

COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KISUMU



COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KISUMU

THE HANSARD

Official Report

THIRD ASSEMBLY – FOURTH SESSION

Tuesday 26th August, 2025

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

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

PRAYERS

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members in line with the provisions of Orders No. 32 (2) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders, I direct that, the quorum bell to be rung for the first five minutes.

(Quorum bell rung for the first minutes)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, I want to assign Honourable Samuel Dede as the Whip for today. Kindly proceed and whip the Members who are outside. Oh, I'm seeing the Honourable Whip who has just walked in. Kindly confirm if we have a quorum.

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Thank you Mr. Speaker, there is enough quorum in the House. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Clerk, kindly take us through the order of the day.

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

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CHAIR

[Visiting Delegation from Nyaimbo Primary School in Kisumu East sub-county]

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, I welcome you to this session. I have got one communication to make. One is on behalf of the Leader of the Majority.

Honourable members, the leader of Majority informed me that he's grateful for those who stood with him during the final send-off of his mother. I know when he gets time he'll be here. I'm going to do the same personally.

Number two, Honourable members, you can see that we have guests at the public gallery. We are privileged to be joined today at the gallery by the teachers and pupils from Nyaimbo Primary School in Kisumu East sub-county. The pupils are accompanied by the following teachers.

To our guests, once I call your name, you just stand for recognition. Mr. George Matengo, please feel welcome, Mr. Kevin Amimo, Mr. Frederick Odenyo, Madam Mercy Achila and Mr. Maurice Ochieng. On behalf of the County Assembly, I want to take this opportunity to sincerely welcome you to this House which is the heart of democracy and governance in Kisumu county.

Your visit today is a testament to your curiosity, commitment to learning and deciding to understand how laws and policies that shape our county are made. To the pupils, I wish to encourage you that, please dream big, work hard and stay focused on your education. The fact that you are here today means you are already on the right path to becoming leaders, innovators and change makers for tomorrow.

Remember, every great leader started in a classroom like yours and this experience today is a reminder that the future of Kisumu County and Kenya at large rests in your hands. Once again, welcome to the County Assembly of Kisumu and please feel free to draw inspiration from this session as part of your learning journey. As per our tradition, I want to invite a few members to say a word or two of encouragement to our guests.

Our guests are members from Kisumu East Sub-county. I'm not sure which Ward. Kolwa East. I can see the Member for Kolwa East is here. Nonetheless, even though the member represents Market/Milimani Ward, I know he originates from Kisumu East. So I'll give the member for Kolwa East then I'll give Honourable Emily on behalf of the ladies and then the Chief Whip will say something to the teachers and the pupils. So, one minute each.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Let us start with Honourable Reuben Rakwach.

Hon. Rakwach (MCA, Kolwa East): Thank you Honourable Speaker for giving me this chance. It is my pleasure to welcome the teachers and pupils from Nyaimbo Primary School to this

Assembly. And I have to inform our guests that this is a House of order and a House of laws. This is where the Acts and Policies are being formulated.

Also Honourable Speaker, I have to declare that I'm an old boy of Nyaimbo Primary School. That is where I sat my KCPE exams of that year and passed well before I proceeded for my secondary education. So, I likewise wish to encourage the pupils that they should take their studies seriously so that they can pass, join good secondary schools. Eventually, they will go to the universities whereby they will take the disciplines that they will have qualified for. And I equally have to let them know that in this House we have members from different professions. Here we have teachers like Honourable Oraro who is also a descendant of Kolwa.

The member is not in. That one is a teacher. We have nurses here and gain we have doctors. I myself am an engineer. Our Speaker is also a Water Engineer.

So, it is a House of members from different professional backgrounds. So you also work hard so that in future you can also be blessed and be mandated by the electorates to come here and represent them. Otherwise, Honourable Speaker, thank you very much. I welcome the pupils from Nyaimbo Primary School. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Emily.

Hon. Oginga (Nominated Member): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Mine is just to appreciate the school for considering choosing Kisumu County Assembly for their visit. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to say that this is an opportunity that should not be taken for granted. This is because, when we were in school, getting such opportunities was very rare. We just used to hear about the national assembly. But we never used to get the opportunity to visit and know exactly what is happening.

And I would like to appreciate the teachers for initiating this visit and bringing these students to this House so that they can also learn. You know, whatever you learn while seeing stays in the mind longer than what you just taught in class. So, I would like to encourage the pupils who are here today that hard work is actually the equalizer of every human being.

So, work hard in school and do not have limits. Do not be limited because once you're in school, whatever you learn in school can actually drive you towards what you actually dream to be. So I'd like to say *karibuni* to Kisumu County Assembly. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, before I give the Chief Whip, this is to Honourable Benny Pete Oiko, I want to give you one minute, then the Whip will conclude.

Hon. Oiko (MCA, Kabonyo/Kanyagwal): Honourable Speaker, our guests come from Kisumu that is Kolwa. I'm also their neighbour, I come from Kadibo. And I'm seeing that we look too big for the young ones, Mr. Speaker. But let me inform the young ones, this is the House where politicians that you elected at the lower level come to discuss matters to do with Kisumu

County. Our main role is to oversight the work the Governor is doing. I know when we talk of the Governor, it may also look a very big vocabulary for them.

This is because, what they know is that it is the MCA who is elected and it is the MCA who is everything on the ground. At least you know that at the county level, we have the Governor who is the president of the county. And he is the one who is in charge of all the development in this county.

So, when you see a road is bad on the ground, the Governor is not releasing the money. The MCA is supposed to supervise the Governor that the work is going on well on the ground. And also the ECD classrooms, if they are not yet finished, the Governor is still waiting for the money.

And your local MCA is supposed to supervise oversight and see that good work is done. I think that will be good for them to start knowing as they grow up. Since I know some of them will grow up to replace Adui Nyang'. Do you know Adui Nyang'? The lion of Kolwa. You will see him when he stands up to talk.

So, I know among the greats here, we shall have the doctors, the lawyers, and the politicians. So, when you will become a local politician, this is where you will start from. With those few remarks, Mr. Honourable Speaker, I will end there. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Foremost, I want to acknowledge the teachers and students of Nyaimbo Primary School from the northeast, where our brother Honourable Reuben Okoth Rakwach is the member of the County Assembly representing that area.

