

## COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



### COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

#### **THE HANSARD**

*Official Report*

**THIRD ASSEMBLY – FIRST SESSION**

**Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2022**

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

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

#### **PRAYER**

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

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

#### **COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR**

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to welcome you to this session. I will give Members who had not given the maiden speech to do so during the Statement hour. Those with Personal Statement or Member Statement should follow the right procedure before presenting the same. I would also wish to remind you that you are not required to present your maiden speech twice if you had done so.

Honourable Members, I am also informed that we have teachers and pupils from Jamaa Nursery and Primary School of Central Kolwa Ward. The teachers are Mr. David Oketch, Mr. Kenneth Ooko and Madam Maureen Akinyi. Welcome to our Assembly as you witness the deliberations in

the Chambers. I will give the area MCA some minutes during the Statement time to also welcome you.

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

### STATEMENTS

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): I will give Members time to give their maiden speech. I will allow only Fourteen Members had not given their speeches. Hon. Geoffrey Warindu MCA, Miwani Ward.

**Hon. Warindu** (MCA, Miwani Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate both elected and nominated Members of this House. I also want to congratulate you for your re-election as the Speaker of this Assembly. I would wish to congratulate Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o for being re-elected as the Governor of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker, want thank God for His blessings to enable us sit in this House today. I also thank Him for giving me an opportunity to present the people of Miwani Ward in this House. I would also like to thank my constituents for the confidence and trust they have bestowed on me and I will do my best to represent them. I would like to thank my campaign team and the family members who assisted me to deliver in the contest. I would also like to thank the ODM Party and the party leader for granting us a fair nomination. We got a lot discouraging statements from the public that the first timers were not going to get the party ticket.

To my colleagues, I believe we are going to work together as a team to change the perception and image of the county by ensuring that we generate and radiate positivity within ourselves. Let us avoid dishonorable conduct and turning this House into a gathering of law breakers. We shall achieve when we adhere to that.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to make it clear that in an election, there are winners and losers. We either take or not take it as enmity in every election that is coming. Let us take this opportunity granted to us and focus on why we were elected. We gave a lot of promises during the campaigns and we must work as a team to achieve it.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to congratulate my friend and a brother Hon. Kennedy Ooko for being elected the Leader of Majority in this Assembly. I believe you are up to the task and I believe you will guide this Assembly well. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Mariam Abeid.

**Hon. Abeid**: Thank you Mr. Speaker. As I rise to speak for the first time in this House, I want to thank the Almighty God, Allah Subhanahu wa Ta'ala for His grace and never-ending mercies that have seen me through this moment. I also want to express my heartfelt gratitude to the ODM party

and His Excellency the Right Honourable Raila Amollo Odinga who saw it fit to put me here to represent the Muslim Community in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, please allow me to congratulate the Deputy Speaker, Madam Nereah Okombo for being elected the first Deputy Speaker in this House. In the spirit of sisterhood and gender balance, I am very proud of you. As I stand here today as the representative of Muslim Community, one of the most marginalized communities in Kisumu County, I take on the responsibility of carrying on the voices of my people, initiating their representation through ground work while accountable and legitimate to the people I represent. I will try to do my best to make sure that the Assembly upholds their constitutional rights, values and religious liberties.

Mr. Speaker, we just came from a highly charged elections and I want to appeal to you as the center of the power in this House that, this was donated to the Honourable Members by the electorates of Kisumu County. That, we represent our people through dignity, transparency and unity. I feel that as the millions of disfranchised ODM supports, we can give them hope by making sure that devolution work for the people. As I conclude, let us not weaponize power to settle scores and I am humbly also asking you that let us also not use power to advance our personal gains on behalf of the people that put us here. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Moses Ochele. MCA, East Kano Wawidhi.

**Hon. Ochele** (MCA, East Kano Wawidhi Ward): Thank you so much Mr. Speaker. I rise to thank the Almighty God for the gift of life and gift of hope to come back to this August House. It was not an easy task, coming from the dustbin and now back as a Member of this County Assembly. I thank the Almighty God!

Secondly, my gratitude goes to my family, especially my wife, best friend and chief campaigner. She did a wonderful job to ensure that her husband comes back to speak before these distinguished Honourable Members. I thank her very much.

