen me and it is the Professor himself who has given me this great privilege to address this House.

Now, foremost, allow me to say a few personal things. I met Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó at the Alliance High School. Very smart and very brilliant but I know something about him that people don't know. Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó used to belong to our musical quartet for the Deep River Boys and every Saturday we would sing what we called the Spirituals and Calypsos

from the Caribbean and you could not fail to notice the voice of Anyang Nyongó because he was the youngest but he had a strong voice even at that early age. Since then, I have known him as a student and a prefect at the Alliance High School, he became the president of the Guild at the Makerere University and by the way if those days you become the president, you are guilded in Makerere and you are foreign student it was not a light task. It was the equivalent of the Obamas in Harvard when he was the president of the Harvard Law School.

Subsequently in academia, Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó has excelled but more importantly, in the Republic of Kenya there are three things that I want to mention and then I will give context as to why this thinking.

Mr. Speaker, when the NARC Government was elected in the year 2002, Kenya was economically going down the drains and we needed a Masterplan to raise Kenya out of that doldrums or depression and ensure that Kenya would grow in accordance with the expectations of the people of Kenya. If you recall there was a paper which was written literary although I know that there are other people supporting this process the paper known as Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation. If you follow the suggestions in that Strategy paper which was done by Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó it brought Kenya out of recession and from a slow Growth Rate of 6.06% in the first year. At the time the NARC Government was finishing its term from the year 2007 the Growth Rate had risen to nearly 7.00% and in the subsequent years you can see what happened.

Then, when we had the Grand Coalition Government, Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó played a pivotal role and this was in the crafting of Vision 2030 and everyone talks about this blueprint. I believe that, as a result of the politics of the day, we begin to forget what is in that blueprint. But, I am glad to report that even the blueprint for Economic Development for the current government is hinged upon the foundations of Vision 2030. This blueprint contains the Economic, Social and the Political Pillars.

Mr. Speaker, in 2018, I had the privilege to look at the Kisumu County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP II) FY 2018 to 2022 and you could discern that the author of this document who had written these important strategies and blueprints for the Economic Recovery, Wealth and Job Creation would not miss out that the author of these two national blueprints equally played a central role in developing the policies contained in the Kisumu County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP II) for the year 2018 to 2022. For this I want to appreciate Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó because at a national level, a lot of the economic activities that have been on-going depended on these two plans I have talked about. But, even looking at the Kisumu County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP II) for the year 2018 to 2022 because in my position as the Senator I have looked at the blueprints of other Governors coming from the other Counties and in my view, this is one of the best blueprints and I know that you did not have the interjections and fortunate,

of the Covid and any other like the political upheavals that we have experienced from a few months before the “handshake” I believe that Kisumu has scaled to greater heights.

Secondly, I would like to talk about Kisumu and beginning from where Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó has left. It is a great achievement for Kisumu that actually the Afri-cities Conference is being held in the City of Kisumu. This is an international event and I can tell you that it takes somebody like Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó and his stature to convince the entire African Continent to bring that convention to Kisumu. There are many cities in Africa that are much larger than Kisumu probably well positioned than Kisumu but for Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó was able and I believe that is the reason that being bilingual and he was able to convince the Francophone speaking Counties and others that this event has to be held in Kisumu. You have to be world class leader for you to succeed to bring an event like this in Kisumu. This is because there are a lot of challenges and conditionalities that we are expected to meet in relation to infrastructure, hotel accommodations, security, connectivity and at the end of the day, Kisumu qualified and I don't believe that it was given to Kisumu as a favour I believe that we qualified and for that we thank the County Government of Kisumu and the people of Kisumu.

Then, the other thing that Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó has just mentioned at the tail end of his Speech is revolving around the International Investment Bonds. These are sole indicators that indeed Kisumu can become an important hub not only in Kenya but in the region and in the continent and I hope that we are going to leverage on it in relation to conferencing tourism and the international events of these nature.

Mr. Speaker, I have only two things and then I conclude. Politics is not theater, it is about the people. Mr. Speaker, the difference between our politics and those that are happening in the emerging nations like Asia and even the Latin America is that they have transited in politics where it is a contest which is as good as some theater or drama. Politics has become such a serious matter and it is about the people's lives and people's resources, people's future and we cannot remain in a file that when we talk about politics, we are talking about Singapore or Malaysia or Korea or the Asian Tigers. Why can't we not be able to talk about the African Giants? African Giants will not come until we change our perceptions or the way we do our politics. I believe that, this is a very big problem in the entire African continent. I want to give you an example. There is a young lady who is the Prime Minister of New Zealand and in the backstage of her government and what she has done to transform that country because previously there was a Prime Minister and within those few years she experienced a terrorist attack but she has done a wonderful job for that country. I am just hoping that in the future, if this County can have leaders with integrity and vision like Professor Peter Anyang Nyongó, we can change the face of this County. Politics cannot become a theatre because I heard a friend of mine who had stated that the two most rigid places that he goes to and this chap is from the Caribbean, he stated that the countries that he comes to is Kenya and the Philippines. The first thing that he does is to buy a newspaper. If you take the Kenyan

Newspaper and that of the Philippines it has much to do about money, if you go to Singapore, people are talking about serious issues.

