COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – SECOND SESSION

Wednesday 25th October, 2023

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): Hon. Dede, please approach the Chair.

(The Speaker consulting with Hon. Dede)

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

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I have the following communications to make. First, I welcome you to this morning session. I am aware that a number of House Committees are out on official duty. We have Procedure and Rules Committee who are in Trans Nzoia County Assembly, we equally have the Standing Committee of Administration of Law, Justice, Legal Affairs, Good Governance and Security Chaired by Hon. Moses Ochele is which is visiting Homa Bay County Assembly. I also want to make the following communication that the Standing Committee of Water, Environment and Natural Resources will be having an engagement with the line department and partners specifically on the Kisumu Water Bill 2023.

The meeting will be held in Homa Bay County from 29th October to 2nd November, 2023. You can liaise with Hon. Samuel Dede and the Committee Clerk for further guidance.

Honourable Members, similarly, the Joint Committees of Labour and Social Welfare Committee and Administration of Law, Justice, Legal Affairs, Good Governance and Security shall be meeting the Department of Governance with partners. I also believe it's in Homa Bay from 29th October to 31st October, 2023. You can liaise with Hon. Okoyo and Hon. Ochele for further guidance.

Honourable Members, I also want to communicate that the Governor Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyongó met the Members of Nyakach Sub County plus other leaders from the County and they made unanimous agreement that there shall be a prayers and fundraising in the aid of the Sondu victims which was as a result of the clashes between our neighbours from Kericho County that took place in Nyakach Sub-county. The prayers shall be held on 27th October, 2023 at Pap-ndege in South East Nyakach Ward in Nyakach Sub-county commencing at 10:00 a.m. There is a humble request that Members stand with the victims physically, spiritually and by giving donations of financially during that period. Please liaise with the Deputy Leader of Majority who is the Member representing South East Nyakach Ward for further guidance for any assistance towards the same. I can see Hon. Lumumba in the House I request you that you create a forum where Members who are willing to support can do so directly. Please you are encouraged to support because you never know because next time it could be your ward on something else not necessarily on clashes and you could wish to be assisted on any other activity So, I want to encourage that Members please assist with however little you can you should assist these victims.

Lastly, I want to communicate that, Honourable Benson Ambuti Adega the Member representing Kajulu Ward popularly known as *"Nyathi Kich"* was on 21st August, 2023 awarded a Certificate of Excellence after being voted the third best Human Rights Champion in Kenya. The Member was ranked the third best amongst other leaders notably, the Senator for Busia, Honourable Okiya Omutata and Senator Honourable Gloria Orwoba. Honourable Members, as the norm in other parliamentary jurisdictions it is always appropriate and good practice and recognizes any historic significances and executive work and achievements made by the citizens and that include the Honourable Members. As an Assembly, we are proud of you hard work Hon. Adega and persistent commitment to advocating for Human Rights particularly for the welfare of our people especially the disadvantaged and the vulnerable citizens in our midst. So, Honourable Adega, congratulations!! Honourable Members, I have the certificate here with me and I would like to call upon Honourable Benson Adega that I formally present this certificate to him. Honourable Members, I have confirmed that our Research team had done due diligence on the same to check on the authenticity and the validity of the certificate. The same has been conveyed to my office and that is what gives me the confidence to communicate the same.

(The Speaker presents the Certificate of Excellence to Hon. Benson Adega)

(Jubilation from Hon. Members)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): So, congratulations to Hon. Benson Ambuti Adega *"Nyathi Kich"*. Honourable Members, I want to remind all House Committees Chairs that, I have a report with me on the pending Works by various House Committees and we did make a deliberate attempt to ensure that each and every House Committee is provide with a slot for Committee sittings at least once every week. For the Sectoral Committees, we ensures that they are slotted sitting at least twice every week for a duration of one and a half hours. Honourable Members, it is quite unfortunate that there are still pending works within the House Committees. So, I therefore want to call upon the various Committee Chairs that, kindly expedite your works because we have to proceed and undertake other activities. Thank you.

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

PAPERS LAID

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Joachim Oketch, Chairperson of the Committee on Budget and Appropriations and Member representing Kondele Ward.

