COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU

COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION

Wednesday, 25th June, 2025.

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

[The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Emily Oginga) in the Chair]

PRAYERS

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, I am not able to spot the Chief Whip. However, I can see the Honourable Adega occupying the set of the Leader of Majority. Honourable Adega, could you confirm if we have quorum in the House.

Hon. Adega (MCA, Kajulu): Thank you, Madam Speaker, there is quorum in the House.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Clerk, please take us through the Order of the day.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next order!!

PAPER LAID

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, the Chairperson, Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriation. I am not able to spot the Chairperson of the House Committee. Is there any Member maybe assigned to lay the report on his behalf. I can allow you to so. Any Member of the Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriation?

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Moses Ochele.

(Laughter)

(Hon. Ochele crossed over to resume his seat.)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Moses Ochele, can you take your seat? Take your seat!

Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Nereah Okombo.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Madam Speaker, there are a few amendments that the Committee was working on. Maybe, if you allow that report to be table it tomorrow.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): That is fair enough. We will see how to reschedule that for tabling tomorrow.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next Order!!

NOTICES OF MOTION

INSTALLATION OF SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS TO ENHANCE SECURITY AND SAFETY WITHIN COUNTY FACILITIES, STREETS, AND ROADS

BY

HON. NEREAK OKOMBO, MCA, MANYATTA "B"

CALL OF ACTION ON NATIONAL GOVERNMENT COMMITMENT TO THE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN KISUMU COUNTY

BY

HON. NANCY MATARA, NOMINATED MEMBER

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Nereah Okombo.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B:): Thank you Madam Speaker and Honourable Members, I wish to give a Notice of Motion on the Installation of Surveillance Cameras to Enhance Security and Safety within County facilities, Streets, and Roads.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next Notice of Motion. Honourable Nancy Matara, I can see in the Order Paper in the segment of Notices that, you have a Notice of Motion to give.

Hon. Matara (Nominated Member): Thank you Madam Speaker. Pursuant to the provision Order No. 45 (1) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, THAT, this House approves the Call of Action on National Government Commitment to the Development Project in Kisumu County. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next Order!! Mr. Clerk.

STATEMENTS

STATEMENT TO THE CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON TRADE, TOURISM, INDUSTRY, AND MARKETING REGARDING THE CURRENT STATUS OF OPERATIONS OF KISUMU TRADE FUND.

BY

HON. JAMES WERE, MCA, NYALENDA "B"

UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES, EXPLOITATIVE LENDING, AND DISTURBING ALLEGATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE TARGETING VULNERABLE WOMEN IN OUR LOCAL MARKETS

BY

HON. NANCY MATARA, NOMINATED MEMBER

STATEMENT TO THE CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE REGARDING REPORTS OF SEVERE LABOUR VIOLATION AND EXPLOITATION AT KEDA CERAMIC MIWANI PLANT IN KISUMU COUNTY.

AND

STATEMENT TO THE CHAIRPERSON, DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON WATER, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES, AND CLIMATE CHANGE REGARDING SERIOUS ALLEGATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION BY KEDAH CERAMICS, LIMITED AT ITS MIWANI FACILITY IN KISUMU COUNTY.

BY

HON. FREDRICK ADONIJA, MCA, CHEMELIL/TAMU.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable James Were of Nyalenda "B".

Hon. Were (MCA, Nyalenda "B"): Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise pursuant to Orders No. 41 (2) (b) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, to request a Statement from the

Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Trade, Tourism, Industry, and Marketing regarding the current Status of Operations of Kisumu Trade Fund.

Madam Speaker, the Kisumu County Trade Fund was established in accordance with the Section 8 of Kisumu County Trade Fund Act, 2015, whose object and purpose, pursuant to the Section 8 (2) of the Act, was to provide funds to be used for Granting Loans to assist traders living in Kisumu County and to promote their businesses at such a cost which is affordable within the County.

Madam Speaker, aware that the Assembly has been appropriating funds to the Trade Fund every Financial Year for the purposes of performing its mandate, it has come to my knowledge that this Assembly has hardly been furnished with financial reports on the status of operations of the Trade Fund, be it quarterly, semi-annually, or annually, as provided by the Public Finance Management Act, 2012.

Madam Speaker, consequently, the Audit Reports on the Financial Statement of the Trade Fund has been missing, contrary to the Article 229 (4) (b) and 229 (7), which requires that within six months after the end of each Financial Year, the Auditor General shall Audit and report in respect of that Financial Year on the accounts of all the funds and authorities of National and County Governments and submit the same to the County Assembly.

Madam Speaker, in light of the above, I seek statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Trade, Tourism, Industry, and Marketing to provide a response on the following.

1. Whether the Trade Fund is currently operational and has earned interest over the past three Financial Years as contemplated by Kisumu County Trade Fund Act?

(Members consulting)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Order! Honourable Members, you are interfering with the statement being sought. So, if you have to consult, please do so in low tones. Honourable Moses Ochele, you are Senior Member, please obey the Standing Orders of the House. Yes, Honourable James Were, please continue.

Hon. Were (MCA, Nyalenda B): Thank you, Madam Speaker.

2. Whether the Trade Fund has received budgetary allocation for the Financial Years 2022-2023, 2023-2024, 2024-2025, and whether its financial statements have been duly submitted to the Office of Auditor General as required by the law?
3. Whether the Trade Fund has been equitably distributed across all Wards?
4. Who the beneficiaries have been during the same Financial Years, and to what extent Nyalenda "B" Ward has benefited? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable James Were has sought for a Statement on the matter of Kisumu County Trade Fund, and I would like to give an opportunity to the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Trade, Tourism Trade, to respond to it.

Honourable members, If the Chairperson is not in the House, then I will give this opportunity to any Member of that house Committee to respond on behalf of the Committee.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Bill Oliver.

Hon. Bill (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Madam Speaker, our Chair is not in, and I wanted to request that as a House Committee we be given time so that we work on the response and give our report to this House.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Thank you. So I will give this House Committee 21 day to report back to the House on the matter.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): So, on the next Statement, that is Honourable Nancy Matara.

