

## COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



### COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

### **THE HANSARD**

#### *Official Report*

#### **THIRD ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION**

**Tuesday 05<sup>th</sup> November, 2024**

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

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

#### **PRAYER**

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

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

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

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, I welcome you back from the short recess which came after the Fifth Edition of the County Assemblies Sports Association (CASA), 2024 games in Bungoma which coincided with the public participation on the Kisumu County Annual Development Plan. I believe the Chair for Sports or the Deputy will be giving a statement during Statement Hour on the performance of our County Assembly during this annual activities. We also had the public participation for the Kisumu County Annual Development Plan FY 2025-2026. It is my belief that there are some few Wards which will the relevant officers will be conducting theirs on Thursday, 07th November, 2024.

Similarly, I welcome you back. I have no negative message or report, apart from one member, Honourable Anne Ochola a.k.a. Chimbli, whom I have been informed lost her brother. We mourn together with her. She will be giving the schedule of the burial for those who would want to attend, may attend. On the same note, Honourable Members, you are aware or you may recall

that during the afternoon sitting of Wednesday 09th October 2024, the sitting Chairperson then reported to this House a Petition by Kisumu Contractors and Suppliers Association to the County Assembly on the matter of provision of Pending Bills for Kisumu County Government.

I am informed that the petition was duly reported in accordance with the provision of the Standing Orders and other relevant laws. And that due to certain technicalities, the committal of the petition was deferred. I want to remember during its last sitting, the House Business Committee reviewed this matter and resolved as follows:

1. THAT, the petition by the Kisumu Contractors and Suppliers Association stands committed to the Departmental Committee on Finance and ICT.
2. THAT, as per the provision of Standing Order No. 217 (2), this House Committee shall in not more than 60 calendar days respond to the petitioner by way of a report addressed to the petitioner or petitioners and laid on the table of the County Assembly.

And I want to request the Honorable Members who are in the Assembly now to convey their ideas. I am saying this because a number of Members were coming to me with different comments and recommendations. Please, now channel those comments and recommendations to the Departmental Committee on Finance and ICT within the next 60 calendar days. Otherwise, welcome back and we may proceed.

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

## STATEMENT HOUR

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

**Leader of Majority** (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero): Thank you very much. Honorable Speaker, I rise pursuant to the provisions of Orders No. 41 (2) (c) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders which mandates me as a Member of the House Business Committee and on behalf of the County Assembly, present and lay on the table of the County Assembly a statement informing the County Assembly of the business coming before the House on the following week.

Honourable Speaker, this is therefore to bring to the attention of members and the County Assembly that, for the week commencing Wednesday, 06th November 2024 to Tuesday, 12th November 2024, the Select Committee on Assembly House Business at its last meeting approved the following tentative businesses to appear in the order of the papers as follows;

Wednesday, 06th November, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.

### PAPERS TO BE LAID.

The Honorable Leader of the Majority will lay on the table of the County Assembly the following;

1. Report of Appointments Committee on the suitability of Mr. Hezbon Hongo, nominee to the position of County Secretary,
2. Kisumu County Revenue Board's Annual Financial Statements and Receiver of Revenue Report for the period ended 30th June 2024,
3. Kisumu County Emergency Fund Account Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30th June 2024.
4. Revenue Statements for the County Government of Kisumu's Receiver of Revenue for the Financial Year ended 30th June 2024 and
5. Kisumu County Child Protection Policy 2024.

The Chairperson of the Select Committee on PIC/PAC, Hon. Kennedy Ouko, will table the Committee Reports on;

6. The Examination of Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of Kisumu County Social Health Insurance Funds Financial Years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023.
7. The Examination of Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of KIWASCO Financial Year 2022-2023.
8. The Examination of Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of Kisumu County Executive Financial Year 2021-2022.

#### NOTICES OF MOTION TO BE ISSUED

The Leader of the Majority will give a Notice of Motion on the following;

1. Adoption of the Report of Appointments Committee on the Suitability of Mr. Hezbon Hongo, nominee to the position of County Secretary.

The Chairperson of the Select Committee on PIC/PAC, Hon. Kennedy Ouko, will give a Notice of Motion on the following reports Adoption of the Committee Reports on:

1. The Examination of Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of Kisumu County Social Health Insurance Funds Financial Years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, and 2022-2023.
2. The Examination of Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of KIWASCO Financial Year 2022-2023.
3. The Examination of Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of Kisumu County Executive Financial Year 2021-2022.

## SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS,

The Chairperson of the Infrastructure, Energy, and Public Works Committee on Reuben Rakwach will MOVE a Motion for the Adoption of the Report on the Matter of Construction of Akodhe- Loth Road in Chemelil Tamu Ward.

Wednesday, 06<sup>th</sup> November, 2024, at 02:30 p.m.

The Chairperson, Finance, and ICT Committee Hon Careen Odhiambo will move a Motion for Adoption of the Committee on the Matter raised by Hon. Nereah Okombo regarding Delayed/Incomplete Disbursement of Budgetary Funds to the County Assembly.

Thursday, 07<sup>th</sup> November, 2024, at 02:30 p.m.,

The Chairperson, of the Selection Committee will lay a report on the Re-alignment of Committees.

## NOTICES OF MOTION TO BE ISSUED

The Chairperson, of the Selection Committee will give a Notice of Motion for the Adoption of the Report of Selection Committee on the Re-alignment of House Committees.

## SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS

The Leader of Majority will move a motion for the Adoption of a Report of THE Select Committee on Appointments on the Suitability of Mr. Hezbon Hongo, nominee to the position of County Secretary.

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2024 at 02:30 p.m.

The Leader of Majority will issue a Statement pursuant to Standing Order No. 41 (2) (c) on the business coming before the County Assembly for the week commencing Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2024.

## SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS

1. The Chairperson of the Sectoral Committee will Move a Motion on the adoption of the Selection Committee on the Realignment of House Committees.
2. The Chairperson of the Select Committee PIC/PAC Hon Kennedy Ouko will Move a Motion for the adoption of the Examination of the Auditor General's Report on the Financial Statements of KIWASCO FY 2022/2023. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon Oraro): Honourable Members, it is Statement time.

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

**MOTION**

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE OF MEDICAL SERVICES, PUBLIC HEALTH AND SANITATION ON THE INQUIRY INTO THE MATTER OF MOSQUITO INVASION IN KISUMU COUNTY AS SOUGHT BY HON REUBEN RAKWACH

BY

HON EMILY OGINGA, NOMINATED MEMBER

**The Speaker** (Hon Oraro): Honourable Members, I have a letter here from the Chairperson of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee delegating the matter to Honourable Emily Oginga.

**Hon. Oginga** (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I would like to Move this Motion on the Inquiry into the matter of Mosquito Invasion in Kisumu County as a matter sought by MCA for Kolwa East, Honourable Reuben Rakwach and committed to the Departmental Committee of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation.

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, during the House' sitting of Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2024, the Hon Member for Kolwa East, Hon Reuben Rakwach, sought a statement drawing the attention of the County Assembly to the matter of ongoing mosquito invasion affecting Kolwa East and the surrounding wards within Kisumu East Sub-County (see annex 1).

The matter was commented on by the Members of the County Assembly which thereafter resolved as follows:

THAT, since this is a matter affecting the general county, the Committee's response SHOULD address it on a county-wide perspective and not limit it to Kisumu East sub-county as addressed in the statement.

To Note About the Contents of this Report

Due to the limited timeline given to the committee to present this report, the Committee was not able to carry its own comprehensive field research and expert opinion on this matter.

It is important to note thus, that this report may or may not address all the concerns sought but has strived to address about 99%. It has provided the general overview of the situation and recommendations for addressing mosquito menace within the county.

### Scope and Limitations

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the scope of this report is focused on the mosquito invasion within Kisumu County. However, it also considers the broader implications for the region and the potential for the invasion to spread to or from the neighboring areas. It also covers:

- i. Health impact assessments focusing on mosquito-borne diseases.
- ii. Evaluation of current interventions and future plans.
- iii. Resource allocation, partnerships, and collaboration.

Community involvement and future mosquito control strategies.

### Methodology

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee primarily relied majorly on the information provided by the Department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation to gather information. Due to the limited timeframe for responding to the matter, methods such as site visit was not conducted. The following were the methods employed for this case:

- a) Stakeholder engagement
- b) Review of relevant reports and documents
- c) Consultation with health experts.
- d) Findings

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, having interrogated the response, the Committee deduced as follows:

### Extent and scope of the mosquito invasion

1. THAT, a comprehensive mosquito surveillance activity conducted in Kisumu County in July 2023 revealed a significant mosquito invasion, particularly affecting Nyando, Kisumu East, and Seme. The invasion is largely attributed to environmental factors such as stagnant water from poor waste management, inadequate drainage, and seasonal rainfall, which create ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
2. THAT, the department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation has mapped breeding sites, especially in flood-prone regions with poor drainage. The key vectors identified were *Anopheles gambiae* and *Anopheles funestus*, the primary species responsible for malaria transmission. Among the mentioned affected areas Nyando Sub-County was found to have the highest concentration of mosquito populations.
3. THAT, mosquito density was determined through adult mosquito collections and larval sampling from various water bodies, including stagnant water in residential areas, swamps, and agricultural lands like rice paddies. The presence of *Anopheles* mosquitoes was particularly high in areas with environmental conditions conducive to breeding, such as proximity to water bodies.

4. Health impact Assessment
5. THAT, the health impact assessment highlighted a significant rise in malaria cases.
6. THAT, no cases of dengue fever or chikungunya have been reported in the county. However, continued monitoring for these diseases remains critical as mosquito populations and behaviors change.
7. THAT, local health facilities reported an increase in malaria morbidity, with children under five being the most affected group.
8. THAT, over the past six months, malaria has remained the top cause of (30%) outpatient morbidity, with sub-counties like Seme and Nyando experiencing high parasite prevalence rates.
9. THAT, in Kisumu County, malaria fatalities have decreased slightly due to improved interventions, but the disease continues to strain healthcare resources.
10. THAT, health facilities in the affected areas have reported a rise in malaria incidence, with children under five years and pregnant women being the most vulnerable.
11. THAT, in the past five financial years, the case fatality rate has fluctuated, with a peak of 98 deaths in the 2021–2022 period, but recent years have seen reductions in fatality rates due to improved interventions.
12. THAT, the malaria data based on the health facilities reports for the last 4 years indicated that there has been an increase in the number of persons reported to have malaria. This, is said to be attributed to:

Suspected insecticide resistance,

Suspected drug resistance

Inappropriate and/or inconsistent use of preventive measures e.g bed nets which are estimated to be about 70%.

Climatic changes favoring the breeding of the mosquitoes

Changes in mosquito behavior; Currently biting from early evening to late morning.

Current interventions

1. THAT, Some of the preventive measures being implemented by the county department of health to control the mosquito population and prevent further transmission of diseases include:

Distribution and accessibility of treated mosquito nets, with the percentage ownership per county currently is: 87% in Kisumu Central, 92% in Kisumu East, 93% in Kisumu West, 95% in Muhoroni, 93% in Nyakach, 94% in Nyando and 95% in Seme.

- a) Malaria vaccination: Was introduced in 2019 and currently being implemented in all the sub counties targeting children under 24 months and is given at 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> months.

- b) Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS): Was carried out in Nyando Sub County in 2023/24 by a private company that was contracted by the Ministry of Health where about 50% of the sprayable households were reached. Plans are underway to spray the households that were not served.
- c) Larviciding: The department of health, in collaboration with the Cuban experts, and Ministry of health officials conducted a mapping of the mosquito breeding sites within the county in 2022/23 and followed up by a county-wide larviciding. However, this intervention is not routinely carried out at the moment due to its cost implications.
- d) Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT) for prevention of malaria in pregnancy using Sulphadoxine pyrimethamine (SP): This is a strategy used for malaria prevention, especially in pregnant women.

Public health education and community engagement

Collaborations with National and International Health Organizations.

Collaboration with External Bodies

1. THAT, the County's mosquito control efforts are supported by collaborations with national and international bodies, including:

The Ministry of Health (MOH) and the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP), which provide strategic guidance and resources for malaria control.

WHO and the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), which offer technical support and funding for interventions such as ITN distribution and insecticide-treated sprays.

Non-governmental organizations like Kenya Red Cross and UNICEF, which help in community engagement and resource provision.

2. THAT, the MOH, in collaboration with the County Health department and development partners have been working together to strengthen and synergize the use of various interventions e.g. opening up for the use of other first-line treatment agents such as DHAP compounds, combined interventions e.g. larviciding and indoor residual spraying.