Once again, may I take this opportunity to thank my electorates, the people of East Kano/ Wawidhi Ward who saw it fit that I represent them for a subsequent occasion. They gave me an opportunity in 2013 and I did not disappoint them. In 2017, the same good people gave me another chance but the Orange Democratic Party (ODM), then headed by former Senator Hon Fred Outa thought otherwise. I therefore had to take a back seat and rest for a period of five years before my hopes were rejuvenated. Here I am, courtesy of the people of East Kano Wawidhi Ward.

Let me not forget to commend my colleagues who fought tirelessly, through thick and thick, through insults, and through tough economic times to make it to this House. In addition, I will not forget our Nominated MCAs, among whom also contested and finally got here through other channels. May God unite us and may we remain as a unit.

My further gratitude goes to you Mr. Speaker. It is an honour that today I am addressing you as Honourable Speaker and not Mr. Oraro. On that note, I may request that perceptions aside, this House is now Kisumu County Assembly headed by The Speaker Hon Elisha Jack Oraro. Honourable Members, let us not live in the past. We will be in this House for the next five years and while here, we shall be guided by the Honourable Speaker whom I am addressing today. If we do not accept this fact, then we will keep on pulling in opposite direction.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging Honourable Members that let us forget about the Elections of the Speaker and his Deputy which took place on 20<sup>th</sup> of September, 2022. Let us now focus on the task ahead of us so that we move on as a team in order to deliver the necessary services to our electorates. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honour that today I am addressing this House which also comprises senior citizens and senior Party members.

Mr. Speaker, there is disconnect between Party and politics. When it comes to politics, people compete and I believe that people compete on a fair ground. In the contest of 20<sup>th</sup> of September, 2022, it was a fair contest whose winner is now the Speaker. It is now my appeal to you Mr. Speaker that you embrace all as we are now all your children. On that note, I will not forget to say that I am happy as the Representative of East Kano Wawidhi Ward in Nyando Sub County. I was a supporter of Hon. Ong'ou aka "Óganda" for the position of Speaker of Kisumu County Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, as I stand, I am a gracious man because as he people of Nyando, we now have the position of Leader of Majority. That's a great achievement I can proudly share with my electorates because on the shoulders of the Leader of Majority, our interest lies. Congratulations Hon. Ooko, the Leader of Majority. I also congratulate. I also congratulate our Chief Whip Hon. Kanga. As such, the club "Óganda" is fairly represented in this House. To this extent, I am not complaining.

Mr. Speaker, I am urging Honourable Members to remain united, recognize and respect structures as laid down by the Party. Finally, I reiterate my loyalty to the Party, my Governor and Party Leader. Mr. Speaker, sometimes contests can go haywire and it can be hard to tell whether or not you are fighting against your sister or your mother. However, after such, people sit as a family, reconcile and move forward. By moving forward, you ask for forgiveness where you erred.

Therefore, we should move on the spirit of forgiveness for actual healing to take place. With the kind of heart you have Mr. Speaker, I am sure the healing might not take us even a month. I am sure this has started because I realized that in the two committees, mentioned by the Leader of Majority, I have seen gender balance, regional balance and even political balance. When I say political balance, you know what I mean. If we proceed that way Mr. Speaker, I believe all Members will belong to at least one or two or even three committees. We therefore need to put our differences aside and focus on the roles bestowed upon us by electorates.

Mr. Speaker, I am happy that Hon. Ngeta can smile today as opposed to yesterday when he was quite tensed. That is an improvement because he has come to the reality that we now have one

Speaker. There is not any other Speaker. We have one Speaker and so Hon. Ngeta and Honourable Members, let us move on and work as a team. I am grateful and looking forward to a peaceful co-existence in this great Assembly. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon Oraro): Hon. Emily Oginga

**Hon Oginga** (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Today, I stand here to make my maiden speech in the Third Assembly of Kisumu County. First and foremost, I would like to thank the Almighty God for giving me the opportunity to be here today for everyone else who is here today.

Secondly, I would wish to congratulate the Speaker, Hon Oraro on your election together with Hon Okombo, the Deputy Speaker. In addition, I would like to thank ODM Party without which I would not have been here as a Nominated Member. Again, if it were not for the ODM party, we would not have had so many women MCAs nominated to the County Assembly of Kisumu. We know that Kisumu County Assembly is the only single Party Assembly in the whole of the Republic.