Hon. Matara (Nominated MCA): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to request for a statement on unfair trade practices, exploitative lending, and alleged sexual abuse in the markets.

Honourable Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 41 (2) (c). I rise to request a statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Trade, Industrialization, Tourism, and Cooperative, and the Chairperson of JLAC regarding emerging reports of unfair trade practices, exploitative lending, and disturbing allegations of sexual abuse targeting vulnerable women in our local markets.

Honourable Speaker, there is a credible concern that traders are flooding our local markets with imported eggs from neighboring country, Uganda, without complying with the tax and quality regulations. These practices undermine local poultry farmers, distort fair competition, and deprive the County of much needed revenue.

Further, there are reports of individuals and informal lenders, commonly referred as Shylocks, operating within the markets and imposing exorbitantly high interest rates of small-scale traders. These exploitative practices are driving many women out of business and deepening household poverty.

Most disturbingly, Honourable Speaker, it has been brought to our attention that there are allegations involving certain individuals reportedly of Maasai origin, who extend their credit to women in the markets, and upon failure to repay, alleges subject them to sexual exploitation.

Reports indicates that some instance, not just but several men are involved in this abuse, which amounts to a gross violation of human rights and dignity.

Honourable Speaker, in light of these grave matters, I request that the respective committees;

1. Investigate and report on the extent and legality of eggs importation from Uganda and their impact on the local farmers?
2. Establish whether the activities of informal lenders in our markets are regulated and what protection exists for small-scale traders?
3. Liaise with the Law Enforcement and Social Services to investigate the reported incident of sexual exploitation and provide safeguards for the affected women?
4. Recommend urgent intervention, including Policy or legislative action to protect our market traders, particularly women, from unfair trade, financial exploitation, and abuse? Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Members, in the matter of the statement raised by Honourable Nancy Matara, is a matter of unfair trade practices, exploitation, lending, and alleged sexual abuse in the market. I would like to commit this statement to the Departmental Committee on Trade, Tourism, Industry and Marketing. Since the Chairperson was not in, maybe Honourable Bill Oliver, you can step in and respond on behalf of the Chairperson and the House Committee.

Hon. Bill (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Madam Speaker. On that matter also, I wanted to ask you to give this House Committee time so that we can handle it. At least two to three weeks to be precise. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Okay. Therefore, I will give this House Committee 21 day's maximum to report back to the House.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): We have the next statement by Honourable Fredrick Adonijah.

Hon. Odari (MCA, Chemelil/Tamu): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise pursuant to Order No. 41(2) (C) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders to request a statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare regarding reports of severe Labour Violation and Exploitation at KEDA Ceramic Miwani Plant in Kisumu County.

Honourable Speaker, credible reports indicate systematic malpractice at the company, including underpayment, intimidation, and arbitrary dismissal of workers, particularly pregnant women and employees who resist unethical directives. It is further alleged that the company misclassified food allowance to evade tax obligation, staged cleanups to mislead auditors, and operates under unsafe and unsanitary working condition.

Alarmingly, there are reports of police harassment against whistleblowers; reportedly at the behest of the company's Administrative Managers, Mr. Huang Zuen. In light of this serious allegation, I request that the Chairperson of this House Committee furnish this House with a response on the following:

1. Whether Kedah Ceramic has engaged in unlawful labour practice, including forced resignation, intimidation of staffs, arbitrary dismissal of pregnant employees, and suppression of workers' rights through threats and retaliatory actions?
2. Whether the company has conducted or been subjected to any credible audit or investigation regarding alleged misclassification of salaries and allowances, tax evasion practices, and falsification of internal compliance reports, and if so, what the finding were?
3. Whether Kedah Ceramic is in breach of Occupational Health and Safety Standard and Local Employment Obligation, including subjecting workers to extended working hours without proper compensation, falsifying ISO audit process, maintaining unsafe working environment, and impending local hiring in Kisumu? Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Fredrick Adonijah has sought for a statement on the alleged severe labour violations, corruption, and exploitation at KEDA Ceramics in Miwani, in Miwani plant in Kisumu County. It is so stated that this Statement be committed to the Departmental Committee on Labor and Social Welfare, I can see the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, Honourable Zachary Okoyo. Maybe you can give a response on that?

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I would ask you, if you so wish, you give my Committee time, and then we will respond to it. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Zachary Okoyo, I will commit this Statement to the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare, and I will give this House Committee 21 days to report back to this House.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, we have another statement by Honourable Adonijah Fredrick.

Hon. Odari (MCA, Chemelil Tamu): Yes, thank you once more, Honourable Speaker, I rise pursuant to Order No. 41 (2) (c) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, to request a Statement from the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change Committee regarding serious Allegation of Environmental Pollution by Kedah Ceramics Limited at its Miwani facility in Kisumu County.

Honourable Speaker, it has come to the attention of residents in the Kabar, Miwani Area that Kedah Ceramics Limited is discharging untreated effluents into the Oroba River and the Nyakoko. Stream water sample and independent test conducted by environmental expert at

Oroba River, at Oroba River Bridge near Miwani Station and along the Nyakoko Stream have confirmed the presence of contamination originating from the company's operations.

Madam Speaker, the effluent described as a cloudy white discharge is believed to pose an immediate and long-term threat to the public, food security, water safety, the livelihoods of farmers and fishermen, and the community's cultural and traditional practices that are intertwined with these vital water bodies. The Oroba River and Nyakoko Stream have served as essential resources for the Kabar, Miwani and downstream communities since the 18th century.

The Constitution of Kenya guarantees every citizen the right to clean and healthy environment and Article 42, a right further affirmed in Section 3 of the Environmental Management and Coordination Act, EMCA.

Additionally, Regulation 4 of the Water Quality Regulation of 2006 strictly prohibits the discharging of untreated effluent into aquatic ecosystem while Regulation 9 set specific effluent discharge standard, which appear to have been violated in this case.

Honourable Speaker, in light of this concern, I request that the Chairperson table before this Honorable House information regarding the following key issues.