Resource allocation

3. THAT, malaria control efforts in Kisumu depend on a combination of government funds and international support. Significant resources are allocated for indoor residual spraying (IRS), insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), malaria treatment supplies and community health programs.

Planned mosquito control programs

The Department of Health plans to expand its vector control efforts, including:

Scheduled fumigation and larviciding activities targeting mosquito breeding hotspots.

Environmental management initiatives such as clearing stagnant water and improving drainage in urban and rural areas. These efforts aim to eliminate breeding sites, particularly in flood-prone regions like Nyando and Kolwa East.

Strengthening local health facilities by ensuring the availability of diagnostic tools and antimalarial medications.

Plans to involve the local community in mosquito control

4. THAT, to enhance the effectiveness of mosquito control efforts the County intends to adopt a bottom-up approach, where community feedback is integrated into the county's planning and implementation processes by employing the following steps:

Regular consultation

Establishing transparent communication channels

Community-based monitoring and evaluation

Adjusting interventions based on feedback.

Evaluation of past mosquito control interventions

1. THAT, past interventions, including IRS, ITN distribution, and public awareness campaigns, have yielded positive results, with a steady reduction in malaria-related fatalities over the years albeit challenges such as inconsistent net use and the emergence of insecticide resistance.
2. THAT, lessons from these interventions have informed the current approach, with increased focus on community engagement and combination strategies such as IRS paired with larviciding to enhance effectiveness.

Mechanisms for continuous monitoring of mosquito populations

1. THAT, the County has adopted several mechanisms for continuous monitoring and reporting of mosquito populations and malaria incidence. These include:
  - a) Kenya Health Information System (KHIS2)
  - b) Entomological surveillance
  - c) Kenya Malaria Indicator Surveys (KMIS).
  - d) Strategies to enhance transparency in dissemination of malaria data.
1. THAT, the department intends to employ the following strategies to enhance transparency in dissemination of malaria data the:

Public health campaigns.

Community feedback mechanisms.

Community scorecard.

## CHALLENGES

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee categorized the challenges into two as follows:

### Challenges faced by the Committee

While undertaking this investigation and due to the density of the matter vis-à-vis the timeline for reporting, the Committee was succumbed by the following limitations:

Data gaps: While efforts have been made by the Committee to gather comprehensive information from relevant sources, there was limitations in terms of extensive data collection, analysis, and reporting.

- a) Time constraints: The timeline of 14 days that was given to the committee to provide a report on the matter before this Honourable House may limit the depth of certain findings.

### Challenges faced by the department

The following reported to be some of the limitations the department faces in its attempt to fight mosquito and mosquito borne diseases:

- b) Resource constraints
  1. THAT, financial and logistical limitations in implementing large-scale mosquito control efforts such as larviciding, ITNs, to sustain IRS campaigns, address insecticide resistance, and improve healthcare infrastructure.
  2. THAT, fumigation and ITN distribution have led to short-term reductions in mosquito populations and disease incidence, their effects have not been sustained due to inconsistent implementation, limited coverage, and over-reliance on external support.
  3. THAT, the community, even after being educated on the use of ITNs are not using mosquito nets for their intended purposed. Oftentimes, nets are repurposed for other uses, reducing their effectiveness.

### Over-reliance on international support.

1. THAT the county relies overly on international support in the fight against mosquito due to inadequate local funding.

## Recommendations

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, by and large, the Committee therefore proposes the following recommendations that it believed if implemented, can significantly reduce the burden of mosquito-borne diseases and improve public health outcome.

1. THAT, County executive, together with the County Assembly should in the subsequent budgeting, ensure that the annual budget allocates sufficient resources for sustained vector control activities, including IRS, larviciding, and environmental clean-up programs. This should include funding for the procurement of insecticides, equipment, and logistics support to ensure that health workers can reach remote areas.
2. THAT, the department of Medical Service, Public Health and Sanitation should develop policies mandating continuous mosquito population monitoring and data reporting systems to track disease incidence. These policies will ensure that mosquito density data is updated quarterly, with the first report expected by March 2025. This system will provide valuable data to inform targeted interventions and public health responses.
3. THAT, it is essential to carry out regular sustained fumigation for long-term success. Sporadic efforts offer short-term relief but are insufficient to curb mosquito populations in the long run.
4. THAT, the County should focus on developing self-sufficient mosquito control programs that minimize reliance on external funding. This will ensure long-term sustainability and reduce the county's vulnerability to funding fluctuations.
5. THAT, local leaders, especially political leaders, should integrate the importance of mosquito prevention measures into their community forums and meetings. By emphasizing the need for collective action, local leaders can encourage community involvement in decision-making and implementation processes. This fosters a sense of ownership and ensures the long-term sustainability of mosquito control efforts.
6. THAT, the department of Medical Service, Public Health and Sanitation, the department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources, the department of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works leaders should work collectively to intensify environmental management programs to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds. This should include drainage system improvements, clearing of stagnant water, and regular debris removal in high-risk areas. Immediate action should be taken in Kolwa East and Nyando where flooding exacerbates mosquito breeding.
7. THAT, the department of Medical Service, Public Health and Sanitation should involve cultural habits in its messaging for campaigns. Culturally tailored messaging could improve the effectiveness of campaigns. Engaging community leaders and using local languages can make health messages more relatable and impactful. The local leaders can also come handy in mobilizing community participation and support for environmental health initiatives such as cleanups.

## Acknowledgement

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members,

The Committee acknowledges and extends its sincere appreciation to the Offices of the Speaker and the Clerk for their continued guidance and unwavering support throughout this process. Their leadership has been instrumental in ensuring that the Committee had the necessary resources and frameworks to fulfill its mandate.

Special recognition goes to the Honorable Member for Kolwa East, Hon Reuben Rakwach for raising this important matter. His vigilance in raising this critical public health issue underscores his commitment to the welfare of the people of Kisumu County. His proactive approach provided the basis for this inquiry.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation for always being prompt and thorough in their responses to the Committee's requests for information. Their consistent, timely engagement and cooperation facilitated a comprehensive analysis of the situation.

The Committee further appreciates its members for their dedication and insightful contributions during the inquiry process. In addition, we commend the Secretariat for their tireless efforts and valuable support in compiling this report.

It is through the collective efforts of all these individuals and institutions that we are able to present this report before the House today.

In conclusion, Hon Speaker, it is without doubt that mosquito invasion in Kisumu County poses a significant public health challenge. However, the department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation has made commendable progress in managing the situation. With continued resource allocation, strategic partnerships, and strong community engagement, the county can effectively control mosquito populations and reduce the burden of mosquito-borne diseases.

This report therefore, is submitted with the hope that its recommendations will lead to enhanced interventions and a healthier Kisumu County. It is now my pleasure, on behalf of the Committee, to move;

1. THAT, this House adopts the report of the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, on the inquiry into the matter of ongoing mosquito invasion in Kisumu County, a matter sought by the MCA for Kolwa East, Hon Reuben Rakwach.

## Preface

### 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.*

### Committee Membership

Pursuant to the Selection Committee report of Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2024, the Committee is consisting 7 members and three secretariats as follows

#### Members

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

1. Obonyo Angelyne (Ms.) - Clerk Assistant
2. Jacklyne Otieno (Ms.) - Hansard reporter
3. Mr. William Ogada - Serjeant-at-arm

#### Legal framework

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

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

1. Legislative authority of county assemblies

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.

Environmental Health and Sanitation Act, (2021): Governs environmental conservation efforts, particularly waste management and water drainage, which directly impact mosquito breeding.

2. County Government Act (2012): Mandates county governments, including Kisumu, to manage health services and environmental conservation within their jurisdictions

Health Act 2019: Provides a framework for the prevention and suppression of disease and mandates actions by health authorities to protect public health.

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.

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*

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

The functions of a Sectoral Committee shall be to —

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

#### Submissions

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee communicated to the department vide a letter referenced *CAK/CGK/CECM/MSPH&S/2024(5)* and dated 25<sup>th</sup> September seeking response to the matters sought in the statement and was informed as follows:

Report of Malaria vector surveillance activity in Kisumu County (July 2023) (Annex 2(iv))

#### Overview

This section highlights the significant challenge of malaria transmission in Kisumu County due to the prevalence of mosquitoes, particularly in Nyando. Active surveillance, targeted control measures, and further molecular analysis are essential for managing the malaria vector population and reducing disease transmission in the region. This section provides a detailed examination of the mosquito situation in Kisumu, particularly the presence of the malaria-carrying *Anopheles* mosquito:

1. THAT, globally, the *Anopheles stephensi* mosquito, previously considered an Asian malaria vector, has driven malaria transmission in cities across India, Iran, Pakistan, and the Arabian Peninsula. It was first discovered in Africa in 2012, in Djibouti City, and has since spread to Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, and other African countries. This expansion raised serious concerns about its impact on malaria control across the continent.
2. THAT, regionally, the World Health Organization (WHO) flagged *Anopheles stephensi* as a significant threat to malaria control and elimination in Africa. In 2019, WHO issued a vector alert highlighting the invasion of *An. stephensi*, and further updated the alert in 2023. The vector's spread to various parts of Africa, including Kenya, poses a major public health risk due to its ability to thrive in urban and peri-urban areas.
3. THAT, nationally, *An. stephensi* has recently been detected in Laisamis and Saku sub-counties in Marsabit County, Northern Kenya. The presence of this invasive mosquito species, known to transmit *Plasmodium falciparum* and *Plasmodium vivax* (the parasites responsible for severe malaria), is alarming, particularly in densely populated urban regions.

#### Sentinel site selection

1. THAT, a mosquito surveillance activity was conducted in Kisumu County, focusing on the sub-counties of Kisumu East, Nyando, and Seme. These regions were selected based on malaria positivity rates. Within each sub-county, two villages were chosen for the survey, and 15 houses per village were sampled.

The villages and sampling locations included:

- a) Nyando Sub-County: Kakola (Kamahawa, Kanyakachumo)
- b) Kisumu East Sub-County: Nyaluna (Kamola), Kolwo Central (Kodero)
- c) Seme Sub-County: East Seme (Kaloka Town, Nyamisiri)
- d) Sampling design

Three methods were used to collect mosquitoes:

#### Adult mosquito collection:

- a) Aspiration: Mosquitoes were collected using a Proko-pack aspirator powered by a 12-volt battery. Sampling occurred in five houses per village between 6:00 AM and 8:00 AM, with a 10-minute collection per house.
- b) Light trap collections: CDC light traps were placed indoors next to beds from 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM in five homes. Similar traps were also placed outdoors in close proximity to vegetation or animal shelters in five additional homes.

#### Larval sampling

1. THAT, larvae were collected from various water bodies such as ditches, pools, and dams using pipetting and dipping methods. A 500 ml dipper was used in larger water bodies for sampling. Larvae were sorted into two groups (Anophelines and Culicines) and preserved in ethanol for further analysis.
2. Processing of adult mosquitoes:
3. THAT, adult mosquitoes were classified into two families: Anophelinae and Culicinae. The Anophelinae mosquitoes were further identified to the species level using morphological keys. Mosquitoes were also categorized based on feeding status (fed, unfed, or gravid). Specimens were preserved for molecular analysis (PCR and ELISA) to identify sibling species, detect sporozoites, and analyze blood meal sources (whether human or animal).

#### Data management

The mosquito and larvae data were entered into Open Data Kits (ODK) and analyzed using Microsoft Excel. The results were presented in tables and charts.

#### Results and discussion

##### Adult Mosquito sampling:

1. THAT, a total of 2509 adult mosquitoes were collected from 90 houses across the three sub-counties.
2. THAT, 85% (2121) were Culicine species, 7% (170) were Anopheles gambiae complex, 3% (83) were Anopheles funestus, and 5% (134) were Aedes species.
3. THAT, a single *Mansonia* mosquito was also found.
4. Sub-county breakdown
5. THAT, Nyando Sub-county recorded the highest number of Anopheles mosquitoes (199), followed by Kisumu East (45) and Seme (9).
6. THAT, distribution of mosquitoes in Nyando indicates active malaria cases and suggests this area is more heavily burdened by malaria transmission.
7. Mosquito larvae distribution
8. THAT, larvae were collected from multiple locations, such as ditches, temporary swamps, and man-made dams.
9. In Kisumu East, 96 Anopheles gambiae larvae were collected, with 50 culicine larvae.
10. In Seme, 21 Anopheles gambiae and 44 culicine larvae were collected.
11. In Nyando, 15 Anopheles gambiae and 65 culicine larvae were collected.
12. THAT the larvae data suggested that the breeding habitats, particularly in Nyando and Kisumu East, are extensive, and these regions pose a greater malaria risk.
13. Molecular analysis

14. THAT, further testing is planned to identify sibling species, confirm the presence of malaria parasites in the mosquitoes, and analyze blood meals to determine whether mosquitoes are feeding on humans or animals.