Mr. Speaker, I want to remind the students that every achievement in life starts with one step. And, Mr. Speaker, I believe by the sentiments of Honourable Reuben Okoth that his achievement as a member of the County Assembly representing Kolwa East started all the way from Nyaimbo Primary School. So, I believe that the Nyaimbo people are proud of the Honourable Reuben Okoth Rakwach.

Again, I want to echo the statements of my sister, Honourable Emily Anyango, that it's only through education, it's only through education, Mr. Speaker, that these great young boys and girls one day will become engineers, some will become advocates of the high courts, thus lawyers, others will become doctors, and equally some will become teachers like their teachers to come back to the society and be teachers who will equally reciprocate their knowledge which they have acquired through education to students.

So, Mr. Speaker, I will urge the students or the pupils of Nyaimbo Primary School to work hard so that one day they be respectable members who will be able to transform our society, that's Kisumu County and Kenya at large. Mr. Speaker, I will encourage them not to be politicians because politics sometimes is a challenge because the residents or people do not necessarily

understand that our work as Honourable members, Mr. Speaker, is to do oversight. There will labour on Rakwach, that Rakwach promised them good roads, not knowing that the work of providing good roads solely belongs to the Governor. The member of the County Assembly, Honourable Rakwach, has got only three responsibilities. To represent the people of Kolwa East, to oversight the county government over the state of infrastructure, the state of education in its respective ward, and equally to legislate on the laws which govern this county.

Mr. Speaker, I don't want to go into details, but just to inform the visitors that, in this House we are 35 elected members and 13 nominated members. Solely 34 of us are ODM members and one is an independent. So, this is an ODM-driven legislative wing of the county government headed by the Speaker, none other than Honorable Elisha Jack Oraro. I believe we did not mention his name, but our Speaker is Honorable Elisha Jack Oraro and our Leader of Majority is Honourable Kennedy Ooko, who is bereaved. The Deputy Leader of Majority is Honourable Lumumba Owade, and I am the Chief Whip, with my Deputy Whip as Honorable Jennifer Obonyo.

We have various Chairperson of various Departmental and Select Committees. We have our Deputy Speaker seated right opposite me, none other than the indomitable Honourable Nereah Akoth Okombo, representing Manyatta "B" Ward. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Thank you so much, Honourable Whip for those insightful remarks. I have seen you can do well in orientation for the guests. I believe they were taken round. Is there any other question, we have our Serjeant-at-Arms who are the orderlies of this House, they are the ones who guides guests as appropriate.

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

STATEMENTS

STATEMENT INFORMING THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF THE BUSINESS COMING BEFORE THE HOUSE W.E.F ON WEDNESDAY 27TH AUGUST, 2025 TO TUESDAY 02ND SEPTEMBER 2025

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): It is statement time. Yes, Honorable Deputy Leader of the Majority.

The Deputy Leader of Majority (Hon. Lumumba, MCA, South East Nyakach): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I join the fellow members in welcoming the pupils from Kolwa East. Mr. Speaker, I rise pursuant to Orders No 41(2)(c) of the Kisumu County Assembly Standing Orders. As a member of the House Business Committee and on behalf of the County Assembly Majority Leader, I do present and lay on the table of the County Assembly a statement informing the County Assembly of the business coming before the House on the following week.

Mr. Speaker, this is therefore to bring to the attention of members on the County Assembly that for the week commencing on Wednesday 27th August, 2025 to Tuesday 2nd September, 2025, the Select Committee on Assembly House Business at its last meeting approved the following tentative businesses to appear on the order papers as follows.

Wednesday 27th August, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

PAPERS TO BE LAID.

The Leader of the Majority, Honorable Kennedy Ouko, will lay the following papers on the table of the County Assembly.

1. Special Audit of the Auditor General on Payroll Management for Kisumu Executive.
2. Request for County Assembly's Approval for Short-Term Borrowing by County Executive.

SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS

Honourable Samuel Dede, Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change, will move the Second Reading of the Kisumu County Quarrying Bill 2024.

Wednesday 27th August, 2023 at 02.30 p.m.

PAPER TO BE LAID.

The Chairperson, Select Committee on Delegated County Legislation, Honorable Miriam Abeid, will table the Committee Report on the Status of Statutory Instruments in Kisumu County.

NOTICES OF MOTION.

The Chairperson, Select Committee on Delegated County Legislation, Honorable Miriam Abeid, will give a Notice of Motion for the adoption of the Report on the Status of Statutory Instruments in Kisumu County.

SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS

1. The Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change, Honourable Samuel Dede, will move the Third Reading of the Kisumu County Quarrying Bill 2024.

2. The Leader of the Majority, Honorable Kennedy Ouko, will move a motion for the Approval of the Request for Short-Term Borrowing by the County Executive.

Thursday 28th August, 2025 at 02.30 p.m.

The Chairperson, Joint Departmental Committees on Labor and Social Welfare and Administration of Law, Justice, Good Governance and Security, Honorable Moses Ochele, will move a motion for the adoption of the Progress Report on the Inquiry into Allegation of Revenue Embezzlement by Employees of the Kisumu County Revenue Board.

Tuesday 02nd September, 2025 at 02.30 p.m.

PAPERS TO BE LAID.

The Chairperson, Joint Departmental Committees on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation on Labor and Social Welfare Services, Honorable Vincent Jagongo, will table the Committee Report on the Inquiry into the Matter of Payment and Deductions on Stipends of Community Health Promoters.

NOTICE OF MOTION

The Chairperson, Joint Departmental Committees on Medical Services, Public Health and Sanitation and Labor and Social Welfare Services, Honorable Vincent Jagongo, will give a notice for the adoption of the Report on the Inquiry into the Matter of Payment and deductions on Stipends of Community Health Promoters.

