

## COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



### COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

### **THE HANSARD**

#### *Official Report*

#### THIRD ASSEMBLY – FIRST SESSION

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2022

House met in the Main Chamber at 9:00 a.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): Honorable Members, welcome to this session and I want to convey a message from the Governor that he is thankful for the audience you gave him during his First State of the County Address to the Assembly and he is looking forward to your response on the address for the purposes of planning for the government.

Honorable Members, I also want to remind you that there is an activity at Mama Grace Onyango Social Hall on the Green City that is ongoing. The City Manager requested and encourage you to attend. I therefore want to suggest that we can have a few to comment on the address by the Governor before we proceed for the said function.

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

## PAPERS LAID

### KISUMU COUNTY ASSEMBLY QUARTERLY REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 2022

BY

HON. KEN OOKO, MCA, AHERO WARD.

(LEADER OF MAJORITY)

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

**The Leader of Majority** (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 166 (1), of the PFM Act, 2012, I wish to table today Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2022 Kisumu County Assembly Quarterly Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 30th September, 2022. Thank you.

*(The Leader of Majority lays before the House the report for consideration)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I confirm the receipt of the Kisumu County Assembly Quarterly Report and Financial Statements for the period ended 30th September, 2022. I hereby commit this report to the Finance, Trade, Cooperatives and Enterprise Development Committee to look at it as per our Standing Orders and report back to the House within a period of Twenty-One days.

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

## STATEMENT

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

**The Leader of Majority** (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to make a Statement that aware of the activity we have at Mama Grace Onyango Social Hall that the City Manager requested that we attend the function. I therefore request that you give at least Ten Members a chance to contribute on the Governor's address, thereafter we can go the function. Thank you.

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

## MOTION

### DEBATE ON THE GOVERNOR'S ADDRESS TO THE NEWLY ELECTED COUNTY ASSEMBLY

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, the Governor made his speech regarding the Third Government of devolution. I believe a copy was sent to our WhatsApp page for Members to go through it. The speech was organized as per the Sectoral Departments so that it makes it easier for you to criticize it.

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

**The Leader of Majority** (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to contribute on the Speech made by the Governor to the newly elected County Assembly. In the context of Commonwealth traditions and practices, the State of County Address borrows heavily from the election and it amounts to a constitutional obligation. That the Governor gives the legislature the state of the County by unveiling his agenda for the coming years for implementation.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor in his address to the Assembly congratulated the Members for their elections and also stressed on the importance of unity for the prosperity of the County. He also stressed on the issue of loyalty to the party and its leadership. He appreciated the Second Assembly for the cordial working relationship that we had with Governor in his first term of governing that enabled this House pass many legislations and it enabled him to realize his agenda for the County.

Mr. Speaker, he also urged Members to adopt peace and honest consultations as a culture of development in this county. He also highlighted several departmental achievements that includes; One, in Agriculture, he did a Four-kilometer Awach Canal that has resulted to the development of 625 acres. That benefits over 1000 households. The canal in Kabonyo Irrigation Scheme in Kabonyo Kanyagwal Ward that enabled the County Government to do 1800 acres and it helped 635 households. The Gem Rae canal that helped over 635 households. We also have Chiga Irrigation Scheme that opened 200 acres for irrigation. There is also purchase and installation of Ahero Rice Mill costing Kshs. 30 million, rehabilitation of Maseno Training Cooperation for farmers in the county.

Mr. Speaker, under Health, the Governor mentioned that he has constructed maternity wards at Kombewa, Kombewa, Ahero, Pap Onditi and Masogo Sub County Hospitals and upgrading of Lumumba Hospital from 15 to 150 bed capacity and that is a great achievement in the Department of Health.

Mr. Speaker, under Water, he mentioned 243 water projects in the county with Nyando leading with 60 followed by Seme at 45, Nyakach 42, Kisumu West 40, Muhoroni 22, Kisumu East 23 and that is also an achievement in the Water Department.

Mr. Speaker, when the Governor took over in 2017 there was the filthy Kachok Dump Site and he mentioned that it has now been transferred to Kasese in Ombeyi Ward where a Waste Management Plant is being constructed.

Mr. Speaker, in Education, when the Governor came in, he appointed six hundred and sixty-five (665) ECDE teachers on Permanent and Pensionable terms; and, I want to say that the Governor also managed to increase salaries for ECDE teachers.

Mr. Speaker, in other sectors like Tourism; I believe that this sector has played a significant role especially with regards to attracting international tourists to this County. This is indeed a great achievement. In his speech, the Governor mentioned the ongoing formalization of the Kisumu County Revenue Board that will enable the County to enhance its Own Source Revenue Collection, which I believe that at the moment is not doing very good.

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I want to say that all that the Governor mentioned in his speech, he managed to achieve them. Thank you Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. James Were.