Hon. Joachim (MCA, Kondele Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders No. 182 (6) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, I wish to table today Wednesday, 25th October, 2023 a report by the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations Committee on its consideration of the Proposed Kisumu County Annual Development Plan FY 2024/2025. Thank you.

(Hon. Joachim lays the report before the House for consideration)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I hereby confirm receipt of the report by the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations Committee on its consideration of the Proposed Kisumu County Annual Development Plan FY 2024/2025 as was laid by the Hon. Joachim Oketch, Chairperson, Budget and Appropriations Committee. I therefore I want to commit this report to the Select Committee of House Business for the purposes of consideration scheduling for debate.

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 Public Finance and Management Act, 2012, I wish to table today, Wednesday, 25th October, 2023 the Kisumu County Budget, Review and Outlook Paper FY 2022/2023. Thank you.

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

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to confirm receipt of the Kisumu County Budget, Review and Outlook Paper (CBROP) FY 2022/2023 and I therefore want to commit the report to the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations and request that the Committee works on it as per the Budget Making Process timelines and as per the provisions of our Standing Orders. Further, I want to call upon the Honourable Members that, this statutory document CBROP is pertinent and this is to the Honourable Chairperson, Budget and Appropriations and the Leader of Majority and the Clerk, please ensure that Member get copies of this report and I want to call upon you to look at this report keenly because the contents of the report is going to inform you net move in terms of Kisumu County Budget Estimates for the FY 2024/2025. So, I want to call upon you that once again please take this document seriously. Thank you.

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

NOTICE OF MOTION

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Hon. Joachim Oketch, MCA Kondele ward and Chairperson of the Committee on Budget and Appropriations.

Hon. Joachim (MCA, Kondele ward): Thank you again Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 41(1) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, I wish to give a Notice of Motion that this House adopts a report by the Budget and Appropriations Committee on the consideration of Kisumu County Annual Development Plan for FY 2024-2025. Thank you very much.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, before I go to the next order, I want to acknowledge the presence of visitors from Great Lakes University of Kisumu in the public gallery. They come from the University's Kisumu campus. I want to acknowledge their lecturers Mr. Luke Nato and Mr. Ian Ochieng'. You are welcome in Kisumu County Assembly. I think during statements time, I will allow two Members to give some remarks on behalf of the Members. However, let us go in that order first.

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

STATEMENTS

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Before Hon. Adonija, can I get two Members to welcome the visitors from Great Lakes University?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Deputy Leader f Majority.

The Deputy Leader of Majority (Hon. Owade. MCA, South East Nyakach Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Please allow me to welcome the students and staff from Great Lakes University. Mr. Speaker, we have a very great history with the Great Lakes University and I want to inform this House that our Governor is the Chancellor of this Great Lakes University. I personally had a cousin who was a lecturer there before he moved to Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University. I am also friends to the Vice-chancellor, Prof Hazel Mumbo. So, when I see students and staff from Great Lakes University, I feel very proud and also part and parcel of this university. Quite a number of my friends and family have passed through this University, and it has been a very good university which has helped people in our generation more so in the field of Public Health, or Health Sciences. So, feel welcome and continue doing a good work to our region. Thank you, and God bless you Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Benny Pete Oiko, MCA of Kabonyo-Kanyagwal ward.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal Ward): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. When I hear of Great Lakes University of Kisumu, whose Chancellor is Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyongó, one thing that elates me is that this is a local university established by our local academia. A very important matter. Mr. Speaker, we need to ask and call upon our academia to promote this university and to provide it with the relevant faculties so that it becomes relevant in Kenya. We hear of other universities like Mt. Kenya Universities being proud that they are the best private university in the country. It would be our prayer that the Great Lakes University also strives towards that direction because this would be a very good investment when a university is established in your locality. This promotes employment, economic empowerment, and we should encourage our youth to join our local university to develop our county and then our local people will also get employment.