STATEMENTS

1. The Leader of the Majority will issue a Statement pursuant to Order No. 42(2)(c) of the Standing Orders on the Business coming before the County Assembly for the week commencing Wednesday 2nd September 2025.
2. The MCA for Kajulu Ward, Honorable Vincent Adeg, will seek a Statement pursuant to Order No. 41-2 of B of the Standing Orders regarding the Transfer of Funds to Various Municipalities within the County to facilitate their Operations in the Financial Year 2024-2025.
3. The MCA for Central Kisumu Ward, Honorable Zacharia Okoyo, will seek a Statement regarding the Management of Kenyatta Sports Grounds in Kisumu City.

4. The MCA East Kano Wawidhi, Honorable Moses Ochele, will seek a Statement regarding the Matter of Privatization of Miwani, Chemelil and Muhoroni Sugar Company.

SUBSTANTIVE BUSINESS

The Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Lands, Physical Planning, Housing and Urban Development, Honorable Ratib Boitone, will move a motion for the Adoption of the Report on the Operational Status of Municipality. Mr. Speaker, that is all for the day, thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honorable members, I believe are advised appropriately. There is also business for the week that is shared in our social media page, so please follow up and prepare. It is still Statement time.

(Silence)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next Order!!

MOTION

ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON WATER,
ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE
PROPOSED KISUMU COUNTY QUARRYING BILL, 2024

PRESENTED BY;

HONORABLE SAMUEL DEDE, MCA, NORTH KISUMU

(CHAIRPERSON, WATER, ENVIRONMENT, NATURAL RESOURCES AND CLIMATE
CHANGE)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Honorable Samuel Dede.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I wish to move a Motion on the Report on the Public Participation on the Proposed Kisumu County Quarrying Bill, 2024. Mr. Speaker, I want to inform this House that, the report has been already circulated in soft copy and posted in our social media page.

Mr. Speaker and Honorable members, quarrying activities in Kisumu County have historically been vital to the region's construction and infrastructure development. However, the sector has

faced challenges due to unregulated operations, environmental degradation, and inadequate benefits for local communities. These issues have prompted the County Government to take decisive action to ensure sustainable and responsible quarrying practices.

To address these challenges comprehensively, Hon. Nereah Okombo, Deputy Speaker, introduced the Kisumu County Quarrying Bill, 2024. This legislation aims to regulate quarrying activities to ensure they are safe, fair, and beneficial to local communities and the environment. The Bill seeks to establish a legal framework that promotes responsible quarrying practices, protects the environment, and ensures that the benefits derived from quarrying are equitably shared among all stakeholders.

The introduction of this Bill aligns with broader county development objectives, including optimizing land use, enhancing revenue generation, and fostering sustainable economic growth. By implementing stringent regulations and oversight mechanisms, the County Government aims to mitigate environmental impacts, curb illegal mining activities, and promote transparency and accountability within the quarrying sector.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK GUIDING THE PREPARATION OF THE QUARRYING CONTROL BILL, 2024.

Mr. Speaker and Honorable members, the formulation of the Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill, 2024 is anchored on a robust legal and policy framework at both the national and county levels. The following instruments provide the legal basis for the regulation, management, and oversight of quarrying activities:

1. The Constitution of Kenya, 2010

Article 42 guarantees every person the right to a clean and healthy environment.

Fourth Schedule (Part 2) grants County Governments the responsibility for "implementation of specific National Government Policies on natural resources and environmental conservation" and "county planning and development," which includes land use and mining regulation at the local level.

Article 69(1) obliges the state (including County Governments) to ensure sustainable exploitation, utilization, and management of natural resources.

2. The County Governments Act, 2012

Empowers County Governments to enact laws necessary for the performance of their functions.

Section 103–115 outlines the requirements for county planning and development, including land use regulation and environmental conservation.

3. The Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA), 1999 (Revised 2015)

Provides the principal legal framework for environmental protection in Kenya.

Requires that all quarrying activities undergo an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and comply with approved environmental management plans.

Establishes the National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), which oversees environmental compliance, including quarry rehabilitation and pollution control.

4. The Mining Act, 2016

Although mining is a national function, the Act recognizes the role of County Governments in;

Licensing of small-scale and artisanal mining operations.

Approving location-specific activities such as quarrying for building materials.

Requires public participation and benefit-sharing mechanisms in the use of mineral resources.

5. The Physical and Land Use Planning Act, 2019

Mandates regulation of land use activities, including those related to extractive industries such as quarrying.

Empowers counties to regulate developments to ensure land use compatibility, public safety, and environmental sustainability.

6. The National Environment Policy, 2013

Advocates for sustainable natural resource use, ecosystem integrity, and environmental governance.

Provides guidelines for integrating environmental considerations into all sectors, including mining and quarrying.

7. Kisumu County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP).

The third Kisumu County CIDP sets out the county's development priorities and goals, including sustainable use of natural resources.

The Quarrying Control Bill supports the CIDP by promoting regulated exploitation of natural building materials in a manner that generates revenue while protecting the environment.

8. The Public Participation Act, 2018.

Provides the legal foundation for engaging stakeholders in legislative and policy development processes.

The preparation of this report of the Quarrying Control Bill 2024 involved consultations with residents, industry stakeholders, and civil society organizations in line with this Act and their responses captured under public participation report.

OVERVIEW OF THE KISUMU COUNTY QUARRYING BILL, 2024

Mr. Speaker and Honorable members, this is the summary of the Bill;

Section	Clause in the Bill	Content of the Bill	Simplified Explanation
Introduction	Long title	This law regulates quarrying activities to ensure they are safe, fair, and beneficial to local communities, operators and the environment.	A law to ensure quarrying is done responsibly, protecting both the community and the environment, and ensuring fair sharing of benefits generated from quarrying activities.
Preliminary	1-2	Provide citations and interpretations of terms used in the Bill.	The preliminary part, gives definition of terminologies which are used in the proposed legislations.
Object of the Act.	3	Regulates quarrying with clear rules. Protects the environment. Ensures fair sharing of benefits. Involves communities in managing quarrying.	The law regulates quarrying activities to ensure they follow clear rules and timelines, protect the environment, and share the benefits fairly among quarry operators, the government, and the local communities.