Mr. Speaker, I would wish to thank the Party Leader, the Right Hon. Raila Amolo Odinga, who apparently is also my elder brother. I will talk about this more when I will be talking about my family. I would like to thank all the people who worked towards ensuring Devolution is nurtured this country and all Kenyans for having accepted and voted in a new Constitution. I know it was not an easy journey because there are people who died. May their souls rest in peace! It is actually for their struggle that we are here today, enjoying the fruits of devolution. I would now like to talk about my family.

I would like to talk about my family which is also a political family. Talking about my family, I get very emotional because we have been in this struggle for as long as I was born. We have been in this struggle as long as the older siblings were born. I have actually seen all these. I remember as a young girl, the police station next door to this Assembly used to be my playground. It used to be my playground because I was in nursery school when Jaramogi was under house arrest. It was a routine. Every morning, we would be taken from home, guarded by heavy security and driven to the police station for search.

Mr. Speaker, we have been in this struggle probably longer than most of you who have been here. I believe that I have a story to tell from the struggle for the second liberation during multi-party era. I could see the struggles of people especially those who could come to our home and witness what we were going through. It really pains the family whenever anyone from the family wants to contest for any political seat. I believe that in a family, most children emulate careers of their parents because they see them as mentors, and see that as a way of living in the family. I therefore do not see any wrong in pursuing the same in my family. I am sorry to bring this up because I know we have been vilified for this not only in Kisumu County but also across the country. It has been a rollercoaster of emotions that hasn't made it easy for the family as we have been forced to sacrifice much. Otherwise, I want to thank my family especially my late father Hon. Jaramogi

Oginga Odinga, who I wish could have been here today. I am without doubt, certain that he is quite enchanted wherever he is (*sighs*) may his soul rest in eternal peace.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my brother, the Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga for the trust and confidence that he had in me and gave me this chance. I promise that I will not let him and the ODM Party and the people of Kisumu County down. Thank you.

Today, I am happy to be part of this Third Assembly of Kisumu County, and more often than not I say that we are a blessed County. My reason is because we have Members who were in the pioneer Assembly, those who were in the Second Assembly, and now we have those who are just coming in the Third Assembly. It is a rich blended Assembly such that as new Members, we are able to consult and learn from mistakes that occurred in the First Assembly through to the Second Assembly. To the Members of this Third Assembly, let us do it differently. I saw the level of dedication that we had during our induction exercise in Mombasa County. I urge us to keep it up because I know that if we continue in that spirit, we shall do great in this County of Kisumu.

Moreover, I would like to appreciate my colleagues, especially Hon. Seth Ochieng' Kanga. You are my MCA here in Market Milimani Ward, and I have since voted for you, which you already know. I want to assure you that we will walk hand-in-hand in this City of Kisumu. I am pleased to tell the people of Kisumu that this time you are fortunate to have a 'Baba' and a 'Mama'. We will work together for the advancement of Market/Milimani Ward and the entire Kisumu County. I am also pleased to share this House with the Hon. Patrick Lumumba, because we have together come a long way in the struggle. He was one of the youths for Jaramogi and that elates me more because I know I am protected...(*Laughs*) I am protected. I know nobody wants to harm me but it makes me build further confidence.

We are merely from a very tense election of the Speaker, which literally split the House into half. I would like to kindly ask our able Speaker, to try as much as he can to unite the House, and that call goes to us as well. Without a united Assembly, we won't carry our mandate to the latter. Nevertheless, I pray to God to guide us and grant us the wisdom to lead this County and make decisions that aren't inclined to pride and prize. Thank you

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Fredrick Adonija Odari, MCA for Chemelil/Tamu Ward.

**Hon. Odari** (MCA for Chemelil/Tamu Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am quite pleased to be here today and to deliver my maiden speech on this special occasion. A number of good maiden speeches have been made. Allow me to congratulate you on your re-election as the Speaker of the Assembly equally the election of your Deputy, Madam Speaker, Hon. Nereah Okombo. Special appreciation goes to my family, my brother, and all others who stood with me during the period of campaigns and election. Mr. Speaker, I want to encourage all Members in this House, that we should embrace teamwork to realize our dreams. Take note of the promises we gave to our electorates, and all those can only be achieved if we work together.