Hon. Speaker, it is my hope that the Great Lakes University will strive and be recognized in Kenya because in this country, the respected professors came from around the Lake Victoria region. As in the history of Kenya, we have the Late Prof. David Wasawo, Prof. Reuben Ogendo, among others. I want youths to learn that the academic pride that Luos have had, should not die, and let us struggle. Where you have come to is the parliament, and a political House and it needs brains that is when politics will be relevant. Do not think that in politics, people are just dumped because of their deep pockets. If that becomes the norm then, we cannot have good development. With those few remarks Hon. Speaker, I beg to sit.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Thank you so much Hon. Benny Pete Oiko and Hon. Lumumba Owade. So, let's proceed. I had noticed Hon. Adonija, MCA for Chemelil-Tamu ward.

Hon. Adonija (MCA, Chemelil-Tamu Ward): Thank you very much Mr. Speaker. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 41(2)(b), I would like to seek for a statement from the Chairperson of the Committee on Labour, Social Welfare about the Status of the Employment of the ECDE Teachers who were interviewed by the County Government of Kisumu in 2021.

Mr. Speaker, the Kisumu County Government advertised to employ a total of 86 (eighty-six) Assistant ECDE teachers (III), advertisement number KCASB/01/2021/01, to fill the vacant positions on January 1st, 2021. A total of 435 (four hundred and thirty-five) candidates were shortlisted for the interviews from 25th June to 7th July, 2021.

Mr. Speaker, it is in the public domain that until today no report has been given by the County Government of Kisumu about candidates who were successful after the interviews despite conducting the exercise successfully. Let the committee inquire into and report on;

i. The number of assistant ECD teachers who were successful after the interview?
ii. The comprehensive report of the whole process including the total cost incurred during the said process?
iii. The reason why the ECD Teachers who were successful in the interview have not been engaged to date?

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to confirm that I have a copy of the said statement by the Hon. Fredrick Adonijah Odari MCA for Chemelil Tamu Ward. Therefore, I can see the Chairperson Labour and Social Welfare Committee is here. Before I make any commitment in regards to that, maybe I give him an opportunity if he is able to give a reply now. Hon. Zachary Okoyo.

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I would like to request the House to give me time so that I give a reply at an appropriate time or as you will have ruled.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to commit this statement to the Committee of Labour and Social Welfare. However, I am urging that this is a straight forward statement and I am giving you at most two weeks to look into the questions and any other that has not been captured there and report back to the Assembly with a comprehensive report within two weeks. To Hon. Zachary, when I say two weeks, please try to comply with the period given or even less.

It is statement time.

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

MOTION

ADOPTION OF REPORT BY AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT, FISHERIES AND IRRIGATION COMMITTEE ON THEIR STUDY TOUR TO NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR.

BY

HON. EUNICE ALANDO, NOMINATED MEMBER.

(CHAIRPERSON, STANDING COMMITTEE OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK DEVELOPMENT, FISHERIES AND IRRIGATION)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Eunice Alando, Chairperson, Agriculture, Livestock Development, Fisheries and Irrigation Committee!!

Hon. Alando (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker…

(Hon. Dede rises on his feet)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it Hon. Samuel Dede? Just a minute Hon. Eunice Alando, I am seeing Hon. Dede standing on his feet. What is it?

Hon. Alando (Nominated Member): Mr. Speaker, I believe that the Member is just in a hurry…

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Eunice Alando, you are not Hon. Dede.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker Sir, on behalf of the Chairperson of Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries and Irrigation Committee, being that she is in the House and also feeling unwell, I am the one to take charge.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Dede, I am ruling you out of order!! How do you know that Hon. Chairperson is feeling unwell yet she has not communicated the same? I believe it should come from her if she wants you to move the motion on her behalf.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Eunice Alando.

Hon. Alando (Nominated): Thank you Mr. Speaker. With your permission Mr. Speaker Sir, I am not feeling very well so I have assigned one of my committee members to move the motion on my behalf if he is allowed, thank you.

(Hon. Owade and Dede rise to their feet)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Deputy Leader of Majority, I can see you on your feet, what is it?

Hon. Owade (MCA, South East Nyakach Ward): Mr. Speaker, on a serious Business like this, she should prove by showing a document from a medical doctor. Otherwise she is supposed to present the report as the Chairperson, thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Lumumba Owade, I want to rule you out of Order!! You know that somebody can fall sick even while seated so I think that Hon. Dede is a member of the

committee and it has been a practice that a member can present a report on behalf of the Chairperson. So, Hon. Dede, please proceed.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker for defending my chairperson procedurally. Okay on her behalf even though she is in the House, the Chairperson Agriculture, Livestock Development, Fisheries and Irrigation Committee I would like to move a motion on the report of the Study Tour to Nairobi International Trade Fair which begun on 27th September, 2023 and ended on 2nd October, 2023….