1. Whether the company has water treatment infrastructure in place to ensure that no harmful or untreated industrial waste reaches natural water bodies?
2. Whether the company conducts Internal Environmental Audit or commission any third-party environmental assessment relating to waste discharge. If so, can those findings be made public?
3. The specific Environmental Management Measures have KEDA Ceramic undertaken in response to the confirmed water contamination in the area?
4. What is the company response to the allegation that its activities pose a threat to public health, farming, fishing, livelihoods and the longstanding cultural practices of the Kabar, Miwani and Kibigori communities?
5. How does the company intend to engage with and compensate affected communities whose water access, economic activities and environmental rights have been compromised but by its operations?

Honourable Speaker, the continued pollution of natural water source, violates the law and undermines the dignity, health, and economic survival of entire communities. This matter demand immediate action, transparency, and accountability from both the polluter and the environmental regulators. Thank you, Honourable Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, we therefore, have the Statement on the alleged environmental pollution of Oroba River and Nyakoko Stream, by KEDA Ceramics in Muhoroni Sub-County by Honourable Fredrick

Adonija. I am able to spot Honourable Samuel Dede, the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, and Natural Resources. Do you have any response on this statement?

Hon. Dede (Kisumu North): Thank you, Madam Speaker. A statement has been raised by the Honourable Member representing Chemelil Ward, and the member is seeking responses to some concerns. Most of the issues raised require on-site visits, to verify on the allegations about KEDA Ceramic Company. In that case, Madam Speaker, we request to be granted time, to conduct a site visit in order to interrogate the issues which the Member has raised. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Member, I will give this Departmental Committee 21 days to report back to the House. Will that be sufficient enough?

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you Madam Speaker. We are comfortable with 21 days, this being a fact-finding of information it needs site visits. We are okay with that time-line. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, whenever we commit a Statement to the Committee and give 21 days, it does not mean that they have to take the same time-line to report back. If they can report back within a week, there is no problem, as long as they do not exceed the days granted to them. We are still on Statement time, therefore, I will open the Floor for any Statement.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Nereah Okombo.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Thank you Madam Speaker. I rise on a personal a Statement, to applaud my male Honourable colleagues, who have today reported to the House well-dressed, upholding the dignity of the House. Madam Speaker, first of all, allow me appreciate and recognize Honourable Seth Okumu, who is neatly-dressed today. Madam Speaker, allow me equally recognize and appreciate my own brother, a 30 percent colleague, Honourable James Were. The member almost went to the other side, but I am glad that he is back.

Madam Speaker, Honourable Adonija, is equally very smartly dressed and I would like to appreciate him for that. Madam Speaker, as you can see Honourable Ochele, very well-dressed. Also present is Honourable Onditi of Ombeyi Ward is also neatly dressed. If you could allow him to rise on his feet. The Honourable Member is very smart. Therefore, I want to encourage my Honourable colleagues that you keep the spirit and uphold the dignity of the House.

Honourable Adega is meditating with his eyes closed, however, he is very smart and I want to appreciate him.

Hon. Adega (MCA, Kajulu): Thank you Madam Speaker. I am always smart.

Hon. Okombo (Manyatta "B"): Therefore, Madam Speaker, we should emulate our brothers as ladies. Honourable Boitone is in sports shoes, not official shoes, but has tried to be smart today. Therefore our Honourable female colleagues. The smartest, is the Gen Z of the House, Honourable Billy followed by Honourable Nyaoke the Pastor, who is ever smart. Madam Speaker I issue my Statement. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, from Honourable Nereah's Statement, it seems that there is something going on with the gentlemen in the House. Therefore, I would like to commit this to the Departmental Committee on Administration of Law, Justice, Constitutional Affairs Good Governance and Security, (JLAC) to kindly find out why, all of a sudden they are smartly dressed and bring back that report, to the House within one week.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Thank you Madam Speaker. I do not get the joke quite well. Is it about smartness that JLAC has to dig deep into or something else. If it is a matter of smartness, then it should be directed to the Departmental Committee on Welfare and Equal Opportunity, or maybe Trade, Tourism, Industry and Marketing Committee. Whenever men are smart, they attract. If, that is not the case, then I oblige to take it.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Moses Ochele, I have already committed it to your House Committee, therefore, we expect the feedback within one week.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Madam Speaker, I oblige.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Samuel Dede.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I have personal Statement too. Madam Speaker, as a County we are in a catch 22 situation. Our neighboring County is, distributing the Bursaries for example the Kisii County, under the leadership of Honourable Simba Arati is distributing bursary to the residents. Therefore, I would like to know when our students will be receiving theirs. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, the concern you have raised Honourable Member, needs to come through the authority of the Speaker. You can raise it through the right procedure.

Honourable Members, I would like to give a directive on Amendment of the Order Paper, whereby we have Order Number Five and Six, brought after Number Seven. This is because we had a very crucial paper that needs to be laid, and I have just received communication that it is ready. I would like to give the directive, because we have order number five and six brought after order number seven.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next order!!

PAPER LAID

REPORT OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON COUNTY BUDGET AND APPROPRIATION ON ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTIMATES OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2025/2026 AND THE MEDIUM TERM

BY

HONOURABLE JOACHIM OKETCH, MCA, KONDELE

(CHAIRPERSON, SELECT COMMITTEE, BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS)

(Report laid by Hon. Boitone on behalf of the Chairperson)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Ratib Boitone of Nyalenda "A".

Hon. Ratib (MCA, Nyalenda "A"): Thank you, Madam Speaker. On behalf of the Chairperson, Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriation. I wish to lay a report, pursuant to the provision of Standing Orders No.182 (6). I wish to table today, Wednesday, 25th June, 2025 report of the Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriation on its consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for Financial Year 2025/2026 and the Medium Term. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

(Hon. Ratib lays the report on behalf of the Chairperson)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, I confirm receipt of the report by the Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriations on its consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the financial year 2025/2026 and the Medium Term. I would like to commit this to the House Business Committee for scheduling.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next order!!

NOTICES OF MOTION

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Ratib Boitone.

Hon. Boitone (MCA, Nyalenda "A"): Thank you, Madam Speaker. On behalf of the Chairperson, Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriation. Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Orders No.45 (1). THAT, this House adopts the report of Select Committee on County Budget and Appropriation on its consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, of the Financial Year 2025/2026 and the Medium term. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next order!!

