COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – SECOND SESSION

Thursday 10th August, 2023

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

(The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Nereah Okombo) in the Chair)

PRAYER

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honourable Members, I want to invoke the provisions of Kisumu County Assembly Standing Order No. 32 (2) and request the Serjeant-at-Arms rings the quorum bell for the first five minutes.

(Quorum bell rung for five minutes)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honourable Members, **m**ay I request the Leader of Majority to confirm if we have quorum.

The Leader of Majority (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker. There is quorum.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Madam Clerk, please take us through the Order Paper of today.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Next order!!

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo): Thank you Honourable Members and welcome to the afternoon session. I want to share with you a privilege that I recently acquired. As you can all see, I have a small badge on my left hand, this is a badge that confirms me as a Member of Rotary International Club. I know we have Members here who subscribes to the said club and I

would urge that we all join and to help serve our community as our slogan *In Rotary Service above self.*

Honourable Members, Rotary Club began as a meeting between four friends who started rotating and visiting each other and the very first project they did was to build a toilet and this was done more than a century ago. Now, Rotary has reached countries. Rotary has connected continents, championed peace, fought illiteracy and poverty and it has helped millions get clean water. In Rotary we have a four-way test that stands as our guide in all our undertakings. That is, in whatever we do or say, is it the truth. Two, is it fair to all concerned. Three, will it build good will and better friendship. Four, will it be beneficial to all concerned and as Rotarians we say No. Five, will it be fun. So, in Rotary, we all have fun. Serving the people, the people above self. So, all members who may be interested in joining Rotary as Club, you are most welcome.

Honourable Members, I am asked to kindly inform the persons named below that they have been invited to attend the Lake Region Economic Bloc Meeting scheduled to take place tomorrow Friday 11th August, 2023 at Sarova Imperial Hotel from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. They are as follows; the Hon. Speaker, Leader of Majority, Leader of Minority, Committee Chairpersons and the Clerk of the Assembly. Kindly, confirm your attendance for the reservations of the seats. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Next order!!

PAPERS LAID

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION AND AUDIT OF KISUMU WATER AND SANITATION COMPANY LIMITED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION AND AUDIT OF KISUMU COUNTY LAKEFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION AND AUDIT OF KISUMU COUNTY EDUCATION FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S REPORT ON THE EXAMINATION AND AUDIT OF CITY OF KISUMU FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 2022.

BY

HON. KENNEDY OOKO, MCA, AHERO WARD.

(LEADER OF MAJORITY)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes, Honourable Leader of Majority.

Leader of Majority (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to lay the following Papers.

One, pursuant to the provisions of Section 32 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, I wish to table today Thursday 10th August, 2023, a report of the Auditor General on the Examination and audit of Kisumu Water and Sanitation Company Limited for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Two, pursuant to the provisions of Section 32 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, I wish to table today Thursday 10th August, 2023, a report of the Auditor General on the Examination and audit of Kisumu County Lakefront Development Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Three, pursuant to the provisions of Section 32 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, I wish to table today Thursday 10th August, 2023, a report of the Auditor General on the Examination and audit of Kisumu County Education Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Four, pursuant to the provisions of Section 32 of the Public Finance Management Act 2012, I wish to table today Thursday 10th August, 2023, a report of the Auditor General on the Examination and Audit of City of Kisumu for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

(The Leader of majority lays before the House the above mentioned papers for consideration)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honourable Members, I want to confirm the receipt of the following Papers. One, Report of the Auditor General on the Examination and Audit of Kisumu Water and Sanitation Company Limited for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Two, a Report of the Auditor General on the Examination and Audit of Kisumu County Lakefront Development Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Three, a Report of the Auditor General on the Examination and Audit of Kisumu County Education Fund for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Lastly, a Report of the Auditor General on the Examination and Audit of City of Kisumu for the year ended 30th June, 2022.

Honourable Members, I would want to commit these reports to Public Investments and Accounts Committee and you report back to the House within 21 days. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Next order!!

STATEMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Let me give this opportunity to able Vice Chairperson of Health Committee to give us statement on a meeting she had today.

Hon. Oginga (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker. I would like to inform the House that today in the morning we had a meeting with the Child Care. A group that is working on Nurturing Caring for Early Childhood Development and it was a very good meeting. Very good initiatives were proposed since you know the early days of a child which is very important

for the development of the child. I always say that what you teach a child is he/she comes out to be. Out of that meeting, we as the Committee of Medical Services we are looking forward to working with this development partner in developing laws that will guide Early Childhood Development in Kisumu County. They promised to meet the Whole House to give a talk on the project and the way forward. Thank you Madam Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo): Next order!!

MOTION

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT BY MEDICAL SERVICES, PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION COMMITTEE ON STATUS OF REFERRAL HOSPITALS IN KISUMU COUNTY

BY

HON. EMILY OGINGA, NOMINATED MEMBER.

(VICE CHAIRPERSON, MEDICAL SERVICES, PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION COMMITTEE)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Emily Oginga.

Hon. Oginga (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker.

CHAIRPERSON'S FORWARD

This report contains proceedings of the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee during the first phase of the surveillance exercise carried out on the status of referral hospitals in Kisumu County.

Pursuant to Article 185 (3) of the constitution of Kenya, section 8 of the County Governments Act No.17 of 2012 and Standing Orders No. 193(5) (a) and 193(second schedule), the Committee during its sitting of 29t^{h} June, 2023 (see annex 1) resolved to carry out surveillance exercise on the status of health facilities within the County in a dedicated effort to ensure enhancement of healthcare services offered and seamless functionality.

On the same note, resolved to undertake this exercise in four phases (1 per quarter during the FY 2021) with the first phase face being referral Hospitals. The Committee thereafter developed and adopted a program (see annex 1) that was to guide its activities for the phases 1 and 2.

Consequently, the Committee communicated its intention to the Hon Speaker and sought his authority in accordance with Standing Orders No. 165, to hold its sittings outside the County Assembly precinct (see annex 3)

The Committee visited the two facilities on Friday 7t^{h} July, 2023 where it discussed a myriad of issues;

1) No. of staff per department/section (currently available against the ideal number required for optimal performance).
2) Staff list.
3) No. of staff who have left, retired, transferred and/or died
4) Beds capacity per department/section
5) Operational status of equipment
6) No. of ambulances in each hospital and their operational status
7) Any projects (whether proposed or ongoing).
8) Total amount owed to the facility by NHIF and/or Linda Mama.
9) Pending bills (Total amount).
10) Challenges and how the facility have so far attempted to address them.

Hon Speaker, this report therefore is about the status of referral hospitals in Kisumu County.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members. May I take this opportunity to thank all the Members and secretariat of this committee for their dedication during this exercise.

Equally, the Committee applauds Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk of the County Assembly of Kisumu for offering extreme support and a show of goodwill that culminated to success of the exercise and further production of this report.

Hon Speaker, the Committee wishes to convey its utmost and sincere gratitude to the managements of Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital and Kisumu County Referral Hospital for the amiable welcome and full cooperation they accorded the Committee.

Finally, special recognition and gratitude goes to the Hon Caren Ajwang' and Hon Pamela Oyoo who spared time out of their possibly busy schedules to accompany the Committee to the two facilities despite not being its members. Their input and dedication cannot go unnoticed.

It is therefore a great honor and privilege on behalf of the Committee to present, to this Honourable House, the report of the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, on the status of referral hospitals in Kisumu County for consideration and adoption.

CHAPTER ONE

Establishment and Mandate of the Committee

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee executes its mandate in accordance with the provisions of Standing Orders 195(5) and Second Schedule from which it draws its mandate to look into and investigate on;

> All matters relating to County health services, including, in particular County health facilities and pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary health care, licensing and control of undertakings that sell food to the public,

cemeteries, funeral parlours and crematoria and refuse removal, dumps and solid waste disposal; housing; and sanitation.

