COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION

Tuesday, 04th March, 2025

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

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

PRAYERS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Clerk, take us through the order of the day.

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

PAPERS LAID

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS ON THE EXAMINATION OF REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF MIGOSI SUB COUNTY HOSPITAL FOR FYS 2021/2022 AND 2022/2023

BY

HON. KENNEDY OUKO, MCA, WEST KISUMU

(CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE)

(Papers laid by Hon. Omollo on behalf of the Leader of Hon. Ouko)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable James Omollo.

Hon. Omollo (MCA, West Nyakach): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow me to lay the following Papers on behalf of Honourable Kennedy Ouko. Pursuant to the provisions of Orders No. 182 (6) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, I wish to table today Tuesday 04th February, 2025, report of the Select Committee of Public Investments and Public Accounts on the Examination of Reports of the Auditor General's on the Financial Statements of Migosi Sub County Hospital for FYs 2021/2022 and 2022 and 2023. Thank you.

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

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Members, I confirm the receipt of the report of the Select Committee of Public Investments and Public Accounts on the Examination of Reports of the Auditor General's on the Financial Statements of Migosi Sub County Hospital for FYs 2021/2022 and 2022 and 2023. I commit these reports to the House Business Committee for scheduling them for debate.

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

NOTICE OF MOTION

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND PUBLIC ACCOUNTS ON THE EXAMINATION OF REPORTS OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL'S ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF MIGOSI SUB COUNTY HOSPITAL FOR FYS 2021/2022 AND 2022/2023

BY

HON. KENNEDY OUKO, MCA, WEST KISUMU

(CHAIRPERSON, PUBLIC INVESTMENTS AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE)

(Notice of Motion given by Hon. Omollo on behalf of the Leader of Hon. Ouko)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Omollo.

Hon. Omollo (MCA, West Nyakach): Thank you Mr. Speaker. THAT, pursuant to the provisions of Orders No. 45 (1) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, this House adopts Reports of the Auditor General's on the Financial Statements of Migosi Sub County Hospital for FYs 2021/2022 and 2022 and 2023. Thank you.

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

MOTION

DEBATE ON THE GOVERNOR'S STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS TO THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

(FOURTH SITTING)

BY

HON. KENNEDY OOKO, MCA, AHERO WARD

(LEADER OF MAJORITY)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Thank you Honourable Members. It is my opinion that before we continue with the debate, I want to remind you of limitation of debate that was agreed upon in this House that gave members ten minutes for their contribution and Leader of Majority of the mover of the motion fifteen minutes. And in replying, twenty minutes was granted to the Leader of Majority Party.

So, Honourable Members get guided as we contribute. Again, remember that those who had contributed will not contribute again. We are focusing on those who have not contributed to the Governor's speech. Be guided.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honourable Member for Kobura Ward, Billy Odhiambo.

Hon. Bill (MCA Kobura): Thank you, Honourable Speaker. I went through the Governor's speech and I was also following very keenly, especially when the Governor was talking about agriculture. And in doing that, I was also comparing with the manifesto that our Governor gave. And clearly, you realize from his speech and if you look at his manifesto, he's very, very passionate about agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, from the Governor's speech, you come to realize again that there's something that is amiss. The department is really failing the Governor on issues to do with agriculture. And from the Governor's speech, he said that agriculture contributes around 16.6% of the Gross County Product and the larger Kisumu County population, around 62% of people at least is engaged in agriculture. But then, if you look at how the county government has empowered the population that is in agriculture, then you get so worried and this because clearly, we have not done enough for our people in Kisumu County. In agriculture, I also want to congratulate them in as much as some areas are not that perfect.

Mr. Speaker, there is the Maseno Agricultural Training College that was built. We have the Pap Konam Agriculture Training College that is built in Seme. I felt they should now start, being that they have constructed all these, they should at least take one institution and focus on one thing,

not all the agricultural centers doing nearly the same thing. So, they should just specialize so that one institution is known for something, one thing, not everything, so that they can really specialize and give our county quality.

Secondly, the Governor talked about the Supply of Fertilizers and Certified Seedlings. I expected from that speech, at least the speech should have contained at least something to show that what was done impacted on the lives of people. Because this is just a speech, but there's nothing to show that this particular group was taken as a group that is being monitored or followed to have been given maybe Avocado Seedlings. Mr. Speaker, for us to be made aware as a legislative House, the big population that is being impacted by the distribution of certified seeds or the fertilizer that was given. For the fertilizer, at least we should have known the beneficiaries of the fertilizers, what they planted, at least the normal production that they were giving and what they got from the fertilizers that were given.

Mr. Speaker, from the Governor's speech, he talked about Cotton as being second after sugarcane in Kisumu County. However, I don't believe that is the case because we have rice and rice production is bigger than cotton now in Kisumu County. To confirm that from his speech, he also said in the financial year 2023-2024, production was 210 tons, falling short of the expected 960 tons. And this clearly shows that we have not yet embraced cotton as Kisumu County. Mr. Speaker, we need to do more in that area.