Issue No. 1: Report outlining the extent and scope of the mosquito invasion across the County. Including mapping of the most affected areas, mosquito density surveys, and identification of possible breeding sites contributing to the surge.

#### Overview of the mosquito invasion in Kisumu County

1. THAT, due to its geographical location and climatic conditions, Kisumu County is prone to mosquito invasions, particularly during the rainy seasons. The proximity to Lake Victoria, numerous swampy areas, and inadequate drainage systems create ideal conditions for mosquito breeding. The mosquito invasion has led to a surge in mosquito-borne diseases like malaria, affecting a large portion of the population across the county.
2. THAT, there has not been cases of dengue or chikungunya reported by health facilities and community in the recent years.
3. Most affected areas in Kisumu County
4. THAT, mosquito invasion has not been uniform across the county, with some areas being more severely affected due to their unique environmental characteristics. The most affected areas include:
  - a) Kisumu East: This area has experienced a significant mosquito population increase due to poorly managed drainage systems, stagnant water in residential and commercial areas, and overgrown vegetation.
  - b) Kisumu West: Known for its rural setting, Kisumu West has numerous open water sources, such as unlined ponds and open sewage, which serve as breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
  - c) Nyando Sub-County: The low-lying nature of Nyando makes it highly prone to flooding during the rainy season. The resultant stagnant water creates large-scale breeding sites for mosquitoes, contributing to a persistent mosquito problem.
  - d) Seme Sub-County: Similar to Nyando, Seme has vast agricultural lands that often flood, allowing mosquitoes to breed in large numbers. Additionally, the county has open drainage ditches that remain stagnant for long periods.
  - e) Kolwa East: This area has reported alarming levels of mosquito density, especially near swampy regions and residential areas with poor drainage. It has been noted as one of the epicenters of the mosquito invasion.
  - f) Ahero: Known for its proximity to rice paddies, Ahero has experienced high mosquito breeding activity, especially near rice fields where stagnant water is common.

### Mosquito density surveys

1. THAT, although comprehensive, up-to-date mosquito density surveys across Kisumu County are limited, several studies and reports highlight the increasing mosquito population in the area. The findings include:

Malaria vector surveillance conducted by public health officials has indicated that mosquito densities in Kisumu County are well above the national average during peak breeding seasons.

Entomological surveillance conducted by local health authorities and research institutes, including data from Kisumu Public Health Department, shows a high Anopheles mosquito population, which is a primary vector for malaria. Other species such as *Aedes aegypti*, known for spreading dengue fever and chikungunya, have also been identified in urban areas of Kisumu.

Field surveys indicate that mosquito density varies between urban and rural areas. Densities are highest in regions with poor waste management, stagnant water, and inadequate drainage infrastructure. Urban areas like Kisumu city and surrounding residential estates have reported high numbers of mosquitoes per trap night, especially during and after rainy seasons.

### Identification of possible breeding sites contributing to the surge

Below is the background on the possible predisposing factors;

- a) Stagnant water bodies: Areas with poor drainage, including blocked or open sewers, potholes, and unlined ponds, have been identified as major breeding grounds. In urban settings, these stagnant water sources are abundant, particularly in low-income areas and informal settlements.
- b) Swamps and marshy areas: Kisumu County has several swampy areas near Lake Victoria, including Dunga Swamp, where slow-moving water creates ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes.
- c) Rice fields in Nyando and Ahero: Agricultural practices in Nyando and Ahero have contributed to the mosquito population surge. Rice fields, which require stagnant water for rice cultivation, serve as extensive mosquito breeding grounds.
- d) Flood-prone regions: Low-lying areas in Nyando and Seme are particularly prone to flooding during the rainy season. After the floods, stagnant pools of water remain for weeks, creating a conducive environment for mosquitoes to breed.
- e) Uncovered water storage: In both urban and rural areas, uncovered water storage tanks, drums, and containers are commonly used by residents. These serve as micro-breeding sites for mosquitoes, especially the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito.
- f) Open drainage ditches and sewage systems: Poorly maintained or completely open drainage systems in urban areas, particularly in Kisumu town and surrounding suburbs,

are major contributors to mosquito breeding. These ditches often collect stagnant water, waste, and debris, providing ample breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

- g) Vegetation growth and bushy areas: Overgrown vegetation in areas like Kolwa East, Kisumu West, and Nyando provides a conducive environment for mosquitoes to rest and breed, contributing to their persistence.

Issue No. 2: A comprehensive health impact assessment detailing the rise in cases of mosquito-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue fever, and chikungunya within the affected regions. This should include the number of cases reported in local health facilities over the past six months, any recorded fatalities, demographic information of the affected populations (such as age and gender), and comparison with previous years to determine the scale of the outbreak.

#### Overview

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, this health impact assessment focuses on the rise in cases reported in local health facilities, recorded fatalities, the demographics of the affected populations, and a comparison with previous years to assess the scale of the outbreak.

From the report submitted to it, the Committee established as follows;

1. THAT, mosquito invasion in Kisumu County has led to a significant increase in the incidence of mosquito-borne diseases, primarily malaria.
2. THAT, dengue fever and Chikungunya cases have not been reported by the health facilities or community in the referred to period.
3. THAT, the rising mosquito population, combined with environmental factors such as stagnant water and poor drainage, has contributed to the rapid spread of the disease, particularly during the rainy season.
4. Malaria data based on the health facilities reports for the last 4 years.
5. THAT, there has been an increase in the number of persons reported to have malaria as demonstrated in the graph below. This could be attributed to:

Suspected insecticide resistance,

Suspected drug resistance

Inappropriate and/or inconsistent use of preventive measures e.g bed nets which are estimated to be about 70%.

- a) Climatic changes favoring the breeding of the mosquitoes
- b) Changes in mosquito behavior; Currently biting from early evening to late morning.

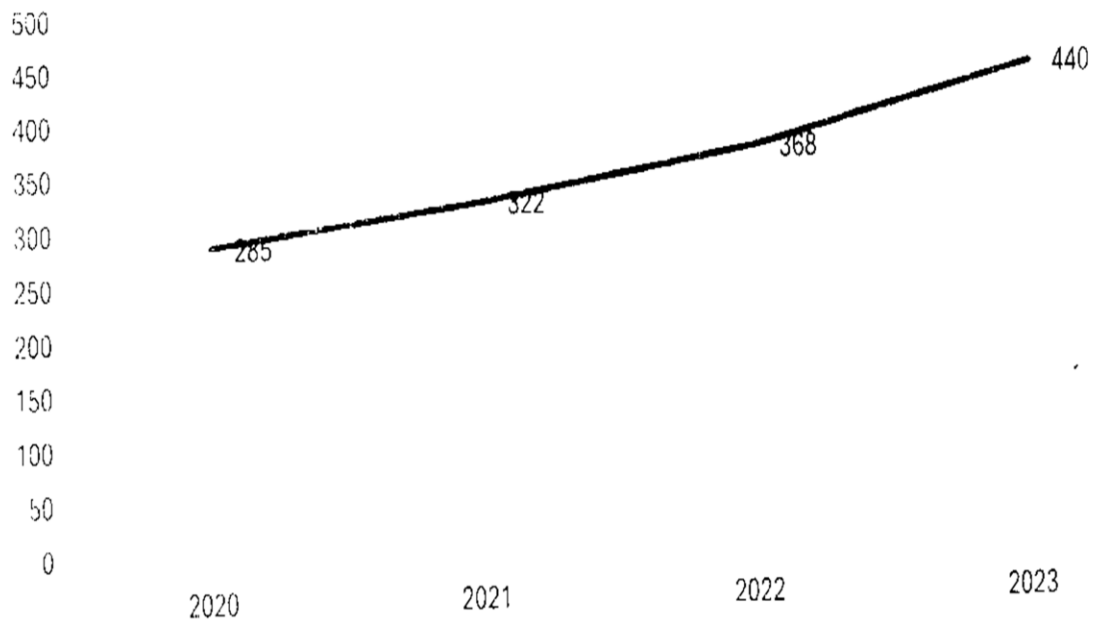
Malaria morbidity for Kisumu County

The Committee established:

1. THAT, Malaria is the top leading cause of out-patient morbidity burden in Kisumu. Approximately 30% of the out-patient cases are as a result of malaria.
2. THAT, in the 2020 Kenya Malaria indicator Survey (KMIS), malaria prevalence was reported to be at 15.6% with some sub-counties in the region experiencing a parasite prevalence rate of above 30% among them children under five.
3. THAT, the overall incidence rates, particularly in rural areas, remain significantly higher than in urban regions.

The figure below illustrates the burden of malaria in Kisumu. It represents the number of cases per 1000.

Figure 1: Malaria morbidity data based on the health facility reports for the last four years in Kisumu County.



#### Malaria mortality data for Kisumu County (Malaria case fatality)

1. THAT, in Kisumu County, malaria fatalities remains a significant health issue, although recent improvements have been noted.
2. THAT, children under five years are particularly vulnerable, with substantial proportion of severe malaria cases leading to fatalities.

Table 1. Malaria case fatalities reported in the last 5 years

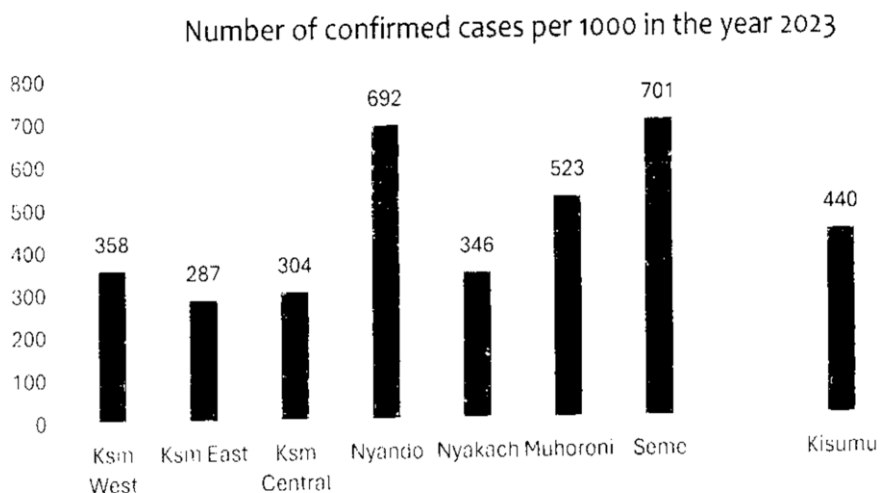
Year	Deaths due to malaria	Confirmed malaria cases	Malaria case fatality rates
June '19 - June '20	76	201, 936	0.04
June '20 - June '21	60	320, 217	0.02
June '21 - June '22	98	382, 252	0.03
June '22 - June '23	59	394,478	0.01
June '24 - June '24	60	399,102	0.02

#### Demographic information of affected populations

1. THAT, the highest malaria burden is in Seme Sub County at 701/1000 cases followed by Nyando at 692/1000.
2. THAT, the date could be attributed to the effect of the high malaria transmission in Siaya County affecting Seme while in Nyando as a result of the frequent floods.

The Figure below demonstrates the malaria burden based on sub-county statistics.