MOTION

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON LABOUR AND SOCIAL WELFARE SERVICES ON THE RECRUITMENT OF REVENUE AND ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS BY KISUMU COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD

BY

HONOURABLE ZACHARY OKOYO, MCA, CENTRAL KISUMU

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Zachary Okoyo of Central Kisumu Ward.

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I will do it in our moving notes. The Committee on Labour and Social Welfare Services, pursuant to Standing Orders, No.41 (2)(b) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, received a Statement that sought an explanation, on the matter of Recruitment of Revenue and Enforcement Officers by the Kisumu County Public Service Board. In the statement, it was noted that the Kisumu County Public Service Board was entrusted by the County Revenue Board, to recruit qualified and competent individuals for these positions.

Madam Speaker, while it is understood that interviews were conducted, the status of the process remained unclear at the time the Statement was raised. That, the information sought would provide transparency and ensure adherence, to the principles of fairness and inclusivity in the

recruitment process. Madam Speaker, the statement, therefore, sought for response from the Committee on Labor and Social Welfare Services on the following;

1. The current stage of the recruitment exercise, whether it is completed or ongoing.
2. Detailed reports on the process which should include;
    a) The Long and Short Listing Procedures detailing how the applicants were evaluated and selected
    b) The total number of individuals selected vis-a-vie their respective qualifications.
    c) The distribution of recruitment officers across the Sub-County Wards and detailed consideration of gender and the marginalized group.

Madam Speaker, therefore, the Committee wrote to the Public Service Board and noted the following from the Board's response;

a) Request for recruitment was received from the County Department and subsequently advertisement was placed inviting application for the positions, after the closure of the application process, the long list was generated from the application received, and those who met the requirements, were shortlisted for interviews based on considerations such as merit, regional balance, persons with a disability, and gender among others as required by law.
b) The Kisumu County Public Service Board also confirmed that the process was undertaken in accordance with relevant Labour laws.
c) Moreover, with regard to the recruitment, the following people were recruited; Sub-County Revenue Officers, the board recruited eight officers to fill in vacancies, Ward Revenue Officers, that is 35 officers, Sub-County officers and Ward Enforcement Officers.

Madam Speaker, the Kisumu County Public Service Board also highlighted the distribution of officers across the Sub-counties, Wards, and gender as indicated in the table below. I believe you saw it in your a soft copy which was shared in our Ward.

Madam Speaker, the Departmental Committee made the following findings as per the issues sought in the Statement. The current stage of the recruitment exercise, whether it is completed or ongoing;

1. That at the time of compiling this report, the Committee noted that the recruitment exercise had already been completed.

Moreover, detailed report of the process, which should include the Long and short Listing Procedures detailing how the applicants were evaluated and selected.

2. The Departmental Committee noted that after the closure of the application process, the Kisumu County Public Service Board generated a long list of applications received and that those who met the requirement were shortlisted for the interview based on considerations such as merit, regional balance, persons with disability, and gender, among others as required by law. The total number of individuals selected visa vee their respective qualifications.

Madam Speaker, the Committee noted that the Kisumu County Public Service Board selected eight, that is sub-County Revenue Officers, eight sub-County Enforcement Officers, 35 Ward Revenue Officers, and 35 Ward Enforcement Officers, of which two had not picked up their letters as of 5th July 2024. The board, however, did not submit to this House Committee the qualifications of one Sub-County Enforcement Officer, six Ward Revenue Officers, and six Ward Enforcement Officers, even though this House Committee repeatedly requested information on the same, and this is found in Annex Char one. The distribution of recruitment officers across Sub-counties and Wards detailing considerations of gender and the marginalized group.

Madam Speaker, this Departmental Committee observed that;

a) The Kisumu County Public Service Board indeed submitted a detailed response, regarding the distribution of recruitment officers across Sub-County Wards and detailing consideration of gender and marginalized groups, and recruitment was done in consideration of the aforementioned factors.

Madam Speaker, based on the foregoing findings regarding the issues raised in the statement, the committee makes the following recommendations;

1. THAT, the Kisumu County Public Service Board should consider replacing the two officers, do you remember the two officers, who did not pick up their employment letters immediately with the best and selected but shortlisted, with the rest unselected and shortlisted individual, the Ward enforcement category.
2. THAT, the Kisumu County Public Service Board failed to submit to this House Committee the qualifications and professional experiences of the individual selected.

This House Committee therefore, recommends for further investigation, into the specific qualifications of the said recruitment officers whose documentations were not adduced.

3. THAT, the Kisumu County Public Service Board should develop a comprehensive public report detailing each stage of recruitment process, including shortlisting, long listing, shortlisting, and final selection for every recruitment. This report should be

accessible to the public to enhance transparency and confidence in the recruitment process.

4. While the current distribution source shows consideration of gender and marginalized groups, it is essential to set clear targets for these considerations in future recruitments, and that the entity develops policies to ensure that marginalized groups and gender representations, are systematically and fairly considered in all recruitment processes.
5. The Kisumu County Public Service Board should normalize conducting a post-recruitment evaluation, to assess the overall effectiveness of the recruitment process. This evaluation should include feedback from the recruitment officers, assess the alignment of recruitment outcomes with the advertised positions, and identify areas for improvement.
6. In future, the Kisumu County Public Service Board should publicize a detailed report outlining the qualifications of all selected individuals after every recruitment in the County. Madam Speaker, this should include educational background, relevant experience, and other qualifications. Transparency in this area is crucial for public trust and for ensuring the merit-based nature of recruitment process.
7. Kisumu County Public Service Board should improve accountability, transparency, and efficiency, in its operations by ensuring timely and comprehensive responses to inquiries made by the assembly Committees.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, the Kisumu County Public Service Board was not prompt in giving responses to the issues raised in the Statement, therefore, delaying this House Committee in considering and reporting within the stipulated timelines.

This House Committee, therefore, would like to implore the Kisumu County Public Service Board, to strictly adhere to the recommendations contained herein. It is my honor and privilege, on behalf of the Departmental Committee on Labor and Social Welfare Services to move this Motion before this Honourable House for adoption. I would like to call upon Honourable Oiko Pete to second, Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Benny Oiko-Pete of Kabonyo Kanyagwal Ward.

