

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION

Thursday 08th August, 2024

House met in the Main Chamber at 02:30 p.m.

(The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Seth Okumu) in the Chair)

PRAYER

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Clerk, take us through the Order Paper of today.

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Next order!!

MOTION

REPORT OF LIAISON COMMITTEE ON THE APPORTIONMENT OF COMMITTEE'S ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2024-2025

BY

HON. NEREAH OKOMBO, MCA, MANYATTA “B”

(CHAIRPERSON, SELECT COMMITTEE ON LIAISON)

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, Hon. Deputy Speaker.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta “B”): Thank you Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members. Pursuant to Standing Orders No. 194 (2) (b). The Committee of Liaison is mandated to deliberate and apportion the annual operating budgets among House Committees. This House

Committee held a sitting on Thursday 04th, July, 2024, where it unanimously resolved by the minutes number 14/CAK/LC, August, 2023, to retreat and did apportionment as shown in the report. Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, this House Committee considered a number of parameters in determining the criteria for apportioning the operating budgets to different committees.

Mr. Speaker, such parameters were the as follows;

- a) Annual Committee Work Plans;
- b) Number of Members constituting different House Committees,
- c) Committee Performance in the Previous Year,
- d) Workload in individual committees in regards to their mandates as provided within our Standing Orders.

So, Mr. Speaker, this House Committee apportioned had Ksh 74 million to share amongst the various House Committees, and after considering all the parameters that I've said above, Mr. Speaker, I also want to say that we had a total number of 24 House Committees to consider in the apportionment, and number one is Budget and Appropriation Committee, the Liaison Committee, and Mr. Speaker, the apportionment was done as listed in page Three of our report.

Mr. Speaker, the Select Committees of Budget and Appropriation Committee and the Public Investments and Accounts had the highest amount of allocations considering the amount of work that is before them. Mr. Speaker, PIC/PAC, for example, inherited a number of pending works, and we know that this House Committee was, until the time of apportionment, was considering reports for the Financial Year 2021-2022, and they still have before them reports from 2022-2023,

Similarly, we also know that 2023-2024 is over, and those reports will soon appear before the Select Committee of Liaison, so this House Committee needed a lot of support to enable them deal with their pending work and also to work on their current works before them.

Mr. Speaker, as to why the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriation was considered number one, Mr. Speaker, we know that these two committees deal with statutory documents that have statutory deadlines. The Select committee of Budget and Appropriations, for example, we know that we are in August today, and by 30th, we are all aware that the County Executive Committee Member for Finance and Economic Planning and ICT will be issuing a Budget Circular, which will then inform the development of the Kisumu County Annual Development Plan, and all the documents that the Budget Committee has to deal with.

Mr. Speaker, these documents have to go through the public participation and a number of processes that do not have any shortcuts, and other than the five documents that they'll have to work on, we also have a Supplementary Budget that is coming before us, so these were the

justifications why these two House Committees had higher allocations than the rest. Otherwise, Honourable Speaker, the rest of the Sectoral Committees had same amount of apportionment that applied to all the other Select Committees that also shared an equal amount of Ksh 2 million, save for the Speaker's Panel that had an allocation of Ksh 1 million.

Mr. Speaker, we are equally aware that the Select Committee of Budget and Appropriations after Liaison Committee is the House Committee that has the highest number, Liaison Committee having 26, and Budget Committee having a total of 15 members.

So, Mr. Speaker, we only had a few recommendations to make as a House Committee that may be considered by the general membership, and one of such recommendations, Mr. Speaker, is that we know we work within a very limited budget, and so we are asking House Committees to reach out to the already willing development partners to help us undertake our works for the general good of the voters of Kisumu County. Mr. Speaker, that's another one was that in the foregoing;

- a) House Committee should prepare budget proposals that are realistic, justifiable, taking into consideration the previous budgetary allocations.
- b) House Committee should ensure that their work plans are aligned with their mandated responsibilities and that they establish clear, attainable objectives.
- c) House Committees must prioritize transparency and accountability in their budget management and regularly report on budget expenditures and balances. Before any retreat is scheduled, committee should confirm that sufficient funds are available to cover the costs.
- d) Liaison Committee should continuously review the performance of committees against their allocated budgets and consider realigning resources as necessary to optimize service delivery.
- e) Liaison Committee be mandated to develop a Comprehensive Performance Management Framework for House Committees, including Key Performance Indicators (KPI) to measure their effectiveness and efficiency.
- f) The County Assembly encourages House Committees to prioritize their activities based on the approved budget allocations and to seek supplementary budgets where necessary, supported by clear justifications.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Select Committee on Liaison, I wish to thank the office of the Speaker and the office of the clerk for the support accorded to this House Committee during the processing of this report. I also wish to thank the Members of this House Committee for their tolerance and objectivism in the entire process, not forgetting the House Committee secretariat for the immense support during the production of this report.