Mr. Speaker, I want to also thank the people of this great County of Kisumu for electing our Governor Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o for a second term. Appreciation goes to our Party Leader the Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga for the role he has since played to see this day as so. As I finalize, I want to say that I listened to some of the sentiments made by fellow honorable Members yesterday but would want to remind Members that we need not to go to negative trajectories. Let us act as leaders for us to progress in this Assembly. Otherwise, thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Tom Onditi, MCA for Ombeyi Ward.

**Hon. Onditi** (MCA for Ombeyi Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Please allow me to follow in the queue of my fellow colleagues who have spoken ahead of me. I would start by thanking the Almighty God who through His wisdom and Mercy I am here today. Sometimes politics is played in different kinds of altars and one being the clannism. If you happen to come from a very marginalized clan like mine, if it isn't by God's grace then you might not find a chance at all. This being my second trial in the quest to clinch the MCA seat, I want to thank God for He enabled ease from the challenges I faced on my first trial.

Secondly, I want to thank my family. Campaigns often become quite difficult that family time is not achieved at all. If you do not have a loyal and supportive family then you might return home to an empty house and bedroom.

*(Laughter)*

Where else do you easily find those people other than the sitting room?

*(Laughter)*

Consequently, I want to thank all the Members both elected and nominated for their efforts. I know that some of the nominated Members were very serious competitors during the nominations and it is not like they were merely hand-picked. I am certain of this because I met some during the Party primaries.

In addition, I want to thank the Speaker and the entire leadership of the Assembly. I want to congratulate you on your re-election as the Speaker of this House despite the rigorous exercise of the election. Mr. Speaker, I have been privileged to have sideline conversations with you, and told you that all these happenings are wills of God. This is an opportunity for you to demonstrate particularly to those who were opposing your re-election that you aren't the person they assumed you were. In doing so you be a father figure to both of those who were in support and those who were against you.

Lastly, I want to thank the ODM Party for entrusting me with its ticket to win this. Last time I stood on an independent ticket probably that was the reason I did not make it. I therefore extend my gratitude to the Party Leader the Right Honourable Raila Amolo Odinga for steering the Party

to what it is today as it started as a movement but now probably the biggest Party in East and Central Africa. To the people of Kisumu, I am pleased with how they conducted themselves during the election period. This is the first time we have conducted the election and gone through the same process of the Supreme Court battle without any registered skirmishes in the streets. Instead they maintained utmost peace. I thank you so much.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Millicent Omuya, MCA, North Seme Ward.

**Hon. Omuya** (MCA, North Seme Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker sir, I want to take this opportunity to first thank the Almighty God and the great people of North Seme for believing me and electing me overwhelmingly as their third MCA. I am also delighted as the first woman since the new constitutional dispensation to be elected in this position from my Ward area.

To the lovely people of Kadero, the hard working men and women of Kowe, the youths of Katieno, my in-laws from Kakello, my family and friends, I am forever indebted in you for the overwhelming support you showered me with during the difficult journey. I will always stand with you.

On this other side, Mr. Speaker sir, the electorates have given us this opportunity to serve them. Real work must start. We must now roll our sleeves, set aside our political differences and get down to real businesses. We need to have the issues of; our roads, water, small scale farmers plus other challenging issues sorted.

Lastly, to the thousands of youths, small scale traders, women, widows/widowers and orphans from North Seme Ward and the entire County as a whole; I know I feel you. I together with my Honourable colleagues, we shall devote our effort to come up with the solutions to your numerous problems. The spirit of the good people of Kisumu County has never been revamped and hopes for a better future rekindled as it is now. Under the leadership of our great Governor Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o with his slogan of 'Tich Tire, *tich nyaka tire*, thank you. May God bless you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ratib Boitone, MCA Nyalenda "A" Ward

**Hon. Boitone** (MCA Nyalenda "A" Ward): Thank you so much Mr. Speaker sir. First and foremost I want to thank the Almighty God for who in his wisdom has brought us to this Assembly. It is not by our strength, it is neither our money nor by our education but because of mercy from God that today we are called Honourable Members. In that same respect, I would like to convey that while thanking God, I will treat this Assembly with dignity that it deserves. I will respect each and every Member of this Assembly including the Clerks.

Besides that, Mr. Speaker, allow me also to thank the people of Nyalenda "A" Ward of whom I got this victory from. Had it not been for them, I would have not been standing here today. I believe that I will serve the people of my Ward with the respect that they deserve...