Members of the Committee

The following are the members of the Committee as constituted pursuant to the Selection Committee report of Monday 17th July, 2023;

1. Hon Vincent Jagongo - Chairperson
2. Hon Emily Oginga - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon Seth Okumu - Member
4. Hon Nereah Okombo - Member
5. Hon Kennedy Ooko - Member
6. Hon Joachim Oketch - Member
7. Hon Lumumba Owade - Member

Secretariat to the Committee

1. Obonyo Angelyne (Ms.) - Clerk Assistant
2. Valery Achieng' (Ms.) - Hansard reporter
3. Mr. Abraham Odegi - Sergeant-at-arm

CHAPTER TWO

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, below are the laws that enabled and governed the Committee prior to during and post this exercise;

2.1. Article 185(3) of the Constitution of Kenya, 2010

Legislative authority of county assemblies

(3) A county assembly, while respecting the principle of the separation of powers, may exercise oversight over the county executive committee and any other county executive organs.

2.2. Section 8(1)(f) of the County Governments Act No.17 of 2012

Role of the county assembly

1) The county assembly shall -
   f. perform any other role as may be set out under the Constitution or legislation.

2.3. Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193(5) (a)

(5) The functions of a Sectoral Committee shall be to —

(a) investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration,

operations and estimates of the assigned departments.

2.4. Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193(second schedule).

Mandates the Committee to investigate and inquire into-

All matters relating to County health services, including, in particular County health facilities and pharmacies, ambulance services, promotion of primary health care, licensing and control of undertakings that sell food to the public, cemeteries, funeral parlours and crematoria and refuse removal, refuse dumps and solid waste disposal; housing; and sanitation.

2.5. Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193 (5) (g)

(5) The functions of a Sectoral Committee shall be to —

(g) make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

CHAPTER THREE

JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA TEACHING AND REFERRAL HOSPITAL (JOOTRH)

Mr. Speaker and Hon Members, the Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital, commonly referred to as JOOTRH, is a significant healthcare institution located in Kisumu, Kenya. Named after Jaramogi Oginga Odinga, a prominent Kenyan politician and statesman.

The hospital stands as a beacon of healthcare excellence, providing a wide range of healthcare services to the population of Kisumu County and up to 15 other surrounding counties. Its commitment to providing high-quality medical care, advancing medical education, and serving as a referral center contributes significantly to improving the overall health and well-being of the population it serves. As the hospital continues to evolve and expand its services, it plays a crucial role in shaping the future of healthcare delivery in Kisumu County and beyond.

Teaching and Referral Institution

The transformation of the hospital into a teaching and referral institution marked a significant milestone in the healthcare landscape of Kisumu and its surroundings. As a teaching hospital, JOOTRH collaborates with medical schools and universities to provide hands-on training and practical experience to medical students, interns, and residents. This educational aspect enhances the quality of healthcare professionals produced in the region, ensuring that they are well-equipped to address the diverse healthcare needs of the local population.

Services offered

Accident and emergency, outpatient services, Clinical and obstetrics, gynecological inpatient and outpatient services, surgical inpatient, ICU & HDU, psychiatric outpatient and inpatient, pediatric inpatient and outpatient, oncology outpatient and inpatient, dental services, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, MCH, ANC, child welfare services, family planning, nutrition, comprehensive HIV & TB services, pharmacy services, youth and adolescentclinics, ortho-trauma services, medical social work, Medication assisted therapy services (MAT), gender-based violence recovery centre, Ophthalmology services.

FINDINGS

3.1.1. Units/sections

The hospital has a total of 12 units including special units as seen:

a. Surgical
b. Medical
c. Gynecology
d. Maternity and labour
e. New born
f. Pediatric ward (Obama)
g. Accident and Emergency
h. HDU
i. Neuro ward
j. Eye ward

Special units

a. ICU
b. Renal
c. Oncology
d. Pediatric

3.1.2. Staff establishment

a. THAT the facility has a total of 439 (see annex 6) staff of different cadres stratified as follows;

SRL NO.	CATEGORY	NO. OF STAFF
1.	General Surgeons	3
2.	Physicians	3
3.	Gynecologist	5
4.	ENT Surgeon	1
5.	Anaestheologists	3
6.	Psychiatrists	2

7.	Pathologists	2
8.	Pediatricians	3
9.	Nurses	289 (167 county contracted and 122 JOOTRH contracted)
10.	Medical Officers	9
11.	Pharmacists	13
12.	Pharmaceutical Technologists	7
13.	Maxillofacial Surgeon	1
14.	Dentists	2
15.	Dental Technologists	4
16.	COHO	2
17.	HAO	2
18.	Clinical Officers	30
19.	Physiotherapists	4
20.	Radiographers	8
21.	Laboratory Technologists	
22.	HRIOs	5
23.	Occupational Technologists	7
24.	Orthopedic Trauma Technicians	3
25.	Supply Chain Officer	1
26.	Accountant	1
27.	Biomedical Engineering Technologists	4
28.	Hospitality Officer	1
29.	Mortuary Attendant	1
30.	Drivers	3
31.	Support staff	6
32.	Cooks	2
33.	Chefs	2
34.	Nutritionists	3
35.	ICT Officers	2

b. THAT in the past five years, the hospital has lost a total of 122 staff who have exited through retirement, resignation and death as listed in (see annexure) and no replacements have been made.

c. THAT the hospital has fixed beds along the corridors for patients in the surgical ward to have them at close proximity to be managed by the few nurses available.

d. THAT for efficient and optimal operation, any unit of a ward requires not less than

20 nurses (per day - 3 shifts).

e. THAT the hospital urgently needs at least 335 nurses and 30 medical officers to be able to operationalize the vacant spaces and remove the patients currently fixed along the corridors.

f. THAT the hospital is also in urgently need of a Clinical officer anesthetist and at least 5 anesthesia to be able to respond to the currently rising emergency cases. It also needs a neurosurgeon and a cardiothoracic surgeon.

3.1.3. Bed capacity

a. THAT the hospital in its current state has a capacity of 600 beds but due to the high number of patients it currently has, it has stretched to accommodate another 100 beds fixed in the corridors so as to get treatment.

b. THAT if fully equipped and with adequate human resource, the hospital is capable of operating on a minimum of 950 beds but is currently running on 700 as it has over 200 bed spaces lying empty due to shortage of nurses.

3.1.4. Ambulances

a. THAT the hospital has two ambulances;

i. One (Land cruiser) is not equipped and is operating only as a mode of transport for local day to day routine work of picking patients.

ii. The other one is equipped, though not at 100%, it can handle cases and is mostly used to transfer patients to KNH and MTRH.

b. THAT for the level of the hospital, each of its unit needs to have fully equipped and fitted ambulances.

OTHER FINDINGS

1. THAT occasionally receive students sent by the National Government who the facility trains and in turn offer services

2. THAT the Auditor General, after auditing the hospital noted that even though the hospital has improved in terms of infrastructure, it does not meet the standard number of human resource required for a higher level 5 that it operates as and recommended that the facility should be degraded to level four.

3. THAT in this financial year, the facility was allocated Kshs 60M for drugs when the budget for the inpatient alone stands at 80M per year (20M per quarter.

4. THAT that following the above and due to inadequate funding, the hospital resorted to reduce outpatient medication and prioritize inpatient medication, focusing majorly on theatre, ICU, renal unit, maternity, pediatric and surgery.
5. THAT to operationalize now closed wards, the hospital needs at least 300 nurses.
6. THAT the hospital has releases medical officers for training as a requirement but the challenge is that after trainings these officers come back as specialists in different categories and report to the county government who posts several of them to other facilities.
7. THAT the Oxygen plant is able to fill up to 10 cylinders a day which the hospital currently offers to other facilities for free.
8. THAT the second phase of the Oxygen plant is envisioned to;

    a. Have each bed fixed with oxygen to curtail movement patients from one bed or ward to another in search of oxygen should their condition change. (But only change the mode of treatment at the comfort of their bed).

    b. Be able to fill up cylinders which the facility intends to supply to other facilities at a subsidized cost, a move aimed at reducing transfers of patients who require oxygen to JOOTRH.
9. THAT the type of MRI the hospital currently has is not adequate to handle conditions that the hospital is receiving (Has 0.5 tesla but detecting cancer requires a machine of over 1.5 tesla).
10. THAT the hospital's ICU has a space to accommodate 18 beds but can only operate four on optimal and a maximum of six beds when stretched due to shortage of nurses because these are patients who need maximum attention and for efficient and quality attention, one nurse can only manage a maximum of two patients.

SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS

Unused spaces

THAT the hospital has 220 bed capacity that it cannot operate due to lack of adequate nurses to run them and thus remain closed (see annex 5(3)(4) and (5));

a. 40 bed capacity for medical ward.
b. 2 wards of 80 bed capacity surgical (burn) ward
c. 100 bed capacity (former covid-19 center) earmarked as amenity ward.

Operational status of equipment
THAT;

a. Laboratory equipment are in good conditions, working and are being serviced.
b. In Radiology there is one MRI machine and CT-Scan which are operational
c. Oxygen plant (bought at Kshs. 51M) is operating and serving the patients well.

Projects

1) THAT the first phase of the doctor's suit (10 rooms) is complete and operational.

2) THAT the below listed are the projects currently ongoing at the hospital

    a. Cancer Center.
    b. Neurosurgical ward.
    c. Modern Kitchen.

3) Doctor's suit (2nd Phase).

4) THAT the hospital currently requires by the following;
    a. A lift marked at Kshs. 10M which has a ramp included. These will give accessibility to the neurosurgical unit and the burn unit which is currently having an unused 80 bed capacity.

    b. Expansion of the oxygen plant to second phase which requires a budget of up to 100M which was not included in the budget due to the huge finance it requires. BQ generated and forwarded to the County and negotiations ongoing with AMREF for support.

    c. Training resource Center for training the students admitted at the hospital. The hospital has been offering trainings without a training center. (See annex 5 for more details on each projects)

CHALLENGES

The facility is currently facing the following challenges;

1. Acute shortage of staff across all cadres especially in nursing and medical units which compromises the quality of services and attention to patients
2. Mass attrition of staff without replacements:
3. Inadequate funding as the county only allocate funds to the facilities based of population catchment while the hospital gets referrals from up

to 25 counties, who in this case are not budgeted for.

4. Lack of maternity HDU.
5. Pending bills. The hospital currently owes medical supplies debts amounting to Kshs. 40M.
6. Numerous waiver and exemption requests crippling the hospital's revenue.
7. Late reimbursements from NHIF.
8. Lack of renal unit for children as the renal unit at the facility is taking care of adults only.
9. Unclaimed bodies. The hospital receives all police cases of bodies that end up requiring disposal, whose court process is long and strenuous.

Attempts by the hospital to address some of these challenges.

1. On shortage of staff: The hospital has tried to bridge the gap by contracting additional 122 nurses which it is paying with money that would have been used on commodities.
2. On attrition of staff: The hospital wrote to the Chief officer and is optimistic to receive more staff from the recruitment currently ongoing.
3. On children's renal unit: The hospital has reached out to and negotiated to an agreement with a South African company to place machines intended to cater for children at the facility to allow the facility to buy renal commodities from them to run the unit.

CHAPTER FOUR

KISUMU COUNTY REFERRAL HOSPITAL (KCRH)

Mr. Speaker and Hon Members, Kisumu County Referral Hospital (KCRH) is a prominent healthcare institution that has been a vital pillar of medical services in the County. The hospital's
history dates back to its establishment as the Kisumu District Hospital, which served as a general healthcare facility catering to the healthcare needs of the local population. Over time, recognizing the growing demand for advanced medical services and the need to address a wider range of health conditions, efforts were made to elevate the hospital's status and capabilities. Its evolution into a comprehensive referral center underscores the commitment to providing high-quality healthcare and improving the overall health and well-being of the community. This transformation has significantly impacted the healthcare landscape of the region. It has not only improved the quality and accessibility of medical care for the local population but has also contributed to the training and development of skilled healthcare professionals who serve the community.

The hospital offers a comprehensive range of medical services to cater to various healthcare needs as will be seen in this report.

Services Offered
Kisumu County Referral Hospital (KCRH) provides a wide range of medical services, including;

a) Accident and emergency services
b) Outpatient services
c) Clinical and obstetrics
d) Gynecological inpatient and outpatient services
e) Surgical inpatient services
f) Psychiatric outpatient and inpatient services
g) Pediatric inpatient and outpatient services
h) Dental services
i) Physiotherapy and occupational therapy
j) Maternal and child health (MCH) services
k) Antenatal care (ANC)
l) Child welfare services
m) Family planning services
n) Nutrition services
o) Comprehensive HIV and TB services
p) Pharmacy services
q) Youth and adolescent clinics
r) Orthopedic and trauma services
s) Medical social work

FINDINGS

4.1.1. Wards

1. THAT the hospital is equipped with eight wards, each serving specific medical needs;
   a. New born unit
   b. Maternity unit
   c. Gynecology ward
   d. Female medical ward
   1. Pediatric ward
   e. Surgical (Male and Female) ward
   f. Male medical ward
   g. Psychiatric ward

4.1.. Staff distribution

1. THAT the hospital has a total of 308 staff distributed as follows (see annex 8);

SRL NO.	CATEGORY	NO. OF STAFF
1. Consultants - 12		
1)	Consultant Surgeons	3
2)	Consultant Physicians	3
3)	Consultant Gynecologists	3

4)	Consultant Psychiatrist	1
5)	Consultant Pathologist	1
6)	Consultant Pediatricians	2
2. Medical Officers - 16		
1)	Currently available at the hospital	4
2)	On study leave	12
3. Pharmacy - 11		
1)	Pharmacists	6
2)	Pharmaceutical technologist	5
4. Dental - 3		
1)	Dental Specialist	2
2)	Dental Technologist	1
5. Clinical Officers - 21		
1)	Chief Clinical Officers	3
2)	Senior Clinical Officers	6
3)	Registered Clinical Officers	9
4)	County contracted Clinical Officers	3
6. Physiotherapists - 4		
1)	Senior physiotherapist	1
2)	Principal assistant physiotherapists	2
3)	County contracted physiotherapist	1
7. Community Oral Health Workers - 2		
1)	Principal COHW	1
2)	Contracted COHW	1
B. Others - 239		
1)	Health Administrative Officer	1
2)	Principle Radiographer	2
3)	Nurses	236

2. THAT to operate optimally the hospital requires additional 278 nurses. The hospital also urgently requires a radiologist and an anesthesiologist.

3. THAT the hospital has experienced staff attrition with eight personnel having left for various reasons, including retirement (4), resignation (3), and death (1). No replacements have been made yet, but the hospital is optimistic of receiving new staff following advertisements by the Public Service Board.

4.1.3. Bed capacity

1. THAT the hospital has a total of 190 beds, distributed among

different wards as follows;

a. Newborn unit: 14 beds
b. Maternity: 35 beds
c. Gynecology: 14 beds
d. Female medical: 27 beds
e. Pediatric: 28 beds
f. Surgical (Male and Female): 24 beds (12 each)
g. Male medical: 20 beds
h. Psychiatric: 17 beds

2.THAT additionally, the hospital has 8 isolation beds for handling outbreaks and 3 fully equipped beds at the OPD/Casualty for emergencies that require stabilization before admission.

Ambulances:

1. THAT, the facility has two ambulances. One broke down and is at the garage. The other one is functional through not optimally as it keeps developing mechanical problems.

2. THAT, for the level of the facility, it requires at least additional fully equipped and fitted ambulance.

OTHER FINDINGS

1. THAT the hospital needs the following additional equipment;

Specialized equipment at the occupational therapy department

a. CT - Scan

b. MRI

c. ICU-Currently relying on the one at JOOTRH which is also overstretched.

d. ECT Machine for mental patients who are not responding to drug treatment.

2. THAT in the Auditor General, after auditing the hospital, recommended that;

a. The hospital should have an ICU and HDU.
b. The hospital to engages a valuer to carry out valuation at the facility.