**Hon. Were** (MCA, Nyalenda “B” Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also want to comment on the Governor’s Address to the Assembly. Mr. Speaker, the Governor has an elaborate plan for his people of this great County of Kisumu. The Governor did mention his achievements for the past five years and what he intends to do for the next five years.

Mr. Speaker, looking at different sectors that the Governor addressed, you will agree me that this is what has made Kisumu city to be christened ‘Europe’. In terms of infrastructure, you will recognize that the Governor has initiated several projects, bitumen and murram roads that have been improved.

Mr. Speaker, for any development to take place within a region, infrastructure must be prioritized. I want to commend the Governor for having touched several areas on Healthcare. Involving Community Healthcare Workers, training them and giving them stipend is a monumental step in the right direction. Mr. Speaker, the Governor also talked about unity of purpose and reconciliation, a very key ingredient in achieving development. When we united as a House, we are bound to achieve more.

Mr. Speaker, looking at the sector of Agriculture, the Governor mentioned several plans that have been initiated such as the irrigation schemes, which has guaranteed food security. Food security is an important element for a healthy country. With food security, we can be a stable county. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the Governor for having put an elaborate plan. I believe that if we give him the necessary support, he will be in a position to deliver on his promises.

I want to thank this Honourable House. I also want to thank the Governor for his speech. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon Mildred Biko.

**Hon. Biko** (MCA, Central Seme Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me an opportunity to speak this morning. In his remarks, His Excellency the Governor congratulated all the MCAs and he emphasized on the importance of loyalty to the party and the Party Leader and for us to work together as members of the Third Assembly. The Governor also made a special appeal to members to uphold peace, reconciliation and consultation. He went further to extend an olive branch to those who campaigned against him and against the ODM Party. It is his wish that we work together and remain united. The Governor also appealed to Members to be united and avoid petty squabbles.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor has in the past worked to transform this County from the time he became the Governor and, in his address, and manifesto, he wants to achieve quite a number of projects that were not completed in his last term.

Mr. Speaker, in Agriculture, he wishes to transform livestock and fisheries. He is also keen on improving food security and alleviating poverty with his focus on irrigation in areas like Awach, Kano, Kadibo and Gem Rae. In the area of livestock, the Governor has committed to the distribution of dairy cows to about one-hundred and eighty (180) households.

In the Fisheries sub-sector, there are training centers that are to be built. The Governor also committed to compensate the fish farmers. I want to specifically thank him because in my Ward there are those who lost fingerlings and the Governor has committed to give an additional Kshs. 3 million to support farmers.

Mr., Speaker, in the Health Sector, the Governor emphasized on the importance of digitization of health facilities. He mentioned four Sub-counties that have the digitalized system. There is also the improvements at JOOTRH, we have seen a lot of expansion and renovation. We have also seen Lumumba Hospital has been upgraded.

The Governor also has plans of improving medical supplies through supply by use of drones, a technology borrowed from Rwanda. We appreciate the Governor for such.

Mr. Speaker, in the Infrastructure Sector, there is Construction of Namba Kapiyo Road through Ndere Island. This road passes through East Seme and Central Seme. I want to thank the Governor because we are going to use the tarmac road in my Ward, the first of its kind in this County.

Mr. Speaker, in the area of Water and Natural Resources, the Governor emphasized areas of improvement. From the time he took over the reign as the Governor, we have witnessed great improvements. We have seen services improved from 58% to 68% by 2022.

Mr. Speaker, in Education, there is access to free, quality and safe ECDE and TVET institutions. We have a rise in the number of ECDE centres and quite a number planned for construction in this Financial Year. There is also the creation of ECDE centres of excellence in all the sub counties. I look forward to this in Seme Sub County that we will have areas of excellence in ECDE.

In terms of scholarships, you can see a double allocation in this Financial Year to about Ksh.205 million. I want to commend the Governor for the good work and for putting Kisumu in the map that has made most people refer to Kisumu as 'Europe'. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Matara** (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker, Sir for granting me this opportunity to air my views on the Governor's speech.

As a woman and a mother, a sustainable family and Community exists in harmony and peace when there is daily food on the table. Mr. Speaker this even makes the bed shake with joy and this is when we invest in;

In Agriculture, construction of water canals for irrigation in Nyando is great booster for rice farmers and moreso the purchase of two rice Mill machines. Mr. Speaker, I believe that with the support from the County government to our farmers, Productivity rate of Rice is going to be up.

Two, creation of job opportunities is going to spring up around this areas as labour will be needed within the farms to compete with time. Likewise with what the Governor said about Value addition, Kisumu County will also pride in making and producing "Michendwa" just like " Mokwa" in Homabay County. From the Governor's speech it's clear that our soil can produce good Fodders for Dairy Cattles. I do urge that the County Government through the Agricultural Extension officers visit our people who own junk fallow lands and encourage them to grow this fodder for business by selling them to our neighbouring Counties of ; Kericho, Nandi and Uasin Gishu. The fodders can even be exported where markets are available.

