



FULL IN-TRAY AS HOUSE RESUMES AFTER LONG RECESS



From debate on the Governor's State of the County Address held in December, 2024 to processing the Bills introduced in the House when it was about to go on recess, Hon. Members have their work cut out when they resume from long recess.

The House adjourned on 6th December, 2024 and is set to resume on Tuesday 11th February, 2025 at 2:30PM.

Kisumu Governor H.E. Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o made his State of the County Address during a Special Sitting of the House convened at Tom Mboya Labour College on 13th December, 2024 where he enumerated the achievements his administration has made and the future plans.

At the occasion, which was graced by Bungoma Governor H.E. Hon. Ken Lusaka among other dignitaries, Governor Nyong'o also thanked the County Assembly for passing various legislations that have provided legal frameworks enhancing development and service delivery in Kisumu County.

Debate on this address is one of the top priorities when the House resumes.

Also lined up are three legislative proposals introduced in the House when it was about to go on recess. They include Kisumu County Quarrying Bill, 2024, the Kisumu County Cess Bill, 2024 and the Kisumu County Child Protection Bill, 2024.

The Assembly has already conducted public participation on these legislative proposals and Hon. Members are set to process them further when they resume from long recess.

Also in the pipeline is the Supplementary Budget set to be brought to the County Assembly by the Executive. This document will also be one of the top priorities to ensure service delivery is not disrupted in the County.

During recess, some Committees held meetings; reports of which are also expected to be tabled in the House.

Among them include the PIC/PAC Committee which met the management of various sub county hospitals to respond to audit queries for the financial years 2021/2022 and 2022/2023.

Lands, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development Committee also conducted site visits to the five municipalities in Kisumu County to assess their progress since they were established.

MCAS CONCERNED ABOUT DELAYED PROCUREMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, PUT PRESSURE ON THE EXECUTIVE

Members of the County Assembly have put pressure on the Executive to roll out development projects for FY 2024/2025.

They expressed concern about delayed procurement which they observed was impacting negatively on the residents of Kisumu County and risked increasing the county's pending bills.

"It is very unfortunate that we are in the third quarter of the financial year but no development project has been rolled out," decried Hon. Samuel Dede of Kisumu North Ward.

"We are approaching the season of long rains yet our roads are still in bad state," observed Hon. Reuben Rakwach of Kolwa East Ward.

"Our people are suffering because there is nothing happening on the ground," bemoaned Hon. Oiko Pete of Kabonyo Kanyagwal Ward.

Alarmed by the situation, the County Assembly leadership convened a meeting bringing together County Executive Committee Members and Members of the County Assembly to address the situation.



Hon. Oiko Pete (Kabonyo Kanyagwal) speaking during the joint meeting of the Executive and the County Assembly

The meeting that was chaired by the Speaker Hon. Elisha Oraro was attended by all CECs, the County Secretary and all Hon. Members of the County Assembly.

The meeting discussed the implementation status of development projects in the county and explored measures fast-track procurement of projects yet to be rolled out.

"We are equally committed to ensuring that all the projects are implemented at the stipulated time and we are doing our level best to ensure all of them are rolled out," said Mr. George Okong'o, the CECM for Finance and Economic Planning.

The meeting resolved that all development projects would be rolled out immediately for the benefit of the people of Kisumu and to reduce the threat of pending bills in the County.

The Hon. Members and the CECs also agreed to meet frequently to take stock of progress of the implementation of the projects.

"Our people are suffering because there is nothing happening on the ground,"
Hon. Oiko Pete .



A section of CECMs (front row) during the joint meeting of the Executive and the County Assembly

RISE IN PRIVATE MEMBER'S BILL A MAJOR MILESTONE FOR THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

The County Assembly is currently processing the Kisumu County Quarrying Bill, 2024 and the Kisumu County Cess Bill, 2024 – both being Private Members' Bill sponsored by the Deputy Speaker and Manyatta B MCA Hon. Nereah Okombo and nominated MCA representing the youth Hon. Regina Kizito respectively.

The Kisumu County Quarrying Bill, 2024 is a proposed a legislation to regulate quarrying activities to ensure they are safe, fair and beneficial to local communities and the environment.

The legislation ensures quarrying is done responsibly and that the activities follow clear rules and timelines, protect the environment and that benefits are shared fairly among quarry operators, the government and the local community.



Nominated MCA Hon. Regina Kizito

On the other hand, the Kisumu County Cess Bill, 2024 is a proposed legislation which provides for imposition of cess on agricultural produce within the County.