OBSERVATIONS

Operational status of equipment

The Committee assessed the operational status of various equipment in the hospital and observed as follows;

1. THAT the hospital has three equipment on placement that are fully serviced and operational; Laboratory, Digital X-ray machine, Theatre and TSSM.
2. THAT the hospital has a standby generator and an incinerator that both operational.
3. THAT the hospital's new maternity wing is not equipped.

4. THAT the hospital has a 30kg laundry machine that is broken down and currently uses a 13kg laundry machine which is insufficient for the entire hospital's needs.

4.3.2. Projects

1. THAT there are two proposed projects for the facility;
    a. Completion of the perimeter wall
    b. Construction of green energy kitchen

2. THAT other projects required by the hospital
    a. Orthopedic department
    b. Staff quarters

CHALLENGES

The facility is currently facing the below listed challenges;

1. Inadequate human resource
2. Inadequate funding
3. Delayed and erratic disbursement of recurrent funding from the county
4. Incomplete facilities - the new maternity wing
5. Dilapidated kitchen
6. Poor drainage system that sees the hospital, especially the waiting bay, always flooded whenever it rains.
7. Inadequate equipment in theatre, radiology and laboratory
8. Un-equipped laundry unit
9. No parcel No. (Title need) to the land in which the hospital sits that has since led to encroachment.
10. No rehab for patients of substance abuse. The hospital currently mixes them at the psychiatric unit.
11. Pending bills. The hospital has never received monies for over 148M pending bills running from 2017.
12. Huge calls for waiver that has crippled the hospital's attempt to meet its revenue target.

CHAPTER FIVE

GENERAL FINDINGS AND OBSERVATIONS

Mr. Speaker and Hon Members, the Committee realized that the

1. THAT both hospitals suffer from inadequate funding and delayed disbursement of funds (recurrent) from the county government, NHIF among others, that are hampering the hospitals' ability to provide comprehensive care and address various operational challenges.

2. THAT both hospitals have experienced staff attrition due to retirement, resignation, transfers and death without corresponding replacements. These staff, the committee was made to understand, were on payroll and it raises concerns why the County Government has for years failed to make replacement. The case of JOOTRH goes back to 2019 (see annex 6A) without any replacement.
3. THAT both hospitals are operating beyond their intended bed capacities due to the high number of patients and inadequate staffing.
4. THAT at a referral level, KCRH does not have an ICU and relies on JOOTRH's which has equally raised concerns that their ICU is understaffed and overstretched, leading to potential delays in critical care provision and a strain on medical resources. Such circumstances can significantly impact the outcomes and chances of survival for critically ill patients.
5. THAT apart from providing insurance cover, one of the objectives of the Kisumu County Social Health Insurance Fund (MARWA) was to fund the indigent population within Kisumu County. It is sad to note that despite having provided services to MARWA patients, the hospitals have accrued huge bills as a result, that have never been reimbursed since. As at now, JOOTRH alone is owed funds amounting to Kshs. 19,100,000 as reimbursement for services provided to MARWA patients.
6. THAT the contractors contracted to carry out projects always ever paid more than the work done after which abandon the projects. A case of the cancer center project at JOOTRH. The contract that was awarded Kshs. 165M, the contractor has been paid Kshs. 115M and abandoned site at 63% (see annex 4A8)

RECCOMENDATIONS

Mr. Speaker and Hon Members, for the overall functioning and effectiveness of healthcare facilities in Kisumu County, the Committee recommends;

1. THAT the Department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation should collaborate closely with the Public Service Board to expedite the recruitment process and establish a mechanism for regular workforce assessment and planning.
2. THAT the department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation should collaborate closely with the Public Service Board to ensure that the facility and partner contracted staff are given priority during recruitment to relieve these hospitals from sourcing for human resource using monies that could have otherwise been spent on commodities.
3. THAT Given the importance of an ICU in providing timely and specialized care to patients with life-threatening conditions, the Committee recommends that the county government should take immediate action and establish a well-equipped and adequately staffed ICU at Kisumu County

Referral Hospital and, ensure that the JOOTRH's is equally well staffed to enable it operate optimally and to its full capacity.

4. THAT to enhance contractor oversight and accountability, the CECM for Public Administration and Governance should submit to this County Assembly within 30 days of adoption of this report;
   i. A rigorous monitoring and evaluation framework for construction contracts awarded within the county.
   ii. A detailed systematic progress assessment plan that links payment milestones to verifiable project completion stages that will ensure that contractors are incentivized to fulfill their obligations and deliver quality work.

5. THAT to strengthen MARWA Fund operations;
   i. The CECM for Finance and Economic planning together with the CECM for Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation should undertake a comprehensive review of the fund's financial management and reimbursement procedures to ensure that healthcare facilities are reimbursed promptly for services rendered.
   ii. The CECM for Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation in conjunction with the CECM for Finance and Economic Planning to establish and submit to this Honourable House within 30 days upon adoption of this report, a transparent and efficient billing and reimbursement process aimed at preventing accumulation of unpaid bills, thereby safeguarding the financial stability of County healthcare institutions.
   iii. Submit to this house within 30 days upon adoption of this report, the implementation status report of the Kisumu County Social Health Insurance Fund (MARWA).

6. THAT the CECM for Finance and Economic Planning should introduce a conditional payment release system that requires a satisfactory progress report from the hospital management before contractors receives payment milestones. Hospital management's verification of completed project stages and compliance with quality standards should be a prerequisite for payment disbursement as it will ensure that contractors are held accountable for delivering satisfactory work before receiving compensation.

7. THAT to address irregularities and discrepancies in the project execution and financial transactions involving contractors, the committee recommend that the Auditor General conducts a comprehensive audit of all ongoing and completed projects within these facilities and not limited to the cancer center at JOOTRH and other cases where contractors have already received amounts significantly exceeding the work done including the cancer center at JOOTRH.

CONCLUSION

Mr. Speaker and Hon Members, it is now my pleasure on behalf of the committee, to present this report of the Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation Committee on the status of referral hospitals in Kisumu County to this Honorable House for adoption.
May I call upon Hon. Seth Okumu to second?

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Okumu.

(Hon. Seconded by bowing)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo): Honourable Members, a report by Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee on Status of Referral Hospitals in Kisumu County has been moved by Hon. Oginga and seconded by Hon. Okumu. As per our Standing Orders, I want to propose that this motion is open for debate.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Honourable Member representing Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo Ward, Hon. Carren Odhiambo.

Hon. Carren (MCA, Kaloleni/Shaurimoyo Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise to support the report by Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee. I want to thank the Committee for the special recognition and indeed I was part of the team that visited Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral Hospital. The facility has a number of challenges and I will mention a few. It doesn't meet the recommended standard number of human resource personnel required for the Level V. Had it not for students sent by the National Government to train and in return offer services, it would have been worst.

Two, the allocation given to the hospital is not adequate for the smooth operation of the hospital and its operations. For example, they received Kshs. 60, 000,000. However, the budget for in-patient alone is Kshs. 80,000,000. This necessitated the facility to reduce the medication for the out-patient. You can just see that, this is not good. Madam Speaker, for us to get good services as a County, we need to put more allocation to the Department of Health and especially to this facilities. I want to thank the Chair of the Committee together with Hon Emily Oginga, and Hon Seth Okumu. In fact, only few Members visited the facility. Thank you Madam Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Thank you. Hon Ochele, do you wish to say something in relation to the subject on the Floor?

(Hon Ochele indicates that he has nothing to say)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes, Hon Oiko, Member representing Kabonyo- Kanyagwal Ward

Hon Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo- Kanyagwal Ward): Yes, and I am a Member with no membership in any committee, Madam Speaker. All the same, let me also share my views on this matter. Madam Speaker, when I look at the report in page 14, No. 2, they are talking of Audit Report, and the recommendation of the Auditor. I wish they could refer to the Year when the Auditor made the recommendation. It is surprising that the Auditor says that the hospital should be degraded to Level IV, yet we should be fighting for the hospital to be upgraded to Level VI.