Guiding Principles	4	Provide for the principles to be followed by all persons affected by this Act.	Outlines on the principles.
Establishment of the Committee	5	A County Quarrying Control Committee will oversee quarrying. Members include: County officials (environment, finance, infrastructure). Health officers. Community, civil society, and quarry operator representatives.	The County Quarrying Control Committee will oversee quarrying. It includes officials from County Government departments, health officers, community reps, civil society, and quarry operators.
Main Duties of the Committee	8	Ensure fair sharing of quarry profits with local communities. Monitor safety and Environmental rules.	The Committee will ensure fair distribution of profits, monitor safety and environmental compliance, maintain a register of operators, advise the government,
		Keep a register of quarry operators. Advise on quarrying policies. Oversee community development funds. Recommend transport routes for quarry materials. Promote environmental restoration.	oversee community development funds, and promote land restoration post-quarrying.

Administration of quarrying activities.	13 - 17	<p>Licensing</p> <p>No quarrying without a County license.</p> <p>Licenses only for approved sites.</p> <p>Consider safety, environment, and community.</p> <p>Fees and Levies</p> <p>Quarry operators must pay fees.</p> <p>Fees fund public services and community projects.</p>	<p>Licensing: Quarry operators must have a County license. Licenses are granted based on safety, environmental, and community considerations.</p> <p>Fees: Quarry operators will pay fees to fund public services and community projects.</p>
What If a License is Denied or Revoked?	18	<p>A license may be denied or revoked if:</p> <p>Quarrying harms, the environment or community.</p> <p>False information is provided.</p> <p>Laws or conditions are not followed.</p> <p>Operators will be given a chance to explain before cancellation.</p>	<p>The County Government may deny or cancel a license if quarrying harms, the environment or community, false information is provided, or conditions are not followed. Operators will have an opportunity to explain before cancellation.</p>
Community Benefits	22 - 25	<p>Quarry operators must sign a Benefit-Sharing Agreement with the County Government, which includes:</p> <p>Monetary/non-monetary</p>	<p>Quarry operators must sign a Benefit-Sharing Agreement, ensuring benefits like schools, hospitals, and roads for the community, funding for</p>

		<p>benefits for the community (e.g., schools, hospitals, roads).</p> <p>Funds for community projects managed by a local forum.</p> <p>Regular public meetings to discuss quarry profits.</p>	<p>community projects, and regular public meetings on how profits are used.</p>
Protecting the Environment		<p>Quarry operators must:</p> <p>Restore the land after quarrying.</p> <p>Set aside a security deposit for restoration.</p> <p>Follow environmental rules to prevent pollution or harm to water sources and wildlife.</p>	<p>Quarry operators are required to restore the land after quarrying, set aside a security deposit for restoration, and follow environmental rules to protect water sources and wildlife.</p>
What If You Have Concerns?	25	<p>If you have concerns about quarrying:</p> <p>Report to the Local Community Benefit Sharing Forum or Quarrying Control Committee.</p> <p>Attend public meetings to give feedback.</p>	<p>Concerns can be raised with the Local Community Benefit Sharing Forum or the Quarrying Control Committee. Public meetings will allow residents to give feedback on quarrying activities.</p>
Why This Law Is Important		<p>This law ensures that quarrying in Kisumu County:</p> <p>Benefits local people, not just operators.</p> <p>Protects the environment.</p> <p>Promotes transparency in management and profit sharing.</p>	<p>The law ensures that quarrying benefits the local people, protects the environment, and promotes transparency in how quarrying is managed and profits are shared.</p>

Offences	28	<p>Who is guilty?</p> <p>Fails to give required information.</p> <p>Makes or knows they are making false statements. Punishment:</p> <p>Individual: Up to Ksh. 200,000 fine, 3 years' jail, or both.</p> <p>Company: Up to Ksh. 1 million fine or up to Ksh. 5 million for</p>	<p>Who is guilty?</p> <p>Fails to provide required information or knowingly makes false statements.</p> <p>Punishment:</p> <p>Individuals face fines up to Ksh. 200,000 or 3 years' jail, or both.</p> <p>Companies face fines up to Ksh. 1 million or Ksh. 5 million for repeated offences.</p>
		<p>Repeated offences.</p> <p>License Cancellation: Continuous breach may lead to cancellation of license.</p>	<p>License Cancellation: Continuous breaches could lead to license revocation.</p>
Rehabilitation of Quarry Sites	29	<p>Before Closing:</p> <p>Submit a Rehabilitation Plan six months before closure.</p> <p>Fence the site and plant trees.</p> <p>Fill or drain holes or excavations.</p>	<p>Before Closing:</p> <p>Quarry operators must submit a plan to restore the site, fence it, and plant trees six months before closing the quarry. Fill or drain excavation sites.</p>
Environmental Considerations	30	<p>Build dams or gabions in designated areas.</p> <p>Keep 200 meters between dams.</p> <p>Use only designated roads.</p> <p>Rehabilitate sites as per the law.</p> <p>Harvest only from riverbeds, not riverbanks.</p> <p>Conduct Environmental Impact Assessments.</p>	<p>Quarrying must follow these environmental rules:</p> <p>Build designated dams or gabions.</p> <p>Keep 200 meters between dams.</p> <p>Use designated roads.</p> <p>Rehabilitate sites as required by law.</p> <p>Harvest minerals only from riverbeds. Conduct Environmental Impact Assessments.</p>

Social Considerations	30 (b)	<p>Loader Requirements: Must be 18+ and from the local community.</p> <p>Pay loaders at least the minimum wage.</p> <p>Loaders should form groups for self-regulation.</p> <p>Support Local Projects: The licensee should assist in community projects.</p>	<p>Social rules include:</p> <p>Loaders must be 18+ and local.</p> <p>Loaders must be paid at least the minimum wage.</p> <p>Loaders must form self-regulating groups.</p> <p>Licenses must help with local projects.</p>
Riverbed Harvesting Guidelines	31	<p>Leave enough material to retain water.</p> <p>No quarrying on riverbanks.</p> <p>Use designated sites for loading minerals.</p> <p>Stay 100 meters away</p>	<p>Quarrying rules for riverbeds:</p> <p>Leave enough material for water retention.</p> <p>No quarrying on riverbanks.</p> <p>Use designated loading sites.</p> <p>Stay 100 meters away from</p>
		<p>from infrastructure.</p> <p>5. No quarrying during heavy rains.</p>	<p>infrastructure.</p> <p>5. No quarrying during heavy rains.</p>
Regulations	32	<p>The CEC Member will issue rules to:</p> <p>Set fees and procedures for licenses.</p> <p>Manage the Quarry Benefit Sharing Fund.</p> <p>Share revenue fairly between sub-counties.</p>	<p>The County Executive Committee Member will make regulations to:</p> <p>Set fees for licenses.</p> <p>Manage the Quarry Benefit Sharing Fund.</p> <p>Ensure fair revenue sharing between sub-counties.</p>