Mr. Speaker Sir and Honourable Members, the Committee, while approving its Annual Operations Workplan for the fiscal year 2023/2024, prioritized visiting Nairobi International Trade Fair Show within the first quarter of the financial year. The objective of this endeavor was to explore, learn, and experience new technologies and best agricultural practices that hold the potential to transform the agricultural landscape in Kisumu County.

In accordance with Standing Orders No. 165 and 194 of the County Assembly, the Liaison Committee considered and approved the Committee's resolution to attend the Nairobi International Trade Fair, scheduled from September 27, 2023, to October 2, 2023 (refer to annex i). The Committee also sought and obtained the Speaker's authorization to proceed with this valuable activity.

The Nairobi International Trade Fair serves as a global platform for agricultural innovation and progress, attracting experts, innovators, and enthusiasts from around the world. This dynamic environment provided us with an exceptional opportunity to witness cutting-edge technologies and engage in knowledge-sharing with individuals who are deeply passionate about agricultural development.

I extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Office of the Speaker and the Office of the Clerk for their invaluable logistical support during the retreat. Special thanks are due to the Agricultural Society of Kenya (ASK) for graciously guiding us through various exhibition stands and generously sharing their knowledge and insights. My sincere appreciation also goes to Hon. Jennifer Obonyo, the Deputy Majority Whip, for joining us during the retreat, Hon. Obonyo is dedicated farmer and a close friend of the Committee. I commend the members of the Committee for their active participation, meaningful contributions, and our secretariat for their meticulous coordination, planning and preparing this comprehensive report.

Mr. Speaker Sir and Honorable Members, within this report, we have outlined our findings and highlighted the innovative technologies and practices that we believe can be adapted to the specific context of Kisumu County.

Hon. Speaker, it is now my distinct privilege and honor to present to this Honorable House the Report of the Committee on its study tour to the Nairobi International Trade Fair Show for your consideration and approval.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK UNDERPINNING THE COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

Mandate of the Committee

The Agriculture, Livestock, Fisheries and Irrigation Committee derives its mandate from Article 185 of the Constitution of Kenya 2010, read together with Standing Order No. 193 (Second Schedule) of the Kisumu County Assembly.

Which mandates the Committee to inquire into, investigate and report on?

All matters relating to agriculture, including crop and animal husbandry, livestock sale yards, County abattoirs, plant and animal disease control, veterinary services (excluding regulation of the profession) and fisheries; animal control and welfare, including licensing of dogs and facilities for their accommodation, care and burial of animals.

Further, the functions of all Sectoral Committee are outlined in County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193 (5) which states as follows;

That, the functions of Sectoral committees shall be;

a) Investigate, inquire into, and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned departments;
b) Study the Programme and policy objectives of departments and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
c) Study and review all the County legislation referred to it;
d) Study, access and analyze the relative success of the departments as measures by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
f) To vet and report all appointments where the Constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order No. 187 (Committee on Appointments).
g) Make reports and recommendations to the County Assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, the Agriculture, Fisheries and Livestock Development Committee as provided under the County Assembly Standing Orders No. 193 is composed as follows; -

MEMBERS

1. Hon. Eunice Alando - Chairperson
2. Hon. Bill Oliver - Vice Chairperson
3. Hon. Samuel Dede - Member
4. Hon. Pamela Oyoo - Member
5. Hon. Vincent Jagongo - Member
6. Hon. Maurice Ngeta - Member
7. Hon. Nereah Okombo - Member

Secretariat

1. Peter Anditi - Committee Clerk
2. Omollo Isaac - Clerk Assistant
3. Zablon Otiende - Hansard/Secretariat
4. Kennedy Okise - Sergeant-at-Arms
5. Wycliffe Owade - Researcher

TERMS OF REFERENCE (TOR)

The Committee in discharging its mandate was guided by the following TORs.

a) Learn and acquire skills on cutting age technologies in Agriculture.
b) Emerging Opportunities in Agriculture which can be transferred and adopted in Kisumu County.
c) Agribusiness, Trade and Markets for Agricultural Products.
d) Best Legislation, Policies and Strategies for improving the standards of agriculture, horticulture and Fishing in Kisumu County.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committee held two to meetings to prepare and consolidate the findings and observations contained herein and to adopt the report for tabling before this Hon. House.