Madam Speaker, what does it mean when the Auditor degrades the hospital to Level IV? It means there are inadequate human resource personnel. This means that our facility should not be considered worthy of upgrade to Level VI. Madam Speaker, on the same page 14, at No. 3, we are being informed that Kshs. 60,000,000 was allocated for pharmaceutical and the budget for in-patient stands at Kshs. 80,000,000 per year. Notice that they are talking of in-patient, not the out-patient. We would like the picture of the total budget because I know they were referring to commodities. These are the common drugs in the hospital. What is the total allocation for the hospital to serve the patients on commodities? We ought to have been given that report.

Madam Speaker, on page 15, we are also being informed that an item MRI 0.5, yet the hospital needs Kshs 1.5 and that means the medical department needs to do something so that our people are served well. Madam Speaker, generally when you look at the report, it is clear that there is understaffing in the hospital. This means more human resource should be employed. A picture is also portrayed that the people who have resigned, people who had died and people who left the service, are still on the payroll. This implies poor management of county resources. Such categories of people should not be paid. Prompt replacement should be done.

Madam Speaker, this House should take this matter seriously, and the department together with the Public Service Board should be prevailed upon so that a policy is developed to do replacement at intervals. Medical services are very essential and so we cannot take too long before replacement is done. However, I know that there is currently an ongoing replacement. Is this replacement supposed to make good what they are referring to in this report? We could have got that picture Madam Speaker. The report is also talking about Pending Bills as far as from 2017 of Kshs. 148,000,000. If the contractors and suppliers have not been paid since 2017 up to now, it gives a very gloomy picture of the services offered. The construction works that were ongoing; there must be something that needs to be addressed. Have they taken all this long to be paid? When you do not pay your suppliers in time, you do not expect good services from them. If the list could have been tabulated with year of contract, amount, among others, this House could take that matter head on. It is frustrating for that to happen in an institution.

Madam Speaker, we are also being informed on page 25 of a construction work which was going on at the cost of Kshs. 165, 000,000. The contractor had been paid Kshs. 115,000,000 and abandoned the work. That is the picture that is being given. When you look at the difference of what was paid against what was allocated, that is a difference of Kshs. 50,000,000. Was this contractor overpaid or was he paid within the scope of work he had done? The picture we are given is that he was overpaid. Was it done intentionally? Was the contractor politically correct? The House has a role to play here.

Madam Speaker, this report portrays the picture that things are not good in our Medical Department. We need to take the government head on so that the medical department offers good services to our people. I so contribute.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Thank you Hon Oiko. I can see Hon Bill, MCA for Kobura Ward.

Hon Bill (MCA, Kobura Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise to comment on the report by the Health Committee. Madam Speaker, I wish to thank the committee for a work well done.

However, I was looking at every page and was hoping to read mattresses on the floor and I didn't see any. I do not know whether or not the report was trying to cover some things or protect some image. I was at JOOTRH yesterday; I saw an entire Ward with mattresses on the floor. I was hoping a clear picture of state of affairs in the report would have been highlighted.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank the County Government. They are trying to meet the number of nurses that have been requested. However, my concern is that we have some people, about 122 people and I know most of them have applied. I am therefore trying to be positive that most of them who have been working will be given consideration. It is saddening from the report that until now, that the hospital has two ambulances and one is not operational. I am just wondering how much it would cost to equip one land cruiser. I believe that with a good working system, we wouldn't be discussing such in the Assembly because these are things that can be sorted. If the ambulance is not working, it means there is somebody somewhere who is sleeping on his or her job.

Madam Speaker, from the report, the committee should look and find out what is happening in the two hospitals in this report. We are serving a big county yet ambulances are not operational. You know, if the report probably said 450 ambulances are not working, then we would be discussing budget constraints. I am also saddened by the report from JOOTRH that the ICU wing of the hospital has the capacity to hold 18 beds but only 4 are operational. We therefore cannot be discussing elevation of hospital to a Level VI yet such simple things cannot be done in our county. I agree with the report that the facility should revert to Level IV until as a county we become serious with issues of health. I am happy with your report and I hope that you have taken into consideration that the Kisumu District Hospital's Maternity Wing is not equipped. In addition, the hospital serves a big population and I believe that this House is going to move with speed to discuss with the county government on how it is going to be equipped. Otherwise, thank you Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okombo): Yes, Hon. Miriam Abeid.

Hon. Abeid (Nominated Member): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Mine is to first congratulate the committee for taking the initiative of going round the hospital and highlight the challenges that are facing the main hospital in Kisumu County. However, I also want to say that of all the devolved functions of the County government, health remains one of the most complicated one. Madam Speaker, it is not just unique to Kisumu County but a challenge in all the other 47 counties.

Madam Speaker, I am happy that for the first time, I am listening to a report that at least closely mirrors what our public hospitals face. I want to encourage the Chairperson and the members of the Sectoral Committee on Health, Housing and Sanitation to keep the House updated on the issues raised by Hon. Oliver; they are very serious issues such as patients sleeping on mattresses on the floors is real, and I am alive to that fact. Also, what Hon. Bill Oliver said; that we should support the Governor on the health issue because it is complex. The complications actually start from the National government trickling down here. So, as Kisumu County, we can only support and point out what the County can do to make it better for all of us. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okombo): My eyes had caught Hon. Carolyne Opar.

Hon. Opar (Nominated Member): Thank you, Madam Speaker, for giving me this opportunity. First, I want to thank the committee for this report, and I second this report. I think I have the latest report because I am just from JOOTRH, and things are really bad and they should be tackled. There's a major shortage of staff and the trainees are the ones trying to fill in the gaps, but even in doing so, they are not doing the work sufficiently. When I read through the recommendations, I must say that this committee really did their work.

Secondly, I have a patient who is very ill after suffering a stroke but is being discharged without recovering properly. The reason for discharging him was that there are no beds and that they are understaffed so, they cannot handle these people. My other patient is in the ICU and it was really difficult for us to acquire oxygen for the patient. So, when I came here rushing and found report, I was so grateful to the secretariat that prepared it, because it is true as Hon. Oiko said, that things are not good in our medical services. We should move with speed and take care of it if we want our people's lives to be saved. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Thank you

(Hon. Bill Oliver rises on a Point of Order)

Hon. Oliver (MCA, Kobura ward): A point of Order Madam Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): What is your Point of Order? Which standing Order are you rising on?

Hon. Oliver (MCA, Kobura Ward): Madam Speaker, I am rising while citing the provisions of Standing Order No. 89.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Please continue.

Hon. Oliver (MCA, Kobura ward): (*On a Point of Order*) Madam Speaker, we were discussing a health report and there is a latest report that I have just heard from Hon. Lawino and I wanted to know about this report because I do not have it. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes, Hon. Lawino Opar!

Hon. Opar (Nominated Member): Thank you, Madam Speaker, I believe that I was trying to support the report with the latest evidence that I have come with.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes, Hon. Bill Oliver, Hon. Lawino is so much in order because she was giving evidence of the findings that are written here in this report by citing the very recent examples that exist in JOOTRH. So, Hon. Lawino you are in Order.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes, Hon. Seth Okumu.

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme Ward): Thank you so much Madam Speaker. I want asked to second the report and did it by bowing to allow me to contribute later. I am a member of the committee, I visited these facilities, and I support wholly, the motion to adopt this report.

Madam Speaker, our intention to visit these facilities is to bring a raw report to members so that they can make decisions. With this report, we expect the members to help us find solutions and not continue lamenting. We did not bring this report so that members can lament but we went there to bring the true picture and would really want to agree with Hon. Lawino on adding what might have been the latest. What then can we do? I heard my brother, Hon. Oliver mention that ambulances have mechanical problems. What then can we do as an Assembly to ensure that the ambulances are repaired? That is what we expected from members of this House. I listened to my brother Hon. Oiko and all he did was cry, cry and cry but that was not our intention when we brought this report and we will be bringing more.