The purpose of the Bill is to levy and collect as a cess on agricultural produce within the County and to provide procedures for the management and administration of cess collection for the development and maintenance of infrastructure in crop growing areas.

Most of the legislative proposals passed by the Assembly originate from the Executive. Though nearly at the middle of its term, the Third Assembly has already set a new record in the number of Private Member's Bill brought to the House. The First and Second Assemblies each had one private member's Bill.

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Deputy Speaker Hon. Nereah Okombo
(MCA Manyatta B)



A section of Hon. Members of the County Assembly. The rise in private member’s Bill is a major milestone in the Assembly’s legislative mandate.

Speaker Hon. Elisha Oraro attributes this milestone to enhanced capacity building to Hon. Members and envisions more private member’s Bill finding their way into the House.

“Legislation is the core mandate of the Assembly and other than the legislative proposals originating from the Executive, we want our Hon. Members to also take the lead in coming up with various legislations,” he says.

“The members have been trained and I urge that by the end of this Third Assembly, all members should have been able to bring own sponsored bills,” he added.

Also currently before the House is the Kisumu County Child Protection Policy, 2024 which provides for a coordinated and strategic leadership for service delivery and resource mobilization of child protection within the county.

The aim of this policy is to shift the focus from service delivery systems that focus on single-issues or problems, to approaches that identify and address root-causes of vulnerability and risk, build resilience, recognize individual strengths, and empower children and families.

The policy applies to all state and non-state actors involved in the county and local governance and decision making.



A section of MCAs at a past function.

“By the end of this Third Assembly, all members should have been able to bring own sponsored bills to the House,” Speaker Hon. Elisha Oraro

MAJOR AWARDS BAGGED IN 2024 HIGHLIGHT THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY'S POSITIVE TRANSFORMATION



Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyongo' sampling some of the trophies received by the County Assembly during the Assembly's Open Day in June, 2024.

From being a benchmarking hub to consistent recognition and awards, the County Assembly has made significant milestone in achieving its core mandate of legislation, representation and oversight.

The latest recognition was by the prestigious Mizani Africa Awards, held in Weston Hotel, Nairobi in December, 2024, which ranked the County Assembly as the third most trusted legislative body among the 47 County Assemblies in Kenya.

The Assembly earned accolades for its transformative legislative achievements that have positively impacted on the socio-economic development of Kisumu County, as well as for enhancing accountability and access to information.

Over the past few years, the Assembly has processed more than 100 bills, considered over 20 petitions, and deliberated on numerous Statement requests.

A significant milestone was the Assembly's inaugural open day held in June 2024, which strengthened collaboration with its stakeholders.

"We are committed to effective legislation, improved oversight, and delivering value to the people of Kisumu," Hon. Oraro said.



Speaker Hon. Elisha Oraro (3rd left) receiving certificate of recognition from Hon. Ndindi Nyoro (MP, Kiharu) during Mizani Africa Awards, 2024. Accompanying him are the Deputy Speaker Hon. Nerah Okombo and Deputy Majority Leader Hon. Lumumba Owade

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Speaker Hon. Elisha Oraro receiving certificate of recognition during the 4th Ombudsman Huduma Award in 2023. The Assembly was feted for enhancing access to information and compliance in complaints handling and reporting.

The Assembly's recent honours extend beyond the Mizani Awards. In November 2023, it was feted during the 4th Ombudsman Huduma Award for enhancing access to information through its digital platforms and compliance in complaints handling and reporting.

Speaker of the Assembly alongside some Hon. Members and Clerk have also earned individual awards for their outstanding leadership. In March 2024, Hon. Oraro was named the best County Assembly Speaker in Nyanza region at the Pollster Rankings Gala Awards held in Nakuru. Later, in September, he was ranked the second-best County Assembly Speaker in Kenya at the ETA Awards, further solidifying his transformative leadership.

Clerk, Mr. Owen Ojuok, also received accolades as the Best Assembly Clerk in Nyanza region during the 4th County Gala Awards.

Among Hon. Members who have received individual recognition and awards include Hon. Joachim Oketch (Kondele), Hon. Benson Adegga (Kajulu), Hon. Regina Kizito (nominated) and Hon. Seth Okumu (East Seme), among others.



Kisumu Governor Prof. Anyang' Nyong'o (centre) flagged by Speaker Hon. Elisha Oraro (2nd left), Bungoma Governor Hon. Kenneth Lusaka (left), Majority whip Hon. Seth Ochieng and Clerk of the Assembly Mr. Owen Ojuok during Nyong'o's state of the County Address, December, 2024