Mr. Speaker, another area that of the Agricultural Sector that the Governor didn't talk about but is part and parcel of Kisumu County economy is Sugarcane growing. I believe it was not a deliberate omission and if it was there then, it has to be relooked into. Mr. Speaker, my take about this is may be that as a County and moreso the Sugar belt growing region, need to think outside the box and venture into other farming like Horticulture or other crops that can be grown quarterly and are high on demand other than what they are used to that takes 13-14 months to mature with very little output.

Mr. Speaker, with the newly opened Cargo Depot at our International Airport, we would be able to export our produce and this will boost our County economy and create new opportunities to our people.

Mr. Speaker, in Sports/Culture. I want to reiterate Governors point on talent identification. This should be done so fast and earnestly. Many of our youths have talents be it in artistry, film, football,

singing, poetry, spoken word, name it , that usually diminish because they have no support to nature them to their dreams , destiny and Interest.

Mr. Speaker, on Revenue Enhancements; our Parks need thorough beautification and landscaping. One park need to be Identified (e.g. Victoria Park) for recreational purposes for our children and even the elderly. The recreation park should have amenities like a Mini restaurant, Curio Shops and sportswear shop and Lunar Park for the children’s fanfare and amusement. This is where the Parks Management Board that the Governor talked about comes in purposely to manage such parks. This are areas which shall enhance and boost the County revenues.

Mr. Speaker, last but not least. I want to emphasize about the Climate Act 2020, the Climate Change Policy 2019, County Climate Finance Regulations 2021 and County Climate Change Action Plan 2022 - 2027 passed by the Honourable Second Assembly, basing it on the recent Climatic Change that affected most of fish "farmers" around the Winam Gulf.

Mr. Speaker, I am made to understand that the “Unveiling” of the lake fondly happen in the months of October, November and partly in December. How I wish Hon. Speaker that this entitlements of Bills would prior caution Fish farmers of the Climatic changes that are about to take place in the lake so that they can either harvest their fish early enough or stop putting their fingerlings into the cages to avoid such catastrophe and loss they underwent. Mr. Speaker, I am so grateful to the Governor for having set aside 300M to cushion the fish farmers by purchasing fingerlings to them to bring them back to business legally under the County Climate Finance Regulations 2021. Mr. Speaker with the good ties, connections and positions the Governor has, and has gained during his tenure , I believe Kisumu County is going to have satellite Cities, Urbans, New towns and Suburbs that’s make it the Europe it is. Thank you, Hon. Speaker, I support the Speech.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon Obonyo, Deputy Chief Whip

**Hon Obonyo** (South West): Asante sana Bw. Spika. Naomba nichukue nafasi huu kuzungunzia hotuba ya Gavana wetu Profesa Nyong’o. Jinsi alivyonena hapa, Gavana wetu hakika ni Shujaa. Gavana Nyongó alizungumza kuhusu kilimo, maendeleo kwa jumla na kuhusu umoja haswa katika bunge letu. Jinsi alivyo nena, aligusa kilimo ya samaka inayofahamika kama *cage fishing* kwa kiingereza, wakulima walikadiria hasara mno kwa sababu ya mabadiliko katika hali ya hanga. Jinsi ninavyo jua, Gavana atawasaidia katika jambo hilo. Katika kata yangu ya Kaskazini-Magharibi mwa Kaunti ya Kisumu, wakaazi wa eneo ndogo ya Osiri walipoteza mali yao iliyosababishwa na matokeo ya mabadiliko ya hali ya anga. Kulingana na jinsi ninavyofahamu hulka za Gavana wetu, sina tashwishi kwamba atawasaidia wanabiashara hao ili kuweze kuzianzisha biashara hizo zao upya. Hulka zake halikadhalika zimeenea katika pembe zote nchini kwani wakenya kutoka kaunti mbalimbali kama Nakuru, Nairobi, Mombasa na kadhalika humwalika Gavana wetu ambaye pia ni Mhadhiri, kuwadokezea jinsi ya kuimarisha miundomsingi katika Kaunti.

Ningependa kumpongeza Gavana wetu wa Kisumu kwa mabadiliko iliyofanywa na serikali yani. Pia, ni mtu ambaye hapendi migongano ya hoja na huhakikisha kwamba ametii mwelekeo ulioratibiwa. Ningependa kuwahimiza waheshimiwa wenzangu kufuata katika nyayo hizo za Gavana ili kuendeleza maendeleo katika Kaunti yetu. Ningependa kuzungumzia hotuba ya Gavana aliyotoa hapo jana; Mwanzo ni kudokeza shule ya Msingi ya Rota, inayopatikana katika kata yangu ya Kaskazini-Magharibi mwa kaunti ya Kisumu. Awali, shule hii ilikuwa katika hali ya kusikitisha na uchache wa usajilishaji wa wanafunzi lakini mabadiliko yaliyofanywa katika shule hii yameiwezesha kuwa mojawapo wa shule za kumezea mate na wakaazi wetu, kwani usajilishaji umeongezeka na rasilimali kukabidhiwa. Ninampongeza sana Gavana wetu na kuomwomba Mola azidi kumwelekeza ili aendeleze maendeleo katika kaunti ya Kisumu. Asante Sana Bwana Spika.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Vitalis K’omudho of Muhoroni-Koru Ward.