Madam Speaker, some of the things that we wanted Honorable Members to help us address was the issue of budgeting. Now we have a report that tells you the situations at the hospital. How many of you in this House stand up to say that JOOTRH needs more money? Most of us Honorable Members often just fight for their wards. Very few of them consider JOOTRH until you take a patient there. That is why we thought it wise that we visit all the facilities, if possible, even most of them so that we inform you the status of Referral Hospital, Sub County Hospital, Dispensaries and Health Centres. This will help us in planning as an Assembly, and where we need legislation, we can make that decision using this report. Where we need issues of budget, we can use this report. Where we have issues of directing donors who are willing to help Kisumu, we can use this report to help make those decisions.

Madam Speaker, as we say that the situations on these hospitals are not that good, but having gone there, most of it is due to the meager resources that have been allocated to this department. The resources that we are having, come from the exchequer but we also do our Own Source Revenue. How can we work on improving our own source revenue, so that we can have more money to improve services in our hospitals? When we were visiting these hospitals, it was agreed even with staff that some of the people working in these hospitals steal drugs but they do not correlate how that affects the mother, a sister, a father, brother or son, when they now go to seek medication. The people who take these drugs are our brothers, sisters, and cousins. Those are the issues that we brought in this report so that we can talk about.

Madam Speaker, on the issue of contracts, we have had cases where our engineers approve for payments of contracts beyond the works that have been done. What can we do as an Assembly? And we have given an example in this report, where a contractor had been paid close to 90% and yet he had done only 63% of the work. How can we help, so that those hospitals do not pay for works not done? Madam Speaker, I have heard my brother Hon. Vincent Jagongo struggle to put money here for equipping facilities but most of our members only focus on building new dispensaries. In each and every proposal you will see that; like Hon. Dede here is planning to do a dispensary, and at the same time, Nyahera Sub-County hospital that we have its report, is about to be auctioned because somebody claims that that land belongs to them.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Order!! Hon. Dede. Why are you on your feet?

Hon. Dede (MCA, North Kisumu ward): Madam Speaker, my name has been mentioned.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Order! Resume your seat Hon. Dede. Hon. Seth Okumu, please continue.

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme ward): Thank you so much Madam Speaker for protecting me. Madam Speaker, as we were walking in these hospitals, as I have given an example of Hon. Dede, that Nyahera Sub-County Hospital is about to be auctioned because the land was donated to the hospital but the transfer of ownership has not been done. This is also happening in our Referral hospitals. Kisumu County Referral Hospital is indeed a hospital but without the title deed, the land belongs to somebody else. How do we work as an Assembly so that we have these hospitals sit on the title deeds that belong to the County government or in the name of those hospitals?

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Dede what is it? Hon. Seth let us give him a minute to listen to what he has to say.

Hon. Dede (MCA, North Kisumu Ward): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity to also comment on what Hon. Seth Okumu has just stated….

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Order!! Order!! Hon. Dede.

Hon. Dede (MCA, North Kisumu Ward): Thank you, Madam Speaker for giving me this opportunity to defend myself because I have been mentioned. I have heard Hon. Seth Okumu talking about the facility being auctioned in my ward, can he bring a statement of facts…

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Dede you are out of Order as the report has stated that Kisumu District Hospital does not have a title deed on the land on which it is built on and that is a true fact. We found out that with other facilities like Pap-Onditi County hospital. So, what Hon. Seth Okumu is saying is not farfetched but a fact on the ground and mentioning a facility within your ward is just but an example. So, Hon. Dede you are out of Order. Hon. Seth please continue.

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker for protecting me. You know that Honourable Dede plans to buy a piece of land from that facility and we will not allow him and that is…

(Laughter)

(Hon. Dede rises on his feet)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Order!! Hon. Dede, can you please resume your seat. Order!! Order!!.

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme Ward): But Madam Speaker, as I was continuing that we need our health facilities sit on titles that belongs to them. To the Honourable Member, I know that Honourable Bill has health facilities within his Ward (Kobura) and you need to start thinking of because this is just an example. Imagine if a referral hospital is constructed on a land that does not belong to them. How about a dispensary in Kobura Ward? What can we do as an Assembly? This is just a guide on what we need to do as Members of the Assembly.

Madam Speaker, I wish the Honourable Member for Kabonyo Kanyagwal Ward was here (Hon. Oiko Pete). I would have asked him because, he left us that because he was going to the National Government to bring development. Some of the development that we want from the National Government is the transfer of Jaramogi Oginga Teaching and Referral Hospital (JOOTRH) to the National Government. That is what we want but, he is coming here and complains more than us who have not gone there. So, I want to implore on him more wherever he is that we are struggling to have JOOTRH transferred to the National Government so that we are relieved of close to 800 workers that the National Government can pay and we can get close to Kshs 8 Billion from the National Government to run JOOTRH and then the money that we spend on that facility can be used to get more staffs to equip other Health Centers, Sub County Hospitals and Dispensaries.

Madam Speaker, this report is a pointer to our Honourable Members that there is something that we need to do. Some of them we have mentioned in the report. We have recommendations but, we need it to be juicier. We need you Members to spice it up so that by the time this report gets to be adopted, we shall have very concrete recommendations that we can go with; either to the Department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, Department of Finance and ICT, the Auditor General so that we can improve services to the people of Kisumu.

Madam Speaker, I support the adoption of this report as it will also help us improve on service delivery. I also want to implore on the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee not to stop at the Referral Hospital but again go deeper into our County Hospitals, Sub County Hospitals, Health Centers and dispensaries so that we know all the status of operations of all those facilities before we go to the next budgeting cycle. Thank you so much Madam Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Thank you Honourable Seth.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes, Honourable Kennedy Ajwang'

Hon. Ajwang' (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker. Going by the mood of the House, I call the mover to reply.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honourable Members, wow, that call has received a lot of support from even a Member who represent the biggest ward in Kisumu County.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Honourable Emily.

Hon. Oginga (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker. Foremost, I would like to appreciate the House for supporting the report. Maybe I would just like to give a brief story of our experience when we were going round the Health Facilities.

Madam Speaker, I believe it was a very good idea for the committee to come up with this programme in our workplan. That is because, the first facility that we visited was JOOTRH and we could actually see that there was some tension amongst the staffs. But, the moment we talked

to them that we are only here to carry out our oversight role, there is no problem. Previously from the experience is that whenever they see the Members of the County Assembly coming to the facility, maybe there was a problem or rather a bad report that had been brought to the floor of the House. However, on this occasion, we had a candid discussion with the officers in charge which was well represented by various key departments. For instance, the CEO of the Hospital was present, the Nursing Director-in charge, person in charge of the Finances, the Administrator, the EMO, the Procurement Office and the Pharmacy Department. They were well represented and we had a very good discussion.

Madam Speaker, after that, we visited the ongoing projects and walked in to the patients' wards and actually we saw exactly what they were talking about. What I would like to inform this Honourable House is that I know that previously we have focused more on brick and mortar as we draw the budget. That is because it is our role that when we go back to the ground and inform the people and showing them what they are seeing. We always want to point at a dispensary and tell them that, "I promised you that I am going to build this hospital, you see, I have done so".

Madam Speaker, I would like to encourage our members that it is time to build and invest on human capital. That is because, when we went around all these health facilities, the key issue that was raised by the management is; shortage of staff. It was a sad situation when we went to a place that was supposed to be a ward which was renovated maybe three years ago and it cannot be equipped due to lack of nurses. If it is equipped, then it means a ward has to be denied the staff or the current staffs will be overwhelmed because they have to shuttle in between the wards; which is also not fair on them. So far, I believe we have enough wards. What we need to do is to focus on equipping them in terms of both human capital and assets.

Furthermore, I would also like to mention something on Kisumu County Referral Hospital (KCRH). We all know that it is the only facility that is offering Psychiatric Treatment. Currently, we have Mental Health Care as a very big challenge in this country and all over the world. We need to focus more on mental health care. That is because, looking at KCRH, it is not well equipped to handle all the mental cases that are actually coming up. They are overwhelmed. So, I believe that we also need to focus and encourage other healthcare facilities and come up with mental health care facilities.