Mr. Speaker, even the Peoples Republic of China they have a design of how to move and they have agents who survive on subsistent farming to the middle class. I must say that it is not an easy task.

Therefore, I pray that the Constitution and it's the reason why I am in concurrence with what the Right Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga considered together with the pack his brother President Uhuru Kenyatta have made because people think that if you are in the opposition it is about destruction. When there is destruction, your hope is destroyed more so that you don't succeed when you can see that the compromises that we have made. Imagine the Right Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga could have not had some kind of constitutional aligning during that constitutional moment in the year 2009 and 2010, we could not have had the Kenyan Constitution that we have with us here today.

They had seen it consequently they structured it and without forgetting the "Handshake" which has restored their path to virtuous leadership. The other team is only thinking about power.

Yesterday, I was very happy with the boldness where the President of the Republic of Kenya because he said somethings which only the Head of State can say and people take it seriously. I don't believe that he was attacking anybody, but he was just being frank because people say that the "guilty are afraid". So, people will conclude that he must be talking about somebody. All the President was saying is that, the business of politics is so serious and it involves some sacrifice. I believe that, the Kenyan Constitution will transform the political theatre because for some people it is entertainment and take it back to serious business. As we seat here, we want to see the image of that great Kenyan like envisaged by Tom Mboya the design of the Kenyan State after the independence and why we did not take the Communists or the Social System but we deviated to a little road because of the design of the people like Tom Mboya under the Sessional Paper No.10 on African Socialism and its applications. Image that we did not have a Constitution contract about Devolution and we were just groping in the dark and what is good for Kenya is a Constitutional Contract where the system of Devolution would be acted upon and my prayer is that this is not destroyed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to talk to the Members of the County Assembly that there are people who don't like the system. The fact that you are called Hon. Members and part of the County Assembly, you have to know that these people are leaving in the past and they take Hon. Members as the ones who sit in Nairobi. Kenya like the United States of America and the UK who have the Parliament at the local and national level and in fact there are some countries which have these Assemblies in three of four levels. One significant thing that happened, I believe that there was a Court decision which you should take note of and I believe that the Senate found it that the petition that was taken to the High Court and personally I put my hand on it and it says that.

When the Office of the Auditor General presents any report of any Accounts of any County which should be taken to the National Assembly, the Senate and to the County Assembly. So long as that Auditor's Report has been laid on the table of the County Assembly, both the National Assembly and the Senate do not have jurisdiction to deal with that until the County Assembly has duly done its work of oversight of approving or disapproving the Accounts. This is because you cannot have the same report being deliberated upon by three institutions at the same time and coming up with conflicting recommendations or decisions.

(Applause)

So, I believe that this is something that is subject to the County Assemblies and we are aware that there are people who don't want this Devolved Governments. As President Uhuru Kenyatta and the Right Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga said that there is need for more resources coming to the Counties. If you can play your role particularly in Budgeting, approval of County Integrated Plans and as I had said that process requires a Five year Plan, an Annual Plan, you have to budget, we have to appropriate and then you can spend. These are five important issues on how to deal with Revenues that belong to the public. I have seen it in County Assemblies, there is a lot of knowledge on these Budgeting Process including what is required of County Governments and the County Assemblies who are in the picture in playing this important role of oversight. The County Assemblies and the County Governments should work in harmony and that is the reason we have tried as ODM to assist as many Counties as possible so that they have County Governments lead by a political party and those County Assemblies must make the County proud, because you are not just a majority for the sake of it but, a majority to make the people of Kisumu proud and the rest of Kenyans proud.

Right now, I can tell you without fear of contradiction that whenever there is a gathering about counties that are performing well I hear Makueni, I hear Kakamega and I hear Kisumu constantly and you may not like whatever is being done by the County Government for some political or ideological reasons but, facts are always facts and science is always science but we need to look at things objectively. Through many audits reports I am always very proud because I come from this region. When audit from this region Kisumu is mentioned, it is very encouraging and that it is partly to do with the work of the County Assembly who do the oversight and the County Government.