Mr. Speaker, talking about poultry, there are areas where incubators were given out, but I'm looking at it in the long term, giving out these incubators. We have institutions like the Maseno ATC. We have another in Muhoroni. We should have these institutions built with very big capacity incubators so that from these institutions, we can now supply to maybe groups and those people that were given so that we have a constant steady supply. We have a sustainable thing that we are doing, not that after some time, we'll be getting stories that the incubators that were distributed out will not be there.

Mr. Speaker, if we have an institution doing this from within our county, we are sure that from this period to this period, the group, this particular group is going to get this. So I believe that will be more sustainable than what really was done.

Mr. Speaker, if you look at the Agricultural Farm Mechanization, I don't know who wrote that part specifically. This is because from the Department Committee, we have machines. There are tractors at Rabuor, and we've always talked about them. And it is so unfortunate that in as much as the Governor is very passionate about agriculture, this part was very unfortunate because it talked about the private company, the Hello tractors. Yet in the same ward, Kobura, is where we have our tractors, the county tractors. I expected from that speech, especially farm mechanization, the Governor should have talked about the machines that we have, the tractors that we have. How are we going to reduce the cost of farming for our people?

Maybe if the county government has looked for other investors so that if farming maybe by charging county machines is at Kshs 4,000, if we get partners, maybe now it can go down to Kshs 2,000. This is because the endgame should be introducing many people within our county to agriculture. This is because, we have very vast lands that are not being used.

Mr. Speaker, again from the Governor's speech, I expected the Governor to inform this House about the machines that we've been allocating moneys to as an assembly for repair and buying new tractors. He should have informed us how efficient that project is so far. Because from that speech, we can clearly interpret that it is very vague. We can't tell how the machines we have are affecting the community or the farmers and the challenges maybe. Mr. Speaker, those are the concerns I had and those are the issues that I picked from that speech. I am really aware of the passion that the Governor has and if it is met with a good team that is ready to implement his manifesto then, as a county we will soar.

Mr. Speaker, I believe in agriculture, we'll be talking about people in this county, especially the youth, getting into agriculture and this is because agriculture is the first thing that you can learn to before you go to other jobs. It is a job in itself, but it also something that you can engage in immediately after school, one can start with while still maneuvering around.

So, it is my belief that, as a county, our manifesto is good, but we have not really invested greatly to support our people in agriculture. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honorable Member for Central Seme, Mildred Ajumbo.

Hon. Ajumbo MCA Central Seme): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I can see Honourable Boitone making some hard face that you've chosen Seme. Mr. Speaker, I also want to add my voice to the Governor's State of the County Address to the County Assembly. I picked a few take a ways.

Mr. Speaker, on the speech, I looked at the area of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works. Yes, it is true, much has been done. The Governor in his speech read that during the period the department opened 42.5 kilometers of roads graded that is under machine-based programs. Mr. Speaker, we all know from this assembly that we have invited the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works to come and shed more light on the machine-based program and the work plan. And that was the last financial years, 2023, 2024.

Mr. Speaker, a number of roads were opened, including a road in Central Seme, Kamoni, Kombewa access road. Up to now, Mr. Speaker, that road has been left the way it is.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to thank the Governor for the upgrading of the Namba Kapiyo-Bodi-Asat Road that is supposed to be completed, that is in phase two of it. We want to thank the County Government for the job well done and as we await for the second phase that will cover from Namba Kapiyo all the way to Bao and Asat.

Mr. Speaker, I also looked at the Governor's speech on the Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change. Mr. Speaker, a number of boreholes have been sunk, as per the Governor's Manifesto of 2017 which stated that, every household to have access to clean water yet quite a number of people still do not have access to that water. In the year 2023/2024, quite a number of boreholes were dug and in Central Seme Ward, two boreholes were dug in Abol Primary and Kindu Primary Schools and because there was no funding for equipping the project, the project has not been completed up to now. However, we want to thank the County Government and we hope that one day there will be funds so that the project can be finished,

Mr. Speaker, on FLLoCA projects, we also want to support the Governor's speech that the FLLoCA projects is aimed at benefiting the local communities, and in the Financial Year 2023/2024, a number of FLLoCA projects were to be done and still to be done. This Financial Year, the ones that were to be done in 2023 and 2024.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Education, Technical Training, Innovation and Social Services, we also want to thank His Excellency, the Governor, for the programmes of Education, especially on the bursaries. Quite a number of students have benefited from the bursaries in the year 2023-2024. We hope that moving forward; the establishment on the bursary will be improved so that students can access bursaries.

Mr. Speaker, I do not want to comment on everything, but I want to thank His Excellency the Governor. In his conclusions, the Governor stated that this House should rightfully lay claim to all our successful development projects and operational initiatives because it has passed many bills and policies to support our development programs. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honourable Member for Nyalenda "A".

Hon Boitone (Nyalenda "A"): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow me to start with the first remarks of our beloved Governor during his Address. The Governor said that this report is presented for interrogation and scrutiny by the people and that is exactly what the Assembly is doing. We are scrutinizing and interrogating this report, and informing the Governor exactly what is on the ground.

Mr. Speaker, I have gone through this report from page to page, and I have realized that there are some projects that are mentioned in this report, but if you go to the ground, these projects are either incomplete or non-existent. These are the things that I want to talk about. But before that, Honourable Speaker, the Governor again informed this House that, through civil society organization, and members of the public would walk into his office, and those offices of the

Executive Committee Members and Chief Officers, or Directors, to ask questions. In the real sense, is this really possible? Is it possible to get appointment with the Governor to ask questions?