Madam Speaker, the other key issue that came up and I know it has been mentioned is the ownership. Very soon, maybe if we do valuation, we might actually find that the land under KCRH is on someone else name. I am sorry to say this because; nobody knows who is handling that title deed. It would also be unfair to the County to keep on investing money that don't belong to it. The Department of Lands needs to move with speed and sort out this issue before we end up losing a lot as a county.

Madam Speaker, another issue is on the Retired Staffs. I know Honourable mentioned an issue though I did not see it on the report. That there are retired staffs that are still on the payroll. We did not mention it instead said that the retired have not been replaced yet. Although currently we know that the Public Service Board is actually working on recruitment of staff and hopefully they will be able to fill up the gaps that exist.

Madam Speaker, with the workplan that this committee has, I believe if we implement it and by the end of this financial year, this House will be able to get the real picture of the current status of the healthcare of this County. This is because, if you look at our workplan, we are already giving a report for the first quarter where we plan to visit all Referral Hospitals. We also intend visiting Sub County Hospitals currently and from there we will go down to the Health Centers and dispensaries then we will come back here and give you the real picture of what is going on in our Healthcare Facilities. The reason why I am mentioning this is because. Previously we visited Mama Lucy Hospital and Kenyatta National Hospital and brought a report to this House. I believe it was just right for us to have done that because, usually when you want to make an improvement, you observe the giant and see what they do. You then come back home, view the situation and identify the gaps then find a way of how to work around it. I believe that if we carry workplan well, at the end of it all, we will be able know where to put our money on Healthcare matters.

Madam Speaker, as we go around the Sub Counties, we belong to different wards from different Sub Counties. I would like to encourage Members who will be visiting their Sub Counties and Wards to please, come and accompany us while we are visiting these facilities so that you be able to know what is happening around your health facilities. You will find that during that time, you will get a lot of information that maybe you might not be privy to. Please I implore you come and join us as we go round so that we can work together towards improving the medical services of this County and to benefit our people. Remember, when we have a good health care system, then, we will be working round having medical tourism within the County which is also a way of generating revenue for this County.

Otherwise, thank you so much for supporting this report and once again, thank you Madam Speaker.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honourable Members, a report by the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee on the Status of Referral Hospitals in Kisumu County has been read, seconded. Effectively deliberated upon and I now want to put a question.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honourable Members, the House adopts the report with the recommendations. Honourable Members, the report raises a number of recommendations to different departments. I can see a total of seven strong recommendations directed to CECM for Finance and ICT, Internal audit and several others made to the Department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation.

Therefore Honourable Members, it is my humble duty to declare the adoption of the report of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee on the Status of Referral Hospitals in Kisumu County adopted today Thursday 10th August 2023 at 1613 Hours

That, the recommendations therein, the report together with the recommendations and the Hansard be prepared and forwarded to the three department for necessary action, and a report be brought back to the House through the Department of Health and the Committee of PIC and PAC within 30 working days. Thank you Honorable Members.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta B): Next Order!!

MOTION

ADJOURNMENT ON DEFENIATE MATTER OF URGENT COUNTY IMPORTANCE: DEVOLUTION CONFRENCE AND THE ANNUAL EDITION OF THE SPORTS AND CULTURE BONANZA (CASA GAMES)

BY

HON. KENNEDY OOKO, MCA, AHERO WARD

(LEADER OF MAJORITY)

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Moses Ochele.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano Wawidhi Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker, I arise on behalf of the Leader of Majority, Hon. Kennedy Ooko to move a motion on the Adjournment on Definite Matter of Urgent County Importance: 8th Devolution Conference and the Annual Edition of the Sports and Culture Bonanza (CASA Games).

Madam Speaker and the Honorable Members, AWARE THAT the Council of Governor has convened the 8th Annual Devolution Conference in Eldoret, Uasin Gishu County starting from 15th August, 2023 to 19th August, 2023 and that the Hon Members have been invited to make attendance.
FURTHER AWARE THAT the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA) has scheduled its Annual Edition of the Sports and Cultural Bonanza in Nakuru County from 19th August, 2023 to 27th August, 2023, where the County Assembly at large is required to take part in.

ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Orders No. 31(1) the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders states; Any Member may at any time rise in his or her and seek leave to move the adjournment of the County Assembly for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent County importance.

FURTHER ACKNOWLEDGING THAT Orders No 26 (3) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders states that;

"*On a day when the County Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the next normal sitting day in accordance with the County Assembly calendar, the Leader of the Majority Party or the Leader of the Minority Party or another Member of the County Assembly Business Committee shall move a Motion of adjournment which shall be debated for not more than three hours after which the County Assembly shall adjourn without question put"*

NOW THEREFORE, this Assembly now urges Members to adjourn the House until Tuesday 29th August, 2023 to allow Members and the County Assembly at large to respectively participate in the two events.

Thank you Madam Speaker, I move and may I request Hon. Seth Okumu to second the motion on adjournment.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Seth Okumu.

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme Ward): Thank you so much Madam Speaker, I rise to second the Motion on Adjournment. Madam Speaker, we cannot miss to attend the Devolution Conference. It is almost fifteen years.

(Loud consultations)

Madam Speaker, I am seating next to people who did not do well in mathematics and I was informing them that we started Devolution in 2013, and I am asking them how many years has it been since the devolution started and they are saying 20 years. It is eleven years.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, we need to evaluate. We have been implementing projects, doing development and running governments under the new constitution. In this conference, the Members will know the challenges which have been there and the government will get why we need the independence or autonomy of the County Assemblies. It is where we can communicate why we need more resources because the constitutions devolved functions but the resources were not devolved.

Madam Speaker, you can see the Serjeants standing next to me as I struggle with the microphone, kindly send them out because it is really important that all the Members attend the conference so that we can evaluate the things that we have done under the eleven years of devolution and we can come back and do legislation that are consistent with what we are supposed to doing under the new constitution. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I second that we adjourn and I want to implore on Members that we purpose to attend and listen to the submissions that will be done at the conference.

Madam Speaker, it has been slotted that on Thursday our party leader, Hon. Raila Odinga will be presenting at the Devolution Conference, I want to ask the all Members in this House that however busy you will be, but on that particular day to come and listen to the father of devolution because the people who have been president in this country did not support devolution but he did. On that day is when you will get to know what he envisaged about devolution, what we have done and the gaps that are still missing so that we get it perfect. Thank you Madam Speaker, I support that we adjourn for devolution conference.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Honorable Members, an Adjournment Motion for Matters of Urgent County Importance that is attendance of Devolution Conference and the Annual Edition of the Sports and Culture Bonanza (Casa Games), has been moved by Hon. Ochele and seconded by Hon. Seth Okumu. So, I therefore want to propose that the motion be moved for discussion. But, Honorable Members it is worth noting that while speaking on a matter such as this, no member shall speak for more than five minutes except the mover who may speak for ten minutes. I want to propose that the motion be debated upon.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Honorable Member representing Migosi ward, Hon. Pamela Oyoo.

Hon. Oyoo (MCA, Migosi Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker, I want to support this matter because it is of importance. Devolution has created many things in this County and we must give it the importance it deserves.

Madam Speaker, it is important we go to the Devolution Conference to strengthen devolution ideas, it is because of devolution that we are in this Assembly and I want to say that this is an important event and we need to create time and go to the conference. Madam Speaker, co-curriculum is as important as any business of the day, sports is important, healthy and is required in our system. If we are going for sports, is part of learning and working. I want to appreciate the conveners of CASA who has enabled us to go participate. Madam Speaker, I am supporting this motion because it is very important for the working of this Assembly. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Boitone Ratib, member representing Nyalenda "A" Ward.