(Hon. Pete bowed)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, and now that the report on the matter of Recruitment of Revenue and Enforcement officers by the Kisumu County Public Service Board by the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare Services, has been presented and seconded, and as per our Standing Orders, I would like to propose a question, and that this report is now open for debate.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Moses Ochele of Ward.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Madam Speaker, allow me to commend my friend, Honourable Okoyo, for bringing forth this overdue report and without struggling to use the eye glasses. Madam Speaker, it is also worth noting that the report brought at this stage somehow sounds stale because the Chairperson should have given us a chance to actually get direct contact with the concerned Board Members. However, as we speak today, the so-called Board Members are not there. The time elapsed and for the Chairperson to say that they were not cooperative, I believe that should have prompted the Chairperson to bring a progress report.
Madam Speaker, once a progress report was brought here then, it would have been for the Assembly to decide whether to summon the Board or not since in that kind of recruitment, there were a lot of anomalies which could only be explained by the outgone board members. Bringing this report now and bearing in mind that we are expecting new board members, it is like we are passing this burden to the new board members to explain something that they did not partake of. It is right normally that when you hold office, you do not hold it as an individual entity, but as a public entity. However, there are certain matters that individuals must carry on their shoulders.

Madam Speaker, during that recruitment process, positions were advertised, most stating Ward Revenue Officers and Ward Reinforcement Officers. Madam Speaker, it goes without saying and it is natural norm that whenever a Ward is mentioned, since we have 35 Wards, therefore the outcome should always reflect the 35 wards in this County. However, for the board which is now outgone, they did not take this into account and the recruitment was skewed, that is why probably they could not face the Chairperson and his House Committee in explaining the biased nature of the recruitment. You find certain Wards went without any and even certain Sub-Counties do not have their natives serving as the Ward Revenue Officers.

Madam Speaker, I know some Members are always jittery because they are always at the defense of their natives and that is not the spirit of this House. If you are a Member of this House, do not always be defensive, because I come from Nyando, if anything done wrong by any member of Nyando, then I rise up to defend. Like my friend is always notorious of that and I believe today the member will not defend anybody since they are not in office. He did his part and now we are expecting a new team to come. Secondly,…

(Hon. Dede rises on a Point of Order)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honorable Dede, I can see you on your feet, what is your Point of Order?

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you. I am rising citing the Statement of Facts, which is Standing Order No.89. Madam Speaker, the speaker who was on the Floor should just come clean and inform this House who defends the government directly. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honorable Moses Ochele, go ahead and give a response to that.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Madam Speaker, by the saying, the guilty are afraid. In fact, I wanted to mention him, he is Honourable Dede and he has come out of the basket and mentioned himself. Thank you for that. Secondly, …

(Hon. Dede again interjects on a Point of Order)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Dede, I have not given you the permission to react…

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Madam Speaker, I have been adversely mentioned…

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Please resume your seat Honourable Dede.

Hon. Ochele (MCA, East Kano/Wawidhi): Madam Speaker, when a position is advertised, sometimes the board members take advantage and I believe that, the House should take this seriously because we are expecting new board members to be in place. We do not expect them to continue or to repeat the same mistakes done by the previous board members.

Madam Speaker, when positions are advertised, they appear in the long list, short list and eventually interviewed. But at the point of recruitment, certain things seems to be happening where those who did not merit and did not even make it to the short list appear as recruited. That is why they could only provide documents for certain recruits but not others because they know if at all they provided, then this could have incriminated them. So, it is my belief that, this House should take this seriously before letters are issued out. Madam Speaker, the House should know the truth, if indeed the due process was followed and those to be recruited merit, because a matter of merit must be a subject of this House. Otherwise, we will be recruiting people who do not merit and this happens even at the County Attorney's Office where we have six advocates and none of them can appear in court because they were hired based on certain aspects in the society.

Finally, Madam Speaker, the Departmental Committee of Labour and Social Welfare, is a serious tool of investigating these matters. Now that the board members who are covering up

these individuals were out, did they even get the chance to speak to the Acting Chief Executive Officer? Because the acting CEO was left vulnerable and could divulge any information that was needed by this House. I do not think the Chairperson went further to get this. Otherwise, by now you should have been telling us that the board members did not appear before him and all were reluctant to appear but the CEO who is acting today revealed this a, b and c. I believe that as of now, he is ready to divulge more. Allow me to request the House to treat this report as a progress report so that we give this House Committee room to further investigate with the staff who are there. He is allowed to do that so that he comes with a full report. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Tom Nyaoke of North Nyakach.

Hon. Nyaoke (MCA, North Nyakach): Thank you Madam Speaker, I want to start by thanking the Honourable Member James Were who brought into this House a very important statement. The intention of this Member was very important at that particular time and I do believe, if I look at the preamble of that report it says very clearly;

THAT, pursuant to Standing Orders No. 41(2) (b) of the Kisumu County Assembly, Honourable James Were sought a Statement to the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare on the matter of recent Recruitment of Revenue and Enforcement Officers by the Kisumu County Public Service Board. In the statement, the member wanted several explanations. Mr. Speaker, at that particular point, when this statement was sought, I am sure that Honourable Were had certain information that he might have felt that should be brought to this House for discussion. I am rather disappointed if some of this information was being received by this House Committee as early as March 2024 and up to date, when even people have left their offices, the people who did the recruitment have already gone home. Is it by commission or omission that this report is being brought here today, Madam Speaker? I would beg my fellow Members that this is something that we still need to look into in details.

Madam Speaker therefore, I would want to support my brother, Honourable Ochele, on his suggestion that we request the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare to see the Standing Order provision to allow us and accord this House Committee to go and find the detailed information that Honourable James Were requested at that particular time. Madam Speaker, we are fighting the issues about revenue collection, subsequently the reinforcement that is also supposed to help us in enhancing our revenue collection, cannot be treated casually like this.

