COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

SECOND ASSEMBLY – SIXTH SESSION

Thursday, 10th March, 2022

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

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

PRAYERS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Madam Clerk, please take us through the business of the day.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Thank you Honourable Members, welcome to this afternoon session. I want recognize the presence of Madam Susan Omondi. She is a teacher at Langata High School in Nairobi. She is here to learn how we conduct of business in the House. Welcome to County Assembly of Kisumu. Thank you.

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

STATEMENT.

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

Hon. Okumu: Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise under Standing Order No. 42 to give a Personal Statement. There was an incident that happened in Nairobi where a few members of the public who are boda-boda operators happened to harass a lady who caused an accident. Madam Speaker,

I want to join leaders who have condemned this act. I also want to condemn the methods are used to enforce laws on other boda-boda operators in this country and especially in Kisumu. We cannot enforce a law by breaking another law. What the police is doing to the boda-boda operators in the whole country is uncalled for and balkanization of the boda-boda operators. I want this House to communicate to the law enforcement authority to stop doing what they are doing. We need to protect everybody using the road but we cannot balkanize anybody having a motor bike in this country.

Madam Speaker, kindly allow the Honourable Members to give the police a warning that what they are doing to our people is not right. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Pamela Odhiambo.

Hon. Pamela Odhiambo: Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise to support the matter raised by Hon. Seth Okumu. I equally wanted to raise the same Statement but I got advice from the Office of the Speaker that this was a directive from the President. CS Matiang'i announced that they are giving the operators 30 days to reorganize themselves. You know how difficult it was for them to carry their passengers. They also have their families to feed.

Madam Speaker, as a woman, I condemn what happened to that lady. Some bad elements in the boda-boda sector must be removed. This act can happen anywhere. We must find a solution to this problem. The boda-boda operators should register by joining SACCOs for easy of identification as directed so that they can return to work. I also want to request the stakeholders to engage one another for solutions to be found. If registration starts tomorrow, allow them start registering from tomorrow. After one or two weeks, anyone who shall have not registered and got arrested, then we will not have any problem with that. However, I believe that arresting them before registration kicks off, is not conforming well with us.

(Hon. Beatrice Pamela stood on her feet)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Hon. Pamela Ochieng. What is it? Continue.

Hon. Beatrice Pamela: Thank you Madam Speaker, I believe that sometimes we should try and do things that are within our purview. That is because the directive concerning the motorcyclists was from The President which is above our purview as a County Assembly. There is no way we can go and tell the policemen who are just implementers of an order given to them by The President to stop whatever they are doing. It will look like we are telling them to go against the Presidents' directive. Thank you. .

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Hon. Oiko, Leader of Minority.

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Thank you Madam Speaker. Hon. Pamela Beatrice was informing the House, not an individual. When you are contributing and a member stands to make

his/her contribution on your contribution, then, it is the House that is being addressed. Thank you Madam Speaker.

The issue at hand in Kenya now was embarrassing that we are getting the information that the lady who got assaulted was a foreigner. That is why the President had to come in and give the order. Madam Speaker, remember that the former President of Kenya; Mzee Mwai Kibaki said this; 'the boda-boda industry is an industry that cannot be whisked away'. It has now come to stay with us; it has employed our young people, and giving resources to our young people. It is the government that forgot to streamline the management of Boda-boda sector. That is because, rogue people are found in every sector. So, what happened? Those were the rogue people in the Boda-boda industry who embarrassed our country Kenya. Not every Boda-boda cyclist is a rogue. Measures need to be put in place to formalize the industry so that our boys who have not gotten formal employment can be kept busy in the sector.

Madam Speaker, the boda-boda sector is a very critical industry that needs to be organized by the government so that it is not done away with. Whatever is happening now is that we are advising the government. The president is in the office and we are the people on the ground as his eyes. We are therefore telling the policemen that the way they are handling these people is inhumane.

(Applause).

Madam Speaker, these operators have been given 60 days to register, let that period be adhered to after that, let the policemen come in to check who are those Boda-bodas who have not obeyed the instructions, but when they walk everywhere with clubs and anyone with Motorcycle is arrested. We are not in state of emergency.

Madam Speaker, what His Excellency said was in order, the action being taken now is what we want to be taken in a formal way so that it also does not embarrass us because when the policemen are emotional the young people will also became emotional, so what country shall we be having, what picture are we going to be portraying?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Order!! Hon. Pete, if the order was issued that the crackdown should be enforced with immediate effect how were you expecting the policemen the police to execute it?

Leader of Minority (Hon. Oiko): Thank you Madam Speaker and that is good order has been given and it must be formalized./ madam Speaker, you don't just wake up and take a gun and just start shooting people aimlessly because you want to bring order immediately. What the Dr. Matiang'i, said is what should be done, let them be given the formalities to register in their SACCO'S. Let there be records identifying them that this motorists belong to this SACCO then a time will come in when the policemen will now execute a crackdown on those who have not registered.

Madam Speaker, we expect order in the Boda-boda industry that one we cannot condemn, but the way things are done, they should be done in an orderly way so that we don't bring unnecessary chaos in our society, thank you.

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

Hon. Ojuok: Thank you Madam Speaker, I want to join in the debate of how the police have implemented the order from the president, but I want to differ a bit with some of the sentiments from the members. The boda-boda sector as at the moment, there are clear rules that are already there that were being violated not because they were not there but simply because the police were ignoring.

Madam Speaker, it is like somebody who is having a driving license, driving on the wrong route, going the opposite direction. Those were once rules that were there and they are the people had to adhere with. I don't want to believe there is a certain police officer who is addressing a *'Boda-boda'* because he is not in a SACCO. Those are some of the things that were already there. As leaders, when these issues are being addressed we need to give the necessary support when those areas need to be improved. I can tell you that, if that level of insecurity and rogue attitude is allowed to infiltrate into that area, you will find so many descent people avoiding *'bod-bodas'*. They will be there but very few will be riding. No *'boda-boda'* rider is being harassed concerning the issue of SACCO or driving license. I was talking to some *'boda-boda'* operators who were next to my House asking them why they were being chased. It is my belief that, the police needs to adhere to the President's order and not inflicting fear to the *'boda-boda'* sector. We must bring order in that sector. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): Yes Hon. Beatrice Pamela.

Hon. Beatrice Pamela: Thank you madam Speaker. I believe that, some of us are pretending as if we don't know what is happening. The *'boda-boda'* sector has SACCOS with their accounts which have money to date. Those accounts were frozen and the SACCOS were done away with. We should request the Governor to allow the *'boda-boda'* to operate their SACCOS so that they can abide by the law. Thank you.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Muga): There being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to 15th March 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

(House rose at 3.15 p.m.)

Addendum

Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende	-	*Senior Hansard Report*
Edward Odanga	-	*Reporter*
Fanuel Okode	-	*Reporter*
Patrick Okoyo	-	*Reporter*
Jesca Otieno	-	*Reporter*
Jacklyne Otieno	-	*Reporter*
Valerie Achieng	-	*Reporter*