CHAPTER TWO

BRIEF ABOUT THE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY OF KENYA

The Agricultural Society of Kenya is the largest and most active (Royal Agricultural Society of the Common Wealth) RASC member in East Africa. Founded in Nairobi in 1901 when Kenya was still a British colony they held their first show in 1902.

The society expanded in the 1920's: with Branches in Nakuru in the Central rift Valley in 1920 and Eldoret in 1925. Further expansion occurred after the Second World War, but the main expansion took place after Kenya obtained independence in 1962 with branches opening across the country.

Today the society hosts over 18 shows across the country attracting almost 2.5 million people. The largest shows in Kenya are the Nairobi International Trade Fair, Mombasa International Trade Fair and the Kisumu International Trade Fair respectively.

In addition to holding of shows and events the society also runs an extensive advisory service on behalf of the government to help farmers improve the standards of agriculture, horticulture, fishing and forestry.

BRIEF ABOUT THE NAIROBI INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR SHOW

The Nairobi Branch of the Society is referred to as the Nairobi International Trade Fair. N.I.T.F was established as the East African Agricultural and Horticultural Society (EAA & HS) in 1901. The first show was held at the Jevanjee Gardens and market in 1902.

It is located in Jamhuri Park, 10 km from city centre, approximately 30kms from Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, Nairobi and 15km from Wilson Airport as well as 30km from Standard Gauge Railway, Syokimau Terminus. It has since grown to be the largest Trade Fair in the East African Region. For this Year's calendar, the show was scheduled seven-day event running from 27th September, 2023 to 2nd October, 2023 (see annex ii- ask calendar).

N.I.T.F became a Trade Fair in 2002 and now offers opportunities for regional, continental and global exhibitors to display and demonstrate their services and products. It also offers show visitors an opportunity to meet people from different countries and backgrounds, hence creating a platform for interaction and exchanging of ideas and experiences.

The general attendance and participation for this year's exhibitions was better than the previous year majorly being linked to the speedy recovery from the effects of COVID 19 Pandemic.

COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon. Members, the committee visited various relevant exhibition stands being guided by the Society Members (see annex iii- photo gallery). At every point, there were ready experts and exhibitors who generously shared their knowledge and insights on the wide range of agricultural technologies and best farming practices.

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon. Member, A.S.K uses exhibitions as efficient pathways for sharing and disseminating information. Highlighted hereunder are some of the exhibitor stands which we visited;

1. The Agriculture and Food Authority Stand.
2. Agri-Irrigation and Borehole Limited.
3. East African Seed Company Limited.
4. The Simlaw seed Company Stand.
5. The Agri-Seed Company Stand.
6. National Cereals and Produce Board.
7. Farmer Choice Limited.
8. BIDCO East Africa.
9. Kienyeji Kenya Limited.
10. Muguku Poultry Farm.
11. Mzinga Bee Care Enterprise.
12. Livestock Production Stand.
13. The Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS).
14. Nairobi County Department of Agriculture Stand.
15. KEBS.
16. Kenya Industrial Company Property Institute.
17. KALRO.
18. Agricore Africa Limited

Hon. Speaker sir, after massively exploring the above platforms and exhibition stands, we learnt, experienced and borrowed the following new technologies and best agricultural practices that we believe if adopted will have the potential to transform the agricultural landscape in Kisumu County.

1. Drought-Resistant Crop Varieties:

   Simlaw Seed Company, Agri-Seed Company, East African Seed Company Limited and Kenya Seed Company Limited, showcased a range of drought-tolerant and climate-resilient crop varieties that can thrive in areas with erratic rainfall patterns. This includes drought-resistant maize, sorghum, and millet, which are particularly important for regions prone to drought.