Madam Speaker, if we continue in this manner, we are going to be crying here that we cannot meet our revenue targets on our Own Source Revenues. This is in fact, one of the ways that if we put and seal these kinds of routes, we will be able to improve in our Own Source Revenue. Madam Speaker, I am so sad to say that this is one of the reports that I will not request us to

support the adoption of, but I would request the relevant provisions of the Standing Orders be invoked so that we accord or grant this House Committee time to work on this report so that we are able to move forward. I beg to submit, thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, I spotted Honourable Nereah Okombo first. Honourable Seth Okumu and Honourable Samuel Dede you will be next.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta "B"): Thank you Madam Speaker. I was sharing with the Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare that this particular report needs to be treated as obsolete in the sense that the time for reporting has long passed. This statement was sought more than a year ago and I want us to pay attention to the prayers sought by the seeker who was Hon. Were way back in March 2024.
One, was that the current stage of recruitment exercise whether it is completed or ongoing. Detailed report of the process which should include;

a.) The long and short listing procedures detailing how the applicants were evaluated and selected.
b.) The total number of individuals selected vis-a-vie their respective qualifications and see the distribution of recruited officers across the Sub-County Wards and detailing considerations of gender and marginalized groups.

Madam Speaker, just as Honourable Ochele has said, this information would have helped then. The said officers have been in office more than a year and the House Business Committee adopted a school roster kind of planning where all House Committees are slotted sittings. More than a year, this House Committee did not see it fit to work on a statement that was meant to be reported within 21 days.

Madam Speaker, today they are recommending that the board should consider replacing the two officers who did not pick up their employment letters immediately with the best unselected but shortlisted individuals in the ward enforcement. They did not even consider the prayers as sought by Honourable James Were.

Their number two recommendation is that the board to submit to this House Committee the qualifications and professional experiences of the individuals selected. They have a number of recommendations Madam Speaker, which are obsolete. The board they are talking about had its term ended sometime in November and now, we have a new board that is set to be approved by the House. The said individuals have moved to other places and so I do not think it is beneficial for the House to have this report now. It is long overdue and therefore not necessary. But for the records, maybe for clarity and sanity in the board, this House Committee needs to go back if the House will allow to do a report and report back within the time frame given by the House

because they do not have an excuse of turning 21 days into one and a half years. Otherwise, Madam Speaker, I do not support this report. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Seth Okumu.

Hon. Okumu (MCA, East Seme): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me to join the Deputy Speaker in rejecting this report. We really respect the Honorable Members of the House, but going by the submission of Madam Deputy Speaker, this House Committee was given 21 days, just for a start but they have taken one and a half years to report back to this House. In fact, the Honorable Member for Nyalenda "A" is rounding it off to two years. This is so interesting.

Madam Speaker, this House Committee waited for the board members to go home, then they bring for us a report here, saying very many unnecessary things. In fact, I was amazed when the Honorable Chair was saying that there were some two officers who were recruited and did not pick the letters in March 2024, yet we are in July 2025, which is unbelievable. Madam Speaker, even the documents they have mentioned for us to make reference to are not found in that report. They have said that the Kisumu County Public Service Board gave them a response vide a letter referenced. Let me just find it so that we mention it, but that document cannot be found in this report unless I have a different report.

Madam Speaker, I am still looking at the reference they have made to the document and the reference is KPSB/19/03/2024, which is related to the Karala Public Service Commission. I cannot speak any further. I want to reject this report and let us agree that the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare could do very little and let us give this report to a House Committee that can handle it. I believe the Whole House Committee can do a much better job because the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare was defeated. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, I will give the Floor to Ratib Boitone of Nyalenda "A" Ward.

Hon. Boitone (MCA, Nyalenda "A"): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me also to register my concern over the report. I was also looking at the time frame and very interestingly, the statement was sought in March 2023 and we are in June 2025. It states that now the report is coming to the Floor of this House 27 months after it was read in this Floor of the House. What amuses me and what I want to get proper clarification on is this, after this House Committee had done its report, I believe that this House Committee forwarded the report to the House Business Committee for scheduling for a debate. I do not know whether the House Business Committee has some powers to look at the timeframe of the report and give the House Committee a recommendation before bringing the report to the Floor of this House.

Madam Speaker, definitely, a report of that nature, whether recommendations are good or are at what status, I doubt whether it could pass through the Floor of this Honourable House with dignified Members. So, that was the concern that I really wanted to get from the Floor of this Honourable House. Otherwise, Madam Speaker, I really pity my brother, Honourable Okoyo. I believe that, my brother, in the near future, your House Committee will have to do a very thorough consultation before taking the path that he took. Thank you so much.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): I will give Honourable James Were of Nyalenda "B", then Honourable Bill Oliver will be next.

Hon. Were (MCA, Nyalenda "B"): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I also rise to reject the report, being that I am the member who sought for the information regarding this, I am not satisfied. I raise this particular statement because there is something we were trying to cure. And this is because as a matter of employment in this County, Madam Speaker, we needed answers before this process could conclude because the recruitment was taking a particular direction.

Madam Speaker, in the future, we want that when recruitments are being conducted, in this County, we would want that it reflects the wishes of the 35 Wards. Madam Speaker, that is one of the prayers that were put forward even though the report is delivered 17 months later. All these prayers are not even indicated or answered in the report.

Madam Speaker, I feel disappointed and if there is a window that this House Committee can be granted, then this report will be sent back to the sender so that they again work on it maybe just for future consideration, so that we can cure what we intended to cure last year, which did not happen. It is in this regard that I want to implore on all our Honourable Members that let us look at the timeframe. If a House Committee is given a mandate to handle a particular task within two weeks, three weeks, or four weeks, let us ensure that we adhere to the timelines because maybe a member is seeking a statement since there is something that is taking a wrong direction that this report can cure. This is so that in the future we do not make the same mistake. Otherwise, I reject this report in totality. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes Honourable Bill of Kobura Ward.

Hon. Oliver (MCA, Kobura): Thank you Madam Speaker. I read the report and without knowing this is something that was committed to this House Committee last year. So, I really had points but again, having realized this is something that is outdated, I ask that this House Committee be given time to go and give us a good report because there are issues that we really

want to address as a House. Some of them, you realize that the Board then did not submit the qualifications of some people. So, we have very critical issues that we really need to address.