**Hon. K’omudho** (MCA, Muhoroni-Koru Ward): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. My appreciation also goes to my fellow Members as well as the Governor for his very elaborate and broad speech he made yesterday. I am particularly happy and would like to tell the Governor that ours as Muhoroni-Koru ward is happiness in waiting. It’s been a long time coming and as you heard from the Governor’s speech, the information about Kenya Informal Settlement Improvement Project (KISIP) is soon landing in Muhoroni, with broad road network system. Without a doubt it is quite an exciting news because it is the time to celebrate the fruit of the County Government. Consequently, while some of us might want to refer to Kisumu city as the Europe of Kenya, indeed it can be attested by anyone who was here 7 or 10 years ago that there has been a major change in the city. It is very neat, very organized, and you can easily drive around. I want to thank Governor Nyong’o for the great job done, and things can only get better.

Mr. Speaker, like my colleague said, I will not forget to mention the sugar industry, because it is the bread basket where I come from. Much was not covered about it in the speech, but I believe that the good office, just like the other departments, were covered appropriately. Something shall be done in regard to the struggling sugar industries where I come from. Mr. Speaker, it is a wonder that when I drive from Muhoroni to come to these plenary sessions, I meet huge sugarcane trucks transporting sugarcane from Muhoroni where there is Muhoroni Sugar Industry and the Kibus Sugar industry and the like. These guys are coming to ferry our sugarcane right from our doorstep, when the farmers are really struggling there. I don’t know, and not pointing out at the County Government but, I want to believe that regardless of where the sugar industry or factories feel, whether it is the National government or not, that the Excellency, our able Governor Prof. Peter Anyang’ Nyong’o is able to do something to the struggling sugar industry especially and most specifically in Muhoroni-Koru ward where I come from. If I get a promise and some nice dreams so that if I go to sleep today, this matter should be taken to the Governor’s desk to be attended to just like the other departments have been addressed accordingly.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to mention that indeed, in the Department of Water, a good number of projects can be felt because a number of places that seemed like deserts have improved due to good initiatives and developments that have been done by the Governor in Muhoroni. My final plea before I end my submission is that I am totally in support of the Governor's speech and let something be done in the struggling industries in Muhoroni-Koru ward where I come from and the same be extended to my neighboring wards; Chemelil and Miwani. Thank you.

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

**Hon. Onditi** (MCA, Ombeyi Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker, just like my colleagues, I want to support the speech of his Excellency the Governor that was read on the Floor of this House yesterday. I also want to join my colleagues in thanking the Governor for his elaborate plan he laid out yesterday, especially the tremendous achievement that this County has realized during the previous tenure of Governor Anyang' Nyong'o. The Governor passionately talked about reconciliation as a means within which sustainable development can be realized, and he went further to extend an olive branch to his competitors during the last general election. That was a good move for a leader who wants to unite and have a sustainable County. I also want to thank the Governor for putting our County in the National and international map, Mr. Speaker. As I was listening to the Governor's speech yesterday, you realize that quite a number of international organizations where the Governor participates, he ends up being appointed in some strategic positions. You can see that today that it was the first time for Kisumu to host an international meeting, as the *AFRICITIES*. I believe that is a very good achievement, Mr. Speaker, and we owe everything to the Governor and deserves to be applauded.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, I want to thank the Governor for making it clear that in his term (*Second term*), he is going to work in collaboration and in consultation with all other arms of government, especially the County Assembly. In some extent in concurrence in terms of some decisions that are going to be made for this County. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Governor for introducing technology especially the drones; in supplying things like medicine in remote areas like Ombeyi where I come from and in Muhoroni where there is poor road network. I believe that the introduction of technology at the same time will not bring down or take away the resolve to create road networks. This is because, sometimes when people get shortcuts in doing things, they forget about the traditional or the conventional means within which people used to do things. I hope the introduction of the drones won't take away the appetite for constructing of more roads, particularly in Muhoroni where I come from.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Governor for accepting or recognizing the fact that it is important to deal with the incomplete projects within the wards. You realize that in Ombeyi Ward where I come from, there is a hospital called Kang'o Dispensary. This Dispensary has stayed in an incomplete state since the year 2013 and the hospital was about 90% done. Today the construction has been reduced to a pit latrine. I come from an area prone to floods and during those times when