Mr. Speaker, It is therefore my pleasure and duty and also my privilege on behalf of this House Committee to move that this House adopts this Report of Apportionment on the Annual

Operating Budgets for the Financial year 2024/2025. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call upon Honorable Moses Ochele to second.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, Honorable Moses.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano Wawidhi): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I rise to second the motion read by the Chairperson, Select Committee on Liaison. Mr. Speaker, we all understand that for this Assembly to have business and for this Assembly to have serious oversight on all the matters taking place in the County, Mr. Speaker, these House Committees must be made vibrant. And we can only make these House Committees vibrant by ensuring that the environment in which they do their work is conducive, friendly, and well-facilitated. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, it is in the wisdom of the Select Committee of Liaison to ensure that before the finances start flowing, it was prudent that they sat and distributed monies as indicated in the report. Mr. Speaker, it is even in the public domain that House Committees are the conveyor belts through which motions, reports, and even statements follow to this plenary. I want to thank this House Committee for being timely in the apportionment to ensure that our work is not hindered and we are not time-barred based on the apportionment.

Mr. Speaker, it is also open that we have a number of willing non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with whom the chairs of various House Committees can work to supplement our financial stability. For example, we have Transparency International, and a relevant committee can work with the organization to guarantee that their work is financed. We have Amnesty and Plan International. They are all eager to join our House Committees and help ensure that our mandate is fulfilled. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I beg to second.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Members, now that the Report on the Apportionment of House Committee Annual Operating Budgets for the financial year 2024-2025 has been moved as a motion by the chair, the Honorable Okombo, seconded by the Honorable Moses Ochele. It is time for me to propose a question that we open this motion for debate.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honorable Ratib.

Hon. Ratib (MCA, Nyalenda A): Mr. Speaker, going by the mood of this House, and since the report is very explicitly, exemplary, elaborated, may I call the remover to reply?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, Honorable Okombo. I agree, having heard the applause from the Members, they just want you to reply immediately.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Thank you, Mr. Speaker and Honorable Members. I believe at this point in time, mine is just to applaud the Members for their keenness and support towards the adoption of this report.

Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to mention that Members performed admirably well given the comparative examination of House Committee activities in 2024. I would like to believe that compared to the previous year. So I am hopeful that these House Committees will perform far better this fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to point out that Members of this House have been targeted by some leaders for poor performance on numerous occasions. But, Mr. Speaker, the indicators and data I hear are speaking for themselves, and I believe we will pull up our socks together and hold each other's hands to improve our performance even more. Given our resources, the allocations were insufficient.

However, I believe that the Select Committee of Liaison resolved to collaborate to identify like-minded development partners, who are also willing to work with us to ensure that Kisumu County receives the best possible service. Otherwise, Honorable Members, we welcome you to this fiscal year. Please work within your mandates and ensure that your budgets do not go to functions that may not produce adequate results that touch the lives of the Kisumu County voters. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I reply.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Thank you Honourable Members, a Motion was moved on a Report by the Select Committee on Liaison on the Apportionment of Committee Annual Operating Budgets for the Financial Year 2024-2025. Honorable Members, having been debated upon, it's time for me to put a question for adoption of the same.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Honourable Members, the report on the Apportionment of House Committee Annual Operating Budgets for the Financial Year 2024-2025 has been adopted today, Thursday, the 08th of August, 2024 at 14:52 hours. Honorable Members, I direct that this report be made available to the different House Committees so that they are made aware of how much is available for their use during this financial year so that they can work within what is in their work plans.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Next, order, Madam Clerk!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Honourable Members, there being no any other business in the order paper, this House stands adjourned until Tuesday, the 13th August, 2024 at 2.30 p.m.

(House rose at 02.53 p.m.)

*Addendum***Hansard Team**

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