Madam Speaker, if you give this House Committee more time I believe this House will get the honour it deserves and again as I sit I am worried. I am thinking loudly, how did the Chairperson convince the Members and also the Vice Chairperson, who is a very critical debater in this House, Benny Pete, to sign this document? So, I do not know maybe the signing came before the discussion but the committee really needs to do a serious work. I reject the report. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes Honourable Onditi of Ombeyi Ward.

Hon. Onditi (MCA, Ombeyi): Thank you very much Madam Speaker. I rise to support the report. Madam Speaker, time notwithstanding, the issues that were raised in this report, some of them are still affecting us as a County, to date. Madam Speaker, discarding this report entirely will not help us resolve the issues it highlights. I propose that we treat it as a work in progress, allowing room for necessary improvements and constructive suggestions to enhance its effectiveness in addressing the matters raised.

Madam Speaker, if we examine Prayers 2 (i) and (ii), they are particularly important. It is clear that the report does not target individual officers within the Public Service Board, but rather focuses on the institution itself. That institution still exists—it has not been dissolved.

Therefore, even though some individuals may no longer be in office, the institution continues to operate, and the relevant records remain accessible. We can still refer to these records and act on the concerns outlined in the report. I therefore urge this House to adopt the report with the understanding that it remains a living document, open to further refinement and follow-up. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Millicent Omuya of North Seme ward.

Hon. Omuya (MCA, North Seme): Thank you, Madam Speaker. I rise to support the report. To begin with, I wish to echo the sentiments expressed by Honourable Onditi—leaving office does not mean one leaves with the responsibilities or accountability attached to that office. The former Board Members may have exited due to the expiry of their contracts, but that does not exempt them from being held answerable. They can still be called upon to respond to questions arising from their tenure.

Madam Speaker, this report should not be discarded. On the contrary, it provides a foundation for addressing not only past issues but also any similar challenges that may arise under the new Board.

Madam Speaker, with reference to the listed messages and recruitment issues highlighted in the report, we must remember that the rules are clear. If, for example, I was in a management position and oversaw a recruitment that led to someone drawing a salary unlawfully for a year, then, I should not be exonerated or allowed to walk away scot free with full benefits. Accountability must prevail.

Madam Speaker, I am also of the view that the former members of this Board may not have received all their dues. If any payments are to be made to them, surcharges should be considered—deductions made against what is owed—to recover funds lost through any irregular actions on their part. Let us therefore support and adopt this report. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Geoffrey Warindu.

Hon. Warindu (MCA, Miwani): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me to share my views on this matter. From the outset, I am guided by the saying, "a stitch in time saves nine." I truly wish that this House Committee had taken this matter more seriously from the beginning. The challenges we are currently facing stem from a process that began two years ago—a process we all valued and had high hopes for.

Madam Speaker, we placed great expectations on the Revenue Committee and the Kisumu County Revenue Board. We believed that by recruiting Ward Revenue Officers, Sub-County Revenue Officers, and Enforcement Officers, we would strengthen our capacity to meet revenue targets. These officers were supposed to be instrumental in supporting our current efforts.

Madam Speaker, I must admit, I was particularly eager to hear from my senior colleague—an astute and respected debater in this House—who also serves on that House Committee. Unfortunately, to my surprise and disappointment, the member had nothing to contribute to this crucial matter. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I wish that it goes on record as one of the Members rejecting this report. I urge this House Committee to treat such assignments with the seriousness they deserve in the future. Thank you.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Benny Oiko.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal): Thank you Madam Speaker. The Honourable members are right to point a finger at me. I serve on this House Committee and hold the position

of Vice Chairperson. I must admit that this report caught me off guard. The concerns raised by members are valid. This report did not come before the House by chance—it was meant to address specific issues and provide solutions.

Madam Speaker, I had raised these concerns with the Chairperson earlier today. Out of respect for the Chairperson, I chose not to be confrontational, but I remained loyal to the process. However, I now urge members to treat this report with the seriousness it deserves. It was intended to address persistent issues at the Kisumu County Public Service Board—but unfortunately, it falls short.

For instance, this House Committee requested the qualifications of certain individuals who were hired, yet we were not provided with proper documentation. They merely stated that a candidate holds a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, a degree in Finance, and CPA III certification—all commendable. However, no supporting evidence was attached to verify these claims. How difficult is it to obtain such records from the records of the Kisumu County Public Service Board?

Madam Speaker, I am compelled to step out for an urgent matter. Before I do, I plead with Members—if this report is to be rejected, let it not be discarded entirely. It should return to this House after six months, ideally as a revised progress report. There is still potential for it to serve its purpose. In fact, Article 226 empowers this Assembly to summon former officials who were in office during the period in question. Let us use this report as a springboard to uncover the truth and bring accountability to the former members of the Kisumu County Public Service Board. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Samuel Dede.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Allow me to contribute to the debate on the report before the House. Yesterday, we debated the issue of Revenue Targets and how our inability to meet our Own-Source Revenue goals continues to stall the progress of our development projects. One major contributing factor to this shortfall is the inefficiency of Revenue Collectors on the ground. Additionally, there are 35 Ward Revenue Officers who were recruited, but concerns remain about their deployment and performance.

Madam Speaker, in some cases, the structure of deployment creates conflicts. For example, Ward Revenue Officers are placed alongside Market Superintendents, resulting in overlapping roles and confusion. Furthermore, the qualifications of Sub-County Revenue Officers are not clearly outlined in the report presented to this House. This lack of clarity has contributed to imbalances in how officers are distributed across Sub-Counties.

Madam Speaker, a case in point: some Sub-counties have fewer wards, such as Seme, were allocated more officers than those with more wards, like Kisumu West, which received none. This raises serious concerns about fairness and equity in the recruitment and deployment process. Ideally, each Sub-county should have received at least one officer, given that there were eight positions available.

Madam Speaker, we are also discussing a report about a Public Service Board that is no longer in place—it was dissolved nearly three months ago. If the Board were still active, this conversation would carry more weight. The timing of this report is problematic; it comes long after the fact and lacks actionable relevance.