flood come, people look for higher grounds and these facilities were constructed on places of higher grounds, and you find very uncomfortable business that you wouldn't want to mention publicly but they take place in those places. If all these could have been completed Mr. Speaker, then so much could have been helped because in areas like Ombeyi where I come from, a lot of businesses; people do agriculture hence there is a lot of farming and such places are prone to waterborne diseases. The introduction of this facility could have gone a long way in helping the community to get treatment.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, as much as the Governor highlighted very beautiful successes, the speech fell short of a few things that to me I felt were quite pertinent, particularly the issue of sugarcane. I come from an area whereby, it is because of the sugarcane that most of us managed to go to school, but the speech of the Governor, if I got it very clearly, did not touch on anything about the plight of sugarcane farmers. Mr. Speaker, I also expected the speech of the Governor to put specific programs to address the issue of road networks in the sugar-belt areas. Mr. Speaker, when I was going to school, there was nothing as bursaries that are available nowadays, and through this farming, farmers could get small loans to use in paying school fees. Mr. Speaker, a lot of money is being put in very huge projects, which do not translate into the economy of the small person doing an acre, two acres, or half acre farms.

Mr. Speaker, something needs to be done to address the issue of road network in the Sugar belt areas because even if you look at the revenue that comes to the County especially the money that comes from Cess. This is purely sugarcane money and I do not see the correlation between the amount of money that come from Cess and the amount of investment that the Government is putting on the road network to improve those roads that ultimately results in bringing that money.

Mr. Speaker, in addition, the speech of the Governor fell short of addressing the issue of Arrowroots. If you go to some of these hotels in this County, a lot of arrowroots that are eaten in those hotels come from Ombeyi Ward. There are also so many young people who nowadays earn a living from the farming of arrowroots. I hope the programme will be put in place to address the plight of the arrowroots farmers just like other farming areas where the Governor has put a lot of emphasis.

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, around the year 2019 and 2020, the Ombeyi Ward experienced very heavy hailstorms. Recently, I talked about it here sometimes back, it has become a norm that almost every year calamities such as; hailstorm pests and bird menace always cause suffering to farmers. It is becoming perennial disaster. I was expecting the speech of the Governor would have come up with a programme to at least cushion farmers from such calamities. This is because it is almost a yearly occurrence. In this country, you cannot drive on a road without insurance. It does not mean that by insuring our vehicles, we want to be involved in accident. However, we know that these things do happen and that is why the insurance companies do have programmes that help people during those times of calamities. I was expecting that in the Governor's Speech a he could

have mentioned the Crop Insurance Programme that would cushion farmers and assure them of the fact that because every time farmers are not even sure they would harvest their farm produce. Mr. Speaker, those are some of the things that I felt were not adequately addressed by the Governor. Otherwise, I support the speech, thank you so much.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Seth Okumu, East Seme Ward.

**Hon. Okumu** (MCA, East Seme Ward): Thank you so much Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the speech. Yesterday I was privileged to listen to the Governor talk about things that I could relate to since I am privilege to have served the Second Assembly. I want to applaud the Governor for reminding us that commitment and loyalty to the party is something that should not be taken for granted. It is key given that this House is ODM Government. I want to thank the Governor for reminding us not to disappoint the ODM Party and the people of Kisumu. I believe that this is really key and if every one of us can walk with it everywhere they are, they will always be reminded as leaders to help Kisumu get services that they elected us to have.

Mr. Speaker, there is something the Governor said that I really want to highlight to his officers that my officers are under instruction to work very closely with you and provide you with information that you will need for your oversight assignment in good time. I believe he used the right word. In good time, firm instructions to his officers and to work with us. Mr. Speaker, sometimes you request for documents and information from the County Executive and it takes a lot of time to get your response. I believe that this is going to form the basis on which we will always remind them that the boss said that they provide us with the information in good time for oversight reasons.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to agree with him on his clarion call on ‘WASETIMO, WADOK TIMO’ because whatever he was mentioning in this House were things that could be seen. I sat next to the Hon. Moses Ochele and he was so proud because some of the activities and projects that the Governor was mentioning – even though he was not in the Second Assembly, he could agree that there are projects that are existing and some are on his ward.

Another interesting part to me was in Agriculture. I remember when we left here and travelled to Ombeyi Ward over Rice Milling Plant that was supposed to be put because there was overproduction of rice and the process of Value Addition was missing. He then agreed that we change a dredger in that Budget Financial Year to Rice Milling Plant. Yesterday he mentioned it that it should be running in the next two weeks. I want to applaud the Governor for that. I believe that one will help a lot of rice farmers. As Kisumu County we want to just as the way Mwea Rice being sold in the supermarkets and other markets, we want to see Ahero rice also competing with other rice plants within the supermarkets and the shops.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to have attended the Africities Summit that came to Kisumu. In one of the Stands I visited was the Zipplin Stand and they were mentioning how they were going to

have an institution in Kisumu that will help us deliver both drugs and Agricultural materials. And yesterday's speech, the Governor mentioned that Zipplin is already helping us in supply semen to farmers and will also be used in supplying drugs.