The only thing that your Excellency that I would want to urge you is this thing called Public Participation. If it can be undertaken effectively and people feel that they own the process and understand what you are doing because it is a Constitutional requirement. Sometimes a majority of good things that you do that the public don't understand. The County of Makueni at least has a County Fund for Public Participation which I believe that should be incorporated everywhere in the Country. I am aware that, this is s County Government that has performed for ten years and

Kisumu County under the reign of Professor has only been here for four years. So, I believe that we are going to get there and I wish you well in that regard.

Finally, we are getting into the electioneering period and this is the election time that is going to be the most serious election in the life of this nation. In this elections we are going to define whether Kenyans want one nation under God that is invincible, democratic that is subjected to the rules of law, human rights or whether we are going to have an authoritative regime where we have one President who knows it all and the results will come out in the ballot paper. But another agenda during our tour at the Mountain top and we looked at the Nation from the country top and we realized that Kenyans have woken up to this new reality that we need a government that is going to be accountable to the people. Not by dishing handouts. In fact the regimes that took the approach of dishing handouts did not make it. The late Mobutu Seseseko use to walk around in the villages with loads of money and could stop to give people money, but, when you go you Botswana where a lot of times it was hard to meet politicians because they are busy working to find out what is the direct path for development of those Countries. In Kisumu, we have a City with the second largest fresh water lake in the World. In the economic region actually Kisumu is naturally centered and endowed in the region now that the Republic of Congo is now joining the East African Community.

So, the people of Kisumu, I believe that in another twenty-five years' time if you get thing right, because virtual cities are not necessarily where business takes place but where the money revolves and Kisumu will become a big financial centre in the region and I am sure that can be done if you have the correct government in place.

My only worry is that you should ask a question, you know in history Kisumu has a Central Bank. If you look at the activities of a Central Bank like the one in Kisumu, it reflects a lot resources and that, when we get there if we work hard, concentrate on production, save, invest and borrow and if you have to borrow, borrow smart and not to sink people in a borehole that they will never come out.

So, with those remarks I want to thank you for according me this privilege to address this Assembly and through the Assembly the people of Kisumu. I want to equally convey my thanks to the Governor of Kisumu County Professor Peter Anyang' Nyongó because over the years people will get to understand your strategic ideologies because when you write memoirs people will know that when we were starting Multipartism the Political Head of the Secretariat of the Regional Board was Professor Peter Anyang' Nyongó. When ODM was founded through its leader the Right Hon. Raila Amollo Odinga and the secretariat which is drawn from the largest party drawn from this region was Professor Peter Anyang' Nyongó. I know that in August next year Kisumu and Professor Peter Anyang' Nyongó will have a very special place in this County. Thank you.

(Applause and a Standing Ovation)

H.E the Governor, Kisumu County (Professor Peter Anyang' Nyongó): Mr. Speaker, I want to thank you and I want to reiterate that please don't sleep "*Tich Tire*" and I have seen a time and I have seen a time "*Tich Tire*". Thank you very much.

(Applause)

(The Speaker assumes his seat)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!!

PAPER LAID

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

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Mr. Speaker the Governor of the Great County of Kisumu, our Chief Guest and the Leader of Minority. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the provisions of County Assembly Standing Orders No. 22 (4) may I take this opportunity that today Thursday, 02nd December, 2021 to lay in this House the Governor's Fourth Annual State of the County Address. May I call upon the Deputy Speaker to second? Thank you.

(Applause)

(Leader of Majority lays the Address before the House)

Hon. Oketch: (Bows).

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, I confirm receipt of the Governor's Fourth Annual State of the County Report that has been presented by the Leader of Majority. It is the Speech that has just been read by the Governor Professor Peter Anyang'. As per our Standing Orders, I want to commit this report to the Select Committee of House Business for scheduling for discussion as appropriate. I direct that it be given priority to become the first business as per our Standing Orders for at least at most four sittings. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

Leader of Majority (Hon. Onyango): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of our Standing Orders No. 22 (5) I wish to give a Notice of Motion that, the thanks for the County Assembly be recorded for exposition of the public policy contained in the address of the Governor. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next Order!

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Members, I have one communication to make before we adjourn. There is in the public gallery Madam Caroline Agwanda and her team after we adjourn we request that you will meet the Governor outside for a small function that was supposed to be carried out by you and your team. Thank you.

Hon. Members there being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to Tuesday, 07th December, 2020 at 02:30 p.m. Thank you.

(House rose at 03:47 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

Jesca Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Vallery Achieng’ – Hansard Reporter