Moreover, Mr. Speaker, I will be lying if I do not thank the Muslim Community. They did me a great job during the nomination. When something almost went wrong with my Party Ticket, their voices were heard across the Country and my victory was reinstated.

In addition to that, I also want to take this opportunity to congratulate you for being re-elected as the Speaker of this Third Assembly. I know and I believe that you have the wisdom that it takes to guide this Assembly. May God pour his wisdom upon you.

Further, I also want to thank the Transition Committee for the induction that they organized for us in Mombasa. Through that session, I learnt a lot. One of the lessons is that whatever pledges that we gave during our campaigns; we may not honour them all. As I came to realize about the Kisumu County Wage Bill which has surpassed the percentage that is required by the government. It is therefore going to be a tall order for this County Government to employ people. Where are these employments? How are we going to make this materialize? Mr. Speaker, I hope God is going to give a solution to this especially to Members of this Assembly who promised job opportunities to the youths.

Additionally, I also want to thank and congratulate all the Members of this Assembly; both the elected and nominated. Dear colleagues, I believe that we will work in unison to steer this County to a greater heights that it has never attained. I take this time also to congratulate the Governor of Kisumu Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o. I believe in his wisdom, that this County will achieve the development that we as leaders also promised the people of Kisumu.

On the other hand, if I do not thank my family, I do not think I will get a place to rest my head today. I therefore take this opportunity to thank them especially my wife who has stood with me. Ever since I ventured into politics it has been a long and tedious journey, from the year 2007 to date. This is the first time I am standing in this House and I believe she will still stand by me come 2027 of the subsequent general election.

Lastly, I want to thank the Party and the Party Leader. I always believe that anytime as long as we are still in the ODM Party, anytime you are awarded the certificate, there is always a percentage that even if you do not campaign, you will still bag for the Party. I will always pray for the Party Leader. May God give him good health and wisdom, thank you so much Mr. Speaker.

*(Applause)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Kelvin. You had already given your maiden speech therefore I can only give you time to recognize the school from your area on the public gallery.

**Hon. Oraro** (MCA, Kolwa Central Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I start by saying that I was a bit confused by one senior Member, who was insinuating that we have other speakers. We have only one Speaker who is seated in his Chair as the Speaker and the head of the County Assembly of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker, I am privileged and I never knew that one of the schools (Jamaa Nursery and Primary school) from my Ward. They had planned to come and visit the County Assembly of Kisumu today. As a teacher by profession, I know that their visitation is more of educational. It is an educational tour and they want to learn more. As they are seated in the public gallery Mr. Speaker, I am seeing leaders whom some if not all would one day be seated in this Honourable House as leaders representing people or even certain constituency. So we welcome their visitation and I want to encourage them and tell the Director of the school whom is not here with us today, the head teacher and teachers who are around that your decision to bring these pupils into this House is good. The unfortunate part is that the Parliament that you learn from has an opposition by virtue of party but ours majority are ODM members. I hope that you have been taught or that you have learned that the head of the legislative part of the County is the Speaker.

Further, I hope that you have seen that Mr. Speaker is the one whom we are addressing. The other part that you need to know is that the Governor does not work here but will occasionally come to the Assembly and he has a special place reserved for him, I hope if it's clear, you can see that chair I don't know if it, is it the tall one? Once he comes to the Assembly he is allowed to sit in the Assembly, same to the Senator.

In the floor I hope you have witnessed that some of the Serjeant-at-arms are women or I can use the term ladies, but majority are men. I believe that you can see most of you are girls but both girls and boy, ladies and men are chosen to work in this department.

We have the media gallery that is there. That is where the recording and takes place everything. We have the Hansard and many other things that you have learned and I hope when you go back you will try to simulate the debates and in a debate you will have two sides and you will hear Members talking about unity, because everywhere we are talking about is unity even in the House. Sometime we differ but at the end of the day we talk about one language. Thank you so much

I have been given the privilege to talk as your leader although Hon. Kanga who was a former parent at the Jamaa is not here with us to address you. Hon. Obaso is also from our ward you know him, feel very free. We have ten MCAs residing in Kolwa Central Ward and I am representing them. One day dream to be here and you will be seated either as the Speaker, Majority Leader or any other Members. So, students I am wishing you well through your educational journey, read and feel free and always be the person who learns to speak. The more you study and speak one day one time you will represent the people. Thank you so much for coming and thank you Mr. Speaker for this opportunity.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, we are still on statement segment. For Members who have not given their maiden speech and as I has said this would be the last day.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Obuya, MCA Central Nyakach Ward.