Mr. Speaker on the Fisheries Sub-sector, I want to applaud the Governor on his numerous attempts and now it has borne fruit that, we will be having Kabonyo Fisheries and Agricultural Service and Training Center of Excellence; a project that is worth over Kshs 1 Billion. I therefore remember when my brother the Hon. Oiko Pete was mentioning this to his people and they thought he was joking. He used to mention two projects; Koru- Sin Dam project and how it is going to help in mitigating flooding in Kanyagwal and also the Fish Training Center for Tilapia and Nile Perch. From his yesterday's speech, this has come to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, on the Infrastructure. I want to applaud this House and the Governor that we have Namba Kapiyo- Ndere Island being improved to Bitumen Standard. However, we do not want that one to be the only road that has been improved to bitumen standard. I remember we have the road from Rabuor all the way to Nyang'ande that equally needs improvement. We also have a road from Obuolo - Gita in Kajulu Ward that also needs to be improved. Nevertheless, I believe if we work together with the County Executive in consultations for the next five years, we will have one or several roads improved to bitumen standard in all our Sub Counties.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor talked about Machine-Based Programmes. I remember how I and the former MCA of Kolwa were very passionate about that programme. However, he did not mention the challenges the Machine Based Programme is facing. Just like the tractors that we have for farming, I believe that procedure for having the tractor's tyre getting repaired at a cost of about Kshs 1000 takes too long and delay the whole process of farming. This is also happening with the Machine Based Programme where something which may cost even Kshs 10, 000 may take close to two months to be repaired and you know with machine based and the roads plus the weather sometimes makes delay on the programme while making our roads. So, in as much as we have the Machine-based Programme, we should have policies and regulations put in place to make repair of those machines, the procurement of fuel and payment of staffs using those machines a little bit faster.

Mr. Speaker, on Water. Even though the Governor mentioned that 72% of the population now have clean water, on this one, I doubt and I want to take a case in my ward where several water projects were not done, all the way from year two to the fifth year of his governorship. I therefore want to believe that this department did not do this deliberately because if they did, then they are misleading on the appropriation and allocation of resources to the Department of Water Environment and Natural Resources. I do not believe that a large percentage of the population in Kisumu County have access to clean water. Of interest was that there are 243 water projects in the seven Sub Counties whereby Seme Sub County recording 45 water projects. Mr. Speaker, yes, the Governor mentioned this, but, sometimes it takes us a little more time to undertake investigation

and if there is a department that is misleading the Governor about the projects that they are doing. That is because I believe not even 50% of the population has access to clean water.

Mr. Speaker, similarly on Education Sector. The Governor mentioned all the achievements that he has done including the hiring of teachers and increasing their salaries. But, Mr. Speaker, we have been very poor in putting students in good classrooms. The constructions of classrooms have been hindered the most in terms of procurement. For instance, in Seme Sub-county there are almost twelve classrooms which are not complete, thanks to procurement department. After having good students and teachers, we also need to have good classrooms that can accommodate these kids so for dependable future kids.

Mr. Speaker, on the numbers of Vocational Training Centers, I believe the latest is 27 but according to the Governor, they are 26. Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the training centers are very important. Currently we are developing Vocational Education Training Act that will enhance the work of Vocational Training Center.

Mr. Speaker, on Affordable Housing, we want to agree on the Public-Private Partnerships but, we have been having an issue with the LAPTRUST, the County Pension Fund that which was supposed to construct the Anderson Ofafa Affordable Housing Project. That project has taken too long and this information needs to reach the Governor so that he can follow up with them so that we can have other avenue of doing the construction. Mr. Speaker, it is sad that we relocated residents from that land and up to now the construction has not started, but I want to thank LAPFUND because we gave them the opportunity to build Makasembo and they are progressing well.

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Governor instructed us that we hold hands with those who supported us and as well as those that opposed us so that we can deliver services to the people of Kisumu. Mr. Speaker, he reminded us of his clarion call which I'll finish with, that we have done and we are going to do "wasetimo wadok timo". Thank you Mr. Speaker, I support.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): We can have two more Members, Hon. Omollo West Nyakach.

**Hon. Omollo** (MCA, and West Nyakach Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I raise to support this motion. Yesterday was a great day for this county, our Governor came and made a great speech which was touching on the lives of this common mwananchi we represent in this House. Mr. Speaker, the Governor extended an olive branch to those who opposed him in the last election which is a good gesture that he is a democratic person so it is important that we really soldier on as one unit so that we can deliver to the people of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker, until yesterday I didn't know how digital our Governor is, I was really impressed through the technology he has brought in Agriculture and Healthcare. He has digitized four of our sub-county hospitals which are now doing so well. The Governor has enabled zip line to provide

remotely much needed blood and semen to the cows and I believe that is a very interesting thing because we are living in a very digital world that as a county, we need to adopt the new technological trends because if we don't do that now we will be lagging behind.

Mr. Speaker, on that note I wish you could have also engaged to have a Wi-Fi system in the whole city so that our youth and young people who can be engaged online can do their work online with free Wi-Fi provided by the County Government of Kisumu. That is a great plus because we have our brothers and sisters who have KCSE certificates but lack what to do but though engaging them online they will have jobs and be busy working and get some revenue which can keep them going. We have enough work force to do that so I will really wish that we have that kind of system in place.