Madam Speaker, looking at Recommendation number four of the report, this House Committee suggests setting clear recruitment targets. However, this is already provided for in law. The Constitution and relevant statutes clearly stipulate that at least 30% of appointments must come from Marginalized Groups, and Persons Living with Disabilities must be adequately represented. These are not targets to be proposed—they are legal requirements.

Moreover, the recruitment process lacked transparency. While we know that 26 applicants were interviewed for 8 positions, the report provides no score-sheet or ranking to show how the final candidates were selected. This omission raises questions about the credibility of the process.

Madam Speaker, another troubling issue is the reference to letters that are said to be included in the report—but they are missing. In Annex 2, we even see references to the Karala Public Service Board rather than Kisumu County. This is a serious oversight and suggests that parts of the report may have been copied from another source without proper verification. In fact, we discovered references to job adverts for Statistical Investigator Assistants, identical to those issued by the Karala Board on the same date, further confirming this.

Additionally, there is no evidence of Regret Letters issued to unsuccessful candidates, as standard procedure would require. Such letters help to uphold fairness and transparency in recruitment and inform applicants of their status.

Madam Speaker, it is unacceptable for a report of this nature to be tabled one and a half years after the recruitment process. In their conclusion, this House Committee admits they failed to present the report on time because the Public Service Board did not furnish the necessary information. However, that excuse is not sufficient. Madam Speaker, a the norm, this House Committee should have presented a Progress Report within the mandated timeline and updated the House later, instead of allowing delays of up to three weeks without action.

This delay, coupled with the evident gaps and copy-paste errors, reflects a lack of seriousness on the part of the committee. For these reasons, I stand to reject this report. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Members, we are still on the debate on the Motion by the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare…

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Yes, Honourable Sammy Onyango.

Hon. Onyango (MCA, Railways): Thank you Madam Speaker, I wish to call the mover to reply.
Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you Madam Speaker. Allow me to begin by appreciating my colleagues who have contributed to the debate on this report. I firmly believe that this is one of the reports that truly deserve to be adopted and passed by this House. It seeks to address long-standing issues and irregularities that have plagued the Public Service Board.

Madam Speaker, I particularly acknowledge the contribution by Honourable Seth Okumu. However, I am somewhat surprised by his characterization of the report as "skewed." While it's true that the report may have been tabled later than expected, it still offers meaningful insights and recommendations that can help us resolve past challenges.

Madam Speaker, I believe that Honourable Seth Okumu is well aware that the former members of the Kisumu County Public Service Board was one of the most dysfunctional and compromised boards we've had. In fact, it ought to have been disbanded even before the expiry of its term. We were dealing with individuals who acted outside the bounds of integrity, and it is only now that we have been able to uncover the extent of their misconduct through this report.

Madam Speaker, allow me to continue without unnecessary interruptions. I kindly request that Members who may not agree with my sentiments observe order and allow me to express my views respectfully. Thank you, Madam Speaker.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable Members, we all had time to debate. Please let us give time to the Mover of the Motion to reply.

Hon. Okoyo (MCA, Central Kisumu): Thank you, Madam Speaker. Up to this moment, it is evident that we are still seeking critical information from the Kisumu County Public Service Board—information that would give this report the full weight it deserves for proper adoption. However, despite these challenges, I wish to echo the sentiments of fellow members who have

supported this report. We are not simply passing it for formality—we are adopting it as a framework to guide how we engage with the incoming Public Service Board.

Madam Speaker, I would like to address members that include Honourable Seth Okumu, who have proposed rejecting this report. This is not a bursary report with a limited timeframe—it is a report with lasting relevance. The Public Service Board is a permanent institution, and its actions directly impact the integrity and effectiveness of our county's human resource systems. That is why Recommendation two in the report is so important. It clearly states that the major obstacle was the Board's failure to submit essential documentation. Despite repeated efforts, this House Committee could not obtain all the necessary records. We therefore chose to bring the report to this House in its current form, to enable further deliberation and accountability.

Madam Speaker, if this report is treated as a progress report, this document will serve to inform the Assembly of the gaps and irregularities in the recruitment process, including why the Kisumu County Revenue Board failed to carry out the recruitment independently. Without the proper information, we cannot confirm whether the right individuals were recruited into these offices.

Madam Speaker, Honourable Nereah Okombo referred to this report as obsolete. However, I respectfully disagree. How can the report be considered obsolete when the Public Service Board—the subject of the report—is still an active institution? This is not about individuals; it is about a functioning public office. This is the first time we are receiving such a report, despite the Board's continued lack of cooperation in availing key documents. As a House should therefore not discard this report—it holds the potential to correct many of the systemic issues we've faced.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank members who have recognized the importance of adopting it. We are not here to fulfil routine procedures—we are here to shape a legacy that ensures our public institutions operate within the framework of the law.

In conclusion, one of our key recommendations is for the development of a clear Policy Framework to guide the operations of the Kisumu County Public Service Board. Such a policy would ensure full transparency and accessibility of information to both this Assembly and the public. Had such a framework existed earlier, we would not be struggling to access vital data today.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I urge all members to support the adoption of this report. Let us empower the incoming members of the Kisumu County Public Service Board and support the current Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who continues to face challenges in accessing the right information to share with this Honourable House. Madam Speaker, I beg to reply.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, and now that the Report on the matter of Recruitment of Revenue and Enforcement Officers by the Kisumu County Public Service Board by the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare Services has been presented, seconded,and debated and it's time for me to put a question on the adoption of the same.

(Question put and negatived)

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, the report on the matter of Recruitment of Revenue and Enforcement Officers by the Kisumu County Public Service Board by the Departmental Committee on Labour and Social Welfare Services has been rejected today, Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 16:18 hours.

Honourable members, as per the provisions of Standing Orders No. 47 which states that;

"No motion may be moved which is the same in substance as any question which has been resolved either in the affirmative or in the negative during the preceding six months in the same session. And therefore, such a report, such a matter can only be introduced to the House after the expiry of six months.

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Next order!!

ADJOURNMENT

The Temporary Speaker (Hon. Oginga, Nominated Member): Honourable members, there being no any other business to transact, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow, Thursday 26th June, 2025 at 02.30 p.m. Thank you.

(House rose at 04.19 p.m.)

Addendum

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