Executive Summary

Mr. Speaker and Honorable members, the report provides a detailed overview of public feedback on the proposed *Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill, 2024*. Collected from all 35 wards during public participation sessions held from December 6th to 10th, 2024, the feedback reflects community concerns, suggestions, and viewpoints. The aim was to ensure the proposed legislation is inclusive, transparent, and aligned with the needs of the people it is intended to serve.

General Recommendation of the Departmental Committee.

Mr. Speaker and Honorable members, after a thorough review of the proposal, and upon comparing its provisions with the Environmental Management and Coordination Act (EMCA), 1999, as well as the Sand Harvesting Regulations, 2021, the committee recommends that the House adopt this report to facilitate the inclusion of the proposed amendments in the Bill, thereby enabling it to serve its intended purpose. (For the proposed amendments, please refer to Annex 1 of the main report).

Conclusion

Mr. Speaker and Honorable members, the Proposed Quarrying Control Bill 2024 represents a critical step forward in ensuring that quarrying activities across Kisumu County are conducted responsibly, sustainably, and in alignment with environmental and public safety standards. By establishing clearer regulatory frameworks, enhancing oversight, and promoting accountability among operators, this Bill addresses long-standing gaps that have negatively impacted our communities, ecosystems, and infrastructure.

The measures proposed not only protect our natural resources and the health of affected populations but also provide greater certainty and fairness to legitimate quarrying businesses. It is a balanced and forward-looking piece of legislation that reflects both economic and environmental imperatives.

In light of the urgent need to manage quarrying operations more effectively and to safeguard the well-being of current and future generations, I urge all Members to lend their full support to the Quarrying Control Bill 2024 report. Your endorsement will demonstrate a firm commitment to responsible governance, environmental stewardship, and the sustainable development of our nation. May I now call Honorable Peter Obaso to second the motion. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Peter Obaso.

Hon. Obaso (Nominated Member): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to second the motion before the House. I have been part of this Bill from the initial stages, and I want to inform this House that this Bill is for the benefit of our people.

Mr. Speaker, the key objective of this Bill is to regulate the quarry activities that happen within this county, and also to protect our environment. Mr. Speaker, we have seen instances where some individuals within this county extract sand from the soil, and they end up being buried by in the ground. So, thereby, this Bill will regulate that. I want to urge this House to support this Bill so that it benefits members of our great county.

Secondly, Mr. Speaker, through these levies, we will also enhance our own revenue, and this will be for the benefit of our county. We have seen that this county is not able to raise adequate own source revenue, and it is my considered opinion that, with the enactment of this Bill, it will also act as one of the schemes. Thereby, I want to urge this House to support this Bill, Mr. Speaker. With those few remarks, I second.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honorable members, now that the motion on adoption of the report of the Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change on the Proposed Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill 2024 has been moved and seconded, as per our Standing orders, I want to propose a question, and I propose that the motion adoption of the report of the Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources, and Climate Change on the Proposed Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill 2024 is open for debate.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honorable Ruben Rakwach.

Hon. Rakwach (MCA, Kolwa East): Thank you Honorable Speaker. I rise to support the Bill. Honorable Speaker, this Kisumu County Quarry Bill is going to be beneficial to the County of Kisumu at large. I have been going through this report, and I see there is emphasis being put on licensing. You realize that currently, there are a lot of quarry sites which do not even have licenses. Base on that, the county government loses a lot of revenue. If this one is done, then if we enact this Bill, then, I know it will go a long way in enhancing our own source revenue collection.

In addition, it will also protect the environment because this quarrying is done within, and some are even next to the human settlements. Here, the Bill talks of, there is a process of approval of these sites, and only the approved sites will be given license. So now, we will not have quarry sites everywhere, even in places that will not result into environmentally friendly practices.

Honorable Speaker, another reason why I am supporting this Bill, is because of the emphasis that it has put on the best practices. It even gives a warning that no quarrying activity will be entertained during the rainy seasons. We have seen it. During rainy seasons, if at all these heavy vehicles which are carrying the products of that quarry, when they step on the roads, we have seen the results.

Mr. Speaker, the report is talking about Approval of Permits or Cancellation when certain aspects are not met. But again, if you look at the way our county has been approving permits, there is very little that is done. Approval of permits everywhere always goes smooth as long as the permit seeker is ready to do a few monkey businesses. So approval of permits is just a smokescreen in this report.

Honourable Speaker, the mover talked about Restoration of Land. It is just left blank like that. The report must come out clear and outline properly, explicitly, the kind of restoration that will be done on these pieces of land. So, that these companies or the people undertaking the quarry activities will know exactly upon completion of their activities; what is expected of them. If you talk about restoration as blank like that, it may not cure the problem.

Honourable Speaker, last but not least, we all understand what activities are done at the quarry. The murraming or the ballast. Of course, this cannot be loaded by human. In this aspect, the report is informing this House that, loading of trucks should be done by the community living within that area. However, truth be told, it is done by the machines and not human beings. When we refer to sand, maybe this is where loading will be done. Nevertheless, ideally, and it is in the public domain, sand harvesting is done by individuals who do that exercise on their own and at the same time employ a few people if they may not be able to load the sand. Therefore, that recommendation is not actually up to date.

Honourable Speaker, I now want to say that this report is good but what I have just highlighted should be incorporated in it. Once again, thank you, Hon. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): The Honourable Chief Whip.

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I rise to debate on this report on the Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill 2024. I believe so which has been presented to this House today by the Chairperson, Honourable Samuel Dede for discussion and approval.

Mr. Speaker, in as much as I support this report, I want to also add my sentiments in it with reservations on two issues. However, I do not support illegal quarrying and environmental degradations in our county, but, there are two key areas which I believe the report does not address accordingly.