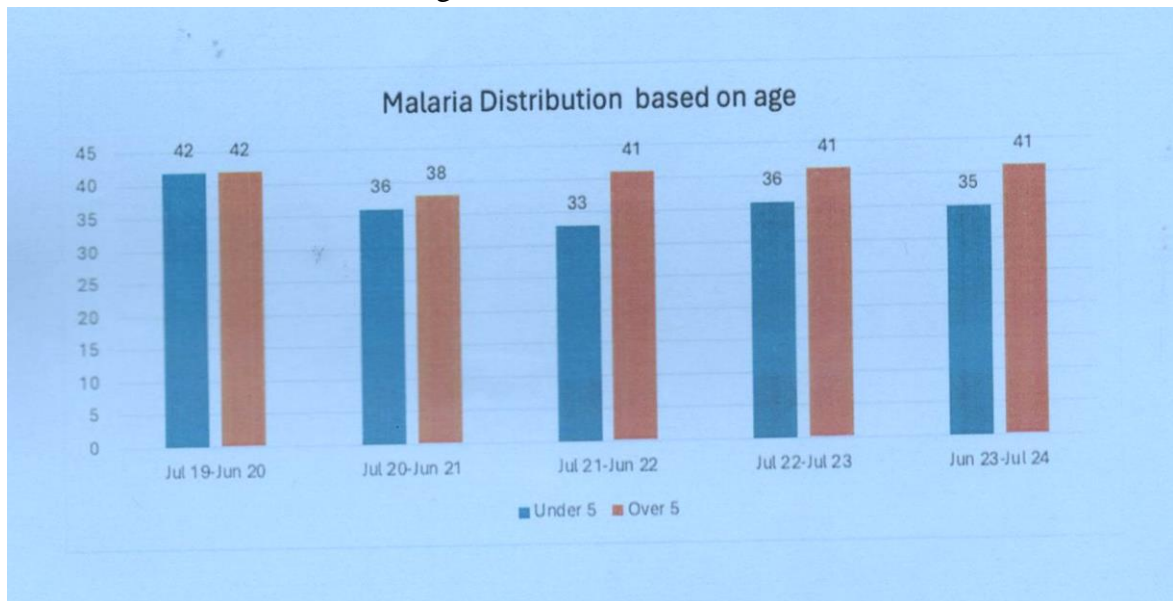
Figure 2 Malaria distribution based on sub-county burden



#### Malaria distribution based on age; under and above 5 years

1. THAT, children under 5 years have over the years contributed to the highest malaria burden in terms of both prevalence and mortality, accounting for a majority of malaria-related deaths and severe cases.
2. THOSE, individuals above 5 years, particularly older children and adults, generally have lower prevalence and mortality rates due to partial immunity.
3. THAT, as a result of additional malaria prevention tools such as malaria vaccine and bed nets for under 12 months old, the trends have changed.

Figure 3: Malaria distribution based on age



### Health facility strain and response

The rise in mosquito-borne diseases has placed a significant strain on local health facilities in Kisumu County:

- a) **Overcrowded Clinics:** Health facilities, especially in Nyando and Kisumu East, have reported overcrowding due to increased malaria admissions, resulting in delays in diagnosis and treatment.
- b) **Resource Shortages:** There is a notable shortage of diagnostic kits, mosquito nets, and antimalarial drugs in some areas, which has exacerbated the health crisis.

Issue No. 3: A description of all current interventions being undertaken by the Department of Health to control the mosquito population and prevent further transmission of diseases.

## Overview

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, The Committee established;

1. THAT, the MOH in collaboration with the County Health Department (CHD) and development partners have been working together to strengthen and synergize the use of various interventions such opening up for the use of other first-line treatment agents such as DHAP compounds, combined interventions e.g. larviciding & Indoor residual spraying.
2. THAT, some of the preventive measures being implemented by the county department of health include:

Distribution and accessibility of treated mosquito nets

Table 2: Net distribution within the county in 2024

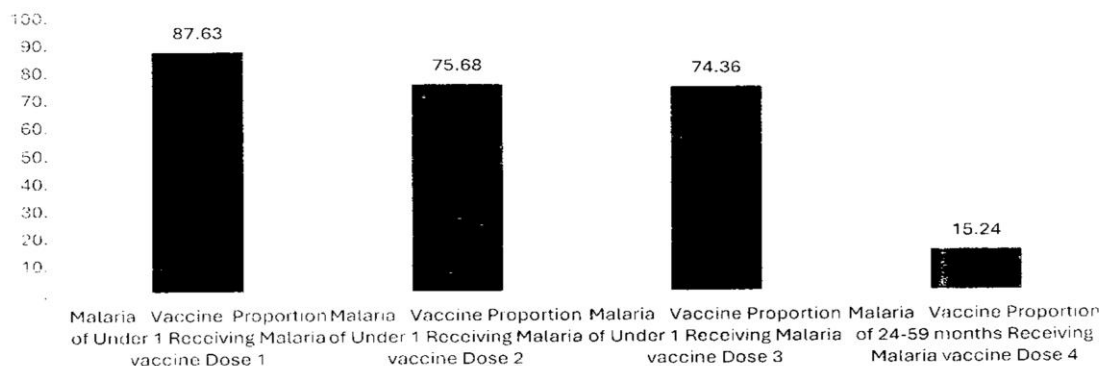
Sub County	Kisumu Central	Kisumu East	Kisumu West	Muhoroni	Nyakach	Nyando	Seme
Percentage Ownership (%)	87%	92%	93%	95%	93%	94%	95%

### Malaria vaccination

Was introduced in 2019 and currently being implemented in all the sub counties. It targets children under 24 months and is given at 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> months.

The graph below demonstrates uptake of Malaria vaccine.

Figure 4: Malaria vaccine uptake



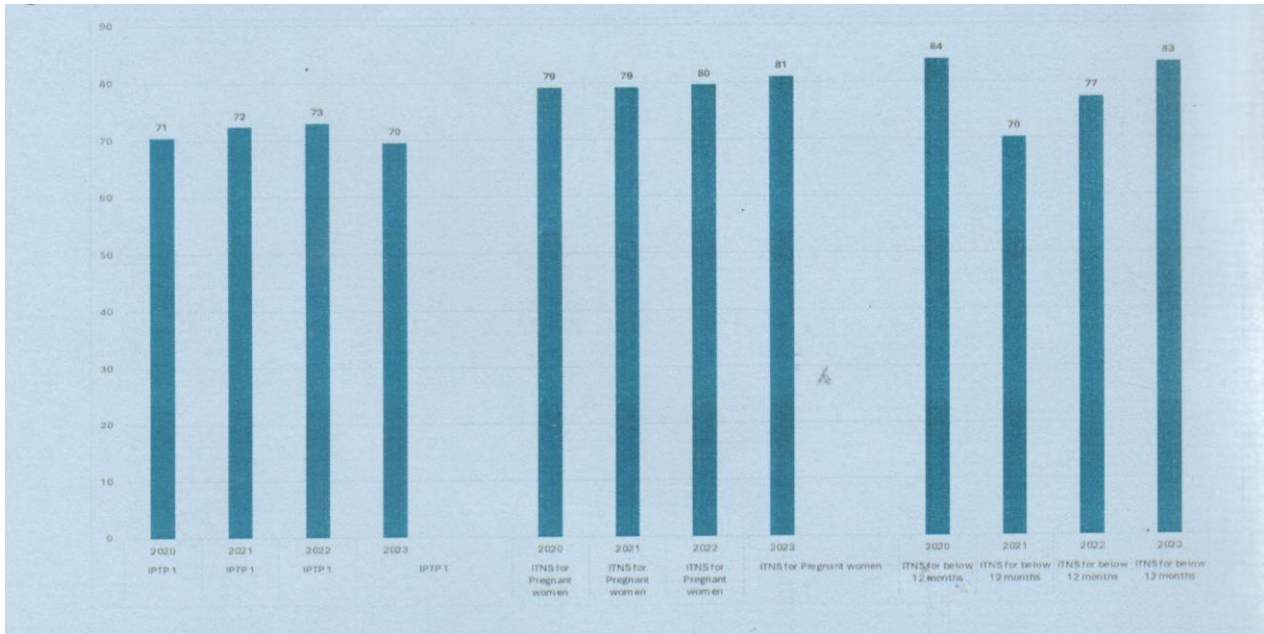
## Indoor residual spraying (IRS)

1. THAT, IRS was carried out in Nyando Sub County in 2023/24 by a private company that was contracted by the Ministry of Health.
2. THAT, about 50% of the sprayable households were reached. Plans are underway to spray the households that were not served.
3. THAT, IRS for malaria should ideally be conducted once or twice a year, depending on the type of insecticide used, the intensity of transmission, and local environmental conditions.
4. THAT, the department hasn't been able to routinely apply this strategy due to its costs including; the insecticide, spraying equipment, and labor for trained spray operators,

## Larviciding

1. THAT, the department of health, in collaboration with the Cuban experts, and Ministry of health officials conducted a mapping of the mosquito breeding sites within the county in 2022/23 and followed up by a county-wide larviciding.
2. THAT, this intervention is not routinely carried out at the moment due to its cost implications.
3. THAT, based on the availability of resources (biological, chemicals, equipment, protective gear, transport) it can be done weekly or bi-weekly, depending on the mosquito breeding cycle and environmental conditions.
4. Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT) for prevention of malaria in pregnancy using Sulphadoxine pyrimethamine (SP)
5. THAT, this is a strategy used for malaria prevention, especially in pregnant women in Kisumu County.
6. THAT, IPT, combined with other strategies like insecticide-treated nets and prompt treatment remains an important tool in reducing malaria morbidity and mortality in high-risk populations.
7. THAT it can be done weekly or bi-weekly, depending on the mosquito breeding cycle and environmental conditions.

Figure 5: IPT and ITN uptake among pregnant women in Kisumu County



### Health education and promotion

1. THAT, the community members through the Community health structure (Using CHPs) have been educated and encouraged to ensure that the household environs are cleared of any stagnant water.
2. In addition, education on net ownership and use has been provided at the health facilities and households, including wearing protective clothing during late evenings.
3. THAT, apart from interpersonal communication, the department has conducted radio talk shows to educate the community on malaria control and steps to take when they develop signs and symptoms of malaria.

Issue No.5: Details of any collaborations with the Ministry of Health, National Malaria Control Program, World Health Organization (WHO), non-governmental organizations, or any other relevant bodies aimed at controlling the mosquito population and mitigating the spread of diseases. This should also include any funding or technical assistance being received to support these efforts.

## Overview

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the committee determined that the county works in partnership with the following organizations to reduce the mosquito population and mitigate the spread of diseases. This collaboration includes any financial or technical support received to facilitate these efforts.

### Ministry of Health and National Malaria Control Program (NMCP)

1. THAT, NMCP under the Kenyan Ministry of Health coordinates national malaria prevention and control and collaborates with Kisumu County on implementing evidence-based strategies such as ITNs, IRS, case management, and surveillance.

### World Health Organization (WHO)

2. THAT, WHO provides technical assistance for malaria control, including guidance on best practices for IRS, ITN (Insecticide-Treated Nets) distribution, and monitoring mosquito resistance.

### President's Malaria Initiative (PMI)

3. THAT, the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI) is one of the largest donors for malaria control in Kisumu.
4. THAT USPMI provides both funding and technical support to the NMCP and partners with other organizations to ensure the availability of diagnostic tools, treatments, and preventive measures such as IRS and ITN distribution.

### Global Fund to fight AIDS, TB, and malaria

1. THAT, the Global Fund is another significant contributor, providing financial support to Kenya's malaria control efforts.
2. THAT, it helps in scaling up preventive measures such as ITNs, supports community health workers in case management, and funds programs targeting pregnant women and children under 12 months, who are most vulnerable to malaria.

### Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs):

1. THAT, various NGOs are involved in malaria control in Kenya, particularly in high-burden regions like Kisumu:

Malaria No More works with the county government and partners to support public awareness campaigns and advocacy efforts to maintain momentum in the fight against malaria.

Kenya Red Cross often collaborates with the CDH to carry out community-based interventions, such as distributing TNS, conducting IRS, and educating communities about malaria prevention.

UNICEF partners with the CDH to provide health services, including malaria control, especially for children and pregnant women.

Issue No. 6: An overview of the resources allocated to tackle the mosquito invasion, including the specific budgetary provisions made by the Department of Health, personnel deployed, equipment procured, and any additional funding needs identified to effectively manage the crisis.

Resource allocation and budgetary commitments for malaria control in Kisumu:

2. THAT, malaria control efforts in Kisumu depend on a combination of government funds and international support. Significant resources are allocated for indoor residual spraying (IRS), insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), malaria treatment supplies, and community health programs.

Issue No. 7: A critical evaluation of past mosquito control interventions within Kisumu East Sub-County and their outcomes. This should include an analysis of what has worked, what has not, and the lessons learned that will inform future strategies to ensure more effective mosquito control.

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee established was able to determine that various mosquito control interventions have been implemented over the years by the county health department, health organizations, and international partners. This report critically evaluates these past interventions, analyzing their outcomes, identifying what has worked as well as what has not.

Overview of past mosquito control interventions

THAT, several interventions have been undertaken in Kisumu County to address mosquito infestations and reduce mosquito-borne diseases. These include:

- a) Fumigation and Spraying Campaigns
- b) Distribution of Insecticide-Treated Nets (ITNs)
- c) Environmental Management (Drainage Improvement and Stagnant Water Removal)
- d) Public Health Education and Community Engagement
- e) Collaborations with National and International Health Organizations.
- f) Evaluation of interventions and their outcomes
- g) Fumigation and spraying campaigns

What was done?