Mr. Speaker, on Compensation of Fishermen who lost their fish on the Lake Victoria. This was a really great thing because I believe that many of our fish farmers lost fingerling and already mature fish. Recently the Governor assured that they were going to be compensated at a tune of Kshs. 3 million, that is very encouraging because this fishermen really need to be engaged again and again so that they do not lose hope by the loss they uncounted.

Mr. Speaker, on matter Rice Farming. The Governor was very passionate on rice farming in Nyando and you can see what he has done and what he is envisaging to do about that. It is very good that Hon. Members who spoke before me were realizing that it is high time to have rice like what is happening in Homabay county like 'Mokwa' so that Kisumu be known for production of rice. Apart from sugarcane that we grow in Muhoroni and part of Nyando, we should also be proud of rice farming and this can really give a lot of revenue to our farmers. Mr. Speaker on that note, we have some places in this county, I know about Nam Thoye which is a huge wetland and very vast land that can grow maize in tones and tones to feed this county and even beyond and it is my belief that we should look into that and look at how do we engage it for production of food for food security in this county. The same should apply to Adera in West Nyakach, it is a big wetland and not productive at all. As a county, we can utilize those lands that are lying idle to provide enough food be it maize, rice or vegetable that we can produce in those lands.

Mr. Speaker in terms of Road network. The Governor mentioned a technology called concrete which will be really affordable than going the way into bitumen, I believe that this will encourage the county government to do more roads and bring them to the standards required.

Mr. Speaker in terms of Water. The Governor mentioned that we are from 58% to 68% the coverage in terms of provision of water in this county. We are still below average and I believe that we should aim higher to almost 90% or even beyond up to 100% so that our folks can get clean water. Mr. Speaker I wish to say here that, we have a company in Nyakach called KENGEN, they are generating electricity there for free because the resource they are using which is water

from river Sondu Miriu is our own water they are producing clean energy from that and they are willing to partner with us to provide the entire lower Nyakach with clean water from the station. They are saying that if they can partner with the county government they give us free power which they generate for free from our natural resource which is there in abundance so that we can push up the hill of Anding'o water so that it comes via gravity to serve everyone on the lower part of Nyakach. This is a great thing that we can pursue with the county government so that we can partner with them because even them in terms of their Corporate Social Responsibility, they are really willing to partner and enable everybody in the lower part of Nyakach get water.

Mr. Speaker on matter Climate Change. It is good the Governor mentioned that one of his County Executive Committee Member I believe that Hon. Orimba is attending his COP in Cairo. It is also important as a county to check on our generation who will be coming in behind us and we need to plant trees and make sure that we leave this county greener than how we found it. Mr. Speaker, in our subsequent budget, I would wish that there be allocation for tree planting almost in every wards so that we can make our county green and that this will really go a long way to stop the global warming which is currently a menace.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Governor for appointing the six hundred and sixty five ECD teachers who have been put in Permanent and Pensionable to teach in our ECD schools which is a very big plus since initially they were on contract. I really want to thank the Governor for that because this teachers really mean a lot to our children, this are the foundation of our children. If they cannot go beyond the foundation they cannot make it to class 8 or form 4 so giving them the best that is employing this teachers on permanent would really give us a plus. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the Governor for creating the Marine Center where now seventy plus of our youths are undergoing training to become whatever they want to be in future. I believe that this is a big plus for us so that we engage those youths.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank the Governor for doubling the allocation of Bursary and Scholarship. I believe that the Governor did mention that he has increased the allocations to Kshs. 205,000,000 million for scholarship. Mr. Speaker a county where youths are not going to school is doomed to fail, if we can engage on educating, our young folks to become whom they want to be tomorrow like us, then I believe that we are in a good direction and I want to applaud the Governor for doubling that kind of allocation to engage in scholarship for our bright and needy students back at home.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to commend on the Establishment of Childcare Centers in out VTCs. We have young mothers who would also want to go and train in the VTCs that we have placed for them a place where they will have to leave small children whom they are not able to leave home because they have no one to leave them with. So coming up with Childcare centers in our VTCs like Akado, Ahero and Kitambo is a very big thing for us because this young mothers can now

have time to train as their children are being taken care of at the same centers that they are doing their training. It is something that we can do to all our VCT centers. The Chair ECD said we have 27 VTCs so in all our VTCs if we can have child care centers to take care of the young mothers who have lactating children will be a big plus.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor touched on the recently concluded Afri-cities Conference. I am very proud as a Kisumu member that we managed to execute this big event in our County. This is not a small fete, it brought everybody in this city and they were accommodated and we managed it so well. So, it tell you that we have a lot of space to manage such big event here. As a member of Kisumu, I really want to congratulate the Governor for taking that decision that we had a very great conference in this city which mostly would have been in Nairobi but you see Kisumu did its wonders and I believe that we are beyond even Mombasa now in terms of accommodating visitors and having such kind of events. This really brings a lot of opportunities in future so that we can get more and more.