One, on the Artisanal Quarrying. This one is very rampant in our county and it is done by individuals. You will find that along the Busia or Nairobi Road in Honourable Rakwach's Ward, you will find that artisans do collect stones and they quarry them into ballast. The report does not address whether these individuals will be licensed individually. This is because, if we do not address these issues, same people will run to the Honourable members informing us that, we have been arrested as a result of a law which was enacted in this House. This Act or the Bill does not touch on individual Licensing of Artisanal Quarrying. And it was mentioned in the public participation if you read the report in depth.

Two, the other issue is Licensing of River Residue Harvesting which is very rampant in our county especially along River; Kibos, Nyando, Kisian, in Nyakach, along Nyakwere area. That is very common. Then, you will find that in the report, the Honourable Chairperson did indicate to this House that the County Government will designate specific areas for collection of sand at 100 meters from the river. Similarly, the report did not indicate whether the collection area will belong to the County Government or individuals. Otherwise, we will be creating another cartel in the name of designated area, whereby the Honourable Seth Ochieng Kanga offers his land for collection of sand and eventually will be collecting something from the lorries which will be collecting sand from those areas.

Mr. Speaker, the reason why I am saying so is that, in this era of unemployment, you will find that this residue sand harvesting provides an alternative employment for our residents. So, enacting very stringent measures without providing an alternative distinct platform will make this Assembly enact a law which will eventually come back to us as residents or us as Members of the County Assembly. So, on these two areas, I would like to implore the Chairperson to indicate to this House explicitly how this artisanal quarrying by individuals will be addressed. Whether they will be licensed and if so, what are the charges? And, Mr. Speaker, if you are found to be doing these activities without licensing, what are the remedies when you are taking to court, what are the charges? This is because, we are talking about a Quarrying Control Bill and the control measures as to these two areas, Mr. Speaker, these issues are not addressed adequately. Otherwise, in the areas of individual quarrying on individual lands Mr. Speaker, has caused great environmental degradation in our areas.

Mr. Speaker, on the remedies as far as you will find that for instance in Kanyakwar area, there is a lot of quarrying which has been done in those areas. Then, as far as environmental impact, it has really degraded those areas. Therefore, the law should have cured this anomaly by even compelling these individual quarry miners to even plant trees in those areas. Because if you go to the areas of the coast where there is a lot of cement mining, you will find that those individual companies such as Bamburi Cement Factory and East Africa Portland have planted trees in those affected areas. While in Kisumu County, you will find those places are just left open such that during rainy seasons, they are flooded. In some instances, kids even grown-ups drown in those areas. So, I believe this Quarry Control Bill will address those areas. Otherwise, on the two areas

Mr. Speaker, I resolve my case and I will implore the Chairperson of this House Committee that, when the member will be replying to this motion to give us the remedies, as far as licensing of those two individual areas are concerned. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, I rest my case. Thank you.

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

Hon. Oraro (MCA, Kolwa Central): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I also rise to raise my concern or contribute to this special motion. I am a little bit disturbed. I do not know the objective of the person who brought the Bill and what he really wanted to cure. In case the person had good intention, what were the real target areas, so that they should come out clearly?

Mr. Speaker, I have seen this House Committee trying to quote narrowly some of the areas or the statutes that might be touched, or that tend to relate to this Bill that is being proposed in this Assembly. Of interest has been drawn to Physical and Land Use Planning Act of 2019. I was looking at the target areas. It was not clear to me which areas were being targeted and the mode or the definition of quarrying in this case was not that clear. However, being that quarry is a big word that you can also browse or look through the phone. I was trying to look at it in terms of where I represent Mr. Speaker, and realized that the Bill tends to have a lot of flaws that if passed in this Assembly, then it will subject the Bill or the Act to a lot of court cases.

Mr. Speaker, I wanted to know or wanted to get direction. If someone has a piece of land, I want to sell my topsoil to somebody who resides in Kolwa East, where most of the time their soil do not support semi-permanent house. Most of them that is part of Kabonyo-Kanyagwal, Kobura, Kolwa East will always buy some topsoil from Kolwa Central and other areas. Can that also fall under that?

Mr. Speaker, what if someone buy some topsoil from areas like North Kisumu Ward that has red soil, people will buy and try to put them in their various farms or compounds so that they can support the green grass. How can we categorise this?

Mr. Speaker, I am seeing someone who wants to pay school fees and decide to use his or her piece of land by trying to allow Sand Harvesting. Which has happened a lot in my ward and lands actually have been destroyed through the individual use of land by giving it out for sand harvesting? How do you want to take a license for that? Why should you invite a county to come and see you removing one or two Lorries that you want to use? What mechanism and why should you subject this person to a fine or something of that sort, and to which law?

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I was looking at places where we get sand. For instance Nyamware area, where in fact harvesting sand from the lake, using boats, where it is transported outside, then they sell that sand that they have harvested. Do you think this person will always come and look

for a license? And if that is the case, what are the risks? What are we doing for them in that case? Are we even providing boats or even informing these locals that it is risky?

So the point is not about forming a law just to levy fine on people, but a law is formulated so that we cure something that we feel is of great importance. We accept that most places have been destroyed. Like we have from Kibos to Nyamasaria where the land beside the river has been destroyed. Maybe, the reasoning has been brought about by sand harvesting. And trying to correct this can be a good thing, Mr. Speaker. But we also look at how do you want to correct it? Are the laws that we are formulating, are they really practical or applicable? Or is it about proposing some legislation and pushing it as long as we have a Bill?

Mr. Speaker, trying to follow up the entire Bill that has been brought, some of the parts are very good and very direct. However, I have a lot of concern with some good parts of the Bill and especially those trying to target individual and the issue of sand harvesting. They have not given it a clear pathway on how they are going to handle this. And for that reason, Mr. Speaker, I will say, without fear that I do not support that Bill and the report the way it is presented. It is my considered opinion that, if given a chance, there are some areas I will request that the mover of the motion and maybe the author of the Bill to try and address in totality. Failure to which, Mr. Speaker, some areas will actually raise a concern in court and I believe that, we need to do it well. That is my take.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Nereah Okombo.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta “B”): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Please allow me to also contribute on the report of the public participation on the proposed legislation on the Quarry Control Bill. Mr. Speaker, my colleague, Honourable Oraro, is trying to become a learned friend and the member finds himself absent in most occasions from the House and therefore does not follow or rather is forgetting the procedures even on the enactment of law in this House.