THAT fumigation campaigns, aimed at reducing the adult mosquito population, were conducted periodically in urban centers and some rural areas of Kisumu County. These campaigns were organized by the Kisumu County Public Health Department and occasionally involved international partners like the WHO.

What worked?

Immediate impact: In areas where fumigation was regularly carried out, such as Kisumu East, Nyando, and parts of Kisumu West, mosquito populations were temporarily reduced. This led to a short-term decline in the incidence of malaria and other mosquito-borne diseases.

Targeted coverage of high-risk areas: Rural areas, urban centers and informal settlements, where mosquito density was highest due to poor drainage and stagnant water, saw the most benefits from fumigation efforts.

What didn't work?

- a) Short-term effectiveness: Fumigation provided only temporary relief, as the mosquito population rebounded within weeks. This was due to irregular fumigation schedules and the quick re-establishment of breeding grounds.
- b) Resource constraints: Limited funding and logistical challenges hindered the frequency and thoroughness of spraying, leaving many high-risk areas untreated or under-treated.

Distribution of ITNs

What was done?

1. THAT, ITNs have been widely distributed, especially to vulnerable populations such as children under five and pregnant women. This initiative was funded by the National Malaria Control Program, in partnership with organizations like UNICEF and the Global Fund.

What worked?

- a) Significant reduction in malaria incidence: ITNs have been highly effective in reducing mosquito bites and preventing malaria, especially in areas like Nyando and Kolwa East where net coverage was high.
- b) Targeting vulnerable groups: Prioritizing children and pregnant women for ITN distribution helped reduce malaria-related mortality and morbidity in these high-risk populations.

#### What didn't work

- c) Low utilization rates: Despite widespread distribution, many households did not use ITNs consistently and for the intended purpose. Oftentimes, nets were repurposed for other uses, reducing their effectiveness.
- d) Inadequate coverage: While significant strides were made in net distribution, some households did not receive sufficient nets, particularly in rural areas and informal settlements.
- e) Durability issues: ITNs lose their efficacy over time, as the insecticide wears off. In many cases, nets were not replaced regularly, leaving communities unprotected after the nets' insecticide expired.

#### Environmental management (drainage improvement and stagnant water removal)

#### What was done?

1. THAT, environmental management strategies used included improving drainage systems, removing stagnant water, and organizing community clean-up efforts to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds.
2. THAT, these efforts were primarily spearheaded by the Kisumu County Department of Health and local community groups.

#### What worked?

- a) Effective in urban areas: Kisumu Central and other areas that largely benefited from improved drainage systems saw a significant reduction in mosquito breeding sites. This led to fewer cases of mosquito-borne diseases in those regions.
- b) Community engagement: Clean-up campaigns, especially in areas like Obunga, Manyatta and Nyalenda, helped reduce local mosquito populations by encouraging residents to remove standing water and keep their environments clean.
- c) What didn't work
- d) Limited scale and inconsistent implementation: Rural areas and informal settlements were often excluded from drainage improvements, leaving many high-risk areas prone to mosquito infestations.
- e) Lack of maintenance: Even where drainage systems were improved, there was often no long-term maintenance, leading to the re-accumulation of stagnant water, which became breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
- f) Inadequate infrastructure: Large parts of the county still lack proper drainage infrastructure, making it difficult to control mosquito breeding in these areas.
- g) Public health education and community engagement

What was done?

1. THAT, public health campaigns have always been carried out to educate the community on the dangers of mosquito-borne diseases and the importance of preventive measures, such as using ITNs, clearing stagnant water, and using insect repellents.

What worked?

- a) Raised awareness: Public education campaigns succeeded in raising awareness about mosquito-borne diseases, particularly malaria. Schools and health facilities became key centers for spreading information about preventive measures.
- b) Community participation: In some areas, like Kisumu West and Nyakach, community-led efforts to control mosquito breeding - such as regular clean-up drives -led to improved local mosquito control.

What didn't work?

- a) Low behavior changes: Despite increased awareness, behavior change was limited. Many residents did not consistently implement preventive measures, such as sleeping under mosquito nets or regularly clearing stagnant water.
- b) Inconsistent engagement: Public health campaigns were often conducted sporadically, with little follow-up. This reduced the long-term effectiveness of the campaigns, as communities reverted to old habits after the campaigns ended.
- c) Collaborations with national and international health organizations

What was done?

1. THAT, Kisumu County has partnered with national entities, such as the National Malaria Control Program, and international organizations like WHO and UNICEF to receive funding, technical assistance, and resources (e.g., ITNs and insecticides).

What worked?

- a) Provision of critical resources: Partnerships with international organizations provided much-needed resources, such as insecticides for fumigation, ITNs, and financial support for large-scale interventions.
- b) Capacity building: Collaborations helped build local capacity through training health workers, improving disease surveillance, and providing technical expertise on vector control.
- c) What didn't work
- d) Over-reliance on external funding: Kisumu County's mosquito control efforts often relied heavily on external funding, leading to sustainability issues when these funds were reduced or delayed.

Project-based approach: International support was often tied to short-term projects, which did not always align with the need for long-term, sustained interventions.

Issue No. 8: An outline of any initiatives to involve local communities in mosquito control efforts, such as organizing community clean-up campaigns, distributing educational materials, and providing training on preventive measures. Details should also be provided on how the community's feedback and concerns are being incorporated into the county's overall strategy to combat this public health threat.

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee found as follows:

Proposed Initiatives to involve local communities in mosquito control. The following were determined to be the proposed initiatives:

#### Community clean-up campaigns

a) Objective

To engage local communities in reducing mosquito breeding sites by eliminating stagnant water and cleaning up areas that serve as breeding grounds. This will include:

- b) Organizing regular clean-up drives: Community-wide clean-up campaigns regularly and especially after the rainy season, when mosquito breeding is at its peak. These campaigns are targeting areas with stagnant water, debris, and open drains that serve as mosquito breeding sites.
- c) Collaborating with community leaders: Mobilizing local leaders, including village elders, youth groups, and religious leaders to lead clean-up efforts. This will ensure that the initiative is community-driven and culturally accepted.
- d) Provision of cleaning tools: The county government through the department will strive to support these campaigns by providing communities with tools such as wheelbarrows, spades, garbage bags, and gloves to facilitate the removal of standing water, trash, and overgrown vegetation.

#### Benefits

- a) Immediate reduction of mosquito breeding sites.
- b) Long-term behavioral change as residents take ownership of maintaining clean environments.
- c) Distribution of educational materials

#### Objective

To raise awareness about mosquito control and preventive measures through accessible and easy-to-understand materials. This will include:

- a) Educational posters and flyers: Distribution of posters and flyers in local languages that explain simple steps communities can take to reduce mosquito populations, such as removing stagnant water, covering water storage containers, and using mosquito nets.
- b) School-based programs: Integration of mosquito control education into school programs, ensuring that children become advocates for mosquito control within their homes and communities. Materials for children can include illustrated booklets, games, and interactive activities.
- c) Use of local media: Leveraging on local radio stations and community notice boards to spread messages on mosquito control. Weekly broadcasts can highlight community efforts, the importance of preventive measures, and updates on county initiatives.

#### Benefits

- a) Continuous awareness of mosquito control strategies.
- b) Reinforces the importance of community-level actions in fighting mosquito-borne diseases.

#### Providing training on preventive measures

- a) Objective  
To equip communities with the knowledge and skills needed to implement effective mosquito control measures at the household level. This will include:
- b) Training CHPs: Training CHPs on mosquito control strategies so they can serve as local experts and advocates by providing door-to-door education on the importance of clearing stagnant water, proper use of mosquito nets, and personal protection measures (such as using repellents).
- c) Workshops for community members: Organizing workshops for different segments of the community - youth, women, and local leaders - on how to maintain mosquito-free environments. These workshops can demonstrate how to identify and eliminate mosquito breeding sites and use insecticides safely.
- d) Peer education programs: Establishing peer education networks within communities, where trained individuals educate their neighbors on mosquito control measures. These individuals can thereafter act as point persons to disseminate information during community meetings and gatherings.

#### Benefits

- a) Increased community capacity to prevent and control mosquito-borne diseases.
- b) Empowerment of local residents to take an active role in protecting their health.
- c) Incorporating community feedback and concerns into county strategies
- d) Objective  
To ensure that the community's needs, challenges, and feedback are integrated into the

county's mosquito control strategies, making interventions more effective and locally relevant. This will include:

- e) Community Feedback Mechanisms: Setting up a formal feedback mechanism, such as suggestion boxes at health centers or an SMS hotline, where community members can report mosquito breeding sites, provide feedback on county interventions, or suggest additional measures.
- f) Focus group discussions: Regularly holding focus group discussions with community representatives, including women, youth, and vulnerable populations, to gather insights on the effectiveness of mosquito control initiatives. These discussions will also help uncover challenges faced by the community, such as insufficient mosquito nets or the lack of fumigation in certain areas.
- g) Public forums: Organizing quarterly public forums in each ward to update residents on ongoing mosquito control efforts, listen to their concerns, and gather suggestions for improvement. These forums will serve as platforms for residents to voice their opinions on the effectiveness of interventions, such as fumigation campaigns and net distribution.

#### Benefits

- a) Strengthens the relationship between the county government and local communities, enhancing trust and cooperation.
- b) Ensures that county strategies are responsive to community needs and are implemented in a way that aligns with local realities.
- c) Establishing a community-based surveillance system
- d) Objective:  
To create a community-based system that allows residents to monitor mosquito populations and report outbreaks or areas of concern. This will include:
  - e) Community Health Workers as Surveillance Agents: Training community health workers to act as mosquito surveillance agents, reporting on mosquito density, new breeding sites, or disease outbreaks in their areas. These workers will in turn provide weekly updates to their reporting health facilities, enabling a faster response to emerging problems.
  - f) Digital reporting tools: Developing a simple mobile app or SMS-based reporting system that allows community members to report potential mosquito breeding sites or incidences of mosquito-borne diseases. The data collected will be mapped and used by the county to target interventions more effectively.

#### Benefits

- a) Timely identification and response to mosquito infestations.
- b) Empowers residents to actively contribute to the county's overall mosquito control efforts.
- c) Incorporating community feedback into county strategy

- d) THAT, to enhance the effectiveness of mosquito control efforts the County intends to adopt a bottom-up approach, where community feedback is integrated into the county's planning and implementation processes. The following steps will be taken:
- e) Regular consultation: Community members will be regularly consulted through the feedback mechanisms described above. The county will ensure that these consultations are inclusive and representative of the diverse population in Kisumu County, including marginalized groups.
- f) Transparent communication: The county will establish transparent communication channels, ensuring that communities are informed about the county's plans, decisions, and progress in mosquito control efforts. This will include sharing the outcomes of public forums, clean-up campaigns, and fumigation schedules.
- g) Community-based monitoring and evaluation: Communities will be involved in the monitoring and evaluation of mosquito control interventions. For example, community leaders can assess the success of clean-up campaigns, fumigation exercises, or net distribution efforts, providing feedback to the county for ongoing improvement.
- h) Adjusting interventions based on feedback: The county will adjust mosquito control strategies based on community feedback. For example, if residents report that certain areas have been neglected during fumigation campaigns, the county will reprioritize resources to ensure those areas are covered.

Issue No. 9: Information on the mechanisms in place for continuous monitoring of mosquito populations and disease incidence in the affected areas. This should include the establishment of any data collection and reporting systems, frequency of updates, and the dissemination of this information to the public to enhance transparency and accountability.

#### Mechanisms for continuous monitoring and reporting

1. THAT, the County has adopted several mechanisms for continuous monitoring and reporting of mosquito populations and malaria incidence.
1. Kenya Health Information System (KHIS2): KHIS2 Is a broader health information system that integrates malaria data into a national platform. Health workers upload malaria case data and mosquito population reports, which are then analyzed at both sub-county and national levels to monitor trends and make informed decisions. Monthly reports are generated, which contribute to overall malaria control strategies.
2. Entomological surveillance: Kisumu County Department of health together with NMCP to carry collaborates with research institutions and international partners out entomological surveillance. Mosquito populations are regularly sampled from breeding sites, and insecticide resistance is monitored. The data from these studies helps adjust IRS and larviciding programs to areas with high mosquito densities.
3. Kenya Malaria Indicator Surveys (KMIS):

4. KMIS, conducted every few years, provides comprehensive data on malaria prevalence, mosquito populations, ITN coverage, and IRS impact. This national survey collects data from households and health facilities and is used to update malaria control strategies.
5. Public dissemination of malaria data and transparency

THAT, this will be done through:

- a) Public health campaigns: Data from malaria monitoring is used in public health campaigns on the public informed about malaria risks, mosquito control measures, and available preventive services. The CDH, in partnership with NMCP, NGOs, and the media, disseminates this information through radio, television, community meetings, and social media platforms.
- b) Community feedback mechanisms: Community health workers engage in feedback loops with the public, relaying information on the effectiveness of interventions like IRS or ITN usage and guiding on maintaining mosquito-free environments. This two-way communication helps improve accountability and encourages public participation in malaria prevention efforts.
- c) Community scorecard: The community routinely reports on the services provided on malaria control using a community scorecard.