Mr. Speaker, some people criticized the Governor that he is really traveling a lot, Mr. Speaker it is through traveling that you can get opportunities. There is no time the Governor will be sitting in his office from day 1 to 100 and expect something to come in terms of donors, opportunities and even Afri-cities. We need to engage widely so that we can get more and more connections in the outside world.

Mr. Speaker it is good that we are now going to have a Revenue Collection Board and I believe that they will be able to harmonize on how we will be able to digitize our revenue collection. I believe that Kisumu County has tried to digitize the revenue collection so that we can stop the proliferation of revenue but we are not yet 100%. This needs to be looked at so that we fully digitize revenue collection. All our revenue streams should be digitized. We have a platform in Kenya called Mpesa and so there is no need of anyone in the County revenue department handling any cash. Everything should be paperless, cashless and digitized so that all our revenue streams however small it is should be digitized so that we get enough revenue to conduct developments in this County. That would really go a long way in making our County move forward.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor also mentioned about his Chief Officers working with the County Assembly House Committees that they are in line with. This is very important in terms of consultations so that we cannot afford to experience some sort of head on collusion with the Executive. We need to work together in harmony, have them inform us of whenever they are doing with regards to their budgets in our committees so that a Chief Officer for Water for example would really hear from the Standing Committee of Water what the needs of the people whom we represent want in terms of water. This goes in tandem to other sectoral committees.

Mr. Speaker, as I conclude, I come from a ward which hosts a place called Anding'o Opanga. How I wish the Governor could have mentioned about connecting the people of Anding'o Opanga.

These are people who have suffered for over 60 plus years since independence. They don't have any road hence are forced to walk across three or four wards to reach their homes. Anything sold in Anding'o Opanga would double because it is bought from Kolweny, goes up to Apoko all the way to Anding'o Opanga. You have to cover 27 kilometers for you to reach Anding'o Opanga. Mr. Speaker, it is high time as County that in our budgetary allocation or whatever policy we have to see to it that a place like Anding'o Opanga is connected in terms of roads. It can be connected from Kolweny, Sang'oro or from any other place but it will only take somebody 5 minutes for him/her to reach Anding'o Opanga from the tarmac other than now following all the way to South West Nyakach. This is an issue which is really pertinent, the Governor has been there and he knows what I am talking about. Let us not create another Turkana in our County but have those who have been marginalized so much to be accessible in this kind of era. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I beg to support this motion.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): We could maybe have one person contributing.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Henrietta.

**Hon. Henrietta Bodo**, (Nominated MCA): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I highly welcome H.E the Governor of Kisumu County and congratulate him for his yesterday's speech. I believe that the Governor's speech revolved around humanity. When you talk about Agriculture, Health, Education and road networks are all being done to support humanity. The Governor talked about Agriculture and he stated that those who lost their fish will be compensated by the County Government. That is a very good gesture since Kisumu County not only takes part in Agriculture but also Kenya as a country is vast in doing Agriculture. If we don't take care of Agriculture, then we shall have failed as a County and as a Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to talk about Health and state that. Some few days ago, I took a walk to JOOTRH and I was amazed because some years back I visited that facility and it was not what I had seen previously. Health is very important because a healthy nation takes care of itself.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to talk about Education. We are all aware that Education was partly devolved and we know the things that were devolved to Counties that are; ECDE and TVET. We need to work together to make sure that these things on Education work for the betterment of the County of Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker, I also wish to talk about Infrastructure and Road Network. I believe that that we have done a little bit well but the road networks within our wards are not in good shape. We need to work on that.

We also have business enterprise which is a good thing but we are all aware that business and Agriculture work hand in hand. So if we don't have good Agricultural produce to take to our markets then we shall have lost. I want to consider as an opportunity for each and every person who is interested in agriculture. Well I come from Kobura Ward, it was stated that we have a market, but when you visit that place there is no market as such. I didn't hear the Governor talk about markets; developing the markets that are in existence or increasing market across all the wards. Otherwise, I wish to support the Governors speech. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I had suggested that we have at least 10 members contributing and the rest will do so in the afternoon or any other time.

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

### ADJOURNMENT

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to state that those who have contributed now will not contribute in the next sitting therefore give priority to those who have not contributed. I have also received information here from the Clerk that he is being reminded by the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission that those who have not submitted their Wealth Declaration Forms to do so by end of business today so that they are forwarded to Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. You can forward you duly completed form the Human Resource and hand them over to Denis Odhiambo or the Clerk's office for onward submission to Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission. If you have lost your form, then you can contact the Human Resource office and be issued you with another form.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, there being no any other business to transact, the House stands adjourned to today Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 2.30 p.m.

*(House rose at 11.25 a.m.)*

*Addendum*

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