2. Irrigation Systems:

   National irrigation Authority and Agri-Irrigation and Borehole Limited displayed Innovative and water-efficient irrigation systems, such as drip and sprinkler irrigation, to maximize water use efficiency and combat water scarcity.

3. Precision Farming:

   Afordane Industries Limited displayed Technologies like GPS-guided tractors and drones for precision farming. These technologies optimize resource use and reduce waste by enabling precise planting, fertilizing, and harvesting.

4. Conservation Agriculture:

   KALRO demonstrated and promoted no-till farming practices, cover cropping, and crop rotation as remedies to reduce soil erosion, improve soil health, and increase overall agricultural sustainability.

5. Agroforestry:

   This refers to integrating trees into agricultural landscapes to provide shade, reduce soil erosion, and improve biodiversity. It also includes planting fruit and nut trees as alternative income sources for farmers. This was mainly championed by the Kenya Forest Research Institute.

6. Livestock Management:

The Committee learnt various modern livestock management techniques showcased at the Livestock & Poultry production stand and Muguka poultry farm, which includes improved breeds, better nutrition, and disease control measures. We were informed that sustainable livestock practices reduce harmful methane emissions and improve animal welfare.

7. Biological Pest Control:

   Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Services (KEPHIS) and Organo Gold Company apprised the Committee on integrated pest management techniques that reduce the reliance on chemical pesticides by promoting the use of beneficial insects and organic pest control methods.

8. Solar-Powered Technologies:

   We witnessed operational Solar-powered irrigation pumps, cold storage facilities, and other farm machinery, which reduce energy costs and reliance on fossil fuels being exhibited by SolarNao Ltd.

9. Climate Information Services:

   KALRO displayed an e-extension platform for dissemination of weather and climate information to farmers to help them make informed decisions about planting, harvesting, and resource management.

10. Value Addition and Post-Harvest Technologies:

    They refer to technologies for food processing, packaging, and storage that reduce post-harvest losses and add value to agricultural products, making them more marketable. This immensely showcased by various institutions such as BIDCO East Africa, Mzinga Bee Care Enterprise and Chinese Huangapai.

11. Digital Agriculture:

    It is the use of digital technologies and mobile apps for soil testing, crop monitoring, and access to market information. The Committee learnt how this technologies help farmers make data-driven decisions. The cutting age technologies were promoted by KALRO and Agriscope Company limited.

12. Capacity Building and Farmer Training:

It was acknowledged that, regular training programs and initiatives for farmers should be embraced to improve their skills and knowledge in climate-smart agricultural practices.

13. Market Linkages:

    Kenya Industrial Company Property Institute, KALRO and NCPB has created Platforms and initiatives that connect farmers to markets and buyers, ensuring that their produce reaches consumers efficiently.

14. Organic Farming:

    It refers to Promoting organic farming methods that reduce the use of synthetic chemicals, improve soil health, and produce healthier and environmentally friendly crops. This program was majorly advanced by Organo Gold Company.

CHAPTER THREE

RECOMMENDATIONS

Mr. Speaker Sir and Hon. Members, the Committee in consideration of the above observations and findings' recommends as follows;

1. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation and the County directorate of ICT to establish and activate an E-Extension platform to provide farmers in the county with easy access to agricultural information, resources, and expert advice through digital means. The platform should offer real-time information on weather, crop management, pest control, and market updates.
2. That, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation to encourage farmers to embrace value addition of their raw produce for good prices and improved quality.
3. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation to collaborate with NIA and other relevant partners/stakeholders to design and establish new irrigation infrastructure in potential arable areas such as Namthoe and expand and upgrade existing irrigation infrastructures in the County for increased agricultural productivity.
4. That, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation to Partner with seed producing companies i.e. seemlaw Seed Company and Kenya Seed Company to train and advice farmers on best farming practices and choice of seeds suitable and adaptable to Kisumu County Ecological Conditions.
5. That, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation in collaboration with the Department of Trade, Tourism, Industry and Marketing to encourage farmers to form farmers' Cooperative Societies and strengthen the existing Cooperatives to create and achieve a structured market for the farmers.