#### Findings and Observations

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, having interrogated the response, the Committee deduced as follows:

#### Extent and scope of the mosquito invasion

1. THAT, a comprehensive mosquito surveillance activity conducted in Kisumu County in July 2023 revealed a significant mosquito invasion, particularly affecting Kolwa East, Nyando, Kisumu East, and Seme. The invasion is largely attributed to environmental factors such as stagnant water from poor waste management, inadequate drainage, and seasonal rainfall, which create ideal breeding grounds for mosquitoes.
2. THAT, the Department of Medical Services, Public Health, and Sanitation has mapped breeding sites, especially in flood-prone regions with poor drainage. The key vectors identified were *Anopheles gambiae* and *Anopheles funestus*, the primary species responsible for malaria transmission. Among the mentioned affected areas Nyando Sub-County was found to have the highest concentration of mosquito populations.
3. THAT, mosquito density was determined through adult mosquito collections and larval sampling from various water bodies, including stagnant water in residential areas, swamps, and agricultural lands like rice paddies. The presence of *Anopheles* mosquitoes was particularly high in areas with environmental conditions conducive to breeding, such as proximity to water bodies.
4. Health impact Assessment

5. THAT, the health impact assessment highlighted a significant rise in malaria cases.
6. THAT, no cases of dengue fever or chikungunya have been reported in the county. However, continued monitoring for these diseases remains critical as mosquito populations and behaviors change.
7. THAT, local health facilities reported an increase in malaria morbidity, with children under five being the most affected group.
8. THAT, over the past six months, malaria has remained the top cause of (30%) outpatient morbidity, with sub-counties like Seme and Nyando experiencing high parasite prevalence rates.
9. THAT, in Kisumu County, malaria fatalities have decreased slightly due to improved interventions, but the disease continues to strain healthcare resources.
10. THAT, health facilities in the affected areas have reported a rise in malaria incidence, with children under five years and pregnant women being the most vulnerable.
11. THAT, in the past five financial years, the case fatality rate has fluctuated, with a peak of 98 deaths in the 2021–2022 period, but recent years have seen reductions in fatality rates due to improved interventions.
12. THAT, the malaria data based on the health facilities reports for the last 4 years indicated that there has been an increase in the number of persons reported to have malaria. This, is said to be attributed to:

Suspected insecticide resistance,

Suspected drug resistance

- a) Inappropriate and/or inconsistent use of preventive measures e.g bed nets which are estimated to be about 70%.
- b) Climatic changes favoring the breeding of the mosquitoes
- c) Changes in mosquito behavior; Currently biting from early evening to late morning.

Current interventions

THAT, Some of the preventive measures being implemented by the county department of health to control the mosquito population and prevent further transmission of diseases include:

Distribution and accessibility of treated mosquito nets, with the percentage ownership per county currently is: 87% in Kisumu Central, 92% in Kisumu East, 93% in Kisumu West, 95% in Muhoroni, 93% in Nyakach, 94% in Nyando and 95% in Seme.

- a) Malaria vaccination: Was introduced in 2019 and currently being implemented in all the sub counties targeting children under 24 months and is given at 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> months.
- b) Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS): Was carried out in Nyando Sub County in 2023/24 by a private company that was contracted by the Ministry of Health where about 50% of the

sprayable households were reached. Plans are underway to spray the households that were not served.

- c) Larviciding: The department of health, in collaboration with the Cuban experts, and Ministry of health officials conducted a mapping of the mosquito breeding sites within the county in 2022/23 and followed up by a county-wide larviciding. However, this intervention is not routinely carried out at the moment due to its cost implications.
- d) Intermittent Preventive Treatment (IPT) for prevention of malaria in pregnancy using Sulphadoxine pyrimethamine (SP): This is a strategy used for malaria prevention, especially in pregnant women.
- e) Public health education and community engagement

Collaborations with National and International Health Organizations.

Collaboration with external bodies

1. THAT, the County's mosquito control efforts are supported by collaborations with national and international bodies, including:
2. The Ministry of Health (MOH) and the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP), which provide strategic guidance and resources for malaria control.
3. WHO and the U.S. President's Malaria Initiative (PMI), which offer technical support and funding for interventions such as ITN distribution and insecticide-treated sprays.
4. Non-governmental organizations like Kenya Red Cross and UNICEF, which help in community engagement and resource provision.
5. THAT, the MOH, in collaboration with the County Health department and development partners have been working together to strengthen and synergize the use of various interventions e.g. opening up for the use of other first-line treatment agents such as DHAP compounds, combined interventions e.g. larviciding and indoor residual spraying.

Resource allocation

1. THAT, malaria control efforts in Kisumu depend on a combination of government funds and international support. Significant resources are allocated for indoor residual spraying (IRS), insecticide-treated nets (ITNs), malaria treatment supplies and community health programs.
2. Planned mosquito control programs
3. THAT, the department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation plans to expand its vector control efforts, including:
4. Scheduled fumigation and larviciding activities targeting mosquito breeding hotspots.
5. Environmental management initiatives such as clearing stagnant water and improving drainage in urban and rural areas. These efforts aim to eliminate breeding sites, particularly in flood-prone regions like Nyando and Kolwa East.

6. Strengthening local health facilities by ensuring the availability of diagnostic tools and antimalarial medications.
7. Plans to involve the local community in mosquito control
8. THAT, to enhance the effectiveness of mosquito control efforts the County intends to adopt a bottom-up approach, where community feedback is integrated into the county's planning and implementation processes by employing the following steps:

#### Regular consultation

- a) Establishing transparent communication channels
  - b) Community-based monitoring and evaluation
  - c) Adjusting interventions based on feedback.
  - d) Evaluation of past mosquito control interventions
1. THAT, past interventions, including IRS, ITN distribution, and public awareness campaigns, have yielded positive results, with a steady reduction in malaria-related fatalities over the years albeit challenges such as inconsistent net use and the emergence of insecticide resistance.
  2. THAT, lessons from these interventions have informed the current approach, with increased focus on community engagement and combination strategies such as IRS paired with larviciding to enhance effectiveness.
  3. Mechanisms for continuous monitoring of mosquito populations
  4. THAT, the County has adopted several mechanisms for continuous monitoring and reporting of mosquito populations and malaria incidence. These include:
    1. Kenya Health Information System (KHIS2)
    2. Entomological surveillance
    3. Kenya Malaria Indicator Surveys (KMIS).
    4. Strategies to enhance transparency in dissemination of malaria data.
  5. THAT the department intends to employ the following strategies to enhance transparency in dissemination of malaria data the:
    6. Public health campaigns.
    7. Community feedback mechanisms.
    8. Community scorecard.

#### Challenges

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, the Committee categorized the challenges into two as follows:

#### Challenges faced by the Committee

While undertaking this investigation and due to the density of the matter vis-à-vis the timeline for reporting, the Committee was succumbed by the following limitations:

- a) Data gaps: While efforts have been made by the Committee to gather comprehensive information from relevant sources, there was limitations in terms of extensive data collection, analysis, and reporting.
- b) Time constraints: The timeline of 14 days that was given to the committee to provide a report on the matter before this Honourable House may limit the depth of certain findings.
- c) Challenges faced by the department
- d) The following reported to be some of the limitations the department faces in its attempt to fight mosquito and mosquito born diseases:

#### Resource constraints

1. THAT, financial and logistical limitations in implementing large-scale mosquito control efforts such as larviciding, ITNs, to sustain IRS campaigns, address insecticide resistance, and improve healthcare infrastructure.
2. THAT, fumigation and ITN distribution have led to short-term reductions in mosquito populations and disease incidence, their effects have not been sustained due to inconsistent implementation, limited coverage, and over-reliance on external support.
3. THAT, the community, even after being educated on the use of ITNs are not using mosquito nets for their intended purposed. Oftentimes, nets are repurposed for other uses, reducing their effectiveness.
4. Over-reliance on international support.
5. THAT, the county relies overly on international support in the fight against mosquito due to inadequate local funding.

#### Recommendations

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, by and large, the Committee therefore proposes the following recommendations that if implemented can significantly reduce the burden of mosquito-borne diseases and improve public health outcome.

1. THAT, County executive, together with the County Assembly should in the subsequent budgeting, ensure that the annual budget allocates sufficient resources for sustained vector control activities, including IRS, larviciding, and environmental clean-up programs. This should include funding for the procurement of insecticides, equipment, and logistics support to ensure that health workers can reach remote areas.
2. THAT, the department of Medical Service, Public Health and Sanitation should develop policies mandating continuous mosquito population monitoring and data reporting systems to track disease incidence. These policies will ensure that mosquito density data is updated quarterly, with the first report expected by March 2025. This system will provide valuable data to inform targeted interventions and public health responses.

3. THAT, it is essential to carry out regular sustained fumigation for long-term success. Sporadic efforts offer short-term relief but are insufficient to curb mosquito populations in the long run.
4. THAT, the County should focus on developing self-sufficient mosquito control programs that minimize reliance on external funding. This will ensure long-term sustainability and reduce the county's vulnerability to funding fluctuations.
5. THAT, local leaders, especially political leaders, should integrate the importance of mosquito prevention measures into their community forums and meetings. By emphasizing the need for collective action, local leaders can encourage community involvement in decision-making and implementation processes. This fosters a sense of ownership and ensures the long-term sustainability of mosquito control efforts.
6. THAT, the department of Medical Service, Public Health and Sanitation, the department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources, the department of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works leaders should work collectively to intensify environmental management programs to eliminate mosquito breeding grounds. This should include drainage system improvements, clearing of stagnant water, and regular debris removal in high-risk areas. Immediate action should be taken in Kolwa East and Nyando where flooding exacerbates mosquito breeding.
7. THAT, the department of Medical Service, Public Health and Sanitation should involve cultural habits in its messaging for campaigns. Culturally tailored messaging could improve the effectiveness of campaigns. Engaging community leaders and using local languages can make health messages more relatable and impactful. The local leaders can also come handy in mobilizing community participation and support for environmental health initiatives such as cleanups.

### Conclusion

Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members, it is without doubt that mosquito invasion in Kisumu County poses a significant public health challenge. However, the department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation has made commendable progress in managing the situation. With continued resource allocation, strategic partnerships, and strong community engagement, the county can effectively control mosquito populations and reduce the burden of mosquito-borne diseases.

This report therefore, is submitted with the hope that its recommendations will lead to enhanced interventions and a healthier Kisumu County. It is now my pleasure, on behalf of the Committee, to move;

1. THAT, this House adopts the report of the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, on the inquiry into the matter of ongoing mosquito invasion in Kisumu County, a matter sought by the MCA for Kolwa East, Hon Reuben Rakwach.

Mr. Speaker, I would therefore like to call on Honourable Kennedy Ooko to second. Thank you.

*(Hon Ooko bowed)*

**The Speaker** (Hon Oraro): Thank you. Honourable Members, now that the Departmental Committee on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation has moved their Report on the Inquiry into the matter of ongoing Mosquito Invasion in Kisumu County, a matter sought by the MCA for Kolwa East, Honourable Ruben Rakwach and seconded. As per our Standing Orders, I want to propose a question, and I propose that the report is open for debate.

**The Speaker** (Hon Oraro): Yes, Hon Nyaoke, North Nyakach Ward.

**Hon. Nyaoke** (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. First, is to thank you for welcoming us back from the just concluded interesting CASA games that we participated in Bungoma. Mr. Speaker, I stand here to support and congratulate the Departmental Committee of Health for the elaborate report that they have given before us, this afternoon. Mr. Speaker, the report that is before us is on a very tiny insect, but very stubborn, not only in this country, but in so many countries, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Speaker, this House Committee has gone through the elaborate sections, like the recommendations that we should be having, having known that mosquito is one of the serious insects that causes what we call malaria. Malaria is one of the diseases that impact a lot on the public health, and not only on the public health, but also affects productivity and even causes failures, even most of our students cannot go to school because of effects of malaria.