Honourable Speaker, allow me to start with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Livestock development and Irrigation. The Governor talked about one hundred and eleven (111) highly experienced Extension Officers. Where these Extension Officers and what are they doing? Since they were recruited, what value have they given to this County in terms of agricultural production? I realized that these officers have just inflated the wage bill, and yet what they are doing is not adding value to this County. The Governor mentioned that the service delivery has been reduced from an average of one officer to 10,000 farmers (1: 10,000) to one officer to 3,000 farmers (1:3000). Yet, these officers are not being seen on the ground trying to help farmers. Our vulnerable farmers are struggling on their own to do agriculture.

Mr. Speaker, on the same department, the Governor mentioned that the Department of Agriculture, with support from Agriculture Food Authority (AFA) distributed 2,400 grafted avocados and 9,200 coffee seedlings to farmers in the coffee-grown areas of Upper Nyakach/ Koru. Whoever sat down and wrote this information to the Governor, he ought to have told us, after this distribution, what happens to the grafted avocados and the grafted 9,200 coffee seedlings. Are they producing anything? Or is it just a story as it is written here?

Again, as was mentioned by one of my colleagues, that the Governor informed this House that to step up cotton production, his Government, in collaboration with the National Fiber Crop Directorate has in the year 2023-2024, taken significant steps. Again, the Governor mentioned that through this effort, a total of 12 tons of cotton seeds were acquired and distributed. After that, what happened? The author should have told us what production of 12,000 tons of seed gave in that financial year, because when the Governor came to give the address, it was towards the end of the year and I knew very clearly that production from these seeds had already been achieved.

Honourable Speaker, the same on agriculture, the Governor talked about Poultry Value Chain. He mentioned that in the year 2023/2024 that was the year under review; youth groups in Kondele, Manyatta "B" and Nyalenda "A" were awarded Incubation Units. But again, I can attest to this; Nyalenda "A" is mentioned here. However, these incubation units are not anywhere. In fact, before this department thought about giving incubation unit, why couldn't they have thought about doing production of eggs? Because why do you buy an incubation unit while the eggs that are supposed to be incubated are not even there with farmers? And are they still functional? A number of them, I believe, have turned into individual property. And this was also not done in the year under review, of 2021/2022. As such, somebody should be held responsible for giving Governor wrong information.

Mr. Speaker, this is very interesting. We went to Nyalenda "B" sometimes back and the Governor also mentioned this. That, there is a 250 kilograms production capacity Ice Flake Making Machine which was delivered in Nyalenda "B" in Dunga. There is a time the Select Committee on Implementation visited Dunga and we found this machine had been turned into a machine that is used to charge motorbikes. That is the truth of the matter. And here we are being told that the machine is producing ice. I am saying somebody should be held responsible here. That is the truth of the matter. What is documented here is far much different from what is on the ground. So, we are telling the Governor to take stern action against those who gave him this report.

Honourable Speaker, when it comes to the Department of Education, Technical Training, Innovation and Social services, I believe that, we are doing well apart from using Kenya Shillings six million one hundred and fifty thousand (6,150,000) to do Administration of Bursaries. The bursaries allocation is Kenya Shillings two hundred and five million (205M), but we are using Kenya Shillings six million one hundred and fifty thousand (6,150,000). This is a little bit on the higher side.

Let the money that is meant to---

(The Chief Whip rises on a Point of Order)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Okumu, MCA, East Seme): What is the matter, the Honourable Chief Whip?

Chief Whip (Hon Kanga, Market/Milimani): Mr. Speaker, I just want to give information in relation to what the Honourable Boitone the Member for Nyalenda "A" is alluding to.

Mr. Speaker, the member has also alluded to the fact that the machine was delivered in Nyalenda "B", represented by Honourable James Were, is being used to charge motorcycles. Mr. Speaker, as an Assembly, we have the powers to oversight and to summon the persons in charge, because I believe the Governor is not in charge of those things. The Governor said that the machine was delivered. Now, it is upon the Assembly, and I believe through the relevant House Committee, chaired by whoever is supposed to chair that House Committee, to summon those people and necessary action taken against them through House Committee resolution under this Assembly, rather than blame the Governor. This is because the Governor was given information that the machine was delivered. Now, it is not upon the Governor to make sure that that machine is used for the purpose for it was delivered to.

Mr. Speaker, it is upon this Honourable House, in fact through Honourable James Were, who is just seated in this Assembly while Honourable Boitone who is giving a very crucial information

to this Honourable House, Mr. Speaker, that the intended purpose of which that machine was delivered is not being used. So, now it is upon the Assembly, rather than talk about issue, why don't the Assembly take necessary action?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Thank you.

Chief Whip (Hon Kanga, Market Milimani): Mr. Speaker, again for your information, Honourable Boitone is the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Lands, Physical Planning and Urban Development. Whoever is supposed to take that action, should take action against such officer. There is no need of necessarily passing that blame to the Governor. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Thank you Chief Whip for that. We get your information. It is my belief that, these are the reasons why we debate on the Governor's speech, so that we agree with what he has said. We also poke holes on where we believe there are gaps, and then we take actions after that. So, allow the Honourable Member for Nyalenda "A" to continue with his submission.