6. The County Assembly to expedite processing of the ATC and AMS bill which will offer knowledge transfer and help disseminate best agricultural technologies to farmers for increased agricultural output.
7. That, the Line Department to develop a comprehensive capacity-building program for farmers in the county on climate-smart and sustainable farming practices, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship within one month of approval of this report.
8. The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock Development and Irrigation to budget for procurement of digital tools in subsequent budgets which include digital mobile phones for crop monitoring, soil testing, and market access and integrated use of GPS-guided farming practices to optimize resource use.

CONCLUSION

I would like to implore this House to deliberate and consider adopting this report and ensure that the recommendations contained herein are communicated to the relevant Departments for implementation. Mr. Speaker and Hon. Members, I therefore move the motion and call upon the Chairperson Hon. Eunice Alando to second. Thank you.

Hon. Alando (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the report of Agriculture, Livestock Development, Fisheries and Irrigation Committee. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, now that the committee report on this Study Tour to Nairobi International Trade Fair Show starting from 27th September, 2023 and ended on 2nd October, 2023 has been moved by the Hon. Samuel Dede, a Member of the Committee on behalf of the Chairperson and seconded. As per our Standing Orders, I want to propose a question. I therefore propose that the Agriculture, Livestock Development and Fisheries and Irrigation Committee report on its Study Tour to Nairobi International Trade Fair Show starting from 27th September, 2023 to 2nd October, 2023 is open for debate. Hon. Tom Nyaoke MCA, North Nyakach Ward.

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker for giving me this opportunity to air my views on this report which has just been read before us. First, I want to start by thanking the committee. If you have a look at the report, it is wonderfully structured. I must applaud this House Committee because they were very precise on actually the visit they made at the International Trade Fair the last time they visited the place. Mr. Speaker, if you look at the recommendations, those are some of the issues that we have discussed if we can extend this to our respective wards particularly to the youths and the women who are engaged in agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware that agriculture is really the backbone of our society, it is very important that I implore this House Committee to make good use of this report and the

experience they leant from that Trade Fair. Mr. Speaker, If you look at the recommendations that they have given forth, even to the department which concerns are very valid and valuable items that if followed accordingly – in fact, if they are able to extend this to our respective wards particularly to those who are practicing commercial and economical agriculture, I believe that we are going to have food security within some of our wards that we are coming from.

Mr. Speaker, in particular let me make reference to Rice Farming. I come from North Nyakach Ward where part of it do practice a lot of rice farming. However, if you look at how the farmers organize themselves., it is not up to standard. But, if you look at the recommendations that the committee has worked on, regarding rice farming in our respective areas. Mr. Speaker, if it is followed up, then we are going to see a lot of yields and even the income that our farmers are likely to get from these recommendations if executed as required. So, I would impress upon this House Committee to put into action this experiences that they witnessed so that we are able to effectively enhance what we can be doing in our respective wards. With that, I beg to support.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Boitone I have noticed you but, the Deputy Leader of Majority is on his feet so I will prioritize him.

The Deputy Leader of Majority (Hon. Owade, MCA, South East Nyakach Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the report by the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee. Much as I rise to support this report, I have some observations. Mr. Speaker, all this without goodwill from the National Governments and the County Government there is very little that farmers can do. This House Committee has furnished us with this report, you have seen other counties displaying their goods yet I have not heard an exhibition stand from Kisumu County yet it was a national show. Why is this so? It is because our farmers were not empowered. We need to come up with a way to ensure that our farmers are empowered and we need to start with the County Government.

Mr. Speaker, just recently Homabay and Siaya County were giving farmers fertilizers yet Kisumu County did not think of that. There is no way you will expect bumper harvest if our poor farmers are not empowered. Empowerment comes in so many ways and one of them I believe is by encouraging our farmers to establish Co-operatives Societies. As it is now our National Government is disbursing out funding through Co-operatives Societies. It is our duty as members of this County Assembly to encourage our members to form cooperatives, where they can get funding from the National Government.

Mr. Speaker, there is also a challenge here. This year we've been told that there will be the El-nino rains, again we have been informed there isn't, who is fooling who? Farmers have prepared their farms expecting heavy rains just to again be informed that there is not going to be rain. It is again the National Government that is failing us with fake or unqualified Meteorological

Department with false predictions. If those kinds of promises or predictions are not addressed then, even if these farmers will be given farm equipment's or inputs, then, we are likely to fail, so there is a lot to be done through our Senate to pass our concern to the national government.