Mr. Speaker, as you may be aware, and as has been well elaborated by this House Committee, that the responsibility for the control of mosquitoes does not depend on individual, but this one should be enhanced to involve the whole community, and not only the community, but also the Government and organizations that are able to come together, and us included as individuals, to control the menace of this particular tiny insect.

Mr. Speaker, if we put in place some of the recommendations, this is because I am sure that the recommendations have not been exhausted, but what has been given to us in this report, Mr. Speaker, if we carry it forward, and even sensitize members of the community where we come from, that we need to control particularly to be trying to destroy the habitats of this particular insect, that is the only area that we will be able to cut down the existence of this tiny yet disturbing insect.

Mr. Speaker, we have been also informed that the habitats of mosquitoes, being the small dams that we may be having at home, the narrow streams that we may be having, and Mr. Speaker, they are even at homes where people forget even some waters in small containers in our villages

or in our homes. With proper sensitization to each and every person in our community to try to control the habitat, because that is where the source of killing mosquitoes thrive. Otherwise, we can't start killing mosquitoes one by one, but of course, we can also advise to reduce the extent at which the disease, malaria, is affecting our people.

Mr. Speaker, we also encourage the use of repellent, which are sold in the markets, actually existing, although maybe most people may not be able to know. Mr. Speaker, it is also expensive, the way the community has identified, that it is costly also to be able to control this particular disease. But we as Assembly, as we thank the Honourable Rakwach for having noted this, it is now evident that even in Nyando, it is most prevalent scourge there. I am sure if the research was done extensively in North Nyakach, because we are also neighbouring the lake, Mr. Speaker, I believe that in the future we are going to be able to consider a certain budget that we can be able to place so that we are able to put some funds into use, particularly in trying to inhibit the spread of the existence of mosquitoes in those particular areas. Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I beg to support.

**The Speaker** (Hon Oraro): Honourable Benny Oiko Pete

**Hon Oiko** (MCA, Kabonyo Kanyagwal): Mr. Speaker, this was a good report and a good concern to be raised in Kisumu County. Mosquitoes are now a menace in Kisumu County. And what people know is that mosquito breeding grounds used to be sprayed. And that was a very good measure of controlling malaria infection. Now we are being told it is expensive. If it is expensive, the county cannot afford. And the way the mosquitoes have overgrown, what is the position of our health in terms of malaria?

Mr. Speaker, it is very horrible. Quite a number of our children, our people die because of malaria. And treating malaria is also expensive to the common man. So when the department brings a report that it is expensive, what does it imply? The people have been left to struggle on their own. The people have been left to die.

Mr. Speaker, we people who come from swampy places, this is the situation we are in. It is mosquito bites during daytime, during night time. Even when people are eating, you find the mosquitoes biting your mouth. Even when you go for a long call, the anus is attacked.

*(Laughter)*

Mr. Speaker, it is a real menace. And the department cannot tell us it is too expensive. The lives of our people have been left to the dogs. Mr. Speaker, we must inform the Department of Health and the Country Government that this is a matter that must be looked into. And spraying

breeding grounds must be done. Otherwise, let it be advertised to the people of Kisumu that the Country Government is unable and has left them to die at the mercy of the mosquitoes.

Mr. Speaker, we know that mosquito nets are being provided at good intervals. But the mosquito nets are also being stolen. I remember 2021, 2022, some which were brought were stolen at Nyangande Sub-county Hospital. And you heard at the impeachment of a former Deputy Governor, the Kshs. 3.7 billion that was meant to buy mosquito nets. You had what happened. And this one should be for the good of the common man.

Mr. Speaker, the picture we are giving is that people in position are not concerned about the welfare of the downtrodden. These are matters that we should not take lightly. In this report, this House Committee must take these matters serious and inform the Department of Health that it is a matter they must address in their budget. And when the budget is being done, these are some of the critical areas we should look into. What allocation has been given for the Control of Mosquitoes in Kisumu? Mr. Speaker, it is a good report and the message that should go to the department is that good effort is needed to control mosquitoes, and to provide malaria drugs in level II and level III hospitals in this County so that we help our people. Otherwise, when we go to funerals, when we are on the ground, we are being attacked by the locals that there are no drugs in the hospital. And the major disease on the ground is Malaria. So, we should not assume this, Mr. Speaker. It is my hope that this House Committee will take this up with the department, the Government should also know that this is not a matter that should be taken lying down. Mr. Speaker, I so submit.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Seth Okumu of East Seme.

**Hon. Okumu** (MCA, East Seme): Thank you so much Mr. Speaker. I rise to support the adoption of this report on the statement raised by the Honorable Member for Kolwa East. Mr. Speaker, even though I want to put my comments across, it is worth noting that the Member who raised the statement would have been in the Assembly but I believe this information is reaching him because this Assembly is also streaming these sessions live through YouTube and Facebook.

Mr. Speaker, the biggest complaint that the Member brought before this House Committee was that there were mosquito invasions in Kolwa East. The Member could not understand why there was such invasion in that magnitude. But on bringing the statement before the Assembly, I think all Members supported that it is not only limited to Kolwa East, it was spread throughout the county. Honourable Speaker, you agree that in this report we tried to touch most of the concerns that the Member raised. Except one, Mr. Speaker, which was not possible, was finding out the mosquito density in the County. We tried doing researches that have been done before, but we could not find one that was giving us mosquito density in the County. But Mr. Speaker, we found out that Kisumu County has the best environment that makes mosquitoes breed and thrive the

most. Case in point is the large water body that we have, which is Lake Victoria, I think the second largest freshwater lake in the world. With very little or minimal waves.

Mr. Speaker, we appreciate that Kisumu County is also experiencing floods. And case in point is the place where my brother and friend, the Honourable Benny Pete Oiko comes from. Such large water bodies have made the breeding of mosquitoes in Kisumu County really favourable. Honourable Speaker, it has been mentioned in the report that not all mosquitoes transmit malaria. The mosquito that transmits malaria is the female Anopheles Mosquito. In the statement by the Honourable Member, the Member has mentioned that we explain the prevalence of Dengue Fever and Chikungunya Fever. But Mr. Speaker, from the report, you realize that we have never had incidences of the two, both the fevers. So, the biggest challenge we are having with the mosquitoes that we are having in Kisumu is the transmission of malaria. However, Mr. Speaker, I do not want to be the cry baby and the people blamer that I see in this Assembly. Like it has been said that it should be the responsibility of all of us in the prevention of malaria, which includes some simple techniques like slashing our homes, avoiding containers that can keep water in our homes, using mosquito nets, and even using some of the repellents.

Honourable Speaker, it is worth noting, and I want to give a case of my brother, Honourable Oiko, where you give people mosquito nets and they use mosquito nets for fishing of 'omena'. Mr. Speaker, as much as we want these people to be free of malaria, as leaders we need to take responsibility and sensitize them that it is really costly when you get a malaria attack. And when you are provided with mosquito nets, it is good to use it for the purpose in which you are being given to use it for.

*(Hon. Oiko Pete rises on a Point of Order)*

**Hon. Oiko** (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal): Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): What is the point of order, Honourable Oiko?

**Hon. Oiko** (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal): Mr. Speaker, people of Kabonyo do not use mosquito nets for fishing *omena*. People of Kabonyo use mosquito nets on their beds. They do not use it on Lake Victoria. Lake Victoria waters do not accommodate the mosquito nets. There are special nets meant for fishing. Let that be on record.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Seth Okumu, proceed.

**Hon. Okumu** (MCA, East Seme): Thank you so much, Honourable Speaker. I know the Honourable Oiko is speaking out of very little experience. I think we have travelled with my sister, the Honourable Emily, to Nyang'ande, and I remember we met with you at the facility. And

I was going to the next point. If you do not believe that, you need to go and check again. That the people are using mosquito nets for seed beds, nurseries, and fences. These are facts. We do not need to run away from them. Let us take the responsibility to sensitize our people. Pretending that these things do not happen does not help anyone. If you walk around your area, Honourable Oiko, if you go today, you find people who are having seed beds for vegetables, like sukuma wiki (Kale) and tomatoes, you will see them surrounded by mosquito nets. So many people have superstition on the use of mosquito nets. Some of them are saying they are sprayed with some drugs that make you impotent. Some people are also, because you have to use insecticide-treated nets, some people do react to those nets. And now they do not like using them. These are facts.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Seth, Honorable Benny was asking about fishing.

**Hon. Okumu** (MCA, East Seme): The Honorable Speaker, people use mosquito nets for fishing. And if you are a fisherman, they have a net that is called ‘*amuok*’. It is a net that collects almost everything, including mud. I know Honourable Oiko comes from a world that borders the lake, but he lives somewhere there. So, the Member might not know some of these things. So Honourable Speaker, people use mosquito nets for fishing, both in the Lake and in our rivers, and especially when it floods.

**Hon. Oiko** (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal): Honourable Speaker, Honorable Seth is expressing that I am not conversant with my Ward. That is the picture he is giving. And what crime it is to live in a town. What a crime it is to stay in town. He should know, I have my homes in Kabonyo Kanyagwal. I have my homes in Kisumu town. So, I am a general African

*(Laughter)*

The real African man, who calls where he lives his abode. Mr. Speaker that is what my people admire me. Let me tell you one story, Honorable Seth. Let me just tell you one story.

*(Laughter)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): No, Honorable Benny, I rule you out of order. I thought you were rising on a Point of Order.

**Hon. Oiko** (MCA, Kabonyo-Kanyagwal): Let me tell you one story.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): No, Honourable Benny. You will tell us that story another day.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Seth Okumu.

**Hon. Okumu** (MCA, East Seme): Thank you, Honorable Speaker. I really respect the humble abode of my brother. I have visited both of them. Very nice places. But Mr. Speaker, I am going back to the issue of mosquito nets without digressing. Honourable Speaker, by saying that spraying is expensive, does not mean we cannot do it. We have to accept that it is expensive, and call for any other person who can help us. If you follow, all the residual spraying that has been done, including in Homabay County, are supported by partners. You know we pass a budget in this county. I have never seen in any public participation the people advocating for putting aside some money for spraying because we have very, many demands which are competing spraying. Note that it is not important nor that cheap but, it is expensive. Once we know that, then how do we address it? So by saying that it is expensive does not mean we do not want to do it. We are just saying that it is expensive and therefore we need to call for everyone that can help us with the spraying. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to the attention of Honourable Members, that spraying of mosquitoes, especially the lavecidal one. They were using insecticides that were found to be cancerous. That is why it was stopped and that is also why we are using other methods in control of mosquitoes. Us being interested in international trade, we cannot continue with the practice that prohibits us from trading with other countries. We cannot sell our fish to outside market if we continue spraying our lakes and rivers with insecticides that have been banned. That is why we call for alternatives for prevention of mosquitoes. Also, the reason why we call for; the use of mosquito nets, call for the use of indoor residual spraying and we are calling for vaccination of young children with the mosquito vaccine. Honourable Members, we should move around; just the way we move around and talk about roads, water, dispensaries is the same way we should also move around and talk about prevention of mosquitoes as a way of controlling Malaria. Honourable Speaker, I support the report. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Kennedy Ouko.

**Hon. Ouko** (MCA, West Kisumu): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Let me take this opportunity to thank this House Committee for the elaborate report and the Honourable Member for Kolwa East, Honourable Rakwach, for bringing this Statement.

Mr. Speaker, it is my belief that this report is quite informative. We have to blame ourselves as a Luo Community and the people of Kisumu. Mr. Speaker, you are aware that our origin is from Sudan. By the nature of fishing and having our livestock along the rivers and lakes, we came a long way to this place called Lake Victoria which is now the Kisumu County. Mr. Speaker, we have lived with mosquito bites for many years. That is why we are called River Lakes Nilotes. We cannot blame the administration of today for our predicament of having stayed along the lakes. That was our way of livelihood. In fact, we got a lot from that time when the lake was producing enough fish and the rivers were producing enough fish. But now, we have come to realize that we are in a problem. That is why we are now lamenting a lot for staying next to the lake.

Mr. Speaker, remember we passed the highlands. If you are in the highlands, you will be talking about highland malaria. They are also complaining about highland malaria. But, when you are around the lakes, we are talking about too much Malaria infections within the lake region, having big water masses around the places where we live. When it comes to the management of problems like this and health issues, we dwell more on curative approach than the preventive approach. You know that the moment we realize that it is important to dwell on preventive issues than curative, Mr. Speaker, we will not use a lot of money as we are using now. We will not be complaining about enough fund, and such kind of things. But, we have lost focus. It is also confirmed very clearly by this report that, we deal on providing malaria drugs, but we cannot handle preventive issues. This is quite unfortunate and we will continue incurring a lot of expenses because we are waiting to cure, not to prevent.