Hon Boitone (Nyalenda "A"): Thank you Hon Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon Okumu): Honourable Member, you know, I had mentioned that we only take ten minutes, and I think you have taken…six minutes. Honourable Member, I believe that, I have the time, with me here, and I think you've taken more than ten minutes. So, I want to give you an additional two minutes to summarize. Thank you.

Hon Boitone (Nyalenda "A"): Thank you, Honourable Speaker. Let me just go through very fast in the next two minutes that you have given me. The Community Hall under the Department of Social Services that was done in Nyalenda "A" has been mentioned to be to be complete. However, the position is that what was done was a chain link type of fencing. We are here to inform the Governor what is actually happening on the ground. We are not blaming the Governor. In the document it is indicated that it was stone fenced and completed.

Again, Honourable Speaker, we are urging the County Government of Kisumu to come up with the same *Marwa* system that we had sometimes back to help our community or our people in terms of health issues. At times we know very well that we had Marwa, and it was serving our people well. At the moment we have the Social Health Authority (SHA) which has issues. I believe the County Government will come up with the same kind of system so that we assist our patients. In that regard, Honourable Speaker, we have also realized that the US government has withdrawn the support that it had been given. The Governor informed us that Kisumu County has a high disease burden comprising a high privilege of HIV and a high incidence of malaria.

Now that the US government has withdrawn the support, how is the County Government going to take care of the HIV patients? This is also very crucial, and I wish something better be done in regards to that.

Lastly, Honourable Speaker, there were projects under Department of Water, Environment and Natural Resources and Climate Change where they mentioned that this project was done in Kisumu East, Kisumu West, Muhoroni, Nyakach, Nyando, and some other areas. It was stated that, they are complete and functional. These projects were 33 in number and done in six sub-counties. I wish how members coming from these Sub-Counties could tell us if these water points are functioning or not functioning, so that service delivery...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu): Please summarize, Honourable Member.

Hon. Boitone (MCA, Nyalenda "A"): Thank you. Lastly, Honourable Speaker, I want to thank the Governor for organizing the Governor's Cup that was done. This was a plus, especially to the winning team that came from Nyalenda. Five iplayers were picked from the activities. One called Javan joined Ulinzi Stars, Wycliffe from Nyalenda joined Kisumu All-Stars, Glenn joined Kakamega Boys, and Kevin joined Kisumu All-Stars. This was a plus. It is my belief that, the Governor's Cup was a plus.

Lastly, Honourable Speaker, talking about Own Source Revenue, we have a very big issue here. Our County is not doing well. If Nairobi is doing Ksh. 12.5 billion, Mombasa Ksh. 5.5 billion, Narok Ksh. 4.7 billion, Kiambu Ksh. 4.5 billion, Nakuru Ksh. 3.3 billion, Machakos Ksh. 1.5 billion, and Kisumu is doing Ksh. 1.5 billion, actually, this is not right. The Governor should strike a whip and put this board in order so that we get maximum own source revenue. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honourable Member for Migosi, the Honourable Pamela Oyoo.

Hon. Oyoo (MCA, Migosi): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I also want to add my voice as per the Governor's speech. I want to say the Governor's speech is a summary of what the county has done and what the county intends to do through the administration of the Governor.

Mr. Speaker, in the Governor's speech, the Governor was quite passionate about Early Childhood development (ECD), which is the foundation upon which the formation and the future of our children lies. Through ECD and through the Department of Education, the Governor has really tried to ensure that most of our schools have an ECD section. Nearly all of our schools within the county have an ECD section, and teachers are also employed to ensure that we give these children the skills they need at that early age.

In terms of ECD, the County Government of Kisumu has really tried, especially at Rotary. From my ward, I have taken about 300 students to Rotary this year. The Governor is very passionate about this kind of programme. The programme is really helping the young people who are in the society. They are engaged and they acquire skills that they can use to be employed or to make life better for themselves by working for themselves. It is a plus for the Governor because at Rotary, students go to Rotary and each Ward is given a form. Through the bursary, they learn the entire time of their education at Rotary, and they get the skills which can help them to better their lives. I think that is a good plus for Kisumu County.

In the Department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation, I want to say that we have achieved a milestone in health. Lately, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga Teaching and Referral hospital (JOOTRH), has been gazetted as a Semi-autonomous Referral Hospital. I want to say this is a plus for the Governor because in many counties, they have not reached that level except for Eldoret, Nairobi and Nakuru. Kisumu is coming forth. I want to say that the Governor has worked hard in terms of health by providing resources through the County Assembly of Kisumu. Now, JOOTRH is able to be self-governing. It is a self-governing and a performing entity.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change, in the Governor's address, I have seen 33 projects in different wards which have been offered water.

Mr. Speaker, while touching on the same department there is also FLLoCA that is in every ward in this financial year. I believe that, if all these are implemented, Kisumu will move to another level. I want to congratulate the Governor for working hard because most of our wards, all our wards this year have a project from FLLoCA. Most of the wards will be self-sufficient in terms of water. I want to say nobody is complaining about in this House that they do not have a FLLoCA project. I want to say that, this is a plus to our Governor and I want to congratulate him.