Mr. Speaker, I come from South East Nyakach where we have a very rich climate that everything and anything can be grown there. Also, we have a very good climate that can help us breed dairy cows, but because of rampant cattle rustling, we are unable to keep dairy animals. We tried last time this is by supplying our farmers with dairy cattle's but the story is very unfortunate that as soon as they got those animals the following day they took them back to the market and sold them and if you visit that place now, you will not find any dairy animal in Nyakach. The next thing you will see is our people being butchered whenever they go to sell those animals. So that again is a problem that should be explained by the national government. I don't know how you're going to approach this but, something needs to be done by National Government coming up with a solution to all these problems. Mr. Speaker, I still feel like there is something that needs to be done to help us complete the report that we have been given here. If that is done then we will be good to go and sought out the problem of food security. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Hon. Ratib, Member representing Nyalenda "A" Ward.

Hon. Ratib (MCA, Nyalenda "A" Ward): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I want to start by putting this committee to task. The committee is giving us a report of their Study tour to Nairobi International Trade Fair. In that period, two months before, Kisumu had what is called, Kisumu International Trade Fair. It is of great concern that the Agriculture and Livestock Committee leaves Kisumu to and travels to Nairobi for Nairobi International Trade Fair and come back to Kisumu, sit in several meetings to come up with a report and yet we don't have a report of the one that took place in Kisumu. This is a concern that should be taken serious. This House Committee should have first attended Kisumu International Trade Fair and bring us a report of our own so that we know from one step to another how we want to empower our farmers in Kisumu. You've heard the Chairperson mentioning various companies which are not from Kisumu.

Mr. Speaker I have also heard a lot of history back dated to 1902. Who is that helping us in this House? You should come forth and give us a document that addresses the plight of farmers in Kisumu County. These history looks like things that have just been copy pasted. The report has mentioned several stands 17 in number. Out of these stands none came from Kisumu just as it has been alluded by Hon. Owade. We have nothing to showcase in terms of our Agriculture. This is a concern that this House Committee should put the department to task.

Mr. Speaker, the challenges that the farmers in Kisumu experience should be made to be an opportunity to make money during seasons of drought. I am saying this because the County

Government is not assisting the farmers who are struggling to put food on the table and make the County prosper in terms of Agricultural production. It is high time that the department of Agriculture does something so that we support the farmers and make them produce adequately. It is absurd that ever since Kisumu has been the best County by providing market to other Counties and outside the Country. Goods are coming from Uganda and being sold in Kisumu. I am so sad because of the state of affairs of Agriculture in our County. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Hon. Odari.

Hon. Odari (MCA, Chemelil Tamu): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to call the mover to reply.

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

The Deputy Leader of Majority (Hon. Lumumba, MCA, South East Nyakach Ward): Mr. Speaker, this is a very serious report that requires serious debate. As it is, there is no quorum in this House that can help us to exhaustively debate on this issue.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, from where I sit, I may not be able to see but the Leader of Majority has brought to my attention that there is no quorum. I want to refer to you to the provisions of Standing Orders No. 32 (2) and call upon the Serjeant –at- Arm to ring the quorum bell for 5 minutes.

(Quorum bell is rung for five minutes)

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

The Deputy Leader of Majority (Hon. Owade, MCA, South East Nyakach Ward): Mr. Speaker, I can confirm that we still lack quorum.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I want to bring to your attention that as per the provisions of our Standing Orders that when a quorum hitch has been raised, then it provides the procedures and on the account if there is no quorum then the Speaker adjourns the Assembly until the next sitting without question put.

Honourable Members, so I want to request Hon. Dede to take note of the question raised so that in the next sitting the first thing is to give the response and thereafter we shall put a question. I am aware that a number of Members were following online and it is my belief because I am being informed that there is a training that is going on somewhere but they cannot vote online.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, therefore the House stands adjourned to Wednesday, 25th October 2023 at 2.30 p.m.

(House rose at 10.55 a.m.)

Addendum

The Hansard Team

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