**Hon. Obuya** (MCA Central Nyakach Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker for the opportunity to address my fellow Members. First of all, I would like to take the opportunity to thank God for putting me here today, I must thank my family and any other stakeholder who participated to put me here today.

Mr. Speaker, I may not have much to say but it is important to tell Members that today we are here as a family and before we were here we started back in the wards and that was the primary reason we came here in Kisumu to represent our people. I know there could be tension here and there but it is important to acknowledge that leadership is God given and for that reason I will congratulate you for being our Speaker for this Hon. House. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to congratulate you for the team that you so fit to place in various positions of leadership and I pray that they represent us well.

Honourable Members, you must know that all these things we are fighting for are earthly things and at time I get to believe that unity and love are the best thing, if you happen to fly with an airplane you will find that all this tall buildings are so tiny and you can't even recognize their importance when you are up there in the air. So I pray that we can see the importance of each and every Member in this House because we have got different abilities. So, let us utilize such abilities given by God. Today we are here not because we are better than other people. Let us forget about 2027 or any other political goals but be reminded whatever work you are going to do back at the wards will be used not only to elevate you but will be used to determine who you were during your tenure in that particular ward. We may not be perfect but let us embrace one another, I call upon all Members to get united, respect one another, and appreciate one another and to also admit that healing is a process it doesn't just come that way, it is gradual process and allow those who are also on the other divide to heal. We are one family, we will soon converge and maybe be part of that construction of this beautiful County.

Honourable Members, I must not forget to thank the party ODM for giving me the opportunity to represent the people of Nyakach, I must also not forget to thank my parents, without forgetting to thank the people of Central Nyakach and my fellow Members for being here to represent Kisumu County.

Finally, all I can say is that, let us be here for one given purpose because we know what has brought us here and a lot of noise, grudges and fights won't help us, get back to know why you are here. When I was in school there was an adage that say "you came through that gate and you will go back through that gate alone ". Tomorrow you will not be judged as the County Assembly Member but as individuals back at the wards. So, not everything that you may need must come from the County Government but your relationship with others even that with other neighboring counties will be significant in ensuring that what we pledged to take back to our wards is realized. May the good Lord protect you and the new Members who got the opportunity to serve here. I congratulate you. It is not a very easy journey or something you can buy, it is a tough journey so take your time

to learn from this senior Members for what you don't know and when you feel you are wronged ask for forgiveness even if you are the one on the right, may God bless you all thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Kizito.

**Hon. Kizito** (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker for according this opportunity to make my maiden speech. First, I want to thank the Almighty God for this far He has brought me, if He didn't hold my hands I could not have made it to the Assembly.

Second, I want to thank my party ODM, I want to thank Hon. Raila Odinga for believing in the youths and for giving me this chances to lead the youths of Kisumu County in this House

Thirdly, Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate you on your re-election and to congratulate the Deputy Speaker Hon. Okombo for having been elected as a women to lead us as the Deputy Speaker. I also want to congratulate the Leader of Majority who happens to be my friend, I went to school with his wife back in high school.

Mr. Speaker, standing before you here is the second lastborn in the Assembly Regina Kizito who happen to come from a very humble background of a widow, born and raised in the Mabati houses of Muhoroni town. I am so grateful to God that I made it here and I want to take this chance to represent the youth of Kisumu County and I only want to request you Mr. Speaker that when your members are seated making decisions for Kisumu County please always have it in mind to consider the youth. When you are coming up with committees, always have it in mind that there is a youth representing the voice of the youth at the county Assembly of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to congratulate the Honourable Members for making it to the Assembly, it was not an easy journey, I vied and I want to thank God that during the campaigns I also learned a lot of things as a woman. I also want to thanks the madam President of ODM Beth Siengo who held our hands and even at one point we were supposed to be given direct tickets as the ODM women who were so vibrant at the ground but it didn't happen as we expected but God is the one who choses leaders, He gave the chance to Hon. K'omudho whom I pray that we will work together so that we can deliver to the people of Muhoroni-Koru Ward. I also want to thank the people of Muhoroni Koru Ward who believed in me, supported me when I was contesting for the seat. I also wish to thank the Senator of Kisumu County who has been my mentor and has always believed in me politically. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Elisha J. Oraro): Hon. Mickey, Nominated MCA.