Mr. Speaker, from the Governor's address, I have realised we have a Digital Information System in terms of Health. You are able to get information from any end of the county in terms of health. We are able to share information digitally and that is very healthy for the society of this county. You are able to find help from any hospital from wherever you are. You can share information and seek information from a different hospital from where you are. This is a very positive step and if we continue like this and support the Governor, then, it is my belief that we will do much better than other counties. I want to say thank you. I want to say the Governor is doing well and we congratulate him for work well done. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, Chief Whip, the Honourable Seth Ganga.

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mine will be very brief because all the issues, I believe, have been addressed by my colleagues.

Mr. Speaker, the Governor's speech was tremendous. However, there are challenges which I need to highlight going forward. On the areas of agriculture, that is what I want to talk about. The Governor talked about distribution of Certified Seeds, especially maize seeds. You will find that when the Department is seeking procurement for the maize seeds and fertilizer, they seek for the same seeds that are planted in Seme, that are planted in Nyahera and Maseno areas, you will find that the same seeds is what is distributed in Kano.

Mr. Speaker, these people should be specific because you cannot plant the maize seeds that are planted in Nyahera and Maseno areas and you are going to distribute those maize seeds in Miwani area where Honourable Warindu comes from. Mr. Speaker, this issue should be addressed by the Extension Officers. I am happy that the County Government, through donor funds, purchased for each and every Extension Officer a motorbike. They should get feedback from respective wards on the specific seeds which should be planted in various Sub-Counties.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that, one is also done on the fertilizers because the same fertilizer that is used in the highland areas cannot be used in the lowland areas depending on the seeds that are planted.

Mr. Speaker, another issue I want to talk about, going by experience in the subsequent financial years, is the issue of road network in Kisumu. As we are talking right now, we are soon going to be having long rains. Mr. Speaker, the contractors in some areas have not moved on site. We are urging them, going by the Governor's speech and experience, to move on site before the commencement of the long rains. Mr. Speaker, you will find that some contractors will be moving to the roads during the long rains. As a result, the Honorable Members will be having tough times to answer questions during such times.

Mr. Speaker, it is my belief that, the Governor did some changes in his governance by reshuffling the Cabinet and appointing some to handle various dockets. In his statement, he stated that he was doing that change in the Cabinet to enhance service delivery. It is now the right time, going by the past experience that we urge the newly appointed Cabinet Ministers or the newly reshuffled Cabinet Ministers to ensure that they implement budgets of the County Government based on the past experiences. Mr. Speaker, these challenges, we have had them in the seven years of Professor Peter Nyongó's tenure as the Governor. So, it is now high time that the Cabinet used this past experience to fix the County Government in various sectors, which has been addressed by my colleagues. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I support the Governor's speech and I urge the Honourable Members to pass it, but the County Government of Kisumu should use the past experience so that we fix the County Government.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, the issue of health has been addressed. However, there is something, the new changes, which is, I believe, SHA or SHIF, although some of our colleagues in Azimio or ODM are really praising it. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of the County Assembly, representing Market/Milimani Ward, and as a member who comes from the city, I frequent these hospitals. Our residents have challenges in the issue of SHA and SHIF, and, I urge the National Government, because the County Government cannot implement the health issues without the National Government. So, if this insurance issue is not handled properly, then there will be no efficient service delivery as far as health is concerned. So, I urge the National Government to fix this SHA-SHIF issue once and for all, for the sake of our residents, not only in Kisumu County, but also in other counties. Otherwise, thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honourable Vincent Jagongo of North West Kisumu.

Hon. Jagongo (MCA, North-West Kisumu): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I want to contribute to the Governor's State of the County Address to the County Assembly and I will confine myself to the Department of Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation.

Mr. Speaker, first, I want to applaud the Governor and the County Government of Kisumu for the partnership between the County Government of Kisumu and an international investor that is the MEDITAS, in building a pharmaceutical company in Kibos that will help us manufacture medicine or drugs that can help our people. It is my opinion that, this will help us reduce the amount of money that we use to import or purchase pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical commodities outside Kisumu County. So, this is an applause to the Governor. Let us hope that the partnership will continue, so that we get these commodities closer to our people.

Mr. Speaker, a year ago, in the same Governor's speech, there was an agreement that the Governor was to do medical theatres in the seven sub-county hospitals within Kisumu County. I am happy that four of those hospitals have theatres, as you speak. Kisumu East, that is Gita Hospital, is yet to be completed. Kisumu West that is Chulaimbo Hospital, theatre is yet to be completed. I would just want to urge the Governor, maybe to just move with the speed, and ensure that these theatres are completed. This is because, if you want to decongest our Level IV hospital, we need these theatres close to our people. Assuming that a mother comes to our hospital to give birth, and maybe the process does not go well, and needs to be referred to another level of hospital for surgical management, some of them end up dying before reaching the hospital. So, we need to have these medical theatres in place. It is long overdue that we had them in place so that we can support our people when it comes to caesarean sections.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to echo what my colleagues who have talked about the issue of donor funding in the Health Department. We all know that this donor funding is no longer going to be