Mr. Speaker, I wonder why Members of the County Assembly are always channeling their lamentations to the County Executive. We have all the powers. We are the people appropriating money. Why don't we appropriate money during the budget making process so that these things can be prevented? Why do we have to lament on issues happening on the other side and we are given the opportunity to address all these? Honourable Members, I believe that at times we have to stand tall to be counted. We do not need to be complaining each and every time about the County Executive yet we have been given the opportunity to do what we should be doing here. This is quite unfortunate, Mr. Speaker. I would really implore upon the Members of the County Assembly, not only the members of this House Committee but, as a collective responsibility that, is because we realized this problem is not only within Honourable Rakwach's Ward but it is a County affair and also we as Members, we are serving the whole County. Mr. Speaker, I beg to submit. Thank you so much.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Kelvin Oraro.

**Hon. Oraro** (MCA, Kolwa Central): Thank your Me. Speaker. I am trying to get the message, which is the in-depth message of the mover of the motion, who unfortunately is not around. I wanted to try to understand...

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Kelvin, I am able to see that Hon. Emily Oginga, despite having sat I do not know where...

**Hon. Oraro** (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, I meant the move of the Statement.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Oraro, but I can see that the mover of the Motion is available.

**Hon. Oraro** (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr., Speaker, the owner of the Statement that resulted to this report being brought Mr. Speaker. Allow me to proceed. I mean Honourable Reuben Rakwach. Mr. Speaker, this was a special Statement trying to address the extraordinary invasion of Mosquito, particularly in Kolwa East and part of Kisumu East, particularly in some section of Koloa East Ward. Meaning that, it was somehow an extraordinary happening, which brought concern by the people. I heard my colleague talking about mosquito nets, which majority of the population within the wards of Kolwa East, Kolwa Central, and many parts of the County, get mosquito nets for free from the health facilities, especially from the good work being done by the Community Health Workers. Mr. Speaker, these CHWs go from home to home, at least we cannot complain about nets. However, you go to a shop or go and watch football then you just find there are mosquitoes almost everywhere. I assume that if Honourable Seth Okumu was around, he would not advise us that if you want to open a football showroom, you need to fence it with a mosquito net, so that you protect your customers.

Mr. Speaker, the Statement was about the extraordinary happening and for that reason, the Statement owner wanted this House Committee to investigate and give some historical perspective on what the County has done so far. That is why the Member pegged this argument on the preventive measures, and even request.

Mr. Speaker, on the idea of Honourable Kennedy Ouko is talking about preventive and even the budgeting. Although the money sometimes given for budgeting mostly go for development activities but, it is a good approach by this House Committee highlighting and doing a lot of research on the same majorly looking at it in terms of the curative part. However, the most important thing that we should note from the Statement is that the recommendations given by this House Committee is actually the right thing to be done by any other institution like the County Executive. Mr. Speaker, the bottom line is that when we have an extraordinary activity happening in some part of the Ward, then it calls for attention of the County Executive and especially the responsible department to see on how they can arrest the situation and even control it with external measures apart from relying on mosquito nets also maybe seeing it in terms of Malaria and other things. This is because, if there are many mosquitoes around in a certain place, we who come almost next to the lake, you will realize that you cannot even go to a shop and stand for around two minutes waiting to be served without being bitten by mosquitoes around in a certain place, those who come next to the lake, you'll realize that even, you cannot even go to a shop and stand for approximately two minutes waiting to be served without being bitten by a mosquito. So that implies that, the community members are really suffering and for that reason they wanted the attention of the county. If it's about sealing the trenches around, seeing other things around that is happening or doing research on the same that is why the motion was brought about.

Mr. Speaker, the report has actually done 80% of what Honourable Rakwach wanted. We've made a few areas that if we request from the Assembly side so that the County Executive can act

upon, then we might witness changes. In some of the issues, the time the statement was raised and today, I don't know if these things still remain the same, but in a situation that will have a similar thing happening, then we should treat it as a matter of urgency and even ask the county to step in and at least try to make it moderate because with the moderate mosquito, there are mosquitoes always, we have lived with mosquitoes since we were born and sometimes when it is extra, we might invite the county to come in.

Mr. Speaker, some of the leaders we have in this Assembly come from a little bit island areas where mosquito is not a big deal, but if you talk about a Honourable Bill, Honourable Ooko and Honourable Oiko Pete, my ward going downwards, you realize that sometimes mosquito becomes a menace that really needs to be addressed quickly and for that reason, I believe that this was the reason why my brother and colleague Honourable Rakwach raised the statement. We are satisfied with the working of this House Committee and I support the report.

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

**Hon. Kizito** (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker. First, I would like to thank the Assembly for their support towards the award that we received. I did not receive it as an individual, but it's for the good of the County Assembly as a whole. Thank you so much for your support.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to comment on this good report and I would like to remind the Members that mosquito invasion is a very big problem and mostly in Western Kenya. So if we want to handle this matter expeditiously, then it is my belief that we need to have both long-term and short-term interventions because for a long time, even if sometimes I take my kids to the hospital, the first thing that the pediatrician will tell me is that mosquitoes is a very big menace in Western Kenya.

So let us handle this matter amicably as a team. Let us work together as an entity and the county government to handle it with both short-term and long-term intervention. It's a good report and I support. Thank you.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Bill.

**Hon. Bill** (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank this House Committee for good work and in my appreciating them, I also want to correct them from the report that they have given us. There's a part they wrote that due to limited time, they were not able to do their own research and I really wonder if this is a Honourable House and they want to inform us that there was no ample time because I believe in our House we really have rules that if you find you still are not going to complete the complete report, at least you can ask the House

for an extension so that you're given enough time so that we have a complete report in this Assembly.

Mr. Speaker, I come from one of the areas that is Kobura which is also affected by the mosquito invasion. A few months ago, we had very unique rains and some areas we had waters that stagnated over time and I believe that is also one of the reasons as to why in some parts of our areas we have more mosquitoes.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the government for the continued support that they have been giving the counties. Recently I believe that nearly all the households were provided with nets and I believe if the government can continue with that gesture then, we should be having reduced mosquito attacks. But again, Mr. Speaker, I believe that our Kenyan government should devise other methods that they have been giving nets yet we have increase of patients suffering from malaria.

So if a continued system, a continued programme doesn't work, I think it's time the government should emulate what other countries are doing. I am aware that we have other ways of controlling mosquitoes and if the Kenyan government can do that, because this is now above the county and as much as county can also play a role, the Kenyan government at least can use other biological methods so that we control mosquitoes.

Mr. Speaker, we are in a world that has developed and we realize in other countries they've used the biological system well, whereby one, they can increase their, they can introduce genetic modifications to the mosquitoes so that at least a mosquito that they have released from their labs, when they mate with the female mosquitoes they make their lifespan to be short so that that will reduce the mosquitoes.

Mr. Speaker, another way that the biological control has is they have, they call it the irradiated mosquitoes, where they make the male mosquitoes sterile, then the sterilized mosquitoes when they meet the female ones, the eggs don't hatch and that is also another way they use to control mosquito breeds. And the third one is the Wallachia and that also works whereby the eggs also don't hatch. I think it's time the government should introduce such in Kenya, so that apart from using the nets, we can use other means so that we can make these things work.

Mr. Speaker, I believe our constitution gave power to public participation and as an Assembly, this House Committee on Health, when they conducting its public participation, I believe that we should do things differently. As much as the County Executive is the implementer, but in our public participations, when it comes to health issues, I think we can introduce a topic whereby we sensitize our people about the importance of nets, so that some of them don't go with them and use them as fishing nets. This is because I know that from the areas that we come, many people, in fact they don't use it for fishing, but they use it to dry the fish. So I think if we do

some public participation as an Assembly, we can help teach our people and again, we will have given power to our 2010 constitution. Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I support.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Hon Alice Wajewa.

**Hon. Wajewa** (Nominated MCA): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Foremost, I want to thank the Almighty Lord for this far He has brought us, since we went for our games and we came back, all of us in good health.

Mr. Speaker, I have stood to support the reports and I want to applaud the good work the Committee of Health has done, and the person who came up with this issue also, that is Honourable Reuben Rakwach. This major problem is not only in our county, but it is a global one, and especially here in our country, Kenya, and even worse in Kisumu. Mosquito is one of the major causes of Maternal, neonatal, and infant mortality in our county, Kisumu County. I'm so glad that this House Committee has done a very good and detailed report. Their findings and recommendations are excellent, and I want to encourage us all to take this as a shared responsibility, starting within our families and communities.

At home, while the government has provided mosquito nets, as leaders and families, we should also raise awareness among our constituents and communities to take ownership in combating malaria. Beyond nets, there are additional steps we can take, such as using mosquito sprays, coils, and keeping our surroundings clean, particularly areas where mosquitoes breed.

Let us work together. The government and county authorities are doing their best, but they should also continue collaborating with development partners, as efforts like spraying breeding grounds are costly. This initiative should reach every county, and we should implement large-scale indoor spraying, as practiced in counties like Homa Bay and Migori.

Mr. Speaker, we need to undertake large-scale indoor natural spraying periodically. I've also read that the Department of Health, in collaboration with Cuban experts and the Ministry of Health, previously mapped mosquito breeding sites and conducted an intervention called "seeding." However, they paused further action, citing high costs. While this may indeed be expensive, as a county, we should prioritize allocating a budget for this purpose. This will allow us to intensify our focus on spraying breeding sites to target mosquitoes, including larvae, directly at their source. I support their recommendations and hope they are implemented as proposed. Thank you very much.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable James Omollo.

**Hon. Omollo** (MCA, West Nyakach): Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I wish to call the mover to reply.

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

**Hon. Oginga** (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker and the Honourable Members. Mr. Speaker, based on the remarks shared here in the House, I believe most contributions today have been commendations for the Committee's recommendations. In my response, I would like to highlight a few key observations from this session.

Firstly, I note the absence of Honourable Reuben Rakwach, who initially presented the statement. It is my wish that the Member was here to offer his insights on whether he feels the report adequately addressed his concerns. Mr. Speaker, as I respond, I'd also like to remind the House echoing what Honourable Alice mentioned earlier that, malaria control is a shared responsibility. It cannot rest solely with the Department or the Government; it requires a collective effort.

For example, while the Government has implemented measures like insecticide-treated nets, as Honourable Oiko Pete noted, our recent visits to health facilities revealed concerns from healthcare professionals regarding the use of these nets. These concerns stem from the number of malaria cases they still encounter despite these interventions.

Mr. Speaker, it is widely known that many insecticide-treated nets are not being used correctly, and this isn't news to anyone here. I would caution against making statements that ignore this reality. If you visit rural homesteads, you will often find mosquito nets used in unintended ways, such as in fields or even to protect young chicks from predators like eagles or hawks. This misuse of mosquito nets highlights the need for a shift in attitudes and an increased public awareness around using these tools as intended for malaria prevention.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to address Honourable Bill Oliver's concern regarding the House Committee's timeline for reporting. Although the Committee faced the challenge of the 14-day limit, we still managed to gather substantial information. Given our prior visits to areas of concern, we already had first-hand knowledge on many of these issues, as reflected in our report's observations. The challenge lay in the scope of the report. Initially, the statement was intended to focus solely on Kolwa East, but Members agreed that we should extend our research to cover all of Kisumu County. Realistically, however, 14 days was not enough time to thoroughly examine the entire county.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to commend Honourable Bill Oliver for his excellent recommendation on the biological elimination method. I hope that if this report is adopted, the Hansard will reflect this suggestion, enabling the line department to take note and possibly implement it in the future. In closing, I would like to thank the Honourable House and urge everyone to support this report in the voting process. Thank you very much. I reply.

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, now that the motion, adoption of the report of the Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation Committee on the Inquiry into the matter of Mosquito Invasion in Kisumu County as sought by Honourable Ruben Rakwach, have been moved, seconded, and well debated, I therefore want to put a question on the adoption of the same.

*(Question put and agreed to)*

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, the motion, adoption of the Report of the Departmental Committee on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation on the Inquiry into the matter of Mosquito Invasion in Kisumu County as sought by Honourable Reuben Rakwach has been adopted today, Tuesday, 05<sup>th</sup> of November, 2024, at 16:01 hours. I direct that the recommendation of the report, together with the Hansard report be sent to the right departments for action and that the Implementing committee to follow up on the same.

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

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**The Speaker** (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Members, you may be upstanding. There being no other business to transact, the House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, the 06<sup>th</sup> of November, 2024, at 09.00 a.m.

*(House rose at 4.02 p.m.)*

*Addendum*

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