Mr. Speaker, the proposed legislation came to the floor of the House through First Reading. It was taken for public participation. The respective line Committee now gives back a report from the public. The Bill has been scheduled for Second Reading. Mr. Speaker, at Second Reading, amendments are allowed. And if members feel that some clauses are inconsistent with some existing laws or need amendments, then amendments are allowed. Even at Third Reading, Mr. Speaker, the law still allows for amendments. Mr. Speaker, I heard Honourable Oraro say that he does not support the Bill and the Bill has just been proposed for the sake of supporting or bringing Bills or documents in the floor of the House. Allow me to jog my Honourable colleague's memory on the essence of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker, this Bill seeks to address a number of challenges in regards to quarrying activities within Kisumu County, which includes regulation of quarrying activities to ensure that they are safe, fair and beneficial to the local community and the environment. Mr. Speaker, this Bill also seeks to establish a legal framework that promotes responsible quarrying practices, protects the environment and ensures that the benefits derived from quarrying are equitably shared among all stakeholders. The respective House Committee has gone ahead, Mr. Speaker, to even propose a retention of a percentage of monies raised from quarrying to do rehabilitation from the sites where quarrying has taken place.

So, Mr. Speaker, looking at this Bill, Kisumu County surely needs this Bill and I want to agree with Honourable Seth Kanga that the Bill is very timely, though there are sections that may need amendments and that is why this Bill was brought here. If the Bill were perfect, then, Mr. Speaker, it would have been taken directly to the Governor for assenting into law. But the legitimate authority for making any legislation within Kisumu County lies with the House.

So it is the responsibility of members to ensure that if a proposed legislation does not align to some existing frameworks or does not embrace certain cultures or practices within our community, then we align and make it work for the sake of our people and for the sake of protecting our environment. In the face of the Climate Change that we face right now, Mr. Speaker, this Bill is very timely. I just want to ask Honourable members that this House Committee has made a number of amendments, proposed amendments, and the Chairperson is giving us a chance, Mr. Speaker, to do further amendments where necessary.

So it is not perfect and I invite all members with proposals of any other amendments to forward them. And the Bill was given before the December recess and members have adequately gone through it. So, if my Honourable colleague did not get time to go through his copy, then I want to ask the Honourable Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Water to kindly re-share the copy so that members can go.

(Hon. Oraro rises on a Point of Order)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it, Honourable Kelvin Oraro?

Hon. Oraro (MCA, Kolwa Central): Thank you Mr. Speaker, I am aware that Honourable Nereah is the sponsor of this Bill and how I wish that while debating on this Bill, my concern was very genuine to the author and I have listened to her carefully. I will have my written submission forward maybe to the office before other things get bad. That is my take. So it was a debate in the House, I know what I am saying and I've seen some part that I feel is not correct. And it is not an offence to say that in this House, Mr. Speaker. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Nereah Okombo, continue.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta “B”): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. That was as a reminder and just to jog our minds a bit on the essence of this Bill. I am glad that my colleague has rescinded his decision and indirectly withdrawn his statement that partly said that the member did not fully agree with the Bill that it was just brought for the sake of bringing it. Otherwise, Mr. Speaker, allow me to thank the Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change for working hard to ensure that this Bill goes through Public Participation and now comes back to the House for Second Reading and processing it for final enactment by the county as a law that will regulate acquiring activities in the county and also protect our environment in the face of climate change. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

(The Chief Whip rises on a Point of Order)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): What is it, Honourable Seth Kanga?

The Chief Whip (Hon. Kanga, MCA, Market/Milimani): Mr. Speaker, I want to inform the House, especially the Honourable Nereah Okombo who is really trying to defend this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that, if you go through submissions made by the public and I want to concur with the Honourable Kelvin Oraro that, there are areas of concerns which are submitted in this report which are not necessarily addressed by the report of Honourable Samuel Dede. And as an Assembly, if we rush to pass this report because even the issues which were raised in Miwani Ward which are very critical, the issues to differentiate between domestic and commercial quarrying.

Domestic Quarrying is whereby you are doing quarry works for domestic use in your home. Harvesting, for example, topsoil for the use of building our mud houses. The report does not address those areas. Mr. Speaker, if we rush to pass this report some of our residents will be equally arrested in their homes while doing domestic quarrying for local consumption.

Mr. Speaker, if you look at the report very clearly, this is because I have read the report over and over again on the issue of Domestic Quarrying the report does not address. The report of residual collection of sand in the rivers, whether the individuals will be licensed, Mr. Speaker, the report before us does not adequately address the issue of artisanal quarrying, which is very rampant in Honourable Dede’s Ward. The same situation is also evident in Honourable Obonyo’s Ward and Honourable Ouko’s Ward, and Honourable Rakwach’s Ward. Even in Miwani Ward, when it rains, the water from the Nandi Hills carries a lot of sand which ends up along the roadsides. In such cases, residents of Honourable Warindu’s Ward engage in domestic quarrying by collecting this sand, after which lorries come to ferry it away.

Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, these same residents are often arrested by County Enforcement Officers for engaging in such activities. The question then is: what remedies exist for them? These are very weighty issues which this report ought to address. Otherwise, we will continue seeing residents being arrested indiscriminately, including women who engage in small-scale sand harvesting during the rainy season when the silt is washed down from the Nandi Hills.

Mr. Speaker, my intention is not to criticize this House Committee or its Chairperson, but rather to highlight these gaps so that the report can be strengthened. We want to support our able Chairperson to ensure that Kisumu County continues to move from strength to strength. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta “B”): Thank you Mr. Speaker. Allow mw to give some little bit information to the House...

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, but, I thought you had concluded.