disbursed to us, and we need to find a mechanism on how to support the medical staff that were employed by these NGOs. As you speak, the HIV care, TB care, malaria care that were being supported by this donor fund but is no longer there. Most of the patients that were being seen at some of our health facilities are now being transferred to the Outpatient Department. If you go to Lumumba, they are seen at Outpatient Department. If you go to Kisumu County Hospital (KCH), they are equally seen at Outpatient Department. Any other hospital that was seeing them as special cases like the HIV clients, are now being seen as ordinary patients. The Tuberculosis clients are being seen as ordinary patients, and also those who are getting malaria treatment. This has subjected the hospitals to understaffing because the burden that was being felt by the NGO is has been transferred to the County government staff. It is high time the County looked forward to employ more staffs because there will be a burnout for this medical staff. They may not, they will not be able to see that number of patients. If you go to Lumumba, for example, where they used to see, on CCC, they used to see like 200 patients in a day. And when you go to outpatient, as we speak, there are only two clinicians. And these two clinicians may not be able to see more than 100 patients in a day on HIV care and the normal routine care for other patients.

Mr. Speaker, it is my belief that, we need to come up with the mechanism as a county on how to employ this medical staff that were laid off so that they can still continue supporting us in helping our people. This is because if that does not happen, it means we are going to lose so many patients who are on HIV care because they may not get the special care that they used to get when you are getting support from the donor partners. Otherwise, I support the report and I believe we'll work together as a team to ensure that Kisumu County goes on. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Odari.

Hon. Odari (MCA, Chemelil/Tamu): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, let me join my colleagues who have spoken earlier. Mr. Speaker, I will start by saying that those who prepared this or the author of this booklet made a very big mistake by deceiving the Governor. Whatever has been preparing this document is not giving that true reflection of what is there on the ground.

Mr. Speaker, let me start with the Department of Education, Technical Training, Innovation and Social Services. Last year, we were informed to bring at least two pupils to join the Marine School, which never happened. But in this book...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Honourable Odari, did you say two pupils?

Hon. Odari (MCA, Chemelil Tamu): Two students. Sorry. That is on page ten. Number two, we are being informed that there were 70 students, 35 boys and 35 girls benefited from the Marine Studies Scholarship amounting 1,934,050 million.

Mr. Speaker, they never attended to and up to now, they have not been called to go to marine study. I am kindly requesting the department, if they can allocate that money so that we can give them to other students.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, this is now the seventh year of our Governor in the office, but you will find that the Department of Education has constructed only 31 ECD in Kisumu County. But in other counties, Mr. Speaker, for example, in Kiambu, you will find that the County Government of Kiambu has constructed 134 ECDs classrooms in the year 2023/2024. And soon, they will construct PP1 and PP2 at around 130 classrooms.

Mr. Speaker, if you look at the Department of the Special Program led by, I don't know his name, but they are saying that they are doing a wonderful job, but there is nothing they are doing in that office. Mr. Speaker, I want to report to you because last year, there was a fire in Kopere. For the last two years, the Kopere market has experienced a lot of challenges in terms of fire. But I did a letter to them. They never responded. They never went there. But they are busy in the office. We have no problem with that. Let them continue.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Public Works, this department is informing us that they have constructed or rather they have installed 15 metres high mass flood per sub-county. Again, they are also stating that, they have installed three in Nyando, Nyakach installed one, Muhoroni is one and in Seme, Kisumu. But the truth of the matter, these floodlights, are not functioning they are all dead. In Nyamasaria, in the evening, the floodlights are not functioning.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker is the issue of Own Source Revenue. We are being informed that the County realized Kenya Shillings 1.5 billion in the year 2023/2024 financial year. However, the department has not informed this House what the challenges were in the last fiscal year. The county government lost a lot of money, they have not informed us how much was lost. Then the last part of it, Mr. Speaker, that next time, if we are having this such kind of address, I would propose that it be done in the Assembly, rather than being taken to Tom Mboya, and a great number of people come yet there is no enough food that people can eat. Even the Members did not get food. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(Chief Whip interjects with a Point of Order)

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Point of order, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): What is it Honourable Kanga?

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. It is my opinion that the provision of food is not provided for in our Standing Order. Honourable Odari has talked about providing food to those that attended the Governor's State of the County Address in Tom Mboya Labour college, but he should talk within the confines of the Standing Orders, Mr. Speaker, I believe so. We should be seen to representing the interests of the residents of Kisumu County, rather than talking of our interests. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Thank you Honourable Members. Allow me to also help. The Governor's State of the County Address happens in the precincts of the County Assembly in day just like this, and even when we go to any other place apart from here, it has to be a gazetted as an Assembly.

It's a normal Assembly day, and if we do not get food here today, we don't expect food on that day. And if it comes, it just comes as privilege from a well-wisher like the very charitable Honourable Ann Ochola. So, if you get food on any day in this Assembly, just know one of the Members has decided to provide it for you.

The reason why we go to Tom Mboya or any other big places is to allow the public to have a much bigger place where they can also listen to the speech by the Governor, because you can see our public gallery is very small and can accommodate very few people.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Yes Honourable Okoyo, but I believe, what do you want to say?

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to echo what my colleague, Honourable Odari has just said.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu ,MCA, East Seme): Order!!

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Mr. Speaker, just one minute.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu ,MCA, East Seme): Order!!