Hon. Ratib (MCA, Nyalenda "A" Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker, I also arise to support the adjournment motion. Devolution Conference is very important when it comes to matters pertaining to county government and for that matter I support that the House adjourn for that occasion. Madam Speaker, my worry is the venue that the conference will take place. I have been trying to contemplate whether I will be committing on a daily basis. But, trying to figure it out, I think that we are likely going to spend in Eldoret for five days.
Madam Speaker, I want to support what Hon. Ochele said. He mentioned one particular day that is on Thursday, when Hon. Raila Odinga will be attending the conference. As much as he was emphasizing that we make sure that we attend even if we are busy on that day. I want to inform my brother that as Kisumu Assembly we will attend the conference for the five days.

Madam Speaker, on the CASA Games, this will also create a conducive environment where we will interact freely, very freely with our counterpart Assemblies and I believe from that sports we will come back very rejuvenated. I have also trained for football. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Ratib, what kind of interaction are you anticipating during CASA games?

Hon. Ratib (MCA, Nyalenda "A" Ward): Madam Speaker, there are a lot of interactions. We have local interactions between us and Members of other counties including the other sex. This are things that we all understand because it also give us some sort of benchmarking, it is not only a matter of sports. During our free time we will be talking to our counterparts asking them how they manage their County Assemblies and on coming back, you will see this Assembly very rejuvenated, thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Bill Odhiambo, Member representing Kobura Ward.

Hon. Bill Oliver (MCA, Kobura Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker, I rise to support. First, we are going to attend the Devolution Conference to share and know where we have come from, where we are and where we want to go.

Madam Speaker, the other issue that I know we are going to discuss because it will be a conference is, we have been having a lot of debate whether the issues of the MCAs should be looked at. Some of the issues we have discussed and other not yet but I believe this is the right platform because, for devolution to work, it is a chain that ends up with the last man being the MCA and we cannot talk about the devolution working yet the MCA are not valued in that system of devolution.

Madam Speaker, I believe that this is the platform where MCAs should go and we ensure that we air our views well because if this a conference that is going to look at where we have come from, where we are and where we are going, then it means, the MCA issues from the remunerations and other issues should be looked into so that devolution works. Because, you cannot say that we are looking at the system up but down is not working.

Madam Speaker, I support the adjournment because Sports is part of our lives. Madam Speaker, looking at today's lifestyle you will realize that sports plays a very crucial role in our systems. It is going to help us get the opportunity to interact with other Members and get to know what is happening around the country and they will also get to know what is happening within Kisumu. That sharing of ideas will help us get to know more as we develop our county. I want to encourage Members that after coming from the CASA games, let's work towards fostering a culture centered on sports, emphasizing the importance of a sporting atmosphere during our annual games. By doing so, we aim to create an environment where, in the future, our Assembly can participate in friendly games with other County Assemblies. I am informed that in the First Assembly, Hon. Ochele can confirm this, they used to even go to other Counties for sports but I have not seen this in our current Assembly. We can embrace that culture starting from now. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Matara, the Chair, Culture and Sports.

Hon. Matara (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker I wish to support the adjournment motion and I am very grateful that you have given us a chance to do our practices and I want to urge Members that you have to practice for you to be fit. I tried going round and found most of the Members are not going for practices. I made an attempt of calling each and every Member to know which discipline you were engaged in and I think I reached all the members. Kindly do make an effort to go for practice.

Madam Speaker, I want to support what Hon. Bill has said and I believe that moving forward we should at least have inter-counties and friendly matches that we can do before going for the actual CASA games. We don't have to poach other players when we go for the CASA games.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Order!! Hon. Matara. You are the Chairperson of Sports Committee and you want to insinuate that your department does

not have enough Members and you as a Chairperson is forced to poach other players. Can you clarify your statement! Does it mean that Hon. Members only need to be fit for sports?

Hon. Matara (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker. I withdraw my statement and urge Hon. Members to make an attempt to do your practices so that you be fit. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Mickey.

Hon. Mickey Ochieng (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker, I was just applauding my neighbor for her brave remarks.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Alando.

Hon. Alandoh (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker, I wish to call the mover to reply.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Yes Hon. Ochele.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker for according me the opportunity to reply but before I do that I wish to ask you to lend Hon. Seth Okumu a chance to say something.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Hon. Ochele, you have been called upon to reply. Can you reply!

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi Ward): Thank you Madam Speaker. You are hard on your colleague and this network of friendship is dying. Madam Speaker, I want to take this chance to thank Members who have endured their time to see through the end of this motion and for some of us who have seen it fit to at least contribute to this very important part of our calendar. It is indeed a very good topic that we are going to showcase what we achieved so far in devolution in the past 11 years. All of us here are a product of devolution and so when we talk of Devolution Conference, I believe that everybody is upbeat just to go and attend that event and most particularly when the father of devolution is accorded a special chance to address us on matters of devolution. I believe that members should accord him the support he needs by being around him when he will be giving his address. Madam Speaker, it is true that Eldoret is difficult. Some of us made earlier arrangements by booking and the rest of us who did not do that. I will guide you accordingly so that you get some conducive environment to spend the night.

Madam Speaker, on to the issue of the CASA Games. I am a proud Member here by seeing CASA inscribed in our order paper and that is something I hatched with other colleagues in other Counties, registered it and it now became a serious outfit that accommodates sporting activity in the Country. I am proud to be the first Secretary General for four years and during that time we used to organize not just one event like the one we are yet to attend but we could also organize inter-county Exchange Programs in terms of sports. I can remember football team used to go to Mombasa. Madam Speaker, maybe things have changed because the process have been

dwindling but the best way of handling sports is that anytime when we feel saturated some of our members can at least get connections and shore case their talents outside this County.

Madam Speaker, it is not lost in my memory that we even took members of netball where the commissioner here was a beneficiary and we went to Zanzibar and we really enjoyed in the process exchanging our cultural and social livelihood. In these scenarios where we talk of sports, I heard Hon. Boitone talk of mingling. There is no boundary in mingling. In this Assembly we have young, talented, single, searching and ready to mingle. If the CASA event can be a platform of getting a lifetime partner then I beseech you that we proceed to the events. We have our last born here and he has not declared his marital status. If he is not then that even is where he can get a lady outside Kisumu County. I am saying that on a light note but, it can be a reality at the end. Otherwise, I want to beseech all Members to take part in at least one game so that we don't just be mere spectators. There are a number of games and for those whose bodies are rigid like Hon. Okoyo's who is my friend; you can get something to do like tug-of-war so that you name is noted in the roll of fame. I am just saying that at least every Member should get something to participate in because the pattern here is that those who participate in these activities get remunerated than those who don't. So Hon. Alando, I know you can do it.

Otherwise Madam Speaker, I am very happy for you but at some point I do empathize that you cannot play the game you love most which is netball unless you love the other one then you can proceed to participate in. thank you.

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Okombo, MCA, Manyatta "A" Ward): Thank you Hon. Members. A motion on the Adjournment on Definite Matters of Urgent COUNTY Importance that is the Devolution Conference and the Annual Edition of the CASA Games has been moved, seconded and debated, I want to draw our attention to Standing Orders No. 26 (3) which states that;

"On a day that the County Assembly is scheduled to adjourn to a day other than the normal sitting day in accordance with the County Assembly sitting calendar, the Leader of Majority Party or the Leader of Minority Party or another Member of the County Assembly House Business committee shall move a motion of adjournment which shall be debated for not more than 3 hours after which the County Assembly shall adjourn without question put.

ADJOURNMENT

The Deputy Speaker (Hon. Nereah Akoth Okombo, MCA, Manyatta B): Honourable Members, I therefore want to declare that the House stands adjourned until Tuesday 29th August 2023 at 2023 at 1430 hours.

(House rose at 04.46 p.m.)

The Hansard Team

Zablon Otiende – Senior Hansard Reporter (Ag. Editor)

Edward Odanga – Hansard Reporter

Fanuel Okode – Hansard Reporter

Patrick Okoyo – Hansard Reporter

Jacklyne Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Jesca Otieno – Hansard Reporter

Vallery Achieng' – Hansard Reporter