**Hon. Mickey** (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity. My outmost and sincerest goes to the Almighty God for allowing me to serve as a County Member of Assembly in Kisumu County. I also want to thank ODM Party for nominating me to represent women in the County of Kisumu in attempt to bridge the gender gap. My other outmost gratitude

goes to my family because this is some kind of field of work that is very demanding especially for women, so for women who are in this House today, I would like to salute and congratulate you.

Mr. Speaker, to recognize that I am in this House to represent the women of Kisumu County is a privilege and an honor. I would like to state here today that I will do to the best of my knowledge to represent them and to bring all that will help the people and grow Kisumu County together as a family. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to congratulate you for your second re-election as the Speaker of this County Assembly. In that context I would also like to congratulate Hon. Okombo on her election as the Deputy Speaker of this Assembly, the nominated Members of ODM Party in various positions. There is a contentious issue in this House which was brought about by the election of the Speaker. A line was clearly drawn and each of us took a stand. No one was forced to take a stand, everyone had his/her own convictions. We had various candidates who came to us and convinced us to why they were best suited for the Speaker's position. Even as we move on, we need to recognize that all the decisions that were made even with the coercing and intimidation, at the end of the day it was a sole responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to urge each and every one of us that, even as we move along and in the spirit of uniting this House, let us recognize that in each team there were conversations that were heard, there were promises that were made in both teams. I also want to believe that probably those are the reasons why we made those decisions. I would like to urge you not to condemn the people on each of the various divide for the decisions that they made. We also know that more often than not decisions have consequences and we also know that decisions can be rewarded or punished. I do not believe that what is going on here is a punishment but they are a reward of a decision that we made as a group. Each freedom comes with a consequence. I urge you to look into yourself since we know why we were elected or nominated in this House. It was not just about the Speaker's position. It was about representation, oversight and legislation in this third Assembly. As we move together in light, I would like to urge us that we be who we are. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, if you look at the time, the one hour for statement has elapsed and if there is any Member who has not spoken then it will be your opportunity to speak as we debate. So, I want to close that session. I have perused through the Order Paper and realized that there was no business to be transacted and I have decided to give you more time unless there is any Member who is present and has not given his/her median speech.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Okombo, I thought you had already given your speech.

**Hon. Okombo**, MCA, Manyatta "B" Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also rise to join my colleagues in giving my maiden speech. First of all, I would like to say thank you to the Almighty God for the gift of life and for granting me this opportunity to serve today as the third Member representing Manyatta "B" Ward who also had the privilege of serving as the first Member in the

same capacity. It is a privilege that I am not taking for granted. I owe my gratitude to my lobby group YOTHA that made it possible for me to sensitize and pull off some huddles that were placed on me. Mr. Speaker it will not be fair that I don't recognize the leadership of YOTHA; I want to thank my National Chairperson that is Hon. Jaoko Oburu Odinga, my Regional Chairperson, Hon. Elija Oburu Odinga and the entire Yotha fraternity for the support they gave me both morally and financially and that they made it possible for me to be here today. Mr. Speaker we also have some YOTHA members here; Hon. Ratib, Hon. Carren, Hon. Alice, Hon. Were and Hon. James Omollo. Mr. Speaker this team gave me support and I feel indebted to them.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank the Honourable Members in this House today who in my weakness saw it fit that they place on me the responsibility of joining you in becoming the neural arbiter in the deliberations of this House. I want to say that so far so good we are starting on the right note of unity and a united front. It is my prayer that we all move together and give Kisumu County the development that they so much desire. Much is vested and given to us whereby much is expected. Mr. Speaker, in the spirit *tich tire* I believe that this team that is a blend of experience, knowledge and expertise, we will deliver to the people of Kisumu County. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Elisha J. Oraro): Next Order!

### ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, there being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> October 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

*(House rose at 03.22 p.m.)*

*Addendum*

**Hansard Team**

*Zablon Otiende – S.H. Reporter (Acting Editor)*

*Edward Odanga - Hansard Reporter*

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