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Mr. Speaker, I want to put some facts straight.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): That's why you asked me for permission and I've said you first resume your seat.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Thank you Honourable Members. We are not discussing Honourable Odari's' speech. We are discussing the Governor's speech. We

have given direction. Let me first finish with Honourable Odari's point of order. I thought the Member wanted to submit and I was just checking the list you had submitted and he did not stand on a point of order and I was wondering why he was standing. That's why I have told him to resume his seat. So, what is your point of order, the Honourable Member for Kolwa Central?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): What is your point of order first?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, I know you want to challenge me, but avoid using that book, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): But Honourable Member you have risen on a Point of Order. So, on a point of order, we go to the orders of the Assembly, which are provided for...

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, I just wanted to clarify a fact here.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): While citing which Standing Order?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, I wish I had mine or you lend me that one so that I give you. I'm not sure about the number.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): So, for now, I'll bring for you the Standing Order, just resume your seat. Then, once you get the Standing Order in which you want to speak, I will allow you, Honourable Member. Sargent at Arm, please assist the Hon Member.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Honourable Members, we are debating on the Governor's speech. Going by the list I am having, it seems all the Members who are in this House had contributed because this is the last day for conclusion of the speech and it is my belief that, as the Honourable Member is still looking for the Standing Order, because it might be unrelated.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): What is it, the Honourable Nancy Matara?

Hon. Matara (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I have not contributed to this speech, but most of the things have been mentioned. But I wanted just to clarify on something. What Honourable Boitone stated. Though, I want to also contribute on the Governor's speech,

which was successful to me, yes. But what I wanted to give is a plus is on where the Cultural Sites are going to be established in each and every constituency. That's a plus. But, what the Honourable Member was talking about was about the Talent Search, but not on the Governor's Cup. To me, what is successful to the Executive might not be successful to us. And even as I'm standing here, I know the Governor's Cup was not successful in the Honourable Members perspective. Mr. Speaker, moving forward, I would ask the relevant Department to work hand-in-hand with the Honourable Members for better achievement.

Last but not least, I want to talk about the FECTAC event which happened in our county, but I didn't see it on Governor's speech. Which in my opinion was something also, we could have known the advantage and the importance of it, but I didn't see it captured in Governor's speech. Thank you so much.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Member, just to guide you, it is my opinion that, when we are discussing the Governor's speech, you discuss what the Governor said. You do not bring things that he did not say. He did not talk about a road in my ward, he did not talk about maybe the kids in my ward who are on bursary. Yes, you focus on what the Governor said on that particular day, and we make recommendations.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Yes, the Honourable, before I give to the Leader of Majority.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, I was to raise my point of order while citing the provisions of Standing Order No.82, but allow me to use No. 89 for that reason, Mr. Speaker, so that I can...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): So, which Standing Order will I be using to make my ruling?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, Standing Order No. 89.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Which is Statement of fact.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Where Standing Order No. 89 is trying to talk about responsibility for Statement of fact.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Proceed and remember.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Who is not factual?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, I listened well to what Honourable Odari Adonija stated and I believe that the Member was so bitter, and he ended up mentioning even other places like my ward in his presentation, which was okay, because he is a resident of my ward, and I represent him, and anything that he does in the Assembly, he is looking at my leadership, if I can always do the right thing so that we live well in my ward. But, Mr. Speaker, there is only one part that I also wanted to agree with him, although not well put, Mr. Speaker. Under what he was talking about...

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Order!! I will not allow you to contribute.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): I am not contributing, I'm just... I'm talking about Honourable Odari and there is something I wanted him to clear

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Honourable Member, Could you please confine yourself to the provisions of Standing Order No. 89? Just read it…

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): I've read it, that's why I'm standing.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Maybe for the Hon members to understand.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Okay, Mr. Speaker, it states that a member shall be responsible for the accuracy of any facts which the member alleges to be true, and may be required to substantiate any such facts instantly.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): So who do you want to substantiate a fact?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Honourable Odari.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): So which fact do you want Honourable Odari to substantiate?

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): That's why I'm building on that. You want to ask me to debate, Mr. Speaker? I'll just give you one minute.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Okay proceed.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Mr. Speaker, on the issue of provision of lunches that the member spoke about. The Honourable member was looking at the participants who were invited from every place within the county to assemble at Tom Mboya. By the time they were leaving, they came for Governor's speech, but members had to chip in to assist out of that embarrassment. So, for him to bring such an issue, I think he should even explain it further so that members understand that whatever happened on that 13th day of December 2024 was totally not good after those who invited these people failed to see on how these people are to travel back and on the issue of lunch.

Mr. Speaker, in support of his speech, I want him to come out and further bring his point well so that you understand why we believe that it should happen here at the Assembly rather than the gazetted place, Mr. Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable Kelvin Oraro, as a ranking member, you understand the procedures well. You cannot demand an explanation for a fact you already agree with. It seems you are in agreement with Honourable Odari on this matter, so there is no need to ask him to clarify something you have already accepted. If this were a matter of disputing facts, you would have disagreed with him, allowing him to clarify whether his statement was true or not. However, since you are in agreement, there is no basis for further explanation. We must be mindful not to misuse the standing orders.