Hon. Okombo (MCA, Manyatta “B”): Mr. Speaker, I did but by seeking requisition to give some information to the House. That the Bill itself provides for what we consider as Commercial Quarrying, when somebody wants to pick a lorry or two for domestic use, we do not consider it as quarrying and therefore does not need licensing. That is provided within the proposed legislation.

Mr. Speaker, there's another concern, that this report is not final. And what needs amendment is the Bill itself that is coming in the Second and Third Reading. It is good, Mr. Speaker, and the debate is very healthy. Mr. Speaker, why these point of information while I am on my feet on a addressing these point of information. And I'm not done. Mr. Speaker, you look at the proposed legislation, there is provision for what is considered commercial quarrying that needs licensing, and that which does not, Mr. Speaker. So I think we just need to jog our minds. Also, we look at the Bill before we come back for the Second and Third Readings, so that we can give constructive amendments when the Bill now comes for second reading, Mr. Speaker.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): But, Honourable Okombo, your response to point of information seems to be like the Chairperson of this House Committee responding. I thought that should be for the Chairperson to clarify.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes Honourable Oraro.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Thank you Mr. Speaker. I'm worried at this stage, the Second Reading is going to give a report. This is because, Honourable Okombo is informing us that, there is another report we should be waiting for, in the name of amendment.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable Oraro, I want to protect Honourable Okombo. The member presented that this is the report from the public participation but the Second Reading, where the actual amendment is done, is coming. And this is an amendment from the House Committee, but any other member can bring amendment, provided you write to the Speaker early enough, so that we give communication that apart from these amendments that you have seen here, there are also the following amendments.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Honourable Kelvin Oraro.

Hon. Oraro Kelvin (MCA, Kolwa Central): Thank you Mr. Speaker, that is fair enough, I have listened. However, allow me to remind the House of one important point. For example, take the case of Shajanands: if you own a personal property, you cannot come and demand that profits be shared. That was the argument being advanced, and it should be made very clear. That is why, Mr. Speaker, I insist that we need to look at this matter carefully.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Is there any other Member? Honourable Members, we had agreed that the report was already shared. If there is any amendment you wish to make to the report, there is a clear procedure: you propose an amendment, it is discussed, and if agreed upon, it becomes part of the report.

Alternatively, we may choose to wait for the official amendment stage, where such proposals can be brought formally. The third option is to disagree with the report entirely and send it back for further work. All these options are available to members. So, is there any other member who wishes to contribute before we conclude?

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Yes, Honourable Warindu.

Hon. Warindu (MCA, Miwani): Thank you Mr. Speaker. If we look for perfection in this world, we may never find it. However, we can always improve on what we have. What is before us today, compared to the current situation on the ground, is indeed an improvement and will add value to what is taking place.

That said, Mr. Speaker, what we need is proper regulation of these activities. Allow me to give an example from my own ward, echoing what my senior, the Chief Whip has mentioned. When sand harvesting was left unchecked, a road in my ward became impassable, and I had to involve the provincial administration to stop the practice. If such activities are properly regulated, I believe we will not face similar challenges again. Looking at the benefits, both to the communities engaged in quarrying and to the county at large, it is clear that this report has merit.

What we need to do is endorse it and, at the appropriate stage, introduce the necessary amendments to strengthen it further.

Mr. Speaker, I must also note that at times when such engagements are required, some members are usually absent. Opportunities were provided earlier for us to bring forward the very proposals we are raising now. Even during the Second Reading, many of those advocating for changes may not be present. Nevertheless, as a House Committee, we welcome the proposals being suggested, and we continue to encourage Honourable members with different perspectives to come forward and help us improve this report. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I wish to state my support for the Bill. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Maybe the mover should reply since I'm not seeing any other Member on his or her feet.

Hon. Dede (MCA, Kisumu North): Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, the members have deliberated very well on this Motion, and it is clear that Honourable Okombo saw the need to bring this Bill at this time, having appreciated the benefits it will bring to the County. Among these are the generation of revenue, the protection of the environment, proper approvals for environmental safeguards, and the inclusion of benefit-sharing mechanisms.

During our discussions, we noted that due process had been followed, including Public Participation conducted by NEMA. This process involved a wide range of stakeholders, particularly those from environmental groups, who presented their views, and their concerns were duly considered before reaching a conclusion.

Mr. Speaker, Honourable Kanga raised the issue of Artisanal Quarrying. This Bill is indeed timely as it will help regulate such activities and curb illegal practices. However, it was evident that Honourable Kanga only relied on the moving notes and did not deeply engage with the report that emerged from public participation, which has been available for quite some time.

On the other hand, Honourable Oraro's objections seem to stem from political considerations, as he hails from an area where mining is active. His concern is that if the member openly supports the Bill, he risks displeasing his electorate. That, Mr. Speaker, explains his argument that the Bill is being introduced at the "wrong time." Furthermore, Honourable Kanga also mentioned mining in areas such as Kisumu North Ward, which is inaccurate because no sand mining takes place there. These remarks, therefore, were misguided and not grounded in fact.

Mr. Speaker, this is only the First Reading of the Bill. We acknowledge that more facts and clarifications may be needed, and there will be opportunities to make amendments at the Second and Third Readings. This is not the final version, and all gaps identified will be addressed

through the amendment process. I therefore urge members, especially those who may not yet see the importance of this Bill, to take part actively during the next stages so that we can enrich it further. With those remarks, Mr. Speaker, I urge members to adopt this report, and I now reply.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, a report of the Departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change on the Proposed Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill, 2024 has been moved, seconded and debated. I therefore want to put a question on the adoption of the same.

(Question put and agreed to)

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, the report of the departmental Committee on Water, Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change on the Proposed Kisumu County Quarrying Control Bill, 2024 has been adopted today, Tuesday, the 26th of August, 2025 at 16:16 hours.

Furtherance to that, I direct that the recommendations of the said report be carried forward to the Second Reading and I also want to advise that any other member who has any further proposal for amendment should submit the same in good time to the office of the Speaker for purpose of communication before the date of the Second Reading. Thank you.

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Next order!

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker (Hon. Oraro): Honourable members, please be upstanding. There being no any other business to transact, this House stands adjourned until tomorrow Wednesday, the 27th of August, 2025 at 09:00 a.m.

(House rose at 4.18 p.m.)

Addendum

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