I understand that you may have wanted another opportunity to contribute, but since you have already spoken, we will leave it at that. With submissions from nearly everyone, I now invite the Leader of Majority to respond and contribute.

The Leader of Majority (Hon. Ooko, MCA, Ahero): Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members, These initiatives mark significant progress in enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability in our county.

Honourable Speaker and Honourable Members, several Members have raised concerns regarding the reduction in the percentage of FTC funding, which has served as a central hub for excellence in agricultural information sourcing. This reduction poses a significant challenge to our agricultural sector.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Members, Honourable Bill, Honourable Mildred, and others have also highlighted the establishment of the Papa-Konam Agricultural Centre in Seme. I am pleased to note that this project is nearing completion, and I anticipate that the first student intake will take place this year.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Department of Education, Technical Training, Innovation, and Social Services, the past year has seen the construction of 31 ECD centres, providing a safe, conducive, and dignified learning environment for our children. Additionally, the county has partnered with development agencies such as Play Action Group and Safaricom to construct and renovate ECD centres within the county.

Honourable Speaker, we have also witnessed the completion of the Obwolo Twin VTC workshop in Kajula Ward, which has significantly enhanced vocational training opportunities. Furthermore, the completion of the Lung'a Vocational Training Centre Hall in Seme and the increase in Capitation Grants to VTCs from Kshs 71 million to Kshs 90.5 million has led to a rise in enrolment from 5,764 to 6,307 trainees, a commendable achievement for the county.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Water, Environment, Natural resources and Climate Change. I would like to highlight on the FLLoCA project, which is a community-driven initiative promoting public participation in project identification, implementation, and monitoring. This project benefits all 35 wards within Kisumu County.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Obonyo emphasized the need for increased investment in rural roads. While donor-funded projects have improved roads within the city, rural wards still require substantial infrastructural upgrades. Notably, the upgrade of Namba-Kapiyo, Bodhi, and Asat Beach roads, spanning 15.2 kilometres from murram to bitumen, will enhance access to Ndere Island, a key tourist attraction, thereby promoting local tourism.

Honourable Speaker, Honourable Henrietta Bodo discussed the importance of *Huduma Mashinani* in bringing government services closer to the people. I fully support this initiative and encourage its continuation. Additionally, the member highlighted the need for more motorboats on Lake Victoria to bolster security and support fish cage farming.

Honourable Speaker, under the Department of Medical Services and Public Health and Sanitation, significant progress has been made in transforming the TRH facility, now gazetted as a County Semi-autonomous Government Agency. Furthermore, as part of our strategy to attract development partners, we are collaborating with Meditas to establish a Pharmaceutical Company in Kibos. This project will enhance medicine availability and health security for Kisumu and the broader Western Kenya region.

We are also implementing the Primary Health Care Act 2023 by officially gazetting Primary Health Care Committees at the sub-county level, ensuring improved healthcare services. Notably, Muhoroni has been added as a new sub-county, bringing the total number of sub-counties in Kisumu to nine.

The county has also prioritized Cervical Cancer Prevention. The construction of a dedicated cancer centre is underway and, upon completion, will provide a suitable environment for patient care and treatment.

Mr. Speaker, in the Department of Public Service, County Administration, and Participatory Development, we have completed the construction of the Governor's official residence and a GIS laboratory. I encourage Members who have not visited Milimani to witness the newly completed Governor's house.

Additionally, three previously stalled ward Administrator Offices in Ombeyi Ward, South West Kisumu Ward, and East Seme have now been completed.

Honourable Omuya emphasized the need for better organization of the Governor's Cup to nurture talent effectively, a sentiment I fully support.

Honourable Odari raised concerns about disorder in corporate markets, which requires urgent attention. As leaders, we must take responsibility for ensuring order and proper management within our markets.

Furthermore, Honourable Members have pointed out several incomplete projects. I urge all Members to conduct site visits to verify the status of these projects and provide comprehensive reports to this assembly.

Honourable Ratib mentioned discrepancies in fencing projects, where stone fencing was budgeted for, however, chain-link fencing was implemented. This may have been an adjustment based on community preference, but it is essential to ensure transparency in project execution.

Honourable Speaker, I conclude by reaffirming that most Government initiatives are indeed being implemented. As Members of this Assembly, we must continue supporting the Governor's development agenda while fulfilling our oversight mandate to ensure sustainable progress within our county. With that, Honourable Speaker, I do reply and thank you all.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Thank you Honourable Members. A motion was moved to debate on the Governor's State of the County Address to the County the County Assembly. A motion that was moved by the Honourable Okombo, Seconded and debated by the Honourable Members. As per our Standing Orders, this debate is supposed to take four days, four sittings, and today being the last sitting. Honourable Leader of Majority has contributed and at the same time replied to this motion. Now it's time for me to put a question on the adoption of the same.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable members, the Governor's State of the County Address to the County Assembly of Kisumu has been adopted today, Tuesday, 04th March at 15:57 hours.

Honourable Members, I direct that this speech together with the contribution of Members be made available in our website and also be communicated to the relevant department with recommendations from the Members for implementation. Thank you, Honourable Members.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Okumu, MCA, East Seme): Honourable members, there being no any other business in the order paper, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, 05th March 2025 at 9.00a.m.

(House rose at 03.59 p.m.)

Addendum

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